# JMB threat continues | SM Ali's

, Imam of Banmander Mosque under

Pabna sadar police arrested three

suspected JMB cadres from the

Pabna Deputy Commissioner's

Office square yesterday, reports our

Hossain, 30, Abdus Sabur, 29, and

Touhidul Islam alias Mamun, 28.

They came to Pabna to petition for

bail for their eight associates includ-

Turag thana police yesterday arrested three suspected JMB mem-bers -- Anwarul Haque, 20,

Mahbubur Rahman, 25, and Abdul

Mannan, 20-- from Ranabhola

village under Harirampur union near

Police arrested seven JMB suspects

on Saturday night, reports our corre-

are students of a madrassa in

Rangpur and came to visit a friend's

house at Sunderganjin Gaibandha.

in Bogra and Noakhali reports 11 suspected JMB members were

Police arrested four suspected JMB

activists from different parts of

Chittagong district yesterday and

and Mithu from Station Road, and

Joynal Abedin who was arrested with

explosives Saturday night from

Our Bandarban correspondent

reports, security has been beefed up

in Banadarban suddenly from

police have been performing body

searches on everyone they pass by. A

responsible source said security has

been tightened there as the joint

forces have started combing opera-

tions in Chittagong and Cox's Bazar

Jamat-e-Islami leader Ekramul

Hoque and his employee Faruque

were not shown arrested even after

24 hours after Rapid Action Battalion

(Rab) picked him from his station

road bookstore with a number of

unauthorised Islamic revolutionary

information about IMB and its mili-tant network in the northern districts

from Ekramul Hoque who was being

quizzed at the battalion's temporary

make the information public until

A Rab captain said, we must not

A Rab team along with Ekramul

local Jamat-e-Islami leader also

bother-in-law of Abul Kalam who is

a member of the party's top forum,

formed Touhidi Janata in Rangpur in

lising a statue on Charmichael

College campus at the end of the

year. Later the same organisation

under his leadership attacked a rally

of Ghatok Dalal Nirmul Committee

in 1995. Eminent poet of the country

Shamsur Rahman was narrowly

Gazipur militant

August 17 blasts

A JMB cadre yesterday gave state-

ment before a magistrate in

Gazipur, admitting that he had

been involved in the August 17

admits role in

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

saved from the attack.

1991 and led its members in vanda-

Police sources said, Ekramul had

Rab extracted much important

to arrest Islamist extremists.

books in his possession.

the investigation is over.

Members of the army, BDR and

They are Abdul Mannan, Akash

arrested in Noakhali and Bogra.

Investigators said all the arrestees

Meanwhile, our correspondents

ing four women, the police said.

The arrested are Moazzem

Sharsha upazila in Jessore.

correspondent.

GAIBANDHA

CHITTAGONG

BANDARBAN

Saturday night.

Saturday, reports UNB.

spondent.

threatening to kill the AC, reports our correspondent. The letter sent to the press club reads, "We are establishing Islamic rule and what we are doing is for the betterment of Islam, so no one

to blast bombs at nine points in Satkhira town by today. The letter sent to the AC's office reads, "From now on corrupt officials will be our target and AC Land

FARIDPUR The local press club received a letter journalists who speak against 'Jihad',

Terming the hand-written letter 'an emergency news' for the journal-ists it mentioned that JMB has been carrying out 'lihad' in the country to

All the politicians, journalists, bureaucrats and intellectuals, who are speaking against the implementation of laws of Allah will also be killed later, it said.

BARISAL The banned outfit sent letters to twelve eminent personalities including journalists, cultural activists, social workers and political leaders, saying that they will be killed within December 14, this year, our corre-

The letters reached the Daily Aiker Barta office yesterday by post. Abul Kalam Azad, Commanderin-charge of zone 6 and unit 1of

and Advocate Nazrul Islam Khan Rajan are some of the people whose names are on the hit list of JMB, the

letter said. Earner on Saturday night, Barisal Kotwali police arrested six persons including an Indian citizen from some residential hotels and busstand yesterday in suspicion of their

Kurigram police recovered an unex-

ploded bomb from the Bazar Hoque raided several places in mosque yesterday morning, reports Rangpur to catch JMB militants but our correspondent in Kurigram. failed to arrest any.

