

## 14-month-old

FROM PAGE 20  
They took 14-month-old Zunayed Hasan, the couple's adopted son, as they fled the crime scene.

Superintendent of Police Jobaidur Rahman of Nilphamari yesterday told journalists that three of the men involved tried to take cover with the child at their relative Abdur Rashid's place at Harirampur of Rangpur.

But Rashid became suspicious and with the help of locals he captured Rashedul Islam, 20, Mukul Beg, 20, and Anwar Hossain, 27, and handed them over to Rangpur police around 2:30pm yesterday.

According to Jobaidur, the criminals were relatives of the couple. They lived close by and had even visited their home several times.

During interrogation, they confessed to raping and killing Sumi because she had recognised who they were, the SP said.

He also said the criminals had kidnapped the child for ransom.

The child's parent Mirza said the criminals had demanded ransom and he after talking to police yesterday sent Tk 12,000 via mobile money transfer.

Nilphamari police arrested Al-Mamun, 18, son of Sirajul Islam, near Mirza's home in the afternoon following information gleaned from the three arrestees.

The child was handed over to his parents.

## Outlaw

FROM PAGE 20  
commander of company-1 at the Barisal headquarters of Rab-8, said a Rab team led by Deputy Assistant Director Abdur Rahman was patrolling Silundia area around 4:20pm when they marked a suspicious gathering.

When challenged, the suspects opened fire on the Rab men, he said. The Rab team fired back. The exchange of fire lasted almost 10 minutes, during which the criminals fled.

A body -- identified by locals as Abdul Jalil alias Kana Jalil -- was found afterwards. The Rab team also recovered two pistols, seven bullets, two shells of used ammunition and two sharp weapons.

Rab's microbus was damaged during the "shootout", Rab sources said.

The body was handed over to Babuganj Police Station, Capt Bashar said.

Officer-in-Charge Shah Alam of the police station said the police had sent the body to Barisal Sher-e-Bangla Medical College morgue for autopsy.

Kana Jalil was a wanted accused in at least eight cases of murder, extortion, robbery, and bombing with Babuganj, Shariatpur, and Madaripur police stations, police sources said. He was also convicted in two cases with Shariatpur and Madaripur police stations.

## Shahabuddin

FROM PAGE 1  
The Paris-based Bangladeshi artist has been conferred with "Chevalier De L'ordre Des Arts Et Des Lettres" (Knight in the Order of Fine Arts and Humanities) by the Ministry for Cultural Affairs and Communication of France.

"I was informed of winning the title by the ministry on July 6 this year. The formal ceremony will take place in Paris, France, the next month [September]. It is really a matter of great joy for me. I, along with my family, carry Bangladeshi passports. I hope the award will enhance the image of my country and inspire Bangladeshi people living across the world," said an elated Shahabuddin over the phone to this correspondent.

Shahabuddin Ahmed is the second Bangladeshi to receive the title. Globally famed mime maestro and film actor Partha Pratim Majumder first received the award in 2011.

Bold strokes, vibrant colours and figurative expressions are the hallmark of freedom fighter Shahabuddin's works. The conscience and the indomitable spirit of the Liberation War have frequently appeared as prominent connotations on his canvas.

Shahabuddin was born on September 11, 1950 and studied at the Academy of Fine Arts in Dhaka. He obtained scholarship to study at Ecole des beaux-arts de Paris. He was one of the fifty master painters of contemporary arts, and had been bestowed with an award at the Olympiad of Arts, Barcelona, in 1992.

He also received the Shadhinata Padak in 2000 and Bangla Academy Award in 1974.

His paintings delve into contemporary life and times. He is an optimist and this is evidently expressed in his paintings. This optimism was firmly embedded in Shahabuddin when he took part in the Liberation War of Bangladesh in 1971.

In their dynamism, his paintings depict fearless human figures that cut through the difficulties of life, which provide one the reason to live. The vibrancy and force of his brushwork highlight this aspect.

Shahabuddin's works are displayed in many prestigious galleries around the globe.

## Japan to get exclusive zone

FROM PAGE 1  
destinations for Japanese investment.

Tofail said, "During the meeting, we also discussed the country's largest ever power plant project in Matarbari."

Japan has given Bangladesh \$1.18 billion in loans for the Matarbari coal-fired power plant and four other projects as the Asian economic giant seeks to deepen its ties with Bangladesh.

Of the amount, \$406 million will be spent only on building the power plant, part of a \$4.4 billion project on Matarbari Island in Cox's Bazar.

The Japan International Cooperation Agency will lend Bangladesh over \$3 billion in phases for the mega project.

"We also have a plan to offer a separate economic zone for Chinese investors as they are coming to Bangladesh," the minister said.

He said Bangladesh had been enjoying zero duty benefit in Japanese market. As a result, Bangladesh has been grabbing a substantial share of the \$35 billion annual Japanese apparel market.

During her visit to Japan in May this year, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina offered 40 industrial plots in export processing zones to Japanese entrepreneurs.

