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Missing man now wanted

Cops suspect his link with Ansarullah Bangla Team; family rejects police claim

SHARIFUL ISLAM

A missing man named Tehzeeb Karim, who once visited Pakistan and Yemen, is now wanted by police.

Deputy Commissioner (Media) of Dhaka Metropolitan Police Masudur Rahman yesterday said they have information about Tehzeeb's links with militant outfit Ansarullah Bangla Team.

"Tehzeeb is wanted by police for his militant links and we are trying to arrest him. His name prominently figures on our list of missing persons," he told The Daily Star.

Ansarullah Bangla Team, now renamed Ansar Al Islam, is believed by investigators to be a pro al-Qaeda outfit.

His parents vehemently oppose the police claim. They believe Tehzeeb, 33, who has been missing since May 17, had no militant links.

However, they said he had become "extremely religious" after completing A-level. Recently, he was coming back to "normal life".

According to friends, Tehzeeb, once a fun-loving youth, started to become "way too much religious" after he began to date Seerat Rashid. He married her soon after passing A-level in 2002.

Seerat is the daughter of Mohammed Abdur Rashid Chowdhury, chairman of now-defunct Research Centre for Unity Development (RCUD).

According to sources in law enforcement agencies, RCUD had an office

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Tehzeeb Karim



Customers buying hand-held metal detectors and CCTV cameras at a shop in Gulshan-2 area. The sale of such security equipment has soared in the capital following the July 1 terrorist attack at Holey Artisan Bakery. The photo was taken on August 1.

PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

High demand for security equipment

JAMIL MAHMUD and SHAHEEN MOLLAH

Mohammad Delowar was busy arranging new items at his electronics store in the capital's Bangabandhu National Stadium Market a few days ago.

For the last couple of months, he is selling closed-circuit television (CCTV) cameras alongside mobile phones, PABX machines, land phone sets and video game consoles.

There is an increasing demand for security cameras in the market, said Delowar, adding that a good number of customers are thronging the market and adjacent Baitul Mukarram New Super Market every day.

"Selling CCTV cameras appears to be a good idea," he said while talking to The Daily Star recently.

Besides CCTV cameras, other security equipment like metal-detecting archways and hand-held metal

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Raids on after 'shootout' in Mymensingh

Identity of 2nd 'militant' not yet known

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

Law enforcers were yet to identify the youth who along with Sholakia attacker Shafiu Islam was killed in a "shootout" between Rab and a criminal gang in Nandail upazila of Mymensingh on Thursday night.

Lt Col Shariful Islam, commanding officer of Rab-14, claimed the youth, aged about 21, was an associate of Shafiu and was among the attackers who ambushed a Rab convoy that night.

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Khaleda's unity bid falls flat

Invitee parties show little interest in joining anti-terrorism dialogue

RASHIDUL HASAN and PRABIR BARUA CHOWDHURY

BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia's initiative to forge a national unity against militancy is apparently going to fall flat, as the BNP received a lukewarm response from most other political parties.

Khaleda's stance against severing ties with the Jamaat-e-Islami and the BNP's negative image due to its violent anti-government agitation early last year are the main reasons behind the poor response, say BNP insiders.

Top BNP leaders, who have been working hard for nearly a month to get other political parties on board, managed to convince only Krishak Sramik Janata League to hold talks with the BNP chief on the initiative, they added.

A KSJL delegation led by its President Kader Siddique had a two-hour meeting with the BNP chief at her Gulshan residence on Thursday to discuss how militancy can be resisted through concerted efforts.

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Local militants claiming to be IS members

Says home minister

BSS, Cox's Bazar

Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan yesterday said investigators identified all home-grown militants, but found no members of IS in Bangladesh.

"There is no room for militancy and terrorism in the country.... Investigators in the meantime have identified all members of home-grown militant outfits and necessary actions are being taken in this connection," he told the inaugural function of a regional passport office here.

The minister said defeated forces of 1971 and militant forces like JMB (Jama'atul

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Attack in Assam market kills 14

20 injured in shooting; security forces kill one gunman; officials blame local separatist group

TNN, Kokrajhar

Terror struck the Indian state of Assam yesterday when suspected NDFB-S militants attacked a crowded market in Kokrajhar district, killing 14 people and leaving more than 20 injured.

One of the attackers was killed in a retaliatory action by security forces.

Mukesh Sahay, Assam director general of police, said the attack at Balajan Tiniali market, 12km from Kokrajhar, was suspected to be the handiwork of National Democratic Front of Bodoland (NDFB-S). Search operations by the security forces were on in the area.

He said 12 people died on the spot when

militants who came in a van around 12:30pm opened fire. Two more died on their way to the hospital, another police official said.

One of the attackers was killed when security forces rushed in and retaliated, Sahay said. The slain militant was yet to be identified.

It is suspected that three or four militants may be hiding and operations are on to nab them, he said. Law enforcers recovered AK-56 and 47 series rifles along with grenades from the spot.

More than 20 persons have been injured, most of them critically, and were admitted to various hospitals in the town.

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44 Nepalese detained for illegal stay

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police yesterday detained 44 men of Nepalese nationality from the capital's Mirpur area for illegally overstaying their visas.

All the detained individuals arrived in Bangladesh on tourist visas on May 22 and since then they had reportedly been seeking food service jobs in the city without any work permit, Dadon Fakir, officer-in-charge (OC) of Pallabi Police Station, told The Daily Star.

They failed to extend their visas before the expiration date of June 19, added the OC.

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RIO READY FOR SPORTS FEST

The carnival capital of Rio de Janeiro hosts a glittering Olympics opening ceremony party this morning. In this photo taken yesterday, Olympic torch bearer Brazilian former volleyball player Maria Isabel Barroso Salgado is seen holding up the torch of Rio 2016 Olympic games with the city mayor Eduardo Paes taking a photograph and Archbishop Orani Tempesta looking on in front of the statue of Christ the Redeemer atop the Corcovado Hill in the Brazilian city.

PHOTO: AFP

Rio, where two worlds collide

ATIQUE ANAM from Rio de Janeiro

Getting your way around in Rio is an exhausting experience in itself. Here people hardly speak English, which makes your job of getting to settle in an unknown place all the more demanding. The four Olympic venues have been set up at four corners of the city, meaning that one needs to keep some time as cushion to get to the desired destination.

The Joao Havelange Olympic Stadium in Engenhao, for example, is just about 26 kilometres from Copacabana. This distance should ideally not be a big deal to traverse in these parts of the world. But it could turn out to be a nightmare if one takes the regular bus route or a taxi to get there, because the peak hour rush is unbearable at times and could leave you stranded in the middle of nowhere. So what you do to avoid getting stranded is try to find the less-fancied options -- metros and trains in this case.

If one can get to the subway and get out of it halfway through and walk around 100 metres to

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