



# The Daily Star

SECOND EDITION

MANHUNT ENDS

Captured Uzbek man confesses to killing 39 people at an Istanbul nightclub



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## ROW OVER WATERBODY 3 shot dead in Sunamganj clash

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sybil

Three people were allegedly shot dead and at least 12 others injured during a clash between two groups of people in Dirai upazila of Sunamganj over taking control of a waterbody yesterday.

The dead are Tajul Islam, 35, son of Shan Ullah of Jarulia village, Shaharul Islam, 25, son of Ishak Miah, and Uzzal, 28, son of Amanullah, of Akhlnagar village.

Abdul Jalil, officer-in-charge of Dirai Police Station, said Ekrrar Hossain and his men, equipped

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Boundary walls of buildings in the capital's Uttara-11 are scrawled with graffiti by local teenage gangs. Bottom left, one of the victims of one such gang. The photos were taken last week.



PHOTO: SHAHEEN MOLLAH, MUNTAKIM SAAD

## Fire safety eludes most DCC markets

Many even don't have firefighting tools, others keep date-expired extinguishers

HELEMUL ALAM and MAHBUBUR RAHMAN KHAN

Most of the markets of Dhaka city corporations are vulnerable to fire as they do not have enough firefighting resources, thanks to the indifference of corporations and shop owners.

The issue of poor firefighting system in markets came to the forefront after the recent fire incident at Gulshan Kitchen Market. Shop owners and city corporations have been trading blame for lack of fire safety.

A city corporation official said installation of necessary firefighting equipment in markets was the corporations' job. The

market owners' associations are responsible for maintenance and safety of the gear.

If the associations fail to perform, the corporations will have to do the maintenance with funds from shop owners, the official told The Daily Star on condition of anonymity.

These correspondents visited over 20 markets of Dhaka South City Corporation (DSCC) and Dhaka North City Corporation (DNCC) last week and found those ill-equipped.

In the last five years, there had been three fire incidents at Sundarban Square Super Market, one of the largest shopping centres in the city for electronic and electrical products.

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## Parents caught napping by Uttara teen gangs

SHAHEEN MOLLAH and MUNTAKIM SAAD

When the shocking news of marauding teenage gangs in Uttara emerged, their parents were caught napping.

Most of the parents that The Daily Star talked with after the killing of schoolboy Adnan Kabir seemed completely in the dark about the existence of such gangs, although signs of their violent activities are written on the building and boundary walls in the neighbourhood.

Over two dozens of such gangs frequently fight with hockey sticks, cricket stumps and sharp knives to show their muscle power, establish supremacy or "draw respect" from elders and juniors in the area. Blissfully obliv-

ious, guardians think their children go out to playgrounds in the evening after school.

"He used to go to play cricket at a nearby field every day for the last two years. We were shocked when police came to arrest him," said a guardian of an accused in the Adnan killing case.

But if you look around, you will find graffiti galore on the street or building walls in Uttara and mistake them for brand shops, music bands or sporting clubs. In fact, those are the names of different teen gangs. Aged 14-18, students from reputed schools and colleges in the area are willingly or unwillingly pledging allegiance to gang leaders, who are either school or college dropouts or

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14-year-old Adnan Kabir was beaten to death on Jan 6 allegedly over an enmity between two gangs.

**TOP QUOTE**

"People's faith in the judiciary has increased as the trial of the case has been completed within the shortest possible time."

CHIEF JUSTICE SURENDRA KUMAR SINHA REFERRING TO THE TRIAL OF THE NARAYANGANJ 7-MURDER CASE

## No impunity for culprits, however powerful: CJ

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Chief Justice Surendra Kumar Sinha yesterday said no offenders, however big they may be, would get impunity.

"Some influential accused officials of the Rapid Action Battalion committed the gruesome seven murders with an attitude of impunity, which have stunned the nation. The offenders have been put on trial at the timely interference of the Supreme Court. People's faith in the judiciary has increased as the trial of the case has been completed within the shortest possible time," he said.

He made the comment in a message on the occasion of the second anniversary of his taking office as the 21st chief justice.

He expressed hope saying that though there is a little contradiction with the government about issuing a gazette notification on the lower court judges' job discipline and conduct rules, it will be resolved soon.

"If the executive has any scope for interfering in the disciplinary issues of judges, there is a possibility of interruption in independently discharging judicial functions of judges of the subordinate courts. For the logical reason, a different discipline and appeal rules is indispensable and therefore a

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