

# Hi-tech cheating

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

At first glance, it appears just like an ordinary scientific calculator. But on a closer look, what the teachers of Dinajpur's Hajee Mohammad Danesh Science and Technology University (HSTU) saw baffled them.

Inside the case of the calculator is a sophisticated device with a camera and a SIM card. The machine is at once a scanner and a smartphone.

Using the device, a candidate of HTSU's undergraduate admission test on Tuesday was scanning the question paper and sending the images to his accomplices outside, and the answers were appearing on its screen soon afterwards.

The admission seeker -- Abul Hossain Liton -- was detained with the machine 40 minutes into the A unit test. He was later handed over to the police.

Police and the HSTU authorities said the calculator had a camera on the backside and a slot of SIM card for internet connection.

"It's really an innovative device to cheat during examinations and a big gang is involved with it, we suspect," said Prof Shahadat Hossain Khan, head of Soil Science department and a member of the HSTU admission test committee.

Even after the seizure of the device, messages containing the answers kept

appearing on the tiny screen for a few minutes. But when the news spread on the campus, it stopped, he added.

"People with formidable IT expertise must have been involved in developing such a device that apparently offers a complete solution for those who want to cheat in the examinations," said Prof Ruhul Amin, vice chancellor of the HSTU.

The arrestee said he had struck a deal with some people two days before the test and they had provided him with the device in exchange of Tk 50,000.

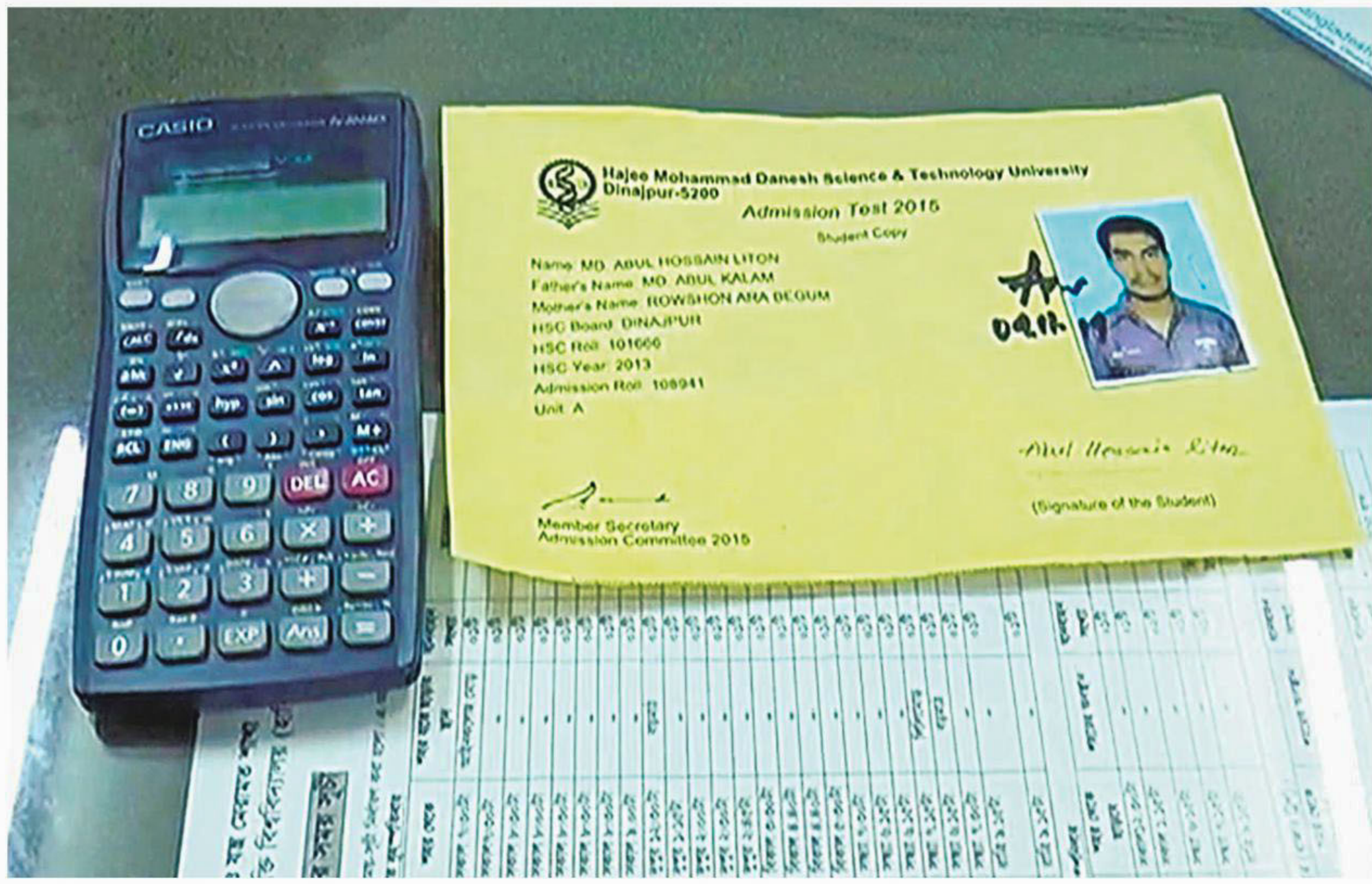
"I paid half the amount. I was supposed to return the device after the test and hand them my admit card which they would return after I paid the rest" Liton told reporters at Dinajpur Police Station.

