

## Majid Butt on remand again

COURT CORRESPONDENT

Pakistani based Lasker-e-Taiba (LeT) member Abdul Majid Butt alias Abu Yusuf Butt was shown arrested yesterday and remanded for a three-day in a case filed for kidnapping a physician at Mirpur in the city in September 2003.

Metropolitan Magistrate Abdur Rahman passed the remand order after Criminal Investigation Department (CID) submitted a 10-day remand prayer for interrogation.

CID submitted another petition for showing him arrested in the case.

Homeopathic physician Azizur Rahman, a resident of Mazar Road at Mirpur, was kidnapped on September 4, 2003. The police are yet to find any trace of Azizur.

In the forwarding report, CID Inspector Mohammad Shahjahan, also investigation

officer (IO) of the case, said he received information from Harkatul Jihad Chief Mufti Abdul Hannan and Islamic Democratic Party (IDP) Convener Maulana Sheikh Abdus Salam that Yusuf Butt was involved with the abduction. So, he needs to be remanded for gathering more information from him, the IO said.

Mufti Hannan, Abdus Salam and several others were earlier shown arrested in the case and they were remanded for several times.

Yusuf Butt was arrested on January 6 this year from Uttara area on charge of possessing firearms and later he was shown arrested in the August 21, 2004 grenade attack case and remanded for several times.

After Azizur was abducted, his wife Farhana Reza Jui filed a case against five people without mentioning name of any suspects.



Nayabazar cattle market in the city.

## Medical final year students to go to remote areas: Minister

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government is planning to make it compulsory for the medical final year students to go to the health complexes in remote areas for at least six months, Health Minister Prof AFM Ruhul Haque said yesterday.

Following a discussion at the National Press Club in the city, the minister told newsmen that this step will be taken so that people in rural areas get health services from them.

At the same time, the students will develop a mentality to serve the poor in remote areas, he said.

At the discussion titled 'Coordinated Health Policy: Expectations of the Pharmacists', the minister also urged the pharmaceutical companies to manufacture essential drugs so that people can get the drugs easily and at a reduced cost.

Prof Abul Barakat also spoke at the discussion organised by Swadhinata Pharmacist Association.

## Tk1cr stolen from knit industry office

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Burglars allegedly took away about Tk 1 crore breaking locker of head office of a knit industry at Mohakhali DOHS on Wednesday night.

Md Ahsanul Haque, chief accountant of GMS Compo-site Knitting Industries Limited, told The Daily Star that burglars took away about Tk 1 crore in cash from breaking file cabinet of account section at the office.

They drew the amount from bank on November 24 to pay salaries and Eid bonus of about 5,000 workers of the factory at Kashimpur in Gazipur.

He said they had left the office after 8:00pm on Wednesday and in the next morning they found the main

gate of the office locked, but the backdoor broken.

"When we opened the locker we found Tk 1.0 crore went missing and drawers were broken," he said.

Replying to a question, the chief accountant said they paid some of the workers from the payments of their business partners while some other workers were convinced.

Meanwhile, officials of Altranet Group, an export-import company, claimed that burglars took away money and valuables worth around Tk 15 lakh from their office located on the second floor of the same building on Wednesday night. Police said they got the information and investigating into the matter.

## Cattle buying gets momentum

HELEMU ALAM

With only a day left before Eid-ul-Azha, the cattle markets in the city witnessed a rising trend of prices of sacrificial animals yesterday evening when city dwellers in a large number rushed to the markets.

Although buying of cattle got momentum, but neither the buyers nor the sellers are satisfied over the prices.

Meanwhile, the leaseholders of different makeshift cattle markets encroached on roads, violating a High Court order. As a result, the areas experienced huge traffic congestion.

Almost all the lanes in Nayabazar and Armanitola areas have turned into a cattle market, causing suffering

to local residents and road users.

Roads at Golapbagh were also blocked due to cattle market, leading to huge traffic jam around the area.

The price of sacrificial animals was lower than the previous day's price during daytime yesterday but it started to rise after the evening when more buyers came to the markets.

Anwar, a cattle trader, brought 20 cows to Dholaipar cattle market two days ago but could sell only five cows.

He said the number of cattle is more than that of customers. So, the traders are not getting the expected price.

Aslam Talukdar, a cattle trader at Dhupkhola cattle market, said he brought 60 cows but managed to sell only five cows and his profit margin is only a total of Tk 10,000.

On the other hand, Mohammad Zakir Hossain and Amir Hossain, two brothers, said the cattle traders in Nayabazar market are demanding high prices, compare to the last year.

They are asking for a price of Tk 1.50 lakh for a similar type of cow which was sold at Tk 80,000 or 90,000 last year, said Zakir.

But many traders sold their cows at a lower price than expected during daytime fearing that the price might go down further.

