



The photographs from "first men on the Moon" mission are instantly recognisable, but there are also more unusual ones among Nasa's Apollo archive. Left to right, an astronaut collecting samples on Lunar surface; carrying of equipment after Apollo 11 landing; Buzz Aldrin setting foot on the Moon on July 21, 1969; and an astronaut from Apollo 17.

PHOTO:
MAIL ONLINE

3 indicted for Rakib murder

UNB, Khulna

A Khulna court yesterday indicted three people for the brutal killing of 12-year-old Rakib over quitting job. Metropolitan Sessions Judge Dilruba Sultana framed charges against them and fixed October 11 for starting the trial.

The three are Md Sharif, Mintu Mia and Sharif's mother Beauty Begum. Rakib, who used to work at a motorcycle workshop on Tutpara Central Road in Khulna city, was tortured to death on August 3 allegedly by his former employer over quitting job. Alam Haldar, victim's father, had filed the case with Khulna Sadar Police Station, accusing the three of the murder.

Japan outraged at Hoshi killing

FROM PAGE 1

The spokesman offered his condolences to Hoshi's family, and said his government was seeking a full investigation into the case.

With the international community expressing concern following the killing of the two foreigners, the government has called for a diplomatic briefing today.

Sources in the foreign ministry said the heads of diplomatic missions, the UN and other international bodies in Bangladesh have been invited to the briefing at 3:00pm at the state guesthouse Padma.

The ministries of foreign and home affairs have jointly called the briefing where the government ministers, prime minister's advisers and top bureaucrats will brief the diplo-

mats about the government measures taken for ensuring the security of diplomats and foreign citizens living in Bangladesh.

Meanwhile, different diplomatic missions and UN organisations in Dhaka had separate meetings yesterday and discussed the security situation in Bangladesh.

The participants stressed the need for maintaining high degree of cautions as they cannot rule out deterioration of law and order in future, sources said.

Attended by chiefs of more than 15 diplomatic missions, one of the meetings was held at the residence of a European envoy in the afternoon.

The ambassadors and high commissioners shared their respective embassy's information about threats from terrorism, a mission chief told

The Daily Star yesterday.

The diplomat added that they will seek government statement regarding the killing of the two foreigners and want to know about the safety and security measures.

"We want to get a concrete assurance from the government that no foreign citizens fall victim in the days to come. We will also strongly raise our demand for prompt investigation into these two killings."

Earlier in the morning, top officials of 11 UN bodies in Bangladesh had a crucial meeting at the office of the ILO.

Heads and senior officials of UN organisations, including WHO, ILO, FAO and UNFPA, at the meeting decided to issue internal travel alerts for their officials and employees.

Meeting sources said they already

asked their staff to avoid crowds and advised them not to go for walking or jogging until further order. Movement after dusk has been restricted and trips outside Dhaka, except for the essential ones, have been discouraged.

Also yesterday, the Japanese embassy in a press statement sought support from media people.

Citing security risk, the embassy requested all to refrain from shooting video or taking photos of its officials and other Japanese personnel visiting Rangpur on a mission and broadcasting/publishing the images.

The statement also read, "Giving due consideration to the request of the bereaved family, please refrain from using the victim's photo, particularly those related to the killing."

One giant

FROM PAGE 16

The final images were collected over the last "four or five years" and range from Earth and moon orbits to iconic shots of moonwalks.

There are currently around 8,500 images in the gallery but Kipp hopes to have all 13,000 shots by the end of this week.

Kipp said he didn't expect the gallery to be as popular: "I guess it means that appetite [for space history] is still there, and it's worldwide."

He added that although it's hard to pick one as a favourite, he was "struck by one image I had never seen before which was of the dark surface of the moon with the earth setting in the distance behind it".

The gallery is something Kipp launched in conjunction with Eric Jones' Apollo Lunar Surface Journal, which he describes as "the bible of the Apollo missions".

Wildlife trafficking

FROM PAGE 1

in smuggling out tiger skins and bones through Bangladesh, as those have huge demands on the global market, especially in China.

Some of the seized wild animals and birds were meant for local trade, while the others were for trafficking to different countries, mainly in Southeast Asia.

Wildlife traffickers are illegally bringing wild birds and animals mainly from India to smuggle those out via Shahjalal International Airport in the capital, the officials said.

Smugglers prefer Shahjalal airport because of lax monitoring, and the fact that they can bribe a section of corrupt officials to allow them to run the illegal trade, they added.

Contacted, Tapan Kumar Dey, conservator of forest (wildlife), said,

"Our officials are trying their best. But we need more support, and need to train our law enforcers and airport officials if we want to stop it."

About wildlife trafficking via Shahjalal airport, he said, "If tigerskins are smuggled in luggage, it is difficult for scanners to detect those."

He said wildlife trafficking poses serious threats to the survival of rare and endangered animals such as Bengal tigers in the Sundarbans.

In the last five years, the DoF and law enforcers recovered three tiger cubs, 12 tiger skins, and teeth and bones.

"Seizure of tiger bones is new in Bangladesh. We are not sure how the traffickers are sending those abroad. But I think they are trafficking those in luggage," said Md Abu Naser Mohsin, assistant conservator of forest.

He said tiger bones are not used in Bangladesh. "We believe China is the destination of tiger bones since Chinese people use those to make medicine."

Almost two-thirds of the 21,506 wild birds and animals seized since 2010 are turtles and tortoises.

During the period, law enforcers seized 12 illegal consignments of turtles at the airport and 20 more at different points of Bangladesh-India border.

A large number of the turtles and tortoises, mostly brought from India illegally, were recovered at Shahjalal airport while those were being smuggled to Southeast Asian countries, said forest officials.

Asked why smugglers chose Southeast Asian countries as destinations, Tapan said they would try to

smuggle goods to places where prices are high.

Referring to an Interpol estimate, he said, illegal wildlife trade worldwide now accounts for around \$10-20 billion a year.

According to several Malaysian online pet shops, a tortoise is sold from Tk 5,000 (280 RM) to Tk 13,500 (750 RM), while a pair could cost up to Tk 70,000 (3,888 RM).

On October 4 night, Border Guard Bangladesh seized 169 turtles at Benapole border and arrested a person.

In a joint drive last month, Rab and the DoF recovered 4,200 turtles and tortoises from a flat near Shahjalal airport. The turtles were kept there for being smuggled abroad, said officials.

In another joint drive of the Criminal Investigation Department and the DoF on September 6, two tiger skins were seized from a shop named Leather Boutique in the capital's Gulshan area. The shop openly sold products made of skins of tiger, deer and snakes.

In August, law enforcers seized three tiger skins and bones in Satkhira.

On January 4, 2013, law enforcers recovered 10 monkeys and 160 birds of rare species at Shahjalal airport after those were illegally brought in from South Africa.

In the previous year, the WCCU recovered two tusks of African elephants that were to be smuggled to Myanmar.

On July 2, 2010, customs officials seized around 1,000 birds, mostly

protected species, from a Pakistani citizen at Shahjalal airport.

The Pakistani national tried to smuggle the birds to his country, putting them inside cartons, said a customs official.

A number of wildlife officials said traffickers, in most cases, bribe a section of airport officials to get their help.

"May be our airport officials are not very skilled in controlling wildlife trafficking. But it is not possible for traffickers to smuggle live animals without the help of officials at the scanning section," said a forest official, seeking anonymity.

In the last five years, forest officials and law enforcers arrested 385 traders and smugglers, and filed 234 cases in connection with illegal wildlife trade.

US to fight extremism together

FROM PAGE 1

need to fight the emergence of ISIL [Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant] in Bangladesh. We should never underestimate the enemy," she said, a day after Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina ruled out the possibility of IS presence in Bangladesh.

The US envoy's comment follows the murder of two foreign nationals in Bangladesh within a week, which the IS has claimed responsibility for.

"The enemy, in this case, is terrorism in general and ISIL in particular who has a lot of resources," she said, addressing the DCAB Talk arranged by Diplomatic Correspondents Association, Bangladesh (DCAB) at the Jatiya Press Club yesterday.

In response to a question, Bernicat said they were committed to helping Bangladesh government, if asked for help to get to the bottom of the murders.

"Both attacks are done in a very similar manner and it is unusual in Bangladesh. Bangladeshi people's hospitality to foreigners is legendary. It has not changed."

She also said terrorism and violent extremism were global chal-

lenges and all countries should jointly address these challenges. "The best we can do is to investigate the killings thoroughly considering every possibility. We have to work together. Terrorists try to destroy our way of life."

The US envoy said nothing could diminish the extraordinary accomplishments made by Bangladesh in a very short period of time.

"Bangladesh has a prime minister who has taken a zero tolerance approach to terrorism," Bernicat said, adding, "As partners over the years, we have developed the resources, the commitment, and the shared experiences we need to counter terrorism and violent extremism."

"This is a global issue that requires a coordinated, global approach."

Referring to Prime Minister Hasina's speech at the UNGA, Bernicat said her speech was powerful where Hasina said terrorism and violent extremism remain major impediments to global peace and development and terrorists do not have any religion and boundary.

THREATS IN BANGLADESH

Asked about the basis of credible

information on threats in Bangladesh, Bernicat said in order for any threat to be considered credible, they look at whole range of sources, public, from their partners and their own sources.

"That is certainly the case here."

On another question, she said, "When ISIL takes credit for such incidents anywhere in the world, they [the US] seek to verify that information."

"We are in the process of knowing whether those claims were accurate. It helps us and all partners to be able to better track terrorist activities around the world," she said.

"We know that there were credible threat issues before the first killing took place. If there is sufficient details, if there is targeting involved and methodology involved, that consisted of credible threat," she said.

However, she said their advisory does not say do not come to Bangladesh. Even it does not say leave Bangladesh. "Our advisory said please exercise caution. We shared that information with our citizens not to create panic but to act cautiously."

She said the US wants the people to remain more alert and make sure people were paying attention to it.

Bernicat, however, said they feel safer now than before following the security measures taken by the government.