Sub-Inspector Nazmul Haque of the police station said the arrestee had told them that a total of 47 such devices were distributed among those who took the test.

Liton also had given the police the names of some people involved with the gang and police were hunting for them, he said.

Meanwhile, the HSTU authorities held an emergency meeting on Tuesday night and suspended two Chhatra League leaders -- Arun Kumar Roy, general secretary of university unit of the BCL, and Jahid Hasan, president

SEE PAGE 10 COL 6



This modified scientific calculator, seized from an admission seeker of Hajee Danesh Science and Technology University in Dinajpur during an entry test on Tuesday, was reported to have a camera and a SIM card with internet connection and was used for leaking out question papers. PHOTO: STAR

## 3 accused indicted

FROM PAGE 16

The tribunal framed the charges rejecting two separate discharge petitions submitted by defence counsel Mohammad Abul Hasan and M Sarwar Hossain who are representing the trio.

The tribunal also asked the defence counsels to submit the lists of defence witnesses and documents before the tribunal by December 2.

The accused, however, pleaded "not guilty" to the charges.

### CHARGES

According to the indictment order, Sirajul on May 13, 1971, was involved in the killing of 40 to 50 Hindus at Ranjitpur in the district. Their houses were also plundered.

On May 21, 1971, an armed group

killed around 600 to 700 Hindus when several thousand Hindu men gathered at Kali Mandir in Dakra of Rampal of the district in order to go to refugee camps in India. Sirajul was involved in that killing.

Nineteen civilians of Besorgati and Kandapara under Bagerhat Sadar Police Station were detained, tortured and killed on June 18, 1971. Sirajul is found to have been involved in the killings, the probe report reads.

Sirajul took part in the killing of seven persons and looting 50 houses of Chulkaithi village and.

The trio attacked civilians at Shakhariakathi Haat under Kochua Police Station and killed 42 people on November 5, 1971, the indictment

order said.

The three war crimes accused killed five persons of different villages of Kachua on November 22, 1971.

Khan Akram and Abdul Latif detained freedom fighter Fazlur Rahman of Teligati village and killed him on December 13, 1971. Sixty-eight persons are made witnesses in the case.

The trio were the supporters and activists of Muslim League, a political party that opposed the birth of Bangladesh.

