



NEW MILITANT GROUP

Its formation was planned inside prison

Leaders of 3 banned outfits behind it, says chief of CTTC unit

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The formation of newly-emerged militant group -- Jama'atul Ansar Fil Hindal Sharqiya -- was planned in jail by leaders of three banned militant outfits arrested years ago.

One of the planners, Shamin Mahfuz, 47, a former Jama'atul Mujahideen Bangladesh leader, has been the key figure in the outfit since its formation in 2019.

Md Asaduzzaman, chief of Dhaka Metropolitan Police's Counter Terrorism and Transnational Crime unit, revealed this at a briefing at the DMP media centre yesterday following the arrests of five operatives of Jama'atul Ansar.

The five -- Abdullah, 22, Tazul Islam, 33, Ziauddin, 37, Habibullah, 19, and Mahmudul Hasan, 18 -- were held in the capital's Demra on Wednesday night.

Shamin alias Mending Murang,

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THE CRIMSON WING ... A Crimson Sunbird gently perched on a tree branch in the Sundarbans. The national bird of Singapore, this gorgeously coloured bird is native to South and Southeast Asian countries, including Bangladesh and India. A common sight throughout much of its range, the nectar-feeding birds can be found in parks, gardens, plantations, as well as more pristine open forest and forest edge environments. The number of Crimson Sunbirds across the region is unquantified, but their population has been steady, which is why the IUCN has listed them in the “Least Concern” category.

PHOTO: TIMU HOSSAIN

Reshuffle in top tier of the admin

EC, 3 ministries get new secretaries

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government made major changes in the upper echelon of civil service yesterday by appointing new secretaries to the Election Commission and three ministries.

In separate circulars, the Ministry of Public Administration named the new secretaries.

Additional secretary to the Public Security Division of the home ministry Jahangir Alam was promoted and appointed to the EC. EC Secretary Humayun Kabir Khandaker was transferred to the industries ministry.

Senior Secretary to Ministry of Primary and Mass Education Aminul Islam Khan was transferred to the Public Security Division.

The post vacated by Aminul will be filled by Chief Executive Officer of Dhaka South City Corporation Farid Ahmed.

The government transferred Industry Secretary Zakia Sultana to the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

On October 16, the government sent then secretary to information and broadcasting ministry Mokbul Hossain into retirement on “public interest” grounds.

The post had remained vacant since then.

Secretary to Local Government

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ROHINGYA REFUGEE CAMPS

Killings on the rise, gangs on the prowl

7 murdered this month alone; families of victims also in fear

MOHAMMAD JAMIL KHAN and MOSTAFA YOUSUF

Rohingya crime gangs have resorted to murder, abduction and extortion to establish their supremacy at Cox's Bazar refugee camps and control drug trades.

They are especially targeting the Rohingya youths and community leaders (known as majhis) and also those who are raising voice against crimes or helping the authorities identify the gang members.

At least seven Rohingyas have been killed this month alone and 14 in four months since June this year.

Around 2,441 cases have been filed over crimes at the refugee camps from August 25, 2017, to August 20, 2022, against around 5,226 Rohingyas, according to police database.

Of the cases, 185 are over arms, 1,644 are drug cases, 88 rape cases, 115 murder and 39 over abduction.

A section of the refugees and security experts said Rohingya insurgent organisation Arakan Rohingya Salvation Army (Arsa) is behind these crimes though the government denies its existence in Bangladesh.

Some criminals often falsely identify themselves as Arsa operatives to intimidate the general refugees, the authorities say.

Police officials say the gangs that were active in Myanmar are now engaged in crimes at the camps. There are around 14 such gangs, they claim.

Asked about the sudden rise in the killings, Mohammed Mizanur Rahman, refugee relief and repatriation commissioner (RRRC), said,

“Some gangs have taken shelter at the refugee camps since the conflicts flared up in Myanmar recently.”

There have been shelling and heavy gunfire in Myanmar over the last two months as tensions between the Myanmar Armed Forces and the Arakan Army escalated into violent conflicts in Rakhine State and southern Chin State.

“We have talked to the home minister to decide what needs to be done at the camps. We are now making a list of criminals to bring them to book,” said the commissioner.

“Besides, we have also held a meeting with the Armed Police Battalion [APBn] and the security agencies for a concerted effort to curb the criminal activities as there are some inaccessible areas across the camps.”

Yesterday, two Rohingyas were killed at Camp No 17 in Ukhiya upazila of Cox's Bazar.

“Criminal gangs killed the two after dragging them out of their houses around 4:00am,” said Sayed Harun Or Rashid, additional deputy inspector general of APBn-14.

The deceased are identified as Ayatullah, 40, and Mohammad Yeasin, 30.

About the presence of Arsa, Harun said he would not be able to name any criminal gang. “But the gangs that were active in Myanmar are now operating at the camps. They want to establish supremacy to take control of drug trade.”

Earlier on October 15, two Rohingya community leaders, Mohammad Anwar, 38, and Mohammad Yunus, 35, were stabbed to death by unknown assailants at Block-F at Balukhali refugee camp.

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They must face justice

HC observes about money launderers after seeing ACC report on PK Halder

ASHUTOSH SARKAR

The High Court yesterday said the corrupt and money launderers would not be spared and they must be brought to book.

