



## They were expert bomb makers

*Militants killed in Sylhet hideout were 'highly equipped, trained'; explosives found were homemade; 110-hr operation ends*

SHAHEEN MOLLAH, MOHAMMAD JAMIL KHAN and DWOHA CHOWDHURY

The militants at Atia Mahal were expert bomb makers and the Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) found in the Sylhet den were all homemade, investigators have said.

The detonators of the IEDs were assembled in various militant hideouts in Sitakunda of Chittagong and then brought to the Sylhet den. And the nitrate gel used as explosive was smuggled into the country through Chapainawabganj border from a neighbouring country where the substance is used for mining, multiple investigators told The Daily Star.

The fact that militants were getting hold of the substance came to law enforcers' notice after a police checkpoint came under attack in Comilla on March 7, and the subsequent arrest of two terror suspects, they said asking not to be named.

Officials of the Counter Terrorism and Transnational Crime (CTTC) suspect that large consignments of the gel entered Bangladesh in recent months.

SEE PAGE 10 COL 1



Troops returning to cantonment.



Taskin Ahmed became the fifth Bangladesh bowler to take an ODI hatrick, picking up three wickets on the trot in the last over of Sri Lanka's innings in the second ODI at the Rangiri Dambulla International Stadium yesterday.

PHOTO: AFP



## Rain spoils second ODI

Taskin's hatrick

SAKEB SUBHAN from Dambulla

Bangladesh's second ODI against Sri Lanka at the Rangiri Dambulla International Stadium was abandoned due to incessant rain yesterday after the home side racked up 311 in 49.5 overs, riding on Kusal Mendis's maiden ODI hundred. With Bangladesh 1-0 up in the three-ODI series after Saturday's 90-run win, the series will be decided in the third ODI to be played at the Sinhalese Sports Club in Colombo on April 1.

A Taskin Ahmed hatrick, the fifth by a Bangladesh bowler in ODIs, late in the piece was the highlight from Bangladesh's perspective after the hosts won the toss

SEE PAGE 2 COL 3

## CYBER THREAT DETECTION, RESPONSE Govt to install tools for constant watch

*Tk 150cr scheme okayed to purchase equipment to ensure enhanced monitoring of internet use*

REJAUL KARIM BYRON and MUHAMMAD ZAHIDUL ISLAM

The government is going to install internet monitoring equipment by May next year to help combat militancy amid growing concerns about extremists using the internet to spread their propaganda and communicate amongst themselves.

The equipment, to be installed under a project, would also help clamp down on cyber threats and crimes, and enforce the ban on pornography. It would enable law enforcers monitor internet activities of people round-the-clock.

The project titled "Cyber Threat Detection and Response" was approved by the Executive Committee of the National Economic Council (Ecne) meeting yesterday.

Under the project, Tk 150 crore would be spent. Internet monitoring equipment, like

deep packet inspection (DPI) machines, would be bought to create a network for tackling cyber threats, said officials related to the project.

While the network would assist law enforcement agencies track criminal activities, it would hand enormous power to the government to observe and even control people's online activities. It might encroach upon citizens' private lives as well, said an expert.

Under this project, the government would set up 35 DPI machines, four of them very powerful.

The DPIs would examine and filter data packets as they pass an inspection point. The machines would help the authorities easily monitor people's internet usage, including their browsing, messaging and content downloading activities.

SEE PAGE 10 COL 1

## 'No major damage' in BB fire

*Says probe body, submits report to the governor*

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

An inquiry team formed after the recent fire in the Bangladesh Bank headquarters submitted its report to Governor Fazle Kabir yesterday, saying there was no major damage in the incident.

The central bank formed the three-member committee led by Executive Director Ahmed Jamal to assess the damage caused by the fire, said Subhankar Saha, spokesperson for the bank.

The report said only some chairs and tables, three computers, a scanner, two printers and a photocopy machine were damaged, said BB sources.

SEE PAGE 10 COL 4

## TEESTA WATER SHARING Pranab may move to end stalemate

REZAUL KARIM

Indian President Pranab Mukherjee is expected to take an initiative to break the ice for resolving the long pending water sharing issue during the upcoming visit of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina to New Delhi on April 7-10.

Highly placed diplomatic sources in Dhaka and New Delhi said President

Pranab, who is due to complete his tenure at the end of this year, wants to leave his legacy by reducing the differences for a breakthrough on Teesta river water sharing deal.

"Pranab is in action and Prime Minister Narendra Modi is backing it as both of them want to bring West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on board for reaching a

SEE PAGE 2 COL 4

## Four killed in trawler capsize

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pirojpur

Four women were killed and at least 15 people went missing as a trawler capsized at Morelganj upazila in Bagerhat yesterday.

