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Testimony to anarchy

Fatikchhari attack victims still reel from shocks

ARUN BIKASH DEY, back from Fatikchhari

The families of the three Awami League men killed in Thursday's attack allegedly by Hefajat-e Islam and Jamaat-Shibir activists in Fatikchhari upazila of Chittagong are in deep shock, struggling to get over the cruel blow.

The mothers are the hardest to face.

Monwara Begum, mother of deceased Faruk Iqbal Bipul, vice-president of Bhaktapur union Jubo League, was wailing, "My son was never involved in any violence. Please return my son, please, please, please..."

Faruk left behind two sons -- one five-year-old and the other two-year-old. Her wife is shocked to the core. She keeps on asking: "Where will I go now with the kids?"

Mother of another deceased, Md Rubel, has stopped talking since she got the news. Her blank stares belie the depth of her grief.

Rubel's uncle Jahangir Alam said he [Rubel] was a day labourer and

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The wrecks of some vehicles, top, torched Thursday during the Jamaat-Shibir and Hefajat-e Islam attack on an Awami League motor procession have been pushed into ditch to get the road free at Bhujpur of Fatikchhari in Chittagong. FROM LEFT ... The mother of Forkan, killed during the attack, cries holding the photo of her son yesterday. The burned motorbikes of the procession are kept on the roadside while remains of torched human hauliers are still on the road. Tension remains high in the area and most shops have remained closed since Thursday.

PHOTO: ANURUP KANTI DAS

QAWMI MADRASA
Commission
submits
report to PM

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Qawmi
Madrassa Education
Commission last night
submitted a report on its
education policy to Prime
Minister Sheikh Hasina.

Titled "Qawmi Madrasa
Education Policy-2012",
the report along with a set
of recommendations was
handed over to the PM at
her official residence
Gono Bhaban by a delega-
tion led by Moulana Farid
Uddin Masuod, sources
say.

Moulana Masuod, also
co-chairman of the com-
mission, told The Daily
Star that the prime minis-
ter had assured them of

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Woes on highways

Long tailbacks continue to cause sufferings to thousands of passengers

STAR REPORT

were around 20-km and 14-km-long respectively, report our district correspondents.

In the capital, the Mirpur Road, Panthapath, Dhanmondi and New Market areas witnessed heavy traffic as people thronged shopping malls for last minute shopping ahead of Pahela Baishakh (first day of Bangla new year) celebrations today.

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A rail bridge at Lawachhara National Park goes over a dried up stream. The lack of water is affecting the wild life of the nature reserve in Moulvibazar.

PHOTO: STAR

Three bombs
hurled at
Hanif's house

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Unidentified criminals
threw three cocktails at
the residence of Awami
League leader Mahbub-
ul-Alam Hanif in the capi-
tal's Gulshan yesterday
afternoon.

The explosives dropped
on a veranda of the one-
storey building but did
not go off, said Khandaker

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Polls under
partisan govt
not possible

Says Mosharraf

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The TIB's proposed
framework for a polls-
time government makes it
clear that a fair election is
not possible under a parti-
san government, said BNP
standing committee mem-
ber Khandaker Mosharraf
Hossain yesterday.

The Transparency
International Bangladesh
(TIB) on Friday proposed
a committee, taking an

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Corrupt Milk Vita staff to face music

Authorities start drive amid allegations of anomalies, mismanagement

TAWFIQUE ALI

State-run cooperative dairy Milk Vita is set to reshuffle its 3,000 employees and take measures against corrupt officials to get rid of anomalies and mismanagement.

Its Managing Director (MD) Muhammad Munir Chowdhury yesterday

told The Daily Star that they had already launched a cleansing drive. So far one official had been suspended and 12 others transferred.

In the process, competent officers and employees would be placed in the right positions, said the MD.

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**No compromise
on 13-point**

Hefajat leaders tell Sylhet rally

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

Hefajat-e Islam yesterday said it won't compromise on the 13-point demand it announced at a rally in the capital on April 6.

Speaking at a rally in Sylhet city, its leaders threatened to wage a tougher movement if Amar Desh acting editor Mahmudur Rahman were not freed immediately.

They alleged Sheikh Hasina's government had shown through its four-year rule that it belonged to anti-Islamic forces. This government, they added, must be toppled, as people did not want them in power anymore.

Hefajat's General Secretary Junaid Babunagari spoke as the chief guest.

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**KHULNA BLASTS
India rules out concern**

OUR CORRESPONDENT,
New Delhi

India yesterday said there was no cause for concern at the hurling of crude bombs near the car that carried Indian High Commissioner to Bangladesh Pankaj Saran in Khulna on Friday.

Talking to media, spokesperson of Indian external affairs ministry said, "As per our information, while the high commissioner was in a

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Wildlife under threat

Streams drying up in Lawachhara forest; not enough water to drink for animals

MINTU DESHWARA, Moulvibazar

Faced with an acute shortage of water, the animals in Lawachhara rain forest in Moulvibazar are entering nearby villages in search of water, sometimes coming under attack from the villagers.

The streams in the forest have run dry quite rapidly in recent years. As a result, the wildlife of one of the most diversified rain forests in the country are now under threat of extinction.

According to the forest department, some 14 to 15 streams serve as the source of water for the wild animals in the forest. The streams snake along in areas such as Jankichhara, Depalchhara, Jagchhara and Bagmarachhara in the forest.

Stretching over approximately 1,250 hectares of land, Lawachhara rain forest is

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*Mayans were
wiped out
by drought*

DAILY MAIL ONLINE

Despite a Mayan prophecy, the world did not end on December 21 last year - but new evidence suggests the ancient civilisation's calendar system was, in other respects, accurate.

By re-analysing a wooden beam from a Guatemalan

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