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## Danger lurks in shared transport

2 muggers admit killing ATN crew, policeman; 19 bodies recovered in 2 weeks

KAILASH SARKAR and MUKHLESUR RAHMAN

Commuters beware! If you are sharing a ride with unknown people on any modes of vehicle, be extra cautious. Gangs of ruthless muggers in recent times posing as co-passengers and drivers are out to snatch stuffs and often take lives too.

This shocking truth came out from confession of two muggers, who were arrested yesterday. According to them, they mugged and killed ATN Bangla camera crew Shafiqul Islam Mithu and police Assistant Sub-inspector (ASI)



Shafiqul Islam



Mizanur Rahman

Mizanur Rahman last week. The law enforcers in the last two weeks recovered an alarming number of 19 bodies, including that of Mithu and Rahman in the capital. Judging the way these bodies were found, the police suspect they were all killed by muggers.

Sekandar, a morgue assistant of Dhaka Medical College, told The Daily Star on May 5 that at least 10 people had come to the morgue in the last two days looking for their missing relatives.

In this alarming trend, gangs of muggers

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BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia, inset, delivers her speech to thousands at a rally held at Barisal Bangabandhu Udyan yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

## Four killed in 'shootouts'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Three alleged criminals and an outlawed party member died in 'shootouts' with law enforcers in Dhaka and Kushtia yesterday. Of the dead, Rahat, Suman Sheikh and Alauddin were killed in the capital and Jibon, a Gono Mukti Fouz cadre, in Kushtia.

Rahat was allegedly the leader of an organised muggers' group.

Suman and Alauddin were in the gang of Dakat Shahid, one of the most wanted criminals, Rab said.

**DETECTIVES' DRIVE**  
Rahat, who was allegedly involved in the murder of an assistant sub-inspector, was killed during a gunfight with the Detective Branch of Police in the capital's Pallabi area.

At a press briefing held at the DB office, Dhaka Metropolitan Police Commissioner Shahidul Hoque said the gunfight ensued as detectives went to Pallabi embankment around 3:00am to nab Rahat.

They launched the drive on information extracted from Raju

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## Court orders to arrest 12 cops over 'crossfire'

A CORRESPONDENT, Natore

A Natore court yesterday issued arrest warrants against 12 policemen and seven others on charge of killing a youth in "crossfire" at Singra in Natore.

The policemen include Abu Bakar, the then officer-in-charge of Singra Police Station, SI Liakat Ali and ASI Prodyut Kar.

On August 27, 2009, Rajab Ali of Singra upazila filed a complaint with the Natore Additional Chief Magistrate's Court that Singra police

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## JET FUEL CRISIS AMID RIVER STRIKE

# Govt restores supply line

Workers on strike warned of legal action

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government yesterday deployed a joint force to restore the supply line of jet fuel, a day after an aviation fuel crisis had thrown flight operations in the capital into disarray.

The crisis was ushered in by an ongoing indefinite water transport workers' strike which entered its fifth day yesterday.

Tankers could not transport fuel from Chittagong to the aviation fuel depot in Narayanganj for four days, while a tanker moored at the depot also could not be unloaded due to the strike.

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PHOTO ON PAGE 16

## Transcom Beverages clarifies report

Transcom Beverages Limited yesterday gave a clarification on a news item relating to the High Court verdict imposing a fine of Tk 2.1 crore on Bangladesh Beverages Industries Limited.

The report was published in certain newspapers yesterday and broadcast in a section of the electronic media on Tuesday.

The clarification is as follows: "Our attention has been drawn to a news item

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## Govt working for foreign countries Programme to overthrow govt will come May 19, Khaleda tells Barisal rally

Programme to overthrow govt will come May 19, Khaleda tells Barisal rally

RAKIB HASNET SUMAN, from Barisal

BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia yesterday alleged the government is working in the best interest of foreign countries, especially India, as it does not want to see an independent Bangladesh.

Khaleda said mass upsurge is a must in the present situation created following the "absolute failure of the government". "We will announce agitation programmes at our Dhaka rally on May 19 as we have to save the country by overthrowing this government through a movement."

Khaleda called for a tough action to drive out the evil of 1/11. She was addressing the party's grand rally at Bangabandhu Udyan in Barisal.

Khaleda, the opposition leader in parliament, said, "They

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