

Regia Arefeen's death anniv

STAR REPORT



The 9th death anniversary of Regia Arefeen, wife of Shamsul Arefeen, was observed on May 9, said a press release. On the occasion, a prayer session was held at T-Hossain Bari, Nabiganj, Narayanganj. Her friends, relatives and well-wishers have been requested to pray for salvation of the departed soul.

HC drops 3

before another HC bench. The court passed the order after Attorney General AM Amin Uddin requested it to hold hearing of the petitions quickly as the government has urgency to this effect.

The government will have to show the revenue of the tax in its next budget, he said.

The HC bench said it cannot hold the hearing before June 7 as it has other scheduled cases.

The bench then made the petitions out of the list (dropped). Deputy Attorney General Samarendranath Biswas said they will move the petitions before another bench soon.

Grameen Kalyan's petitioner Sarder Jinnat Ali said Prof Yumus has established Grameen Kalyan and Grameen Telecom Trust as non-profitable trusts under Section 284 of the Company Act, 1994.

The companies have paid the taxes on time, but the government has charged around Tk 1,100 as tax from the companies.

Secular values key

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people has not been created in the society." Rokeya Kabir, executive director of Bangladesh Women's Progress Society (BNPS), said, "The liberation struggle that gave Bangladesh its independence was fought on equal terms by men and women. Equality, human dignity and social justice were the main principles of the official declaration of independence of the Mujibnagar government, formed during the Liberation War."

"Despite the country's history of peace, it is true that religious differences have emerged after fifty years of independence. There is a strengthening of the current system of patriarchal prejudice. The clever use of religion in politics is a cause for

concern," she added. Professor Kaberi Gayen of Mass Communication and Journalism Department of Dhaka University said, "There is existing discrimination between men and women. The transgender community also suffer from various forms of discrimination. The state should take initiatives to eliminate all such discrimination. Besides, the people will also have to take responsibility."

"Specific goals for ending discrimination against women are included in the SDGs. Although Bangladesh has made great strides in this area, we are yet to reach our goal," said Hasanat M. Kishwar Hossain, assistant professor of Dhaka University's Department of Population Sciences Department.

Four members

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Tk 35 lakh for the organisation from his relatives and friends. Khandaker Al Moin, Rab's legal and media wing director, disclosed this while briefing media about the arrest of the four militants at Rab-9 Headquarters in Sylhet yesterday.

In the drive in Borshola area near Sylhet airport on Monday night, Rab members also recovered money, electronic devices and important documents from the four arrestees.

Tahan is a former Huji-B member who joined the new outfit in 2018 while being an expatriate in a Middle Eastern country. Sayeed, an accused in eight to 10 cases, is a former Ansar Al Islam member. Both were seen in a training video that Rab earlier recovered from the organisations military

wing chief Ranobir. Salauddin is a key organiser. The outfit's ameer Anisur Rahman Mahmud and chief advisor Shamim Mahfuz used to visit his Mirpur residence, Rab said.

Following law enforcers' crackdown on the Jama'atul Ansar men and members of Kuki-Chin National Front (KNF), an armed group of the Hill Tracts that provided the militants shelter and training in exchange for money, the new outfit's members returned to plain land.

Maimun continue to carry out activities from hideout concealing his real identity and was trying to reorganise the organisation in coordination with Ansar Al Islam (said to be the Bangladesh chapter of al-Qaeda in Indian Subcontinent) said a Rab press release.

'JMB' man held in M'singh

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

Rab claimed to have arrested a JMB man in Bhaluka upazila of Mymensingh on Monday.

The arrestee -- Azizul Haque Golap, 38, -- was a charge-sheeted accused in the series bomb blasts in 2005, said Muhibul Islam Khan, commanding officer of Rab-14. He said Azizul used to organise secret meetings with JMB high-ups. Concealing his identity, Azizul had been working as a senior general manager at a fashion house in Dhaka.

Azizul was produced before a Mymensingh court that sent him to jail yesterday.