A source of Rab preferring anonymity said Ekramul himself is a The police said a person found

the bomb wrapped in scotch tape got scared and started to shout. Hearing his scream people nearby approached the scene and informed

the drain and kept it in water at the Kurigram Police Line. RAJSHAHI

Our staff correspondent in Rajshahi reports: A private Arts College yes-terday received a bomb threat-letter be Jamaat-e Islami Bangladesh.

reads -- 'Jamat-e Islami Bangladesh

The letter addressed to eminent artist SH Azad, principal of Rajshahi Arts College said the college will be bombed if Islamic education is not condoned in Islam'

the principal if the 'teaching of the letter'isignored.

Meanwhile, police arrested a suspected JMB militant from Rajshahi busterminal yesterday.

countrywide blasts. The arrestee is Abu Bakar, 35, son Mahbubur Rahman, 32, of of Entaj Ali of village Godagari in Kashempur, however, denied having played any role in the blasts KHULNA

on Gazipur court premises and in front of DC office on Tuesday and Salam Ahle Hadith Jame Mosque at Thursday. Police arrested him in district's Pabla under Daulatpur Police Station in Khulna city, Saturday midnight from his house. The police said Muniruddin, one

Konabari area on Friday night along with two others. Leaflets, books and some training materials were recovered from his posses-

Mahbub said he is a first-year student of Hatimara College in the town and an operative of JMB.

## Gabtoli bomb found fake

# The so-called time bomb recovered from under a bus at city's Gabtoli

Bus Terminal on Saturday night was in fact a bomb-like object, says a Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) press release. Different national dailies and

TV channels ran reports describing the bomb-like object as a powerful time bomb and said if blasted it would have caused extensive damage and loss of life. But after detailed examination, explosives experts of Rab have concluded that it was a dud bomb. It did not contain any gunpowder, neither had it a proper connection between the filament and batteries. Besides, its timer circuit was too faulty to work, added the release.

He was the nephew of famous writers Syed Mujtaba Ali and Syed

SM Ali made his way up from a cub reporter to one of the country's most brilliant editors in a career spanning 44 years. He was also the chairman of the Press Institute of Bangladesh (PIB).

and London SM Ali was one of the few Asian journalists who enriched regional journalism.

Pakistan Observer during his student days at Dhaka University. He went on to hold important positions in various regional publica-tions in Pakistan, Hong Kong, Thailand and Singapore.

of Asia as its executive director in the 70s. In 1981, he became United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation's (Unesco) regional communication advisor for Asia and the Pacific which was based in the Malaysian

1989 and had a brief stint with The Bangladesh Observer as its editor. He launched The Daily Star in 1991 and worked tirelessly to establish this newspaper as a leading independent national daily till the day he flew to Bangkok for treatment. He died there in 1993 at the age of 65.

## Terrorism

the Awami League boycotting the Parliament sessions."

ADB Senior Economist Rezaul Karim Khan presented the details of the update.

Although the knitwear exports continued to register a strong growth after the MFA quota phaseout, the exports of woven garments have fallen, pointed out the report. The bank said, "There are several domestic policy measures including setting up central bonded warehouses and endorsing SAARC cumulation which are needed for boosting the external competitiveness of the garment industry."

Due to the global petroleum price hike, pressures on the country's balance of payments heightened in the first quarter of FY06, said the report. However, the balance of payments did not face any

unveiled its Country Strategy and Programme for Bangladesh for 2006-2010, pledging a total aid of \$1.8 billion

## Rab asked

FROM PAGE 16 December 1 said officials giving

directive the police headquarters sent copies of the order to all offices police commiss metropolitan cities, deputy inspector general of police (DIG) of six divisions and superintendents of

distributed among policemen at police stations across the country

ers to remain alert so that no militants can give interviews to media. The letter also said 'administrative actions' would be taken against the persons failing to follow the order.

