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INDO-PAK RELATIONS

Pakistan's FM at a Delhi shrine prays for peace between the two countries

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LEBANON DOWNED

Bangladesh defeat Lebanon 2-0 in their home World Cup pre-qualifier

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airtel brings BlackBerry to Bangladesh See page 2

ARREST, TORTURE OF DU STUDENT QUADER

HC orders probe

IGP asked to suspend 3 cops; govt told to arrange his treatment

JULFIKAR ALI MANIK and ASHUTOSH SARKAR

The High Court yesterday ordered the inspector general of police to suspend immediately three officers of Khilgaon Police Station including its officer-in-charge for torturing a Dhaka University student in their custody.

The court took up the issue to unearth the facts after media reports brought to light the incident a couple of days ago. The reports said police claimed the student, Abdul Quader, is a robber while his teachers and fellow students said he is a decent person.

In a suo moto rule in the morning the HC summoned the policemen concerned and also brought the victim, the National Human Rights Commission chief, and a Dhaka University teacher for hearing the rule in the evening.

After the hearing, the court asked the government to provide proper treatment to the victim at Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University (BSMMU) hospital at its own cost, and to allow his

parents to visit him anytime at the hospital.

An HC bench directed the government to give all legal assistance to Quader so that he can move petitions at the lower court concerned for bail in connection with the cases filed against him by police.

The bench of Justice AHM Shamsuddin Chowdhury Manik and Justice Gobinda Chandra Tagore ordered the law secretary to form a committee headed by an officer of the ministry with the rank of at least

joint secretary to investigate the incident of detention and torture of Quader.

The judges ordered the IGP to set up another parallel committee headed by an officer of the police department to investigate the matter. The committees are to submit their investigation reports to the HC within eight weeks.

A biochemistry and molecular biology student Quader and his family and friends alleged that Khilgaon

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OC was lying

Say High Court judges; Quader's statement and OC's version totally different

JULFIKAR ALI MANIK and ASHUTOSH SARKAR

"You are lying," Justice AHM Shamsuddin Chowdhury Manik told Helal Uddin, officer-in-charge (OC) of Khilgaon Police Station, when he was giving statement on the

arrest of Abdul Quader.

"Tell us the whole truth. Otherwise, we will send you to the prison on Nazimuddin Road without your uniform," the judge kept reminding the OC throughout the hearing.

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Abdul Quader, a student of biochemistry of Dhaka University, with a bandaged leg waits in a police vehicle outside the High Court yesterday. The court ordered suspension of three cops in connection with torturing Quader.

PHOTO: STAR

No trace of robbery, mob beating

RASHIDUL HASAN

No residents or security guards of houses and other establishments near the city's Segunbagicha intersection or Khilgaon old police camp saw or heard anything unusual in the early hours of July 16.

Many locals walked outside their houses till late that night as it was too hot.

None of them came

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NHRC chief terms it an ominous sign

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

"The torture on Quader is an ominous sign for law and order in the country... The state is responsible for incidents of torture of civilians by law enforcers."

National Rights Commission Chairman Prof Mizanur Rahman made the comment before

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The wrecked bus after a truck from the opposite direction swiped it on Dhaka-Bogra highway near Noymile in Shahjahanpur of Bogra yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

BUS-TRUCK COLLISION IN BOGRA

Reckless driving claims 18 lives

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Bogra

Eighteen people were killed and 21 others injured as a truck collided with a passenger bus in Shahjahanpur upazila of the district early yesterday.

All the victims were passengers of the bus bound for Joypurhat.

The injured said the driver seemed drowsy while driving the vehicle and at one stage lost control over the vehicle.

Throughout the journey, the driver was reckless, said Sirajul Islam, a survivor of the crash. "We asked the driver to be careful but he didn't pay any heed to us."

Locals said the accident occurred at

Noymile around 5:45am when a Dhaka-bound goods-laden truck hit a bus that left Dhaka the previous night.

Eleven people including four children and four women died on the spot while the others died at Shaheed Ziaur Rahman Medical College Hospital in Bogra.

Reaz Ahmed, officer-in-charge of Shahjahanpur Police Station, said the drivers of both the vehicles were driving recklessly and lost control while taking a turn at Noymile.

In protest at the accident, locals blocked the highway near the spot around 6:15am. They, however, withdrew the

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Rajuk chief summoned

HC asks him to explain state of building safety

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court (HC) yesterday summoned Md Nurul Huda, chairman of Rajdhani Unnayan Kartripakkha (Rajuk) to explain the state of building safety and compliance of rules.

The court asked the Rajuk chief and four police officials-- including Syed Ziauzzaman and Shahabuddin Khalifa, the officers-in-charge of Sher-e-Bangla Nagar and

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13,582 bullets, 13kg explosives found in forest

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Law enforcers recovered 13,582 bullets and 13kg of explosives buried in Gozari forest in Kaliakoir upazila of Gazipur early yesterday.

The bullets, which are of small machineguns (SMGs) and rifles, and the bomb-making materials were hidden in Nishchintapur area of the forest, Lt Col Md Rashidul Alam, commanding officer of Rapid Action Battalion-1, told The Daily Star.

A team of Rab, following a tip-off, raided the area

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PHOTO: STAR

The bomb-making materials and ammunition recovered from a Gazipur forest yesterday.

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