



NO BLANKET BAN FOR RUSSIA

IOC allows Russia to take part in Rio 2016 subject to certain conditions

PAGE 15

'KABALI'

Rajinikanth takes over North America with his action drama

PAGE 9

A MOM TO TRUMP

Stop using my son's name in 'cynical, opportunistic' campaign

PAGE 8

DC CONFERENCE

Fighting terror tops agenda

Top officials of districts expect govt guidelines

PARTHA PRATIM BHATTACHARJEE and SHAKHAWAT LITON

In the wake of two grisly militant attacks and amid fear of further strikes, the threat of terrorism will dominate the four-day annual conference of deputy commissioners set to begin tomorrow.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, who is scheduled to inaugurate the conference at her office, is expected to give directives to the DCs about the implementation of government decisions, policies and measures, including those to combat militancy.

Ministers will address the DCs of the 64 districts in separate sessions, some of them focusing on militancy and motivation campaigns against the threat the country faces.

Talking to The Daily Star, several DCs yesterday said they would offer some recommendations and also seek guidelines as to how the local administration can tackle terror activities.

"We will give specific directives to them [DCs] for putting up a resistance against militancy by engaging people of all walks of life," Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan Kamal told this newspaper in the evening.

"We will also urge them to show zero tolerance for any sort of criminal activities," he added.

Earlier in the day, Cabinet Secretary Mohammad Shafiq Alam told reporters at his office that the issue of terrorism could dominate the conference against the backdrop of two back-to-back terrorist attacks in Dhaka and Kishoreganj.

"We must have specific guidelines in the conference about how to resist militancy by engaging public representatives, civil society members and the public," said a DC

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1



SHROUDED IN SHRUBS... At first glance, anyone might mistake this place for a garden. But truth be told, this is the car shed of jetty-6 of Chittagong Port where imported cars are kept before they are handed over to the buyers. Shrubs and weeds have grown almost completely enveloping the vehicles as they were not released on time. The place is also not cleaned properly. If the situation does not change, the vehicles might have no use some day. The photo was taken recently.

PHOTO: ANURUP KANTI DAS

Significant progress in probe

Claims DMP boss on Gulshan attack

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka Metropolitan Police (DMP) Commissioner Asaduzzaman Mia yesterday claimed to have made significant progress in the investigation into the Gulshan attack.

"We have unearthed the Holey Artisan mystery. Arresting all [culprits] is a matter of time now," he said while talking to journalists at his office in the capital.

But such things (making the arrests) cannot be done overnight or within a given time, he said.

He claimed that their investigation found clues about the attackers and

SEE PAGE 2 COL 3

Dutch-Bangla chamber leader goes missing

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Hassan Khaled, president of Dutch-Bangla Chamber of Commerce and Industry (DBCCI), has remained missing since he left his Dhanmondi home Saturday morning, his family and police said.

Hassan, 55, also the chief executive officer of New Era Trading, left home around 9:00am Saturday to buy medicines from a nearby shop but did not return, Noor-a-Azam Miah, officer-in-charge of Dhanmondi Police Station, said yesterday.

Hassan is the resident of House 45 on Road 4/A in Dhanmondi residential area.

The family members could not reach him by phone, as it was found switched off. They looked for him in different areas of the capital. Failing to trace him, his brother-in-law Shariful Alam filed a general diary (GD) with the police station around 1:00am yesterday.

Sub-Inspector Khairul Bashar is investigating the matter.

Hassan is one of the founders of the DBCCI, established in November 1999, and he has been involved in advocating bilateral trade between Bangladesh and the Netherlands.

He has been residing on the third floor of the six-storey building in Dhanmondi over the last three years with his wife and daughter.

SEE PAGE 2 COL 3



Hassan Khaled

They took away her son, made him a killer

SHARIFUL ISLAM and MINHAJ UDDIN in Chittagong

Ayesha Begum had always hoped that one day her only son would get the family out of poverty.

But all of a sudden, her world fell apart when she came to know that her son, Suman Hossain Patwari, had become a militant and had a bounty on him.

Talking to The Daily Star at her Halishahar house in the port city yesterday, Ayesha, a domestic help, said she had never even imagined that Suman, the eldest of her four children, would turn into a killer.

Ayesha's next-door neighbour Mohammad Belal said, "She was so shocked by the news of the bounty on her son that she tried to commit suicide by taking poison."

SEE PAGE 11 COL 2

10-yr-old dies of torture

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Narayanganj

A 10-year-old boy died after some workers allegedly pumped air into his body through the rectum at a factory in Narayanganj yesterday, in an incident that harks back to the murder of Rakib in Khulna last year.

Sagar Barman used to work at the factory -- Zobeda Textile and Spinning Mills -- in Jatamura area of Rugganj.

Sagar's father Ratan Barman, who also works at the factory, alleged that some factory workers inserted an air pump nozzle into his son's rectum and filled his body with air, making him sick.

The boy was found lying beside a compressor inside the factory around 1:30pm, he told local journalists.

Critically injured Sagar was rushed to a local clinic in Kanchpur area. As his condition worsened, he was shifted to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) where he was declared dead, said the father.

SEE PAGE 11 COL 3

4,000 illegal SIMs seized

8 held

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Cg

Police yesterday recovered around 4,000 SIMs, registered with false data, from a market in the port city's Kotwali area.

They also detained eight people.

On information that illegal SIMs were being sold at some shops of Royal Plaza Market in Reazuddin Bazar, a Detective Branch team of Chittagong Metropolitan Police (CMP) raided the market around 4:00pm.

Maruf Hossain, deputy commissioner of DB (port zone), said they had information that SIMs were being sold without proper procedures.

"The total number of

SEE PAGE 11 COL 6

SC REVIEW PLEA

Quasem wants his hearing deferred for 2 months

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Convicted war criminal Mir Quasem Ali yesterday filed a petition with the Supreme Court seeking two-month deferment of hearing his review petition against the judgement that upheld his death penalty.

A four-member bench of the Appellate Division headed by Chief Justice Surendra Kumar Sinha is scheduled to start hearing the review petition today.

Barrister Mir Ahmmad Bin Quasem, son of Quasem Ali, told The Daily Star his father submitted the petition through his lawyers seeking an adjournment on the hearing to allow his counsels to take further preparations.

Principal defence counsel Khandker Mahub Hossain needs at least two months to take necessary preparations, as there is allegedly a big fault in

SEE PAGE 2 COL 3



Workers making and sorting out copper and silver jewellery at Bhakurta village in Savar on the outskirts of the capital. Thousands of pieces of flashy jewellery found at shops in the capital are crafted in this village. The photos were taken last month.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

SEE PAGE 2 COL 4

The village artisans of Savar show the way

MD FAZLUR RAHMAN with ANISUR RAHMAN

The silver or copper jewellery you picked to go with your dress was not made at the shop you bought it from. It was probably handcrafted miles away in Savar on the outskirts of the capital.

One village where this sort of intricate crafting is done is Bhakurta. Hundreds of people -- men, women, young and old -- meticulously create the foundation of ornaments every day from silver and copper.

If you pay a visit to the village, you will see some people are using fire to melt the metal, some making strings while some are piecing together designs to make ornaments.

These artisans complete 95 percent of the ornaments before those are shipped to the stores where sparkling stones and colours are added and finishing touches are given.