Responding to a question on human rights situation, the US ambassador said the best remedy was to have investigation that was thorough, transparent and find out people who committed violations. "We will not just continue to express our concerns but we will offer help to address those issues," she added.

On US-Bangladesh ties, Bernicat said the relationship is stronger than ever and their interests are more closely aligned and the US would continue to support Bangladesh as it tackles the new Sustainable Development Goals recently adopted at the UNGA in New York.

"Our development partnership has been exceptionally fruitful, producing tangible results that both the United States and Bangladesh can point to with pride," she said.

Pastor comes

FROM PAGE 1

about Christianity.

Suddenly, they got him pinned to his chair and tried to slit his throat with a knife. As he shouted for help, his family members and locals came to his rescue and found him injured.

The attackers, however, managed to flee, leaving the motorbike.

Sarkar received treatment at Ishwardi Upazila Health Complex and Pabna General Hospital.

He suspected that a religious fundamentalist group might have carried out the attack to stop him from spreading the message of Christianity.

They also might have wanted to create panic among the local religious minorities, he added.

The pastor also said the youths phoned him and met him at his house about two weeks ago to talk about Christianity.

Siddikur Rahman, additional superintendent of Pabna police, said Islamist fundamentalists might be behind the attack.

"We've seized the motorbike and collected a cell phone number of the attackers. We are trying to nab the culprits," he added.

Top police officials, including officials of Criminal Investigation

Department, visited the spot.

Security has been beefed up in the district, especially in Rooppur Nuclear Power Plant and Ishwardi Export Processing Zone areas where some foreigners have been staying, said police.

5 JMB men

FROM PAGE 1

Mahbub and Kajal in Madarbari area of the port city in the morning.

After gleaning information from them, police in another drive in the city's Oxygen area arrested Fuad and Suján in the afternoon.

Extracting more information on Javed's whereabouts from the detainees, police raided the Hazi Nur Ahmed Tower at Khoyaz Nagar.

When police knocked, Javed opened the door of the flat and seeing the police he tried to throw a grenade at them, said ADC Babul.

Police recovered the arms and ammo from three rooms of the flat.

A bomb disposal unit of CMP was searching the flat as of filing of this report at 10:00pm yesterday.

Police claimed that Javed is a textile engineer by profession. He rented the flat on October 1.

Vital evidence left to be collected

FROM PAGE 1

the two people who took the bullet-hit Japan national to hospital.

Legal experts said all this evidence was important to prove the murder and needed to be kept in police custody.

Police version was not available as they did not take calls nor allowed these correspondents to meet them.

Meanwhile, family members of one of the four people picked up by police for "questioning" alleged that they were being tortured to extract confessional statements.

The Daily Star tried to speak to the Rangpur Superintendent of Police Mohammad Abdur Razzaq about the

matters over the phone, but only in vain.

When these reporters went to his office, on-duty constable Shafi stopped them, saying he had an "unofficial order" from the SP not to allow journalists for at least three days starting Sunday.

One of the four is Humayun Kabir Hira, 35, a friend of Kunio Hoshi, who was shot to death by unknown gunmen in Rangpur on Saturday morning.

Hira's wife Sultana Khatun alleged that her husband was being tortured in custody.

She also claimed police did not allow her to see her husband even once, although Hira was not a suspect in the murder.

Police had earlier said none of the four were suspects in the case and that they were picked up only for questioning.

Four days into their detention, cops have yet to produce them before a court. Normally, police are legally bound to produce suspects before court within 24 hours of their arrest.

Kotwali and Kaunia police station officers-in-charge Abdul Quader Jilani and Rezaul Karim did not answer phone calls throughout yesterday.

FAMILY ALLEGATIONS

Hira's uncle Asmat Ullah Bakul managed his way inside the police station yesterday afternoon and saw his nephew limping to come closer to the grill, claimed Sultana.

Monnaf, on whose rickshaw Hoshi was riding when he was shot, was lying on a bench.

"Police change their stories every time I get a chance to meet them. Sometimes they say they will produce him before a court. At other times they say they will send him to other police stations," she added.

BARRING JOURNALISTS

These reporters were prevented from entering the house of Zakaria Bala, in

whose house Hoshi was a tenant, in Rangpur city's Munsipara around 4:20pm yesterday.

Kotwali Police Station Sub-inspector Mizan said, "We have orders from the high-ups not to allow in anyone except for law enforcers."

Cops also tried to prevent The Daily Star reporters from entering the house of Nurjahan, in whose courtyards police kept the rickshaw.

One of the two who took Kunio Hoshi to hospital is Aminur.

He said police did not collect his blood-stained clothes.

"I have washed my lungi in the river after coming from the Rangpur Medical College Hospital," he said.

Massive clean-up after 19 killed in French Riviera floods

AFP, Biot

Volunteers and firefighters began the gruelling task yesterday of cleaning up French Riviera towns strewn with mud and debris, as the death toll from floods which tore through the region rose to 19.

Citizens of Britain, Italy and Portugal were among those who died when a torrential weekend downpour trapped people in garages and retirement homes in Mediterranean resort towns beloved by jet-setting tourists.