

NGO official

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 from his Ghope Naowapara home. Rights Jessore, a local NGO, works for trafficking victims. Speaking at a press conference at Jessore Press Club earlier in the day, Binay alleged that SP Anisur Rahman was harassing him and his family members over a movement protesting removal of homes and business outlets from a piece of land leased from the government. He said plainclothes men abducted his elder son Sabuj Mallick from Jessore town on March 9. Later, Sabuj was shown arrested by Fultola police in Khulna allegedly for possession of phensedyl. The rights activist expressed fear that he might be abducted or arrested. Visiting the land in the town's Garikhana area recently, this newspaper found that a boundary wall had been constructed around the land and a signboard reading "Police's Own Property" put up there. Despite repeated attempts, this correspondent could not reach SP Anisur for his comments as he did not pick up his phone.



The hands of the 13-year-old are tied to the grills in the parking of a former lawmaker's house at Pathanpara, Chapainawabganj. The ex-MP, Harunur Rashid, accused the boy of stealing a pigeon and said his men confined him for seven hours so that he could not steal anything from the house with no one inside at the time. Police later went there to rescue the boy.

PHOTO: STAR

Court accepts charges against five Ansarullah militants

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday accepted charges against five members of banned militant outfit Ansarullah Bangla Team in a case filed in connection with planning to collect members for IS (Islamic State) and take them along to Syria. After scrutinising the case dockets and other relevant documents, Judge Kamrul Hossain Mollah of the Metropolitan Sessions Judge's Court passed the order. The judge also set April 2 for hearing on charge framing against the five militants in the case. The accused are Abdullah al Galib, 25, Fida Muntasir Saker, 26, Asif Pathan alias Rahat, 21, Faiyaz Ismam Khan, 24, and Sabbir Hossain alias Pranto, 24. Of the five, Galib is now in jail while the four others got bail from the High Court on different dates. On December 11 last year, detectives pressed charges against the five for allegedly committing the offences.

In the charge sheet, the investigation officer of the case said the charges brought against the five for their alleged involvement in conspiring to destabilise the country's law and order and to kill some important figures were primarily proved and they should be tried. Galib, Fida and their associates were recruiting fighters and collecting funds to wage jihad in Bangladesh, according to the case statement. Galib, 27, son of an ex-army official, also launched a new militant organisation called "Jund At-Tawheed Wal Khilafah". He was arrested in his Baridhara DOHS house on May 30 in 2015. Fida was held in his Banani DOHS house on June 17 and Faiyaz in his Mirpur DOHS house on June 20 the same year. Asif and Sabbir were detained from different places in the capital on August 6 that year. Later, a case under the anti-terrorism act was filed with Cantonment Police Station against Galib, Fida and several other unidentified militants.

Girl gives

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 After Armani mentioned it at their family church, the congregation donated dozens more items to make up complete care packages. In total they fed 125 people. "It was nice to be nice," Armani told US broadcaster, ABC News. Her mother Artesha Crews added that the youngster had been asking for months to be allowed to feed the homeless. Initially, she and her husband Antoine had thought that their little girl was joking. But Armani had persisted and they had eventually allowed her to hand out some sandwiches. This wasn't enough for her however and she had demanded they do the same thing on her birthday. After Antoine had explained the she would have to forfeit a party and presents, she insisted they go ahead.

So the family purchased chicken, fish, spaghetti, corn, green beans, mashed potatoes, rolls, cake, cookies, fruit and water to hand out in the city's East Garfield Park neighbourhood. The care packages also included toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant and hand sanitiser. More than half a million Americans are homeless, according to a Department of Housing and Urban Development report in 2015.

Hotelier held

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 The US citizen called in Ali Ehsan, one of her friends in Kushtia, who went to the hotel around 4:30am and rescued her. She later managed a room at an NGO dormitory nearby. The journalist shared her traumatic experience with her Facebook friends at 4:42am on March 6. On Sunday, she sent copies of her complaint to Kushtia Deputy Commissioner Zahir Raihan and SP Mehedi Hasan through her local representative Sufi Faruq Ibn Abu Bakar. The SP said after primary investigation they found evidence of violation of the foreigner's rights.

