



"MY HOME IS AS GREAT AS THE PADMA BRIDGE TO ME"

Whether for your home or the Pillars of Padma Bridge
We forge steels with the same expertise

COUNTRY'S NO. 1 STEEL EXPERT

BSRM
building a safer nation

SHAH
CEMENT

AWARDED

ASIA RESPONSIBLE
ENTREPRENEURSHIP
AWARD 2015



Youth in South Korea recruits 33 radicals

CTTC arrests him, three others in Dhaka

MOHAMMAD JAMIL KHAN

His plan was to form an online platform for radicalised youths who would be ready to work for the banned militant outfit, Ansar al Islam.

Self-radicalised 21-year-old Shahin Alam alias Omar Sharif, opened a Facebook group named "Darul Jannat" last year. Within a year, Shahin, a bachelor's student of software engineering at a South Korean university, radicalised at least 33 people and added to his group.

The Counter Terrorism and Transnational Crime (CTTC) unit of police came to know about it following the confessional statements given by Shahin and two others at a metropolitan magistrate court in the capital.

The CTTC arrested Shahin and three of his associates -- Saiful Islam, Hanifuzzaman alias Biplob and Al Mamun -- from the capital's Jatrabari area on October 10, Saiful Islam, deputy commissioner of the CTTC, told The Daily Star yesterday.

Gleaning information from the arrestees, the CTTC arrested Tareq Ibne Taher, another member of the online platform, from the capital's Uttara area on October 14, the official said.

"We have already got some details of all the 33 members of the group. Shahin used to add members with a unique code number, so that no one can get their identities," said the deputy commissioner.

SEE PAGE 11 COL 5

Nine new HC judges appointed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Nine new judges have been appointed to the High Court Division of the Supreme Court, creating hope of faster case disposal rate.

About 5.06 lakh cases are now pending with the HC.

President Md Abdul Hamid has appointed them as HC additional judges for two years under article 98 of the constitution.

The law ministry yesterday issued a gazette notification to this effect, saying that their appointment would be effective from the date of their taking oath.

Talking to The Daily Star yesterday, Khurshid Alam Khan, an SC lawyer and editor of Dhaka Law Reports, hoped that the new HC judges would be able to increase the case disposal rate.

The judges are very young, honest, energetic, and competent, and they know the latest laws very well, he said, adding that they would do well in discharging their judicial duties.

Contacted, Attorney General Mahbubey Alam said if the judges could address corruption in the judiciary and dispose of the cases speedily, they would be

SEE PAGE 11 COL 2

9 killed as India, Pak trade fire

Officials from both countries accuse each other of violating ceasefire along LoC in Kashmir

AFP, Srinagar

At least nine people were killed yesterday in firing along the de facto India-Pakistan border in Kashmir, officials said, adding to the spike in deaths in recent days as New Delhi eased a curfew in the disputed region.

Tensions escalated between the nuclear-armed neighbours after India revoked Kashmir's autonomy on August 5 and imposed movement and communications restrictions to quell unrest.

Officials from the two countries accused each other of firing mortar rounds and small arms along the so-called Line of Control (LoC).

"Two soldiers and a civilian were killed and three others injured in the unprovoked fire by Pakistan," Indian Army spokesman Colonel Rajesh Kalia told AFP of the "unprovoked" fire in the mountainous Tangdhar region of Kupwara district.

Several homes were damaged in the attack and three civilians were being treated in a hospital, he added.

Officials in Pakistan-administered Kashmir told AFP six civilians were killed and eight others wounded in Muzaffarabad and Neelum Valley.

"Mortar shells hit civilian houses and have so far martyred five people in Muzaffarabad and wounded six others," said Muzaffarabad deputy commissioner Badar Munir said.

Munir said the dead included three members of one family.

Neelum Valley official Akhtar Ayub said one civilian was killed and two injured.

The shelling came after five people were killed in Indian Kashmir on

SEE PAGE 11 COL 1

FATHER-DAUGHTER MURDER
Wife 'admits' killing both

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Hasina Begum, prime suspect of a double murder in Chattogram, yesterday confessed to police that she killed her husband and daughter to cover up her extra-marital affair.

The 30-year-old accused killed her husband Abu Taher, 35, and daughter Bibi Fatema, 3, on Saturday night with the help of her lover Mainuddin, said Amena Begum, additional police commissioner (crime and operation) of Chattogram Metropolitan Police.

Police arrested Mainuddin in Noakhali's Nobogram Bazar area early yesterday, the law enforcer said, adding that he also gave his confessional statement to police.

Initially Hasina and Mainuddin claimed that it was a murder-suicide. At one point of interrogation, they said it was a murder and confessed their involvement, the police

SEE PAGE 11 COL 4

Longest flight lands in Sydney



AFP, Sydney

The longest non-stop passenger flight touched down in Australia yesterday morning after more than 19 hours in the air, a milestone journey from New York that Qantas hopes to parlay into commercial success.

