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Instead, he said, his relatives have been left with an "everlasting void". Al-Arif said that when he visited his father's body in the mortuary he was "denied the most basic human right" to kiss his father's face because of the horrific injuries he had suffered.

The attackers, who both followed the Salafist strand of Islam espoused by Islamic State - also known as Daesh - believed this to be punishable by death.

"The prosecution proved that Syeedy believed Jalal Uddin to be practising black magic and, inspired by the teachings of Daesh, that the victim deserved to die for that belief," said Sue Hemming, head of the Crown Prosecution Service's Counter Terrorism Division.

Police said while Syeedy might not have delivered the fatal blows, he had played an integral part in the murder.

"Although Jalal was a Muslim who peacefully practised his faith, he had a love and respect for all religions, cultures and creeds, and the fact that he was murdered by someone inspired by (Islamic State) shows the true nature and barbarity of this organisation and those who serve it," Uddin's family said in a statement.

Uddin's family, who travelled from Bangladesh to attend the three-week trial, hugged and cried after Syeedy was led away, reported the Guardian.

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Pierre Trudeau

FROM PAGE 1
government awarded the honour to Pierre Trudeau for his support and outstanding contribution to the Liberation War in 1971.

Liberation War Affairs Minister AKM Mozammel Haque, Foreign Minister AH Mahmood Ali and Bangladesh High Commissioner to Canada Mizanur Rahman were present.

While handing over the award, Hasina said Trudeau was one of the few international leaders who stood firm for the people of Bangladesh in their struggle for independence, Foreign Secretary Md Shahidul Haque told reporters after the event.

"Pierre Trudeau spoke in favour of Bangladesh's Liberation War at the international level, and Canada was one of the first countries to recognise Bangladesh immediately after its independence," she said.

Trudeau also openly supported Bangladesh's membership in the United Nations and the Commonwealth, the PM added.

Shahidul said, "The award was handed over through reminiscing of the relations between the fathers of two leaders."

The occasion was special in that both Hasina and Justin Trudeau are the "second generation" of their prime minister fathers, the foreign secretary added.

The PM expressed gratitude to her Canadian counterpart for receiving the award on behalf of his family.

"I wish prosperity and happiness of the friendly people of Canada and good health, long life and happiness of his Excellency Justin Trudeau and his family members," she said.

Hasina hoped the existing friendly relations between the two countries would continue to grow in future.

Trump

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their nominee."

Although Clinton favors some gun control measures, Trump has inaccurately suggested she wants to ban all guns.

The Republican's statements on Friday echoed comments he made at a rally last month, when he suggested that "Second Amendment people" -- gun owners or those backing gun rights -- could stop Clinton from winning the White House and picking new US Supreme Court justices.

"If she gets to pick her judges, nothing you can do folks," Trump said. "Although the Second Amendment people -- maybe there is, I don't know."

Trump has also previously accused Clinton of hypocrisy for receiving protection from armed Security Service agents.

"Crooked Hillary wants to get rid of all guns and yet she is surrounded by bodyguards who are fully armed," he tweeted. "No more guns to protect Hillary!"

Trump's latest comments follow another attack in Washington earlier in the day, when he accused Clinton without evidence of starting the movement that questions President Barack Obama's nationality and right to be president.

He had led the questions for years, admitting only on Friday that Obama is an American -- and attempted to take the credit for ending the conspiracy theory -- as he tried to neutralize damaging charges of racism.

Work together to fight AIDS, TB, malaria

Hasina urges int'l community



BSS, Montreal, Canada

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has called upon the international community to work together to prevent three of the world's most devastating diseases -- AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria.

"I firmly believe that AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria are preventable and treatable. It needs commitment, determination and solidarity... let's make a pledge to work together towards that end," she said.

The PM was addressing the opening session of the 5th Global Fund Replenishment Conference at Hyatt Regency Montreal on Friday.

She sought Global Fund support to her government's strides to ensure health security for all in Bangladesh.

The Global Fund is the world's main funding body for activities related to the prevention and treatment of AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria. It supports programmes all over the world, with a focus on those areas where the burden of disease is greatest.

