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IS or al-Qaeda link not found

Cops claim, say 14 of 26 'radical' Bangladeshi workers linked to Ansarullah Bangla Team; confusion remains

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The 26 Bangladeshis, who were deported from Singapore allegedly for being members of a terror cell, have no links to Islamic State or al-Qaeda, according to police in Dhaka.

But 14 of the returnees have links with banned local outfit Ansarullah Bangla Team (ABT) and its detained spiritual leader Jasim Uddin Rahmani, said a top DMP official.

According to detectives, militant group ABT, which emerged in recent years, follows the ideologies of al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP). The organisation was earlier termed the "closest relative" of al-Qaeda.

Singapore home ministry in a release on Wednesday said 27 Bangladeshi construction workers were arrested between November 16 and December 1 last year.

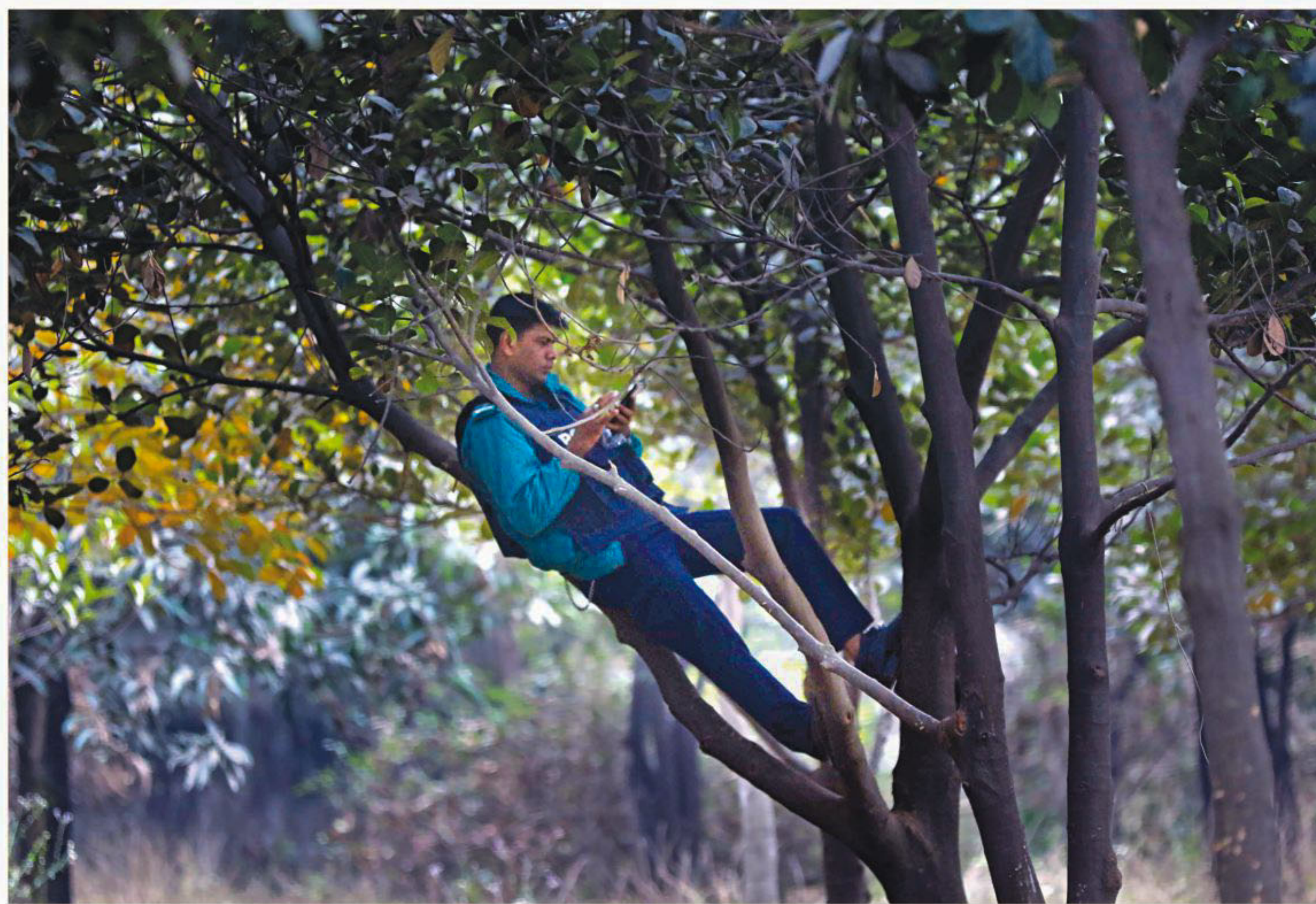
Of them, 26 have been deported to Bangladesh while one is still in Singapore prison for attempting to leave Singapore illegally after learning of his fellow members' arrests, the release read.

