# Kala Faruq's cohorts

died at around 1:20am on the same

But mystery shrouds the death of Kala Faruq, a notorious criminal. According to police report, he was shackled with hands behind and was in a vehicle escorted by two others. At least 20 policemen were quarding the

People close to Kala Farug claimed that he was apprehending something bad as some of his godfathers got furious with him due to some of his activities. But they did not disclose why they got angry with him.

They also said Farug was living in hideouts for the last few months and also went abroad early last month. He returned before army launched its drive. But it could not be known why Faruq came back to the country. For the last few weeks, Faruq was desperate to leave the country again.

Police sources claimed that Faruq had close connection with some political leaders belong to both the ruling party and the opposition camp. A former head of state used to go to

There are rumours that some of his protectors gave information to law enforcers when they apprehended that they might be also be caught.

The home ministry committee headed by a joint secretary, formed on Wednesday to probe the mysterious death of Kala Faruq in police custody, is yet to unearth the mystery. Meantime, the Ha-Meem Group

Kala Faruq's mother and wives brought against it is 'totally baseless'.

On Wednesday, Faruq's mother and wives alleged that a garment employee named Azad had Kala Faruq killed by giving money to police. They claimed that Faruq knew about Azad's criminal activities and that is why he was killed.

The Ha-Meem Group in its statement said it filed a case against Kala Faruq and his accomplices who snatched Tk 10 lakh in broad daylight on October 5 this year from in front of its head office in the city.

Police seized the car and illegal firearms Kala Faruq and his accomplices used during the snatching. They left those while escaping, the business group claimed.

Kala Faruq was arrested from Zia International Airport on Monday minutes before he was to fly to Sweden under a fake identity

### **Five Tibetans**

FROM PAGE 12

travelled to China in September on a trip which raised hopes that Beijing wanted to reopen a dialogue broken

Western governments, particularly in Europe and the United

States, have urged Beijing to resume the dialogue.

> Germany and France. Hanning had said that al-Qaeda, blamed for the September 11, 2001 attacks on the United States, probably wanted to let the world know that it was still opera-

German chief

of intelligence

for deeper

probe into

AFP, Munich

terror roots

Days after warning of a major new

attack by Osama bin Laden's al-

Qaida network, the chief of the

German intelligence service (BND)

called for deeper investigations

told a conference on globalization

and Islamic extremism that military

means were insufficient to stop

when we are talking about terror-

ism to also address its roots,

"We would be well-advised

He said many people in the Arab

world felt "oppressed" by global-

ization and the growing influence

of the West, which had led to

mounting anger and the threat of

Terrorism is a "weapon of the

Hanning renewed his warning,

He again noted the audio tape

broadcast last month by the Arabic

satellite television channel al-

Jazeera in which Ayman al-

Zawahiri, al-Qaeda's second in

command, mentioned plans for

fresh strikes against the United

States and its allies, notably

issued earlier this week, of the

threat of terrorist attacks, possibly

in Germany, in the near future.

BND director August Hanning

into the roots of terrorism.

terror in the long run.

Hanning said

weak," he said.

He dismissed criticism in the media that he was unnecessarily sowing fear with a vague warning that was nearly impossible to heed.

"It is a fact that the situation has grown more critical," he said, adding that German intelligence had observed a marked increase in suspected extremists traveling to

#### PDB seeks

total project cost within 45 days of the signing of the contract. The finance ministry would then have issued a letter of guarantee to the contractor upon which the contractor was supposed to submit its bank guarantee to the PDB.

The PDB signed the \$17.7 million contract bypassing the Economic Relations Division (ERD) for the rehabilitation of the 30-year-old Ghorashal power units 1 and 2 under supplier's credit in May 31, 2000. But an irate ERD objected to the deal and an interministerial investigation was

The contract was also suspended for sometime. Later, graft charges were brought against those involved with the project during the caretaker government. But after coming to office, the government revived the scheme.



Israeli soldiers stand in front of an Arrow missile launcher with its six missiles, during a tour for foreign correspondents at the Palmahim air force base south of Tel Aviv yesterday. The development of the Arrow, Hetz in Hebrew. antiballistic missile system is part of the Homa, or Wall, a shield project designed to counter the acquisition of missiles capable of striking Israeli cities by hostile states such as Iran, Iraq and Syria. The 2.2.billion-dollar project, launched in 1988 with US funding, was due to become operational in 1995 but fell well behind schedule.