Pointing out that health security is a crucial aspect of development, Hasina said access to health care is critically important for our society.

"Health security depends on poverty alleviation, food security and even climate change management... development of an equitable, affordable and sustainable health system for all remains a challenge," she added.

The prime minister said the world today stands at a critical point of its development aspiration.

"In 2015, we adopted a landmark agenda for sustainable development with a vision to create a poverty-free healthy global society."

She said Bangladesh stands out in terms of achieving MDGs, including health-related targets.

"The maternal mortality ratio has declined by 70 percent in the last two decades, while we have reduced the under-five mortality rate by 66 percent and the infant mortality rate by 62 percent in the last one and a half decades," the PM said.

Bangladesh is moving towards elimination of malaria by 2020 and has been maintaining a low prevalence rate in HIV/AIDS for the last two decades, added Hasina.

About her government's pledge to women's empowerment, she said her government has first placed utmost importance on women's education -- the most powerful tool for empowering women.

"We have made education free for girls up to 12th class and introduced various types of stipends for them...."

Son murders mother

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he said.

The incident took place in between 12:30pm and 1:00pm yesterday when the elder brother, Somnath Chowdhury, was away from home, OC Selim said, adding that Sumit opened the door with blood all over his body when Somnath returned home and found his mother, a paralysis patient, in a pool of blood in her bed.

Sumit was a well-behaved boy who had been the caregiver of his mother since she became bedridden after suffering brain strokes. He appeared in HSC examinations from Barrister Sultan Ahmed Degree College this year and did not get pass marks in three subjects. He appealed for a re-evaluation of his results and the revised results were published yesterday, said his family sources.

Sumit might have been suffering from clinical depression caused by the stress over poor results in his studies due to taking care of his bedridden mother along with other family issues, observed Zahidul Islam, assistant commissioner (AC), Chittagong Metropolitan Police, Bandar Zone.

Sumit might have snapped after the revised results were published yesterday and his elder brother scolded him for failing to secure pass marks in two subjects again, Zahid hypothesised.

His father, Sukhamoy Chowdhury, an income tax lawyer residing in Dhaka, said, "My son called me over phone yesterday at 10:21am, saying that baba (father) I failed in the re-evaluation too. I

This has not only resulted in significant improvement in school retention rates of girls, but also reduced underage marriage, maternal and child mortality," she said.

Violence is seriously impacting physical and mental health of women, said the PM. "We have been maintaining a 'zero tolerance' towards all sorts of violence and discrimination against women."

Hasina said her government set up more than 16,000 community clinics and union health centres to deliver quality health services in order to serve poor and marginalised people.

The premier said Bangladesh recognises the significant contributions of international partners, including the Global Fund, in strengthening the country's health sector.

The Global Fund has supported implementation of a number of projects in Bangladesh that eventually enhanced quality of lives affected by malaria, TB and HIV, she stated.

Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, Senegalese President Macky Sall, Togo President Faure Gnassingbe and Executive Director of the Global Fund Mark R Dybul also spoke at the opening session, moderated by Canadian Minister of International Development and La Francophonie Marie-Claude Bibeau.

Canada is hosting the Fifth Replenishment Conference of the Global Fund to raise funds and support the Global Fund in ending these devastating epidemics by 2030. The conference would seek to mobilise \$13 billion for the period of 2017-2019.

Heads of state and government, ministers of health and finance, as well as representatives from the private sector, academia, and civil society are taking part in the conference.

The Global Fund partnership has saved over 17 million lives and is supporting more than 1,000 programmes in over 100 countries where the burden of disease is the greatest.

The replenishment conference is held once in every three years. US President Barack Obama had hosted the previous conference in Washington in December 2013.

Dhaka, Ottawa

FROM PAGE 16
The Canadian PM remembered his visit to Bangladesh along with his father Pierre Elliott Trudeau in 1983 at the age of 12.

The foreign secretary said the PM's tour to Canada has opened up a new horizon in bilateral relations between the two countries.

Police

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consoled him and advised him to prepare better for the next time."

"My younger son [Sumit] used to take care of his ailing mother," Sukhamoy said. "But I am shocked to hear such incident and I can't understand how anything like this could happen."

Two cases -- one for murder and the other for attempted suicide -- have been filed in this connection, AC Zahidul Islam said.

Police

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Nasima, wife of Solayman, hailed from Kishoreganj and has been living at a relative's place since the incident.

Talking to The Daily Star, many others also expressed their deep concerns as the main earning members of their families had been lost in the fire.

"No-one came here after the burial of my brother Jahangir Alam to ask how his family members were leading their lives. I visited the factory in last two days but did not get any assurance of help," said Bazlur Rahman.

He said they had received Tk 25,000 from the factory for carrying the dead body to their village home in Bhola.

"We buried my brother the day before the Eid-ul-Azha. No festivity of Eid touched us as we lost a family member just two days ago," Bazlur added.

Workers of the factory and the family members of the victims demanded assurance of proper assistance so that they could lead their lives as before.

Woman

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that she indeed tortured the child.

Moni told police that she tortured the child because she "used to steal" food and sought frequent leaves to go to her parents, Azizur, also a sub-inspector of Joydevpur Police Station in Gazipur, said.

Meanwhile, a Gazipur court sent Moni, 35, to jail after police produced her before it.

The child from Haimchar of Chandpur had deep injury marks on all over her body and head. She is now undergoing treatment at the Chandpur Sadar Hospital.

Doctors said the girl would take at least 15 to 20 days to recover.

A joint team of Joydevpur and Chandpur police arrested Moni Begum at one of her relatives' house in connection with the case filed with Joydevpur Police Station under the Women and Children Repression Prevention Act.

Moni's husband Omar Faruk and Mostafa Sardar, who had taken the child to the couple, were arrested earlier and are now in jail.

Bell metal

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Arambagh who has been involved in bell metal production for fifty years.

"The public mostly choose plastic, ceramic, steel and melamine goods instead."

The prices of the raw materials, including the different metals used and the cost of labour have also risen, he adds. "Prices are at a level where raw material costs hardly cover the cost of production."

Shawkat does not want the next generation of his family to pursue the business. "There is no future in this industry," he says.

"There was a time when people would come from across the district and also from Rajshahi and Naogaon to buy brass utensils and also decorative artworks," says another bell metal businessman Shahidul Islam from Ram Krishtopur, whose family business has been around for over a century. "But many artisans are leaving the profession as it's hard to make a living with bell metal now. Customers favour cheaper substitutes."

"I have been involved in bell metal manufacture for over sixty years," says artisan Shafiqul Islam of Azaipur. "But none among the younger generation are taking up the profession."

His neighbour Hossain Ali, also a bell metal artisan, says he doesn't want any from his family to join the dying industry. "Many are hoping to pursue other, more profitable professions for survival," he says.

Sirajul Islam who owns a bell metal shop in the town's Puraton Bazar, is also doing it tough. "Earlier, most people used bell metal utensils; but now they prefer plastic, steel, melamine and ceramic goods. The only reason we are still in this business is because it is our ancestral business, which makes it difficult to leave."

The general secretary of the local bell metal industry association in Chapainawabganj, Abul Hossain, says added to the crises of customers and rising costs, there is now also a growing crisis in finding expertise in the craft due to a lack of up-and-coming artisans.

On behalf of the town's remaining bell metal producers he urges the government and non-government organisations to assist in finding ways to save the traditional craft, in out of respect for tradition and in order to protect the livelihoods of the hundreds of artisans yet at work.

Rickshaw puller

FROM PAGE 16
Banani Police Station, was rushed to the DMCH. It was unclear where he had gone after being discharged from the hospital.

DMCH sources said Kabir was going somewhere else for "better treatment".

After the incident, Sohel himself went to the Banani Police Station and filed a general diary. In the GD, he claimed that he had to fire shots in the air to "escape a mugging attempt", said Md Wahiduzzaman, officer-in-charge of the station.

However, police later came to know that Sohel shot the rickshaw puller and they arrested him at a hotel in Banani. They also recovered a gun and 22 bullets from him.

