

# HIGHEST SELLING CEMENT in Bangladesh now for years

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Mother of Abdullah al

Jubayer, who was kid-

napped along with his

Munna from Rangamati on

October 3, makes a tearful

plea for the rescue of her

son at a human chain. The

families and friends of the

two abductees organised

the programme in front of

the Jatiya Press Club in

the capital yesterday.

Story on page 13.

friend Jakir Hossain

## Freedom fighter status for 41 Biranganas

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

"War time rape victims cannot be viewed as a mere woman who lost her chastity. In fact they fought by laying their highest self-worth, for the cause of our independence. Time has come to unlock our collective voice to recognise and honour our great mothers and sisters, the war heroines."

The war crimes tribunal said this in a verdict last December, noting how the nation in its 43 years of independence failed to properly recognise war heroines.

After the independence in 1971, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman honoured these women with "Birangana" title, but society turned its back towards them. Hundreds of thousands of rape survivors were socially ostracized and left unattended. After the political changeover following Bangabandhu's assassination in 1975, they went into obliv-

Finally, the country, for which they made their significant sacrifice, has come forward to give them their due recognition. Parliament in January passed a proposal to include Biranganas in the list of freedom fighters.

The liberation war affairs ministry issued a gazette notification yesterday recognising 41 Biranganas as freedom fighters. SEE PAGE 11 COL 5



5 'JMB men' held

PHOTO: **ANISUR RAHMAN** 

#### 7 killed in Chittagong road crash

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Seven people were killed and four others injured as a truck skidded off a road into a farmland in Mirsarai upazila's Sonapahar area yesterday morning.

The dead are Kamal Mia, 40, Saiful, 40, Tipu, 35, Rubel, 25, Manirul Islam, 45, and Alam, 35. They were day labourers and hailed from Naogaon. Another deceased is Azad, 25, a street vendor, from Bogra. The injured took first aid.

The accident took place SEE PAGE 11 COL 4

# 2 CU students drown in Ctg

CU CORRESPONDENT

Two students of Chittagong University drowned in a waterfall on the campus yesterday afternoon. Naimul Hasan

Pabel a n d

Asaduzzaman Rifat were first year stu-

dents of Human Resource Management Department. Both of them were 20 years old and from Sandwip of Chittagong. Quoting eyewitnesses, Zakaria Khondokar, an English department student, told The Daily Star the accident

Rifat

Naimul

occurred around 4:30pm after the victims and five of their friends went to the remote waterfall, situated between two SEE PAGE 11 COL 4

Police suspect their link to murder attempt on Pabna pastor

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

Police yesterday claimed to have arrested five suspected members of banned militant outfit Jama'atul Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB) over the recent attack on pastor Luke Sarkar in Pabna's Ishwardi upazila.

One of the arrestees, Rakibul Islam Rabbi, 25, was among the three motorbike riders who attempted to kill the pastor by slitting his throat with sharp weapons, law enforcers said.

Two others who took part in the attack are Rakibul Islam Rakib, Pabna district commander of JMB, and Mohammad Shakil, Alamgir Kabir, superintendent of police in Pabna, told a press briefing at his office yesterday.

The duo went into hiding after the attempt on the pastor's life, the SP added.

The four other arrestees are Ziaur Rahman, 35, Shariful Islam Tulip, 22, Alim Pramanik, 36, and Amzad Hossain, 30.

Tulip works as a diploma engineer at a private firm in Dhaka. Rabbi is a trader in Pabna town while Alim is his employee. Zia is an electrician and Amjad is a rickshaw-van puller, the SP said.

Liton Kumar Saha, additional superintendent of police in Pabna, said police raided different areas in Pabna and Sirajganj's Ullapara upazila for the last few days and detained the five.

SP Alamgir said the "JMB men" held meetings regularly at the Government SEE PAGE 13 COL 3

### **US-British** expert Deaton wins Nobel Economics Prize

AFP, Stockholm

Angus Deaton of Britain and the United States won the Nobel Economics Prize yesterday for his work on consumption, poverty and welfare, the jury said.

