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4 'pushed off' trains to death

Injured survivor tells of mugging incident

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

Four people died and three others were injured in separate incidents as muggers pushed them off trains after looting their valuables on Wednesday, police and victims said.

Sumon Mia, one of the injured who were on the rooftop of a Dewanganj-bound train, said a group of snatchers knocked him and two others down between Bidyaganj and Begunbari after mugging them.

The two other injured were Ripon, 25, and Sujon, 23.

Sumon, 22, said a group of snatchers started looting valuables from the passen-

gers on the rooftop around 9:00pm. The criminals then approached him and took away a wristwatch and Tk 700 from him.

"After taking all those from me, they kicked me and pushed me off the train," said Sumon, adding that the muggers later did the same to Sujon and Ripon.

Jamalpur police arrested for people in this connection from the rooftop of the train after it reached Jamalpur on Wednesday night.

Of the four dead, three bodies were recovered by Jamalpur railway police from different points along the Mymensingh-Jamalpur rail line while the other body by Mymensingh police from

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PHOTO: FILE

A file photo shows Tin Bigha Corridor, the doorway to Dahagram-Angorpota at Patgram upazila in Lalmonirhat. It has been opened to allow round-the-clock access of Bangladeshi nationals to the enclave following a deal signed with India during Manmohan Singh's Dhaka visit. Story on page 1

India to give Tk 320cr

REJAUL KARIM BYRON

India will provide a grant of about Tk 320 crore to Bangladesh to implement several projects and initiatives including construction of rail track between Akhaura and Agartala-- part of a proposed transit route.

This was announced on Wednesday in the Bangladesh-India joint statement issued after Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh's two-day visit to Dhaka.

The statement did not mention the amount of the grant. However, a high official of foreign ministry

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Mahbub refutes

Former army chief Lt General (ret'd) Mahbubur Rahman has sent a rejoinder to a report published in The Daily Star on Wednesday headlined "2 generals sought US support for coup."

He said the report based on a leaked US diplomatic cable published by WikiLeaks bears no truth about him. In

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4 PRIVATE POWER SCHEMES APPROVED

Orion given largest project

SHARIER KHAN

The cabinet purchase committee yesterday approved setting up four private power projects including a large coal-fired one with their production capacity totalling up to 725 megawatt, enough to light up one third of the capital city.

Except the coal-fired project, the other three are failed rental power projects deals for which were originally awarded to three local companies on the basis of unsolicited nego-

tiations.

As these rental companies failed to implement the projects in time, and on the basis of their appeals, the government turned those into private power projects for a 15-year term each. The rental projects had a five-year term.

Contract for the coal-fired project with 300-650 MW production capacity has been awarded to local company Orion Group having a Chinese joint venture partner--Longking. The plant will be set up at Mawa in

Munshiganj on land owned by the joint venture company.

This is going to be the single largest power project in the country requiring an investment of \$ 600 million.

This will also make Orion a leading local company following Summit Power. Orion was recently awarded contracts for two other 300 MW coal-fired power projects in Khulna and Chittagong. With these two, the company will have to invest \$1.2 billion.

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Silver lining in clouds

Dhaka, Delhi pin hope on joint statement

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and her Indian counterpart Manmohan Singh on Wednesday issued a 65-point statement following their summit which underscored taking forward the Framework Agreement and speeding up various initiatives for transit.

It also promised expediting an agreement on water sharing of Teesta and Feni rivers on a 'fair and equitable basis'.

The two premiers also agreed to do away with all barriers, including tariff and para-tariff, to boost trade.

The important points of the statements are as below:

17. Both sides decided to establish a Joint Commission led by the Ministers of Foreign/External Affairs to jointly coordinate and oversee implementation of initiatives as well as to explore newer avenues for cooperation, including progress of activities under the Framework Agreement.

18. The two Prime Ministers welcomed that there has been progress on the principles and modalities of interim agreements on sharing of waters of Teesta and

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Aug 21 cases shifted to speedy trial tribunal

COURT CORRESPONDENT

The August 21 grenade attack cases against BNP Senior Vice Chairman Tarique Rahman and 51 others were shifted to the Speedy Trial Tribunal-1 of Dhaka yesterday for their quick disposal.

The murder case was under trial at the Second Additional Metropolitan Sessions Judge's Court

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Saiful Islam Mollah

Docs in kidney trade

Mafia behind illicit business; key mafia man held, arrestees speak of supplying kidneys home and abroad

KONGKON KARMAKER and KAILASH SARKAR

The illegal kidney trade is being run by a mafia with support from corrupt doctors of a few renowned hospitals in the country and it is aimed at harvesting organs from people in hardship. Some of the transplant surgeries were done in hospitals abroad.

Police arrested six people in this connection so far, including a key figure of the gang yesterday. Detective Branch of Police around

5:30pm arrested Tareque Azam, son of MA Azam Chowdhury of South Hossainpur of Begunganj in Noakhali, at Fakirapool in the capital.

Deputy Commissioner (DB-North) of Police Mahabubur Rahman told The Daily Star that Tareque is a key figure of the ring involved in the kidney trade. He said they are raiding spots with Tareque with them to arrest other members of the gang.

Police arrested Saiful Islam

Mollah (also known as Daud) Tuesday at Bagerhat while Abdus Sattar, Abdul Karim, Golam Mostofa and Mosharrif Hossain of Kalai upazila of Joypurhat were arrested at their Joypurhat village earlier.

All of them had sold off a kidney, said police.

Police quoting Saiful said a number of doctors of well-reputed hospitals in the country keep close touch with the gang and occasionally tell them of their organ

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DELHI HC BOMB BLAST After Huji, Indian Mujahideen claims responsibility

AFP, New Delhi

Indian federal investigators examined yesterday two unverified claims by militant groups that they were behind a deadly bomb blast at New Delhi's High Court that left 12 people dead.

One emailed claim purportedly sent from Harkat-ul-Jihad al-Islami (HuJI), a Pakistan-based Islamist militant group, was traced to an Internet cafe in Kishtwar, a town in the volatile Muslim-majority region of Indian Kashmir.

Local police told AFP that two brothers who owned the cafe and one employee were taken in for questioning, but

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The Daily Star

Integral Energy Limited

ONLINE POLL

Do you think the Teesta water sharing issue will be resolved soon?

Yes (15.6%)
No (83.8%)
No Comments (0.6%)

TOTAL VOTES: 462

TODAY'S POLL

Do you agree with BNP that Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh's visit was total failure?

PLEASE CAST YOUR VOTE AT www.thedailystar.net

1ST VERDICT UNDER RTI ACT Govt official fined for not giving info

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

For the first time since its inception in 2009, the Information Commission yesterday fined a government official Tk 1,000 under the Right to Information (RTI) Act for refusing to provide information.

The move came in response to a complaint filed by Sheikh Ali Ahammad, of Fatullah in Narayanganj, with the commission.

Mohammad Golam Mostafa, health and family planning officer at Arahazar upazila in Narayanganj, refused to help Ali who sought information from him under the RTI Act about a murder accused.

After two hearings on August 9 and 18, the commission yesterday fined Mostafa, and said the fine has to be paid by September 15.

It also directed the then civil surgeon of Narayanganj Khorshed Alam, who was the superior officer of Mostafa, to perform his duty properly in future. It rebuked Alam for not directing the health officer to give the information.

Mohammad Jamir, the chief information commissioner, told reporters that the commission took the decision as Mostafa admitted to his offence.

The Information Commission has received 65 complaints of RTI violation since 2009. Of the cases, 34 have

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