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A BOOST FOR JUTE GOODS

Textile ministry lists 232 diversified jute products to ramp up exports

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DARE CRITICISE?

Dutarte wants to slap EU critics of his drug war

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SIDDIKUR'S SIXTH

Bangladesh's ace golfer wins sixth PGTI title at Chittagong Open

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Woman among 3 found dead

Blast said to be cause of their death; counterterrorism unit winds up Moulvibazar operation

MOHAMMAD JAMIL KHAN and MINTU DESHWARA, Moulvibazar

Three suspected militants were found dead inside a "hide-out" in Moulvibazar's Borohat as police wrapped up their 82-hour raid there yesterday.

With this, three houses, where law enforcers said militants were hiding, have been raided in the last nine days.

In all, 21 people, including 14 suspected militants, were killed. Police claim most of the militants blew themselves up to avoid arrests.

SWAT members entered the Borohat "hideout" around 11:00am yesterday and saw body parts of three "militants", including a woman, lying scattered, said counterterrorism officials. They suspect the "militants" killed themselves by exploding bombs.

Police did not disclose their identities.

One of the three had directly taken part in carrying out the two powerful explosions near the Shibbari hideout in Sylhet, Monirul Islam, chief of the police's Counter Terrorism and Transnational Crime (CTTC) unit, claimed at a media briefing after the operation ended.

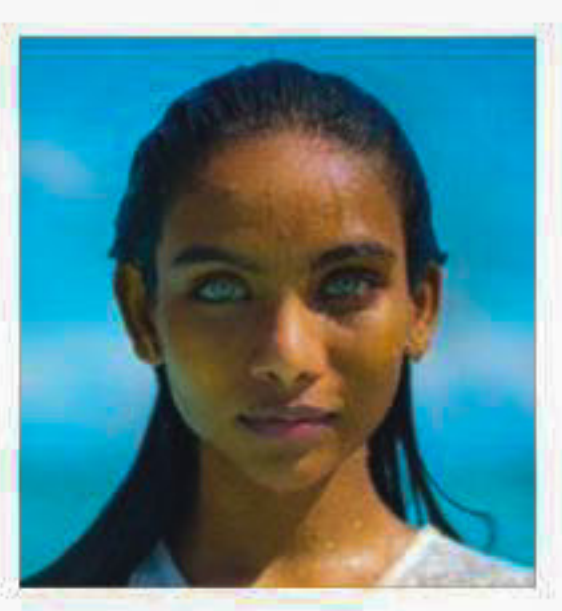
The March 25 blasts claimed the lives of four civilians, two police officials and a top Rab official.

Talking to The Daily Star, Mohibul Islam Khan, deputy commissioner of the CTTC unit, said, "We believe two of the three militants were a couple. Their bodies were found in a toilet of the building. The other body was lying just outside the toilet."

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Members of parliaments of different countries at the inaugural ceremony of Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) at the South Plaza of Jaitiya Sangsad Bhaban yesterday.



Suicide

Confirms autopsy report; parents reject it, bury daughter in Rajshahi

ANWAR ALI, Rajshahi

Maldivian medical student and model Raudha Athif committed suicide by hanging herself, said the autopsy report yesterday.

Her family members, however, rejected the report and were considering seeking a second autopsy.

Prof Mansur Rahman of Barind Medical College, chief of the three-member medical board that performed an autopsy on her body on Friday, said they did not find any strangulation marks on her neck. There were no injury marks on her body either.

"All members of the

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Let's fight terror together

Hasina tells IPU leaders

BSS, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday called upon the IPU leaders to work together against all social disparities and the vices of militancy and terrorism to make the world an abode of mutual compassion and fraternity.

"The world, no doubt, is moving forward, and visible progress has also been made in hunger situation. But, nearly 800 million people still suffer from malnutrition," she said.

She said this while inaugurating the 136th Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) at the South Plaza of the Jaitiya Sangsad Bhaban.

As the prime minister of a nation affected by climate change, Hasina urged

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Way is women, men alliance

Say world's women MPs about achieving gender equality; call for action to curb harassment

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Women MPs from different corners of the globe called for building strong partnership between men and women in economy, in parliaments and in society to achieve gender equality and ensure equal access to financial services.

They called for actions to curb harassment of female MPs by their political rivals in different countries as they spoke in a debate on women's political participation organised in Dhaka on the first day of five-day-long assembly of Inter-Parliamentary Union.

Referring to a study that revealed more than 81 percent of women parliamentarians experienced some form of psychological violence in and outside the parliaments, they expressed concern.

