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SERIAL BOMBING

Arrested moulana points finger at Nizami

Fund sources of militants being probed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Former Islamic Foundation director Moulana Fariduddin Masud, detained for suspected links to the August 17 blasts, yesterday accused Jamaat-e-Islami Amir and Industries Minister Motiur Rahman Nizami of involvement in the countrywide explosions.

Meantime, the home ministry ordered the intelligence agencies to investigate the income sources and expenditures of the NGOs allegedly sponsored by some Middle Eastern countries.

A reliable government source said all bank accounts of Masud are

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PHOTO: STAR

List of 282 Afghan-trained returnees

STAR REPORT

Intelligence agencies have drawn up lists of militants who returned to Bangladesh after 1989, receiving training in Afghanistan, to impart armed training to local militants.

Some of them were arrested at various times, but later released on bail as cases were not properly filed against them. The Daily Star has so far compiled the list of 282 names from the intelligence reports.

Many of the listed men are foreigners who visited the country to

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BURNING COURT ORDER
HC orders filing sedition case against lawyer

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday directed the registrar of the Supreme Court to charge a Cox's Bazar lawyer with sedition for burning copies of the High Court order banning agitation on the Supreme Court premises.

The High Court issued a contempt rule on Advocate Faridul Alam after Supreme Court lawyer Mohammad Noor Hossain Chowdhury brought contempt proceedings against him the same day.

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INSIDE THE MILITANT GROUPS-4

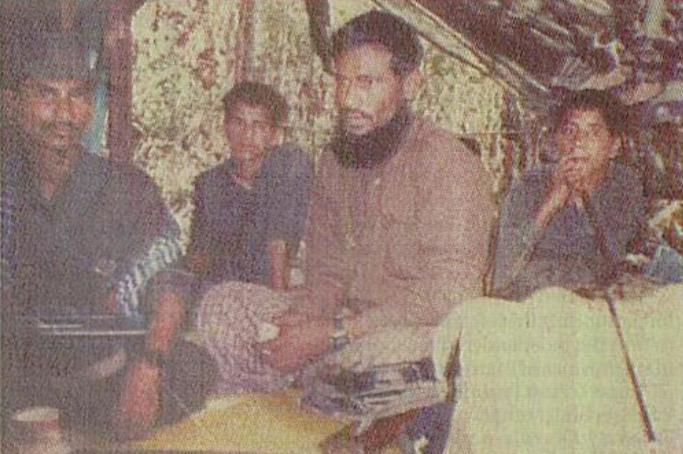
They go free too easily

Like him, at least 500 Islamist militants have been released on similar grounds in the past four years. Many of them were arrested several times in the act of terrorist activities, and yet no specific charges were brought against them and they were all left off the hook.

In late 1996, some 40 militants were arrested with dummy rifles while taking arms training at a Barguna Qwami madrasa. They were almost immediately released as police said they were engaged in 'preaching Islam'.

On June 30, 2004, 33 militants were arrested at a mosque in

Lutfor is only one case in point.



One thing has become clear from

the arrest and release stories: despite having specific evidence, police remain reluctant to bring any specific charges against the militants. In many cases, evidence was deliberately or mysteriously destroyed or witnesses barred from appearing before court to testify.

According to a Prothom Alo report on August 23, 2003, CID Inspector Khalur Rahman made revealing comments about seven JMB militants arrested in Joypurhat on April 16, 2003. "I submitted three petitions at various times seeking permission to implicate three of the

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