The deceased are Beauty Begum, 38, wife of Mohsin Hossain of Kalikabari village, Piara Banu, 50, wife of Hashem Howlader of Guabaria village, Sufia Begum, 75, wife of Yunus Ali

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1



The Mars rover "Mongol Tori" designed and engineered by six students of Brac University. Six Bangladeshi universities will showcase mars rover vehicles developed by their students at the competition scheduled to take place at the Mars Desert Research Station in Utah, USA on June 1-3.

PHOTO: BRAC UNIVERSITY

## Made in Bangladesh

*Mars rovers built by Bangladeshi students selected for final round of global competition*

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Six Mars rover projects of as many Bangladeshi universities have been selected for the final round of the prestigious global competition University Rover Challenge in the US.

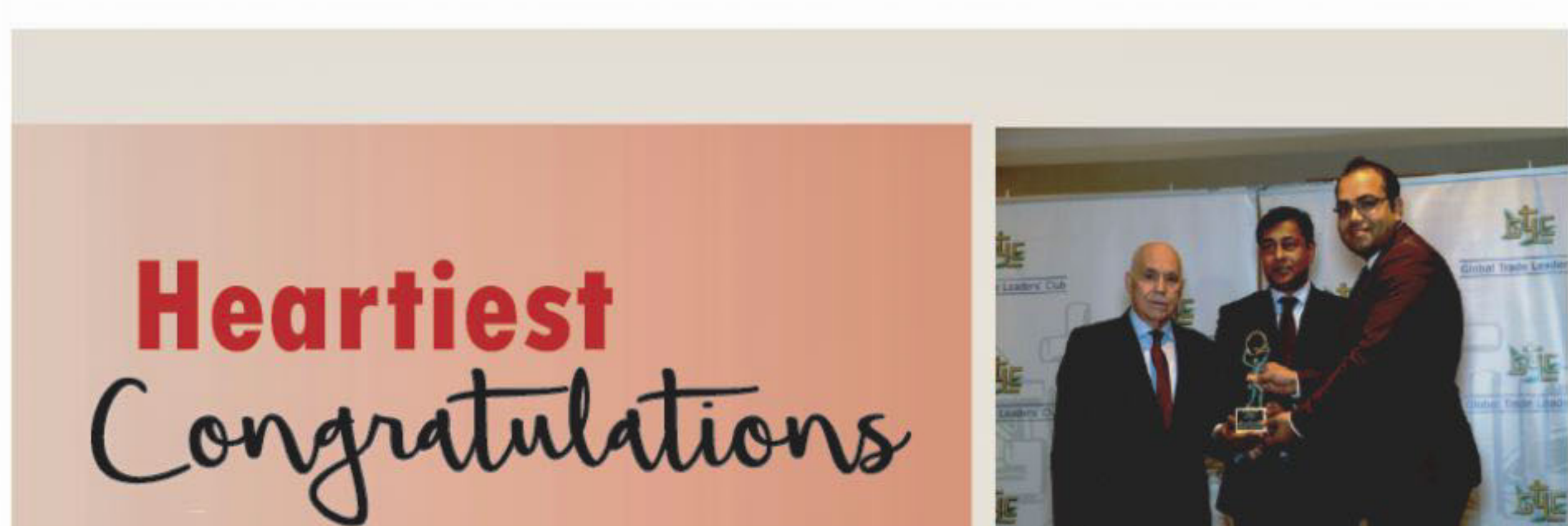
The universities are: American International University Bangladesh (AIUB), United International University (UIU), Islamic University of Technology (IUT), Independent University of Bangladesh (IUB),

Dhaka University of Engineering and Technology (DUET), and Brac University.

They are among 36 universities of seven countries to compete at the final stage.

A record 82 teams from 13 countries had begun the year trying to design and build the world's best astronaut-assisting Mars rovers, according to the website of Mars Society which runs the University Rover Challenge.

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1



We are the proud recipient of the **International Trophy for Quality** from **Global Trade Leaders' Club, Paris** in recognition of its commitment to Quality and Excellence of its Services and dedicate this prestigious award to 3,850 members of the Paramount Textile Family for their persistent and meticulous hard work which made this accomplishment a reality.



**PARAMOUNT TEXTILE**  
A Yarn Dyed Woven Fabric Manufacturer  
Since 2006



**PARAMOUNT AGRO**  
Organic food, healthy food



**PARAMOUNT INSURANCE**  
Specialized in Marine, Fire and Industrial  
all Risk Policy  
Since 1999

**FOODEX INTERNATIONAL**  
Represents Brand and Distributor  
Since 1990