city

it is vital to publish informa-

tion that clearly shows the

number of national security

demands for user content

such as the text of an email,

with providing numbers of

requests, disclosures should

provide context regarding

ble to publish these fig-

ures in a manner that

avoids putting security at

recent negotiations, we will

move forward with litiga-

tion in the hope that the

courts will uphold our right

There has been a wave of

legal action since revela-

PRISM program, believed to

collect vast amounts of

phone and Internet data as

part of efforts to protect

"Hefajat did not give the

complete list to Odhikar

officially. What Odhikar got

was a partial list. Some of

our responsible leaders gave

it to the Odhikar officials.

The list seems to be mislead-

ing," he told one of our

correspondents in the

to speak more freely."

"With the failure of our

"We believe it's possi-

what is being sought.

risk," Smith said.

He argued that, along

Smith said.

Taiwan train derailed by

mudslides; 17 injured

Microsoft on Friday said that a battle to shed light on secret US government requests for Internet user data would play out in court after failed peace talks.

Microsoft and Google filed suits in federal court in June, arguing a right to make public more information about user data requests made under the auspices of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act.

The technology titans agreed six times to extend the deadline for the government to respond to the lawsuits, allowing time for negotiations that "ended in failure," Microsoft general counsel Brad Smith said in a blog post.

"To followers of technology issues, there are many days when Microsoft and Google stand apart," Smith said.

"But today our two companies stand together... We believe we have a clear right under the US Constitution to share more information with the public." Silicon Valley Internet

titans want to be able to provide users with better insight into what information the government gets its

The issue caught fire after Edward Snowden, a former IT contractor at the National Security Agency (NSA), revealed that US authorities were tapping into Internet user data, sometimes using national security letters that bar companies from telling anyone about the requests.

US officials on Thursday said they would begin publishing annual tallies of national security requests for Internet user data, but that step is not enough, according to Smith.

### Suicide attack kills 6 in Afghanistan AFP, Kabul

NEWS

AFP, Taipei

Seventeen passengers were

injured when their train was

derailed by mudslides in

southern Taiwan yesterday

after a tropical storm trig-

gered widespread flooding.

A suicide bomber killed up to six Afghans and wounded 20 others in an attack outside a bank in the southern city of Kandahar as people were waiting to collect their salaries, officials said.

He said both police and civilians waiting to collect their wages were among the victims. There was no immediate claim of responsibility for the attack.

"Tragically, the initial death toll shows we have six dead and 20 wounded in this crowded part of the city, and most of the victims were civilians, and they came to the bank for their daily business activities," a statement from Kandahar media office said.

Kandahar police spokestions in the media about the man Ahmad Zia Durrani gave the toll as five people killed and 22 wounded, saying seven of those injured were police officers and the rest were civilians.

There was no immediate

claim of responsibility for

the attack. Afghan officials

often blame Taliban insurgents, who are waging a nearly 12-year war against the US-backed government of President Hamid Karzai, for such attacks. Southern Afghanistan is considered a hotbed of the

Taliban insurgency, and the militants have a strong presence in Kandahar province.

### Two troops dead, rebel camp overrun in Philippines

AFP, Manila

Two soldiers were killed in a firefight with communist guerrillas in the northern Philippines while in a separate clash police backed by helicopters stormed a rebel base near a mountain resort, officials said yesterday.

Up to 30 New People's Army (NPA) gunmen fought a two-day gunbattle with police forces near the resort town of Sagada, said Chief Superintendent Benjamin Magalong, the regional police chief.

"We used two groundassault aircraft to neutralise snipers and improvised explosive devices at their camp," he told AFP in a telephone interview.

Sagada, which boasts caves, mountainside rice terraces and pine forests, is a town in the Cordillera mountain range that is popular with Western backpackers and local tourists escaping the tropical heat.

## Destroy

Rusbridger said.

