

# 2 'outlaws' killed in 'gunfight' with Rab

**STAR REPORT**  
An alleged regional leader of Purbo Banglar Communist Party (PBCP-ML) and "his close associate" were killed following what Rab claimed, a gunfight the law enforcers had with the outlawed outfit in Jhenidha's Kotchandpur upazila early yesterday. The deceased are Mohidul Islam alias Rana, 42, son of Fakir Chand of Bakshpur village, and Alim Uddin, 55, son of Solaiman Hossain of Baharampur village.

Three Rab members who suffered "cuts" during the gunfight were taken to Kotchandpur Upazila Health Complex, he added.  
However, Mohidul's sister-in-law Saira Khatun told journalists at the Jhenidha Sadar Hospital morgue that Mohidul had been picked up by law enforcers from Baghpara in Jessore some 25 days ago.  
She said to have heard about the deaths yesterday morning.  
Kotchandpur police informed that Alim was accused in 15 cases, including 12 over murders, filed in Jhenidha while Rana in 14 cases, several of which are over murder.  
Maj Monir said Rab cordoned off a field in Bandgaloi village around



Schoolteacher Shayam Kanti Bhakta heads home with wife Sabita Rani Halder by his side yesterday after he was released from Narayanganj Central Jail.

# N'ganj teacher

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Osman family is behind it. I am really concerned about my safety because my security [police] was withdrawn on April 1."  
Shyama's wife Sabita Rani Halder and his lawyer Shakhawat Hossain Khan were present at the jail gate.  
Shyama said he neither did anything wrong nor supported anything like that. He had to go to jail due to a conspiracy. It was his fate. It was done to humiliate him. He had been humiliated earlier, too, he said.  
The whole nation knows the truth, he said, thanking the role of the media in the incident.  
Shyama demanded his acquittal of the case and a proper trial, claiming that he did not do anything wrong.  
He also sought help from the prime minister, the chief justice, the health minister, the education minister and others concerned in this regard.  
On May 24, a Narayanganj court issued an arrest warrant for Shyama after taking bribery charges into cognisance.  
That afternoon, the court sent him to jail after rejecting his bail prayer.  
Later, Shyama submitted a bail prayer to Narayanganj District and Sessions Judge's Court, and the court set yesterday for hearing the petition.  
The next hearing of the case will be on June 13.

# Tigers face uphill climb in opener

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Strength in the last two years will be eager to leave their previous modus operandi in the tournament behind.  
Before the tournament became an eight-team event in 2009, Bangladesh's participation was all about making up the numbers - a team that had no chances of making a dent but one that was there because they were a Full Member. When they take the field today at 3:30pm (Bangladesh time) against the home favourites and also to put up their billing as the sixth-best side in the cricketing world.  
For England, the inventors of the game who have never won an ICC 50-over event, sights will be set slightly higher. The last time they beat Bangladesh in a world event, the Tigers had knocked out the Lions in a thrilling 2015 World Cup group game in Adelaide, and since then England have been on a journey of rejuvenation that has seen them eschew their traditionally conservative outlook in favour

of a high-octane style. It has paid dividends as they have been a dominant side at home since Adelaide 2015, and they will seek to bring that journey to fruition by winning that elusive trophy.  
Before that, they must play the team that pushed them off the stage just over two years ago. As far as head-to-head stats go, Bangladesh are on a hiding to nothing. England have won 15 of the 19 contests between the teams so far and in terms of personnel and suitability in the prevailing conditions, England are far ahead, as was admitted by Bangladesh captain Mashrafe Bin Mortaza himself. Bangladesh will be counting on the pressure England will feel as home favourites and also the added pressure of getting off to a winning start in the proverbial group of death that also features two-time champions Australia and one-time champions New Zealand.  
Therefore, England will go into the first match of their home tourna-

ment as overwhelming favourites, and how they deal with those expectations might be an omen of things to come.  
Both sides are also coming off terrible last matches. England were reduced to 20 for six in their last ODI against South Africa on Monday and Bangladesh were shot out for just 84 in their final warm-up the following day.  
England will be bolstered by the returns of Ben Stokes and Chris Woakes, while Bangladesh will be similarly fortified by the return of skipper Mashrafe Bin Mortaza and Tamim Iqbal, both of whom sat out the India warm-up debacle. Fast bowler Rubel Hossain is also likely to retain his place at the expense of the off-colour Taskin Ahmed.  
The weather forecast is for a fine day in London, and it will be up to the teams to overcome the pressure and recent memories to put their best foot forward.

# Govt to rebuild

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affected by the cyclone, to carry out relief work.  
"Helicopters are ready to conduct relief work in the remote areas if needed," the leader of the House said during the question-answer hour.  
"We would take all-out efforts to rebuild damaged houses and establishments...in the same way, the damaged embankments would be repaired."  
"We are preparing a list of affected people who lost their houses."  
Food and cash are being distributed to affected people. The Prime Minister's Office, Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief, administration and local governments are working together to conduct relief and rehabilitation work, Hasina said.  
Moreover, the ruling Awami League has formed several teams to visit affected areas.  
At least eight people were killed and dozens injured in the cyclone that sent fishing boats and ships aground and knocked out power connections to thousands of houses in almost entire Cox's Bazar and parts of Chittagong.

Thousands of people are now living under the open sky, as severe cyclonic storm Mora lashed the southeastern coast and damaged on its way thousands of houses and knocked down trees Tuesday morning.  
"We are lucky that the storm hit the land during the ebb tide and as a result the tidal surge did not become deadly," Hasina said.  
"The government's quick response to evacuate people to cyclone centres and other shelters helped reduce human loss. But a number of houses and establishments were damaged as well as countless trees were uprooted, the PM added.  
In reply to another query she said boros crops on 250 lakh hectares of the hilly region had been destroyed by flashfloods. Early monsoon, excessive rainfall and onrush of water from the hills in bordering areas triggered flashfloods.  
Regarding deaths of fish in haor areas during flashfloods, PM said three groups of scientists had analysed the situation and said fish in the haors died due to a drop of oxygen level in waters following formation of ammonia gas.

