

## Murder accused flees dodging the eyes of cops

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Natore

In a display of sheer negligence, a murder case accused removed his fetters and fled from a bus after dodging the eyes of four escorting policemen on Tuesday evening. He was being taken to Narayanganj District Jail from Natore.

Shamim Hossain, 22, sneaked off the bus when it reached Amin Bazar around 7:00pm. The policemen found the fetters inside the bus.

"They could not even sense when he had broken the fetters,"

Mohammad Ibrahim, inspector of Special Branch of police in Natore, told The Daily Star, quoting assistant sub-inspector Ahtesham, who led the four-member police team.

Ahtesham, however, said Shamim jumped through the window when the bus was stuck in a jam near Amin Bazar, on the outskirts of the capital.

"We also got down from the bus immediately and chased him but he disappeared into the crowd," he claimed.

The ASI said, "We removed the handcuffs and allowed him to sit by the window as he was vomiting and feeling sick. But we could not sense when and how he unchained himself."

Natore police arrested Shamim, an accused in a murder case filed with Fatullah Police Station in

SEE PAGE 13 COL 4



PepsiCo Chairman and CEO Indra K Nooyi speaking at "Faraaz Hossain Courage Award 2016" ceremony at a city hotel yesterday. Bottom, Brac Founder and Chairperson Sir Fazle Hasan Abed, PepsiCo CEO (Asia, Middle East and Africa) Sanjeev Chadha and Faraaz's elder brother Zaraif Ayaat Hossain delivering their speeches. PHOTO: STAR

## 48 killed

FROM PAGE 1

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province at around 4:15pm (1115 GMT).

Rescuers, including hundreds of villagers, pulled the charred remains from the wreckage of the aircraft, parts of which were found hundreds of metres away from the main site near the village of Saddha Batolani.

"No one survived," said a Civil Aviation Authority spokesman. His comments were confirmed by Danyal Gilani, a spokesman for Pakistan International Airlines.

An AFP reporter at the site said part of the plane was still on fire more than five hours after the crash, as rescuers picked up torn human remains with their hands and placed them in bags before they were taken by ambulance to Islamabad for identification.

Addressing a press conference, Azam Saigol, the airline's chairman said the plane was an ATR-42 turboprop aircraft, which contacted ground authorities after one engine failed and issued a Mayday call at 4:14pm.

It began descending a minute later before disappearing from radar at 4:16pm.

"This plane was technically sound, and was checked in October," he said, adding the captain had flown more than 12,000 hours and the aircraft was nine years old.

"Our focus now is to retrieve all the dead bodies," he added, vowing a full investigation.

A senior rescue official on the site who requested anonymity added: "The villagers told us that the plane was shaky before it crashed. It was about to hit the village but it seems that the pilot managed to drag the plane towards the hills. The fire is still on but it's near to end."

Three foreigners were among the dead, officials said, with Austria's foreign ministry later confirming two of its nationals were killed and Chinese state media saying one of its nationals was also among the victims.

## Stalkers attack

FROM PAGE 1

Union of Faridganj upazila on Tuesday afternoon.

Abdul Mannan, 55, and his son Anwar Hossain, 22, are undergoing treatment at Faridganj upazila health complex. They are out of danger, said Jahangir Alam Shipon, a health official there.

Talking to The Daily Star at the health complex, Anwar said a local youth, Al Amin Bhuiyan, 22, had been stalking her 18-year-old sister for long.

As they protested the matter, four to five criminals, led by Al Amin and armed with sharp weapons, attacked Anwar and hacked him on the head near his home. Mannan, a day labourer, was also attacked when he tried to save his son.

Anwar said the attackers also assaulted the girl and his sister.

Local union parishad chairman Hasan Abdul Hye confirmed the incident.

Contacted, Abul Kalam, officer-in-charge of Faridganj Police Station, said, they were yet to receive any complaints. He said they would take action based on the complaint.

A case was being filed.

Despite repeated attempts, Al Amin could not be reached over phone for comments.

## Reward for bravery

FROM PAGE 1

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province at around 4:15pm (1115 GMT).

Rescuers, including hundreds of villagers, pulled the charred remains from the wreckage of the aircraft, parts of which were found hundreds of metres away from the main site near the village of Saddha Batolani.

"No one survived," said a Civil Aviation Authority spokesman. His comments were confirmed by Danyal Gilani, a spokesman for Pakistan International Airlines.

An AFP reporter at the site said part of the plane was still on fire more than five hours after the crash, as rescuers picked up torn human remains with their hands and placed them in bags before they were taken by ambulance to Islamabad for identification.