FROM PAGE 16 "We understand the British Embassy in Washington met with the New York Times in mid-August - over three weeks after the Guardian's material was destroyed in London. To date, no-one has contacted ProPublica, and there has been two weeks of further

"This five week period in which nothing has happened tells a different story from the alarmist claims made" by the British government in a witness statement it submitted on Friday to a London court hearing regarding an investigation by British authorities into whether the handling of

official secrets laws. A spokesman for the British Embassy in Washington told Reuters: "We are not going to get into the specifics about our efforts but it should come as no surprise if we approach a person who is in possession of some or all of this mate-

The spokesman added: "We have presented a wit-

A spokeswoman for the

the killing.

seconds before I saw the mudslides ... it was raining

come off the tracks, of which

three have been stuck in the

tunnel" said Lu Chieh-shen,

deputy director of the rail-

"There was just a few

way administration.

hospitalised, including a 54-year-old woman with a spinal injury, the administration said. The rest of the passengers

were later put on another train and repair work was under way, but the administration said it was difficult to remove the carriages stuck in the

are knocked out by a strike.

some US allies, have warned

against any intervention,

the figure had yet to be

front, five US destroyers

carrying hundreds of cruise

mand and control hubs.

US forces are also sta-

tioned at air bases in Turkey,

and long-range bombers

could eventually be sent

from bases in North America.

stationed in Abu Dhabi and

Djibouti, and naval assets in

ple have died since the

Syrian conflict erupted in

March 2011, and two mil-

lion have become refugees,

half of them children,

according to the United

More than 100,000 peo-

the Mediterranean.

France has warplanes

On the military readiness

wider conflict.

finalised.

Russia and Iran, and even

### generators in case utilities

also saying it risks sparking a FROM PAGE 1 sufferings of the Syrian More than 500 people, including 80 children, were

> About chemical weapons, it said Dhaka as a party to the Chemical Weapons Convention, strongly condemns its use by any party

of all concerned parties, should be able to address the aspirations of the Syrian people for a peaceful and stable country, ensuring national sovereignty, independence, national unity and integrity of Syria," said

## 6 lakh need

people also gather at the Bangladesh consulate office in Dubai for MRPs, Imran said.

engaged various typing

A Bangladeshi MRP costs 125 dirham (Tk 2,500) for labourers, and 405 dirham (Tk 4,500) for people doing

other jobs. Considering the influx of the MRP applicants, the embassy also plans to give the passport application

time, he said. The UAE had recently

renewal of existing visa was

Newcomers to the UAE

locals caught him after a good chase, the police offi-

They then gave Ashraf a good beating, killing him on the spot, he added.

ent police stations, said

Station. Sluice Gate area around

12:00 noon.

around 2:30pm.

bodies and sent them to Noakhali Medical College League, had been stabbed by autopsies.

that there might be a conagainst the robbers would nection between Rocky's continue until the area is free of criminals.

In 2003, more than 60 alleged robbers were reportedly killed in a similar pattern at Subarnachar upazila

#### "For example, we believe national security. A list riddled with holes

FROM PAGE 1

Asked about Sohel, Nazem Asgar Rahman, teacher of the madrasa, said yesterday, "There are five students named Sohel at the madrasa. None of them went to Hefajat rally and none of them is dead." Odhikar denied having

anyone called Sohel on its list and said it would soon organise a press briefing to explain the whole matter. The organisation claimed the list the media got was not the one it had prepared, Prothom Alo online reported on Friday. The Daily Star has gath-

ered that Sekendar Ali of Katla village under Adamdighi upazila of Bogra, listed as dead, is still missing.

"Sekendar was at a mosque near Shapla Chattar during the police crackdown. He went missing after Fajr prayers early May 6. We searched for him in many places in Dhaka. We are still looking for him," his brother Azhar Ali told this correspondent on Friday.

about it.

Another listed person, Ukhiyaguna village under Ramu, got on the Chittagong-bound Mahanagar Gadhuli train after attending the Hefajat

rally on May 5.

high command had to rely

on radical Islamists, espe-

cially the Hefajat-e Islam, in

its attempts to oust the

Awami League-led govern-

ment. This earned the party

The BNP is the first to be a

ruling party by birth. It was

formed to legitimise the

country's first martial law

regime following the brutal

assassination of

Bangabandhu Sheikh

Mujibur Rahman in August

1975 and the overthrow of

Military ruler Ziaur

Rahman formed the party in

September 1978 through

taking in politicians from

various parties, including

some anti-liberation forces

such as Shah Azizur

Rahman, who was installed

The BNP under Zia's wife

Khaleda Zia made Matiur

Rahman Nizami and Ali

Ahsan Mohammad

Mojaheed, two top leaders

of the anti-liberation

Jamaat-e-Islami, ministers

in her government in 2001.

knot with the Jamaat before

the 2001 election. The knot

leading the party for around

three decades. Over the

years, she has become the

unparalleled and supreme

leader of her party. She has

plans to make her elder son

Tarique Rahman the next

chairperson of the BNP.