“The money laundered abroad must be brought back home and should be used for the country's development and welfare of its people. All including the lawyers and journalists should work for the country,” the HC bench of Justice Md Nazrul Islam Talukder and Justice Khizir Hayat Lizu said.

The bench made the comments after seeing two compliance reports placed before it by the Anti-Corruption Commission over embezzlement of huge amounts of money by Proshanta Kumar Halder, widely known as PK Halder, Major (ret'd) Md Abdul Mannan, and people who served their interest in two companies, during the heading on a suo moto (voluntary) rule on this issue.

Earlier on October 18, the HC bench wanted to know from the ACC what actions have been

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1 in 5 children in poverty, at climate risk

Says global report on Bangladesh

MOHAMMAD AL-MASUM MOLLA

One in every five children in Bangladesh is living with poverty and high climate risk, according to a new global report.

Styled “Generation Hope: 2.4 billion reasons to end the global climate and inequality crisis”, the Save the Children report said more than one crore children in Bangladesh are facing this double burden.

“A total of 21 percent of the total child population [in Bangladesh] are living with the dual impacts of poverty and high climate risk,” the report read.

It mentioned that the child population in Bangladesh is 53,407,032.

“So, the 11.1 million is 21 percent of the total child population.”

They are among the almost 350 million children across Asia, who are gripped by both grinding poverty and climate disaster, the report added.

Mostak Hossain, humanitarian director of Save the Children Bangladesh, said, the World Bank estimates that 20 million people will be the internal climate migrants in Bangladesh by 2050, and around 40 percent are children.

“One of the reasons they remain vulnerable is that we do not separately emphasise their situation in our planning process, strategies or guidelines.”

However, he said, it is a good thing that in the

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Bees ‘count’ from left to right

AFP, Paris

Bees order numbers in increasing size from left to right, a study has shown for the first time, supporting the much-debated theory that this direction is inherent in all animals including humans.

Western research has found that even before children learn to count, they start organising growing quantities from left to right in what has been called the “mental number line”.

However, the opposite direction has been found in people from cultures that use an Arabic script which reads from right to left.

“The subject is still being debated between those who think the mental number line has an innate character and those who say it is cultural,” said Martin Giurfa, a professor at the Research Centre on Animal Cognition at Paul Sabatier University in Toulouse, France.

There has been recent evidence that newborn babies and some vertebrate animals, including primates, organise numbers from left to right.

Giurfa led a study, published last week in the journal Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (PNAS), aiming to find out if the same holds true for insects, via an experiment on bees.

“It has already been shown that bees are able to count -- at least up to five,” Giurfa told AFP.

They also process information differently in

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A motorcyclist struggling through the dirty stagnant water on pothole-ridden Jatrabari-Dania road beside the Mayor Hanif Flyover. Due to its long-standing dilapidated condition, the road is frequently waterlogged. The photo was taken in Shanir Akhra area recently.

PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN

ঢাকা পানি সরবরাহ ও পয়ঃ নিষ্কাশন কর্তৃপক্ষ

ব্যবস্থাপনা পরিচালকের কার্যালয়
'ওয়াসা ভবন', ৯৮, কাজী নজরুল ইসলাম এভিনিউ, ঢাকা-১২১৫

শেখ হাসিনার মূলনীতি
গ্রাম শহরের উন্নতি

বিশেষ বিজ্ঞপ্তি

ইদানিং লক্ষ্য করা যাচ্ছে যে, কয়েকটি জাতীয় দৈনিক পত্রিকায় ঢাকা ওয়াসা সম্পর্কে বিশেষ করে প্রকল্পসমূহের উপর মিথ্যা ও তথ্যকথিত দুর্নীতির তথ্য ধারাবাহিকভাবে তুলে ধরা হচ্ছে। এরূপ বিভ্রান্তিকর তথ্য জনমনে ও ঢাকা ওয়াসা'র সম্মানিত গ্রাহকদের মধ্যে ঢাকা ওয়াসা'র কার্যক্রম সম্পর্কে বিরূপ ধারণার সৃষ্টি করছে। উল্লেখ্য, উন্নয়ন সহযোগীদের গাইডলাইন ও ক্রয়-নীতি অনুসরণ করে আন্তর্জাতিক মানের কনসালটেন্টস নিবিড়ভাবে প্রতিটি প্রকল্পের যাবতীয় কার্যক্রম মনিটরিং করে থাকে। এখানে দুর্নীতির কোনই সুযোগ নেই। যে কোন দুর্নীতির বিরুদ্ধে ঢাকা ওয়াসা'র অবস্থান “জিরো টলারেন্স”। ঢাকা ওয়াসা সর্বোচ্চ আন্তরিকতার সাথে নগরবাসীর সেবা দিয়ে আসছে।

এমতাবস্থায়, ঢাকা ওয়াসা'র যে কোন প্রকল্পের উপর সুনির্দিষ্ট অভিযোগ থাকলে তা প্রমাণাদিসহ সরাসরি ব্যবস্থাপনা কর্তৃপক্ষ বরাবরে লিখিতভাবে দাখিল করার জন্য বিনীত অনুরোধ করা হ'ল। তথ্য প্রদানকারীর সকল গোপনীয়তা রক্ষা করা হবে। নগরবাসীর সেবা প্রদানের স্বার্থে এটি অত্যন্ত জরুরী।

জনস্বার্থে- ঢাকা ওয়াসা

ওয়াসা-জঃতঃ ৪৮৪/২০২২
জিডি-১৯৮১