Addict son

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 Miraz brought a machete from the kitchen and hacked her, he said, adding that Akbar was hacked when he came to Minara's aid. UN investigators say that during the military operation women were gang-raped by soldiers and Rohingya babies were slaughtered. Lee conceded the rights council to establish the UN's highest-level probe, a Commission of Inquiry (COI), to investigate that crackdown as well as violent episodes in 2012 and 2014. The council could set up the commission before its session ends later this month, but key players including the European Union have not yet backed Lee's call because of concern that a damning UN investigation might threaten the country's fragile democracy drive. Speaking to reporters after her council appearance, Lee said she believed support for a Commission of Inquiry was tepid, including within the EU. Countries "won't say they are not going to support your call, but I do hear ... [countries] say that maybe Aung San Suu Kyi needs more time," Lee said, referring to the Nobel peace laureate who leads Myanmar's civilian government. Suu Kyi's government, which took charge last year after decades of oppressive military rule, has rejected Lee's bid to set up a Commission of Inquiry and insisted its own national probe can uncover the facts in Rakhine.

Khaleda

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 Station in 2007 while the other was filed with a Dhaka court for making seditious comments about freedom fighters and Liberation War martyrs. Police in May and June last year pressed charges in nine cases against Khaleda and more than 80 leaders and activists of the BNP-led 20-party alliance for arson attacks on buses during the three-month movement by the combine in 2015. Earlier, the Metropolitan Sessions Judge's Court on several occasions warned Khaleda of issuing arrest warrant against her if she failed to appear before it. On Sunday, the Supreme Court cleared the way for a lower court to continue her trial in the Zia Charitable Trust graft case. The High Court last week transferred the Zia Orphanage Trust corruption case against Khaleda to Dhaka Metropolitan Senior Special Judge's Court, and asked it to complete the trial within 60 days after receiving the order.

PM turns down

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 Hossain Amu about the plan. The minister responded by saying that he was unaware of any plan to hike urea price, sources said. Asking the industries secretary to shelve the plan to hike the price of urea fertiliser to Tk 22 a kg from Tk 18, the PM said the ministry alone could not take such a policy decision. The fertiliser is sold by the government, subsidised by over 50 percent. Hasina also told Industries Secretary Mosharraf that he had no authority to take such a decision. She said Bangladesh has become self-reliant in food production. There is no reason for hiking the fertiliser price. In January, the agriculture ministry also rejected the industries secretary's proposal for raising the urea fertiliser price. The cabinet approved the draft of

the "Standards of Weights and Measures Act-2017", doubling the amount of fine to Tk 1 lakh from Tk 50,000 for cheating people. The draft law was formulated to improve the existing weight and measurement system, and the system would reach the international standards, Cabinet Secretary Shaiful Alam told journalists after the meeting. The cabinet also gave the go-ahead to the drafts of the "Bangladesh Industrial Institutions Nationalisation Act-2017" and "Bangladesh Agricultural Development Corporation Act-2017". It adopted two obituary motions on the deaths of Mijarul Quayes, Bangladesh ambassador to Brazil and former foreign secretary, and engineer Ariful Huq, younger brother of Law Minister Anisul Huq.

IGP trashes claim

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 On the first day of the conference, Rohan, head of International Centre for Political Violence and Terrorism Research in Singapore, said the IS, not Jama'atul Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB), was responsible for the Holey Artisan terror attack in Dhaka city's Gulshan. The Bangladeshi political leadership didn't tell the truth that the group, which is operating here, is global terror outfit IS, he pointed out. Rohan has interviewed terrorists and insurgents in Afghanistan, Pakistan, Iraq, Yemen, Libya, Saudi Arabia and other conflict zones. He has so far written 17 books, including Global Jihad Movement and Inside Al Qaeda. Yesterday, the IGP said, "Many members of the [militant] group have been arrested and are now in our custody. Not a single one of them claimed to be a member of the IS... They rather said they were followers of the JMB." Even the slain militants' families didn't say the dead were IS members, he said. Following the July 1 incident, many militants were killed in raids by law enforcers. But the IS, which claimed credit for the Gulshan attack, didn't say that the slain militants were its members, the IGP mentioned. But after Tamim Ahmed Chowdhury

