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MEDICAL EXAM OF RAPE VICTIMS

Police not following HC directives

BISHAKHA DEVNATH and SHAHEEN MOLLAH

Shaila, 14, came out of the garment factory she works for in the capital's Mohammadpur Beri Bandh area and saw her ex-boyfriend Billal, employed at the same RMG unit, waiting outside.

Following repeated requests for chitchat, Shaila walked along with him into the Rayerbazar graveyard as evening descended. She had recently broken up with him after finding out that he was already married.

Surrounded by the eeriness of the graveyard, Billal then threatened to kill her if she made any sound.

Frightened to the core, Shaila did not try to flee, while Billal called in five to six other men over the phone.

They raped her near a ditch. It was Muharram that day, September 21, 2018, recalled Shaila, as she spoke to The Daily Star during her lunch break outside the garment factory in mid-December.

Although the 23-year-old Billal is in hiding, six other alleged rapists have been arrested in this connection.

Later that day, Billal himself dropped her at her home by a rickshaw. Numb with shock, Shaila took two days to gather courage and tell her mother what had happened.

Her mother immediately took her to Mohammadpur Police Station and filed a case.

Shaila, not her real name, was in police custody for two days before being taken to the Tejgaon Victim Support Centre. Spending four more days at the support centre, she got admitted to the One-stop Crisis Centre (OCC) at Dhaka

SEE PAGE 12 COL 5



The rickshaw van of a balloon vendor lies mangled at Dhaka Shiksha Board Laboratory School and College in Mirpur after his gas cylinder exploded yesterday, leaving him dead and two students wounded. Inset, an injured student is taken to a hospital in Mirpur.

PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

Fun event turns fatal

Balloon vendor killed, 2 students injured as gas cylinder goes off at school function

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The annual sports day celebration at Dhaka Shiksha Board Laboratory School and College turned tragic as a gas cylinder explosion on the campus premises left a balloon vendor dead and two students injured yesterday.

The dead is Siddique, 60, and the two injured students are 10th grader Oishi and ninth grader Jannatul Jabin.

According to witnesses, the incident happened when Siddique was pumping helium into balloons on a van.

The body was taken to Shaheed Suhrawardy Medical College and Hospital for autopsy, said Selimuzzaman, officer-in-charge of Darus Salam Police Station.

The injured students received primary treatment at Mirpur's Delta Hospital, said Mohammad Fazar Ali, principal of the school.

Terming the incident

SEE PAGE 2 COL 6

HOLEY ARTISAN ATTACK

Last accused arrested in C'nawabganj

STAR REPORT

The Rapid Action Battalion yesterday claimed to have arrested a charge-sheeted accused in the Holey Artisan attack case in Chapainawabganj's Nachole upazila.

Shariful Islam alias Khaled, 27, was picked up from Haripur area around 3:00pm. With him, all the eight charge-sheeted accused in the case have been arrested, said Rab.

Khaled was being brought to Dhaka for interrogation, Mufti Mahmud Khan, director (legal and media) of Rab, told The Daily Star.

The elite force would hold a press briefing in this regard today, he added.

Earlier on January 20, the Rab arrested another fugitive militant Mamunur Rashid alias Ripon in Gazipur.

Like Ripon, Khaled also took part in a meeting of top JMB leaders in Gaibandha in February 2016 when the attack was planned, law enforcers dealing with militancy said.

SEE PAGE 2 COL 6

SAUDI JOURNO KHASHOGGI MURDER

UN names panel for int'l inquiry

Three-member team set to visit Turkey from Jan 28-Feb 3

REUTERS, Geneva

The United Nations human rights office said yesterday a three-member team of international experts would conduct an inquiry into the murder of Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi, confirming a Reuters report.

Agnes Callamard, UN special rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, told Reuters on Thursday she would travel to Turkey next week to head an "independent international inquiry" into Khashoggi's murder at the Saudi consulate in Istanbul on October 2.