## Govt mulls

told reporters.

He, however, refused to accept the notion that Rab intelligence failed to find whereabouts of top JMB leaders. "They're doing very good....they're making arrests."

Asked whether a new law is necessary to combat militancy, Babar said: "Of course. We've many limitations in existing laws. We need new law to fight militancy.

Rab Director General Abdul Aziz Sarker, Home Secretary Safar Raj Hossain and all commanding officers were present at the meet-

## 8 plants

given 90 to 120 days to set up skid or trailer mount plants and 150 days to 180 days for barge-mounted

"These plants will cripple the PDB as the power price will be very costly," a PDB source said. "We do not know who advises the government to go for such plans. We can have one or two skid or trailer mount plants as temporary solution. But the government is going for eight such plants with 15 years of power sales contract. It can never be a solution to the power

## **BCS** preliminary

FROM PAGE 16 In the preliminary test held on November 18, the candidates who could give correct answers to a minimum of 52 out of 100 multiple choice questions were selected, PSC sources said.

The written tests will begin in March next year and the schedule will be published in the national

question leak out. Earlier on several occasions too, there were such

# Govt okays release of fund

for just about anyone bearing the cheques to withdraw money from the bank. Observers fear that the process of disbursement may make it easier for the militants to channel fund for their activities.

Among the contractors are some associates of the arrested militant leader Asadullah Al Galib and his second-in-command Abdus Samad Salafi, said a reliable

The fund was released after RIHS' regional director general for Asia, Abu Khaled Falah Al Mutairee and its country director general, Abdul Aziz Khalaf Maalullah, both Kuwaiti citizens, lobbied the government till November 25 during their six-day visit to Bangladesh, said sources.

Staying in a Banani guesthouse and maintaining secrecy, they met high-ranking leaders of the ruling alliance, leaders of Ahab, and some officials of the Kuwait Embassy, NGO bureau, and of several other Middle Eastern NGOs.

NGO bureau sources said the Kuwaiti officials visited the country with the government's consent and they wanted to know the government's stance on the RIHS.

They convinced the government to release the fund that had been remitted from Kuwait as the RIHS supposedly has to pay its unpaid bills of Tk 12 crore accrued since 2003 for training Imams, constructing mosques and madrasas, and for installing tubewells in the country.

The government never even conducted any spot-investigation of these projects, said a source. Release of RIHS funds was

Aziz Al Saud took the initiative to

hold the summit that will examine

the overall situation of the Muslim

world and explore the most effec-

tive solutions to the important

"The objective of the summit is

to free the Muslim Ummah from

the current state of near paralysis

and inaction," said Foreign

Minister M Morshed Khan at a

57-member OIC will attend the summit where Khaleda Zia will

lead a 37-member Bangladesh

will have bilateral meetings with

document titled "Draft OIC Ten-

year Programme of Action to Meet

the Challenges Facing the Ummah

in the 21" Century", which has

been prepared on the basis of the

recommendations of the

Preparatory Forum for eminent

Muslim scholars held in Makkah

during September 9-11, Morshed

panels had intense and thorough

deliberations on (1) Political Affairs

and Media, (2) Economy, Science

He said the scholars in three

some ofher counterparts.

The Bangladesh prime minister

The summit will consider a

Most of the heads of state of the

press briefing yesterday evening.

FROM PAGE 16

delegation.

Khan said.

suspended after the arrests of Galib, and Samad Salafi in February following investigation reports revealing links among escalating Islamic militant violence in the country, RIHS constructed mosques, and the Imams

trained by the NGO. The Dayee and Imam (Daoa) division of the RIHS and the Higher Islamic Education Institute run by it at Uttara in Dhaka were also shut down by the government three months ago.

In July however, funds for different orphanages under the organisation were released on humanitarian grounds.

