

### BARDHAMAN BLAST 3 accused sent to NIA custody

PTI, Kolkata

Three persons arrested in Assam for alleged connection with the Bardhaman blast case were yesterday remanded to eight days' National Investigation Agency (NIA) custody by a city court which sent eight other accused to judicial custody till January 16. Officiating chief judge at Bankshall Court GC Talukdar remanded Saiful Islam, Rafikul Islam and Sahanur Alam, who were brought on a production warrant by this court from Gauhati Central Jail, till January 9. NIA counsel Shyamal Ghosh prayed for their custody for 10 days submitting that they were directly involved in the Bardhaman case, wherein an accidental blast on October two revealed an international terror link, and that they trained jihadi elements. Ghosh also alleged that they were found to have connection with Bangladeshi terror outfit JMB. The court remanded Hasem Mollah, Razia Bibi, Abdul Hakim, Khaled Mohammad, Alima Bibi, Zia-ul-Haq, Amjad and Sajid to judicial custody till January 16 on a plea by NIA. Sajid's remand was extended in absentia as he is at present in custody of Bidhannagar Police in connection with a case registered by it. NIA prayed before the court for a direction to jail authorities to produce him on the next date of hearing on January 16. NIA also obtained a permission from the court to interrogate a person named Jahid Hossain in jail. He was arrested by the STF of Kolkata Police with explosives and fake currency of face value of Rs. 1.5 lakh. It told the court that it wanted to know whether Hossain had any connection with the jihadi elements involved in the Bardhaman blast.

### Miladunnabi

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Banners inscribed with "Kalema Taiyeba" in the city as elsewhere across the country and arrange competitions on Quran recitation and exhibitions of religious books. Islamic Foundation Bangladesh will organise various programmes highlighting the significance of the day. Bangladesh Betar, Bangladesh Television and private TV channels will air special programmes while newspapers will publish special articles on the day. President Abdul Hamid, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, Opposition Leader Raushon Ershad and BNP chairperson Khaleida Zia issued separate messages on the occasion greeting the countrymen and Muslims across the world.

# Shelter, education for all children

## PM asks social welfare ministry to take steps

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has directed the social welfare ministry to take steps to ensure shelter and education for all the children, including orphans and street urchins. "I don't want to see any child passing days in a miserable condition living alongside streets without going to school...we'll have to ensure a better life for them all," she said. The PM was speaking at the National Social Services Day 2015 and inaugural of the Social Services Week 2015 at Osmani Memorial Auditorium in the capital yesterday. Hasina said her government is implementing many programmes for the welfare of the ultra poor, physically-challenged people, widows, abandoned women and shelter-less people as it believes in the welfare of the commoners. The premier also mentioned the government has taken programmes for the wellbeing of marginalised people, hijra (transgender), dalit (untouchable) and bede (nomadic) communities as they are usually neglected socially and economically. Hasina said it would not take too long to fulfill people's basic rights -- food, clothes, shelter, medicare and education -- as the government has taken numerous programmes to this end.



Observing that the country's poverty rate now stands at 24 percent, the PM reiterated that this has to be brought down by 10 percent further before her government's current term ends. "We're planning our programmes, keeping this target in mind...I believe this can be done," Hasina said, directing the officials and employees of the social welfare ministry to play a greater role in achieving the target. The ministry organised the programme with its minister Syed Mohsin Ali in the chair. Speaking on the occasion, Mohsin came down heavily on the businesspeople, saying they are always driven by profit motive, not humanity. Talking about the farmers' woes, he said potato prices had marked a sharp fall last year, depriving the farmers even of their recovering production cost.