Bangladesh Export Processing Zones Authority (Bepza) will reserve industrial plots at the Ishwardi, Mongla and Uttara EPZs for the Japanese investors.

Bepza will also allocate factory buildings for the Japanese investors in the Adamjee and Comilla EPZs, where there are no vacant plots now, according to a Bepza statement.

Investment proposals from Japan worth \$1.2 billion are pending with the Board of Investment in Bangladesh for a long time, according to an official of Japan External Trade Organisation (JETRO).

Many Japanese investors of automobile, garments and fabrics, electronics and fast moving consumer goods sec-

tors have been showing interest in Bangladesh, the official said.

At least 181 Japanese companies have operations in Bangladesh, the official said in May.

In fiscal year 2012-13, Bangladesh exported goods worth \$750.27 million to Japan, compared to \$600.52 million the previous year, data from the Export Promotion Bureau says.

In 2012-13, Bangladesh imported goods worth \$1.19 billion from Japan, compared to \$1.45 billion the previous year, according to Bangladesh Bank.

There are 35 Japanese enterprises with an investment of \$291.05 million in the EPZs alone. Twenty-five of them are operational and 10 are being set up, a Bepza statement said.

A total of 11,203 Bangladeshis, 78 Japanese and 55 from other countries are working in these enterprises.

## ECONOMIC DIALOGUE

The first Bangladesh-Japan Public-Private Economic Dialogue was held in the city yesterday giving emphasis on more engagements between the two countries based on mutual trust, respect, interests and equitable sharing of benefits, reports BSS.

The Bangladesh government convened the dialogue. Both sides at the dialogue reflected on deepening economic and commercial cooperation and overall economic scenario prevailing in the respective countries, an official release said.

Both sides exchanged views on wide-ranging areas of mutual economic interest, including current investment climate, development of infrastructure and industrial base, and development of special economic zones.

Japan will convene the second round of the dialogue next year.

The Bangladesh delegation was led by Abul Kalam Azad, senior secretary at the Prime Minister's Office.

Later the home ministry ordered a reinvestigation into the incident following an application submitted by the CID in 2005.

Recently, Hannan and seven other Huji members were sentenced to death for killing 10 people in another bomb attack on Pahela Baishakh celebrations at Ramna Batamul in 2001.

## Hannan

FROM PAGE 1

Communist Party of Bangladesh was carried out in the capital's Paltan Maidan on January 21, 2001.

Judge KM Imrul Kayes also set September 4 for hearing on charge framing against the 13 Huji men in connection with the second case.

Of the accused, Mufti Hannan, Mufti Mainuddin Sheikh, Arif Hassan Sumon, Maulana Sabir Ahmed, Maulana Shawkat Osman and Md Moshiur Rahman are currently behind bars while Mufti Abdul Hai, Shafiqur Rahman, Jahangir Alam Badar, Md Nur Islam, Mohibul Mustakin, Anisur Rahman and Rafiqul Alam Miraj have been absconding ever since the incident took place.

During the investigation, in his confessional statement, Mainuddin admitted his involvement in carrying out the attack, and said Mufti Hannan and several others were involved in this as well.

According to the charge sheets, the accused carried out the blasts on the pretext that the CPB members in the rally were "atheists".

Soon after the blasts, police arrested 12 people but the CID, in its final investigation report submitted on December 17, 2003, cleared the arrestees of the charges as no "correct, impartial and reliable" evidence was found against them.

During yesterday's proceedings, Mizan Syeed, lawyer for petitioner Abul Kalam Azad, said Bergman through his write-ups posted on November 11, 2011 and January 28, 2013 maligned the dignity of the tribunal and tended it and its members into public hatred.

Mizan said Bergman in his post of November 11 had made relentless efforts to justify that the tribunal was absolutely wrong in saying that three million people were killed and two lakh women raped during the Liberation War in 1971.

The International Crimes Tribunal-1 on October 3, 2011 in its indictment order in the case against Jamaat leader Delawar Hossain Sayeede mentioned the figures.

The figures were historical facts and a matter of common knowledge, which was also linked to public emotion, said Mizan, adding, "For whose interest did he [Bergman] try to raise question about the figures even after more than 40 years?"

On Bergman's argument that his write-ups fell under the purview of fair

## Contempt charge

FROM PAGE 20

contempt proceedings initiated against David Bergman, a Dhaka-based British journalist, for allegedly demeaning the tribunal.

Following a contempt petition, the tribunal on April 17 started the proceedings and asked Bergman to explain why he should not be punished for making "derogatory comments" about the court through his three write-ups posted in his personal blog.

Bergman submitted his reply on July 8 and his counsel yesterday told the court that his client will contest the case.

During yesterday's proceedings, Mizan Syeed, lawyer for petitioner Abul Kalam Azad, said Bergman through his write-ups posted on November 11, 2011 and January 28, 2013 maligned the dignity of the tribunal and tended it and its members into public hatred.

Upon receiving a contempt notice and following his advice, his client had removed two words of the write-ups and regretted for it, said Mustafizur, adding that had the applicant mentioned which specific part allegedly constituted contempt, it would have been better to take defence and advice his client.

