

## Biman flight

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engine and it had gone through its routing maintenance checks, the press release claimed.

Of the 241 passengers on board, four decided not to get on the alternative plane and continue their journey, it added.

"For those few passengers choosing not to continue their journey, a full refund of their ticket will be given," Managing Director Kyle Heywood of Biman told The Daily Star.

He said, "We sincerely apologise to our customers onboard for any concern or inconvenience that this may have caused. The flight crew followed procedure in full and are well trained to handle such an isolated occurrence."

"For all passengers on board the flight, we will be contacting them shortly to offer them a gesture of compensation and to thank them for their cooperation and understanding during this time" he said.

A compressor surge is air flow through a compressor that is against the direction of flow during normal operation or an oscillating flow in both directions. The surge can result in a condition known as compressor stall, which stops the compressor and can cause serious damage. In the case of turbine engines, like jet airplane engines, a surge which results in a stall can cause the engine to stop, or even fail, if damaged.

## Tiger nations

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involving tigers, while the population of the endangered cats rose almost two thirds between 2009 and 2013.

David Lawson of WWF's Tigers Alive Initiative said the network of national liaison officers would "help countries communicate better with each other, build trust and deepen cooperation which is essential to win the fight against poachers".

"Asian governments need to recognise that we are in the midst of a poaching crisis and that this theft of natural resources must be stopped," Lawson told AFP.

Decades of trafficking and habitat destruction have slashed the global tiger population from 100,000 a century ago to approximately 3,000, according to the International Union for the Conservation of Nature.

Poachers hunt the animal for its bones, which used to be an ingredient of traditional Chinese medicine, its pelt, which can fetch up to \$16,000 on the black market, and its penis, believed to increase male sexual performance.

Countries with tiger populations -- Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, Russia, Thailand and Vietnam -- in 2010 launched a plan to double their numbers by 2022.

## UN to be in touch

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On the political crisis of Bangladesh, he said, "We have continually encouraged and continue to encourage the authorities to allow for peaceful protest and for the right to peaceful assembly."

Haq noted, "Officials, including the senior officials from our Department for Political Affairs, have repeatedly visited Bangladesh, trying to meet with the leaders there and make sure that the crisis can be resolved peacefully."

## Chinese defence chief meets Thai junta leader

AFP, Bangkok

Thailand's junta chief yesterday met China's defence minister for talks aimed at deepening their military ties, as strains begin to show between the kingdom and its traditional ally the United States following last year's coup.

China has openly courted Thailand's generals since May's coup, which took place days after democratically elected prime minister Yingluck Shinawatra was ousted by a court ruling following months of street protests.

In contrast, Washington has been critical of the generals' power grab, calling for the return of civilian rule. Thai prime minister and former army chief Prayut Chan-O-Cha met Chang Wanquan for talks in which he called for greater cooperation with the Chinese military.

"Thailand wants China to support Thailand for research and development in the defence industry and to transfer knowledge to this industry as well," government spokesman Yonthuth Mayalarp told reporters after the meeting.

## 'Shootouts' go on

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ones were killed in a planned way.

### COMILLA

Sahabuddin Patwari, 25, was killed in a "shootout" with police in Comilla's Chouddagram yesterday.

He was the president of Shibir Chouddagram upazila unit and an accused in two cases filed in connection with a recent arson attack on a bus that left eight people dead.

Police claimed that Sahabuddin received bullets when they opened fire on a group of criminals at Samuksar area on Dhaka-Chittagong highway around 4:30am after being attacked with petrol bombs.

A group of around 20 men hurled petrol bombs on a police team which was patrolling the area, claimed Uttam Chakraborty, officer-in-charge of Chouddagram Police Station.

When the bomb missed, the criminals opened fire, forcing police to retaliate, claimed the OC.

Sahabuddin was hit. Doctors declared him dead when he was taken to Comilla Medical College Hospital. Sources at the hospital said he had more than one bullet wounds in his head.

The law enforcers claimed that they recovered a revolver, one bullet and two petrol bombs from the spot.

Farjana Akter, a sister of the deceased, alleged that a plainclothes police team picked up Sahabuddin at their home in Chandiskara area around 4:00pm on Thursday.

They heard about his death yesterday morning, she said.

"He was not killed in a shootout. He was killed in a planned way," she said.

### RAJSHAHI

Sahabuddin Ripon, information and technology affairs secretary of the Rajshahi University Shibir unit, was killed in an "encounter" with police in the city.

Some 15 Shibir activists hurled several crude bombs at a police patrol team on Dhaka-Rajshahi highway around 1:00am forcing the police to retaliate, claimed AKM Nahidul Islam, a deputy commissioner of Rajshahi Metropolitan Police.