was killed in a police raid on a Narayanganj hideout on August 27, IS propaganda magazine "Rumiyah" identified him as "Former Head of Military and Covert Operations of the Soldiers of the Khilafah in Bengal". The magazine also ran an article by Tamim, whom police described as neo-JMB chief coordinator and mastermind of the Gulshan attack, under the name of Abu Dujanah al-Bengali. The IGP, however, said, "In the virtual world, they [the militants] may be in their [IS] network ... on Facebook, on the social media." Terming the claims of IS presence in the country "baseless propaganda", he said, "None of them [arrested militants] have received training from the IS outside the country." "We say they are homegrown militants who might have been inspired by IS philosophy. But they don't have any links with the IS. We didn't find any evidence. "What Mr Rohan said is his own statement. We don't endorse his statement," he added. Top police officials from 14 South Asian and other countries are taking part in the three-day event titled "Chiefs of Police Conference on Regional Cooperation in Curbing Violent Extremism and Transnational Crime".

Myanmar may be trying

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 population from the country altogether," Lee told the UN rights council. The army launched a bloody crackdown against the Rohingya in October in the northern Rakhine state following attacks by militants on several border posts. She also told the council that the government's internal probe had already been proved inadequate. Representatives from the EU, The Netherlands and Britain avoided the question of a Commission of Inquiry during yesterday's discussion. Britain's envoy to the council, Julian Braithwaite, said the international community needed to "engage [Myanmar] without damaging the delicate civilian/military balance".

No handcuff

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 The prisoners were Habibur Rahman, Moniruzzaman, Nasiruddin and Giasuddin who have been suffering in jail for more than 10 years in separate criminal cases including murder cases. DIG-Prisons Touhidul yesterday told the court that he was sorry for what police had done the other day, and promised that such thing would not be repeated. Jail Super Jahangir told the HC that police had produced the under-trial prisoners in fetters since they had links with banned militant outfit Jama'atul Mujahideen Bangladesh. The HC on February 23 passed different orders in cases against the four prisoners, including granting them bail.

He paid

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 Malibagh rail gate, which didn't pay him anything but a place to sleep and meals. A few days back, Swapan went to his village Pakundia of Kishoreganj to meet his family. There he spent every penny of what he had. Back to Dhaka, he became desperate for money. "He said he had no money with him," said Abdul Kuddus Babu, a friend of Swapan, who then helped him get the work at the site. Babu along with others took Swapan to the hospital after the accident. With his death, his family of four foresees tougher days than what it had already been since he was the only breadwinner. "He took the job to cope with the expenses of the family. He was going through a very hard time," said Swapan's brother-in-law Mahfuz Pathan. He blamed the negligence of the contractors for the accident and demanded compensation that the victim's family needs so badly now.

Abducted

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 are: Swadhin Miah, 27, son of Hazrat Ali of Hazipara village under Khuniyagachh union, and Mintu Islam, 26, son of Saiful Amin of Alordighee village of Barabari union under Sadar upazila. Sub-Inspector Maniruzzaman of Lalmonirhat Sadar police said acting on a tip off, a team of law enforcers raided Hazipara village and rescued the child from abductor Swadhin Miah's house. During primary interrogation, the arrestees said four to five abductors led by Swadhin kidnapped the child and demanded Tk 4 lakh ransom from his father. "I sent Tk 50,000 in three mobile banking accounts on Saturday and was arranging for the rest of the amount," said Nesar. "Main abductor Swadhin Miah was an employee of my firm. He knew my son's whereabouts and with the help of other abductors took him to Lalmonirhat for ransom." Officer-in-Charge of Lalmonirhat Sadar Police Station Rafiqul Islam said they had taken prompt action after getting information from their colleagues in Sylhet and rescued the child unhurt. The arrestees would be handed over to Sylhet police as a case was filed there, he added.

