



# 'Militants eyeing move to Afghanistan'

Cops probing if some have already left

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

At least three members of banned militant outfit Ansar Al Islam are said to have travelled to Afghanistan recently while many others are expressing their desire in closed online groups to reach that country, leaving law enforcers concerned.

Radicalised young people are already encouraged by the resurgence of Taliban in Afghanistan as it has already captured major parts of that country, said counterterrorism officials.

They expressed worries that there might be a surge of Bangladeshi youths travelling to Afghanistan if Taliban seeks help from Foreign Terrorist Fighters (FTF) for establishing an "Islamic regime" in that country.

Law enforcers have learnt from some arrested members of Ansar Al Islam, a pro-al Qaeda militant outfit, that at least three Bangladeshi youths have reached Afghanistan recently.

Also known as Ansarullah Bangla Team (ABT), Ansar Al Islam claims to have an affiliation with al-Qaeda and also claims itself to be the sub-continental wing of the outfit.

An official who dealt with militancy for a long time said as Taliban did not seek help from FTF, Bangladeshi youths may go to Afghanistan receiving calls from al Qaeda or some other terrorist groups having a similar ideology.

An official of the Counter Terrorism and Transnational Crime (CTTC) unit said those who moved to Afghanistan and others planning to go there

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Nine people, crammed on a single cycle-van, head towards Dhaka from Narayanganj after Eid holidays, due to a lack of public transport. Police seemed to look the other way even though traveling restrictions were imposed by the government to curb the spread of coronavirus. The photo was taken at Kadamtali on the Dhaka-Chittagong highway.

## PEGASUS SCANDAL Mamata-led WB govt sets up first probe panel

OUR CORRESPONDENT, New Delhi

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee yesterday announced the setting up of a committee comprising retired judges Justice Madan B Lokur and Justice Jyotirmoy Bhattacharya to probe the Pegasus spyware controversy.

The move came days after Mamata's nephew and Trinamool Congress lawmaker Abhishek Banerjee's name appeared on a list of potential surveillance targets.

This is a significant move for another reason - it is the first formal inquiry into allegations that between 2017 and 2019 an Indian client of Israel's NSO Group used Pegasus to hack hundreds of phones of opposition leaders, journalists, government officials and even a constitutional authority.

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## Govt to form 3 new upazilas in three districts

UNB, Dhaka

The government yesterday approved the creation of three new upazilas -- "Eidgaon" in Cox's Bazar, "Modhyanagar" in Sunamganj and "Dashar" in Madaripur -- in a bid to ensure balanced development in those remote areas.

With these, the number of upazilas in the country would be 495.

The approval came from a meeting of the National Implementation Committee for Administrative Reform (NICAR).

The meeting was held virtually, with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in the chair. She joined the meeting from the Gono Bhaban, while the others from the Secretariat.

Briefing reporters after the meetings of the cabinet and NICAR, Cabinet Secretary Khandker Anwarul Islam said, "The structures of the three new upazilas will be like that of the latest upazila [492nd upazila]."

Besides, Dakkhin Sunamganj upazila was renamed as "Shantiganj upazila", he said.

The NICAR meeting gave the go-ahead to widening the Sylhet City Corporation area and thus Shahjalal University of Science and Technology (SUST) and some other large establishments came under the

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## ROAD TO FREEDOM THIS DAY IN BANGLADESH LIBERATION WAR HISTORY

### U Thant concerned over Bangladesh situation

JULY 27, 1971

SHAMSUDDOZA SAJEN

#### CONVERSATION BETWEEN NIXON AND KISSINGER

In a telephone conversation with American president Nixon, his security adviser Kissinger stated, "I will make it clear with the Indians that there isn't going to be a war. ...The problem—no military aid to Pakistan, they are not even getting economic aid. If anything will tempt the Indians to attack, it will be the complete helplessness of Pakistan."

In reply, Nixon said, "After all they have done, we just aren't going to let that happen."

#### THANT MAY CALL SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING

The UN secretary general U Thant had separate meetings with the Indian and Pakistani ambassadors today to discuss the continuing tension along the border of the two countries. The meeting followed the transmission by U Thant a confidential letter to the Security Council president recently expressing his deep concern about the developments in Bangladesh.

It was indicated by credible sources that Thant was thinking in terms of convening an informal meeting of the Security Council at an early date to discuss the Bangladesh situation.

Meanwhile, Pakistani authorities charged today that an Indian artillery barrage killed five civilians and wounded 13 in the district of Cumilla in East Pakistan.

Cumilla, which is close to the Indian frontier, was reported

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## Three rape suspects held

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Three youths were arrested over the gang rape of a 20-year-old girl in Khulna's Dumuria upazila on Saturday.

