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Find, arrest the culprits

HC asks IGP, sees cop action against attackers of Hindus inadequate

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Expressing dismay and anger over a police report on the recent attacks on religious minorities, the High Court yesterday ordered the IGP to engage the CID or other law enforcement agencies in tracing and arresting the real culprits.

While hearing a suo moto case, the court directed the authorities concerned to bring charges against the culprits under appropriate sections of laws to ensure they were punished.

The court said the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) or other law enforcement agencies will bring the perpetrators to book and the police will probe the incidents of attacks and deal with the cases filed in this connection.

The HC bench of Justice Quazi Reza-Ul Hoque and Justice ABM Altaf Hossain asked the inspector general of police (IGP) to submit a report on the attacks on religious minorities to it by April 3.

The court in its own motion on January 15 had directed the government to provide the Hindus with adequate security immediately as they are vulnerable to post-polls violence.

It also ordered the IGP to submit a report on measures taken for the protection of religious minorities and on the action against the accused.



Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid tries to calm down the agitating students of Jagannath University after they stop the minister's motorcade near the university demanding the buildings they used to use as dorms be returned to them.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

SEE PAGE 10 COL 6

Mahmud made foreign minister

Najrul state minister for water resources

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Forty-five days into the formation of the new cabinet, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday expanded it by inducting AH Mahmud Ali and Col (retd) Mohammad Nahid Islam into her council of ministers.

Mahmud has been made foreign minister and Najrul state minister for water resources.

President Abdul Hamid administered their oaths at the Bangabhaban at noon in the presence of the PM, cabinet members and senior civil and military officials. Cabinet Secretary M Musharraf Hossain Bhuiyan conducted the ceremony.

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1

NIZAMI'S WAR CRIMES TRIAL

Tribunal to rehear closing arguments

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The International Crimes Tribunal-1, reconstituted on February 23, yesterday decided to rehear the closing arguments in the crimes against humanity case against Jamaat chief Motiur Rahman Nizami following the pleas for rehearing by both the prosecution and the defence.

The three-member tribunal led by Justice M Enayetur Rahim fixed March 10 for the beginning of closing arguments by the prosecution.

Justice Jahangir Hossain Selim and Justice Anwarul Haque are two other members of the tribunal.

Nizami's case was kept waiting for verdict as both the prosecution and the defence finished their arguments on November 20.

Earlier, the tribunal reheard the closing arguments in the war crimes case against Delawar Hossain Sayedee after the ICT-1 was reconstituted in December 2012.

As the court started yesterday's proceedings, conducting prosecutor

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1

BIMSTEC SUMMIT

PM goes to Myanmar next month

REZAUL KARIM

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will attend the third Bimstec summit in Myanmar early next month, where a number of deals for regional cooperation and setting up a permanent secretariat in Bangladesh will be inked.

This will be Hasina's first overseas visit since her party came to power again through January 5 elections amid boycott by the major opposition.

According to foreign ministry officials, Myanmar is set to host the third Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral

SEE PAGE 2 COL 3

ABANDONED BOMB GOES OFF

5 children hurt

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kushtia

Five children, including two brothers, were injured when an abandoned crude bomb went off at a village in Bheramara upazila of Kushtia yesterday.

The children, aged between two and seven, found a ball-like object inside a rice mill at Bilshuka village around 2:30pm, witnesses said.

Taking it for a toy, as the children fiddled with it, the bomb exploded, injuring all five.

The siblings Bapi, 7, and Pappu, 2, sustained splinters in hands, neck, jaw and chest while their playmates Sakibur Rahman, 5, Sifat Hasan, 6, and Rabbi, 5, received splinters in different parts of their bodies.

The victims were rushed to Bheramara Upazila Nirbahi Officer of Bheramara visited the spot.

Describing it as a powerful crude bomb, Parvez Islam, officer-in-charge of Bheramara Police Station, said the bomb might have been thrown

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MAIL ONLINE

It is billed as the world's smallest electric vehicle, and can even be folded up for commuters to take on the train.