On the applicant's arguments that Bergman was a "habitual contempt" and that a tribunal had

earlier cautioned him seriously for one of his write-ups, Mustafizur said his client was cautioned for his "inaccurate statement."

But in this case, the applicant did not allege that his client had made an inaccurate statement but tried to establish it through arguments, said Mustafizur, who would give further submission on Monday.

The three-member tribunal headed by Justice Obaidul Hassan with members Justice Md Mozibur Rahman Miah and Justice Md Shahinur Islam adjourned the proceeding following Mustafizur's time prayer.

Bergman was present at the court-room yesterday.

## 'Suicide tourism'

FROM PAGE 20

in many countries, a study said yesterday.

German and UK citizens were the bulk of visitors, and the reasons most often cited were neurological conditions like paralysis, motor neurone disease, Parkinson's and multiple sclerosis.

Nearly 60 percent were women. Most of the deaths were caused by the drug sodium pentobarbital, known as the "peaceful pill".

Four people inhaled helium in 2008, and died deaths that were described as "excruciating" in the media -- possibly the reason for a dip in visitors from 123 in 2008 to 86 the following year, the researchers said.

## Ambassador at a loss

FROM PAGE 20

diplomat's name was altogether dropped from the suit yesterday.

"Though the summons was cancelled immediately, we are extremely displeased with this erroneous and inconsiderate action of the court which violates the Vienna Convention," the ambassador, Lee Yoon-young, told The Daily Star.

A senior foreign ministry official said he had never heard of any such incident in his long diplomatic career because diplomats were immune from criminal charges.

The Korean envoy was made an accused in a case filed in September 2011 by Abdul Kader Faruk, managing director of RN Spinning Mills Ltd in East Rampura. The main accused of the case were two top officials of Dayeung Industries Inc in South Korea.

Faruk demanded \$1.38 lakh (Tk 97,10,679) from the Korean company in the case and the then judge, Mohiuddin Khan, accepted the case.

In the suit, the plaintiff requested the court to take necessary steps to realise the money.

The court issued the summons on the Korean envoy upon a petition on July 17 this year by the plaintiff.

Till July 24, however, the ambassador was unaware that he was an accused in the case. He could not first believe it when he received the summons that day from the first court of joint district judge, embassy sources said.

In the summons, Judge Fazley Elahee Bhuiyan asked him to appear before the court in person at 9:00am on September 10 to provide answers regarding the claim for the final disposal of the suit.

"...You must be prepared to produce on the day all the witnesses upon whose evidence and all the documents upon which you intend to rely in support of your defence," the judge wrote.

Following the summons, the Korean envoy sent an urgent letter to the Bangladesh foreign secretary on August 4.

"I am writing to inform you with deepest disappointment and anger that the 1st Court of Joint District Judge in Dhaka has issued a notice of summons to me.

"I am extremely displeased by the fact that the summons was issued without any justifiable and reasonable explanation or background," the letter reads.

He mentioned that the summons

was a clear violation of the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations

and that he had never known the plaintiff or had any relations with him.

"This is a rare incident...very surprising...it will send a wrong signal abroad," a Bangladeshi diplomat posted abroad told this correspondent by phone yesterday.

criticism and he did it for public interest, Mizan commented, "If it is fair criticism, then what is unfair one?"

About Bergman's reply, Mizan said he had regretted some parts of his write-ups and tried to justify other parts, making his stance "conflicting". Mizan added, "He has to either regret or justify his write-ups. He can't take a dual stance simultaneously."

After his incomplete submission, Bergman's counsel Mustafizur Rahman Khan said the petitioner did not mention which specific parts of his client's write-ups were contemptuous.

Upon receiving a contempt notice and following his advice, his client had removed two words of the write-ups and regretted for it, said Mustafizur, adding that had the applicant mentioned which specific part allegedly constituted contempt, it would have been better to take defence and advice his client.

On the applicant's arguments that Bergman was a "habitual contempt" and that a tribunal had earlier cautioned him seriously for one of his write-ups, Mustafizur said his client was cautioned for his "inaccurate statement."

But in this case, the applicant did not allege that his client had made an inaccurate statement but tried to establish it through arguments, said Mustafizur, who would give further submission on Monday.

The three-member tribunal headed by Justice Obaidul Hassan with members Justice Md Mozibur Rahman Miah and Justice Md Shahinur Islam adjourned the proceeding following Mustafizur's time prayer.

Bergman was present at the court-room yesterday.

The figures were historical facts and a matter of common knowledge, which was also linked to public emotion, said Mizan, adding, "For whose interest did he [Bergman] try to raise question about the figures even after more than 40 years?"

Recently, Hannan and seven other Huji members were sentenced to death for killing 10 people in another bomb attack on Pahela Baishakh celebrations at Ramna Batamul in 2001.

On Bergman's argument that his write-ups fell under the purview of fair

## Rejoinder, our reply

FROM PAGE 1  
item is fabricated baseless and is politically motivated. It is aimed at maligning the image of three times elected prime minister of Bangladesh.