"By emphasising the links between individual consumption decisions and outcomes for the whole economy, his work has

helped transform modern microeconomics, macroeconomics and development economics," the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences said.

"To design economic policy that promotes welfare and reduces poverty, we must first understand individual consumption choices. More than anyone else, Angus Deaton

SEE PAGE 11 COL 1



Relatives of 13-year-old Palestinian boy Ahmed Sharaka, who was killed by Israeli troops during clashes on Sunday, mourn during his funeral in Jalazoun refugee camp near the West Bank city of Ramallah yesterday.

#### HIGH BUS FARE BRTC boss asked to show cause

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The road transport and bridges ministry yesterday issued a show cause notice to the BRTC chairman, asking him to explain within three working days why the state-run buses are allegedly charging passengers additional fare.

"We have asked the BRTC chairman to check whether the bus staff are charging higher fare," Road Division Secretary MAN Siddique told The Daily Star last night.

Road Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul SEE PAGE 11 COL 4

# Syrian army, Russian jets drive back rebels

Moscow struck 53 targets in four Syria provinces; EU demands immediate halt to strikes

AFP, Beirut

Syrian troops backed by Russian air strikes fought their fiercest clashes with rebels in weeks yesterday as Europe's top diplomats demanded that Moscow stop targeting moderate rebels.

Meeting in Luxembourg, European Union foreign ministers also said lasting peace in Syria was impossible without a transition from President Bashar al-Assad's

And Iraq said it was trying to confirm reports that Islamic State group leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi had been wounded in an

Iraqi strike on his convoy. On the ground in Syria, the army com-

mand said regime forces had captured the village of Kafr Nabuda in central Hama province, extending their advance in the region around the strategic Damascus-Aleppo highway.

Regime forces have been pushing an offensive on either side of the highway towards the town of Khan Sheikhun, just over the provincial border in Idlib province.

The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights monitor said clashes were ongoing in Kafr Nabuda, adding that Russian warplanes had carried out at least 20 strikes in and around the village.

"The clashes are the fiercest since the Russian air campaign began on September SEE PAGE 11 COL 1

### Teenage boy drives SUV, hits rickshaws

4 injured

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A teenage boy lost control of his sports utility vehicle (SUV) and rammed into two rickshaws, leaving four people injured in the capital's Gulshan area yesterday.

The boy, Fareez Rahman, was filming himself on his mobile phone while driving the car, one of his friends told The Daily Star, seeking anonymity.

He also took selfies while driving, and sent those to his friends through photo-messaging app Snapchat.

Ferdous Ahmed Biswas, sub-inspector of Gulshan Police Station, said the incident took place on Road-74 in Gulshan around 3:45pm yesterday.

Asked, Rafigul Islam, assistant commissioner (Gulshan zone) of Dhaka Metropolitan Police, said one of the injured, Mohammad Rafique, 27, was admitted to the United Hospital in a critical condi-

Ferdous said another injured, Abdul Hakim, 32, SEE PAGE 11 COL 4

tion.



#### PRAYER TIMING OCTOBER 13

Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha AZAN 4-45 12-45 4-15 5-45 7-15 JAMAAT 5-20 1-15 4-30 5-50 7-45 SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

## Indian activist hit by ink attack

AFP, Mumbai

Far-right Indian protesters angry at the planned launch of a former Pakistani foreign minister's book doused the event organiser with black ink yesterday, the latest apparent attack on free speech in the country.



MURDER SUSPECT Tangail MP

absconding for 11 months OUR CORRESPONDENT,

Amanur Rahman Khan Rana,

Awami League lawmaker from Tangail-3, has been absconding for the last 11 months to avoid arrest in local party leader Faruk Ahmed murder case, said police.

Rana, also religious affairs secretary of Tangail AL, reportedly has not been seen in his constituency in Ghatail since November last year after police named him as a suspect.

Freedom fighter Faruk, also a former publicity secretary of the same unit, was shot dead near his home in Tangail town on

SEE PAGE 11 COL 2



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(মোঃ ইমরুল হাসান)

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