

Muggers stab owner, snatch car in capital

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
Miscreants stabbed a man before snatching his car in the capital's Kalabagan early yesterday.
Rent-a-car business owner KM Rana, 32, who was stabbed in the back and leg near Laaz Pharma around 3:30am, took treatment at Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH). "I fell sick last night. I bought medicine from Laaz Pharma and was resting in my car parking it on the roadside. After dozing for a while, someone knocked on my window," Rana told The Daily Star over the phone. As soon as he took the window down, someone hit him and pulled him out of the car, he said.
Immediately, another group numbering six to seven joined in, and started beating him, he said, adding that they had stabbed him and sped away with his car.
Some of them also fled riding on a pick-up van parked nearby, he said.
SI Bachchu Mia, DMCH police outpost, told The Daily Star that a man, with stab injuries in a carjacking incident, took treatment at the hospital.



Without any safety measures, these two children prepare metal frames on the roadside in Fullbaria underneath the Mayor Mohammad Hanif Flyover. The duo, like many other children of their age, are involved in such risky jobs to make a living. The photo was taken recently.

PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON

HarvestPlus recognised as global food innovator

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
HarvestPlus, a biofortified food crop development initiative that helped Bangladesh release world's first zinc-enriched rice variety in 2013, has won prestigious "LAUNCH Innovator" recognition for 2017.
It has won the recognition along with 11 other innovators selected from a pool of 280 applicants from 74 countries, a release said yesterday.
The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), the US Agency for International Development (USAID), National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), and NIKE Inc. jointly founded LAUNCH in 2009 to build a community of innovators.
Since 2013 release of first biofortified zinc rice -- BRRI dhan-62 -- which is also the most early-maturing variety ever released for Aman season, the Washington-based HarvestPlus helped scientists in Bangladesh to
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Arrested war crimes suspect sent to jail

Decision on charge framing against five Patuakhali men on March 8
STAFF CORRESPONDENT
The International Crimes Tribunal-1 yesterday sent a war crimes accused from Mymensingh to jail after police produced him before it.
Rustam Ali, 70, was arrested in Kendua Kalibari area of Jamalpur Sadar upazila on Wednesday hours after the tribunal ordered the arrest of three men who allegedly committed crimes during the Liberation War of 1971.
Police could not arrest the two others, prosecutor Abul Kalam told The Daily Star yesterday.
The three accused are originally from Muktagacha of Mymensingh but two of them including Rustam were living in Jamalpur and another in Panchagarh, sources said, adding they were involved with the Razakar Bahini, a group of Pakistani collaborators.
The tribunal earlier issued arrest warrant against six other accused of the case. Of the six, Suruj Ali Fakir, Abdur Rahim, Abdus Salam, Joynuddin Faruki and Jalal Uddin -- were
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Over 50 quizzed but no headway in probe

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg
Seven months have already passed but the investigators are yet to make any headway in the probe into the murder of Mahmuda Khanam Mitu -- wife of former superintendent of police Babul Akter.
Additional Deputy Commissioner (North) of Detective Branch (DB) of Chittagong Metropolitan Police (CMP) Mohammed Kamruzzaman said, "We have been working. So far, we have quizzed more than 50 persons as part of the investigation and we would interrogate more people."
"Recently many juicy stories are being published in newspapers. I am keeping an eye on those and cross-checking whether there is any clue and relevant issue," said Kamruzzaman, also investigation officer

(IO) of the Mitu murder case.
In addition, the IO said he had recently visited Cox's Bazaar, Rangunia, Bandarban and some other places for the sake of the murder investigation.
It cannot be said for sure when the charge sheet of the murder case will be submitted, he said.
About the recent discussion with Mitu's parents, he said they demanded punishment for their daughter's killers. They also discussed many issues relating to the life of Babul and Mitu before and after marriage, he added.
Asked if the family raised the issue of extramarital affair as a motive behind the murder, the IO denied giving further detail.
As part of the investigation, Mitu's parents Mosharraf Hossain and
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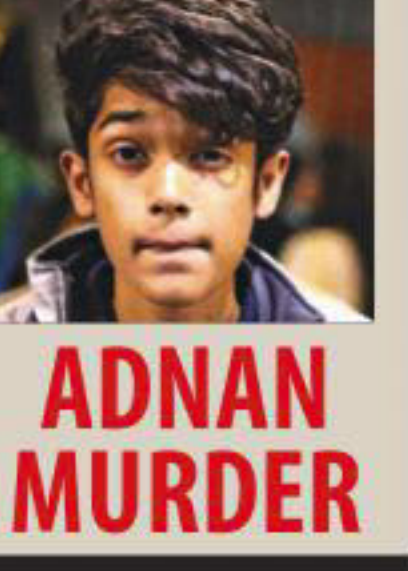
MITU MURDER

Next Khaleda graft case hearing Feb 16

COURT CORRESPONDENT
A Dhaka court yesterday fixed February 16 the next hearing of Zia Orphanage and Zia Charitable Trust graft cases after BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia submitted petitions seeking adjournment.
The court set the date after Khaleda's lawyer barrister Jamiruddin Sircar submitted two separate petitions saying that Khaleda could not appear before the court due to her physical illness.
On July 3, 2008, the Anti-Corruption Commission filed the case against Khaleda, her son Tarique Rahman and four others over misappropriation of over Tk 2.10 crore.

7 gang members remanded

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
A Dhaka court yesterday placed seven arrestees on three-day remand among the eight members of local youth gangs held by the Rapid Action Battalion over the sensational killing of ninth-grader Adnan Kabir in the capital's Uttara.
Shahin Mia, a sub-inspector of Uttara West Police Station and investigation officer (IO) of the murder case, prayed to the metropolitan magistrate to remand each for 10 days.
The remanded are Shahriar Bin Sattar Shetu, 22, Akhtaruzzaman Chhoton, 19, Shahinur Rahman, 17, Selim Khan, 23, Ibrahim Hossain Sunny, 28, Mizanur Rahman Sumon, 22, and Jahidul Islam Juice, 21.
In primary interrogation three were found to have been directly involved in the killing, but police will quiz all of them for more information, said Officer-in-Charge Ali Hossain Khan.
An eighth member, Ramjan Mobarak, 17, was cleared from this case and handed over to police in a drugs case, he said.
A Rab-1 team conducted the drive in Uttara on Tuesday night and picked up the leaders and members of "Disco Boys" and "Big Boss" groups. The arrestees were handed over to Uttara West police on Wednesday night.
Apart from the eight, police earlier arrested six people in connection with the murder. Four of them confessed in court to the killing, said police.
A student of Uttara's Trust School, Adnan was attacked with a knife on January 6, allegedly by rival gangs. The critically injured schoolboy was rushed to an Uttara hospital where doctors pronounced him dead.
Victim's father Kabir Hossain filed the murder case with Uttara West Police Station, accusing nine people and 10-12 others unnamed.
Earlier, Rab said some teenage gangs in Uttara were caught up in a feud on January 3 when some members of "Disco Boys" and "Big Boss" groups beat up Raju, the leader of "Nine Star" group. Two days later, members of "Nine Star" group retaliated, assaulting "Big Boss" leader Chhoton.
On January 6, "Big Boss" and "Disco Boys" pounced on "Nine Star" men and Adnan came under attack during the incident while Raju fled, said police.