Several days ago the NGO bureau following government's nod sent its clearance to the Railaxmi Market branch of IBBL at Uttara to release the fund of Tk 2 crore against RIHS' savings account.

However, NGO bureau Director General CQK Mustak Ahmed told The Daily Star on Thursday that the government never stopped funds of any NGO on allegations of terror financing. He also said he did not have information about any NGO funding militant activities.

But bank sources told The Daily Star over phone that about Tk 15 lakh from the fund has already been disbursed through a large number of bearer cheques since November 29. "Large number of cheques for small amounts are coming in everyday", said an IBBL official.

Regarding the contractors of the RIHS, sources said among over 30 listed contractors, most did not get contracts while a few chosen by Galib and Samad Salafi used to get

on December 6 in Jeddah will

OIC leaders will discuss setting up

of an International Counter-

Terrorism Centre as proposed by

change the name of the OIC and its

charter considering the number

and volume of issues being han-

empower the OIC Secretariat, he

repeated bomb blasts in

Bangladesh, the foreign minister

said, "We cannot call USA, UK,

The foreign minister said the

There is also a proposal to

Besides, steps will be taken to

Replying to a question about

precede the Makkah Summit.

some member states.

dled by the organisation.

PM goes to Makkah

contracts involving large amounts ofmoney.

If the ones without blessings from the top two Ahab bosses would get any contract at all, it would never be for more than Tk 1 lakh while Galib's man Nurul Islam, general secretary of Ahab, got the contract for construction of Gazipur Ahab School near the Ahab orphanage involving Tk 90 lakh. He was arrested along with Galib, but his cheques will be given to a person authorised by him, said

Galib also used to get RIHS contracts through his nephew (sister's son) Badrul Alam of Satkhira. Badrul's elder brother Sadrul Alam was arrested in connection with the August 17 blasts in Chittagong.

For Samad Salafi, his son-in-law Azizul Bari Mintu, chairman of Nashipur Union Parishad under Gabtali upazila in Bogra, Akmal Hussain of Chapainawabganj and Ahab leader Moffakker Hossain used to get RIHS contracts.

Sources said Mintu used to lobby the BNP high-ups for Ahab and RIHS as he had developed relations with them because of his chairmanship of Nashipur, the home union of BNP's founder also former president of the country late Ziaur Rahman.

The RIHS and Muslim Aid however, in two separate rejoinders to The Daily Star report dated November 26 and headlined "Terror Financing NGOs Remain Unscathed", denied allegations of their links with Islamist militants. The rejoinder termed the report as false, baseless and motivated.

# Trade leaders

will be enacted soon," Khaleda Zia confirmed. She urged the AL to join parliament and present its opinions on the new law.

The prime minister listed her government's steps to curb militancy and said they have already taken initiatives to track down members and kingpins of the outlawed JMB.

Commerce Minister Altaf Hossain Choudhury, Adviser to Commerce Ministry Barkatullah Bulu and Political Secretary to Prime Minister Harris Chowdhury were also present at the meeting.

Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and Industry President Kutubuddin Ahmed, Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association President Tipu Munshi, Dhaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry President Sayeeful Islam, Bangladesh Chamber of Industries President AK Azad, Bangladesh Frozen Food Exporters Association President Magsudur Rahman and Chittagong Chamber of Commerce and Industry President Saifuzzaman Chowdhury, among others, were members of the business delegation.

BUSINESS BODIES' PROPOSALS

FBCCI President Mir Nasir Hossain told The Daily Star yesterday, "Among the short-term measures, we urged the prime minister to take tough actions against any lack in the administration, so that identified criminals like Khamaru, who was arrested but released, do not go free any more."

"We can't accept such administrative negligence," he said referring to the release of Khamaru, a IMB linchpin.

