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**REFUGEES AND MIGRANTS**

This is not a crisis of numbers but a crisis of solidarity, writes Ban Ki-Moon

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**RODRIGO TAKES BIG LEAD**

Anti-establishment firebrand Rodrigo Duterte heads for a huge win in the Philippine polls

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## Towards organic litchi

Pheromone traps show hope for pesticide-free litchies

KONGKON KARMAKER, Dinajpur

Pheromone traps installed on litchi trees could get rid of the worries lovers of this seasonal fruit have each time they peel off the juicy fruits and gulp them.

Growers in Dinajpur, renowned for their extraordinary litchis, routinely spray pesticides in their orchards to protect litchis from pests. And they are not known for following best practices while spraying.

More often than not, they heavily spray the trees with pesticides and sometimes at more frequent intervals than required.

At least 23 children have died in Dinajpur since 2012 after having litchis that had been sprayed with pesticides.

This summer the district's agriculture extension workers, however, applied another way of controlling pests and the farmers' tendency to use pesticides excessively.

In a small first step, the Department of Agricultural Extension (DAE) in Dinajpur hung 100 pheromone traps on 100 litchi trees in Mashimpur of Dinajpur sadar and Robipur in Biral upazila.

The trap is a small pheromone capsule in a plastic bottle half-filled with water. But it works wonders. Male insects swarm to the bottle and drown.

Growers, who used to heavily spray pesticides in their

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Amin Uddin is installing a pheromone trap, a bucket half filled with water and containing pheromone, on his litchi tree to protect the juicy fruit from pests at Mashimpur village in Dinajpur sadar upazila. Male pests are attracted to pheromone and drown in the water. The photo was taken earlier this month.

PHOTO: KONGKON KARMAKER

## Verdict read out to Nizami

He's yet to say whether he'd seek mercy

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Dhaka Central Jail authorities last night received a copy of the Supreme Court judgment that confirmed the death penalty of war criminal Motiur Rahman Nizami, top leader of the infamous Al-Badr Bahini.

The verdict was read out to Jamaat-e-Islami ameer Nizami at a condemned cell in the prison around 8:00pm, Senior Jail Superintendent Jahangir Kabir told The Daily Star.

Attorney General Mahbubey Alam said the jail authorities would now ask the death row convict whether he would seek presidential clemency. They would give him a "reasonable time" to reply.

If he intends to ask for mercy, he has to submit an application to the president through the home ministry. The president, on the advice of the prime minister, would decide on the mercy prayer, said the country's top law officer.

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**TOP QUOTE**

"One needs brains even to copy .... His name in the BA mark sheet is Narendra Kumar Damodardas Modi, while in the master's degree it is Narendra Damoderdas Modi."

AAP LEADER **ASHUTOSH**

AFTER THE BJP MADE PUBLIC WHAT IT SAID WERE MODI'S UNIVERSITY DEGREE CERTIFICATES.

## Bangladeshis named

Panama Papers database goes online

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Three new companies, 14 new addresses and a host of names with links to Bangladesh were among the second list of the offshore entities that were published early today by the International Consortium of Investigative Journalists (ICIJ).

Bangladesh Biman Inc, Islamic Solidarity Shipping Company Bangladesh, and Bangladesh Textile Agencies Ltd were the three new entities.

Mehboob Chowdhury, Bilkis Fatima Jesmin, Abul Bashar, M Selimuzzaman, Rudy Ben-Jamin, Yusuf Raihan Reza, Novera Chowdhury, Benzir Ahmed, Afzalur Rahman, Sudhir Mullick, Jiban Kumar Sarkar, and Nizam M Selim, among others, have been named in the Panama Papers with links to Bangladesh. This does not suggest any wrongdoing.

The leaks show that the names of the entities are largely foreign sounding but the addresses used are located in Bangladesh.

The addresses include Mrs Reem Tariq El Mutwalli of Rosabel Limited located in 65-66 Motijheel Commercial Area; Peter

Scrancher of Paradise Isle Holdings Ltd of Raozan, Chittagong; Madina Smagulov of Forrell Real Estate Inc of Gulshan; Marcos Augusto De Moraes Lake Strand Corp in Gulshan; Diego Alfredo Giucci Schmidt of HMLS SA in Gulshan; Ekaterina Kunitskaya of Whitesand Corporation Ltd in Baridhara; and Wei Huahai of Kyde SCM Ltd located at Concord Tower, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Bangladesh.

The addresses also include: Rafael Salomao Prado of RS Prado Ltd at Boro Moghbazar; Dr John Richard Forrest of Leparin Ltd in Mirpur; Lo Kit Yee Grace of Top Switch International Ltd in Banani; Aleksandr Zakharov of Direx Enterprises Ltd in Panchlaish, Chittagong; Huang Shu-Hui of Kuo Peng Ltd at Mirpur; Chiu Hsiao-Chun of Sun Speed Trading Ltd in Baridhara; and Tang Vung Kong Stephane of Kit Micro Co Ltd in Gulshan.

In South Asia, the second list released by Panama Papers revealed that around 400 Pakistanis have established 350 offshore companies. They include various renowned businessmen, politicians and social figures,

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## Pakistan high commissioner summoned

Islamabad asked to act responsibly

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Amid escalating diplomatic tension between Dhaka and Islamabad, Bangladesh foreign ministry yesterday summoned the Pakistan envoy here and lodged a strong protest, three days after Pakistan expressed concern over dismissal of the review petition against the death sentence of Jamaat chief Motiur Rahman Nizami.

Handing a "strongly worded" protest note to Pakistan High Commissioner Shuja Alam, Dhaka urged Islamabad to act responsibly and refrain from making such uncalled for statements.

Foreign Secretary (Bilateral) Mizanur Rahman summoned the envoy to his office at 3:00pm and conveyed Dhaka's strong protest against Islamabad's concern over Nizami, a convict of crimes against humanity and genocide in 1971.

The note verbale handed over to the envoy stated that by repeatedly taking the side of those Bangladeshi nationals who are convicted of crimes against humanity

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## 'US, India to work together to help Dhaka fight terror'

Indian foreign secy due tomorrow

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

In the wake of the recent spate of targeted attacks on secular activists, bloggers, writers, professors and minorities by suspected militants, the US and India have agreed to work together with Dhaka to counter extremism in Bangladesh, diplomatic sources said.

Neither the US nor India wants to see instability in Bangladesh. The two countries also don't want to see that the Awami League government faces adverse challenges. That's why they joined hands to help Dhaka, added the sources.

New Delhi's assessment is that homegrown militants are responsible for the recent attacks, but the US thinks that extremist groups whether they are indigenous or whether they are affiliated with Islamic State (IS) are responsible.

Given the relations between Bangladesh and India, the US wants to raise the concern and wants to work with Dhaka and Delhi on tackling extremism before it takes root in Bangladesh, according to the sources, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

After a meeting with Foreign Secretary Md Shahidul Haque yesterday, US Ambassador in Dhaka Marcia Bernicat told reporters, "Our three governments -- Bangladesh, India and the United States -- all fighting extremism. We're all on the same page here. All three of us are on the same page in that regard."

In April alone, five people -- a law student, a university professor, a



Jaishankar

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এখন নতুন রিফ্রেশিং টেস্ট-এ!

Sprite

স্প্রাইট