He said after the encounter policemen arrested three bullet-hit Shibir men and sent them to Rajshahi Medical College Hospital where arrestee Ripon, who received two bullets in his thighs, was declared dead around 1:30am.

The DC claimed constable Mahbubur Rahman sustained injuries in his right elbow during the incident and was having treatment at Rajshahi Police

### Lines Hospital.

Ripon was a final-year student of Crop Science and Technology at the university. The other arrestees were Habibur Rahman, president of RU Hobibur Rahman Hall Shibir unit, and Mofizur Rahman, a Shibir activist.

Interestingly, all three of them were shot in both their thighs.

Injured Mofizur alleged that police had picked them up in the city's Kapashia area around 8:00pm Thursday when they were returning from a wedding. They were taken to Motihar Police Station.

"Later at night, police blindfolded me and took me to a place, forced me to lie down on the ground and shot me in my thighs," Mofizur told The Daily Star.

DC Nahidul refuted the allegation and said the three were involved in a bomb attack on a truck in Puthia that killed the helper on Thursday night.

### JESSORE

Shahidul Islam, 35, a Sathkira Jamaat activist, was killed in a "shootout" with police in Jessore. He was the son of Nur Ali of Sathkira and nephew of a former amir of Sathkira Jamaat.

Enamul Haque, officer-in-charge of Jessore Kotwali Police Station, said a police team tried to stop a microbus at Ramnagar area around 2:15am.

The men inside the microbus opened fire on the team, forcing the police to fire back, claimed the OC.

Police later found Shahidul bullet hit at the scene and sent him to Jessore Medical College Hospital where doctors declared him dead on arrival, said the OC.

He added the Jamaat man received two bullets in his chest and back.

Abdul Majid, a leader of the pro-BNP Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal of Kalaroa in Sathkira, also received bullet injuries in the incident, said Jessore police.

KM Ariful Haque, additional superintendent of police in Jessore, said Majid was undergoing treatment in Jessore Medical College Hospital.

Meanwhile, the identity of the youth, who was gunned down in a "shootout" with police in the capital's Mirpur on Thursday, has been revealed.

The victim was Monir Hossain, 22, a carton factory worker in Mirpur, said his family after identifying the body at Dhaka Medical College morgue yesterday. Monir had no link with politics and was picked up by police from a mess in Mirpur area on Wednesday night, claimed his brother Israfil.

[Reporters from Comilla, Rajshahi and Benapole contributed to this story]

## Too costly

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English daily The Star reported yesterday.

"The victim is still unconscious at Bukit Mertajam Hospital," Mazlan Kesah, chief senior assistant commissioner of the Criminal Investigation Department in Penang, told reporters.

The Bangladeshi and his friend reached the construction site by motorcycle on Wednesday morning. The woman went to the site and set the Bangladeshi on fire, pouring petrol on him, said Kesah.

Initial investigations showed the 35-year-old woman was angry as the Bangladeshi failed to return the money she loaned him, after more than a month, he added.

Kesah mentioned the woman was caught near the scene several hours after the incident. She was being interrogated for attempted murder.

Contacted, Sayedul Islam, counselor (labour wing) at Bangladesh High Commission in Kuala Lumpur, told The Daily Star that they were not aware of the incident.

## Saudi delegation

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overseas jobseekers.

The development comes after Expatriates' Welfare and Overseas Employment Minister Khandker Mosharraf Hossain visited the Kingdom last month.

Saudi Arabia, Bangladesh's largest overseas labour market which is home to some 15 lakh Bangladeshi migrant workers, had imposed the restriction in early 2008, alleging malpractices in the recruitment system.

## US slams

FROM PAGE 1  
Washington DC.

There is simply no justification for such actions in a democratic Bangladesh, she said, adding that all Bangladeshis must have the right and the ability to express their views peacefully.

"We call on the government to provide the necessary space for peaceful political activity, and for all parties to instruct their members to refrain from violence," she said.

Harf said the US was gravely concerned over the deteriorating situation in the country.

On January 14, the US had issued similar statement in which it condemned the attack on BNP chairperson's adviser and former foreign secretary Reaz Rahman and called on all parties to exercise restraint.

## N Korean ship

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ship intending to enter the country's territorial sea around 8:00pm, diplomatic sources said.

The Panama flag-carrying cargo vessel MV ZHONG DEL, IMO No. 8715493, was actually owned by Ocean Maritime Management Company Ltd (OMM) of North Korea.

The UN Security Council included the OMM on its sanctions list on 28 July, 2014 as it played a key role in arranging the shipment of concealed cargo of arms and related materials from Cuba to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) in July 2013.

