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'GUNFIGHT' IN BOGRA 'Neo JMB chief for northern region' killed

ANWAR ALI and MAMUN-UR-RASHID

Amijul Islam, killed in a "gunfight" with police in Bogra early on Thursday, was coordinating the activities of "Neo JMB" militants across the country and reorganising the outfit's military wing, police said.

He was made the organisation's North Bengal chief based on "seniority and expertise in military tactics" after the law enforcers had arrested his predecessor Fazlur Rahman Taher alias Raj in Chandpur Pabnapara village of Natore on January 13, Superintendent of Bogra police Md Asaduzzaman told The Daily Star yesterday.

The country's northern region is considered a stronghold of militants, the SP added.

A police press release said Amijul was killed in a "gunfight" at Jamnagar in Bogra's Sherpur upazila. Taking him along, a police team went there to recover arms.

The "gunfight" ensued around 3:00am when some "unidentified terrorists" tried to snatch Amijul. As he tried to flee, he was caught in the line of fire, read the release.

Law enforcers recovered a pistol, two magazines and three bullets from the spot. His body was later sent to Shahid Ziaur Rahman Medical College in Bogra for an autopsy.

A team of the Bogra Detective Branch of police arrested the 24-year-old from Kella Baroipara village in Rajshahi's Godagari upazila on Tuesday night.

Trying to escape arrest, Amijul had stabbed police constables Abdus Salam and Ismail Hossain.

The "Neo JMB" is an offshoot of the outlawed Jama'atul Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB).

Jahangir Alam alias Rajib Gandhi, a mastermind behind

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DANGLING DANGER



Power outlets hanging dangerously low over a pavement near the GPO in the capital yesterday. Hawkers use them while selling goods after hours and on Fridays.

PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON

ERADICATING POVERTY Muhith lauds role of Prof Yunus, Abed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Finance Minister AMA Muhith yesterday applauded Nobel Laureate Prof Muhammad Yunus and Brac Founder Sir Fazle Hasan Abed for their pioneering efforts aimed at eradicating poverty.

"They are respected personalities in our country. We should respect them as well," he said, while speaking at the launch of modernisation of loan management system at the auditorium of the LGED in the capital's Agargaon.

Muhith said the initiatives of Prof Yunus and Sir Abed started in a very small way but over the years they had transformed those initiatives into institutions.

"I think these two projects exhibited the country's success in poverty eradication."

Muhith said the initiatives of Prof Yunus and Sir Abed had helped people thrive with their hidden talent.

He said the government always aimed at rooting out poverty and take up various initiatives. "Since 1972, poverty alleviation has been the government's priority. It remains a priority today."

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Paan on fire!

MOHAMMAD AL-MASUM MOLLA

Ahh! A Paan after a sumptuous dinner. Nothing like it.

But what if the Paan is on fire? Not very sure, right? Then take a trip to Old Dhaka's Jalil Mia's Paan shop in Nazira Bazaar.

There you get this strange Paan that is set on fire before you gulp it down, the whole thing including the fire. It will feel even better than any ordinary Paan.

If you think Paan is a mere betel leaf and betel nut thing mixed with a little bit of lime and catechu then Jalil Mia will prove you wrong.

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WAR CRIMES FUGITIVES Police to report every 15 days

Will also explain reasons for failure to arrest; police chief writes to tribunal

TUHIN SHUBHRA ADHIKARY

Police will submit reports every 15 days to the International Crimes Tribunal about the war crimes fugitives with reasons behind their failure to arrest, the inspector general of police has written to the tribunal recently.

Superintendents of police of districts concerned will maintain a register on the matter and the SPs along with the officer-in-charge concerned will monitor it so that the tribunal's orders are properly followed, IGP AKM Shahidul Hoque wrote.

Law enforcers took the measures following indictment of a dead man as police failed to inform the tribunal timely about the death of a fugitive war crimes accused. In a written reply to a tribunal's show cause notice, the IGP came up with several steps police took to stop such incidents from recurring, said tribunal sources citing the reply.

Fugitive accused Wazuddin of Mymensingh's Phulbaria upazila died of "old-age complications" on May 7 last year. But police didn't inform the tribunal of the matter until January 12 when a media report brought the matter to the fore.

The "unusual delay and negligence" in informing the tribunal of the death led it to frame charges against him in absentia on December 11 last year since the prosecution, on the basis of an earlier police report, pressed formal charges identifying him as a fugitive.

Following a prosecution's verbal plea, the tribunal on January 31 asked the IGP and the SP for the explanation on "blatant inefficiency and

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'SHOOTOUTS' AGAIN Two 'robbers', one 'drug dealer' killed

STAR REPORT

Two alleged robbers and a suspected drug dealer were killed in "gunfights" with Rapid Action Battalion and police in Brahmanbaria and the Sundarbans yesterday.

A member of a "robber gang" was killed in a "gunfight" with Rab in the Sundarbans, reports our Bagerhat correspondent.

The dead, Billal Mir alias Kana Billal, was the second-in-command of "Shamsu Bahini", according to Rab.

Deputy Commander of Rab-8 Maj Adnan Kabir said a Rab team was on a regular patrol in the Sundarbans yesterday morning when some robbers opened fire on the team in Sukhparar Char area under the Chandpai range of the Sundarbans East Zone.

The Rab men retaliated

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Antarctica hits record high temperature



REUTERS, Oslo

An Argentine research base near the northern tip of the Antarctic peninsula has set a heat record at a balmy 63.5° Fahrenheit (17.5 degrees Celsius), the UN weather agency said on Wednesday.

The Esperanza base set the high on March 24, 2015, the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) said after reviewing data around Antarctica to set benchmarks to help track future global warming and natural variations.

"Verification of maximum and minimum temperatures help us to build up a picture of the weather and climate in one of Earth's final frontiers," said Michael Sparrow, a polar expert with the WMO co-sponsored World Climate Research Programme.

Antarctica locks up 90 percent of the world's fresh water as ice and would raise sea levels by

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HIDING WEALTH INFO ACC arrests ex-Rajuk chief engineer

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) yesterday arrested a former Rajuk chief engineer for allegedly devaluing his moveable and immovable properties to conceal wealth worth around Tk 1.17 crore and amassing beyond his known sources of income worth around Tk 86.41 lakh.

Retiring from Rajdhani Unnayan Karttripakkha (Rajuk) in 2014, Emdadul

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SIBL Social Islamic Bank Limited
Prayer Timing March 3
Fazr Juma Asr Maghrib Esha
AZAN 5-15 12-30 4-30 6-05 7-30
JAMAAT 5-50 1-15 4-45 6-10 8-00
SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

NATURE QUEST
Mango flowers bloom in abundance
RABIUL HASAN, Chapainawabganj
Mango trees in the district are adorned with bunches of flowers amid favourable weather this year, and the sweet smell of the flowers pervades in every corner.
Farmers in Chapainawabganj are hopeful of a bumper yield of the sweet juicy fruit this season.
PHOTO: STAR
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নারী উদ্যোক্তা সমাবেশ ও পণ্য প্রদর্শনী মেলা-২০১৭
০৬ মার্চ হতে ১১ মার্চ, ২০১৭
স্থান: বাংলাদেশ মহিলা সমিতি চত্বর, বেইলী রোড, ঢাকা
উদ্বোধন করবেন:
গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকারের
মহিলা ও শিশু বিষয়ক মন্ত্রণালয়ের মাননীয় প্রতিমন্ত্রী
জনাব মেহের আফরোজ চুমকি, এমপি
আয়োজনে: বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংক