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HARASSING GIRL Cop faces arrest warrant

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday issued an arrest warrant against Sub-inspector Ratan Kumar of Adabor Police Station for alleged sexual harassment of a private university student in the city's Mohammadpur over two weeks ago.

Taking the charges against the SI into cognisance, Judge Md Salehuddin Ahmed of the Fourth Tribunal for Prevention of Women and Children Repression passed the order.

The order came after Public Prosecutor Forkan Miah appealed to the court for issuing an arrest warrant against the cop.

The court directed the officer-in-charge of the police station to submit by March 16 a report on execution of the arrest warrant.

The victim alleged that SI Ratan and two other cops of the police station stopped her rickshaw around 3:00pm on January 31 while she was on way to a bookstore on Nurjahan Road.

The policemen confined the ASA University student to an electronics shop in Mohammadpur and harassed her for about 45 minutes, accusing her of being a yaba peddler.

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ROAD OR HURDLE TRACKS?

Workers digging up the DIT Road in the city's Malibagh Chowdhurypara yesterday to install utility lines, leaving the commuters to suffer. Unplanned digging of roads by the utility service providers often adds to the traffic woes in the capital. Bottom, a man lifts a kid onto the other side of a trench, as a youth with his bicycle goes over it. Right, a traffic snarl-up on a stretch of the road.



PHOTO: SK ENAMUL HAQ



Three cops withdrawn for beating up nurse

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gazipur

Three members of Detective Branch of police were withdrawn yesterday for allegedly roughing up a male nurse at a hospital in Gazipur.

They are Assistant Sub-inspector Mushfiqur Rahman, and constables Fazlul Haque and Anwar, said Harun-ur-Rashid, superintendent of police in the district.

Amir Hossain, officer-in-charge of DB police in Gazipur, said a team of detectives went to the emergency unit of Shaheed Tajuddin Ahmed Medical College Hospital around 10:00am on Monday, looking for one Rana, a suspect in a case.

However, the man fled sensing the law enforcers' presence, he said.

Quoting the three detectives, the OC alleged that the nurse, Abul Fazal, 30, had helped Rana flee.

Residential physician Abdus Salam said the DB team then grabbed Fazal by the collar while trying to drag him out of the hospital. They also kicked and punched him, he said.

However, Fazal was rescued and admitted to the hospital by his colleagues.

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Media being harassed with threats, cases

Says Khaleda, demands Mahmudur's release

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia last night expressed deep concern over showing Mahmudur Rahman, acting editor of Bangla daily Amar Desh, arrested in a case after he secured bail in about 70 lawsuits.

"I am protesting this disgraceful and shameless oppression and condemning the ill motive of keeping a brave editor behind bars at any cost," she said in a statement.

Mahmudur was shown arrested in a bomb blast case on Monday, a day after the Supreme Court upheld

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DHAKA-CTG 4-LANE HIGHWAY

Costs rise further, time extends

Govt approves third revision, increasing costs by 76pc of the original estimate

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Approving a third revision to the much-talked about Dhaka-Chittagong dual carriageway project, the government yesterday again jacked up the project cost and extended the time for completion.

The total cost increase is now over 76 percent of the original cost of the project. With a cost of Tk 3,817 crore, the project is now due to be finished this year.

When the project for widening the 192km highway got the final approval from the government, it was supposed to be completed by 2012 with a cost of Tk 2,168 crore, according to Ecneec.

In the first revision in 2009, the deadline was extended to 2013 and the cost fixed at Tk 2,382 crore.

In the second revision in March 2013, the Ecneec had increased the cost to Tk 3,190 crore. It had also set the deadline for the project to 2014.

Expansion of the Dhaka-Chittagong highway would make traffic movement easier and faster and boost import-export and trade through the country's economic lifeline.

About 90 percent of the country's export-imports are done through the Chittagong Port. A majority of the goods are transported using the Dhaka-Chittagong highway.

After the Executive Committee of the National Economic Council (Ecneec) meeting Planning Minister AHM Mustafa Kamal told reporters that by

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49 charged with arson, bomb blasts

BNP leader Rafiqul among the accused

COURT CORRESPONDENT

Police yesterday pressed charges against 49 leaders and activists of BNP-led 20-party alliance, including Barrister Rafiqul Islam Mia, in an arson case.

The case was filed with Paltan Police Station on January 6 last year for torching a vehicle and blasting crude bombs in front of Rupali Bank Limited on Bangabandhu Avenue during the non-stop opposition blockade.

Sub-inspector Mizanur Rahman of the police station, also the investigation officer (IO) in the case, submitted two charge sheets to the Chief Metropolitan

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Breakthrough in cancer research



INDEPENDENT.CO.UK

A revolutionary cancer therapy that uses the body's own immune cells to attack metastatic tumours that have spread is being hailed as a "paradigm shift" in treatment of the disease.

Patients with advanced blood cancers who were not expected to live beyond five months have shown complete remission after 18 months of

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CHT ACCORD PCJSS voices discontent over status

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Parbatya Chattagram Jana Sanghati Samity (PCJSS) yesterday expressed disappointment over the government delaying the full implementation of the Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT) Peace Accord and the "continued violence against indigenous people".

It expressed its

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Two Ruddy Shelduck, locally known as Chokha-chokhi, in flight over the chars of the Padma in Rajshahi. Poachers are allegedly using poison to hunt the guest birds. Inset, a carcass of Ruddy Shelduck on a char.

PHOTO: ANWAR ALI

Poachers use poison traps to kill birds

ANWAR ALI, Rajshahi

Poachers are hunting migratory birds with "poison traps" in the char lands of the Padma river in Rajshahi and selling those in the city.

A large number of migratory birds come to the chars during winter every year and a group of poachers catch these birds mixing grains with deadly pesticides, according to locals and experts.

They use this method to avoid being caught by people and the administration, the sources claimed.

During a visit to the chars late last month, this correspondent saw the carcass of a Ruddy Shelduck in a char of the river near Khanpur. The bird's internal organs appeared to be gouged out by some wild animal.

"The dead bird was left there, because it was of no use to the poachers. Wild cats might have eaten up some of its organs," said boatman Mosharraf Hossain.

Another local boatman Noor Islam told this paper that he had seen some guest birds mostly Ruddy Shelducks, locally known as Chokha-chokhi, lying dead in the chars at Majhardiar and Khanpur for the last few weeks.

He said he had also seen some people collecting the carcasses.

"I see dead birds early in the morning. But I don't see them later in the day, as some people in small fishing boats take them away," said Noor Islam.

These birds are sold in the city for Tk 600 each, he said.

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PRAYER TIMING
FEBRUARY 17

Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha
AZAN 5-25 12-45 4-30 5-57 7-15
JAMAAT 6-00 1-15 4-45 6-01 7-45

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION