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They duped people with 'cheap' phones

Cops arrest Muktagacha gang that amassed huge wealth

MOHAMMAD JAMIL KHAN

A three-member gang from Muktagacha of Mymensingh that has been embezzling lakhs of taka by baiting people with fancy gadgets at low prices on bikroy.com has been nabbed by the police.

In less than a year, the trio -- Sojyent Ahmed Shikon, 21; Al Amin, 20; and Sabinur Rahman Biplob, 26 -- has appropriated more than Tk 21 lakh in cash and bought a car, two motorcycles and constructed a one-story building in their district.

The gang first collected registered SIM cards of different operators for Tk 350 to Tk 500 and opened Gmail accounts with the numbers. With the Gmail accounts, they advertised the gadgets on bikroy.com, the country's largest classified ad site.

In addition, for communication with interested buyers, they pretended to be serving police members to gain trust.

Once people showed interest in the mobile phones advertised, the trio asked for 50 percent of the amount, according to Junaid Alam Sharke, additional deputy commissioner of police's detective branch (DB).

They then provided false booking receipts of Sundarban Courier Service as proof of shipping and demanded the remaining sum.

The gang used to collect the courier's booking books from a broker for Tk 30,000-35,000.

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Armed Forces Day today

UNB, Dhaka

Armed Forces Day is being observed across the country today with due solemnity and enthusiasm.

On this day in 1971, Bangladesh Armed Forces comprising army, navy and air force came into being and they launched an all-out attack on the Pakistani occupation forces.

Since the country's independence, the day has been observed as the Armed Forces Day every year.

The day's programmes will start with the offering of special prayers in mosques of all cantonments, naval outposts, and establishments and air force outposts after Fazr prayers seeking divine blessings for the country's welfare and progress and continued development and progress of the Armed Forces.

President Abdul Hamid and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will place wreaths at "Shilsha Anirban" at the Dhaka Cantonment in the morning to pay homage to the members of the Armed Forces who sacrificed their lives during the Liberation War.

The president, also the supreme commander of the Armed Forces, and the prime minister issued separate messages on the occasion.

The chiefs of the three services will

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

Joint command formed

NOVEMBER 21, 1971

SHAMSUDDOZA SAJEN

CHINA'S SPEECH NOT UNEXPECTED: INDIRA
China's relations with Pakistan and the reported speech of the Chinese delegate at the United Nations were not unexpected,

Indian prime minister Indira Gandhi said today.

The speech of the Chinese representative Fu Hau at the world body wouldn't change India's stand and its relations with China, she added.

Asked to comment on the statement of Pakistan president Yahya that he desired to improve relations with India, Indira said India would welcome such a move provided the Pakistan president meant it sincerely.

Asked to clarify what she meant by "sincerity", Indira said the Pakistan government should immediately release Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and give up the farce of fresh elections in Bangladesh.

They should recognise the elected public representatives and arrive at a political settlement with them in order to create the necessary atmosphere and guarantee of safe return of the refugees.

ON THE WAR FRONT

A joint command composed of the Indian Armed Forces and Bangladesh Mukti Bahini was formally formed today. Lieutenant General Jagjit Singh Aurora, commander, Eastern Command of Indian Army, became the commander of the joint forces.

Mukti Bahini and the 14th Punjab Regiment of the Indian Army moved in to capture the areas around Garibpur, Boyra. Pakistan immediately retaliated with an infantry battalion.

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Hope they'll take back Rohingyas

Says Foreign Minister Momen

UNB, Dhaka

Foreign Minister AK Abdul Momen yesterday hoped that Myanmar would take back Rohingyas gradually as the pressure on Myanmar would be mounted following the recent adoption of resolution in the United Nations.

"I believe the pressure will be mounted on Myanmar as the resolution has been passed by consensus," he told reporters after paying tribute to Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman in Tungipara.

Momen said Myanmar did not say they would not take back their people. "We hope Myanmar will create a conducive environment for the voluntary return of the Rohingyas."

The foreign minister

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'Oldest' jewelry unveiled in Morocco

AFP, Rabat

Archaeologists in Morocco have unveiled what they said was the oldest jewelry in the world, perforated seashells dating back as much as 150,000 years.

The shells, assumed to have formed necklaces and bracelets, were discovered in the Bismoune cave near the coastal resort of Essaouira.

They were dated as 142,000-150,000 years old, according to researcher Abdeljalil Bouzouggar.

"This discovery has enormous implications for the history of humanity," he said on Thursday, adding that it suggested the owner was using language.

"These are symbolic objects, and symbols,

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Rozina Islam gets Latifur Rahman Award

Prothom Alo celebrates 23rd founding anniv

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Rozina Islam, a senior correspondent of Prothom Alo, received "Sangbadikotay Latifur Rahman Puroshkar" yesterday.

Prothom Alo launched the award commemorating late Latifur Rahman, founding chairman of Transcom Group, on the occasion of its 23rd founding anniversary.

Rozina received the award at a programme held at the Radisson Blu Dhaka Water Garden.

The journalist, who faced threats, harassment and imprisonment for writing investigative reports on irregularities in the health sector during the Covid-19 pandemic, received the Free Press Award earlier this month.

Free Press Unlimited conferred the award on

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Rozina Islam, a senior correspondent with Prothom Alo, receives the first Latifur Rahman award for journalism from Transcom Group CEO Simeen Rahman, left, while Matiur Rahman, editor of Prothom Alo, right, looks on at the Radison Blu in the capital yesterday.

PHOTO:
COLLECTED

Journo sent to jail under ICT act

OUR CORRESPONDENT,
Narayanganj

A Narayanganj court yesterday sent a journalist to jail in connection with a case filed under the Information and Communication Technology Act.

The accused is Syed Sifat Al Rahman Linckon, general secretary of Narayanganj City Press Club and district correspondent for Ananda Television.

Linckon, who lives near Allama Iqbal road in the city, was arrested from his home yesterday and

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PRAYER TIMING NOVEMBER 21

Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha
AZAN 5-05 12-45 3-45 5-21 7-00
JAMAAT 5-40 1-15 4-00 5-24 7-30

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

Myanmar Navy detains Bangladeshi fishermen

OUR CORRESPONDENT,
Cox's Bazar

At least 22 Bangladeshi fishermen were detained and four Bangladeshi fishing trawlers were seized by Myanmar Navy personnel yesterday.

The fishermen were detained while they were fishing in the Bay of Bengal near St Martin's Island inside the Bangladesh maritime territory around 10:00am, said Noor Ahmed, chairman of St Martin's union parishad.

"A few of our fishermen contacted me over phone immediately after they were detained. But later, their mobile phones were found switched off. We have informed the matter to our upazila nirbahi officer (UNO)," he told The Daily Star.

Trawler owner Nurul Amin said they frequently face similar problems as Myanmar Navy often detains Bangladeshi fishermen entering

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Ignoring health guidelines, HSC candidates gather in front of a vaccination booth at Model School and College in Shahi Eidgah area of Sylhet. The vaccination campaign is providing students with Pfizer jabs.

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KILLING OF BLM PROTESTERS

Calls for calm after US teen cleared of murder

AFP, Kenosha

Kyle Rittenhouse, the American teenager who shot dead two men during protests and riots against police brutality in Wisconsin last year, was acquitted of all charges on Friday after a high-profile and politically divisive trial.

A jury found Rittenhouse, 18, not guilty of reckless and intentional homicide and other charges stemming from the shootings that took place in August 2020 in Kenosha, Wisconsin.

The case drew national attention, in part because it arose from the Black Lives Matter demonstrations that swept the country last year and featured a controversial mix of guns, racial tensions and vigilantism.

Rittenhouse, who claimed he acted in self-defense, sobbed and shook as the verdict was read, sank into his chair and embraced his lawyer before rushing out of the courtroom.

President Joe Biden warned against violence following the verdict in the closely watched trial and appealed for calm.

"While the verdict in Kenosha will leave many Americans feeling angry and concerned, myself included, we must acknowledge that the jury has spoken," Biden said in a statement.

"I urge everyone to express their views peacefully, consistent with the rule of law."

"What we need right now is justice, not more violence," lawyers for the family of Gaige Grosskreutz, who was shot and injured by Mr Rittenhouse, said in a statement.

There were scattered cheers and clapping from

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