Addressing a press conference, Azam Saigol, the airline's chairman said the plane was an ATR-42 turboprop aircraft, which contacted ground authorities after one engine failed and issued a Mayday call at 4:14pm.

It began descending a minute later before disappearing from radar at 4:16pm.

"This plane was technically sound, and was checked in October," he said, adding the captain had flown more than 12,000 hours and the aircraft was nine years old.

"Our focus now is to retrieve all the dead bodies," he added, vowing a full investigation.

A senior rescue official on the site who requested anonymity added: "The villagers told us that the plane was shaky before it crashed. It was about to hit the village but it seems that the pilot managed to drag the plane towards the hills. The fire is still on but it's near to end."

Three foreigners were among the dead, officials said, with Austria's foreign ministry later confirming two of its nationals were killed and Chinese state media saying one of its nationals was also among the victims.

As they protested the matter, four to five criminals, led by Al Amin and armed with sharp weapons, attacked Anwar and hacked him on the head near his home. Mannan, a day labourer, was also attacked when he tried to save his son.

Anwar said the attackers also assaulted the girl and his sister. Local union parishad chairman Hasan Abdul Hye confirmed the incident.

Contacted, Abul Kalam, officer-in-charge of Faridganj Police Station, said, they were yet to receive any complaints. He said they would take action based on the complaint.

A case was being filed. Despite repeated attempts, Al Amin could not be reached over phone for comments.

## Trump named

FROM PAGE 16

divisions and praising outgoing Democratic President Barack Obama.

The real estate tycoon, who has never previously held elected office and shocked the political establishment by defeating his Democratic rival Hillary Clinton, is featured on Time's cover described as "Donald Trump: President of the Divided States of America."

The magazine said its person of the year, a tradition that began in 1927, "had the greatest influence, for better or worse, on the events of the year."

"So which is it this year: better or worse?" editor-in-chief Nancy Gibbs wrote. "The challenge for Donald Trump is how profoundly the country disagrees about the answer."

She said 2016 had been the year of his rise and 2017 would be the year of his rule, after he is sworn into office on

imbue the Bangladeshi youths with the spirit of bravery, the very spirit that Faraaz symbolises.

The jury that selected the winner is comprised of eminent personalities.

They include Brac Founder and Chairperson Sir Fazle Hasan Abed (chairman of the jury), Bishwo Shahitto Kendro Chairman Prof



## An example of courage

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Born in an ordinary family, Miraz Sardar went through many ups and downs in life, but that made him more humane and courageous.

Miraz's bravery and humanity earned him "Faraaz Hossain Courage Award 2016", introduced by PepsiCo Global in recognition of 20-year-old Faraaz Ayaaz Hossain who refused to desert his friends and was brutally killed by terrorists during the July 1 terror attack at Holey Artisan Bakery in Dhaka.

Miraz chased and caught one of the assailants who hacked Ripon Chakraborty, a lecturer of Government Nazimuddin University College in Madaripur on June 15. He works as an office assistant at the college.

"I chased the attackers of

SEE PAGE 10 COL 3

Abdullah Abu Sayeed, renowned Tagore exponent Rezwana Choudhury Bannya, Standard Chartered Bank CEO Abrar Anwar, Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and Industry President Syed Nasim Manzur, American International School teacher Sabahat Jahan, PepsiCo Bangladesh Country Manager Manish Muley, and

Transcom Group Chairman and Faraaz's grandfather Latifur Rahman.

Referring to a speech of Martin Luther King, Abed said darkness cannot drive away darkness, only light can do. Also, hate cannot drive away hate, only love can do.

On one of the darkest nights in Bangladesh's history, Faraaz's courage, loyalty, and love was that light, he noted.

Abed hoped this award would help create in young Bangladeshis extraordinary qualities and values that Faraaz demonstrated in his short life.

Indra K Nooyi said Faraaz was known as a gentle boy, but on that night he was extraordinarily brave to fight the evil. He went beyond his identity of Bangalee or a Muslim, and acted as a true friend.

"Faraaz is Bangladesh. He is more than Bangladesh... Now, more than ever, we need people like Faraaz in Bangladesh... in South Asia and around the world," she said.

Faraaz is the son of Simeen Hossain and Muhammad Waqer Bin Hossain, and grandson of Latifur Rahman and Shahnaz Rahman.

Addressing the ceremony, Latifur Rahman said the July 1 attack was a total shock to the psyche of the nation because it doesn't reflect what Bangladesh is.