Dhaka as a member of the UN has decided not to allow the DPRK cargo vessel to enter its territory although the ship was carrying cement clinkers from Vietnam, diplomatic sources said.

A Bangladeshi importer was importing the clinker but he was not aware about the ship's status as it was hired by the exporting company.

An official of Chittagong Port said the ship had a capacity of 37,000 tonnes, but it was carrying 43,000 tonnes, raising questions whether it was transporting other items.

"The ship bearing the flag of Panama came to Bangladesh several times in the past. But this time we halted it after being confirmed that it is owned by the OMM of North Korea," said a senior official at the foreign ministry.

## Quit to pave way for talks

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Banani residence in the capital, BNP Vice-chairman Maj (ret'd) Hafizuddin Ahmed said the government must resign and announce the schedule for a mid-term election to put an end to the ongoing crisis.

"And if so, then a dialogue on an election under a non-party government can be held," he added.

He posed a question as to whether BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia was free or under house arrest.

The BNP-led 20-party alliance will continue its ongoing movement until its demand is met, asserted Hafiz.

### AL SAYS 'NO'

AL General Secretary Syed Ashrafur Islam has ruled out the possibility of any dialogue with the BNP-led 20-party alliance.

"There will be no talks with killers and terrorists," he told reporters after a meeting of the AL Central Working Committee at Gono Bhaban yesterday.

In fact, Ashraf, who also holds the LGRD and cooperatives portfolio, said the government will go tough against the anarchists.

AL Joint General Secretary Mahbubul Alam Hanif said there is no scope for talks with the BNP as the latter has "chosen the path of terrorism".

## ICC cracks down on live betting

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"I think the risk is that this feeds into a wider and more sophisticated network of illegal betting, often in the Indian sub-continent," he said.

Gambling is mostly illegal in India, but betting on cricket matches thrives through networks of underground bookies.

"Facilitating people to either bet on events which are then known events or in terms of illegal bookmakers adjusting their odds to know they should be shortening the odds on something ... I think that's where it is a risk of being some sort of minor contagion."

At least three examples of pitch-siding have been reported during the southern hemisphere summer, with one man thrown out of two T20 Big Bash League games and another ejected from the first match of the ODI series against India.

Flanagan, a former British chief constable, said the ICC was sharing

There is no instance in the world where someone sits and compromises with terrorists, he told The Daily Star.

"If the AL sits with the BNP, it will set a bad precedent that demands can be met by resorting to terrorism."

Terming Hafiz's proposal absurd, Hanif questioned, "Why the government should quit?"

Speaking at different programmes in the city, senior AL leaders Suranjit Sengupta and Mohammad Nasim also dismissed any possibility for a dialogue with the BNP.

Bikalpadhara Bangladesh President AQM Badruddoza Chowdhury yesterday warned that the country might slide into a civil war if there is no dialogue.

Only a dialogue can solve the crisis, he told a discussion in the capital.

Meanwhile, posing a Facebook status on Thursday night, prime minister's son Sajeeb Wazed Joy said: "Khaleda Zia is no longer a political leader. She is a terrorist leader. She should be punished as such."

Nearly 60 people have been killed, mostly in arson attacks, since January 6 when the 20-party alliance enforced an indefinite blockade, demanding a fresh national election under a non-party administration.

information with the New Zealand and Australian governments as well as state administrations.

He urged players to be wary of criminals who might seek to take advantage.

"In our line of work, we too often meet and know that there are rotten people out there, criminal people out there, who will do all in their power to get at players and others of influence within the game," Flanagan said.

"They will trick them, they will coerce them, they will try and attract them.

"They are almost like paedophiles in how they attempt to groom people into ultimately attempting to do what suits their nefarious intentions in terms of illegal betting and other elements of criminality."

The Indian Premier League 2013 season was mired in controversy after police launched legal proceedings against several officials and cricketers for illegal betting and spot-fixing.

## Yemen Shia militia dissolves parliament

Installs 'presidential council' to run country

AFP, Sanaa

Shia militia who have seized Yemen's capital yesterday announced they had dissolved parliament and installed a "presidential council" to run the country in the face of a power vacuum.

The Huthi militia said it would set up a national council of 551 members to replace the legislature in the violence-wracked country, a key US ally in the fight against Al-Qaeda.

The heavily armed Huthis swept into Sanaa from their northern stronghold in September, seeking greater influence in running the country.

Last month they seized the presidential palace and key government buildings and encircled the houses of senior officials in what authorities called a coup attempt.

