STAFF CORRESPONDENT A nine-year-old girl was raped allegedly by her neighbour in the capital's

Rampura yesterday. The girl, currently receiving treatment at Dhaka Medical College Hospital, told reporters that a neighbour tricked her into going to the roof of the building next to her house and violated her there.

She could not say the name of the man but said she could identify him if she sees him.

The girl, hailing from Rajapur of Jalakathi, recently came to the capital to live with her mother and stepfather.

3 DU MBA students hurt in attack by undergrads

DU CORRESPONDENT

Three Dhaka University MBA students were injured in an attack by some undergraduate banking students and subsequent clashes centring an altercation over boarding a lift of Faculty of Business Studies yesterday around 9:30am.

Ibrahim Khalil and Kutub Uddin Rayhan of marketing and Shukanta of finance took treatment at DMCH.

Armed with sticks, the second year banking students, mainly of Surya Sen Hall and Haji Muhammad Mohsin Hall, and those of the first year attacked Ibrahim and Kutub in Mal Chattar, adjoining the faculty, around 11:30pm,

said witnesses. As marketing students gathered near the faculty's main entrance to retaliate, the attackers swooped on them, leading to the clash and leaving Shukanta injured.

Acting proctor Amzad Ali said punitive measures would be taken as per the report of a one-man investigation committee.

Ghatak Dalal Nirmul Committee to publish white paper on Hefajat

Shahriar Kabir tells The Daily Star

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Ekatturer Ghatak Dalal Nirmul Committee has been conducting an extensive investigation on the much talked-about Islamist organisation Hefajat-e Islam since mid-May, the platform's Executive President Shahriar Kabir told The Daily Star in a recent phone interview.

Also a leading member of the study team, he said their field level work was almost done and they hoped to make their findings public through a white paper by the end of August.

The team has interviewed a large number of Qawmi madrasa students who had joined Hefajat's May 5 Motijheel rally in the capital, and the findings have come from their statements, he said.

"According to their accounts, they were threatened with physi-

rally." Citing the prelimi-

cal assault to join the

nary findings, Shahriar said, "The madrasa teachers, who have the sole authority of signing the assessment papers, also threatened the students that they would not be allowed to pass the examinations if they did not attend the rally." The students were

promised an allowance of Tk 500-1,000 plus conveyance and food expenses, he said.

"However, most students complained that they did not receive the promised amount.

"Rather they were left to their own devices when they came to Dhaka. Some came to the city for the first time in their lives."

Shahriar said from interviews of the Hefajat activists, it emerged that most of the Hefajat top brass fought alongside Islamist groups in Afghanistan at different times.

The interviews were recorded by about 50 field workers of Ekatturer Ghatak Dalal Nirmul Committee and local journalists in the country's seven divisions, he said.

"They have interviewed students of about 1,000 madrasas whose teachers or principals hold a district or thana (upazila) level organisational position in Hafajat-e Islam."

Editor of the white paper, Shahriar said open and underground publications, including journals in different languages, booklets, CDs, and videotapes of Hefajat as well as other Islamic parties and different national and local media reports were used as the secondary source in the study.

He said many Hefajat and even former Jamaat-Shibir activists helped them with the research.

"Many madrasa students now facing police cases wish to return to a normal life, he said. "We recommend that the government come up with plans to mainstream these young people."

He said they had initiated the investigation and the process of publication of the white paper to make people aware of all the aspects of Hefajat's May 5 mayhem in and

around the capital's Shapla Chattar.

Supervised by a 12member team headed by Justice Amirul Islam, a former High Court judge, the study is a comprehensive and elaborate inquiry modelled after the Justice Munir Inquiry Report of Pakistan in 1953, claimed Shahriar.

The inquiry commission was formed to probe the disturbances in Punjab which threatened the existence of Pakistan's Ahmadiyya

Shahriar, secretary of the 12-member team, said the white paper with focus on Islamic militancy would also include the life sketches of Hefajat leaders, a section on Qawmi and Aliya madrasa education, and case studies on several madrasa students.

community.

One section will present the perception of 32 Islamic organisations of the country on various political, social and economic issues. "None of those organisations could reach a consensus regarding the definition of Islam or the structure of an Islamic state," he said.

Since 2001, Ekatturer Ghatak Dalal Nirmul Committee has been engaged in the research on Islamic militancy in Bangladesh and its regional and global network.