Abdul Latif and Khan Akram were arrested on June 10 and June 20 respectively this year, while Sirajul, who went into hiding after the issuance of arrest warrant by the tribunal, was arrested on July 21.

## Cops hunt for Huji gang

FROM PAGE 16

Upon their return from Pakistan, the Huji men started giving training to other operatives. They had a plan to carry out attacks on different establishments in August this year. But they became frustrated as their superiors asked them to shelve the plan.

"Ibrahim learnt how to make explosives and firearms, plant bombs at targets and explode those," Monirul Islam, joint commissioner of Dhaka Metropolitan Police, said at the press briefing at the DMP Media Centre in the capital.

The Huji men received intensive training on making small arms and powerful explosives and on operating heavy weapons.

They ran a laboratory in Narayanganj, and were making preparations to set up an "indoor arms factory" to produce arms and explosives, Monirul said.

The DB police busted the laboratory at Fatullah on October 25 and seized huge cache of explosives and bomb-making materials.

Upon arriving at Karachi airport, Ibrahim and other Huji men were taken to an "enclosed reach". It took them seven hours to reach the place by bus. They then received training there on "attacks on soft and hard targets", Monirul said quoting Ibrahim.

Bangladesh's less protected and busy places such as bus and rail sta-

tions and shopping malls are their soft targets. And protected places like police stations and government offices, and important persons are their hard targets, he said.

The Huji men had received a week-long preliminary training at a madrasa in Chittagong before flying to Pakistan, Monirul said.

Replying to a query, the DMP joint commissioner said Mufti Hannan, Mufti Rouf, Moulana Abdus Salam and Moulana Abu Sayeed alias Mufti Zafar were leading several sections of the banned outfit, said the police official.

All eight arrested Huji men are followers of Mufti Zafar, who is now in prison, he added.

## Female workers get job next year

FROM PAGE 16

"We hope that the Malaysian authorities will initially hire some 1000 to 2000 Bangladeshi female workers," a high commission official, who preferred to remain anonymous, told The Daily Star over the phone yesterday.

She said the minimum monthly salary of a female worker would be Malaysian Ringgit 900, equivalent to Tk 25,000.

"The recruitment issue has been discussed in two recent bilateral meetings. The recruitment will begin following further discussions by a committee formed jointly by the two countries," the official added.

In the meetings, Expatriates' Welfare and Overseas Employment Secretary Khondaker Showkat Hossain and Bureau of Manpower

Employment and Training Director General Begum Shamsun Nahar led the Bangladeshi side.

The Malaysian side was represented by the secretary general of Malaysian Ministry of Human Resources and the DG of the country's labour department.

The rights of the female workers including fixed work-hours, weekly day offs as well as their accommodation and other facilities would be ensured, Showkat said.

The secretary said the meetings also emphasised on recruiting Bangladeshi male workers for various Malaysian sectors including construction, manufacturing and agriculture.

He claimed to have received "favourable response" from

Malaysia over the matter.

Malaysian employers are now recruiting Bangladeshi male workers only for the country's plantation sector under state arrangements.

Showkat said the recruitment process of more Bangladeshi male workers under the G2G arrangement would be accelerated from next year.

Substantial progress was also achieved in the meetings with Malaysia for sending 12,000 Bangladeshi male workers to the country's Sarawak province, the secretary added.

Currently, around 5, 00,000 Bangladeshis are working at various sectors of the Southeast Asian country, statistics of expatriates' welfare and overseas employment ministry show.

## Republicans wrest full congress reign

FROM PAGE 1

Republicans also cleaned up in key governors' races, earning re-election in Florida, Wisconsin and Kansas and stunning Democrats by winning governorships in Democratic strongholds Maryland and Massachusetts.

The Republican takeover will force Obama to scale back his ambitions to either executive actions that do not require legislative approval, or items that might gain bipartisan support, such as trade agreements and tax reform.

It also will test his ability to compromise with newly empowered political opponents who have been resisting his legislative agenda since he was first elected in 2008. Americans elected him to a second and final four-year term in 2012.