Tarique, now in exile in

London against a back-

remains.

as prime minister.

his government.

widespread criticism.

Railway Station area, he and other Hefajat supporters got locked into a clash with some Chhatra League activists inside their compartment. Injured, he died at Comilla Medical College Hospital in the morning.

The list also includes Ataur Rahman and Lutfor Rahman, both with the address: Sutipara village of Phulpur in Mymensingh.

Ataur died in police shooting in Paltan area round 5:30pm on May 5, his uncle Motiur Rahman said on Friday. "One of his aides kept the body in a dark place near Islami Bank Hospital. We collected the body at night and brought it to village in the morning." However, nothing could

be known about Lutfor in Sutipara village. Relatives of Ataur too don't know of any According to the newspaper's findings, some of those

named in the list had died in daytime clashes. Hanif Paribahan driver Siddigur Rahman, Abdul Wahab Molla and Ibrahim Khalil Police say nothing were among the victims. Odhikar's list contains

names of Shahadat and Mutiur Rahman of Anwar who died fighting with police near Hathazari madrasa in Chittagong, and also of Palash, killed in Narayanganj on May 6.

Hefajat's reaction Around 8:30pm, as the Publicity Secretary Harun train reached Comilla Izhar admitted anomalies in

ground of corruption cases

filed against him in Dhaka,

is already the all-powerful

vice-chairman of the BNP, a

position he was given in

The party has, however,

After the assassination of

faced some turbulent situa-

Zia in May 1981, Vice

President Abdus Sattar was

elected president in

November 1981. It was on

his watch as president of the

country and as chief of the

BNP that the army chief,

General HM Ershad, over-

threw the government in a

coup d'etat on March 24,

1982. After the ouster, Sattar

became inactive in the party.

At such a critical juncture,

Khaleda, who had no expe-

rience in politics, was made

vice-chairperson of the

party in March 1983. She

was elected chairperson on

of leadership, some BNP

leaders, particularly

Shamsul Huda Chowdhury

and Dr MA Matin, who were

foreign and home ministers

The party again faced a

split in 1984, this one spear-

Rahman. But the move did

not succeed. In 1988, the

party again faced split when

the then secretary general

KM Obaidur Rahman left

the BNP and formed a new

and activists remained loyal

But most party leaders

to Khaleda and declined to desire.

Irked by her assumption

May 10, 1984.

split the party.

The two are now on trial for respectively in the cabinet of

war crimes. The party tied a President Zia, planned to

Khaleda Zia has been headed by Shah Azizur

December 2009.

tions in the past.

Chittagong office.

the list.

He also admitted that the list had repetitions and included the names of those killed in the clash with police at Hathazari upazila in Chittagong. "As it is not our official list, we will not take responsibility for it."

Harun said Hefajat had the complete list but they would not publish it at this moment given the present "adverse situation". "We will publish it at a favourable

He added, "We are including one more point to our 13-point demand and that is the trial of the killers of Hefajat activists during the crackdown."

Several thousand activists of Qawmi madrasabased organisation Hefajate Islam, instigated and bolstered by Jamaat-Shibir members, ran riot, setting fire to shops and police outposts in the capital as the evening fell on May 5.

Hefajat had promised to hold a non-violent rally at Shapla Chattar on the day to Contacted, Hefajat's press its 13-point demand including introduction of a blasphemy law.

The BNP refused to join

Like all other opposition

the 1986 parliamentary

polls under Genera

parties, it also boycotted the

1988 parliamentary polls

held under Ershad's gov-

December 6, 1990, the fifth

parliamentary election was

held in February 1991 in

which the BNP obtained a

majority. With the sup-

port of the Jamaat-e-

Islami, the BNP formed

the government and

Khaleda took over as

The party again assumed

power and Khaleda again

became prime minister for a

brief period through a

controversial parliamen-

tary election on February

The BNP faced a turbu-

lent time with calls for

reforms in the political

parties growing louder

during the period of the

state of emergency pro-

claimed in January 2007.

The party faced a split.

