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Suu Kyi in historic talks with Myanmar's president ahead of 2015 polls
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Main coordinator of JMB captured

Explosives, improvised explosive devices seized, 4 other operatives held, claims Rab

M RAHMAN
The Rapid Action Battalion has claimed to have arrested the main coordinator of the banned militant outfit Jama'atul Mujahideen Bangladesh and his four associates with explosives and Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs).
The arrests come about a month after the Burdwan blast in India in which Indian investigators have found JMB links.
However, the Rab is yet to ascertain if the five had any involvement in the October 2 blast, which killed two suspected militants while they were making IEDs. The two were



Abdun Nur

reportedly Bangladesh nationals. "We got little time to interrogate them. We will grill them intensively during remand on the matter [Burdwan blast]," said Commander Mufti Mahmud Khan, director (legal and media wing) of the crime busting force.
All the five, including the alleged chief coordinator of JMB Abdun Nur, are from Chapainawabganj district near the Indian border. The four others are Nur Islam, Nuruzzaman Arif, Abul Kalam Azad and Faruque Ahmed. They are all aged between 30 and 40.

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Explosives and bomb-making materials recovered in a raid are on display at the Rab Uttara office in the capital yesterday. Five suspected militants arrested by the elite force were found in possession of four IEDs, 75 electronic detonators, 10kg power gels, 155 circuits, three igniters and one power regulator.

PHOTO: STAR



JMB planned for terror attacks

Target both Bangladesh and India, says India's national probe agency

PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, New Delhi

India's National Investigation Agency (NIA) yesterday announced cash rewards for the arrest of 12 absconders wanted in an alleged conspiracy to target installations in Bangladesh. It also gave details of plans to carry out terror strikes in Bangladesh and India.
All the absconders and the three arrestees are members of banned militant outfit Jama'atul Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB), according to the NIA.
Meanwhile, the NIA, which is probing the October 2 explosion in Burdwan, will send a dossier to Bangladesh to

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Verdict tomorrow Mir Quasem shifted to Dhaka jail

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Jamaat-e-Islami leader Mir Quasem Ali was shifted to Dhaka Central Jail from Kashimpur jail in Gazipur yesterday, a day after a special tribunal fixed Sunday for delivering judgment in the war crimes case against him.
Quasem was taken to Dhaka Central Jail around 2:30pm, said Farman Ali,

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Fire again at city's BSEC Bhaban

Amar Desh office burnt; building's fire safety inadequate despite deaths in 2007 incident

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A fire at Bangladesh Steel and Engineering Corporation (BSEC) building in the capital's Karwan Bazar burnt the offices of the daily Amar Desh and two other private firms yesterday.
No casualty, however, was reported in the third fire incident since February 2007 at the building that houses offices of around 30 private institutions, including two television channels -- Ntv and Rtv.

Most of the offices were closed since it was a weekend. Roughly 150 people were inside the building when the fire started and all of them managed to come out unhurt.
Fire officials said they received a phone call around 11:48am which informed them that the storeroom of the vernacular daily located on the 10th floor of the 11-storey building had caught fire.
In just seven minutes, several fire engines reached the spot and started dousing the

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MAKING WAR CRIMINALS MINISTERS A saga of disgrace

SHAKHAWAT LITON

The International Crimes Tribunal-1 deserves kudos for strongly denouncing the appointment of anti-liberation leader Motiur Rahman Nizami as a minister by the then BNP-led government in 2001.
The appointment was a great blunder, said the court, a clear slap in the face for the Liberation War **NEWS ANALYSIS** as well as three million martyrs and two lakh women who sacrificed their chastities for the liberation of Bangladesh.
BNP chief Khaleda Zia, the then premier, had inducted Nizami into her cabinet and gave him important portfolios -- first the agriculture and later the industries.

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Firefighters in action to put out the flames at the BSEC building at Karwan Bazar in Dhaka yesterday. They have been there before. In 2007, a fire in the building claimed four lives.

PHOTO: STAR

Heroic death of a house help

The Bangladeshi woman dies in UAE while trying to save 4 kids

STAR REPORT

A Bangladeshi domestic help died while rescuing four Emirati boys who nearly drowned off a beach in Abu Dhabi on October 24.
Lt Commander Latiful Hoque Kazmi, counsellor (Labour) at Bangladesh Embassy in Abu Dhabi, confirmed the identity of the victim as Joshna Khorshed Mia, 35. She hailed from Dharmapasha upazila of Sunamganj. However, her employer identified her as Safiya by her employer.
As the boys ventured towards the water on Dabiya beach, Safiya in her attempt to protect them, screamed and chased them into deep water, reports Emirates 24/7, an online news portal.
Although she plucked them one after another to their relatives who carried them ashore, she herself was caught in

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Experts caution over Ebola hopes

It's too early to draw conclusions on reduction of Ebola cases

AFP, Monrovia

Health authorities called Thursday for renewed vigilance over the Ebola epidemic and urged caution over claims it is retreating as the World Bank announced a \$100-million fund for more health workers.
The warning follows an announcement by the World Health Organisation (WHO) that data from funeral directors and treatment centres indicated lower admission rates and burials in Liberia, the nation hit hardest by the killer virus.
But international aid agency Doctors Without Borders said the slowdown could be due to sick people not being picked up because of a lack of ambulances and so they were being omitted from the statistics.
The charity, known by its French initials MSF, said "mandatory cremation of dead bodies and a poor ambulance and referral system could also be reasons for this decrease in admissions".
"It is too soon to draw conclusions on the reduction of Ebola cases in Monrovia," Fasil Tezera, MSF head of mission in Liberia, said in a statement.
WHO assistant director-general Bruce Aylward told reporters in Geneva on Wednesday that labs were seeing a "plateauing or slight decline" in the number of confirmed cases -- but warned that the crisis was far from over.
Liberia welcomed the possibility of a turning-point in the outbreak but echoed the call for caution issued by the WHO and MSF.

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No worries about them

6 returnees from Liberia unaffected as 3-week Ebola incubation period ends

SHARIFUL ISLAM

The six Bangladeshi citizens who had entered the country from Liberia with no Ebola-screening at the International Shahjalal Airport remain unaffected after the 21-day incubation period of the virus has passed.
"All the six returnees have passed the 21-day follow-up period and they all are in good health," Prof Be-Nazir Ahmed, member secretary of the inter-ministerial Monitoring Committee on Ebola, told The Daily Star on October 27.
Symptoms of Ebola virus may develop in one's body over a period of 21 days, known as the virus' incubation period, say medical experts.
The returnees had entered Bangladesh on October 9 without the knowledge of immigration, the medical team at the airport and the airlines concerned, revealing serious flaws in the airport's screening measures.

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