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MP denied bail over shooting child

HC asks him to surrender at lower court by Oct 18; Gaibandha police chief says he won't be arrested

ASHUTOSH SARKAR

The way Gaibandha MP Manzurul Islam Liton allegedly shot a minor boy early this month can only be seen in movies and there is no scope to grant him bail, the High Court said yesterday.

Rejecting his two bail petitions, the court ordered the Awami League lawmaker to surrender before the trial court in Gaibandha by October 18.

The HC said the alleged offence could not be "considered lightly," and asked all concerned to deal with the case in accordance with the law.

Around 6:00am on October 2, the Gaibandha-1 MP shot Sourav Mia, a class-four student, in both legs for no apparent reason. The incident happened when the 10-year-old boy was taking a morning walk with his uncle at Gopalcharan village in the district, family members said.

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"If an accused of such a crime is granted bail, what message will it send to people?"

ATTORNEY GENERAL MAHBUBEY ALAM IN COURT, OPPOSING THE BAIL PETITIONS OF MP LITON.



Gaibandha-1 lawmaker Manzurul Islam Liton comes out of the High Court after his bail petitions were rejected. The HC asked him to surrender before a Gaibandha court by October 18 for allegedly shooting a child.

PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON

12 countries seek extra security

STAR REPORT

At least a dozen countries have sought additional security from the Bangladesh government for their diplomats and citizens.

The Dhaka missions of these countries, including the US, Australia and Japan, sent letters to the foreign ministry to take steps to this effect since the murder of Italian national Cesare Tavella in the capital's diplomatic zone on September 28, diplomatic sources told The Daily Star yesterday.

Several member states of the European Union are among the countries that made the request. They asked the

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Militants plotted to destabilise country

Charge sheet says about 4 arrested 'IS suspects'; 2 others remanded

COURT CORRESPONDENT

Four suspected militants, arrested in the capital's Jatrabari on January 18, had been involved in a conspiracy to topple the democratic government through subversive activities and establish a Khilafat state.

And for this, they had drawn inspiration from banned local outfit Jama'atul Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB) and global terror body Islamic State (IS), read the charges pressed against them.

In the charge sheet of the case, investiga-

tion officer AKM Kamrul Ahsan of Detective Branch said the charges against the four -- Sakawatul Kabir, Nazrul Islam, Anwar Hossain alias Baten and Rabiul Islam -- were primarily proved.

All the arrestees were actually involved with JMB and Kabir was a regional coordinator of the militant group. He received militant training in Pakistan and on return took over as coordinator of IS' Bangladesh chapter, the DB official mentioned in the charges.

However, after the recent killing of two

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CLAIM ON FOREIGNERS' KILLING Tweets were 'from Bangladesh'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The tweets claiming the responsibility of killing two foreigners and the bloggers were uploaded from Bangladesh, said an official of Information and Communication Technology ministry.

Tanveer Hasan Joha, focal point officer of an ICT division cyber security project, said they have found that one of the two posts regarding the foreigners' killing was uploaded from the Gulshan corporate office of a company that manufactures garment products.

He said they have already detected the Internet Service Provider (ISP) address of the corporate internet connection. Detectives are now looking for the person who used the Internet Protocol (IP) address of the internet at that time.

Tanveer claimed the electronic evidence has proved that

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Politics in pockets of businessmen

Says president

UNB, Kishoreganj

President Abdul Hamid yesterday lamented that the country's politics has gone in the pockets of businessmen.

"It's a matter of regret that today's politics has gone in the pockets of businessmen.... We've to get rid of it," he told a rally at the ground of Ashtagram Pilot High School in the district's Ashtagram upazila.

He said public representatives have to work for people's welfare to move the country forward. "Without honesty, a politician can't



implement what he wants to do. There're many ways to earn money. But no one should choose politics to make money."

"I had been elected an MP on several occasions from this area. I did politics maintaining honesty. That's why people from the ruling and opposition parties didn't talk against me. I'm not a dishonest man," he added.

The president observed that the development of a specific area is not possible if the public representative misappropriates

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School students make their way back home on rickshaw-vans, trying to make sure that their sneakers do not touch the water on this inundated road in front of Mugdhapara General Hospital in the capital. The road goes under water even after a light rain. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: SK ENAMUL HAQ

Govt can appoint administrators for all local bodies

Cabinet okays changes to law to make local govt polls partisan

PARTHA PRATIM BHATTACHARJEE and HASAN JAHID TUSHER

The cabinet yesterday approved proposals for amending the local government laws to empower the government to appoint administrators for running municipalities, and upazila and union parishads if elections to the local bodies are not held in time.

It also endorsed the proposal for bringing changes to the laws for making elections to all local bodies partisan.

The approval came at a cabinet meeting chaired by the prime minister.

According to the existing laws, even after expiry of the tenure, chiefs and members of the three local bodies can continue in office until fresh elections are held.

But once the laws are amended, they will no longer get this opportunity. Cabinet Secretary M Musharraf Hossain Bhuiyan disclosed the cabinet decisions at a press conference.

"The proposed amendments have curtailed all scopes for elected local representatives to continue in his or her position on any plea after the expiry

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NEWS ANALYSIS

Local govt bodies need more reform

SHAKHAWAT LITON

Twenty-four years back, the country switched over to parliamentary democracy from the presidential form of government. Yet, the local government bodies still function like in the presidential form of government.

This is quite a contradiction between the central and the local government system, though the latter is considered an extension of the former. This anomaly, according to experts, violates the parliamentary principle. It also is symptomatic of how the local government system has remained neglected over the years.

The difference between these two systems is immense in terms of their formation, exercise of power and accountability.

In the parliamentary democracy, the

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City Bank again wins Finance Asia's "Best Bank in Bangladesh 2015" award. As the country's leading commercial bank, its rapid improvement in asset quality and liquidity along with its action steps driven by a clear vision have earned the bank this glorious honor for the third year**.

Mr. Rubel Aziz, Chairman of City Bank, received the award on behalf of the institution.

This award for the third time is a reflection of our customers' continuing support for us.

*Award won in local bank category
**In 2012 & 2014 also, Finance Asia awarded City Bank the 'Best Bank in Bangladesh' awards

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