# Indian navy rescues 33 Bangladeshis

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It further said that once the search and rescue operations were completed or underway by Bangladesh navy, INS Sumitra would sail to Chittagong to unload the relief materials.  
"The search and relief operations are being coordinated with the Bangladesh navy," added the high commissioner, which first informed the media about the Indian ship's rescue operation around 11:00am.  
Talking to The Daily Star, Rear Admiral (ret'd) Md Khurshed Alam, secretary (Maritime Affairs Unit) at Bangladesh foreign ministry, said the Indian ship entered Bangladesh's maritime territory upon permission from the authorities concerned.  
"The Indian government sought permission for entry of its naval ship

[into Bangladesh maritime territory] for bringing relief materials for the cyclone-affected people and the Bangladesh government gave the approval," he said.  
Khurshed mentioned that the ship would reach Chittagong this morning and unload relief materials, including medicine and food items.  
Earlier on Tuesday, Bangladesh navy rescued 20 Bangladeshi fishermen from the sea near Kutubdia.  
In a press release yesterday, the Inter Services Public Relation Directorate said that immediately after the cyclone hit the country, the navy deployed 15 ships, a helicopter and a patrol aircraft for conducting rescue operations in the coastal areas of Cox's Bazar, Saint Martin's Island, Teknaf, Chittagong and Khulna as

well as in deep sea.  
Split into five groups, the navy ships launched a massive search and rescue operation in the entire maritime area of Bangladesh. And navy ship Khadem rescued the 20 fishermen from a boat that went out of order in deep sea, it said.  
The navy is also distributing emergency relief materials and providing medical services in the affected areas.  
**EXTENT OF DAMAGE**  
Around three lakh people in 16 coastal districts have been affected by Cyclone Mora, according to the disaster management ministry.  
Ministry officials said farmlands and many houses were damaged in 31 upazilas of Cox's Bazar, Chittagong, Rangamati, Noakhali, Laxmipur, Feni, Chandpur, Barisal, Pirojpur,

Patuakhali, Jhalakathi, Barguna, Khulna and Satkhira.  
At least seven people were killed in Cox's Bazar, Rangamati and Bandaban after the cyclone made landfall on Tuesday morning.  
It affected at least 14,250 people in Chittagong and damaged many Rohingya refugee homes in Cox's Bazar.  
An official estimate by Chittagong district administration shows 2,745 houses were destroyed completely and 2,596 houses damaged partially by the cyclone.  
In a press release yesterday, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees said the cyclone completely destroyed around 20 percent refugee homes in Cox's Bazar.  
A post-cyclone assessment by the

UN Refugee Agency found that most of the refugee homes were damaged to different degrees.  
In addition to the local population, many of the hundreds of thousands of Rohingya refugees hosted in camps, makeshift sites and local villages in the area were affected by the natural disaster, it said.  
"We managed to avoid any major human casualties in camps by coordinating with the local authorities and preparing the refugees before the cyclone."  
The UNHCR is distributing plastic sheets to provide shelter. Refugees with specific needs, including children, pregnant women, the elderly and the disabled, have been moved to safer structures temporarily, it added.



Indian Navy ship INS Sumitra, carrying relief materials, rescues a man from the Bay of Bengal yesterday. Some of the 33 people the ship fished out of sea on its deck, top right. A Bangladesh Coast Guard helicopter in cyclone Mora-hit area yesterday, bottom right.



PHOTO: HIGH COMMISSION OF INDIA/ISPR

# Port city sees heavy rain, waterlogging

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inundated due to heavy shower.  
Fifty and sixty water overflowed from sewerage lines and spread to nearby roads houses and business establishments, causing huge sufferings to people.  
The rain stopped by 7:00am, but areas like Pashchim Sholoshahar, Agabhad, Agabhad Access Road, Agabhad CDA Residential Area, Shyamoli Residential Area, Chawkbazar Kitchen Market and Halishahar remained waterlogged until noon.  
"Water entered my house around 3:00am and caught us off guard," said Nur Iqbal Begum, a resident of Kapsagola area.  
The five-member family had to take shelter on the corridor of a nearby market till 6:00am, she added.  
When we returned to our tin shed house, we found that most of our valuables got soaked and damaged," she said.  
Masum Hossain, owner of Bismillah Rezine of Rezauddin Bazar, said he had

found the goods of his shop floating as he entered his shop around 8:00am.  
Most of the foam-resine had been damaged in the water, he added.  
Belagat Hossain Belal, vice-president of Golam Rasul Market, claimed that goods worth about Tk 50 lakh got damaged as water entered many shops.  
Seeing heavy rainfall, Md Iqbal, a poultry shop owner, returned to his shop at Chawkbazar kitchen market around 3:00am.  
"Many of the chickens were floating in

the water. I returned in time to save those," he added.  
"I had to go to my workplace at Court Building around 11:00am yesterday, sometimes by walking through waist-deep water," said advocate Aparba Lal, who lives in Chawkbazar.  
The master's examination of communication and journalism department at Chittagong University began at 11:30am instead of scheduled 10:00am as many students and teachers could not reach the campus in time due to

waterlogging in different areas, said Abdul Kalam Azad, chairman of the department.  
Chittagong City Corporation Mayor AIM Nasir Uddin told reporters at Nagar Bhaban that they were trying to mitigate the waterlogging problem.  
"Reasons behind the waterlogging have been identified and we are working to check those," he said.  
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