



Ministry orders shutdown of 'peace' schools

Controversial activities prompt govt decision

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The education ministry has asked the home ministry to shut down the "unapproved peace schools" immediately, said a press release yesterday. "We have taken the decision as those educational institutions have no approval from the government," Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid told this newspaper. "No institute can run without following rules and regulations," he added. Seeking anonymity, several officials of the education ministry said the step to shut down the schools was taken following intelligence and news reports that their curriculum promoted religious extremism. On May 22, after a meeting of the cabinet committee on law and order, the government asked law enforcement agencies to keep an eye on the network of "peace schools and colleges" across the country, according to news reports. The meeting, held at the home ministry, discussed an intelligence report on the operation of "peace schools", said meeting sources. The intelligence report said around 27

SEE PAGE 10 COL 1


Police find 'vital info' on terror

Claim they are now getting a clear idea of militant network

STAFF CORRESPONDENT


The ongoing probe into last month's Gulshan and Sholakia terror attacks is helping investigators get a clear picture of the militant network in the country, officials claim. While investigating the targeted killings of individuals, beginning in 2013, police were struggling to find clues as to who the perpetrators and masterminds were. But after the July 1 Gulshan café siege and July 7 Sholakia attack, investigators have gathered vital information about the militants active in the country, their number and strength, officials say. Bangladesh police have even announced bounty on Canadian-Bangladeshi Tamim Ahmed Chowdhury and dismissed army officer Syed Ziaul Haq, saying they were behind the recent militant attacks and targeted killings. Announcing the bounty, Inspector General of Police AKM Shahidul Hoque yesterday said law enforcers gathered some vital intelligence following the militant attacks at Gulshan and Sholakia. They learnt that militants possibly were hiding in Mirpur, Shewrapara or Kalyanpur to carry out subversive activities. Based on that intelligence, police conducted block raids in the areas, he said while briefing the press at the police headquarters. The IGP also pointed to the operation "Storm 26", which saw nine militants killed at a flat in the capital's Kalyanpur. He said they had recovered some audio and video recordings during the special drive. Replying to a query, the police chief said they have found involvement of Jamaat-Shibir men and madrasa students in recent attacks but they are yet to find any link of the banned militant outfit Hizb-ut Tahrir.

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1



TAMIM

A Canadian citizen of Bangladeshi origin, he is believed to be the leader of a pro-IS militant group here. Law enforcers say he masterminded the Gulshan café siege and Sholakia attack last month. According to IS mouthpiece Dabiq, he identifies himself as Shaykh Abu Ibrahim Al-Hanif, the "Amir of the Khilafah's Soldiers in Bengal".



ZIA

A sacked army major, he is the key operational commander of the pro-al-Qaeda outfit Ansar Al Islam. He first made headlines by trying to engineer a military coup in 2012. Ansar Al Islam claimed responsibility for some of the targeted killings of secularist writers, bloggers and gay rights activists in recent months.

Eyes on top militants

Police announce Tk 20 lakh bounty each for Tamim Chowdhury, sacked army officer Ziaul Haq

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police yesterday declared cash rewards for information leading to the arrest of two persons, saying they were behind the recent terror attacks and targeted killings in Bangladesh. Tamim Ahmed Chowdhury, a Canadian citizen of Bangladeshi origin, masterminded the Gulshan

and Sholakia attacks, while sacked army major Syed Ziaul Haq had a hand in the targeted killings, said Inspector General of Police (IGP) AKM Shahidul Hoque. "We believe we will be able to curb militant activities once we bring them under the purview of law," he said at a press briefing at the police headquarters while announcing a Tk 20 lakh reward

for information on each of them. If any person provides police with the information, his or her identity would not be disclosed, assured the police chief. He also said law enforcers would provide legal assistance to anyone who wants to leave the path of militancy and return to normal life.

SEE PAGE 10 COL 2

SHAZNEEN RAPE, MURDER CASE



APRIL 23, 1998
Shazneen Tasnim Rahman was raped and killed at her Gulshan house in the capital.
APRIL 24, 1998
Her father Latifur Rahman filed a murder case with Gulshan Police Station.
SEPTEMBER 4, 1998
The CID lodged a case under the Women and Children Repression (Prevention) Act for rape and murder.

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1

Death for Shahid upheld, 4 acquitted

As a father, I have had to live with unfathomable sorrow and heart-wrenching memory of my daughter being most brutally murdered and then wait endlessly, patiently and expectantly for justice for all these 18 agonising years. Whilst respecting the verdict of the Honourable Court, I am deeply disappointed and saddened. After receiving the full judgment, we will review and consider our next course of action.

LATIFUR RAHMAN, FATHER OF SHAZNEEN



STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court yesterday upheld the death sentence for one person but acquitted the other four on death row in the sensational case over rape and murder of Shazneen Tasnim Rahman at her Gulshan house around two

decades ago. Death penalty has been confirmed only for Shahidul Islam alias Shahid, who was a domestic help at Shazneen's house. The acquitted are Syed Sajjad Mainuddin Hasan, a contractor for renovation at Shazneen's house, his

assistant Badal, and two maids Estema Khatun Minu and Parvin. A five-member bench of the Appellate Division of the SC, headed by Chief Justice Surendra Kumar Sinha, delivered the verdict following appeals by the convicts.