# Tripura CM for tight vigil along border

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Tripura Chief Minister Manik Sarkar has asked the Border Security Force (BSF) to stay cautious while resorting to firing along the India-Bangladesh border to maintain friendly relations with people living along the frontiers. He also asked the BSF to beef up its vigil along in the border in tandem with other paramilitary and state security forces. According to Indian media reporters, Sarkar accompanied by senior security and civil officials on Friday visited the India-Bangladesh border and held a series of meetings with concerned authorities for maintaining congenial atmosphere alongside curbing crime. "BSE, CRPF (Central Reserve Police Force) and Tripura State Rifles (TSR) must jointly operate along the borders with Bangladesh to curb terrorism and trans-border movement of militants," an official said quoting the chief minister. Sarkar in his meetings with the

BSF and other officials suggested everyone works in cooperation with bordering villages to check border crimes and protect properties. "The state government has given top priority to undertake developmental programmes in remote, bordering and inaccessible areas," the official quoted the chief minister as saying in the meeting. "The chief minister will speak to Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh soon to ask concerned authorities to complete the works for erection of border fencing along the India-Bangladesh border," the official said. Four Indian northeastern states - Tripura, Meghalaya, Mizoram, and Assam - share a 1,880 km border with Bangladesh with 856 km frontiers alone along Tripura state. India is erecting a fence and putting up floodlights along the 4,096-km India-Bangladesh border in West Bengal, Tripura, Assam, Meghalaya and Mizoram to check trans-border movement of militants and keep a check on border crimes. In his last communication, Captain Iriyanto, an experienced former air force pilot, said he wanted to change course to avoid the menacing storm system. Then all contact was lost, about 40 minutes after the plane had taken off.

# Glorious past overshadowed

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According to media reports, 39 BCL leaders and activists died in clashes within the organisation or with other organisations in the last six years. Of them, 30 were killed in infighting. It was involved in some 432 clashes leaving at least 54 people killed. Of them 14 are children, common people and activists of rival organisations. About 2,000 people were injured in the incidents. Due to the BCL's mayhem, over 50 educational institutions, including five universities had to close down for indefinite periods. For various offences, around 160 BCL men have been expelled from various educational institutions. Its central committee expelled around

200 leaders and activists, and dissolved at least 15 unit committees, insiders said. Yesterday, addressing a rally at Dhaka University as part of the BCL's anniversary celebration, AL Presidium Member Obaidul Quader, who was president of the organisation from 1978 to 1981, asked the present leadership to restore its glory by winning people's heart through their activities. The pro-AL student body does not bother about even its own constitution. The executive committee formed on July 11, 2011 had its tenure expired in July 2013. The committee was supposed to hold council sessions of all 101 units of the organisation during its tenure. But so far it could hold sessions

of only 28 while only 54 units got new committees. Now almost all its 101 units are plagued with internal feuds and factional clashes, BCL sources said. Recently, an intelligence report found a section of AL leaders and teachers were behind BCL's factional clashes. Submitted to the senior secretaries of the home and education ministries on December 17, the report recommended holding councils of BCL units immediately and solving intra-party conflicts. "I respect the glorious history of Chhatra League and I can't make any comment on its present activities," former BCL president (1986-1989) Sultan Mohammad Munsur Ahmed told this correspondent.

# Miracle!

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She was disorientated and crying, police said, but did not have serious injuries. The Piper PA-34 had gone down near Kentucky Lake, a popular tourist attraction, after reporting engine trouble and losing contact with air traffic controllers at about 5.55pm local time on the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) said. About half an hour later, a man in Lyon County called police and told them that the girl had walked to his home and said she had been involved in a plane crash. Larry Wilkins, 71, told NBC when he answered his door on Friday night there was a "little girl" standing there barefooted who was "bleeding pretty badly".

"She told me that her mum and her dad were dead, and she was in a plane crash, and the plane was upside down," he said. "She asked if she could stay here. I got a wash cloth and cleaned her up. And of course called 911," he added. "I felt so sorry for her, tears come to my eyes. Brave little girl." Kentucky State Police named those killed in the crash as Marty Gutzler, 49, Kimberly Gutzler, 45, their nine-year-old daughter, Piper Gutzler and Piper's 14-year-old cousin, Sierra Walder. The family are believed to have been returning home after celebrating New Year in Key West, Florida. Gutzler had posted pictures of the celebrations on Facebook along with photos from the flight there,

showing the children in the plane's rear seats. "This girl came out of the wreckage herself and found the closest residence and reported the plane crash," said Sergeant Dean Patterson of Kentucky State Police. "It's a miracle in a sense that she survived it, but it's tragic that four others didn't." Police have not confirmed the girl's relationship to the crash victims. She was taken to hospital for treatment as authorities launched a search for the plane. It was found about two hours later in a heavily wooded area near the lake, with the four bodies of the pilot and three passengers inside. The cause of the crash is under investigation.

