



Militant dens busted in Ctg

Police raid 'Neo JMB' hideout in Sitakunda, 2 suspects held with suicide vests from another den

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Law enforcers were raiding a "Neo JMB" hideout at a two-storey building in Chittagong's Sitakunda upazila with three to four families trapped inside the same building till early today.

Police's attempts to take the families to safety went in vain last night as several suspected militants holed up on the ground floor there threw grenades and fired shots at them.

Police tracked down the hideout in Sitakunda's Premtala area hours after they busted another "Neo JMB" den only a kilometre away, and arrested two suspected militants who claimed to be a couple in the upazila's Amirabad area around 3:00pm.

Law enforcers, however, didn't give the names or details of the couple who had a two-month-old baby with them.

A suicide vest, three handmade grenades, a pistol, circuits used for making bombs and 12 bullets were recovered from

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Law enforcers taking away two militant suspects from their den in Sitakunda of Chittagong last night. Inset, a Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) team preparing for the raid in the afternoon.

PHOTO: ANURUP KANTI DAS

People expect progress in Teesta deal

Nasim tells Indian journo as Hasina goes to Delhi next month

STAR REPORT

The people of Bangladesh expect India to make a positive decision on the Teesta deal during Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's upcoming visit to New Delhi, Health Minister Mohammed Nasim said yesterday.

"We expect a productive outcome of the Teesta issue," Nasim told reporters at Le Meridien Hotel in New Delhi.

He, however, hastened to add that Bangladesh did not want to give any impression that Indo-Bangla relations hinges on any particular issue, saying "...because we believe in further strengthening of relations."

Nasim said Bangladesh wanted India to resolve all the outstanding issues, including those relating to sharing of waters of common rivers, reports our New Delhi correspondent.

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Suicide bomber in Iraq is Neaz from Chittagong

He was on Rab missing list; SITE says he died in a suicide attack

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A Bangladeshi who, according to a SITE Intelligence Group video, died in a suicide bombing in Tikrit city of Iraq recently is Neaz Morshed Raja from Chittagong, friends and family members confirmed.

SITE, which monitors jihadist activities and is based in the US, yesterday released the video where he was named Abu Maryam al-Bengali.

Neaz, 30, was on the first missing list of 262 people prepared by the Rab last year.

He was born in Khandakia Yunusnagar in Chikondania union under Hathazari upazila and studied at Sunshine Grammar School

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The photo on the left is of Neaz taken from Facebook while the one on the right is a screen grab of the video released by SITE Intelligence group claiming his death in Iraq.

DINAJPUR 'PIR' MURDER Three more held for quizzing

Police still clueless about motive

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

Police are yet to find out any motive behind the murder of a "pir" and his female attendant at a shrine in Dinajpur's Bochaganj.

At a press conference at his office yesterday, Hamidul Alam, superintendent of Dinajpur police, said law enforcers were investigating the murder considering all aspects and hoped to identify the

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Suicide blasts kill 32 in Damascus

Courthouse bombed as Syria war enters 7th year

AFP, Damascus

Two suicide bombings hit Damascus yesterday including an attack at a central courthouse that killed at least 32 people, as Syria's war entered its seventh year with the regime now claiming the upper hand.

There was no immediate claim of responsibility for the blasts, the second wave of deadly attacks in the capital in less than a week after twin bombings killed 74 on Saturday.

But they came with the rebels fighting President Bashar al-Assad's regime increasingly divided and dispirited after a series of battlefield setbacks.

Negotiations to end the conflict have meanwhile made little progress, with rebels this week declining to attend negotiations

in Kazakhstan.

Yesterday's first attack saw a suicide bomber rush inside the building and blow himself up when police tried to prevent him from entering the courthouse in the centre of Damascus, state media reported.

A police source told AFP that 32 people were killed and 100 wounded.

The second blast hit a restaurant in the western Rabweh neighbourhood, wounding 25 people, the source said.

"We were terrified because the sound of the explosion was enormous," a lawyer who was in the courthouse during the first attack told AFP.

"We took refuge in the library which is on a higher floor," the lawyer said, speaking on

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A WARM GUARD OF HONOUR



Mushfiqur Rahim proudly leads his teammates on a blue carpet and through a guard of honour, formed by schoolchildren holding aloft miniature Bangladesh flags, during a cordial ceremony organised by the Sri Lanka Cricket board to mark Bangladesh's historic 100th Test at the P Sara Oval in Colombo yesterday.

PHOTO: AFP

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Focused Tigers in control

SAKEB SUBHAN from Colombo

All the drama leading up to Bangladesh's historic 100th Test match was set aside in stirring fashion by the 11 cricketers tasked with putting on a performance befitting the occasion. On a pretty good batting wicket, having lost the toss and being asked to field in sweltering heat, Bangladesh's bowlers hunted in packs and reduced Sri Lanka to 238 for seven at stumps, which was taken 20 minutes late and seven overs short of the day's quota as umpires took the players off for bad light minutes before the skies opened to soak the



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