

# Fake identities keep 27 JMB men out of charge sheet

Eleven of 30 charge-sheeted militants also absconding

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Nilphamari

Police has failed to file charge sheet against 27 most wanted Jama'atul Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB) men active in the area as their real identities are yet to be found.

Besides, 11 of the 30 charge-sheeted accused are still fugitive, much to the worry of law enforcers and locals.

Police suspect that JMB activists are now using fake names and addresses to dodge law enforcers.

On December 30, police pressed charges against 30 activists of banned JMB at a Nilphamari court in a case filed in connection with conspiring to foil parliamentary election of December 29 in 2008 and preparing for subversive activities. Of them, 19 are behind the bar and 11 are still fugitive.

"Fourteen of the 19 arrested accused made statements under Section 164 of the CrPC confessing their involvement. As per their confes-

sional statements to court and police, they are members of a network of 57 JMB activists. Of them, identity details of 27 people could not be found although some of them are 'Ehsar' (full-time) members of JMB," the investigation officer (IO) of the case, Sub-Inspector Mozaharul Islam of Jaldhaka Police Station said.

He said he found evidence of 57 JMB men's involvement but did not mention names of all of them in the charge sheet as identity details of 27 activists could not be found.

On December 2 in 2008, Jaldhaka police seized some CDs and leaflets from a courier service office in Jaldhaka municipality. Those CDs and leaflets contained speeches of Osama Bin Laden and executed JMB leaders Shaikh Abdul Rahman and Siddikul Islam Bangla Bhai.

The CDs, also containing speeches asking people to keep themselves away from parliamentary polls of December 29, 2008 and prepare for

'jihad', were ready to be sent to a number of important persons of different places.

Jaldhaka police lodged a case on December 4, 2008 in this connection. Police raided different areas of Nilphamari, Rangpur, Dinajpur and Lalmonirhat and could arrest 19 of them so far.

Police also seized many 'jihadi' books, notebooks and documents on making firearms and bombs, JMB's training manual, photo of different parts of AK-47 assault rifle and weapons from their possession.

The arrestees were also accused in a separate case under Arms Act.

"Possibility of subversive activities by fugitive and unidentified JMB men cannot be ruled out as some of them might be high ranking outfits as per information available. Police is trying their best to arrest them," Nilphamari Superintendent of Police Golam Rasul told this correspondent.



This non-government registered primary school at Batherhad village in Rupsa union of Faridganj upazila in Chandpur district remains in an awfully dilapidated condition, leaving over 200 students and four teachers vulnerable to accident anytime.



Remains of illegally felled trees on the premises of Old Hostel of MM College in Jessore town bear testimony to the looting of 15 trees from the campus during the last six months, allegedly by leaders and activists of Chhatra League.

# 15 trees looted from college hostel campus in Jessore

A CORRESPONDENT, Jessore

A group of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) leaders and activists have looted at least 15 big trees from the old hostel campus of MM College in Jessore during the last six months.

Students said the plunderers gradually cut down the trees on the old hostel premises in Puraton Kasba area so that nobody could understand what is going on there.

BCL men led by its old hostel unit president Yakub Ali are involved in plundering trees of the campus while hostel superintendent Amirul Islam favours them instead of taking any action, said a number of resident students of the hostel

wishing anonymity.

They said the group cut down at least 15 trees including Babla, mahogany and banyan in last six months.

During a recent visit to the old campus, it has been found that a number of trees were cut into small pieces and kept those under the sun. The BCL men would sell these for using as firewood, said a student, adding that they even remove the roots of the felled trees.

The old hostel campus is located on about five acres of land and around two kilometres away from the main campus.

The college had started its journey in 1941 through the old hostel campus and the institution was then shifted to

its present location in 1962. Students of the college have been using the previous campus as a student hostel since then.

Contacted, BCL leader Yakub Ali said students only cut some branches to avoid risk as trees covered the roof of the old hostel building.

