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WAR CRIMES TRIAL

Cops fail again to report death of a fugitive

Staff Correspondent

Abdul Majid Master, of Maheshkhali upazila of Cox's Bazar, has been on the run since a war crimes tribunal issued an arrest warrant for him more than two years ago.

Police on several occasions submitted reports to the tribunal, identifying him as a fugitive. In the latest report submitted on February 13, Zahurul Haque, a sub-inspector of Maheshkhali Police Station, said he had visited Majid's house but didn't find him.

In reality, Majid died on December 22 last year of old-age complications at the age of 85 at his village home. He was buried there.

Neither the tribunal nor its prosecution and investigation agency were aware of his death until May 25 when a defence counsel spoke of the matter in court for the first time.

By that time, the court held hearing on the case, in which Majid was named as one of the 18 accused, twice.

The prosecution yesterday prayed to the International Crimes Tribunal-1 to take legal action against the police officials responsible for showing 'gross negligence'. The court said it would pass necessary orders regarding the matter later.

However, Majid's case was not an isolated one.

Wazuddin, of Mymensingh's Phulbaria upazila, died of old-age complications on May 7, 2016.

But police didn't inform the tribunal of his death until January 12 when a

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President Abdul Hamid receives his Sri Lankan counterpart Maithripala Sirisena at the Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport yesterday. The Sri Lanka president is on a three-day state visit here.

PHOTO: PTD

He travelled
to Khulna
on his ownSays IGP about
Farhad Mazhar
Staff Correspondent

Inspector General of Police AKM Shahidul Hoque yesterday claimed poet and writer Farhad Mazhar was not abducted, rather he took a trip to Khulna on his own on July 3.

"Analysing the information and evidence obtained during our investigation, it is apparent that Farhad Mazhar was not abducted," the IGP said at a press conference at the police headquarters.

Asked why the writer would do that, the police chief said he might have wanted to embarrass the government.

The IGP's remarks contradict Farhad's judicial statement. The writer in the statement said some unidentified people abducted him in the capital minutes after he came out of his Adabar home to buy some medicines early that day.

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Justice Anwarul Haque

War crimes
tribunal chief
passes away

Staff Correspondent

Justice Anwarul Haque, chairman of International Crimes Tribunal-1, passed away at Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University (BSMMU) in Dhaka yesterday.

He was 61.
"He breathed his last around 5:30pm," Shahidul Alam Ihnuk, registrar of the tribunal, told The Daily Star over phone.

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Bank loans to finance deficit

Govt to rely on other sources too to cover
Tk 20,000cr revenue shortfall, PM tells JS

Staff Correspondent

The government will balance the Tk 20,000 crore budget deficit -- as a result of not imposing excise duty and the flat 15 percent VAT as planned -- by taking bank loan as well as by slashing the development budget, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina told parliament yesterday.

Parts of the money will come from other sources, she said, but did not name those sources.

In her concluding speech on the budget session, the PM also requested the countrymen to pay taxes so that the government could serve them better.

On June 29, the House passed the Tk 400,266 crore budget after some vital changes, by revising excise duty on bank deposits and stalling the full implementation of the new VAT law for two years.

During the 24-day session that began on May 30, as many as 207 MPs took part in the budget discussion for over 56 hours. Seven bills were passed in the session.

Finance Minister AMA Muhith had come under fire in and outside parliament for his rigid stance against withdrawing excise duty on bank



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Banani Rape Shafat, Nayem, 3 others indicted

Court Correspondent

A Dhaka court yesterday framed charges against five accused in a case filed over the rape of two university students at a Banani hotel.

They are: alleged rapists Ahmed Shafat and Nayem Ashraf, Shafat's driver Bilal Hossain, bodyguard Rahmat Ali, and Shadman Sakif, who had introduced the girls to the accused.

All the five men, now in jail, pleaded not guilty after Judge Shafiqul Azam of Second Tribunal for Prevention of Women and Children Repression read out the charges to them.

The tribunal set July 24 for the start of the trial.

Earlier in the day, it rejected the discharge petitions submitted by the accused.

During the hearing on the pleas, defence lawyers argued that their clients were implicated in the case as part of a "conspiracy to harass these" girls.

They also claimed that the radiology and medical tests did not find any evidence of rape.

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Scientists teleport particle into space



Independent Co.Uk

Scientists have successfully teleported something into space for the first time ever.

The experiment saw Chinese scientists send a photon up away from Earth, further than ever before.

Teleportation of this kind uses the bizarre effects of quantum entanglement, rather than physically hurdling the object itself over distances. Instead it transfers the information about a photon to another point in space -- creating a faithful replication of the object.

It marks the first ever time that effect has been tested over long distances. The success could bring with it a whole range of uses -- including a

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DU teacher
sues colleague
under section
57 of ICT law

DU Correspondent

A teacher of Dhaka University yesterday filed a case against one of his colleagues with Shahbagh Police Station under section 57 of the Information and Communication Technology Act.

In the case statement, Prof Abul Mansur Ahmed of

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SIBI Foundation Hospital & Diagnostic Center

PRAYER TIMING JULY 14

Faz Juma Ar Raghbi Esha

AZAN 4:10-4:30 5:00 6:55 8:17

IMAMAT 4:15 5:15 5:15 7:00 8:45

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

Qatar crisis remains

Tillerson ends 4-day gulf tour with little progress

APs, Doha

US Secretary of State Rex Tillerson yesterday wrapped up a four-day mission to the Gulf with little sign of progress in resolving the diplomatic crisis pitting Saudi Arabia and its allies against Qatar.

Tillerson met Qatar's Emir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al-Thani for the second time in 48 hours, together with a Kuwaiti mediator, on the final leg of his trip.

He then held talks with the Qatari foreign minister and the Kuwaiti team before heading back to Washington. In a possible indication of little headway to report, all sides left the meeting without saying a word to waiting reporters.

Despite an intense round of shuttle diplomacy that also took Tillerson to Kuwait and Saudi Arabia, tensions remained high between Qatar and four Arab states that accuse Doha of supporting extremism and being too close to their arch-rival Iran.

The diplomatic slack now appears likely to be picked up again by the Europeans, with French Foreign Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian heading to the region at the weekend.

Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain and Egypt have put in place a boycott on Qatar since June 5.

They have imposed sanctions on Doha, including closing its only land border.

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A great egret near its nest in Dapdapia in Barisal.

PHOTO: SAYAM U CHOWDHURY

Eden of
egrets

Sayam U Chowdhury

Unlike winter, monsoon is a quiet season for water-watchers and travellers but the season holds its own beauty. For nature lovers, it's a season to celebrate life and colour. As many birds breed during monsoon, this period is an excellent opportunity to study breeding birds and to identify water bird breeding colonies. In one of these recent quests, I along with a few friends set off to conduct a count at an egret colony, close to Barisal city.

As we crossed the Dapdapia Bridge in Barisal, the sky played its games, clouds gathered and monsoon poured upon us. A road guarded by tall trees took us far from the city and we landed by a river

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MCCI Ministry of Foreign Affairs Bangladesh Investment Development Authority

Bangladesh and Sri Lanka Investment and Business Dialogue:

Moving towards greater economic partnership

on the occasion of the state visit of
H.E. Maithripala Sirisena
Honble President of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka

Radisson Blu Dhaka Water Garden
15 July 2017 at 10:00 am
Guests to be seated by 09:45 am

By Invitation only