Govt wary of jailed militants

Cases against them to be disposed of quickly

STAR REPORT

The government has decided to dispose of all the cases filed against militants as soon as possible, State Minister for Home Asaduzzaman Khan said yesterday.

The decision was made as the militants are spreading propaganda from behind bars, he told journalists after the fourth meeting of the National Committee on Militancy Resistance and Prevention at the home ministry.

During interrogation by detectives, some recently arrested Jama'atul Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB) operatives, including its acting chief Abdullah Al-Tasnim Nahid, admitted that top JMB leaders had meetings between themselves in prisons and courts to plan a revival of the outfit.

Meanwhile, security was beefed up at the Chittagong Court Building premises yesterday after an anonymous caller threatened a suicide bomb attack by the JMB in the area.

Presently, 54 militants are on death row in the country, while around 300 others are behind bars, according to police statistics.

SEE PAGE 11 COL 4



Poaching of wildlife is illegal. Law says someone who trades in wildlife will be jailed for up to three years and will also face a fine of up to Tk 3 lakh. But this man, Mizan, gives a fig to all that is written in the law book, traps doves in droves and sells them openly at Gomabazaar of Barisal's Sadar upazila yesterday. These spotted doves sell for Tk 180 a pair. He also sells other wild birds like Dahuk or white-breasted waterhen. It only shows so blaringly that laws do not make any sense unless the authorities are serious in putting them to practice. Birds are already under pressure because of habitat loss. Illegal hunting puts their existence on the line.

PHOTO: ARIFUR RAHMAN

NEW JCD COMMITTEE

Rajib president,

The BNP last night

announced a 201-member

partial committee of

made president and

Akramul Hasan general

secretary of the new com-

Zia has approved the commit-

tee, said a press release signed

by Shahid Uddin Chowdhury

Annie, student affairs secre-

bearers of the committee are

Mamunur Rashid Mamun,

senior vice-president;

Asaduzzaman Asad, first

joint secretary; Ishaq Sarker,

organising secretary;

Mahmudul Islam Himel,

publicity secretary; Abdus

Sattar Patwari, office secre-

tary; and Fahmida Majid

Usha, female student secre-

secretary while Akram joint

secretary of the JCD's last

central committee formed

on September 4, 2012.

Rajib was the organising

Among the other office-

BNP Chairperson Khaleda

mittee.

tary of BNP.

Rajib Ahsan has been

Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal.

Akramul GS

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Yunus wins another award

STAR REPORT

Nobel laure-

Muhammad
Yunus has
been picked
up for the
2nd Global
Entrepreneurship Award
(GEA-2014), a Saudi
Arabian English daily

(GEA-2014), a Saudi Arabian English daily reported yesterday. Yunus was selected for the award under the

umbrella of the Centennial Fund (CF) chaired by Prince Abdulaziz bin Abdullah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia's deputy minister of foreign affairs, said Arab News.

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1

FIGHTING EBOLA EPIDEMIC

Chinese firm eyes quick nod for drug

REUTERS, Shanghai

A Chinese drugmaker with close military ties is seeking fast-track approval for a drug that it says can cure Ebola, as China joins the race to help treat a deadly outbreak of a disease that has spread from Africa to the United States and Europe.

Sihuan Pharmaceutical Holdings Group Ltd has signed a tie-up with Chinese research Academy of Military Medical Sciences (AMMS) last week to help push the drug called JK-05 through the approval process in China and bring it to market. The drug, developed by the academy, is currently approved for emergency military use only.

"We believe that we can file to the Chinese Food and Drug Administration (CFDA) before the end of the year," Sihuan's chairman Che Fengsheng said during an investor call last week.

"They are looking at this very seriously... and we could get on the 'green light' track," he added.

Sihuan's drug is only one contender amongst a number of experimental cures worldwide to treat Ebola, although if successful it would be a huge SEE PAGE 2 COL 3

Latif to stay as MP even if AL expels him

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Abdul Latif Siddique will remain an MP even if he loses his membership in the ruling Awami League, said Chief Whip ASM Feroz.

"Latif Siddique will retain his membership [in parliament]. The current law on the cancellation of parliament membership does not apply to him because he didn't resign from or vote against his party," he said at a press conference at the Jatiya Sangsad Media Centre yesterday.

Feroz's comments came amid confusion as to whether Latif would remain a lawmaker if he loses his membership in the AL.

SEE PAGE 11 COL 1

World's richest 1% own nearly half of global wealth

THE GUARDIAN ONLINE

The richest 1% of the world's population are getting wealthier, owning more than 48% of global wealth, according to a report published yesterday which warned growing inequality could be a trigger for recession.

According to the Credit Suisse global wealth report, a person needs just \$3,650 – including the value of equity in their home – to be among the wealthiest half of world citizens. However, more than \$77,000 is required to be a member of the top 10% of global wealth holders, and \$798,000 to belong to the top 1%.

"Taken together, the bottom half of the global population own less than 1% of total wealth. In sharp contrast, the richest decile hold 87% of the world's wealth, and the top percentile alone account for 48.2% of global assets," said the annual report, now in its fifth year.

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1

Shia militias kill Iraqi Sunnis

Says Amnesty International

BBC ONLINE

Shia militias in Iraq have kidnapped and killed scores of Sunni civilians in recent months, a report by campaign group Amnesty International has said.

The killings were in apparent revenge for attacks by

Islamic State (ISIS).

Amnesty said the militias had been supported and armed

by the Iraqi government and operated with impunity.

Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi, who took office last

month, has admitted to previous "excesses" by security
SEE PAGE 2 COL 4

PRAYER TIMING October 15 Azan Jamaat Fazr 4-45 5-20 Zohr 12-45 1-15 Asr 4-15 4-30 Maghrib 5-45 5-50 Esha 7-15 7-45 Source: Islamic Foundation

SPACE ELEVATORS

Scientists 'accidentally solved' its hardest part

BUSINESS INSIDER

Diamond nanothreads are only a few atoms across, more than 20,000 times thinner than a human hair. They're also stronger and stiffer than any carbon nanotube or polymer to date, which could make them an ideal option for a space elevator tether.

A space elevator is essentially a cable anchored to the Earth's equator and attached SEE PAGE 2 COL 1



Rickshaws are kept idle on the footpath in the capital's Paribagh as many rickshaw pullers who left the city during Eid holidays are yet to return. Many of the city's thousands of rickshaw pullers come from other districts. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON