

Fake visa syndicate

FROM PAGE 3
for the Maldives and on page 20 for Malaysia were fake. Similarly, another applicant Mahabubur went to the embassy for a visa interview on November 3 last year and admitted to officials that the stamps on page 9 for Cambodia and on page 11 for the Maldives were fake.
On September 18, 2022, applicant Md Milon, 40, went to the embassy for a visa appointment and admitted to the officials that the stamps on page 20 and page 22 were fake seals of the Maldives visa, reads the FIR.
Junaed Alam Sharkar, DB's additional deputy commissioner, told The Daily Star that they first arrested Palash and Mahabubur for obtaining the fake visas.
During primary interrogation, Palash admitted to taking

assistance from Happy Holidays Agency and Mahabubur admitted to taking assistance from Travelers Diary Agency to get US visas, said Junaed.
As a part of the initial payment for the application, the duo paid the agency around Tk 1 lakh. The deal was to pay the full amount upon receiving the visas from the embassy, said Junaed.
“The agency owners and their associates admitted during the interrogation that they are involved in such illegal activities for the last two to three years,” he said.
Junaed also said they are now investigating to know details of the other members of the syndicate.
Detectives advised US visa seekers to provide authentic information in the application as false travel history does not assure one of acquiring visas.

Publish gazette

FROM PAGE 3
the progress report on the implementation of the order by yesterday.
Tarique and Zubaida have been in London since 2008.
On September 26, 2007, the anti-graft body filed the case with Kafrul Police Station against Tarique, his wife Zubaida and her mother Syeda Iqbal Mand Banu for amassing assets worth Tk 4.82 crore through illegal means and concealing the information of Tk 2.16 crore in their

wealth statements. The investigation officer of the case pressed charges against the three with the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's Court, Dhaka, on March 31, 2009.
However, the trial proceedings against Iqbal Mand Banu were rescinded.
Earlier, Tarique was sentenced to life in jail in the August 21 grenade attack cases.
He was also sentenced to different terms in two other cases, including the Zia Orphanage Trust graft case.

Selling govt land

FROM PAGE 5
on the purchased khas land, while others had either erected houses or are running small businesses in makeshift tin-shed shops on the illegal plots.
Sohrab Sardar, one of the locals, said during the dry season, Quddus cuts soil from the bank of the canal to make illegal plots and sell those to others.
Local union parishad chairman Mainul Hossain Sikder said Quddus has lured many innocent people with illegal plots and made a huge amount of money.
They have already informed the upazila

administration about his misdeeds, he said.
Earlier, Jotsnya Begum, a homemaker, filed a case with a Patuakhali court against Quddus when the latter forcibly tried to grab her land a year ago.
Contacted, Quddus said as a landless person, he was allotted one and a half acres of khas land in the 2006-07 fiscal. He denied the allegations against him.
Galachipa UNO Mohiuddin said Quddus had been illegally occupying and selling the khas land. They are preparing to take legal action against him soon.



Multifabs Limited signed a collaboration partnership with The Daily Star. The company's director, Salman Faruqi, and The Daily Star Head of Marketing Imran Kadir signed the agreement on behalf of the respective parties. The photo was taken at The Daily Star Centre yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

From hope to horror

FROM PAGE 3
“Hijrat” is an Arabic word, derived from “hijr”, which means “to depart”.
In his statement, Ziaul said after being instructed, he left with Tk 4 lakh, a backpack and some necessary clothes and his smartphone. But Tamal seized Tk 3 lakh and the phone from him, due to “security reasons”. Ziaul then received a feature phone, which had only one number in the contact list.
After getting down from a bus at Bandarban around 6:00am the next day, he called the number as per instruction, and two men arrived. Around 4:00am the next day, After several hours of riding on motorbikes and walking through forests, canyons and mountains for 12 hours, Ziaul reached the camp, he added.
After another eight-hour walk, he met three people, one of whom Ziaul later found out was Shamin Mahfuz alias Sir, chief of the militant outfit. The three then took the feature phone away from Ziaul.
Ziaul said there they found two batches – the older one had 12 members, while the new one 30. The monthlong commando

training for the old batch started the day he reached the camp. The training included running and physical exercise.
He was told that the training is necessary for defence, as various insurgent groups in the mountain area may attack them.
“Our training started 15 to 20 days after the senior group finished training. I trained for a few days in February last year. But soon I got sick, so I could not complete the 45-day course,” Ziaul said.
The training was divided into three parts – the first being physical preparation, then war tactics with firearms, and finally patrolling in the hills with arms.
He said at the end of February, Tamal, which is an alias of the outfit's ameer Anisur Rahman, went to the camp, and Ziaul asked him about the land purchase, but the latter brushed the query aside.
“I realised at this time that they had cheated me. I, however, didn't have any direct conflict with them,” he said in the statement.
Ziaul said he requested the people there to allow

him to leave the camp, but they indirectly let him know that there is no way to leave, he added.
While the young man kept insisting to leave, at one point the militants tied his hands and feet and kept him blindfolded. He was untied after two days, after they were assured that he would not flee. They, however, had their eyes on him.
Ziaul wasn't the only victim. The outfit members tied up and blindfolded six others from Sylhet, as they also wanted to leave, Ziaul said. Three of them are Saiful Islam Tuhin, Sayed and Suman from Sylhet's Osmani Nagar upazila.
During Ziaul's stay there, one member of the outfit, Dr Ahmad alias Zaheer, was shot dead when a separatist group attacked their camp. Ahmed was buried there a day after.
Rab later came to know that Ahmed is actually Zohaer Md Rahman from Noakhali's Sonaimuri.
On the morning of July 14, Ziaul fled the militant camp. After walking through the hills for six hours, he reached an indigenous village. With the help of a local there, he