People of Bangladesh have an open heart to greet foreigners, he said, adding that Faraaz demonstrated his extraordinary courage and humanity on that very night.

He thanked PepsiCo for coming up with the idea of the award, which would inspire the youths of Bangladesh to be imbued with such values.

Sanjeev Chadha, PepsiCo chief executive officer (Asia, the Middle East and Africa), said he is personally inspired by Faraaz, who single-handedly changed the narrative of the July 1 attack.

"His story must be told to the world. His story has the power of changing the tide," said Sanjeev, who launched the official website of the award and its Facebook page.

Faraaz's elder brother Zaraif Ayaat Hossain, who moderated the programme, said their mother played the most important role in inculcating in Faraaz the values he demonstrated on the July 1 night.

"You [Faraaz] are a role model," he said, adding that Faraaz represents true Bangladesh.

anything to divide," he said, despite having inflamed the country by campaign rhetoric disparaging women, illegal immigrants and Muslims among others.

TAKES OBAMA'S ADVICE

For years he criticised Obama and was instrumental in the so-called "birther" movement that questioned whether the first black president was born in the United States.

"I will say this: I've now gotten to know President Obama. I really like him," Trump told NBC yesterday. "I can't speak for him, but we have a really good chemistry together. We talked," he said.

"He loves the country, he wants to do right by the country and for the country and I will tell you, we obviously very much disagree on certain policies and certain things, but I really like him," he added.

## SC upholds

FROM PAGE 1

Mufti Hannan faces 24 other criminal cases, including those filed in connection with the August 21, 2004 grenade attack on an Awami League rally on the capital's Bangabandhu Avenue. The attack left 24 people killed and around 300 injured.

The 24 cases are now under trial.

Talking to The Daily Star yesterday, Attorney General Mahbubey Alam said the apex court upheld the Huiji leaders' death sentences as they directly took part in the attack on Anwar Choudhury at the shrine of Hazrat Shahjalal (RA) in Sylhet.

The jail authorities can start the process of executing Hannan, Bipul and Delwar after receiving the certified copy of the SC verdict, he said.

The convicts will be hanged within three weeks after the verdict's certified copy reaches the jail authorities. But the process would remain postponed if the convicts file review petitions with the apex court, added the attorney general.

The three convicts will have to submit review petitions, if they choose to, in 30 days after receiving the full verdict.

Mahbubey Alam hoped the SC will release the full judgment in a week. He said the SC may dispose of the probable review petitions in a day or two after hearing those.

According to the country's top law official, the life imprisonments of two other convicted Huiji members -- Muhibullah alias Muhibur Rahman

alias Ovi and Mufti Main Uddin alias Abu Zandal -- will remain in force as they did not move any appeal before the SC against their convictions and sentences.

The two can move appeals before the SC, but they will have to explain the reasons for the delay in filing the appeals, said the lawyer.

All the five convicts are now behind bars.

Mohammad Ali, lawyer for Hannan and Bipul, told reporters that they will move petitions before the apex court seeking review of its judgment.

On May 21, 2004, three people were killed and around 70 others, including Anwar Choudhury, hurt in the grenade attack at the Sylhet shrine after Jum prayers.

The Bangladesh-born British diplomat, then barely 18 days into his new assignment, suffered minor leg injuries.

The Sylhet Divisional Speedy Trial Tribunal on December 23, 2008, had sentenced Mufti Hannan, Bipul and Ripon to death, and Ovi and Abu Zandal to life imprisonment in the case.

The HC on February 11 this year confirmed the capital punishments for the three and upheld the life sentences of Ovi and Abu Zandal.

Mufti Hannan and Bipul later filed appeals with the SC challenging the HC verdict.

The SC appointed lawyer Helal Uddin Mollah to defend Delwar in the case as he did not submit any appeal.

## Deal likely

FROM PAGE 1

Jinjing's Dhaka visit.

At the time, Dhaka and Beijing signed 27 deals worth about \$24.45 billion in soft loan for various key development projects. In addition, 13 Bangladeshi entities and as many Chinese companies signed 13 joint venture agreements involving \$13.6 billion of Chinese investment in Bangladesh.

Together, the sum of \$38.05 billion is the biggest ever assistance pledged to Bangladesh by any single country. However, this figure may change, depending on the project cost at the time of implementation.

Sources said India was keen to finance projects to be implemented by Indian companies. At the moment, various projects worth \$3 billion are being implemented with Indian soft loan, for which several agreements were signed during Manmohan Singh and Narendra Modi's visit.