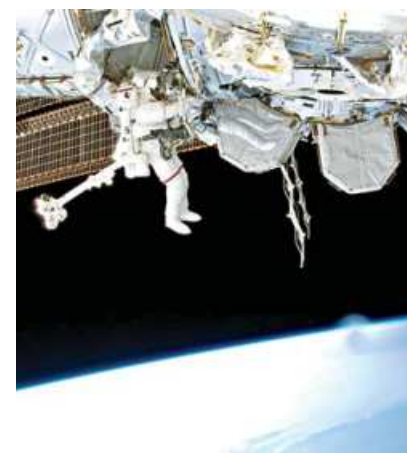
A district court sent the arrestees to jail after they were produced before it yesterday.

Quoting the victim, Obaidur Rahman, officer-in-charge of Dumuria Police Station, said the three accused forcibly picked up the girl from a road in Hasanpur area of the upazila around 8:30pm on Saturday and took her to nearby Nishar Ali Moral Fishing Gher area, where

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## Astronauts grow chili peppers in ISS

INDEPENDENT.CO.UK



Astronauts on the International Space Station (ISS) are growing red and green chili peppers, the first time that the fruit have been grown on the spacecraft.

Nasa said the project, which uses Hatch chili pepper seeds, was initiated by Shane Kimbrough - a flight engineer who grew and ate the "Outrageous" romaine lettuce.

A team with Kennedy Space Center's Exploration Research and Technology programs planted the chili seed in a "science carrier", a device that slots

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## Important Notice

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**Mr. Munsur Khaled**  
Sr. Additional Secretary, BGMEA, Dhaka, Mobile: 01713-062728

**Major Rafiqul Islam (Retd)**  
Additional Secretary, BGMEA, Dhaka, Mobile: 01862-288108

**Mr. Habibur Islam**  
Additional Secretary, BGMEA, Dhaka, Mobile: 01819-249049

**Mr. Mohsin Chowdhury**  
Sr. Additional Secretary, BGMEA, Chittagong, Mobile: 01554-337748

**Mr. Abdul Aziz Chowdhury**  
Additional Secretary, BGMEA, Chittagong, Mobile: 01711-164598

**Faruque Hassan**  
President, BGMEA

## AL activist hacked to death

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Jhenidah

A local ruling party activist was hacked to death by his fellow partymen in the Damukdia area of Shaikupa on Sunday night over establishing supremacy in the locality.

Rashidul Islam Mridha, 45, was an activist of Monoharpur Union Awami League. Jhantu Mollah, another AL activist who was with Rashidul at the time, was also attacked and injured.

Rashidul's cousin Ajmir Sharif, also a resident of the area, said two groups of local AL had been competing with each other for supremacy in the village for a long time.

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#### PRAYER TIMING JULY 27

Fazr	Zohr	Asr	Maghrib	Esha
AZAN 4:20	12:45	5:00	6:50	8:15
JAMAAT 4:55	1:15	5:15	6:55	8:45

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

## ডেঙ্গু ও চিকুনগুনিয়া প্রতিরোধে স্বাস্থ্য বার্তা

এডিস মশার ডিম পাতিল ও বংশবিস্তারের স্থান

লার্ভা

পিউপা

এডিস মশা

ডেঙ্গু ও চিকুনগুনিয়া ভাইরাসজনিত জ্বর যা এডিস মশার মাধ্যমে ছড়ায়। সাধারণ চিকিৎসাতেই ডেঙ্গু ও চিকুনগুনিয়া সেরে যায়, তবে হেমোরাজিক ডেঙ্গু জ্বর মারাত্মক হতে পারে। এডিস মশার বংশ বৃদ্ধি রোধের মাধ্যমে ডেঙ্গু ও চিকুনগুনিয়া রোগ প্রতিরোধ করা যায়।

**বর্ষার সময় এ রোগের প্রকোপ বাড়াতে পারে। তাই এ সময় অধিক সতর্ক থাকা প্রয়োজন।**

**ডেঙ্গু ও চিকুনগুনিয়া প্রতিরোধে করণীয় :**

- ♦ আপনার ঘরে এবং আশেপাশে যে কোন পাত্রে বা জায়গায় জমে থাকা পানি তিন দিন পরপর ফেলে দিলে এডিস মশার লার্ভা মরে যাবে।
- ♦ ব্যবহৃত পাত্রে গায়ে লেগে থাকা মশার ডিম অপসারণে পাত্রটি ঘষে ঘষে পরিষ্কার করতে হবে।
- ♦ ফুলের টব, প্লাস্টিকের পাত্র, পরিত্যক্ত টায়ার, প্লাস্টিকের ড্রাম, মাটির পাত্র, বাগতি, টিনের কোঁটা, ডাবের খোসা/নারিকেলের মালা, কন্টেইনার, মটকা, ব্যাটারী শেল ইত্যাদিতে এডিস মশা ডিম পাড়ে।
- ♦ অব্যবহৃত পানির পাত্র ধুয়ে অথবা উল্টে রাখতে হবে যাতে পানি না জমে।
- ♦ দিনে অথবা রাতে ঘুমানোর সময় অবশ্যই মশারি ব্যবহার করতে হবে।

সেবা নিন, সুস্থ থাকুন

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