



#### Is Harris really dead? **Interpol asks CID** to probe

SHARIFUL ISLAM

The National Central Bureau at the police headquarters has asked CID to investigate whether Harris Chowdhury, former BNP leader and fugitive convict in the August 21 grenade attack case, is

The NCB, Interpol's correspondence desk in



Dhaka, sent the letter to CID on January 12 following reports of Harris's death.

"A day after news of Harris Chowdhury's death was published in the media, we sent a letter to the CID, asking it to investigate the matter and inform us," Mohiul Islam, assistant inspector general (NCB), told The Daily Star vesterday.

If Harris is dead, the NCB will request Interpol to remove his name from its red notice, he said.

Mohiul said the CID SEE PAGE 4 COL 2



## TRAPPED ON **BOTH SIDES**

Both sides of the Dhaka-Chattogram highway below the Mayor Hanif flyover in the capital's Jatrabari is seen gridlocked yesterday. Vegetable markets and an illegal stand of pick-up trucks have taken up a major portion of the Chattogrambound side of the highway, top, while a fish market has left the Dhaka-bound side, right, in a similar state. Such jams are common in the area from early morning till around 10:00am.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN



#### **NASIRNAGAR MAYHEM**

## No evidence, yet Rasraj faces charges



MASUK HRIDOY and ASHUTOSH SARKAR

In their forensic report, police found no evidence of Rasraj's involvement in spreading a photograph that led to a mayhem in Brahmanbaria's Nasirnagar in October 2016.

Forensic experts conducted tests on the mobile phone, memory card and Facebook profile of Rasraj Das and did not find any trace of the photograph.

Rasraj, a local fisherman, was accused in a case filed under the controversial Digital Security Act two years after the attack.

According to the complaint, Rasraj posted a photograph on his Facebook profile that hurt religious sentiments. Some 200 religious bigots attacked at least 15 temples and vandalised and looted about 100 Hindu houses at several neighbourhoods in Nasirnagar and Sadar upazilas of the district.

On December 29, 2021, Police Bureau of Investigation (PBI) pressed charges against Rasraj as the principal accused and one Jahangir Alam in the DSA case.

Before his implication in the DSA case, Rasraj was accused in another case filed under Section SEE PAGE 4 COL 5

## Star HEALTHLINE

#### Sleeping longer can help in **WEIGHT LOSS**

STAR HEALTH DESK

A recent study in the US longer at night could help in weight loss without changes to daytime diet, The Guardian reported.

The clinical trial conducted on 80 overweight adults aged 21 to 40 with a body mass index between 25 and 29.9, for two weeks -- found that those who usually sleep 6.5 hours a night shed on average 270 calories more from their daily intake when they got an extra 1.2 hours of sleep.

A person may lose about 12kg if they manage to sustain the habit of longer sleep at night for three vears without changing their diet during the day,

the researchers believed. The study -- published in Jama Internal Medicine SEE PAGE 4 COL 4





## More Russian troops mass near Ukraine

## US warns invasion can come at any time

REUTERS, Moscow

Russia is now massing yet more troops near Ukraine and an invasion could come at any time, pernaps before the end of this month's Winter Olympics, US Secretary of State Antony Blinken said vesterday. Commercial satellite images

published by a private US company showed new Russian military deployments at several locations near Ukraine. In his starkest warning yet to

Americans in Ukraine to get out now, President Joe Biden said he would not send troops to rescue US citizens in the event of a Russian assault. "Things could go crazy quickly," Biden told

Blinken, visiting Australia, told a news conference: "We're in a window when an invasion could begin at any

time, and to be clear, that includes during the Olympics." The Beijing games end on February 20.

Russia has already massed more than 100,000 troops near Ukraine, and this week it launched joint military exercises in Belarus and naval drills in the Black Sea.

Several Western countries launched diplomatic pushes this week to persuade Russia to back down, but Moscow brushed them off, yielding no concessions to French President Emmanuel Macron who visited on Monday and openly mocking British Foreign Secretary Liz Truss during a visit on Thursday.

Four-way talks in Berlin between Russia, Ukraine, Germany and France, part of a longstanding peace process in a conflict between Ukraine and Russian-backed separatists, also vielded no progress on Thursday.

# Blood-soaked

road HALIMA KHATUN

The preparation for strike on February 21, 1952 was going on for several days. Every day, I went to girls' schools, particularly Kamrunnesa,



Banglabazar and Muslim Girls School, to organise them. As they were young it was not very difficult to convince them but we had to struggle to convince female students of the university.

I was a newcomer in Dhaka; no one seemed to agree with my words, especially about protesting in the face of the police. So, I went to Hatirpool on the night of February 20. I brought a letter from Nadera Begum (sister of Shaheed Munier Chowdhury). In that letter, she requested the female students SEE PAGE 2 COL 7



### Chairman of Rangs Group of Companies passes away

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Akhter Hussain, founder and chairman of Rangs Group of Companies, breathed his last yesterday. He was 72, said a press

release. He left behind his wife, son, daughter, grandchildren, a host of relatives, friends and well-wishers to mourn his death.

His first namaz-e-janaza was held at Gulshan Azad SEE PAGE 4 COL 2



## nniversary Supplement









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