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## ATTACK ON HINDUS

# Same extorters active for long

M ABUL KALAM AZAD and AHMED HUMAYUN KABIR TOPU, Pabna

A group of young men stormed headmaster Gopal Chandra Ghosh's room in Bonogram Girls High School on August 24, dragged him out and beat him up with sticks, iron rods and hammers in front of his pupils.

What was his fault? Gopal refused to be extorted Tk 2 lakh.

Initially, Gopal did not care much for his own safety and he filed a case against the men while he was still being treated for his wounds at a local clinic.

But he had to give in after a month and withdraw the case when the criminals, who had been untouched by the law, threatened to kidnap his family members and threatened him with life.

Gopal denied paying the criminals a handsome amount of money to ensure the safety of his family but many in Bonogram claimed that he paid Tk 1.70 lakh to the criminals.

Gopal refused to talk to the press. He just said, "Hindu families and traders are the victims of systematic extortion but they do not dare to protest or complain fearing for their lives."

However, in the case he had filed, he had accused Fazlur Khan, 35, son of Nazer Ali Khan, Abdul Mannan, 35, son of Rois Uddin Mondol, and Fazlu Munshi, 30, son of late Abdul Karim Munshi of Bonogram village and Khokon Ali,



Rajib was framed since his father did not pay toll.

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1



Mithu, one of the men alleged to have vandalised over 100 Hindu houses and temples, *inset*, at Bonogram in Santhia of Pabna on Saturday, is seen behind State Minister for Home Shamsul Hoque Tuku when he visited the area yesterday.

PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON

## Some attackers seen with Tuku

M ABUL KALAM AZAD and AHMED HUMAYUN KABIR TOPU, Pabna

Some of the alleged culprits of Saturday's attack on Hindu community in Pabna were yesterday seen with State Minister for Home Shamsul Hoque Tuku and two lawmakers in the affected Bonogram village.

With Tuku, Disaster Management and Relief Minister Abul Hasan Mahmud Ali and State minister for LGRD Jahangir Kabir Nanak visited Bonogram yesterday, four days after vandalism and looting of over 100 Hindu houses had taken place in Sahapara and Ghoshpara areas.

Interestingly, during the visit, the state minister claimed that his party men had tried to save the Hindu families.

Mithu and Rubel, who according to villagers were among the attackers, were prominently seen welcoming the ministers and taking part in a rally organised by the local administration protesting Saturday's violence.

## Stop attacks on Hindus

US calls for govt action

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

The United States expressed deep concern over the recent attacks on Hindus in Pabna and Lalmonirhat and asked the government to take action against the criminals and protect rights of minorities.

In a statement yesterday, the US embassy said, "We call on all those involved in these incidents to desist from abusing the rights of minorities, and ask all parties to ensure they are stopped immediately and the perpetrators are held accountable."

SEE PAGE 2 COL 3

## Razakars killed doc on Yusuf's order

Martyr's son testifies at war tribunal

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A son of a physician yesterday testified that Razakars took away his father in front of his very eyes and killed him following the order of AKM Yusuf near Morelganj Launch Terminal during the Liberation War.

AKM Shamsul Alam alias Jahangir, who was also tortured by Razakar force, said he had seen that Yusuf was directing his fellow men to "wipe out" the pro-liberation and Hindu community people on May 17, 1971.

Yusuf also led looting and arsons in

300/400 shops at Morelganj Bazar in Bagerhat on that day, Shamsul told the International Crimes Tribunal-2.

Jamaat-e-Islami Nayeb-e-Ameer Yusuf, historically known as the founder of the infamous Razakar force, managed training for selected youths at Khulna Ansar Camp in 1971 to form the force, he said.

At one stage of his testimony, Shamsul's brimming eyes could not hold large tears as he was narrating the killing of his father

SEE PAGE 10 COL 1

## Nizami incited war crimes using religion

Prosecutor tells tribunal

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The prosecution at the International Crimes Tribunal-1 yesterday termed war crimes accused Motiur Rahman Nizami the ringleader of anti-liberation forces.

He was at the helm of all crimes, and also incited youths using "religious sentiments" to commit crimes against humanity during the Liberation War in 1971, said prosecutor Tureen Afroz.

SEE PAGE 10 COL 4

## OPPOSITION'S HARTAL

# Delayed start of JSC exams today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Junior School Certificate (JSC) and Junior Dakhil Certificate (JDC) examinations, which were scheduled to start on Monday, begin today thanks to BNP-led 18-party alliance-backed 60-hour hartal.

The authorities had to reschedule the exams as the hartal commenced on that day.

Over 19 lakh class eight students across the country are participating this time.

The JSC candidates will take English first paper exam today, while the JDC examinees Arabic second paper. All exams will be held on uniform question papers.

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1

## WINTER ALMOST HERE



Dew drops on grass glitter like crystal. The dews in Hemanta, one of the six seasons in Bangladesh, herald the winter which is just weeks away. The photo was taken yesterday morning in the stadium area of Chittagong city.