SEE PAGE 2 COL 2

It's democracy they loathed most

Before their death, militants Nibras, Shazad spewed hatred for election, political parties

SHAKHAWAT LITON and SHAHEEN MOLLAH

Time: around 7:00am of July 2. Place: Holey Artisan Bakery. Inside the premises, 20 guests, most of them foreigners, are lying dead. Outside, military personnel are preparing for the final push to end the hostage standoff. In such a chilling situation, Nibras Islam later known to be the leader among the five café attackers looked calm and preached sermon on what, he thought, Islam does allow and forbid to assistant chef Delwar Hossain and eight other staff of the restaurant. The staff broke open the door of a bathroom a few minutes ago as they were suffocating inside following hours of confinement. They had taken refuge in the bathroom as the militants with arms launched an attack around 8:40pm the day before. Finding this out around 2:30am, the attackers had them come out and then asked them to move in only to lock the bathroom door from outside. Delwar, as he remembers, was trembling with fear as he would die anytime if Nibras pulled the trigger of his loaded gun. "Don't fear. We will not kill you. Listen to me," Delwar quoted Nibras as saying. The mission was to kill foreigners as they are enemies of Islam and destroy Islamic culture, the attacker said, referring to some verses from Quran.



Nibras Islam

SEE PAGE 2 COL 5

BNP to leave Jamaat out of 'unity process'

Says Emajuddin about the move to forge nat'l unity against militancy

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia has decided not to keep Jamaat-e-Islami in the proposed national unity process to fight militancy, pro-BNP intellectual Prof Emajuddin Ahmed said yesterday. "Jamaat is the only party which is creating problems towards forging the national unity. That's why the BNP chairperson and chief of the 20-party alliance has decided to keep Jamaat out of the unity process," he told a discussion in the city. The programme was organised by Quader Siddique-led Krishak Shramik Janata League at Jatiya Press Club. Emajuddin, also a former vice-chancellor of Dhaka University, said Khaleda thinks Jamaat has become a burden for the 20-party alliance. He, however, said a major portion of Jamaat men have

SEE PAGE 10 COL 5



Farmers collect fibre from stems of jute plants they immersed in water bodies for rotting. Floodwaters have already washed away many of the plants. The photo was taken in Islampur upazila of Jamalpur yesterday.

PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN

Flood causes huge damage to crops

STAR REPORT

Floodwaters continued to recede yesterday in the country's north and northeast, leaving trails of massive damages to crops, houses, roads and dykes. Many flood victims were still living on embankments or government shelter centres while some started returning to damaged homes. Visiting Jamalpur in the last three days, photojournalist Amran Hossain of The Daily Star saw huge low-lying areas with aman seedlings, fish and vegetables affected by flooding. "After harvesting, farmers immerse jute plants in water bodies for rotting, but a good portion of the crop has been washed away by floodwaters," he said. Some 25 families took shelter at Jarultala Govt Primary School flood shelter centre in Islampur union on July 25. They alleged the government did not supply any relief aid to them. On July 31, some locals gave them some rotis only. Having lost crops and fish, farmers were worried about the coming months.

SEE PAGE 10 COL 5

Today is the 3rd Death Anniversary of Sobera Ahmed Rizvi (Rita)



We request all relatives, friends and well-wishers to remember her in their prayers and to pray for eternal peace of her soul
Jowher (Shahinshah), Yasser, Nasser, Zain, Fatema, Zarah & Zameer

DUTCH BANGLA EXPO 2016
amsterdam rail 28-29 sept. 6

SINGLE COUNTRY GENERAL TRADE FAIR OF BANGLADESH IN THE NETHERLANDS

As the consequence of the Netherlands visit by the honorable Prime Minister of People's Republic of Bangladesh Sheikh Hasina during November 3-5, 2015, a trade fair 'Dutch-Bangla Expo-2016' is going to be held during 28-29 September 2016 in Amsterdam. To Promote Bangladeshi products, ensure growth of economy & business and to draw the attention of European investors this unique Trade Fair will be jointly organized by Dutch Bangla Chamber of Commerce & Industry and Embassy of Bangladesh in the Netherlands.

Special Attraction

- Trade Fair • Investment Seminar
- B2B Network Meeting

- RMG • Ceramic • Textile • Agro
- Leather & Leather Goods • ICT
- Pharmaceutical • Ship Building • Jute
- Plastic • Frozen Food • Real Estate
- Others

Contact for Stall & Pavillion
(Revised time for registration is now till 18th August, 2016)

Dutch - Bangla Chamber of Commerce & Industry (DBCCI)
52/1, New Eskaton Road, Hasan Holdings (8th floor), Dhaka
Tel: 58310839, www.dutchbanglaexpo.com, email: info@dbcci.org

Jointly Organized by:

Patronized by:

Supported by:

Special Participation:

Event Partner:

ICBERG COMMUNICATIONS / DBCCI / 2016