

## Musa told wife to blow herself up

But she didn't detonate suicide vest to save her baby girl and surrendered, say interrogators; 7 grenades, 2 suicide vests with bombs found at Ashkona den

SHARIFUL ISLAM and SHAHEEN MOLLAH

After police cordoned off the Ashkona militant hideout early Saturday, Maynul Musa instructed his wife Trisha Moni to wear a suicide vest and blow up herself along with their four-month-old daughter instead of surrendering to law enforcers.

Trisha, however, did not carry out the instruction as her motherly love for the baby stopped her from detonating the vest.

So, she decided to surrender, according to her statement to an official of Counter Terrorism and Transnational Crime (CTTC) unit of the DMP during interrogation.

Sensing that police encircled the den, Trisha communicated with her husband using an encrypted messaging app and wanted his advice about the next course of action.

"Musa then asked his wife and all other women to wear the suicide vests and blow themselves up," the official said.

Musa took the helm of radical group "Neo JMB" as most of its top leaders died in anti-terror operations following the July 1 Gulshan café attack. The other top leaders are either arrested or under police surveillance, officials say.

The last time Musa visited the Ashkona flat on the ground floor of a three-storey building was on Tuesday when he brought bombs and grenades there.

Two other militants who go by the name of Firoz and Selim in the

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Radicalised by expat

Claims mother of militant Musa

ANWAR ALI, from Rajshahi, and RAFIUL ISLAM

Neo JMB leader Maynul Islam's attitude changed after he met Faisal, an expatriate from Bahrain, said his mother Sufia Biwi.

Last year, Maynul, code-named Musa, took Sufia to his Uttara residence in the capital where she saw Faisal and Maj Jahid, the alleged trainer of Gulshan and Sholakia attackers. The two used to frequent the house.

Maynul often told his mother to stay with him, but she didn't.

The doors and windows were closed all the time. "I could not breathe and so I could not stay," said the 50-year old.

Whenever she told her son to leave the company of Faisal and Jahid, Maynul said they were good people who said their prayers regularly.

Maynul has become a key leader of pro-Islamic State group "Neo JMB" following the killing of its

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Children gather in front of father Christmas to get gifts during celebrations at the Sonargaon Hotel in the capital yesterday. Merry Christmas from The Daily Star. Story on page 16.

PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

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## RUSSIAN MILITARY JET CRASH IN BLACK SEA All 92 onboard killed

Plane was on way to Syria; Putin orders probe; wreckage found

AFP, Moscow

A Russian military plane crashed on its way to Syria yesterday, with no sign of survivors among the 92 onboard, who included dozens of Red Army Choir members heading to celebrate the New Year with troops.

The Tu-154 plane went down in the Black Sea shortly after taking off from the southern city of Adler where it had been refuelling, defence ministry spokesman Igor Konashenkov said in a briefing broadcast on the ministry's website.

It disappeared from radar just two minutes after it took off at 5:25am (0225 GMT).

The ministry told agencies there was no sign of any survivors at the crash site and that 10 bodies had been recovered off the coast of the resort city of Sochi, as authori-



ties pledged to dispatch more than 100 divers to aid in the search.

Fragments of the Tu-154 plane of the Russian defence ministry were found 1.5 kilometres (0.9 miles) from the Black Sea coast of the city of Sochi at a depth of 50 to 70 metres (165 to 230 feet)," the ministry said.

President Vladimir Putin told state

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Tigers look to set the record straight

SPORTS REPORTER

With an aim to change their disappointing record in New Zealand, Bangladesh will begin their fourth bilateral series away from home against the Kiwis today.

In fact, by the time this report is read a major portion of the first ODI between the two teams would have already taken place since the match is scheduled to begin at 4:00am Bangladesh time. It will be broadcast by Bangladesh Television and Channel 9.

Going into the New Zealand series, there was plenty of talk regarding Bangladesh's successes since 2015. The way they tamed Pakistan, India and South Africa at home, their historic Test win against England in Dhaka and the fact that

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## Case backlog big hurdle to justice

Says CJ; asks lower court judges to use full time of courts to get rid of logjam

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Directing lower court judges to work with honesty, sincerity and punctuality, Chief Justice Surendra Kumar Sinha yesterday said the huge backlog of pending cases and long delays in their disposal are a big hurdle to justice.

"There are 27 lakh cases pending with lower courts across the country, and this burden of undisposed cases can slow down the management of the courts and might increase the cost of case disposal. For this, people might be discouraged to take their disputes before the courts and be encouraged to get favourable solutions through extrajudicial means or muscle power. In such a situation, people's faith in the rule of law may decrease, and impunity and violence may rise in the society," he said.

The CJ made the remarks while speaking as chief guest at the inauguration of the last day's sessions of the two-day national judicial conference at the Supreme Court auditorium.

"We must get rid of the incurable disease of case backlog. For that you

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বিভাগিত : ১৬২৫৫ (মোবাইল থেকে), ০১৬৬৬৭ ১৬২৫৫

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