Then secretary general

and some senior leaders,

including M Saifur

Rahman, formed a new

committee of the BNP with

the clear objective of push-

ing Khaleda to the sidelines

But their efforts failed

They only gave Khaleda

more clout to run the party

in accordance with her

and into irrelevance.

prime minister.

15, 1996.

After the fall of Ershad on

Ershad's government.

ernment.

## Democracy not within BNP yet join the dissident leaders.

silence towards the New York Times from the government,'

Rusbridger added that, Snowden's leaks violated British anti-terrorism and

Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan rial."

ness statement to the court in Britain which explains why we are trying to secure copies of over 58,000 stolen intelligence documents - to protect public safety and our national security."

New York Times said the at Dhaka Medical College paper had no comment. Hospital when his mother capital's Dhanmondi, where Jasim had been the

Imam around 2008-2009.

each other at that time, mentioned the DB source.

ties for protesting against

the caretaker government Thousands of Dhaka University students staged protests after army personnation forward." nel beat up a student during a football match on the DU central playground in August 2007. The agitation then spread to other educational institutions

then caretaker government enforced a curfew in all divisional cities to check the student unrest. The PM also asked BCL

leaders and activists to be attentive to studies and to prepare for taking up the country's leadership

Pointing out different development activities by the government, Hasina said, "We, if voted to power again, will complete the rest of the job needed for buildacross the country. The ing a hunger and poverty-

> Agriculture Minister Begum Matia Chowdhury, Dhaka University Vice-Chancellor Prof AAMS Arefin Siddique and PM's Media Adviser Iqbal Sobhan Chowdhury also spoke at the programme.

of the attackers but would

Hossain, vice-president of

ward-92 unit of Jubo

Moni Begum believes

criminals, she added.

# Jubo League leader killed

said sources in the police.

one led by the local lawmaker and the other by a top Jubo League (Dhaka North) leader -- were involved in

jhut business in the area. Rocky belonged to the law-Eyewitnesses said five miscreants had indiscriminately stabbed Rocky on

> before the killing, Rocky had hurriedly left home.

reveal their names only to Pallabi police said they police. had detained two people for Ten days ago, Rocky's father-in-law Dulal

Rocky's mother Moni Begum, also an activist of

Mahila (women) Awami League, alleged that local thugs loyal to ruling Awami League and main opposition BNP were behind the

murder and the attack on his She said that minutes father-in-law. As of filing this report

around 9:15pm, no case has been lodged in connection with the killing.

Venezuelan gets 5.5 years for shooting US diplomats

AFP, Caracas

A Venezuelan court has sentenced a man to five and a half years in prison for wounding two US diplomats during a May shooting at a Caracas strip club. The man, identified as

Carlos Mejias Blanco, has "admitted responsibility," and faced charges of attempted homicide and illegal possession of a firearm, prosecutors said.

Authorities also had ordered the arrest of a second man, Windy Fabiani Mejias, who was present during the incident but is not believed to have been directly involved in the attack.

## Dhaka for

people, both inside as well as refugees outside the counkilled in the attacks, according to the latest count from try, it said. the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, which said

> under any circumstances. "Bangladesh believes that resolution of the Syrian crisis, with the involvement

the statement.

## FROM PAGE 16

Of them, some 400 people submit applications, around 400 give their fingerprints, and the rest come to collect their MRPs. Besides, around 1,500

"We have already

centres and a bank to ease the process," he said.

services to a private agency, which might take

stopped issuing new visas to Bangladeshis holding the hand-written passports, the envoy said, adding that the

permitted though.

## Four 'robbers'

FROM PAGE 16

4:00am, said Anisur, quoting villagers. Sensing trouble, Ashraf tried to flee the scene, but

cer said.

Ashraf was accused in at least 10 cases, including abduction, robbery and extortion, filed with differ-

charge of Hatiya Police Kefayet Ullah, an accomplice of Ashraf, was killed in a mass beating in Kadira

Two other alleged robbers -- Osman and Sarwar -were lynched in Mohammadpur area Police recovered the

Hospital morgue for Anisur said the drive

#### The six-carriage train, very hard," train conductor carrying around 250 passen-Ho Cheng-hung told reportgers, hit the mudslides as it ers, adding that his vision was tunnel in the bad weather. was approaching a tunnel in also affected as the train had Television footage Pingtung county, the Taiwan just emerged from another showed repair workers in Railway Administration said. tunnel before the incident. bulldozers trying to clear "Heavy rains triggered Three people were seripiles of rocks and mud covermudslides and our train ran ously hurt while the rest ing the tracks as heavy rains into the mudslides that suffered minor injuries. continued to fall in the area. caused four carriages to Four of the injured were

#### Obama to seek FROM PAGE 1 That brought a contemp-

But UN spokesman Martin Nesirky said inspectors who spent four days investigating an alleged chemical attack last week would not issue a report on their findings until laboratory tests are conducted.