The 9-point proposal signed by Nasir Hossain remarks, "There is no alternative but to unite to face the tough time the country is going through." It also says, "Bangladesh's image is under question again at abroad due to-the bomb

The FBCCI president requested the PM to allow duty-free import of

## Hasına

Rejecting the prime minister's call for dialogue to tackle militancy, Hasina said the dialogue proposal is nothing but a "farce" to confuse people. "Is it that the alliance government actually wants to give more time to the militants to gain more strength by killing time in the name of dialogue instead of curbing militants?" Hasina said.

The nation today is united against militancy and does not need any call from the prime minister. People rather urge the prime minister to stop patronising the militants and using the terrorists against the state to cling to power,"

Hasina said. "Resignation of the failed government is the only way to stop bomb terrorism in the country," she added.

together in a dialogue? The remote control of the militant terrorism is with the government. It is with their signals that terrorism starts and pauses as it has been proved during the Saarc Summit," Hasina

"It was the government's prime duty to detect the origin of the militants. Instead of doing that the government shifted the blame on the opposition," Hasina said.

Even some BNP men are now voicing against their leaders and the Jamaat for protecting the militants, but the government has taken action against those voices, the opposition leader said. On the business community's

call for deploying armed forces to tackle the situation in the wake of recurring bomb attacks, she said the situation will not be improved until the government takes action against its ministers, lawmakers and the coalition partner Jamaat-e-Islami, which patronises militancy.

"If deployed, the army will not be able to work independently as the government will use it for political purpose," Hasina said, adding that this government had deployed the armed forces in the past only to harass the opposition.

The regular law enforcement agencies can tackle militancy if the government allows it to work independently and neutrally, she

opined. Terming Jamaat the main patron of different militant outfits like Jama'atul Mujahideen Bangladesh, Jagrata Muslim Janata Bangladesh and Harkatul Jihad, the

opposition leader urged the countrymen to boycott Jamaat-e-Islami politically, socially and economi-Quoting from the Holy Qur'an and the Hadith, Hasina said Islam

never supports killing of innocent She pledged that the AL will

uproot militants and terrorism from the country with the help of people if it is voted to power again. AL leaders Zillur Rahman,

Obaidul Quader, Syeda Sajeda Chowdhury, Sheikh Fazlul Karim Selim, Kazi Jafarullah, Saber Hossain Chowdhury, Dr Mohiuddin Khan Alamgir, Syeda Zohra Tajuddin, Mukul Bose, Sultan Mohammad Mansur and present at the press conference.

security equipment so that the businesses can make their own security arrangements.

The investigations into the financing of terrorism should be intensified and the process of enacting the new anti-terrorism law expedited, he said.

Referring to a newspaper report a number of business leaders said that a section of government highups are encouraging and patronisation the militants. In response, the prime minister questioned the credibility of the newspaper and the report, sources said.

The business bodies led by the FBCCI met the prime minister in a bid to persuade the government and the opposition parties to sit in a dialogue on fighting terrorism. They sent letters to the prime minister and the leader of the opposition seeking appointments on Thursday.

But, a source quoted the prime minister as telling yesterday's meeting, "A national dialogue has begun today and will continue.'

Some business magnates expressed frustration after the meeting, as the PM virtually accused the main opposition parties of involving in terrorism.

Bangladesh Textile Mills Association Chairman MA Awal said, "We think militant activities is a national problem and will hit the economy first. So, we urged the prime minister to take steps to reach a national consensus on this

It is not a problem of a particular political party or group, he said, adding, "The government earlier did not hesitate to form the Rapid Action Battalion or deploy the army in Operation Clean Heart. Despite some criticisms, the nation has benefited from those moves. So, why not now?"

Awal however explained that a few leaders felt that deploying the army may be one of the ways to address the issue, but it was not the

Woman's body
FROM PAGE 16
be in her thirties, were found packed in four bags, which were kept in a big polythene sack

wrapped in a bed sheet. Police said they recovered the sack from near the main gate of the kindergarten on Iqbal Road at about 7:45am after locals, on suspicion, informed the policeabout it.