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When not in use, the tiny trike can be folded and

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ডাঃ বিনোদ কুমার সিঙ্গনিয়া
কনসালট্যান্ট নিউরোসার্জেন্স
M.S., M.Ch., (যাদের বেন ও স্পাইনাল কেন্দ্রের টিউমার, মাথার আঘাত, ক্যান্সেল, আলিভেজিম, মাথার উপর্যুক্ত আঘাত, ব্যাক্তি, কথা জড়িয়ে যাওয়া হাত্যাদি সমস্যা আছে এবং যাতে বেন ও স্পাইনাল কেন্দ্রে যে কোনো অস্বিধার জন্য অপারেশনের প্রয়োজন দেওয়া হয়েছে।)
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কনসালট্যান্ট স্বীকৃত রোগ বিশেষজ্ঞ
M.D., D.G.O., M.R.C.O.G.(Lond), Dip in OBST., (খন্ত্রের
সমস্যা, পলিস্টিক ভোগী, জায়ার্য সমস্যা, প্রস্বেলানী গ্রামার্থ, মেনোপোস
সমস্যা সহ যে কোনো স্থীর রোগের সমস্যার আক্রমণ রোগীদের প্রয়োজন
ক্ষেত্রে ক্রিটিকাল সেবা প্রদানের তারিখ
২৮ ফেব্রুয়ারী ও ১ মার্চ ২০১৪, সকল ১১টা-বিকাল ৬৩৩
স্থান : এক্সিস হেলথকেয়ার, হাট ওয়ার, ৮৮/১ (৪ষ্ঠ তলা)
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বিশেষ তথ্য ও অ্যাপয়েন্টমেন্টের জন্য
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ই-মেইল : asisher@dhaka.net

Gunmen attack Thai protesters

PM flies to northern stronghold

AFP, Bangkok

Gunmen opened fire near several opposition protest sites in Bangkok yesterday, stoking tensions in the capital as Thailand's embattled prime minister flew to her political stronghold in the north.

A dangerous new chapter appears to have been opened in a nearly four-month political crisis that has left 22 people dead and hundreds wounded, with almost daily reports of gunshots and grenade blasts in the capital recently -- often targeting protesters.

Police said unknown gunmen fired sporadically early yesterday for around an hour in three areas of Bangkok where demonstrators are camped out alongside upscale shopping malls and luxury hotels. Nobody was wounded.

"We don't know which side fired the shots, but the aim of the gunmen is to intimidate," deputy national police spokesman Anucha Romyan told AFP.

The spike in violence has been largely confined to areas close to the opposition rallies, which tourists have been urged to avoid, particularly after dark.

But foreigners can still be seen wandering around several protest sites, which often resemble street markets and sit next to major hotels, shopping malls and Lumpini Park.

Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra is under intense

SEE PAGE 10 COL 4

The Daily Star
Integral Energy Limited

ONLINE POLL

Do you agree with the demand of the BNP for retrial and reinvestigation of the BDR (Bangladesh Rifles) carnage case?

Yes (76%)

No (24%)

TOTAL VOTES: 344

TODAY'S POLL
Do you agree with BNP senior leader Khandaker Mosharraf Hossain that the government should make the probe report on BDR mutiny public?

PLEASE CAST YOUR VOTE AT

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PRAYER TIMING

February 27

Azan Jamaat

Fajr 5-15 5-50

Zohr 12-45 1-15

Asr 4-30 4-45

Maghrib 6-05 6-10

Esha 7-30 8-00

Source: Islamic Foundation

Nahid pledges steps to recover JnU dorms
Teachers go on strike from today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid yesterday pledged to take steps to recover 11 dormitories, which Jagannath University (JnU) claims to have had under its control nearly three decades ago, from illegal occupation.

However, apparently unconvinced by the minister's assurance, teachers of the university have announced an indefinite strike from today with the demand for recovery of the dormitories and removal of two police officials.

Students took to the streets around 11:00am yesterday, burn tyres and halted vehicular movement on Sadarghat-Gulistan and Babubazar-Jatrabari routes to press home their demand.

At one stage they blocked the vehicle of

SEE PAGE 10 COL 6