

## Criminal killed in 'shootout'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

An alleged criminal was killed in an encounter with Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) in the city's Mirpur area early yesterday.

According to a Rab press release, the dead, Mansur Ahmed alias 'cadre Mansur' alias 'killer Mansur', 32, was an accused in five cases, including four for murder, pending with different police stations in the city.

A team of Rab-4 raided the Beribandi (circular dam) area adjacent to Botanical Garden in Mirpur at about 2:30am following a tip-off that a gang of criminals gathered there to commit an offence.

Sensing the presence of the Rab men, the gang members opened fire, forcing the law enforcers to retaliate. Mansur received bullets during the gunfight that continued for 15 minutes, while his accomplices managed to flee.

Rab personnel with the help of police, who reached the spot hearing gunshots, rushed the bullet-hit Mansur to Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) where the doctors declared him dead.

A revolver and two bullets were recovered from the scene.



PHOTO: STAR

A colourful boat procession was brought out from Sadarghat Launch Terminal in the city yesterday to mark the Indigenous Species of Fish Preservation and Expansion Campaign 2007, which was launched on July 16.

## No headway in Sayma murder case

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The law enforcers investigating the murder of Supreme Court lawyer Advocate Sayma Khanam could not arrest anybody as of yesterday.

A youth believed to have acquaintance with Sayma slit her throat in her drawing room on Tuesday.

The investigators talked to her husband on Wednesday night, but he could not give them any leads. He told the interrogators that he does not suspect anyone.

One of the investigators, preferring anonymity, told The Daily Star that they are not getting full cooperation from Sayma's husband Jahurul Islam, a retired engineer of the PWD.

The police said they have quizzed two domestic helps of Sayma — Mina and Aleya — who were in the house at the time when Sayma was slaughtered. But the two, now on remand, are yet to provide any new information, which could lead the police to arrest the killer.

"We are yet to obtain any useful information," said the investigation officer, Sub-Inspector Shahjahan Ali of New Market Police Station.

Apart from the police, Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) and Criminal Investigation Department are also investigating the murder.

Meanwhile, the police and other

investigators talked to a number of people at the workplace of Sayma to know whether she had enmity with anybody.

## Killing of Sadia condoled

Karmojibi Nari (KN) yesterday condemned the killing of Sadia Nawshin, who was strangled inside her flat at Maghbazar in the city on Wednesday, says a press release.

In a joint statement, KN President Shirin Akhter and General Secretary Sharmin Kabir also demanded necessary steps to nab her killers and their exemplary punishment.

The KN leaders said they were horrified and appalled at the killing of Sadia who secured GPA-5 in this year's SSC examination from Vigarunnisa Noon School.

Terming the killing gruesome and atrocious, they said that the incidents of women persecution are increasing at a frightening pace in our society.

Women in this country are suffering both mental and physical torture in the process that leads to untimely death.

## Downpour paralyses life in Ctg

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Torrential rain in Chittagong yesterday brought city life to a standstill as it left low-lying areas underwater.

The daylong downpour also caused three rivers — Haldia, Sangu and Matamuhuri — in the district to flow over the danger mark. Water Development Board sources said.

Vehicular traffic was severely disrupted on Chittagong-Rangamati

road as it was submerged with waist-deep water at three points under Raozan upazila, added the sources.

Chittagong Deputy Commissioner M Ashraf Shamim told The Daily Star that high water flowing over Chittagong-Cox's Bazar road at Lohagara point since morning has been disrupting traffic.

Patenga Met office recorded 141.6 mm rain in and around the city in 24 hours till 3:00pm yesterday.

The incessant heavy shower that

started on Wednesday at around midnight has inundated almost half of the city, mainly the low-lying areas, with knee to waist-deep water.

The affected areas are Chawk Bazar, Kapashgola, Badurtala, Muradpur, Bahaddarhat, Chandaon Residential Area, Sholoshahar, Nasirabad, Katalganj, Sholokbarah, Bakalia, Dampara, Prabartak intersection near Chittagong Medical College, Agrabad CDA Area and Halishahar.