According to the study carried out by Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) in October 2016, Sexism, harassment of women lawmakers and violence against them are global problems that impede gender equality and undermine the foundations of democracy.

Of the women MPs who suffer violence in one form or another, some 44 percent said they had received threats of death, rape, beating or abduction during their parliamentary tenure. They had even been told that their children would be killed or kidnapped, said Zeina Helal, head of the gender partnership programme, during the debate.

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DON'T BRING OUT CARS IF NOT URGENT: HOME BOSS -- PAGE 3

It's a green gathering

Carbon footprint of parliamentarians to be neutralised

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Some 700 parliamentarians from around the globe are arriving in Dhaka to take part in the 136th Assembly of Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) and this would cause carbon emission.

But the organisers have vowed to make the annual assembly a carbon neutral one by giving some people in Bangladesh better cooking stoves.

Saber Hossain Chowdhury, president of IPU, told The Daily Star that they would calculate the total carbon footprint once all the guests arrived and then devise a way to neutralise it.

He added they would calculate the carbon footprint on April 4 or April 5 during the conference.

"The delegates are arriving by aircraft which emits carbon dioxide ... The total amount of carbon to be

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1

No series win for Tigers

Lose third ODI against SL by 70 runs

SAKEB SUBHAN from Colombo

In the series-deciding third ODI at the Sinhalese Sports Club in Colombo yesterday, there were two moments when the match could have gone away from Bangladesh. In the first instance, with Sri Lanka going great guns at 76 for no loss in 10 overs after being asked to bat first on a green pitch with rain in the air, Bangladesh turned the match around and restricted Sri Lanka to 280 for nine. In the second instance, being reduced to 11 for three, Bangladesh had run out of gas and succumbed to a 70-run loss that meant that the series was shared 1-1, courtesy of a 90-run win by the visitors in the first ODI and a wash-out in the second game after Sri Lanka had piled on 311.

Even with the batting setback, a quickfire 77-run fourth-wicket partnership between opener Soumya Sarkar and Shakib Al Hasan had raised hopes of an unlikely win, but those were dashed when Soumya was stumped off Dilruwan Perera for 38 in the 16th over, after having punished the off-spinner for 20 runs in the 10th over.

Mosaddek Hossain then stuck around with Shakib for a 23-run partnership, but Sri Lanka's superb fielding -- a huge improvement upon the hosts' displays so far in the tour -- choked the life out of the youngster, who was bowled by leg-spinner Seekkuge Prasanna trying to cut a ball off the stumps in the 23rd over. Shakib scored a fifty, but his dismissal for a 62-ball 54 seven runs later, trying to clear short cover but only managing to hit it straight to Danushka Gunathilaka, snuffed out any outside hope of a win.

Mahmudullah Riyad's dismissal, a familiar catch by the keeper off an attempted hook down the leg side off Suranga Lakmal, to leave the score at 127 for seven raised fears of a debilitating loss, but then Mehedi Hasan Miraz, who scored a maiden ODI 50, along with skipper Mashrafe Bin Mortaza and tailender Taskin Ahmed, took the score to a semblance of respectability before being all out for 210 in 44.3 overs.

In chase of 280, Bangladesh were struck a major blow in the first over, when Tamim Iqbal -- who a ball before had been fortunate not to be caught behind as an edge flew between wicketkeeper and first slip -- was caught and bowled by Nuwan Kulasekara off

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2 arrested for selling 'fake question papers'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Detectives have arrested two people in connection with selling students fake question papers of public exams claiming that those had been leaked.

The law enforcers said the two were of a gang that used the social media to sell fake question papers and they were administrators of Facebook groups SSC, HSC/2017 and HSC2k17.

The arrests come as Higher Secondary Certificate (HSC) and its equivalent exams begin today.

Shahidul Islam, 18, and Golam Sarwar Sajid, 18, arrested at Moghbazar on Friday, made Facebook Messenger and WhatsApp groups to sell the fake question papers which they collected from college teachers, said DMP Deputy Commissioner (North) Shaikh Nazmul Alam.

The suspects claimed in a post that their questions

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আজ ১১৫তম শাখা

গুলশান-২

ব্যাংক এশিয়া

গুলশান প্যালাডিয়াম, প্লট-১, রোড-৯৫
ব্লক-সিইএন (সি), গুলশান-২, ঢাকা

Map showing Gulshan 2 Circle and surrounding roads: Madani Ave, Gulshan North Ave, Alaturk Ave, Gulshan Ave.