Denying the allegation brought against him, hostel superintendent Amirul Islam said students cut some branches of a banyan tree. "We warned them against it. If they will do it again, we will take stern action against them," he added.

College Principal Syed Mahabubur Rahman said he was not aware of the incident.

# Special drive to check piracy in Sundarbans, coasts

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Coast guards, police and forest guards have launched a special joint drive titled Operation Sandhan to check piracy in the coastal belts of the Sundarbans in Khulna and Bagerhat districts.

Over 200 men of police department and Sundarbans Forest Division are assisting coastguards in the operation that started on Monday, said sources of coastguard (West Zone).

Meanwhile, four pirates sustained bullet injuries as rival pirate gangs around 100 rounds of bullets during an hour-long gunfight at Chalitabunia in Sharankhola upazila Tuesday morning, forest officials said.

The main aim of Operation Sandhan is to arrest pirates, recover their arms, silence their activities in the Sundarbans and the sea, stop infiltration of foreign fishermen and thus restore a sense of security in the area, said Lt SM Waliur Rahman, chief coordinator of the operation.

A ship named as 'CGS Bogra' anchored in the sea seventy kilometres away from Mongla carrying necessary equipment to carry out the combing operations and hit hideouts of pirates in the sea and the Sundarbans, said Lt Waliur Rahman.

Fishermen and bawalis (honey collectors) find it difficult to do their work due to piracy, extortion and abduction for ransom in the

Sundarbans and coastal areas as there are ten organised groups comprising over 300 pirates only in the East Wing of Sundarbans Forest Division, coast-guard sources said.

The criminals are in possession of modern foreign-made arms, huge ammunition and fast moving engine boats.

Foreign fishermen who infiltrate into 'Swatch of No Ground' in the Bay of Bengal falling within the jurisdiction of Bangladesh territorial waters are allegedly involved in looting fishes and other belongings from Bangladeshi fishermen.

Therefore, 710 kilometres of coastal belts including the Sundarbans have been brought within the purview of the special operation, said the coordinator.

# JMB cadre gets life in Kishoreganj

A CORRESPONDENT, Kishoreganj

A Kishoreganj court yesterday awarded life imprisonment to a cadre of banned militant outfit Jam'matul Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB) in a case filed after August 17, 2005 serial bomb blasts across the country.

The convict is Obaidullah Sumon, 24, of Kathal Razbari village under Trishal upazila of Mymensingh. Additional District Judge Akhtaruzzaman also fined Sumon Tk 20,000, in default, he is to suffer another six months in jail.

# One killed, 50 injured as villagers clash

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

One person was killed and 50 others were injured in a fierce clash between two groups of villagers at Pakhiteki near Hariপুর bazaar in Jaintapur upazila here yesterday.

The deceased was identified as Abdul Latif, 60, hailed from Hemu Tinpara village of the upazila.

Police and witnesses said the villagers of Hemu Tinpara and Panchpara clashed over establishing supremacy on a grazing ground around 11:00am.

Both the groups used lethal weapons during the hour-long clash that left Latif dead on the spot.

Police lobbed teargas shells and fired gunshot to disperse the feuding villagers.

Of the injured, 35 took first aid at the Upazila Health Complex and the Osmani Medical College Hospital while the rest were admitted to the medical college hospital.

The clashing villagers also put barricade on the adjacent Sylhet-Tamabil Highway. Later, Rab and police rushed to the spot and brought the situation under control around 12:30pm.

Golak Chandra Basak, officer-in-charge of Jaintapur Police Station, told the Daily Star there had been a longstanding dispute between the villagers.

# Huge fertiliser under open sky

Urea piled up in godowns as dealers take only a little delivery due to delay in boro farming

AHMED HUMAYUN KABIR TOPU, from Baghabari and Nagarbari

Several lakh bags of imported urea fertiliser have been kept under the open sky on the bank of River Jamuna at Nagarbari in Pabna and Baghabari port in Sirajganj due to space shortage in buffer godowns.