Hasina is likely to fly to India on December 17 and hold official talks with Modi the next day, diplomatic sources said.

It will be her first official visit there after Modi assumed power in 2014, though she has visited India twice since 2015 -- for the funeral of President Pranab Mukherjee's wife in August 2015 and for BRICS-BIMSTEC outreach meets in October this year.

Modi visited Dhaka in June last year when a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) or primary agreement was signed between the two sides on the use of the two ports.

After his trip, shipping ministry officials of the two countries started preparing drafts of the agreement and the Standard Operational Procedure (SOP).

Talks for finalising the drafts kicked off in Dhaka yesterday. A 16-member Bangladesh team led by Shipping Secretary Ashok Madhob Roy and a nine-member Indian delegation led by its Shipping Secretary Rajive Kumar are holding the talks.

The final agreement on this is expected during Hasina's visit, said a shipping ministry official, adding that India wants to start using the two ports on a limited scale from next year.

Before the meeting, however, Ashok told reporters that they could not say for sure if the deal would be signed during the upcoming visit.

But the foreign ministry and the finance ministry have been working on this, he said, adding that the shipping secretary-level meeting was a regular one, where other important issues of interest would also be discussed.

The draft mentions how India will use the ports and what methods would be followed. The secretary-level meet will now discuss and finalise those.

The Indian shipping secretary said, "Our endeavor will be that we should complete this process of agreement and SOPs as early as we can mutually agree. Our team is here and they are working on it. I am very hopeful that, at least this part, we will be able to complete by this month."

He added: "Once the SOPs and the agreements will be in place, this will provide the environment for people to take full advantage on both sides."

India wants to use Bangladesh ports in the way other international ports are used. Bangladesh will charge levies and fees just as other international ports do. These will be spelt out in details in the SOPs, said the Bangladesh shipping secretary.

Explaining how Bangladesh will benefit from the agreement, he said Bangladesh is an importing country. When goods are delivered in

Bangladesh many ships depart empty. But when Indian goods will be transported through Bangladesh ports, these ships can be used to export goods as well.

According to the draft agreement, Bangladesh ports will be used for transporting Indian goods from one area to another within Bangladesh. There is scope for using Bangladesh ports for transporting Indian export items.

Agreements on construction of a multi-purpose container terminal and plying of Indian tourist ships in Bangladesh territory may also be signed.

Initially, however, the tourists will not be allowed to disembark the ships. This provision would later be relaxed, officials said.

The two countries are also likely to sign a crucial deal styled Framework of Bilateral Agreement on Defence Cooperation to bolster and expand partnership in the areas of defence, our diplomatic correspondent adds.

Dhaka and New Delhi are looking to expand security ties as part of the growing strategic partnership, diplomatic sources said yesterday.

Ahead of the PM's visit, the two sides are having high-level visits to firm up various agreements. The latest visit of Indian Defence Minister Manohar Parrikar to Bangladesh and the home secretary-level talks in New Delhi on December 5-6 were held in a "spirit of friendship".

Security, border management, terrorism and violent extremism were discussed during the home secretary-level talks along with the issue of counterterrorism, the source added.

Hasina is scheduled to hold talks with Modi on a wide range of issues, including the long pending Teesta water-sharing pact, but the possibility of inking the deal is thin during this visit.

Meanwhile, Dhaka is set to announce the selection of India's Reliance Power Ltd. to build a 500,000 Mcf/d a floating storage and regasification unit and a 750 MW combined cycle power plant during the visit, S&P Global Platts reported yesterday.

The Ministry of Power, Energy and Mineral Resources and state-run Bangladesh Power Development Board expect a draft power purchase agreement, implementation agreement and land lease agreement to be signed during the visit.

"We are now working to finalise the draft deals," BPDB Chairman Khaled Mahmood said.

The projects are expected to be awarded under the Speedy Supply of Power and Energy (Special Provisions) Act 2010, which does not require a tender process.

SIRIKE ON MSF HOSPITAL

## Coalition made 'mistakes'

AFP, Riyadh

The Saudi-led coalition made a mistake when it carried out a deadly bombing next to a hospital supported by Doctors Without Borders in northern Yemen, an "independent" probe said Tuesday.

Many findings of the investigation contradict those of the charity, also known by its French initials MSF, which called the August 15 attack "unjustified and unprovoked".

In March 2015, the Saudi-led coalition launched air strikes in Yemen against Iran-supported Shiite Huthi rebels and their allies after the rebels overran much of Yemen.