PHOTO: ANURUP KANTI DAS

## EC to seek army help in JS polls

Says CEC

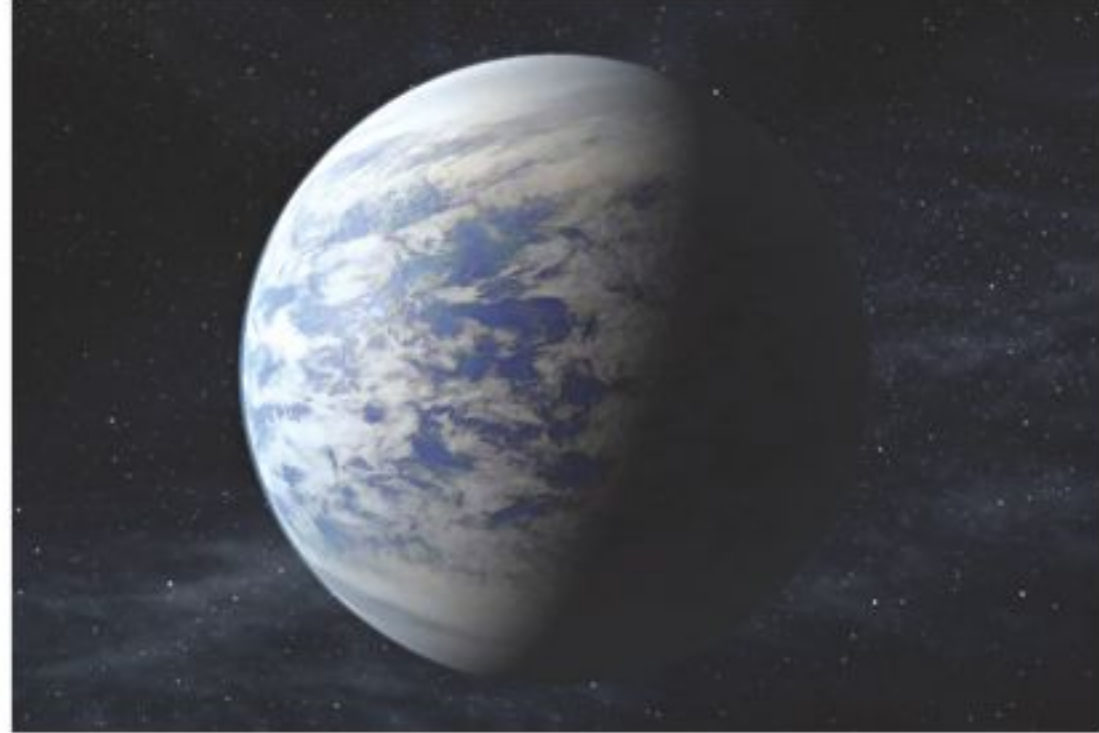
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Kazi Rakibuddin Ahmad yesterday confirmed that the Election Commission (EC) would move forward to ensure army deployment in the next general election for maintaining law and order.

"Elections in 300 constituencies are held in a day. So, it is not possible for regular law enforcement agencies to cover all the polling centres. That is why, army was deployed during elections in the past, and similarly will be deployed in the next election," he told reporters at the EC Secretariat.

Replying to a question whether the commission will request the president to deploy army, the CEC

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1



Kepler 69c, a super Earth-sized planet located 2,700 light years away.

## Billions of Earth-like planets in Milky Way!

AP, Washington

Space is vast, but it may not be so lonely after all: A study finds the Milky Way is teeming with billions of planets that are about the size of Earth, orbit stars just like our sun, and exist in the Goldilocks

SEE PAGE 2 COL 4

The Daily Star



Integral Energy Limited

ONLINE POLL

Do you think violence, vandalism, bomb blasting and killing people in the name of hartal could be a democratic right?

Yes (18%)  
No (82%)

TOTAL VOTES: 328

TODAY'S POLL

Do you think any of our political parties really cares about people's life and their rights?

PLEASE CAST YOUR VOTE AT  
www.thedailystar.net

PRAYER TIMING November 7		
Fajr	5:00	5:35
Zohr	12:45	1:15
Asr	3:45	4:00
Maghrib	5:25	5:30
Esha	7:00	7:30
Source: Islamic Foundation		

## Dua Mehfil

Begum Rabeya Ahmed (W/O Late Engr. Ejabuddin Ahmed), a social activist and a great philanthropist passed away on Sunday, 3rd November, 2013 at 4.10 PM in Dhaka (Inna Lillahi Wa Inna Ilaihi Raji'un).

A Dua Mehfil for Late Begum Rabeya Ahmed will be held tomorrow i.e. Friday, 8th November 2013 after Asr prayers (4.15 PM) at Gulshan Central Masjid (Azad Masjid). There will be separate arrangements for ladies at the Masjid.

You all are kindly invited to attend the Dua Mehfil to pray for the departed soul.



আজ ঢাকা ওয়াসার গৌরবময় যাত্রার ৫০ বছর


১৯৬৩-২০১৩

৫০ বছরের পথচলায় গ্রাহকসেবার নতুন দিগন্তে ঢাকা ওয়াসা

সম্মানিত ঢাকাবাসীকে জানাচ্ছে আন্তরিক শুভেচ্ছা

পানি ও পয়ঃবিল বা অন্য কোন তথ্য পেতে 'ওয়াসা লিংক ১৬১৬২'-এ ফোন করুন

WASA-P-1-465/2013



ঢাকা ওয়াসা