ADNAN MURDER

61 arrested for using false info in SIM card sales

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
The Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) arrested 61 people for selling SIM cards with false information in the capital's Pallabi yesterday.
The arrestees include private mobile phone operator Banglalink's zonal manager Shah Md Abu Alamgir Siddique, MR Communication owner Mohiuddin Khan, and its manager Sarfuddin Ahmed. The remaining 58 are sales agents and staff of MR Communication, said Rab.
MR Communication is a private consultancy firm, which distributes Banglalink SIM cards and provides mobile internet services for customers of Mirpur, Shah Ali, Pallabi
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Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina distributes prizes and certificates among the best imams and winners of the National Children-Juvenile Cultural Competition, organised by Islamic Foundation marking National Imam Conference, in the capital's Bangabandhu International Conference Centre yesterday. PHOTO: BSS

Six human traffickers arrested

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) arrested six suspected child traffickers, including two women, in the capital's Sayedabad and Narayanganj's Siddhirganj areas on Tuesday night.
Rab at a press conference in the capital said the arrestees admitted abducting 17 children, of whom, eight were released after obtaining ransom from their families, six were trafficked abroad, two died when administered too much drugs and one was rescued by Rab last month.
A pistol, magazine, three bullets, sharp weapons, 1,020 pieces of yaba and strong sedatives the gang used to administer on abducted children, were seized during the drives.

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Militants recruiting thru social media

Says police chief Shahidul Hoque
STAFF CORRESPONDENT
Militant groups are using social media to inspire people towards militancy, Inspector General of Police AKM Shahidul Hoque said yesterday.
"Till now, most people arrested for militancy were found to have been motivated through Facebook," he told a freshers' reception programme of Dhaka University's Social Welfare and Research Institute on the campus.
Cautioning the social media users, Shahidul Hoque said police were not only bringing radicals to justice but rather trying to bring them back on the right track from radicalisation. Bangladesh is a global role model in preventing militancy, he claimed. The IGP, however, identified militancy and drugs as the two biggest problems of the country and asked students to stay away from these.
If anyone is found involved in any crime in educational institutions, the offender must be punished irrespective of his or her political loyalty, said Hoque, a former student of the institute.
"It's painful for us to take cases against students. However, when they commit serious crimes we end up with no choice." Talking about community policing, he said a distance was created between police and people in the colonial period, but police were now trying to serve the people by closing the gap. Urging people to assist police, he said the success of the justice system was dependent on police investigation. Director of the institute, Prof Tania Rahman, chaired the programme.
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BR RECRUITMENT SCAM ACC presses supplementary charge sheets accusing Mridha

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg
Anti-Corruption Commission yesterday pressed supplementary charge sheets at a Chittagong court in seven cases filed over irregularities in recruitment at Bangladesh Railway, accusing its suspended general manager Yusuf Ali Mridha, court sources said.
Earlier on January 3, 2016, Chittagong Metropolitan Sessions Judge Md Shahenur ordered for further investigation into the cases in which charge sheets were submitted excluding Mridha's name.
Azizur Rahman Bhuiyan, a divisional director of ACC and an investigation officer of three of
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St Gregory's school celebrates 135th anniversary today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
The 135th founding anniversary of Saint Gregory's High School will be celebrated today.
Gregorian Association, a platform of former students of the school, will organise the programme on the campus at the capital's Luxmibazar, said a press release.
The daylong celebration includes a procession, art exhibition, raffle draw, cake auction, and cultural show. Singer Rezwana Choudhury Bannya and prominent bands "Miles" and "Shironamhin" will perform. Tanvir Rahman Emon, executive member of Gregorian Association, said, "The programme will surely be full of amusement and entertainment with participation of the present and former teachers and students of the school." The former students of the school, one of the oldest in Dhaka, have set examples in their respective fields through their remarkable contribution and have brought name and fame not only for the school but also for the country, said the release.
Bangladesh's first prime minister Tajuddin Ahmad, Nobel laureate Amartya Sen, ex-president of Bangladesh Prof Budruddozza Choudhury, renowned lawyer and an author of Bangladesh's constitution Dr Kamal Hossain, and Bangladesh's first attorney general Fakir Shahbuddin studied at the school. Founded in January 1882 by Rev Father Gregory De Groot, a Benedictine priest, the school set many historical records in education and humanitarian activities. The Gregorians who have not registered yet were requested to call 01819290716 or 01783945205.

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