went to Rowangchhari and then to Bandarban town. Then, he went to a relative's home in Cumilla and finally reached the capital.
Ziaul said initially he didn't contact anyone, including law enforcers, as those in the camp had warned of severe punishment if anyone discloses anything.
ANOTHER YOUTH SPEAKS
Saiful Islam Tuhin of Osmaninagar was arrested on December 22 last year by officials of Counter Terrorism and Transnational Crime.
After dropping out from a Qawmi madrasa, he took a job as a night guard of a community centre at Osmaninagar's Dayamir area to help his financially-strained family.
The 21-year-old youth was slowly motivated to go on hijrat, to the hills of Bandarban, by one moulana Sayeed. Tuhin was told to stand by the side of Arakan people, he said in a statement given to police.
Tuhin said outfit members had seized their phones, NID cards, birth certificates and passports. Then the militants gave the new recruits fake NIDs.

Metro rail

FROM PAGE 3
Meanwhile, the second phase of the Biswa Ijtema begins on the bank of the River Turag in Tongi today.
The Ijtema will begin with “ambayan” (general sermons) by noted Islamic scholars after Fazr prayers and will end with Akheri Munajat (final prayers) on January 22, reports BSS.
The government has taken adequate security measures ahead of Ijtema.

Savita Bhaban

FROM PAGE 5
The building was inaugurated by Adhyaksha Swami Purnatmanandaji Maharaj, secretary of Matri Mandir and Ramakrishna Mission Sarada Sevashrama, and Swami Jnanalokananda Maharaj, secretary of Ramakrishna Mission Swami Vivekananda's Ancestral House & Cultural Centre and member of the Board of Trustees Ramakrishna Math, Belur Math, were present as special guests.
President of Ramakrishna Mission's managing committee Justice Soumendra Sarker presided over the programme.

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135 brick kilns

FROM PAGE 5
Ulipur upazila, said although there are several illegal brick kilns in the area, construction of another brickfield is going in full swing.
The illegal brick kilns are eventually pushing hundreds of farming families of the village towards uncertainty, he added.
Contacted, Kurigram DoE Assistant Director Rezaul Karim, said 90 out

of the 111 brick kilns in the district are operating their business without any valid licence. They have prepared a list of those illegal brick kilns and sent those to the district administration to take legal actions in this regard, he said.
Kurigram DC Saidul Arif said they will conduct mobile court drives against the illegal brick kilns soon. Lalmonirhat DC Mohammad Ullah echoed the same.

Need cultural centres

FROM PAGE 5
the government should put more emphasis on highlighting the importance of culture. However, the amount of funds the Ministry of Cultural Affairs receive is very low compared to the other ministries.
Attending as the chief guest, Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan said the Nirmul Committee is actively working to combat fundamentalism and militancy. The government is also supporting its efforts, he added.
State Minister for Cultural Affairs KM Khalid

said the government has taken several steps to promote cultural activities in the country. The cultural affairs ministry has been allocated a budget of around TK 600 crore for the current year.
Shahriar Kabir, president of the Nirmul Committee, presided over the event, where Shaheedjaya Shyamoli Nasrin Chowdhury, vice-president of the Nirmul Committee, also spoke.
Marking the anniversary, the committee also started their committee wing, named Jagaran Sangskritik Squad.

Saline land now

FROM PAGE 5
Dhaka, but now farmers have to pay about Tk 20,000 for the same due to increased fuel prices, he added.
Abul Bashar of the village said he opted for vegetable farming because it is more profitable than paddy cultivation.
“Instead of any chemical fertilisers or pesticides, we apply natural manure in the field which helps the

plants grow well,” Bashar said.
Taltali Upazila Agriculture Extension Officer Sumon Howladar said around 200 farmers of Saudagarpura village are engaged in producing various seasonal vegetables on about 700 acres of land. The coastal village now produces vegetables worth Tk 5 crore every year, he said.

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রচনা প্রতিযোগিতা ২০২৩

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Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

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Phone/Fax: 0266-81965/026681966
acegopalganj@gmail.com

Memo No. 35.01.3532.016.07.016.09-190 Date: 19-01-2023

e-Tender Notice

e-Tender is invited in e-GP System (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) by Additional Chief Engineer, RHD, Gopalganj Zone, Gopalganj for the procurement of following works:

Sl No.	Tender ID No.	Tender Reference No.	Description of work	Tender publication date	Tender last selling & opening date
1.	780803	e-GP/06/GZ/2022-2023 (OSTETM) (WP-01)	Improvement of Ghonapara to Mausoleum of the Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman (Including Sheikh Lutfar Rahman Bridge Approach) Road at Ch. 41+600 to Ch. 49+064 (2-7704) Portion to appropriate standard and width including construction of 2.0 Nos. New Culvert, 7.0 Nos. Culvert Extension, 4517.00m Retaining Wall, 4.00 Nos. Intersection, 2.0 Nos. Parking Zone, 9.0 Nos. Bus Bay & Ancillary Work under Road Division Gopalganj during the year 2022-2023. (Package No. WP-01)	22-01-2023 14:00	22-02-2023 16:00 & 23-02-2023 12:00

This is an online tender, where only e-Tenders will be accepted in e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, please register on e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>)

Md. Suruz Mia
ID No. 007001
Additional Chief Engineer (C.C) RHD
Gopalganj Zone, Gopalganj

GD-96