The severed body pieces, believed to have been refrigerated for some time, were sent to the morgue of Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

Morgue sources said the limbs of the murdered woman were cut into 11 pieces. The head, chest and abdomen were found in separate pieces. The intestines, stomach, liver, chest cavity and the esopha-

hideheridentity.

Police suspect that the woman "How can killers and victims sit might have been murdered a day or

## Imams asked

The Baitul Mukarram Khatib said Islam does not allow militancy

become a national problem and it can be resolved only through He asked all imams of the country to deliver their sermons against terrorism and militancy and bring

and bombing. Militancy has now

part of a campaign against terrorism in the name of Islam. Obaidul Haque also urged the government to organise a dialogue

If the madrasa education needs any reform, the government should discuss it openly, he said, adding, "Wholesale harassment of madrasa students and teachers is creating resentment against the

government." Moulana Kamaluddin Jafri, principal of Jamia Kashemia Madrasa of Narsingdi, said the

Those who have trained these militants are half-educated. There might also be Jewish involvement in these attacks," he said. "Reasons of suicide attacks in Iraq and Palestine are justified but there is no way to justify the suicide attacks

in Bangladesh," he added. Moulana Abul Kalam Azad, chairman of the Masjid Council, said the situation at present is worse than any time in the past. The veil, beard and tupi [prayer capl are now considered the crisis

Moulana Akramuzzaman said the real interpretation of the Qur'an and Hadith needs to be reached to the common people.

Affairs Mosharraf Hossain Shahjahan, Jatiya Shariah Council Secretary General Mufti Sayeed Ahmed Mojaddedi, and Moulana Abdul Latif of the Ahle Hadith Mostafa Jalal Mohiuddin were Andolon of Bangladesh also spoke

### and Technology, and (3) Islamic Thought, Culture and Education. OIC foreign ministers' meeting conference.

up at Habla and adjacent areas. "We

ited the spot yesterday morning. A case has been filed with Basail Police Station, but no one has been

Kuwait-based non-government organisation Revival of Islamic

Heritage Society (RIHS).

Locals said people from outside have been frequenting the mosques and holding meetings there for the last three years. The Taktarchala

meetings inside the mosque with some other people. They stopped the meetings as

India and other countries as terrorist states after acts of terrorism happening there. So why will Bangladesh be called a terrorist country? Terrorism is now a global

trend and all countries should fight against it with united efforts." "Bangladesh is not a terrorist harbouring country. The government has taken all-out steps to eliminate the terror acts and no mercy will be shown to those involved in the bomb attacks that are launched to kill innocent people

and destroy democracy," he added. Foreign Affairs Advisor Reaz

Rahman, Foreign Secretary Hemayetuddin and other high officials were present at the press

arrested 29 militants in the district

across the country. Of them, 19 are now behind bars and Yameen Miah of Delduar has given confessional statement

# Alliance meeting

to discuss militant issues. Sources said Amini refused to attend the meeting if members of other Oikya Jote factions and

Kader-led faction. Contacted, a number of Azizul Haq-led faction leaders admitted they had refused to attend the meeting on some specific grounds.

will give a new impetus to Bangladesh's nascent IT industry," ilitant links, we cannot sit with them or the pro-Jamaat Oikya Jote faction led by Abdul Kader," a eader of the faction told The Daily Staryesterday. However, BNP central office said the event was called off as Bhuiyan had to attend a meeting of the prime

FBCCI and other trade bodies. of this month, sources said.

### Lawyer hurt FROM PAGE 16 at the ICU (intensive care unit) of

Dhaka Medical College and Hospital (DMCH) at 9:20am, hospital sources said. He received splinters in the legs, stomach and suffered from critical burn injuries.