"I have to sell my cow at Tk 3.5 lakh today (Thursday), although got an offer of Tk 4 lakh the previous day," said Ashraf Islam, a trader at Nayabazar cattle market.

Amirul, a trader at Dhupkhola cattle market, said he wants to sell his cow at Tk 6 lakh, but he got an offer of

only Tk 3.50 lakh yesterday.

DCC has set up 15 makeshift cattle markets this year. The markets are located at Armanitola-Nayabazar, Meradia Bazar, Jhigatola-Hazariabagh, Rahmatganj, Dhupkhola, Balurmath (adjacent to the Brothers Union Sporting Club in Kamalapur), Banrupa Housing Project at Khilkhet and the open space adjacent to the Taltala bus stand, Agargaon (adjacent to the LGED Bhaban), open space of the DCC at south of Outfall Staff Quarters, Dholaipar schoolfield, Moitri Shanga in Uttar Shajahanpur, Dholaipar High School ground, the open space near Bonani-Kakoli rail gate and at Azampur Government High School in Uttara.



Lovely Mallick, right, and Kartik Mallick, parents of conjoined twins, pose for a photograph at their house in Khulna recently.

## Mother wants to see Trishna and Krishna

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Lovely Mallick, the mother of formerly conjoined twins Trishna and Krishna, has again appealed to the non-government organisations (NGOs), including the Children First Foundation, to give her an opportunity to go to Australia to see her daughters.

The Children First Foundation took the twin toddlers to Australia two years ago and arranged the separation surgery recently. The twins now continue their recovery from the marathon surgery at the Royal Children's Hospital in Melbourne.

"I have been passing each and every moment in great excitement since my conjoined daughters were separated by a complicated surgery," Lovely told this correspondent yesterday.

Lovely, 23, who gave birth to the conjoined twins on December 22 in 2006 at a clinic in Khulna city, handed over them to an orphanage in Dhaka because she and her husband Kartik Mallick were unable to care for their special needs.

Lovely and Kartik also gave an undertaking that they would not claim their daughters back.

"I do not want to claim my daughters back, but my fervent appeal to any NGOs and the Children First Foundation to take me and my husband to Melbourne to see my loving daughters," she said.

"We want them to live in good health and happiness. But let there be a good relationship between the girls and their parents," said Kartik.

## BNP factions clash

OUR CORRESPONDENT, N'ganj

Rival factions of BNP have filed separate cases in connection with the attacks and clashes during biennial council of Narayanganj unit of the party.

The rival factions filed cases with Narayanganj Model Police Station Wednesday night accusing each other for the incidents.

About 20 people were allegedly injured in the incidents and two shops and three arches were ransacked.

Swachhshabak Dal leader Faruk Hossain filed a case against 23 people, including

former lawmaker Commander Sirajul Islam, Narayanganj municipality rebel committee president Nurul Islam Sarder, general secretary Advocate Shakhawat Hossain and organising secretary Abu Al Yusuf Khan Tipu.

On the other hand, Narayanganj municipality committee organising secretary Abu Al Yusuf Khan Tipu filed a case against some 40 people, including Narayanganj municipality BNP president Jahangir Alam, Jubo Dal leader and municipal councillor Maksudul Alam Khandker and Nurul Haq Chowdhury Dipu.

## NATIONAL IMMUNISATION DAYS

## 2cr children to be fed polio vaccine

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

About 2 crore children aged 1-5 years will be administered polio and measles vaccines on the 18th National Immunisation Days (NID) on January 10 and February 14, 2010.

Health and Family Welfare Minister AFM Ruhul Haque said this at a meeting of the steering committee on polio eradication and measles control held at the ministry's conference room.

At the first round of the NID on January 10, children under five years would be administered two drops of polio vaccine and children aged between 1-5 would be administered vitamin A capsule for prevention of night-blindness while children aged 2-5 years will be given deworming

tablet, said ministry officials.

In the second round of the NID, which begins on February 14 and continues till February 28, children aged under five would be administered two doses of polio vaccine and children between nine months to under five years would be administered the measles vaccine.

In the past, several children were victims of the side effects of the deworming tablets and Vitamin A capsules, so everyone of health services should be careful about it, said the minister at the meeting.

He also suggested the health professionals should give the children the deworming tablets after they have a meal, otherwise the tablet might cause sufferings.

Health Secretary Shaikh Altaf Ali, Additional Secretary Barun Dev Mitra, Chief Information Officer AKM Shamim Chowdhury, Director General of family planning directorate Abdul Quayyum, additional director of Directorate General of Health Services Dr Shahadat Hossain and World Health Organisation's Country Representative Dr Duangvadee Sungkhobol were present at the meeting.

Since poliovirus was detected in March 2006, 18 cases were reported in 12 districts with the last one detected on November 22, 2006 while there were six rounds of polio NIDs in 2006, four rounds in 2007 and two rounds of NIDs in 2008, according to World Health Organisation statistics.

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