With the departure of the inspectors yesterday opening a window for a possible USled punitive strike, the head of Iran's elite Revolutionary Guards warned this would trigger reactions beyond the borders of Tehran's key regional ally. "The fact that the

Americans believe that

military intervention will be

limited to within Syrian borders is an illusion," said commander Mohammad Ali Jafari. The inspectors, who flew to the Netherlands, are due to report straight back to United Nations chief Ban

Ki-moon and detail their conclusions on whether a poison gas attack actually did take place in Damascus suburbs on August 21. Obama's administration says it already has firm evidence that the regime launched a chemical

onslaught that killed 1,429

people, including at least

Muslimeen, Jordan-born

British citizen Sheikh Abu

Isa Ali Arrifai Al Hashmi Al

Koraisi alias Abu Isa, was

arrested by British police in

2002. Later in 2008, Izaz

ul-Fitr, Jasimuddin

Rahmani married the sister

of two JMB members," said

Regarding Major Ziaul, a

source in the DB said he is

The constitutional changes

had been brought about to

ensure that the country

would not ever be run by

any unconstitutional

amendment bill had been

passed through due parlia-

mentary procedure, Hasina

said, "The amendment was a

milestone in the history of

achieve economic freedom

and practise democracy

without following the con-

Awami League president,

thanked teachers and stu-

dents of different universi-

Hasina, also ruling

It is not possible to

Claiming that the

means, she added.

Bangladesh."

stitution, she said.

"A day after the last Eid-

escaped to Pakistan.

Monirul.

FROM PAGE 16

426 children.

FROM PAGE 16

Putin, whose country is a close ally of Syria, saying claims the regime had used chemical weapons were "utter nonsense" and demanding proof. "Syrian government troops are on the offensive and have surrounded the opposition in several

regions. In these conditions,

to give a trump card to those

tuous response from

Russian President Vladimir

who are calling for a military intervention is utter nonsense," he told journalists. The Americans "say that they have proof, well, let them show it to the United Nations inspectors and the Security Council... If they don't show it, that means

Syria has denied responsibility for the alleged incident and has pointed the finger of blame at "terrorists" -- its term for rebels ranged against Assad's In Damascus, the mood

had been heavy with fear,

and security forces were

making preparations for

possible air strikes, pulling

there is none."

soldiers back from potential targets. Residents were seen

Ansarullah led by 5 group develop its weapon

Despite being a resident

and arms training manuals.

of the cantonment area while in service, Ziaul used to offer his Juma prayers at Hatembagh mosque in the

The two came to know

Jasim has connections with top leaders of Harkat-

the military commander of ul-Jihad-al Islami's (Huji) Ansarullah and helped the

rule in 2007.

"In the age of globalisation, you [BCI men] will have to have an education of international standards for taking the

free nation."

#### rushed him there. According The Daily Star that she had to morgue sources, the body come to know about some

They said two groups --

maker's group.

road-4 in Mirpur-7, about 100 metres from the victim's house, around 10:30am. A lot of people had witnessed Rocky was declared dead

questioning.

bore more than 40 stab

received a phone call and Moni Begum also told

missiles among them are believed to be in the eastern Mediterranean readying launches against Syrian munitions depots and com-

stocking up with fuel for Nations.

leaders, including Mufti Hannan and Maulana Abdur Rouf. Both leaders are now behind bars in the

cases, said Monirul. Though Ansarullah does not have direct links to al-Qaeda, its top leaders had contacted several leaders of al-Qaeda at different times,

August 21 grenade attack

noted the DB official. For the affiliation of al-Qaeda, the militant group is doing whatever is needed, he maintained.

PM asks BCL boys to study

must hold MRPs, he added.

On information, locals besieged the house around

Khorshed Alam, officer-in-

in the district.

## AFP, San Francisco