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ATN Bangla journo's car vandalised

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Unidentified criminals attacked Zahirul Islam Mamun, head of news of ATN Bangla, at the city's Gulshan on Wednesday night.

The criminals obstructed the car Mamun was driving on Road-24 on his way home. They vandalised his car and assaulted him.

Reason behind the attack could not be known.

"The criminals chased down my car, overtook it and obstructed the car," Mamun told The Daily Star, adding, "When I opened the window a little, they tried to drag me out. They broke the windows."

"First I suspected that the criminals are muggers or carjackers but later it seemed that they were something else, since neither did they attempt to take my car nor any valuables I had on me."

He said the attack might have been made out of anger sparked by his professional activities.

Mamun was attacked hours after he made

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Believe it or not it is the Sonargaon intersection which usually remains packed with traffic. As a lot of people left Dhaka to spend Eid vacation outside the city, the streets were congestion free. The photo was taken around noon yesterday.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

Opposition chief whip's factory looted

UNB, Gazipur

Robbers looted cash and other valuables from a knit composite factory, owned by Opposition Chief Whip Zainul Abidin Farroque, at Bhobanipur in Gazipur sadar upazila early yesterday.

Police said a gang of armed robbers numbering 30 to 40 entered the premises of BG Collection Ltd after crossing its boundary wall at about 3:00am.

The gang tied hands and legs of nine security guards at gun point and looted cash, fabrics, laptops and other valuables.

The criminals fled the scene by a pick-up van around 5:00am. Locals rescued the guards after hearing their scream and informed police.

Golam Rasul Santu, an official of the factory, claimed that robbers looted cash and other valuables worth about Tk 50 lakh.

Police detained eight security guards for interrogation.

Three sharp weapons were recovered from the spot.



Noda takes over as new Japanese PM

Unveils youthful cabinet

AFP, Tokyo

Japan's new Prime Minister Yoshihiko Noda yesterday named a youthful cabinet lacking the usual political heavyweights, as he attempts to

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Road crashes kill 38 during Eid holidays

STAR REPORT

At least 38 people, including eight in the capital, were killed and 80 others injured in road accidents across the country during the Eid holidays.

Early on the Eid day, three slum dwellers were killed and five others hurt as a bus crashed into their shanties at Abdullahpur in the city's Uttara.

The dead are Shaheen Mia, 50, his son Hridoy, eight, and his neighbour Salma Akhter, 18.

Habibur Rahman, sub-inspector of Uttara Police Station, said the Dhaka-bound bus overturned on the shanties around 3:00am on Wednesday.

Also on the Eid day, police constable Giasuddin died after a vehicle knocked him near the Rajarbagh Police Lines.

In another accident, Ramjan Ali, a pedestrian, was run over by a bus near Shapla Chattar at the capital's Motijheel, leaving him dead.

Jojon Som, 18, was killed on Dhaka-Chittagong highway as a microbus hit near him Matuail of Jatrabari area around 1:30am yesterday.

An unidentified elderly man was killed early on Thursday in an accident in Uttara.

Also on Thursday, 22-year-old Al Amin died at Dhaka Medical College Hospital after he was hit by a vehicle at Shyampur.

MANIKGANJ

Two bike riders were killed as a bus hit their bike at Sholashtia on Dhaka-Aricha road in Shibaloy upazila on Thursday.

The dead are Ridoy, 28, and Selim, 30.

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Casualties less this year

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

While millions celebrated the Eid with their dear ones, road accidents claimed at least 38 lives and injured some 80 others throughout the country in the last three days of Eid vacation.

The number of casualties and injuries is less this year (last year, at least 63 people were killed and over 200 others injured) because many people avoided travelling by road due to the battered road conditions.

Moreover, extra precautions were taken by the government and the transport associations

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Defiant Gaddafi vows 'long battle'

World frees Libya funds; Russia recognises rebels

REUTERS, Tripoli

Muammar Gaddafi urged his supporters to fight on as world leaders freed up billions of dollars to help Libya's new rulers rebuild a nation torn by 42 years of one-man rule and six months of civil war.

"Let it be a long battle. We will fight from place to place, from town to town, from valley to valley, from mountain to mountain," Gaddafi said in a message relayed by satellite TV on the anniversary of the coup that brought him to power in 1969.

"If Libya goes up in flames, who will be



able to govern it? Let it burn," he said, speaking from hiding.

In further comments broadcast later, he vowed to prevent oil exports, in the kind of threat that stirs fears of an Iraq-style insurgency: "You will not be able to pump oil for the sake of your own people. We will not allow this to happen," Gaddafi said. "Be ready for a war of gangs and urban warfare."

Meanwhile, a council tasked with drafting a constitution for Libya should be elected within eight months ahead of

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Govt to repair 5,000km roads by March

BSS, Dhaka

The communications ministry has set a target to reconstruct and restore about 5,000 kilometres roads across the country at a cost of Tk 3,600 crore by March next year.

Communications Minister Syed Abul Hossain along with other high officials of the ministry and Roads and Highways Department (RHD) revealed the plan to BSS yesterday after visiting the reconstruction sites on Dhaka-Mymensingh road at Gazipur.

Abul Hossain said the emergency road reconstruction drive is almost complete and the ministry is confident that the holidaymakers will be able to return to the capital safely and more comfortably.

"We will launch the periodic maintenance work for all damaged roads and highways across the country by September 15 and the work will be completed within six months since its inauguration," the minister said.

Communications Secretary Md Mozammel Haque Khan said the ministry has estimated that it would require about Tk 3,600 crore to complete all the emergency maintenance and periodic permanent maintenance works for about 5,000 km roads.

The ministry has so far received Tk 800 crore from the government promised Tk 2,100 crore fund for road reconstruction, the communications secretary said.

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Renovation of Dhaka-Mymensingh highway continues at Sign Board in Gazipur yesterday. Transport owners last month stopped bus operation on the route for several days demanding its overhaul.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

Kolkata HC judge quits over graft

OUR CORRESPONDENT, New Delhi

Calcutta High Court Judge Justice Soumitra Sen, facing charges of financial irregularities, resigned on Thursday, days ahead of his possible impeachment by the Lok Sabha, the lower House of Indian parliament.

"I have decided not to face the Lok Sabha.... I have sent my resignation to President Pratibha Patil and a copy of it to the Lok Sabha Speaker," Soumitra Sen said on that day.

Justice Sen, who is facing charges of misappropriating Rs 33.23 lakh in a case in 1983, was

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PRAYER TIMING		September 3
	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	4-30	5-05
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	4-45	5-00
Maghrib	6-23	6-26
Esha	7-45	8-15

Source: Islamic Foundation