The Straits Times of Singapore wrote on Wednesday that

27 ARRESTED IN SINGAPORE

26 DEPORTED

- 14 arrested in Dhaka
- 12 freed but under watch
- 1 in Singapore prison



While traders and slum dwellers were staging an angry protest against a drive to knock down illegal structures on the land of Housing and Building Research Institute at Kalyanpur, one of the policemen deployed there gets busy with his mobile phone. He also finds a comfortable place -- on a tree. It seems nothing else matters to him. The photo was taken at 12:28pm yesterday. More on page 3, 5.

PHOTO: STAR

'TORTURE' ON RABBY SC to hold hearing on case filing

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A full bench of the Supreme Court may decide on Monday whether the written complaint by Bangladesh Bank official Golam Rabby would be recorded as a case against the police personnel who allegedly tortured him.

Chamber Judge Justice Hasan Foez Siddique yesterday set the date for further hearing on the matter as he stayed a High Court order that asked the officer-in-charge of Mohammadpur Police Station to immediately record the complaint as a case.

The HC on Monday also

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25.5kg gold seized at Dhaka airport

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Customs officials last night seized 220 gold bars weighing around 25.5kg from two planes at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport in the capital.

The bars are worth around Tk 12.5 crore, Moinul Khan, director general of the Customs Intelligence, told The Daily Star.

No one was arrested. The DG said acting on a tip-off, a customs

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N'GANJ 5-MURDER Act of revenge by a close kin, say police

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Narayanganj

A close relative committed the sensational five-murder in Narayanganj over his emotional involvement with one of the victims, police said.

Mahfuz, nephew of two victims Taslima and Lamia, confessed to the crime to Senior Judicial Magistrate Saiduzzaman Sharif yesterday.

Khandakar Mahid Uddin, superintendent of Narayanganj police, said Mahfuz alone killed all the five -- his aunt Taslima Begum, 35, her son Shanto, 10, daughter Sumaiya, 5, brother Mosharrif Hossain

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ILLEGAL STRUCTURES Rajuk frees more parking space

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A Rajuk team on the fourth day of a fortnight-long eviction drive yesterday demolished an illegal parking that housed about 15 shops in a residential area behind Sobhanbagh mosque in the capital.

The team also knocked down BFC fast food shop in the basement parking space of a building near the mosque in Dhanmondi, said Rajuk Executive Magistrate Md Nasir Uddin, who led the drive with a mobile court.

Besides, Daffodil School behind the mosque was pulled down, as it was being run in a residential building, said the magistrate.

On January 18, Rajdhani Unnayan Kartipakkha (Rajuk) launched the mobile court drive simultaneously in Gulshan, Uttara and Dhanmondi to reclaim basement car parking spaces being illegally used for commercial purposes and dismantle illegal ramps built encroaching upon roads.

The Uttara team yesterday continued demolishing 174 shops in the basement of Kushol Centre, said Khandakar Zakir Hossain, Rajuk executive magistrate, who led the drive.