# Bhuiyan blames AL

development minister (LGRD) pointed out that curbing crimes at any cost was a major election pledge of the BNP and that deployment of army is aimed at nabbing criminals and restoring law and order.

Bhuiyan noted that army is not an entity isolated from the people and the government and they can be called out in aid of the civil adminis-

Army deployment is nothing new in the country as they were deployed also in the past in case of natural calamities, during elections and also for restoration of law and order, he

Those who took part in the discus-

transmit energy to spacecraft in

flight, into a demonstrated propul-

In one effort, small-sized

"Lightcraft" have already been shot

high into the air over White Sands.

New Mexico desert. The test

devices rode on blasts of high-

intensity laser light. This progress,

sion technology.

sion included BNP leaders Moudud Ahmed, Dr Khandaker Mosharraf Hossain, Colonel (Retd) Akbar Hossain, Shahjahan Siraj, Nazrul Islam Khan, Bangladesh Medical Association Prsident Dr MA Hadi and Vice Chancellor of Jahangirnagar

University Prof Jashimuddin Ahmed. A number of party leaders including Tareque Rahman, Sadeque Hossain Khoka and Mirza Abbas

The discussants said the historic solidarity and great revolution of the patriotic people and members of the armed forces on November 7, 1975 had foiled all conspiracies against the country's independence and sovereignty and saved the nation from a possible disaster. The day is of great significance in the national life. The present government is

determined to implement welfareoriented programmes reflecting the spirit of November 7 and upholding democratic values, they said.

They recalled that valiant freedom fighter late president Ziaur Rahman had proclaimed independence of the country and paid rich tributes him. The people would ever remember him for his glorious role in the war of liberation and establishment of multi-party democracy and development of the country, they

# Two more die

FROM PAGE 1

Station who let go of him. However, Rashed fell sick and was admitted to the DMCH yesterday morning where he died at about 6:30pm. The body was sent to the hospital morgue for autopsy.

Tejgaon police told The Daily Star that army arrested and questioned Rashed and later freed him. But he was not handed over to the Tejgaon Police Station, the police claimed. They also said that they were not informed of Rashed's arrest.

However, army sources said last night there was no one by the name of Rashed on their arrest list.

The victim's family members alleged that Rashed died from torture during interrogation and that there were marks of injuries all over the

The victim's cousin Khairul Islam told newsmen at the hospital that the troops picked him up from their residence as per a tip from a source named Adil. When the army men went to the residence. Rashed had identified himself as a businessman and assistant film director. But Adil told the troops that if he was arrested. lots of firearms could be seized

On Sunday morning, the source sent him home in an unconscious condition on an auto-rickshaw. Khairul said.

In Barisal, a team of army arrested Yunus, who was facing criminal charges, in Jharnabhanga village on October 30. He was later turned over to police the following day. Police produced him before the court and he was sent to jail.

As Yunus fell sick in the jail custody on Wednesday he was admitted to the BMCH. Yunus died at the

#### Advani remark FROM PAGE 1

said Pakistan's military intelligence the ISI, and the al-Qaida terrorist group had increased their activities in Bangladesh after a change of regime last year.

'After the change of government in Bangladesh, there has been an increase in the activities of the al-Qaeda and Inter-Service Intelligence (ISI) there." Advani was guoted to have told the Press Trust of India (PTI) news agency.

New Delhi accuses Islamabad of arming, training and financing Islamic rebels battling India's rule in Kashmir, which has claimed more than 37,500 lives. Islamabad insists it provides no more than diplomatic and moral support. Advani said Dhaka was provid-

ing "covert" support to separatist rebel groups battling Indian troops in the India's northeast.

"All insurgent groups of the northeast are getting refuge there

(Bangladesh),"Advani said. He also demanded that the international community treat the ISI on par with the al-Qaida network

While the international community had recognised al-Qaeda and Afghanistan's former ruling Taliban regime as the "fountainhead of ey were yet to acl edge the ISI as among the major

sources of terrorism, he said. "This will cost them dear," Advani warned, adding "irrespective of foreign policy compulsions, one should not be supportive of terrorism anywhere in the world.'

hospital on the same day.

His family members alleged that the army tortured Yunus during interrogations, which led to his death. No further details were immediately available.