EU warns Erdogan

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 called on Turkey to "refrain from excessive statements and actions that risk further exacerbating the situation. "It is essential to avoid further escalation and find ways to calm down the situation," their statement added. But Turkey's EU Affairs Minister Omer Celik responded by warning that Ankara "should re-evaluate" a key part of a 2016 deal to stem the flow of migrants to the European Union. He said Turkey should look at its policy on preventing migrant flows across land borders, although it would keep halting the illegal and dangerous sea crossings as a matter of human responsibility, state media said. Nato chief Jens Stoltenberg also urged Turkey and its Nato allies to "show mutual respect, to be calm and have a measured approach to contribute to de-escalate the tensions". The Dutch authorities had at the weekend prevented the plane of Turkish Foreign Minister Mevlut Cavusoglu from landing and blocked Family Minister Fatma Betul Sayan Kaya from holding a rally in Rotterdam. The ministers had been seeking to harness the support of an estimated 400,000 people of Turkish origin living in the country ahead of the April 16 referendum on constitutional changes giving Erdogan greater powers. The Turkish foreign ministry yesterday summoned the Dutch envoy to Ankara for the third day in a row, handing two separate protest notes over The Hague's behaviour. The Netherlands also issued a new travel warning to Dutch citizens in Turkey, urging them to stay "alert across the whole of Turkey". Turkey has already responded furiously to fellow Nato ally Germany's refusal to give permission for ministers to hold rallies there, with Erdogan comparing such action to "Nazi practices". After Erdogan used the same language to scold the Netherlands, German Chancellor Angela Merkel yesterday said that the comparison was "completely wrong" and "banalises suffering". "This is particularly unacceptable

directed at the Netherlands which suffered so much" under the Nazis, she added, offering Dutch Prime Minister Mark Rutte her full support. The issue risks spiralling into a crisis with the EU as a whole, which Turkey has sought to join for more than half a century in a so far fruitless membership bid. Denmark has also asked Turkish Prime Minister Binali Yildirim to postpone a visit planned for later this month. Erdogan, who has indicated he may personally travel to EU states to address rallies -- in a move that could inflame the situation further -- said Sunday that the West was showing its "true face" in the standoff. He has repeatedly accused the Netherlands of acting like "fascists" and "Nazis", saying on Sunday: "I had thought that the era of Nazism was over but I was wrong." Deputy Prime Minister Nurettin Canikli described Europe as a "very sick man", a nod to the moniker used in the mid-19th century of the declining Ottoman Empire as the "sick man of Europe". Rutte, under pressure to take a hard line against Erdogan as he faces the far-right populist Geert Wilders in general elections tomorrow, said there were no apologies to be made to Turkey. He called for Dutch voters to be the first to stop Europe's "trend of populism" but dismissed the idea that Turkey was trying to interfere in the Netherlands elections. Bringing out the millions-strong expatriate vote could be key in a referendum that is expected to be close and potentially a turning point in Turkey's modern history. Analysts have said Erdogan is using the crisis to show that his strong leadership is needed against a Europe which he presents as being innately hostile to Turkey. "Erdogan is looking for 'imagined' foreign enemies to boost his nationalist base in the run up to the April 16 referendum," Soner Cagaptay, director of the Turkish Research Programme at The Washington Institute, told AFP.

Dinajpur 'pir', aide stabbed,

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 bodies of Md Farhad Hossain, 65, and Rupali Begum, 19, at the shrine around 9:30pm, the SP said. On information, police rushed there and saw Farhad lying dead on his bed and Rupali in the kitchen. The teenage girl used to look after Farhad. The "pir" set up the shrine around 8-10 years ago. He used to organise a religious programme once a week

when his followers gathered at the shrine, according to local people. Before setting up the shrine, Farhad was involved with the BNP politics and was president of BNP's Bochaganj municipality unit, said Arju Mohammad Sajjad Hossain, officer-in-charge of Bochaganj police. The bodies will be sent to Dinajpur Medical College for autopsy, the SP said.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Local Government Engineering Department
Office of the Upazila Engineer
 Companiganj, Sylhet
www.lged.gov.bd

Memo No. LGED/UE/Compani/Syl/2017/62 Date: 12.03.2017

e-Tender Notice No. 04/2016-17

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of works mentioned below under LGED Upazila Companiganj, Dist: Sylhet.

Sl No.	Package No.	Name of works	Tender last selling (date & time)	Tender closing (date & time)	Tender opening (date & time)	Tender ID
01	e-Tender/PEDP-III/SLT/COM/2016-17/W7.317	Extension & Renovation of Companiganj UEO	06/04/2017 (12.30pm)	06/04/2017 (13.30pm)	06/04/2017 (15.00pm)	91291

This is an online tender where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required. The fees for downloading the e-Tender documents from the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through any registered bank branches up to 06/04/2017 at 12.30pm. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd) and also for e-mail ue.sylhet.companiganj@lged.gov.bd.

Md Shah Alam
 Upazila Engineer
 Companiganj, Sylhet
ue.sylhet.companiganj@lged.gov.bd

GD-550