The shops were so heavily built that it took three days to demolish those completely, he said.

In Gulshan, a dozen illegal ramps constructed occupying streets were demolished during yesterday's drive. Structures were also knocked down in

PHOTO ON PAGE 17

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Vote for 'boat' in future polls PM tells Sylhet rally

UNB, Sylhet

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday said there was no need to raise any demand before her as she knew people's problems and also how to deal with them.

"I am well aware of people's problems and also know well how to deal with them and develop the country... we're working to that end," she told a mammoth public rally at Alia Madrasa ground here.

She called upon people not to forget "boat", the electoral symbol of Awami League, in future as the party continued to ensure peace, prosperity and development of the country.

Terming the Awami League an organisation of common people, Hasina said the country witnessed massive development whenever the AL assumed office.

"But those who had grabbed power looted everything, created militancy and

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RELATED STORY, PHOTO ON PAGE 3,4

Istanbul mosque opens its doors to stray cats

ODDITYCENTRAL.COM

A mosque in Istanbul is creating social media buzz with its cat-friendly attitude. Stray cats looking for warmth and shelter on cold winter nights are always

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PRAYER TIMING
JANUARY 22

Fazr	Juma	Asr	Maghrib	Esha	
AZAN	5-30	12-30	4-15	5-43	7-15
JAMAAT	6-05	1-15	4-30	5-47	7-45

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION



Crabs caught at wrong time

BY SOHRAB HOSSAIN with ANDREW EAGLE

In the months of January and February, thousands of female crabs in the mangrove forests around

SEE PAGE 6 COL 4

MURDER OF EX-SPY LITVINENKO Putin 'probably approved' it

Says UK inquiry; Russia dismisses the findings

AFP, London

Russian President Vladimir Putin "probably approved" the killing of ex-spy Alexander Litvinenko in London, a British inquiry into his agonising death by radiation poisoning found yesterday.

Litvinenko, a prominent Kremlin critic, died in 2006 aged 43, three weeks after drinking tea laced



Litvinenko

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Question: Fill in the blanks with the missing words.

Be motivated.

K **Z** **N**

It's possible.

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The Daily Star
17th O & A Level Award Presentation Ceremony 2014-2015

Announcement for 'O' & 'A' Level Private Candidates and Schools

Private Candidates: Private candidates who fulfill the criteria described below are requested to register their names at The Daily Star office for inclusion as awardees. The criteria to be fulfilled are as follows:

Criteria for 'O' Level: Minimum 6 (six) 'A' grades in two consecutive sittings within May/June 2014 to May/June 2015

Criteria for 'A' Level: Minimum 3(three) 'A' grades within 1 academic year (May/June 2014 to May/June 2015)

Eligible candidates are requested to contact Mr. Shahir Hasan Khan at The Daily Star office, 64-65, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Dhaka-1215, with their original Result Certificates and a photocopy, and 2 (two) passport-size photographs in person on 25, 26 or 27 January, 2016, between 12:00 noon and 5:00 pm. Contact: 01786111100

Schools: Any school that has students meeting the above criteria but has not been contacted by The Daily Star (i.e. has not been informed of the first scheduled meeting through regular post, email or phone) is requested to contact Mr. Shahir Hasan Khan at The Daily Star office (64-65, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Dhaka-1215), on the aforementioned dates and times or email him at o.level.tds@gmail.com by 28th January, 2016, with:

- The name of the school, phone number of a responsible representative and a valid email address that is checked regularly.

The schools are also requested to promptly prepare a list of the candidates meeting the above criteria, the number of 'A' grades achieved by each candidate, and photocopies of results certificates for each candidate.

No registration will be allowed or accepted after 5:00 pm of 28th January, 2016.

NOTE: If you know of any private candidate(s) or school(s) that may be unaware of this, please communicate the above information to them so that we may include them in this ceremony as well.

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