Meanwhile, army arrested 209 people including 27 listed criminals across the country during the last 24 hours ending at 8:00am vesterday.

The troops also seized 28 firearms during the anti-crime crackdown. The seizure list includes five revolvers, one pistol, 14 shotguns, five pipe guns and 161 rounds of

In the city, troops arrested Organising Secretary of the BCL central committee Alok Banik from Uttara yesterday evening. The victim was riding a motorcycle when an army team intercepted and arrested him. He was turned over to the Uttara Police Station at about 7:30pm. Also arrested yesterday was a

joint secretary of the Awami League's ward No. 23 chapter. The AL leader, Haii Ismail Hossain, was picked up from his Malibagh residence. The team also recovered several passports from the house. According to sources, Ismail was involved in manpower business. He was handed over to police and being interrogated.

Our Magura correspondent reported that army arrested a listed criminal, Amir Hossain, 30, in Bhaina area in the town. Later on, he was handed over to police and sent to the jail by the court. Source said he indulged in criminal activities in the area. Our Sylhet correspondent

reported that army picked up three persons in the district yesterday. The arrestees are Safar Ali, son of Shikdar Ali of Balaganj; Abbas Ali, son of Tofur Ali of South Surma; and Abdul Basit of Osmani Nagar. All the three were handed over to police. Our Sirajganj correspondent

reported that army last night arrested Jatiyatabadi Jubo Dal leader and college teacher Nazrul Islam from Kazipur Sadar on charge of criminal activities. Our Chittagong correspondent

said army arrested three security quards of the Chittagong port for their alleged involvement in smug-

## **ROK PM**

The agreements are on expansion of digital telephone exchanges in Chittagong, Khulna and Sylhet at a cost of US\$30 million and on purchase of 11 locomotives worth US\$ 28 million.

The ROK premier will lead a 22member delegation comprising some senior members of his cabinet and high-ranking officials.

He will call on President lajuddin Ahmed at Bangabhaban and meet several cabinet ministers, including Foreign Minister M Morshed Khan and Commerce Minister Amir Khosru Mahmud Chowdhury.

A Foreign Ministry official said the risit would help strenathen the exist ing good relation between the two countries and create new avenues for bilateral cooperation in trade and

business sectors. Foreign Minister M Morshed Khan will receive the ROK prime minister at the Zia International Airport.

# BTTB

FROM PAGE 12 efficiency."

"The situation now prevailing in the global telecom sector makes it imperative that the BTTB is corporatised," a Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications high official told The Daily Star. Meanwhile, another World Bank

brief recently pointed out that although the BTTB "generates a financial surplus or a gross transfer of approximately US\$350 million and estimated cash surplus over expenses of US\$170 million... its return on the equity invested in it is

"Contribution by the BTTB to the government must be balanced," the brief concluded.

The WB further said limited investment in the sector leads to limited service availability, lack of new product rollout and generally poor service quality. This, in turn, reduces the attractiveness of the country to potential IT-based enter-

Bangladesh has agreed on various issues relating to corporatisation of the BTTB under the

Telecommunications Service Sections (Section-2-c) of the General Agreement on Trade and Tariff and the World Trade Organisation pact.

## Prof. Yunus

FROM PAGE 12

in South Asia and all developing countries will be more difficult if the current spread of AIDS is not halted. Families, especially the poor and women, will have to bear the bur-

"The Grameen experience has without doubt proved that communities, when given the opportunity, can come up with unique and socially relevant solutions. Communities are central to HIV prevention and care, and communities can provide solutions for HIV prevention and care," he said.

# Beamed propulsion: Out of the lab into space

**UNDATED.** Internet

File photo dated October 1988 in Huaca Rajada, northern Peru, shows the

tomb of Señor de Sipan, a warlord of Mochica descent, dated back to pre-

Inca times, some 500 years AD. The museum of Senor Sipan's tomb is to be

inaugurated today some 450 miles from Lima, on the northern coast of Peru.

It is to showcase some 800 pieces from the Moche culture.

A micro-payload riding a shaft of light streaks for the Moon or Mars. Huge sails are nudged outward on interstellar trajectories. A doublecrosser of an asteroid is pulsed out of harms way, saving the Earth from a messy impact. All benefits from on-the-spot

power beaming, 21st century style. Better yet, no need tapping your fingers waiting around for this technological tour-de-force. Next year, a space-deployed

solar sail is to be pushed via microwave beam broadcast from Earth a novel experiment to test the feasibility of beam-boosted sails.