# AirAsia plane

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Major parts of the Airbus A320-200 were found in the Java Sea off the island of Borneo late Friday and yesterday, raising hopes that the remaining bodies and the black box recorders, crucial to determining the cause of the crash, would soon be located. But no bodies have been found since Friday, when the total recovered stood at 30, because rough seas have prevented diving operations, officials said. "The height of waves hampered the search effort at sea. They are four to five metres (13 to 16 feet) high," search and rescue agency chief Bambang Soelistyo told reporters late Saturday. "Up to now, with our geo-survey ship which has capacity to detect objects underwater, we have found four larger parts of the plane that we are looking for," he said. Toos Sanitioso, an investigator from Indonesia's KNKT (National Transportation Safety Committee), said he was hopeful they would find the all-important black boxes within a few days. "It seems that they have found the major (plane) parts," he told reporters in Surabaya. A presentation shown to reporters described one of the debris pieces as the "suspected tail" of the plane, but strong currents were making it difficult to operate a remotely-operated underwater vehicle to get a picture of the objects that are 30 metres underwater. The huge relief operation has been assisted by several countries, including the United States and Russia, but rough weather throughout the week has hampered the recovery of Flight 8501, which went down early Sunday during a storm. It was unclear how the airline, a unit of Malaysia-based AirAsia, had been able to fly without the necessary authorisation from its starting point. AirAsia Indonesia chief Sunu Widyatmoko told reporters that the company would not comment until the results of the investigation were known, adding that the airline would "fully cooperate with the government in that evaluation process". The families of victims have been preparing funerals as the bodies recovered are identified in Surabaya, Indonesia's second biggest city, where a crisis centre has been set up at a police hospital with facilities to store 150 bodies. Of the 162 passengers and crew on board, 155 were Indonesian, with three South Koreans, one Singaporean, one Malaysian, one Briton and a Frenchman -- co-pilot Remi Plesel. Ongko Gunawan, who lost his sister and brother-in-law and their child, expressed impatience as he waited for news. "We are exhausted and sick of it. Hopefully we can find the bodies quickly, now that there's also help from the foreign countries," he said. Before take-off, the pilot of Flight 8501 had asked for permission to fly at a higher altitude to avoid a storm, but the request was not approved due to other planes above him on the popular route, according to AirNav, Indonesia's air traffic control.

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# Country faces

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cannot be measured only by elections; independent judiciary, human rights, press freedom and participation of political parties are the major components to make democracy effective. Also former secretary general of Amnesty International, a London-based rights watchdog, Irene said, "It is true people (in Bangladesh) have become impatient, but an interim election cannot be a solution." Prime Minister's Political Affairs Adviser HT Imam, BNP standing committee member Abdul Moeen Khan and Executive Director of Bangladesh Alliance for Women Leadership Nasim Ferdous, among others, took part in the dialogue. HT Imam claimed that Bangladesh is considered as a role model in the world as it is making rapid economic progress. "That would not have been possible if there is no good governance and democracy in the country." BNP leader Moeen Khan said representation of people is of the essence of democracy, but the incumbent government had grabbed power without having elections to 154 constituencies out of 300. Terming the present government completely unrepresentative, he said the BNP would continue its peaceful movement to oust this "undemocratic" regime. Responding to a question from the audience, HT Imam said there is no chance for holding an interim polls as no such situation now prevailed in the country.