The extent of the rout will also be a cause for concern for Hillary Clinton, the

heir-apparent for the Democratic presidential nomination, who, along with her husband, former president Bill Clinton, stumped for several of the party's Senate candidates who lost badly, reported The Guardian.

New Jersey Governor Chris Christie, a possible presidential candidate in 2016 who campaigned for fellow Republicans around the country, said the Senate results put the burden on Obama.

"We need to get things done ... and put things on the president's desk and make the president make some decisions," Christie said on "CBS This Morning." He cited tax reform, a national energy policy and job stimulation as pressing needs.

Before the election results, the White House had signaled no major changes. Officials said Obama would seek common ground with Congress in such areas

as trade and infrastructure.

A one-term senator before he became president, Obama has often been faulted for not developing closer relations with lawmakers.

The last time Republicans controlled both houses of Congress under a Democratic president was 1995-97 during Bill Clinton's administration.

The party of an incumbent president historically fares badly in elections in his second term, and every president since Ronald Reagan has left office with the opposition controlling Congress.

Once the euphoria of their victory ebbs, Republicans will be under pressure to show Americans they are capable of governing after drawing scorn a year ago for shutting down the government in a budget fight. That will be a factor in their ambitions to take back the White House in 2016.

## School attacked

FROM PAGE 16

Witnesses said over 100 locals along with sticks, rods and local weapons made the attack on Steve Kim Mission School around 10:00am. They also vandalised the school furniture and beat up its teachers and staff.

The injured took first aid.

Director of the school Michael Mondol said the school was being run here from April this year. It was distributing books, notebooks, dresses, pens and meals among the students free of cost.

He claimed there was no activity of converting Muslim children to Christianity. "It's only a rumour."

Syed Azharul Islam, sub-inspector of Konabari police outpost, said police visited the spot after the incident.

## Govt seeks

FROM PAGE 16

requests," Sonderby writes in the report posted on the Facebook website on Tuesday.

Requests by governments for user information rose by about 24 percent since the last half of 2013. In the first six months of 2014, governments around the world made 34,946 requests for data, says the report.

"During the same time, the amount of content restricted because of local laws increased about 19 percent."

In response to search warrants issued by a New York court demanding release of all data from 400 account holders, Sonderby says:

"We're aggressively pursuing an appeal to a higher court to invalidate these sweeping warrants and to force the government to return the data it has seized."



On rumours of converting Muslim children into Christianity, locals yesterday vandalised this Christian missionary school at Gazipur's Konabari Ambagh and injured at least 10 teachers and staffs of the school. PHOTO: STAR

## EU not sided

FROM PAGE 16

"The EU always stands for freedom, liberty, human rights and due process of law against criminals worldwide," he added.

Soon after the verdict in the war crimes case against Jamaat chief Motiur Rahman Nizami, the EU in a statement called on the Bangladesh authorities to introduce a moratorium on executions as a first step towards definitive abolition of capital punishment.

The EU, said the statement, is opposed to the use of capital punishment in all cases and under all circumstances, and has consistently called for its universal abolition.

### EU STANCE ON JAN 5 POLLS

Asked about the EU's current position on the January 5 one-sided polls, Mayaudon referred to a statement issued by Catherine Ashton on January 9.

He read out the last sentence of the statement: "The EU urges all parties to refrain from violence and to engage in genuine dialogue to agree on a mutually acceptable way forward to strengthen democratic accountability and to hold transparent, inclusive and credible elections, putting the interests of the people of Bangladesh first."

The diplomat said he does not have anything to add to the statement. The EU will continue working with the Election Commission in this regard, he mentioned.

Earlier, Mayaudon in his written statement said he along with the EU team is determined to make his mandate a "useful" and busy one.

Mayaudon served as deputy head of EU delegation in Pakistan (2011-2014) prior to his appointment in Bangladesh.