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4 suspended Biman pilots back on duty

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Biman yesterday put back on duty the four pilots, suspended on October 26 on grounds of flight safety, two days after the pilots of the national carrier called off a strike on Friday.

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CESSNA CRASH Pilot's body found, plane untraced yet

STAR REPORT

Rescue divers yesterday morning recovered the body of missing pilot of the training aircraft that crashed into the river Jamuna near Omarpur in

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Court orders Koko's arrest

Asks him to stand in the dock for hearing money-laundering charges; pro-BNP lawyers demonstrate

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday issued a warrant for arrest of BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia's younger son Arafat Rahman Koko in a money-laundering case.

It also directed the police to report by November 30 on execution of the warrant.

"The court order means there's no legal bar to arresting Koko on his return to the country," Mosharrif Hossain Kajol, special public prosecutor dealing with graft cases, told The Daily Star yesterday.

Koko, who was arrested in September 2007



on graft charges and paroled for treatment abroad in July of the following year, is now in Bangkok.

Incensed, pro-BNP lawyers brought out a procession on the court premises, demanding cancellation of the arrest warrant.

Asked about the court decision, State Minister for Home Shamsul Haque Tuku said, "How long will a person be on parole? Should parole last forever?"

Talking to The Daily Star last night, he also said, "Since the court, not the government, has issued the warrant, Koko must face it. If he is

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Trader, son stabbed for protesting stalking

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

A trader, his son and one of his relatives received stab injuries from a stalker for protesting harassment of his wife at Khash-Naogaon in Sadar Upazila of Naogaon Saturday night.

Mohammad Laku, 35, a resident of Chawkdewpur, had been stalking Abdul Hannan's wife Fouzia Sultana Mukti, a mother of two children, for nearly a year, relatives said.

At about 9:00pm on the night, Laku came to Hannan's house and started banging on the door and windows. As Hannan's son Fashiur opened the door, Laku dragged him out of the house and stabbed

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PHOTO ON PAGE 12

It's murder

Confirms autopsy report of Natore teacher

ANWAR ALI, Rajshahi with BULBUL AHMED, Natore

The autopsy report confirmed that Mizanur Rashid, a Natore college teacher, was murdered.

Meanwhile, police have gathered witness accounts and evidence of involvement of the two accused persons in the case.

Mizan succumbed to his injuries on October 24 in Dhaka, 12 days after two stalkers ran a motorcycle into him and beat him up with iron rods at Lokmanpur of Natore.

"The autopsy report termed Mizan's death homicide. Apart from a huge fracture of skull, bruises were found all over his body", said Rezaul Karim, officer-in-charge of Shahbagh Police Station in Dhaka.

"His face was severely pounded, and hands and legs were bludgeoned," he said quoting the report that he handed over to Natore police on Saturday.

The report was given to Shahbagh police from the forensic medicine department of Dhaka Medical College.

Police arrested both the FIR-named accused Abdul Awal Rajan and Mamunur Rashid Asif in this connection.

Rajan, immediately after his arrest, said that he did not know Mizan. He also denied to have indulged in stalking activities. He claimed Mizan died from an accident.

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ANOTHER STORY ON PAGE 3

CHANPA MURDER Stalker Rony held

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Faridpur

Devashish Saha Rony, the prime accused in Chanpa Rani Bhowmik murder case at Madhukhali in Faridpur, was arrested at Jhenidah, yesterday morning.

A special team of law enforcers nabbed Rony from a motor garage at Arabpur in Jhenidah town around 10:30am, Superintendent of Police (SP) of Faridpur Awlad Ali Fakir told journalists.

Rony will be produced before the court after primary interrogation, the SP said at a press conference in his office yesterday afternoon.

The team comprised of

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Gharial found in Padma

STAR REPORT

A group of fishermen found a 2.5 feet gharial in the river Padma at Kabirpur Char of Harirampur upazila in Manikganj early yesterday.

Gharial is one of the most critically endangered reptile species of the country living in sweet water.

On Saturday night, fisherman Haren Halder of Purba Balikanda village along with six others went fishing in the river, reports our Manikganj correspondent.

The gharial was caught in the wee hours of yesterday when they threw the net into water, Haren Halder said.

The fishermen brought the gharial to their village around 10:00am yesterday and kept it at Balla Bazar in a big pot.

Hundreds of villagers came to see the gharial. Most of

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PHOTO: STAR

The 2.5 feet gharial found in the Padma by fishermen in Manikganj. The sweet water reptile is one of the most crucially endangered species of Bangladesh.

AUG 21 ATTACK LeT member confesses involvement

COURT CORRESPONDENT

Abdul Malek alias Golam Mohammad, an operative of the Pakistan-based militant outfit Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT), yesterday confessed his involvement with the grenade attacks on an Awami League (AL) rally on Bangabandhu Avenue on August 21, 2004.

Metropolitan Magistrate AKM Emdadul Haque recorded the statement of Golam and sent him to jail.

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MOVE TO FREE KALYANPUR CANAL Drive abandoned as MP weighs in

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A joint team of Dhaka Wasa and district administration had to abandon a scheduled eviction drive to recover the Kalyanpur canal from encroachers yesterday in the face of opposition from the local lawmaker.

"We were all set to carry out the drive and went to the site, but higher authorities called us back as the lawmaker opposed it," said Mainul, executive magistrate of Dhaka, designated to lead the drive.

The drive was aimed at freeing the 2.5-kilometre canal from illegal occupancy.

At least 60 to 70 police personnel, including officials from Darussalam Police Station and riot police under the executive magistrate had arrived on the scene to maintain law and order.

Led by Executive Engineer Ruhul Amin, officials concerned and labourers of Dhaka Water and Sewerage Authority (WASA) were

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