# Private investment remains

FROM PAGE 1

it released its first reading on State of Bangladesh Economy for the first half of fiscal year 2014-2015 at CIRDAP. According to the CPD reading, reduced subsidy requirements for falling petroleum prices, increasing remittance inflows and foreign exchange reserves and stable exchange rate were good signs for the country's economy. But there were a number of challenges as well that included risk of revenue collection shortfall against target, sluggish export growth and rising default loan in banks, and sluggish investment scenario, the reading added. "Stagnation in private investment is the major concern. Uncertainty relating to investment has yet to be over for dearth of confidence," said CPD Executive Director Mustafizur Rahman. The research organisation further said continued problems of electricity and gas supply to industries, land availability and transport infrastructure, sluggish progress of reform in financial, institutional and administrative sectors, and political uncertainty had caused the failure to pick up investment confidence. The pace of financial, institutional and administrative reforms had also slowed in recent times, CPD observed. "Lack of progress in reform acts as a major deterrent in accelerating economic growth," said Debapriya, adding, political uncertainty was another factor affecting investments. "We see that the space for political co-existence and freedom of expression are getting more squeezed since the beginning of the year. On the other side, fear of rising terrorist activities has also increased," he said. The CPD said the labour market got 20 lakh new entrants every year and creation of jobs for those new entrants would be difficult without acceleration of private investment and economic growth from the present cycle of 18-19 percent and 6 percent a year respectively. "Job creation has become important against the backdrop of falling outflow of migrant workers abroad," Debapriya observed. He said this workforce could not be absorbed in agriculture; so, non-farm sectors

should be developed to provide jobs for them and steps should be taken to lure investments. The target of attaining 6.5 percent economic growth would be challenging without acceleration of investments, he added. According to CPD, to stimulate private sector investment and regain the growth momentum, a conducive political environment which generates confidence in entrepreneurs, and inclusive politics that ensures predictabilities and business-friendly environment, would be key determining factors as the economy enters into the second half of FY 2015. Debapriya termed Bangladesh's current economic growth of 6 percent a year "new normal or Bangla rate of growth" meaning that economy would attain average 6 percent growth automatically given the present level of infrastructure and other supports. "The main challenge is to scale up this Bangla rate of growth to super Bangla rate of 8-9 percent a year. Private investment is the single most important driver to accelerate the growth to attain that goal," said Debapriya, also former executive director of CPD. He said banking sector and capital market played a supportive role in boosting investment. However, banking sector, which has so far played a key role in investment financing, is struggling with rising default loans. "Problems afflicting the banking sector, in terms of rising non-performing loan and loans of questionable quality, are likely to have adverse implications for private sector investment performance," warned CPD. To boost investment, CPD favours keeping prices of electricity and gas unchanged. "The cost of production should be kept lower to increase private investment," Debapriya observed. The CPD said the government would not require spending Tk 3,000 crore allocated for fuel subsidy owing to falling petroleum prices in the international market. It further said total amount of subsidy requirements for electricity in FY 2015 could be around Tk 8,000-10,000 crore, adding that total allocated subsidy was sufficient to meet the current demand. So, the government should keep away from hiking prices to protect the interests of investors and consumers, CPD suggested.

# CU-bound shuttle trains

FROM PAGE 1

Miladunnabi, the day of birth and demise of Prophet Hazrat Muhammad (pbuh), and the first anniversary of January 5 parliamentary polls. "We are lagging behind due to such kind of political problems," said Mehedi Hasan Nobel, a student of Accounting Department. "Due to low presence of students, our pre-scheduled examinations were not held yesterday," he added. However, CU Proctor Prof Siraj-ud-Doula claimed that classes and examinations were held in different departments despite the low presence. Except for two departments, examinations were held in other departments as plying of vehicles and teachers' buses were normal, he added. Firoz Iftekhar, Chittagong divisional transport officer of Bangladesh Railway (BR-East Zone), said 12 hose pipes of different bogies were cut either at night or early in the morning at Sholoshahar Railway Station in the city. The railway official also alleged that

those who called the blockade might be involved in the incident. Anwar Jahid Anik, executive member of the dissolved CU BCL committee, denied the allegation and claimed that miscreants had done this. Earlier in the morning, the BCL faction enforced the non-stop blockade to press home its six-point demand, including trial of the "real" killers of its activist Taposh Sarker through proper investigation, withdrawal of "false cases" against the leaders and activists of the faction and removal of the officer-in-charge of Hathazari Police Station for "negligence of duty". The Varsity Express (VX) group, said to be backed by the university administration, made the announcement of the blockade on Friday night. Taposh, 20, a first-year student of CU Sanskrit department, was shot dead in a BCL factional clash on the campus on December 14, barely a month after the prime minister warned the CU BCL unit over frequent infighting.