For the first time in history, experts in the field of point-to-point power beaming from around the world have gathered at the First International Symposium on Beamed-Energy Propulsion, held at the University of Alabama in Huntsville (UAH).

"Several generations of researchers are under one roof. Nothing has been like this before. It's a special event," said UAH's Andrew Pakhomov, co-chair and a key organiser of the meeting. "This is research once the domain of several enthusiasts. But it has passed that initial stage. This is a normal technological field involving researchers, engineers, as well as prototypes and products," he told

SPACE.com. Pakhomov said researchers from nine nations and from various groups across the United States are reporting on the progress and promise of power beaming.

Next year's trial run at power beaming is slated to involve The Planetary Society's Cosmos 1 solar sail. To be launched by a Russian rocket, the sail is to settle into a 500-mile (800-kilometer) orbit above the Earth

Once fully deployed, the Cosmos 1 is then ready to be on the receiving end of a microwave beam. That microwave energy will be transmitted spaceward via a large radio dish in Goldstone. California - a powerful antenna that's part of the Jet Propulsion Laboratory's Deep Space Network. Louis Friedman, Executive

Director of The Planetary Society and the Cosmos 1 Project Director, told SPACE.com: "If we can do the beamed power experiment and measure its acceleration on our Cosmos 1 spacecraft, it will be a great accomplishment for us...on the first solar sail mission to pave the way for interstellar flight."

While the push received from the Goldstone microwave beam will be tiny compared to the effect of solar radiation on the sail, the spacecraft's mission is to test the feasibility of beam-boosted sails, said Greg Benford, a professor of physics at the University of California, Irvine. His brother, James Benford, president of Microwave Sciences, of Lafayette, California, is keen on the experi-

"The significance is that this is the first demonstration of a new propulsion method, truly 21st century, that can reach speeds far beyond the rocket," Jim Benford

The modern history of beamed energy propulsion, tagged BEP for short, started in 1972, when Arthur Kantrowitz - founder and CEO of the Avco Everett Research Laboratory - first popularised the idea of laser propulsion to orbit. His research continues today as a professor at Thaver School of Engineering at Dartmouth College in Hanover, New Hampshire. The BEP field has evolved from

a simple vision of somehow

employing a remote source to

sponsored by the Air Force Research Laboratory and NASA, realised ever-increasing flight altitude records. The successful tests have helped confirm the

promise that useful payloads could be delivered to low-Earth-orbit using laser propulsion. Pakhomov points out that few advanced propulsion concepts have had successful flight demonstration. More importantly, the field of laser propulsion is not limited to just Earth-to-orbit launches, in the same way as BEP is not limited to laser propulsion. A broad range of new applications will be opened

energy propulsion research. But there are a few catches.

with the advancement of beamed

For one, the time when laser propulsion and other BEP concepts will become mature, 'work-horse' technologies depends entirely upon expanding the current level of BEP research and development. Furthermore, there's need to establish high-power BEP demonstration and test facilities. On a more global front, uniting research forces worldwide to achieve this goal is vital.

Pakhomov adds, however, that power beaming schemes and hardware needed to turn ideas into matter-of-fact propulsion are rapidly proliferating. One only has to look at the

vetting of proposals at this week's First International Symposium on Beamed-Energy Propulsion. For example, consider a supersonic airbreathing laser propulsion

vehicle advocated by Korean researchers. Then there's X-ray driven micro-ships by a Japanese team. Another suggestion by a Russian specialist is correcting satellite orbits by laser beaming.

Arguably, one of the more bombastic thoughts presented is sidetracking incoming objects harmful to Earth. Titled the "Impact Imperative," the idea is to use laser ablation for

deflecting asteroids, meteoroids,

and comets from smacking into the Leader of the proposition is NASA's Jonathan Campbell, a research scientist in the Advanced Projects Group at the Marshall Space Flight Center's new National Space Science and Technology Center in Huntsville. An up-front disclaimer, Campbell adds, is that the opinions expressed are not necessarily the official position or policy of

"Preventing collisions with the Earth by hypervelocity asteroids, meteoroids, and comets is the most important immediate space challenge facing human civilisation. This is the Impact Imperative," Campbell and several research associates sug-

It is clear that big and small objects hitting our planet can do serious damage

Can anything be done about this "fundamental existence question" facing our civilisation? The answer is a resounding yes, Campbell believes.