Sohel claimed before police that he had a licence for the firearm. Police said he was "drunk" during the incident.

In 2012, Sohel was implicated in another criminal case.

Three Jubo League men, including Zakir Hossain, the then general secretary of Jubo League's DCC North ward-20 unit, were injured as criminals opened fire on them inside their office in the capital's Mohakhali on July 1 that year.

Zakir was an aspirant for general secretary post of Banani Thana Jubo League and had been involved in a dispute with Sohel, another aspirant for the post.

On April 15 last year, Bakhtiar Alam Rony, son of AL lawmaker and acting Mohila AL general secretary Pinu Khan, fired random shots in the air from his jeep after "being frustrated over post-midnight traffic" on New Eskaton Road, leaving a rickshaw-puller and an auto-rickshaw driver dead.

Need for fair

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think-tank, at a dialogue at The Daily Star Centre.

The Daily Star and the Institute for Policy, Advocacy and Governance jointly organised the dialogue styled "Bangladesh-India relations, progress made and the challenges ahead".

Mustafizur made the comments after Mashiur Rahman, economic affairs adviser to the prime minister, said the government had followed the principles of the World Trade Organisation as much possible and taken marginal cost into consideration in fixing the transit and transportation charges.

"Occasionally you will hear that the charges are far less than what were recommended in the [government's] core committee report," Mashiur said at the dialogue without elaboration.

However, after the programme he told a group of reporters that transit fees fixed by the government are considered lower than what were recommended by the core committee but the committee's report was not approved by any authority.

The committee in its report suggested that charges should be levied for pollution and river erosion, the economic adviser said, adding that in reality there was no measurement of pollution or river erosion.

Bangladeshi ships bringing Indian goods through the transit route are already paying tax and registrations fees to the government. The government cannot impose additional charges on them, he added.

In June, Bangladesh and India flagged off transit with the first Indian consignment reaching Ashuganj on its way to the northeastern Indian state of Tripura.

The fees charged for using the road network were fixed by the roads and highways ministry taking all matters into consideration, Mashiur said, adding that trucks using the route are also Bangladeshi.

Mustafizur disagreed with his comments on marginal cost.

"You can't have marginal cost as a component of charges when you don't have the infrastructure," he said questioning the way transit charges had been fixed.

"We don't know how these fees have been set. Who are the people who have fixed them? I think there is a need for transparency."

Of Tk 192 charged to carry a tonne of goods, customs get Tk 130, the roads and highways Tk 52 and the waterways department Tk 10.

To provide transit facility, Bangladesh will have to build infrastructure and so the cost of infrastructure and maintenance should be incorporated into the charges and surcharges, Mustafizur said.

Citing examples of the European Union whose transit and transportation

protocols include surcharges and charges related to pollution, congestion and maintenance, the economist said, "What we have suggested is that take these factors into account."

Moving goods through the Siliguri corridor, known as Chicken's Neck, crossing a distance of more than 1,600 kilometres costs India \$30 per kilometre per tonne in case it uses the rail network and \$150 per tonne for using roads.

But if goods are carried through Bangladesh to India's northeastern states, the distance goes down to only 400km with cost of \$50 per tonne for roads and \$10 for railways.

The Chicken's Neck is a narrow stretch of land in West Bengal, which connects India's northeastern states to the rest of India, with Nepal and Bangladesh lying on either sides of the corridor. Bhutan lies on the northern side of the corridor.

Both India and Bangladesh can share the benefit from the savings and invest in infrastructure development, Mustafizur said.

Under the current arrangement, small amounts of goods are being carried sporadically, he said.

"If we really mean business and want to implement the BBIN Motor Vehicle Agreement and India really gets connectivity, a large portion of the 11 million tonnes of goods that now go through the Chicken's Neck can go via Bangladesh."

Infrastructure has to be ready to implement the BBIN (Bangladesh, Bhutan, Indian and Nepal) agreement. It is not only an issue for India; it is an issue for Bangladesh as well, as Bangladeshi trucks will carry and bring cargoes to and from Bhutan and Nepal through India, Mustafizur said.