4:15pm in Rajbari to pay their last respect to the dead amid tension and fear of more attacks. Lawmaker Jahid Ahsan Russell, former minister MA Mannan,

Mozammel Haq, leader of the bar association, fellow lawyers and government officials also attended he janaza, sair, sur invited in the family

Municipality Chairman AKM

ents, four brothers and one sister. Meanwhile, Advocate Anwarul 29 blast was admitted to the ICU at

again urged the government to take strong initiatives to resist the militants and bring them to justice immediately. Meanwhile, police, Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) and other law enforcement agencies have been frisking and picking up commuters

November 29. They are mostly released after primary quizzing.
One Moniruzzaman was arrested vesterday morning as a JMB suspect from a madrasa at Salna area. Police produced eight

Locals yesterday noon held two youths, Akil and Alamgir, suspecting them to be the members of the banned Jama'atul Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB), when they were circulating leaflets in a mosque, Jatiya Party held a rally and

# vesterday evening.

FROM PAGE 1 minister, post and telecommuni-cations minister, experts of ICT and

A new vista is expected to open

businessmen during his short visit.

International Airport by Minister of Science & ICT Dr Abdul Moyeen A discussion is likely to be held at a hotel in the city on how Bangladesh can work with

tation will be attended by senior government officials, academics and IT industry leaders.

Business leaders will need clear-

Gates will assess Microsoft's activities in Bangladesh and announce some expansion plans during the discussion, a source said.

Microsoft launched their 'Unlimited Potential' programme on June 13, one of many projects planned for Bangladesh.

# 3 cops bullet-hitl

shotgun and rifle used by the militants were recovered from the spot. Officer-in-Charge of Basail Police Station Jibon Kanti Sarkar said many JMB operatives are holed

are trying to nab them," he added. Tangail Superintendent of Police (SP) Mirza Abdullah-hel-Baki vis-

arrested so far in this connection. Tangail is considered a hotbed of militant activities. IMB has an extensive network linking over 25 mosques in Mirzapur and Shakhipur upazilas. Those mosques in Dhanchala, Dakhshin Taktarchala and Phulgachichala villages in Mirzapur and Taktarchala Uttar Para, Moulana Para, Hatibandha and Kamilachala villages in Shakhipur had been set up with the financial assistance of

Sources said JMB activist Abul Bashar alias Hossain Mahmud alias Hossain Ali who carried out the November 29 suicide attack on Chittagong court premises and died from his injuries on Thursday was a muajjin of one of these mosques.

Dakhshin Bazar Mosque is one of the widely used meeting venues. A number of locals in Taktarchala Dakhshin Bazar recently told The Daily Star that an unknown person introducing himself as a scholar from Medina University visited the mosque last year. He held several mosque Abdullah-hel-Baki acknowledged the incident to be Tangail police have so far

before a magistrate.

Bhuiyan's official residence on Bailey Road in the city. The secretaries general -- Ali Ahsan M Mujahid of Jamaat, Abdul Latif Nizami, Maolana Abdur Rab Yousufi, Abdur Rashid Majumdar and Maolana Ishaq of Oikya Jote factions led by Fazlul Haq Amini, Azizul Haq, Ahmed Abdul Kader

Jamaat showed up. Besides, Azizul Haq had objec-

# brought out a procession protesting

since the August 17 serial blasts

FROM PAGE 16 be held at BNP Secretary General and LGRD Minister Abdul Mannan

and Ezharul Islam, and Saifur Rahman of Bangladesh Jatiya Party (BJP) -- were invited to the meeting

tions to the presence of any representatives from Ahmed Abdul

"Since there is allegation against Jamaat that they have

minister with the leaders of the Fresh schedule and venue of the meeting have been fixed and the meet is going to be held by the end

Hundreds of people gathered at his namaz-e-janaza held at about

graveyard at Chattar Bazar at Joydebpur. He left behind his par-

Azim, also injured in the November The lawyers yesterday once

in the town since the blast in

persons in court praying for remand

### the bomb attacks at the Muktamancha area in the town

Bill Gates communication technology (ICT)

in the information technology (IT) sector of the country during his short visit. Gates, accompanied by his wife, will be welcomed at Zia

Microsoft in bridging the digital divide in the country.