"By using an intelligent combination of Earth and space based sensors coupled with a space infra-structure of high-energy laser stations and other secondary mitigation options, we can deflect inbound asteroids, meteoroids, and comets and prevent

them from striking the Earth," Campbell will report at the symposium.

The power beaming idea is straightforward. Just irradiate the surface of an inbound rock with sufficiently intense laser pulses so that ablation occurs. This ablation acts as a small rocket incrementally changing the shape of the rock's orbit around the Sun.

"We recommend that space objectives be immediately reprioritised to start us moving quickly towards an infrastructure that will support a multiple option defence capability," Campbell advises. "While lasers should be the primary approach initially, all mitigation options depend on robust early warning, detection, and tracking resources to find objects sufficiently prior to Earth orbit passage in time to allow mitigation."

Campbell and his fellow team members envision laser and sensor stations placed in low and high orbits around Earth, even at lunar and libration point distances. Space interceptors would tote both laser and nuclear ablators for close range work.

"Response options must be developed to deal with the consequences of an impact should we move too slowly," Campbell concludes. From newly fabricated ultra-

tiny spacecraft thrusters to theorising about shoving asteroids around - power beaming research is on full-throttle. Why now and why beamed energy?

energy is hard to come by in space," said Jordin Kare of Kare Technical Consulting in San Ramon, California.

Kare, a noted researcher in

"Because 'concentrated'

power beaming, said this type of propulsion yields several advan-

tages. "Chemical fuels don't provide enough comph for lots of things we want to do. like make single stage launchers or make fast trips to Mars. Sunlight provides plenty of energy but it's expensive to collect and use, in both dollars and mass. The only other choices we have for supplying energy in space are nuclear power and beamed energy. And even if you like nuclear power, there are situations -- like launching from the ground -- where beamed energy is the only way to go," Kare

told SPACE.com. Kare advises keeping an eye on the power beaming field.

"Because it's ripe for serious development," Kare said. "We're a long way from building a laser launcher -- though maybe not as long a way as many people think -but we could start building space power and propulsion systems any time."

"There's lots of talk about making space flight as easy and reliable as air travel. But we can't do it with chemical rockets -- the margins are just too small. With beamed energy, you're not limited by what Nature lets you get out of chemical bonds," Kare added

At this week's symposium, Kare is presenting his own work.

"With technology we largely know how to build today, we could make a laser orbital manoeuvring system that would let us hop between orbits and go to the Moon with ease, and even send off missions to Mars," Kare said.

"Now if we could just get the Martians to build their own laser, we'd be all set.'

### **Revolution Day** FROM PAGE 1 early in the morning. The BNP also

hoisted party flags in its offices

across the country. President lajuddin Ahmed visited Ziaur Rahman's Mazar at 9:00am and placed a wreath there. Army chief Lieutenant General

Muitaba and Air Force chief Air Vice Marshal Fakhrul Azam were present on the occasion. Prime Minister Khaleda Zia along with her cabinet colleagues and senior BNP leaders placed wreaths

Hasan Mashhud Chowdhury, Navy

chief Rear Admiral Shah Ighal

and offered Fateha at the Mazar at 11:00am. The prime minister, after placing wreath at the Mazar, stood in solemn silence for sometimes while bugles played the last post. A contingent of armed forces presented a guard of honour. Chiefs of the three services

were also present. Khaleda Zia was accompanied, among others, by party Secretary General and LGRD and Cooperatives Minister Abdul Mannan Bhuivan, Joint Secretary General Tarique Rahman, Finance and Planning Minister M Saifur Rahman, Health Minister Dr Khandaker Mosharraf Hossain, Law Minister Moudud Ahmed and DCC Mavor

### Seed crisis

Sadeque Hossain Khoka.

FROM PAGE 1

vear. The Department of Agricultural Extension (DAE) provides technical support to seed growers throughout the country to produce around 20.000 MT. Some multinational companies

like Syngenta, private sector seed developers like Supreme Seed Co. and NGOs like BRAC also marketed around 2,000 MT of Boro seeds this year but their prices were much higher than BADC's.

BADC seeds are always on top of farmers' choice list because of their good quality, purity and good germination rate, sources said.