AUTOMATIC TRAFFIC SIGNAL IN RAJSHAHI CITY Ineffective system threat to public life

BSS, Rajshahi

The automatic traffic signal system in Rajshahi city has become almost ineffective posing a serious threat to the movement of public transport as well as pedestrians. Passengers of different modes of

public transport and pedestrians, especially school students, at various crossings and intersections like Kadirgonj, Gourhanga, Saheb Bazar Zero Point and Moni Chattar, Luxmipur and Bornali are more at risk. According to the officials con-

cerned, Rajshahi City Corporation (RCC) had established the signal system at 21 important points out of 30 at a cost of around Tk 1.5 crore in three phases since 1994. But, many of those are not being used at present due to various reasons.

Currently, traffic division of Rajshahi Metropolitan Police (RMP) has been managing the city's traffic manually causing indiscriminate traffic movement and huge congestion at different crossings and intersections especially ahead of Eid-ul-Fitr.

"Basically, we are now facing a huge problem in controlling traffic due to excessive mechanised and manual transports on the city streets alongside non-functioning automatic system," said Mahmudul Islam, inspector of RMP traffic division. In this regard, he mentioned that

initiative has been taken to reestablish the automatic system. He, however, favoured for an adequate public awareness regarding traffic rules and regulations for the sake of ensuring road safety.

Karnaphuli tunnel construction to start this fiscal

Says Obaidul Quader STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Construction of a tunnel under the river Karnaphuli will start this fiscal year, said Communications Minister Obaidul Quader in Chittagong city yesterday.

He said this while talking to journalists after inspecting the under construction Bahaddarhat-Karnaphuli Shah Amanat Bridge road.

He said the feasibility test had been finished for construction of the tunnel which would cost Tk 5,500 crore.

Traffic congestion will ease to a great extent if the tunnel is constructed, he added.

The Chinese government has given a proposal for assisting in this project, he said, adding that China has also proposed to

establish an industrial zone along the

southern side of the river.

The minister also inspected the construction work of Bahaddarhat Flyover in the city.

Prof Aminul C & A Sourcing made Sust VC

STAR REPORT

Aminul Haque Bhuiyan, a professor of the food and nutrition science

institute at Dhaka University, has been appointed the vice chancellor of the Shahjalal University of Science and Technology (Sust), Sylhet.

President Abdul Hamid, also chancellor of Sust, appointed him on Wednesday for a term of four years. Later, the education ministry sent an order to the university in this regard.

Sust Registrar Ishfaqul Hussain said the new VC might join his new workplace on Sunday.

Earlier, the university treasurer Ilias Uddin Biswas was given the charge of the vice chancellor on March 20 after former vice chancellor Saleh Uddin completed his term.



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OBITUARY



Our mother, Syeda Farida Ahmed (Director, aamra companies), wife of Late Sahebzada Syed Fariduddin Ahmed (Grand Son of Gausul Azam Hazrat Shah Sufi Moulana Syed Gulamur Rahman 'Baba Bhandari' and the Eldest son of Hazrat Shah Sufi Moulana Syed Abul Bashar), has passed away peacefully on July 24th, 2013 in Singapore at 11:40 am Bangladesh time (Inna Lillahi Wa Inna Ilahe Rajeun). May Allah bless her kind soul with eternal peace in Jannah.

She is the eldest daughter of Late Mr. O. R Nizam of Chittagong and is survived by two sons and one daughter and a host of relatives and well-wishers to mourn her death.

Her Namaz-e-Janaza will be held on Friday, 26th July 2013, after Jumma Prayers, at Gausia Rahman Manzil, Maizbhandar Sharif, Fatikchari, Chittagong, Bangladesh. She will be laid to rest at the family graveyard at Maizbhandar Sharif.

We kindly request everyone to pray for her departed soul.

Syed Faruque Ahmed

Syed Farhad Ahmed

Syeda Amina Ahmed

/ aamra

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showbiz.tds@gmail.com

JCD's Internal Conflict in Ctg Pedestrian hurt in blast

A pedestrian suffered injuries from splinters of one of

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

around five cocktails blasted in Chittagong city yesterday by some Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) activists demanding cancellation of its new 11-member Chittagong city unit committee. Md Ibrahim, 18, received first aid at a local clinic. The explosions, around BNP's Chittagong city unit

office in Nasimon Bhaban in Kazir Dewry area and

activists, left out of the committee, who also claimed

adjoining Naval Avenue, coincided with a rally BNP's Chittagong city unit was holding in Nasimon Bhaban protesting Wednesday's arson attack there. Wednesdays' attack was part of demonstrations by the

that the committee comprised non-students. Meanwhile, one JCD activist, Md Emdad Hossain, filed a case with Kotwali Police Station on behalf of BNP's Chittagong city unit over Wednesday's attack accusing unidentified miscreants.

Police said five JCD activists detained from the spot following Wednesday's attack were shown arrested in the case.



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