The Microsoft chief will give a 55-minute presentation on "Innovation and Partnership". The presen-

ance from the home minister to meet Gates in the discussion. "His visit is very important in the national interest of Bangladesh as it

the source added. Microsoft has officially started its operation in Bangladesh this year in cooperation with their market development partner, Square InformatiX. Microsoft has focused on building good relationships with their certified partners locally during the past few months.

They also said the face of the woman was mutilated in a bid to

FROM PAGE 16 all our differences and get united against the bomb terrorism," he

national unity. out processions in their areas after the Juma prayers next Friday as

with all madrasa principals within a week to discuss the problem of militancy.

government's response to militancy came too late.

of the country," he said.

State Minister for Religious

### FROM PAGE 1 their links to the banned outfit. Hadith Mosque in Jessore town, Hafez Maulana Abdul Kuddus, imam of Chanchra Coloney Mosque in Jessore town and Hafez Nizamuddin

SATKHIRA JMB sent separate letters to the local press club and to the office of Assistant Commissioner (AC-Land) of Satkhira Nayeb Ali yesterday

should interfere." It also threatened

(Sadar) Nayeb Ali will be executed."

from JMB sent by mail and addressed to the club president and general secretary at about 10:45am on Sunday which threatened to kill local reports BDNEWS.

establish the law of Allah.

spondentreports.

Jamaatul Mujahideen Bangladesh, is the sender of the letter. Nazrul Islam Rajan, general secretary of Barisal unit of the BNP, Kajol Gosh, president of Cultural Organisations' Coordination Forum. SM Igbal, chief editor of Aiker Barta. Nikhil Sen, cultural worker, Enayet peer Khan and Mintu Bosu, president and secretary of Barisal Nagarik Parishad, Taufik Maruf, staff reporter of the daily Parothom Alo, Akhter Farukh Shaheen, correspondent of The Daily Star, Pulok Chatterjee, bureau chief of the daily Samakal, Syed Dulal, editor of the Aiker Poribartan, Saifur Rahman Miron, correspondent of Amader Somoy,

links with IMB cadres. KURIGRAM

the police recovered the bomb from

that claimed the meaning of JMB to At the end of the threat-letter, it

introduced instead of arts that 'is not The letter also threatened to kill

Detective police arrested Moulana Muniruddin, 34, Khatib of Darus

of the 17 listed Islamic extremists, is one of the active organisers for JMB in Khulna. The police said Muniruddin used to train newly recruited youths in the Pabla Ahle Hadith Mosque on how to operate arms and detonate bombs.

policemen launched combing oper-

ations from Saturday midnight to

Meanwhile, six strong teams of

arrest members of suicide squads and 16 other notorious cadres of JMB . STAFF CORRESPONDENT TANGAIL Police arrested five suspected JMB members in Tangail on Saturday night, reports our correspondent.

The arrestees are Hafez Abdul

Aziz, 30, Imam of Paharkanchanpur

Ahle Hadith Mosque, Haji

Mohammed Rafique Uddin, 55,

Faisal Hossain, 21, Saiful Islam, 18

and Abdul Matin. The Tangail police have been quizzing the five showing them arrested in separate cases. Jessore police arrested three suspected JMB members in Jessore

town and Sharsha upazila Saturday

night, our correspondent in Jessore

The detainees are Maulana Abdur Rahman, imam of Backchar Ahle

Murtaja Ali.

Educated in Calcutta, Dhaka

He started as a reporter with the

He joined the Press Foundation

capital of Kuala Lumpur. Ali returned to Bangladesh in

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serious crisis mainly thanks to a robust growth in workers' remit-The ADB yesterday also

media interviews and publishing or airing speeches made by militants in police custody is illegal unless the court orders to Following a home ministry

police of 64 districts. Copies of the order were also

The order asked the law enforc-

arrested. We're working on it round the clock. In fact, they're being demoralised day by day," Babar

The builders of the plants will be

crisis," he added.

dailies, the PSC release added.

This year's BCS preliminary test was held amidst allegations of

their activities raised suspicions among the villagers. Imam of the