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WITH TODAY'S ISSUE

A Weekly Publication of The Daily Star
theSTAR
 stories behind the news

BAJAJ BIKES

The Indian manufacturer strikes a deal with Uttara Group to make motorcycles in Gazipur

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FIRE IN FERGUSON

The shooting of the African-American teen Michael Brown and its aftermath

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MOVE TO WOO INVESTORS Japan to get exclusive zone

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

With Japanese investors going for new investment destinations, Bangladesh has decided to set up an economic zone exclusively for the entrepreneurs of the world's third largest economic power.

"We have a plan to set up eight new economic zones across the country. We may allow the zone at Mirsarai in Chittagong for Japanese investors," said Commerce Minister Tofail Ahmed yesterday.

"The decision to allow a separate economic zone for the Japanese investors has already been made," Tofail told reporters after a meeting with Norihiko Inshiguro, vice-minister of economy, trade and industry of Japan, at the Secretariat.

"We may finalise the allocation of the economic zone during the visit of Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe next month," he said, adding that the government had acquired 8,000 acres of land in Mirsarai.

The Japanese investors have been moving their investment from China to other countries since 2008, when Japan adopted the "China Plus One" policy to reduce overdependence on Beijing.

Since then, countries such as Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar and Bangladesh have turned into lucrative

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On the 10th anniversary of the August 21, 2004 grenade attack, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina consoles a victim on Bangabandhu Avenue yesterday.

PHOTO: PMO

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Zia family behind attack Hasina claims at rally on Aug 21 grenade attack anniversary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP founder Ziaur Rahman was behind the Bangabandhu murder on August 15, 1975, and his family was involved in the August 21, 2004, grenade attack, said Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

At a public meeting on the 10th anniversary of the grenade attack on an Awami League rally on Bangabandhu Avenue, she accused the then prime minister Khaleda Zia, her son, her cabinet members and Jamaat leaders of the attack.

She blamed the law enforcement agencies for playing a dubious role. Instead of protecting the injured leaders and activists of her party, they charged truncheons and used teargas on the victims, she said.

She also blamed BNP-minded doctors for not treating the injured at Dhaka Medical College Hospital and Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University.

Rejoinder, our reply

The BNP sent a rejoinder to our report headlined, "Khaleda 'insolvent' to clear party fee: BNP banks on undocumented donations; leaders follow suit," on August 18, the day it was published.

Following is the full text [unedited] of the rejoinder, undersigned by BNP acting secretary general Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir:

The news item published on 18th August 2014 issue of The Daily Star captioned 'Khaleda Zia insolvent to clear party fee' has surprised us. The news

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CPB RALLY BLAST 2001

Hannan, 12 other Huji men indicted

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday indicted 13 members of banned militant outfit Harkat-ul-Jihad-al-Islami (Huji) including its chief Mufti Abdul Hannan in a murder case filed in connection with the bomb attack on a CPB rally in 2001.

Judge KM Imrul Kayes of Third Additional Metropolitan Sessions Judge's Court of Dhaka framed the charges, but Hannan and five others of the accused pleaded innocence.



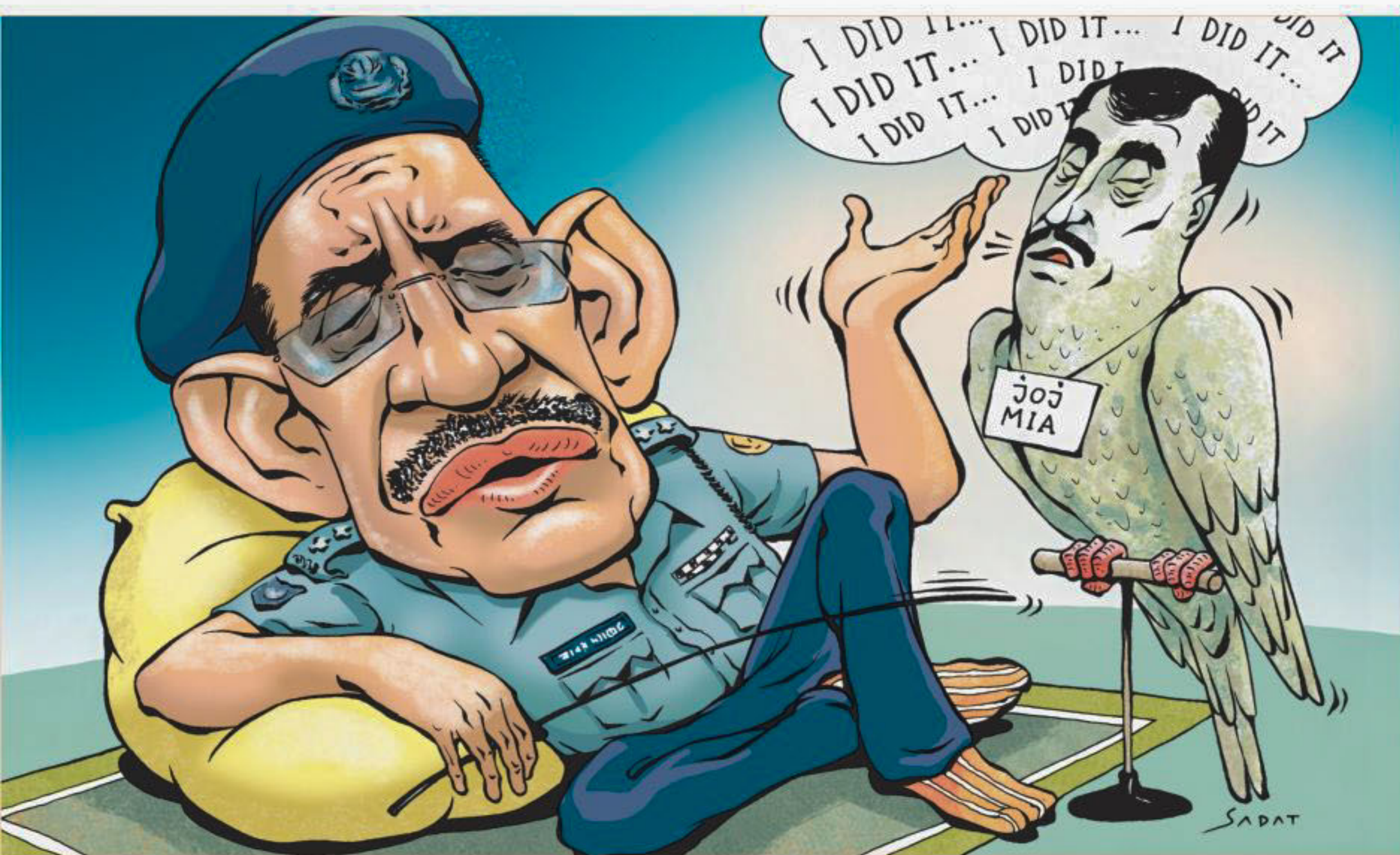
The court also fixed September 14 to start the trial in the case.