Qantas flight QF7879 took 19 hours and 16 minutes to fly direct from New York to Sydney in the first of three "ultra long-haul" journeys planned by the airline this year.

The national flag carrier is operating the test flights -- which also include one from London to Sydney -- as it weighs a rollout of regular services on marathon routes from the United States and Britain to Australia.

Just 49 people travelled on the Boeing 787-9 to minimise the weight on board and give the plane

SEE PAGE 11 COL 2

ILLEGAL WEALTH
ACC arrests DIG prisons after quizzing

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Anti-Corruption Commission yesterday arrested Bazlur Rashid, deputy inspector general (DIG) of the department of prisons, in a case filed over amassing Tk 3.08 crore beyond the known source of his income.

An ACC team interrogated Bazlur and his wife Razzakun Nahar for about seven hours from 9:00am.

After the interrogation, ACC Deputy Director Md Salahuddin filed a case with the Commission's Integrated District Office and showed Bazlur arrested in the case.

The Daily Star obtained a copy of the case statement.

According to it, Bazlur signed a contract with Rupayan Housing Estate on April 24, 2018, to buy a 2,981 square foot flat on the first floor of an apartment building in the capital's Siddeshwari Road.

The price of the flat was Tk 3.09 crore.

Of the amount, Bazlur paid an advance amount of Tk 10 lakh on April 20. He then paid Tk 2.18 crore on April 24, Tk 25 lakh on April 28, Tk 14 lakh on May 17 and Tk 40 lakh on June 7 last year -- all in cash. He paid Tk 54,000 by cheque on April 30, 2018.

"He paid Tk 3.08 crore, but during our interrogation, he could not show any legal source of the money," said one of the three ACC officials, who quizzed the DIG.

"He also concealed the information of the apartment in his income tax file," he said.

According to his bio, Bazlur joined the service in 1993 as a jail super. He was promoted to DIG prisons in 2013 and then transferred to Dhaka in 2016.

Recently, Bangla daily



PRAYER TIMING OCTOBER 21

Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha
AZAN 4-50 12-45 4-00 5-36 7-15
JAMAAT 5-25 4-15 5-39 7-45

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

'Drug dealer' killed in Cox's Bazar 'gunfight'

OUR CORRESPONDENT,
Cox's Bazar

An alleged drug dealer was killed in a "gunfight" between law enforcers and his cohorts in Teknaf upazila of Cox's Bazar yesterday.

Teknaf police had arrested Mohammad Aziz, 24, son of Saleh Ahmed of Dailpara in the upazila, at his home on Saturday night, law enforcers said.

As per the information given by him, police took him on a drive at Maheshkhali Noughat around 12:30am, said Officer-in-Charge Pradip Kumar Das of Teknaf Police Station.

As soon as they reached the spot, cohorts of Aziz started firing on the team, forcing the police to retaliate, said the OC, adding that Aziz tried to flee from custody during the attack.

After the "gunfight", Aziz was found shot and lying on the ground, OC



A group of men allegedly from "Muktijuddho Mancha", a platform of descendants of freedom fighters, swoop on a Chakra Dal activist near Madhur Canteen at Dhaka University yesterday. The assault was carried out following a press conference arranged by the platform to protest a Facebook post by the JCD general secretary. Supposed Chakra League men aided the attack.

UK leaving EU on October 31

Says British minister Gove despite Johnson letter to bloc asking for Brexit delay

AFP, London

A defiant British government doubled down yesterday, insisting it would leave the European Union in 11 days' time despite parliament forcing a reluctant prime minister to request another delay.

In a day of high drama on Saturday, MPs in the House of Commons passed up the chance to decide on the revised withdrawal agreement that Prime Minister Boris Johnson had negotiated with the European Union.

That defeat leaves Johnson under mounting pressure to find a way out of paralysing impasse on when and how Britain would leave the EU bloc after Britons narrowly voted to exit in a 2016 referendum.

Late Saturday, Johnson reluctantly sent European Council President Donald Tusk a letter legally imposed on him by parliament requesting an extension -- but refused to sign it.

The Conservative leader sent a second, signed letter insisting he was not seeking an extension to the Brexit deadline, which has already been postponed twice, warning that "a further extension would damage the interests of the UK and our EU partners".

Having failed to back a divorce deal, which Johnson had secured on Thursday, they triggered a law requiring him to write to EU leaders asking to delay Brexit, to avoid the risk that Britain crashes out in less than a fortnight's time.

Senior cabinet minister Michael Gove, the government's Brexit planning chief, was nonetheless adamant that

SEE PAGE 11 COL 2