Local sources apprehend that the urea fertiliser to be used for the upcoming Boro season in 16 northern districts

would be damaged if there is sudden rain.

As Boro cultivation is delayed in the northern region this season due to fog and dry weather, dealers are not taking delivery of their portion of fertiliser, said an official of a buffer godown.

The fertiliser bags have now been kept on the open space as all the 14 buffer godowns in the region have already been filled up with fertiliser, said Sudev Kumar, in-charge of the buffer

godown at Baghabari port.

The buffer godown at Baghabari port has capacity to preserve 6,000 metric tons (MT) of fertiliser but at least 9,000 MT of fertiliser are kept there, he said.

Finding no other way, contractors have piled up fertiliser under the open sky around the port.

"I delivered only 100 MT of fertiliser on Monday although this is the high time for giving delivery of fertiliser for Boro cultivation. In the past years,

we used to deliver 2,000 to 2,500 MT of fertiliser every day during this period," said Sudev.

As the demand for fertilisers was very low in January this year, Bangladesh Chemical Industries Corporation fixed a delivery target of only 4,000 MT of fertiliser for the month but dealers did not withdraw their portion of fertiliser from buffer godowns, he said.

Meanwhile, over 18,000 MT of fertiliser have already come to the port for distribution in February, adding to the problem of space shortage in the godowns.

"Farmers are not buying fertilisers due to delay in Boro cultivation. So, fertiliser traders and dealers do not take delivery of fertiliser," said Md Idris Ali Biswas, president of Pabna district fertiliser dealers association.

They urged the government several times to set up new buffer stock at Nagarbari ghat for easy transportation and preservation of fertilisers to meet any crisis but no step has been taken yet, he said.

During a visit to Nagarbari ghat yesterday, this correspondent saw huge fertiliser kept under the open sky.

Nagarbari ghat is used for easy transportation of fertiliser to northern districts as movement of fertiliser-laden vessels is hampered in Aricha-Baghabari channel due to navigability problem every year, said Md Rafiqul Islam, a labourer handler at Nagarbari ghat.



Huge quantity of fertiliser kept in the open space beside Baghabari buffer godown in Pabna district as it remains almost undelivered from the loaded warehouse due to delay in boro cultivation in the ongoing peak season.

Cancer can be prevented too...!

**WORLD CANCER DAY**  
FEBRUARY 4

**How common is it?**  
Cervical cancer ranks as one of the most frequent cancer for women in Bangladesh, between the ages of 15 and 44.

Around 80% women are likely to be infected with HPV at some point in their lives. Though the body itself is able to fight off the infection, it is only for a temporary period of time. However, once the infection persists, it may become cancerous within 2 years or even take 10-20 years.

Every year, 500,000 (approx) women are unfortunate victims of Cervical Cancer, and every year globally, the death toll reaches to an average of 2,70,000.

**Is it preventable?**  
Through vaccination and screening, consulting the doctor regularly, and cautiousness, the disease can be prevented. Proper vaccinations reduce the risk of this deadly disease to a great extent. The vaccines are applicable to all women above 10 years of age, in a three dose course. This is the only cancer which has primary prevention through vaccination.

**What is Cervical Cancer?**  
Cervical cancer is the malignant tumor of the cervix, located in the neck of the womb, where it opens into the vagina. Infection with a very common virus known as Human Papillomavirus (HPV) causes this cancer to develop and spread. The infection is transmitted through sexual intercourse, and this is mostly the common route which puts every sexually active woman at risk.

**What are the symptoms?**  
Abnormal bleeding, post-menopausal bleeding, post-coital bleeding, persistent bleeding on straining, foul smelling discharge etc. are some of the most common symptoms of Cervical Cancer.

**TALK TO YOUR DOCTOR NOW HELP X OUT CERVICAL CANCER**

*Consult your doctor, and you can help spread the message across to prevent and cure this deadly disease.*

\*WHO/ICO Information centre on HPV and Cervical Cancer