|  |   |                   |                             |   |
|--|---|-------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| <b>Jatiya Kabi Kazi Nazrul Islam University</b><br>Trishal, Mymensingh   |   |                   |                             |   |
| <b>Invitation for Tender (Works)</b>   |   |                   |                             |   |
| Ministry/Division  | Ministry of Education.  |                   |                             |   |
| Agency   | Bangladesh University Grants Commission.  |                   |                             |   |
| Procuring entity name  | Jatiya Kabi Kazi Nazrul Islam University.   |                   |                             |   |
| Procuring entity code  | Not used.   |                   |                             |   |
| Procuring entity district  | Mymensingh.   |                   |                             |   |
| Invitation for   | Tender for Works.   |                   |                             |   |
| Invitation Ref. No.  | JKKNIU/EO/2012-13/09/20.  |                   |                             |   |
| Date   | 30/12/2014.   |                   |                             |   |
| Procurement method   | Open Tendering Method (National).   |                   |                             |   |
| Budget and source of funds   | Revenue Budget, GOB.  |                   |                             |   |
| Tender package No.   | W-06  |                   |                             |   |
| Tender publication date  | 03/01/2015.   |                   |                             |   |
| Tender last selling date   | 18/01/2015.   |                   |                             |   |
| Tender closing date and time   | 19/01/2015 at 02:00pm.  |                   |                             |   |
| Tender opening date and time   | 19/01/2015 at 02:30pm.  |                   |                             |   |
| (a) Selling tender document  | (i) Engineering Office, Jatiya Kabi Kazi Nazrul Islam University, Trishal, Mymensingh.<br>(ii) Sonali Bank, University Booth/Trishal Branch, Trishal, Mymensingh.   |                   |                             |   |
| (c) Receiving tender document  | Engineering Office, 2nd Floor, Administrative Building, Jatiya Kabi Kazi Nazrul Islam University, Trishal, Mymensingh. Up to 02:00pm on 19/01/2015.   |                   |                             |   |
| (e) Opening tender document  | Conference Room, 2nd Floor, Administrative Building, Jatiya Kabi Kazi Nazrul Islam University, Trishal, Mymensingh.   |                   |                             |   |
| Place/date/time of pre-tender meeting (optional)   | Pre-tender meeting shall not be held.   |                   |                             |   |
| Eligibility and qualification of tenderer  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tenderer shall have five (05) years of general experience.</li> <li>A satisfactory completion of similar type of work of at least Tk 20 lakh under a single work order in gov/semi gov/autonomous organisation of Bangladesh over a period of last 5 years.</li> <li>The minimum amount of liquid asset or working capital or credit facilities of the tenderer shall be 15 lakh.</li> <li>Satisfy other criteria laid down in the tender data sheet.</li> </ul> |                   |                             |   |
| Tender document price  | Cash Tk 1000/- (one thousand) only for each package.  |                   |                             |   |
| Package No.  | Identification  | Location          | Tender security amount (Tk) | Completion period                                   |
| W-06   | Construction of Semi-Pucca Building (Staff Quarter)   | University Campus | 90,000.00                   | Within 120 days from the date of contract agreement |
| Name of official inviting tender   | Engr. Rahat Jahan Shakil.   |                   |                             |   |
| Designation of official inviting tender  | Executive Engineer.   |                   |                             |   |
| Address of official inviting tender  | Engineering Office, Jatiya Kabi Kazi Nazrul Islam University, Trishal, Mymensingh.  |                   |                             |   |
| Contact details of official inviting tender  | Telephone: 09032-56271<br>Electronic mail address: rahat.jkknui@gmail.com<br>Facsimile: 09032-56270   |                   |                             |   |
| The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject any/all tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever. |   |                   |                             |   |