The UN rights office said in a statement that the independent panel would seek to establish "the nature and extent of States' and individuals' responsibilities for the killing".

The other two panel members are British barrister Helena Kennedy and Duarte Nuno Vieira, a pathology expert and professor at the department of legal and forensic medicine and ethics and medical law at Coimbra University, Portugal.

The trio will visit Turkey from January 28-February 3 and plan to report to the UN Human Rights Council in June, it said.



SEE PAGE 12 COL 2

Youth killed by lorry plying wrong side

JUI CORRESPONDENT

Jahangirnagar University graduate Shehabul Munir, who joined demonstrations for safe roads last year, died yesterday after being hit by a lorry driving on the wrong side of the road.

Munir, 28, was going across the Nabinagar-Chandra highway in Palli Bidyut area of Savar on Thursday morning when he was hit and suffered serious injuries to his head, police said.

Locals rushed Munir, an environmental science graduate, to a local clinic first.

He was later taken to Enam Medical College Hospital where he died yesterday afternoon.

Munir, the only son of Khandker Mamun Hossain of Bogura, got married last

SEE PAGE 12 COL 3

Earth's oldest rock found on the moon



CNN ONLINE

When the Apollo 14 astronauts returned samples from the moon's surface, they probably didn't realise that they were reuniting Earth with a bit of its early history.

The "moon rock" probably collided with the moon after an impact sent it hurtling from Earth 4 billion years ago, according to research published Thursday in the journal Earth and Planetary Science Letters.

The researchers believe that a large comet or asteroid hit Earth and sent the rock up through the atmosphere and into space. The rock was able to make this serendipitous collision with the

SEE PAGE 12 COL 3

Teenage kirtan singer raped in Gopalganj

UNB, Gopalganj

A 15-year-old Kirtan singer was allegedly raped by two men in Pirabari village of Kotalipara upazila on Thursday.

The victim's father, a physically challenged vegetable vendor, said his daughter, member of a Khulna-based Kirtan (songs with religious themes or spiritual ideas) group "Laxmi Narayan"

SEE PAGE 2 COL 6



PRAYER TIMING JANUARY 26

Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha
AZAN 5-35 12-45 4-15 5-46 7-15
JAMAAT 6-10 1-15 4-30 5-50 7-45

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION



Both are in their late 60s. But they have to toil away at this age every single day, supplying drinking water in jars to different roadside shops. The photo was taken in the capital's Badamtoli yesterday.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

Final Assam NRC must be out by July 31

Declares India's SC

THE HINDU ONLINE

India's Supreme Court on Thursday took a firm stand that the final Assam National Register of Citizens (NRC) list should be published by July 31, 2019.

"Under no circumstances should the publication of the final NRC be stretched beyond July 31," Chief Justice of India Ranjan Gogoi observed in the court's order.

Assam State NRC Coordinator Prateek Hajela informed the Special Bench, which comprises also Justice Rohinton Nariman, that 36.2 lakh people had filed their claims by December 31, 2018. Objections were received from over two lakh people. There is however no word from the remaining number of those who were excluded from the final draft NRC published on July 30, 2018.

The public hearings for

SEE PAGE 12 COL 5

Novel trick, indeed!

Posing as snake charmer, yaba peddler hides 5,500 pills inside snake basket; gets caught in Ctg



OUR CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Amid ongoing drives against yaba, drug peddlers are coming up with new techniques to carry the crazy pills.

In the latest incident, an alleged peddler was arrested in Chattogram's Maijartek area when he was carrying 5,500 yaba pills in a snake basket, police said.

The arrestee is Abul Hossain, 37, from Savar. Acting on a tip-off, police caught Abul and found the pills. He was on the way to Dhaka from Teknaf, claimed Alamgir Mahmud, officer-in-charge of Karnaphuli Police Station.

Monirul Islam, sub-inspector of the police station, claimed that they recovered snake skin, skeletons and oil from the arrestee's possession.

SEE PAGE 12 COL 2