

2 more dens busted

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arms in the last few days, JMB operatives have continued with issuing threats to blow up law courts, educational institutions, shrines and temples.

DEN BUSTING

On information extracted from Sunny, a Rab team raided a house at Barur in Keraniganj at around 4:00am, seized the explosives and arrested three JMB members. The arrestees were identified as Jamil, 40, of Keraniganj, Shamsuddin Aftab, 31, of Bangshal, and Monirul Islam, 27, of Kotwali, Dhaka.

Tipped off that some JMB activists were staying at a house in Bhati Tahirpur of Sunamganj, the Rab contingent stationed in Sunamganj raided the house at around 5:00am and seized the explosives. But no one was arrested in the operation.

The elite crime-busting force also conducted raids in a number of areas in and around the capital and elsewhere in the country on Wednesday night and yesterday following Sunny's confessions, sources said. The raids, however, yielded no result.

ARRESTS, THREATS

Our Sylhet staff correspondent reports: Sylhet police yesterday arrested two JMB suicide squad members in Azad Miah Colony in the city. The arrestees are Masidul Islam Alias Masud alias Bhutto, 25, of Chapainawabganj, and Abdullah alias Khairul Islam alias Selim, 22, of Mymensingh.

Our Brahmanbaria correspondent reports: JMB members yesterday threatened to blow off the district judge court, Ananda High School, Akhaura Kalla Shaheed Shrine, Merura Kal-Bhairab temple and Anandamayi Kalibari.

The JMB issued the threat in a letter posted to Brahmanbaria Press Club.

Our Kishoreganj correspondent adds: The JMB yesterday sent a letter to the Pakundia upazila nirbahi officer (UNO), announcing that the JMB high command will launch bomb attacks on three UNOs and the deputy commissioner of the district.

Meanwhile, Pakundia police raided the house of alleged JMB suicide squad member Rafiq at Fakirpara village and picked up Rafiq's father Musleh Uddin to quiz him about his son.

SUNNY REMANDED

Ataur Rahman Sunny, chief of JMB military wing and younger brother of JMB chief Shaekh Abdur Rahman, and his associate Fariduzzaman Swapan were placed on a 14-day remand in two cases yesterday.

Sabujbagh police and Rab produced the two before the Court of the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate (CMM), Dhaka at 4:15pm amid tight security. The arrestees were blindfolded and wearing helmet and bulletproof vests.

Sunny admitted to the court that he had done wrong by committing such heinous offences like the August 17 orchestrated bomb blasts across the country.

"Now I realise what offences I have committed and am repentant for that," he told the CMM and pleaded mercy for the crimes.

"If the government pardons me, I will cooperate with the government in every way," Sunny, also a member of Majlish-e-Sura, the highest

policy-making body of the JMB, pledged before the court.

He said he had shaved his beard after the August 17 countrywide serial blasts.

Earlier, the investigation officer (IO) of the case sought a 14-day remand for the two arrestees in two cases -- one for possessing illegal firearms and the other under the Explosive Substances Act.

In the forwarding report on the arms case with Sunny as the lone accused, the IO told the court that the law enforcers have recovered a huge amount of arms and ammunition from Sunny's possession. Moreover, Sunny and his organisation have created panic in the country and tarnished its image abroad. So, he needs to be quizzed to find out any vital clue about the country-wide bomb blasts and whereabouts of his accomplices, the report argued.

In the other forwarding report submitted to the court on the explosives case with both Sunny and Swapan as defendants, the IO said they unearthed a large arsenal of explosive substances and also came to know that the JMB has many more such magazines across the country. So, they need to question the arrestees to find out about those arsenals, the report added.

In his defence, Swapan claimed at the court that he has been implicated in the case falsely and knows nothing about the JMB bomb blasts. Swapan, assistant marketing manager at Hyundai Company, also told the court that he knows not why he was arrested.

Death threat to lawyer in Manikganj

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Manikganj

Islamist militants yesterday threatened to kill Advocate Md Meher Uddin, Sammilita Ainjibi Parishad Manikganj district unit president.

Advocate Meher is also convener of Manikganj district unit Awami Ainjibi Parishad and former president of Manikganj District Bar Association.

Manikganj sadar police sources said one person introduced himself as Islamist militant threatened the senior lawyer over a mobile phone to kill him.

On the other hand, Dhamrai police arrested a suspected JMB man identified as Aminul Islam, 25, from his house at Kakran village night.