On November 27 last year, Criminal Investigation Department had pressed charges against the accused in two cases filed over the incident.

Of the cases, one was filed for the killing of five people and injuring 50 others while the other one was lodged under the Explosive Substances Act for blasting bombs.

The bomb attack on the rally of

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It was the weirdest of all cooked-up tales

Joj Mia story revealed how the state sponsored the grenade attack, derailed probe

SHAKHAWAT LITON and CHAITANYA CHANDRA HALDER

Why police offered to give her money to meet her family needs was not clear to Jobeda Khatun, mother of Joj Mia. An unknown, petty criminal, Joj Mia was to appear as a much-talked-about character in 2005 in connection with the August 21, 2004 grenade blasts at an Awami League rally in the capital.

"If the police catch anybody, the one who is caught has to pay them to get out of trouble. But why do the police want to give us



money", Joj's hapless mother asked him at Kashimpur jail in 2005.

"Ma, I can't understand it either," replied Joj, who was nabbed by police on June 10, 2005 and put behind bars in line with the CID's orchestrated plan to implicate him in the case relating to the August 21, 2004 grisly grenade attack that left 24 people and

more than 300 injured.

"I am now in [prison]. I need to save you. Take the money, if it is offered," Joj told his mother.

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Justice Joynal still speaks of evidence

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Justice Joynal Abedin, who headed the judicial commission formed to probe the August 21 grenade attack on an Awami League rally, still believes his findings were complete and based on evidence.

The report of the one-member commission formed by the BNP-led government had hinted at the link of foreign enemies apart from the local ones with the grisly attack in 2004.

It had not named the foreign country but gave

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AMASSING ILLEGAL WEALTH

ACC sues AL MP, 2 ex-state ministers

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

After probing for about seven months, the Anti-Corruption Commission yesterday sued an incumbent lawmaker and two former state ministers for amassing wealth illegally.

Awami League legislator Abdur Rahman Bodi, former state minister for water resources Mahbubur Rahman and ex-state minister for housing and public works Abdul Mannan Khan have been accused of concealing wealth information and discrepancies in their wealth statements and income tax returns.

ACC deputy directors Khairul Huda, Nasir Uddin and Abdus Subhan filed three cases with Ramna Police Station in this connection under the Anti-Corruption Commission Act, 2004.



Mahbubur Rahman

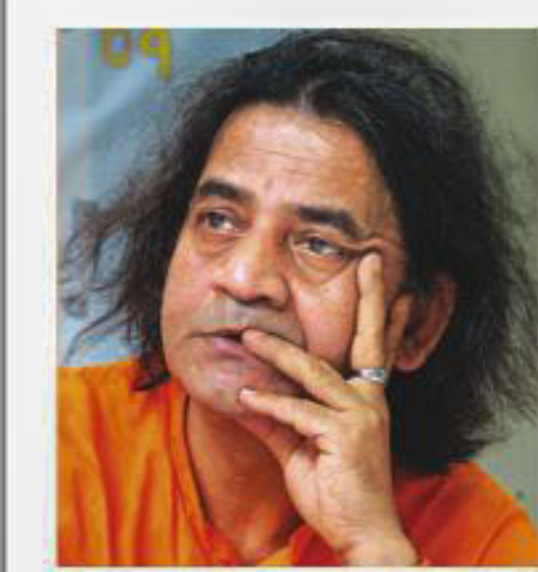


Abdul Mannan



A Rahman Bodi

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Shahabuddin gets highest French title

ZAHANGIR ALOM

Internationally renowned Bangladeshi painter Shahabuddin Ahmed has been bestowed with France's highest civilian title for his contribution to Art in France and all around the world.

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