

ANSAR AL ISLAM

Change of tactics in recruitment

The outfit leaders avoid communication with followers to avert arrest

SHARIFUL ISLAM

Just-banned militant outfit Ansar al Islam, said to be the Bangladesh chapter of al-Qaeda in Indian Subcontinent (AQIS), has decided to change its recruitment strategy fearing that the online exposure of recruiters would help law enforcers track down its leaders and activists.

The decision was circulated among its recruiters on December 15 through a secure messaging app called Telegram that destroys all text moments after the communication ends.

In the statement, intercepted by the counterterrorism unit of DMP, the top brass of the outfit directed its followers and supporters in Bangladesh not to try to meet or contact the leaders.

It also asked them to get ready for jihad and said the soon-to-be militants would be contacted when Ansar al Islam deems it safe.

"We no longer partner anyone online. If you continue your efforts, you will be able to join the Mujahideen [those engaged in jihad]," read the statement, circulated by al-Qaeda media wing Global Islamic Media Front.

Responsible for the killing of free-thinking bloggers and writers, the ultra

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Pedestrians jaywalk across the busy Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue at Karwan Bazar yesterday dodging vehicles and forcing vehicles at speed to stop. The underpass built for pedestrians is seen in the background.

PHOTO: TUHIN SHUBHRA ADHIKARY

No plot will work against Bangladesh

PM tells Independence Award ceremony

UNB, Dhaka

Criticising the World Bank for withdrawing fund from the Padma Bridge project, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday said international agencies realised that no conspiracy against Bangladeshis would be successful.

"They've now got such a lesson that no one would be able to conspire anymore to force Bangalees to bow down. Our goal is to move the country forward and we're working tirelessly to this end," she said.

The PM was addressing the Independence Award, 2017 ceremony at the city's Osmani Memorial Auditorium.

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Amazing grass!

Grass grown indoor, without soil, creates hope for safer, nutritious fodder

REAZ AHMAD

One needs no soil, no open field to grow grass.

An indoor facility with a hydroponic fodder unit can provide any commercial dairy farm with enough green grass to meet the nutrition needs of the animals.

And the technology is quite simple and easy. Initially, it's cost-intensive but cost-effective in the long run.

This was disclosed to a large group of dairy farm proprietors, who gathered on the

premises of Bangladesh Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (BCSIR) in the capital yesterday afternoon to know about the soil-less green fodder technology.

The BCSIR has just brought from the US three hydroponic units with daily grass production capacity of 450 kg, 300 kg and 200 kg and installed those inside a 1,800-sq foot indoor facility on its compound.

Scientists and experts explained that one kg of wheat seeds can yield seven kgs of nutritious grass in the fodder machines

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Grass being grown at an indoor facility of hydroponic fodder production set up on the Bangladesh Council of Scientific and Industrial Research campus. Inset, FodderTech's Operation Manager Russell Black with freshly harvested grass.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

GENOCIDE DAY Letter for int'l recognition by this month

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh will write to the United Nations this month, seeking recognition of March 25 as Genocide Day, said Liberation War Affairs Minister AKM Mozammel Huq yesterday.

"The foreign minister informed the cabinet last Monday that a letter is ready. He also mentioned

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IS takes credit a day after attack in London

The British-born attacker named; was known to security forces; 8 held in massive raid

AGENCIES

The attacker who killed three people near parliament before being shot dead was British-born and was once investigated by MI5 intelligence officers over concerns about violent extremism, Prime Minister Theresa May said yesterday.

Islamic State claimed responsibility for the attack in a statement issued by its Amaq

news agency, but it gave no name or details and it was not clear whether the attacker was directly connected to the jihadist group, reports Reuters.

Police named the attacker as Khalid Masood, 52, from Kent.

Masood, who was shot dead by police, had not been the subject of any current police investigations, but had a range of

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Courtney Walsh, Bangladesh's fast bowling coach, looks back upon his career and talks about the art of fast bowling in the first part of a two-part interview with The Daily Star's Sakeb Subhan.

SEE TODAY'S STAR SPORT

SC clears way for Khaleda's Niko graft trial

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court yesterday cleared the way for the lower court concerned to resume the trial proceedings against BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia in Niko corruption case.

A three-member bench of the Appellate Division headed by Chief Justice Surendra Kumar Sinha scrapped a High Court order that stayed the trial proceedings of the case filed by the Anti-Corruption Commission in 2007.

The apex court passed the order on the ground that the HC bench, which had issued a rule staying the trial proceedings of the case against Khaleda, has no jurisdiction to hear the petitions related to the

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