"If we charge India, India will also charge us when we will bring goods from Nepal and Bhutan. So, one will have to look at what the reciprocity is and what are the areas where we can benefit in a win-win manner," he said.

PM's adviser Mashiur, however, said the government had done quite well regarding transit and transportation as long as relations between the two countries were concerned.

If the cost of transportation across Bangladesh is higher than that of using the Siliguri corridor, India would prefer the latter, he said.

One of the major problems facing transit is that the responsibility has been divided between three to four departments.

"We don't have any effective mechanism of coordination," he said.

India also doesn't have administrative arrangement for multimodal transport and so traders suffer whichever routes they use, he added.

"I guess there are a few areas where cooperation should improve."

Rivalry over post

FROM PAGE 1
Samaj Kalyan Jubo Sangha, which has been used as a temporary office of his Jubo League faction.

Before his death, Rizvi is said to have mentioned a few names of his killers before his family members at the hospital.

Milky, 43, the then organising secretary of the Dhaka city (south) unit Jubo League, was shot dead allegedly by a party man in the capital's Gulshan area in July 30, 2013.

The alleged murderer, Jahid Siddique Tarek, joint secretary of the same unit of Jubo League, was killed in a "shootout" between his cohorts and Rab in the capital the next day.

Zahidul Islam Tipu, former general secretary of Awami League's Motijheel unit, had been named a top accused along with a few other Jubo League men. However, Tipu's name was dropped from the charge-sheet submitted by Rab.

Wishing not to be named, a local Jubo League activist said about eight to 10 criminals opened fire on Rizvi and Ahsanul, leaving them critically injured.

They fired 10 to 12 bullets, said the activist, who was a few yards away from the scene.

He claimed that he could recognise four to five of the criminals but refused to disclose their names.

Another activist said 10 days before Eid, the rival faction vandalised the Jubo Sangha office, which has been used as the office of the faction loyal to Milky, and took valuables, including cash.

Locals said although Rizvi had been living with his family in Bashabo area, he was raised in the colony. He was involved in garment-related trade in the area.

After an autopsy at Dhaka Medical College morgue, his body was taken to Motijheel AGB Colony where a namaj-e-janaza was held in the afternoon.

He was supposed to be buried in Azimpur graveyard.

Ahsanul Haque Emon, who was shot along with Rizvi, was undergoing treatment at Dhaka Medical College Hospital, said hospital sources, adding that he had three bullet wounds.

Tareq bin Rashid, additional deputy commissioner (Motijheel division) of Dhaka Metropolitan Police (DMP),

said they suspect that Rizvi was killed due to enmity between two rival factions.

He said Rizvi was accused in several cases, including arms, murder and police assault cases. He was on bail in some of the cases, said the police official.

The police official said rival factions filed separate cases in connection with the vandalism of the Jubo Sangha office and the accused were on bail.

DC Anwar Hossain of Motijheel division of DMP said none was arrested in connection with Rizvi's murder and that a case was yet to be filed.

Contacted, Tipu said his name had been falsely implicated in the Milky murder case. "Now people are accusing me of killing again to harass me," he told The Daily Star over phone.

He said he was out of town and had only heard about the killing after returning to Dhaka yesterday morning.

According to locals, the AGB Colony, adjacent to the capital's commercial hub Motijheel, has been a lucrative area for goons and extortionists as there are various sources to earn illegal money there.

Records tumble

FROM PAGE 16
the wonder within a time bracket of 48 hours. It weighs a total of 3750 kilograms.

In a major initiative in his home state Gujarat, Modi was to distribute 17,000 assistive aids and appliances kits to among 11,223 disabled people - the highest ever number in the world.

According to Indian media reports, the organisers aim to break a world record for maximum number of people in wheelchairs who form an image or a logo. The previous record was made in the US by 346 wheelchair-bound persons in 2010.

Another record expected to be set anew will be by providing hearing aids to another 1,000 hearing-impaired persons. The previous record was held in Australia when 500 persons were given hearing aids. The event will be monitored by officials from Guinness World Records.

As many as 1,500 oil lamps will be lit simultaneously at a single location to establish another record.