New outfit, fresh

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Sohan sneaked into Syria and was escorted by IS fighters to Raqqa. He returned home after staying there for five months. Police later changed the case statement, which did not mention any IS connection between the arrestees. In reality, Beg and Sakib were working for the IS-inspired militant outfit Neo JMB.

During their stay in prison, Sakib met with Shamim Mahfuz, the mastermind and key leader behind the formation of the new militant outfit Sharqiya, said CTTC investigators. Shamim was also

arrested in 2014 by police's detective branch for his militant links. Citing Sakib, a CTTC official said Shamim invited him to work for him during their time in prison. Even after getting out of prison on bail, Shamim kept his communication with Sakib via secret apps. Sakib then joined the Ansarullah Bangla Team, an Al-Qaeda-inspired outfit, now known as Ansar Al Islam, said the investigating officer.

"Sakib had a very good link with Tareq Sohel, the first ever Ansar Al Islam's chief, and Ejaz Kargil, son-in-law of JMB chief Mawlana Saidur Rahman," said another CTTC official.

PM returns home

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organised at the headquarters of the World Bank in Washington DC, USA on May 1. In Washington DC, Hasina had meetings with IMF Managing Director Kristalina Georgieva and President and CEO of US Chamber of Commerce Suzanne P Clark.

On May 4, the premier left Washington DC for London on a five-day official visit to the UK to attend the coronation of UK's King Charles III, hosted by Buckingham Palace on May 6. In London, Hasina had an interaction with King Charles III, a bilateral meeting with British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak.

She also attended the Commonwealth Leaders Event, the King's reception for heads of states, governments and overseas representatives at Buckingham Palace ahead of the coronation of the King and the Queen Consort, and a community reception.

On April 28, the PM left Tokyo for Washington DC on a six-day official visit to the US to attend the celebration of the 50 years of partnership between the World Bank and Bangladesh.

She attended a seminar titled "Reflection on 50 years of Bangladesh-World Bank Partnership"

Homes lost, families displaced

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necessary protective measures are not taken immediately. Monirul Islam, assistant teacher of the school, said the erosion has turned so serious that the school can go under the river within the next few days.

He fears that once that happens, the local children's education will be greatly affected. Shafiqul Islam Shakil, chairman of Dhuburia Union Parishad, echoed similar apprehensions.

Md Waheduzzaman, upazila nirbahi officer in Nagarpur, said necessary steps will be taken immediately in this regard. Ershad Miah, an activist of Nagarpur, said the mighty Jamuna has been devouring localities one after another for the last few years, taking away the homes of riverside people and turning the upazila smaller.

"Although the authorities as well as local representatives assured them on many occasions

of constructing a dam as a permanent solution, nothing has been done," he added. Contacted, Md Sazzad Hossain, executive engineer of Water Development Board in Tangail, said they will take possible protective measures after visiting the affected areas.

"For a permanent solution, we have already readied a project proposal in this regard. A feasibility study is already under process," he added.

Trees felled flouting

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Prof Kamruzzaman Mojumder, the chairman of the Department of Environmental Sciences at Stamford University, warned of the huge impact of global warming on cities across the world. "If the authority partakes in activities that shrink a city's green coverage, the temperature will further go up, which will be too tough to cope with. Dhaka is susceptible to such conditions where life and nature will have to bear the brunt of the rising temperature following depletion of green space," he added.

Marina Nazneen, the zonal executive officer (zone-1) of DSCC, claimed that there was a risk of accidents, which is why the trees were felled. "The median strip will now be expanded and strengthened. The trees that have been cut have little to do with the environment," she said.

When asked about acquiring the Forest Department's approval, she said, "This work does not require the permission of the Forest Department or the Department of Environment."

She did not elaborate further.

Thimpu to sign

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neighbourly countries would be elevated to even newer height in the coming days and the two countries will continue to cooperate at different regional and multilateral forums to harness the existing potentials for the benefit of the entire region.

The president also emphasised increasing the connectivity between the two countries to explore the possibilities. Noting that Bhutan is the second largest commercial partner of Bangladesh, he said the markets in the Himalyan kingdom display many Bangladeshi products including garments.

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