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RMG BACKS EXPORTS

Contribution of readymade garments to national export rose in the last fiscal year
PAGE B1

MADIBA'S 93RD

South Africa celebrates birthday of anti-apartheid icon Nelson Mandela
PAGE 7

LAW TAKES OVER

New cricket coach believes team comes first
PAGE 16

6 beaten to death

Villagers in Aminbazar, police claim them to be robbers; they found to be fun-loving students; families barricade roads

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Six students were bludgeoned to death by a mob of several hundred villagers in Aminbazar on the outskirts of the capital on Shab-e-Barat early yesterday.

The reason behind the attack, which also left another person injured, remains unclear. But locals and police

claimed the youths were robbers.

Al Amin, the lone survivor who suffered injuries all over his body, said they went to Keblarchar in Bardeshi village of Aminbazar to smoke cannabis.

Keblarchar is known as a hot spot for drug trade.

Of the six, Towhidur Rahman Palash, Kamruzzaman Kanto and Ibrahim Khalil

SEE PAGE 19 COL 5



PHOTO: PALASH KHAN



Kamruzzaman Kanto Ibrahim Khalil Towhidur Rahman Sitaf Jabi Munif

Students they were

KAILASH SARKAR and SHAHEEN MOLLAH

They all were students, not "robbers".

The six youths killed in the mob beating in Aminbazar early yesterday were students of reputed colleges and of a school in the city.

The victims are Shams Rahim Shamam, 17, an A-level student of Maple Leaf International School; Ibrahim Khalil, 20, Towhidur Rahman Palash, 22, and

Kamruzzaman Kanto, 16, of Government Bangla College in Mirpur; Tipu Sultan, 20, of Tejgaon College; and Sitaf Jabi Munif, 21, of Bangladesh University of Business & Technology (BUBT).

Shamam's father Shaifuddin Md Aminur Rahim is a former deputy attorney general. He was yesterday found outside Dhaka Medical College morgue waiting in tears for his only son's body.

SEE PAGE 19 COL 2

A den where police 'back' criminals

KAILASH SARKAR

Keblarchar in Aminbazar, where six students were beaten to death by a mob yesterday, is a major drug trading spot controlled by criminals allegedly under

SEE PAGE 6 COL 3



MOB-BEATING 70 killed in 6 months

TUHIN SHUBHRA ADHIKARY

Mob beatings claimed more than 70 lives across the country in the last six months, according to reports of two rights organisations.

SEE PAGE 19 COL 1

On Keblarchar shoal in Aminbazar lie clothes and a sandal of the students killed in a mob beating there on the night of Shab-e-Barat. Saifuddin Md Aminur Rahim, left, father of one of the victims Shamam, waits for his only son's body at DMC morgue yesterday.

Census report not final

Says BBS

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS) has said the population count, 14.23 crore, in the preliminary census report will be verified to get a more accurate figure.

Cross-checking, verification and adjustments will be done to get the final figure, said BBS Director General Shahjahan Ali Mollah on Sunday at a press

SEE PAGE 6 COL 1

If population 14cr, food in surplus

Agriculture minister terms latest census find unrealistic

REAZ AHMAD

The preliminary findings of the latest census that put the country's population at 142.3 million do not correspond with the current figures of domestic demand for food, its production and import.

"Had the population been 142.3 million, we should have been sitting on sacks full of food grains now, and



Matia Chowdhury

there would have been no requirement of food import," Agriculture Minister Matia Chowdhury said yesterday.

Talking to The Daily Star exclusively, she said, "I can say the preliminary findings are at best unrealistic. There is a big gap between the census outcome and the reality."

The agriculture ministry has con

SEE PAGE 19 COL 2

Regional connectivity, not with India only

Insists foreign minister

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh and India have taken a political decision on transit to establish all modes of connectivity in the region, Foreign Minister Dipu Moni has said.

Addressing a press conference at the foreign ministry yesterday, she said Bangladesh has decided to give transit to India, Nepal and Bhutan and the Awami League government wants to establish all types of connectivity not only with India but also with the entire region.

She reminded about the joint commu-

niqué, issued during Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's visit to New Delhi in January last year, where the two prime ministers agreed on transit.

Dipu Moni hinted that a number of protocols on transit will be finalised before Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh's visit to Bangladesh and will be signed during his visit planned for September 6-7.

"Whatever we will do with India, it will be under a broader framework. Nepal and Bhutan have already been included in the

SEE PAGE 19 COL 1

CNG vehicle cylinder explodes

7 hurt in Ctg

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Seven people including three siblings were injured in an explosion of a gas cylinder of a CNG-run auto-rickshaw in the city early yesterday.

The explosion occurred around 1:30am when the auto-rickshaw reached Tannery Bottala area under Bayezid Police Station, police said.

All the six passengers-- Sahabuddin, 28, Alauddin, 24, Raju Islam, 26, Jahangir, 25, Rabiul, 24, and Helal, 24,-- and driver Sahabuddin, 26, received burns in the explosion.

They were admitted to Chittagong Medical College Hospital (CMCH) from where passenger Sahabuddin and Jahangir were sent to Dhaka with 50 percent burns to their bodies, said Ayub Ali, an

SEE PAGE 19 COL 4



মজবুত শেকড় থেকে শিখরে

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