That plunged the country deeper into crisis and prompted President Abedrabbo Mansour Hadi and Prime Minister Khalid Bahah to tender their resignations.

The five-member presidential council will form a transitional government to govern for two years, the Huthis announced in a "constitutional declaration" attended by tribal and military representatives as well as by the outgoing interior and defence ministers.

The declaration came after a Wednesday deadline set by the militia for political parties to resolve the crisis passed with no agreement.

After another round of talks late Thursday attended by UN envoy Jamal Benomar, participants had said negoti-

ations would resume on Saturday.

On Friday, Benomar flew out of the country before the declaration was announced.

Yemen has been riven by instability since the Arab Spring-inspired uprising that forced autocratic president Ali Abdullah Saleh from power in 2012.

Saleh has been accused of backing the Huthis -- who are from the same Zaidi sect of Shiite Islam as the ex-leader -- as has Shiite-dominated Iran.

The fall of Hadi's Western-backed government has raised fears of complete chaos engulfing Yemen, strategically located next to oil-rich Saudi Arabia and on the key shipping route from the Suez Canal to the Gulf.

Hadi said when he stepped down that he could no longer stay in office as the country was in "total deadlock".

The former career soldier took office in 2012 under a UN- and Gulf-backed peace plan, in a country awash with weapons and where powerful tribes hold sway, emerging as a consensus figure.

But unlike his predecessor Saleh, who ruled Yemen for 33 years, Hadi had no popular or tribal base to fall back on.

The situation escalated last month when the militia seized a presidential aide in an apparent attempt to extract changes to a draft constitution which they opposed because it would have divided Yemen into six federal regions.

## Thai alliance hinges on return to democracy: US diplomat

AFP, Washington

The United States will not fully reactivate its military alliance with Thailand as long as the junta-controlled country refuses to restore democracy, a US diplomat warned Thursday.

"There has to be a full restoration both of the institutions of governance and justice as well as the full restoration of a duly democratically elected civilian government," the senior State Department official told journalists.

It follows a recent visit by Daniel Russel, the most senior US official to travel to the kingdom since Thai generals imposed martial law and took over in a coup last May.

## Termites halt desertification

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A study discovered that the myriad of tiny underground tunnels created by termites when they build their multi-storey nests allow rainwater to penetrate the soil which helps to slow the spread of deserts in the dry grasslands of Africa, South America and Asia.

"The rain is the same everywhere, but because termites allow water to penetrate the soil better, the plants grow on or near the mounds as if there were more rain," said Corina Tarnita, assistant professor of ecology and evolutionary biology at Princeton University in New Jersey.

"The vegetation on and around termite mounds persists longer and declines slower. Even when you get to such harsh conditions where vegetation disap-


pears from the mounds, re-vegetation is still easier," Dr Tarnita said.

"As long as the mounds are there the ecosystem has a better chance to recover," she said.

Termites are "eusocial" insects meaning that they live in colonies of overlapping generations and have a division of labour based on a caste system, like ants and bees.

They live of dead and decaying matter and are critical for the recycling of soil nutrients, but they can cause havoc in timber homes.

The study, published in the journal Science, used a mathematical model to simulate the changes that take place during desertification and matched the theoretical results with real observations in termite-inhabited regions on the edge of deserts.



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**Procurement Division**  
**Procurement & Logistic Support Directorate**

Tender No.: DACPP/AUCTION/06/S2ACP-Q/2014-15 Date: 05/02/2015

**Auction Re-Tender for DC10-30 Aircrafts & Accessories**

Sealed re-tenders are hereby invited for sale of following DC10-30 Aircrafts & Accessories on "As is, Where it is" basis:

Group	Description of items	Value of tender schedule
A	DC10-30 A/C AIRFRAME (EX S-ACP) - 01 EA INCLUDING LANDING GEARS - 04 EA (CON-US) AND USED A/C SEATS AND OTHER ITEMS & ACCESSORIES (SVI/US) AS AVAILABLE ON BOARD. TOTAL - 02 LOTS. (AS PER SCHEDULE).	Tk. 5,000/- (five thousand Taka) or USD 64.00 (USD sixty-four) only for each Group (non-refundable).
B	DC10-30 A/C AIRFRAME (EX S-ACQ) - 01 EA INCLUDING LANDING GEARS - 03 EA (CON-US) AND USED A/C SEATS AND OTHER ITEMS & ACCESSORIES (SVI/US) AS AVAILABLE ON BOARD. TOTAL - 02 LOTS. (AS PER SCHEDULE).	

Tender schedule may be purchased from Asstt. Manager Accounts, Cash & Banking, Biman Bangladesh Airlines Ltd, Ground Floor, Balaka Bhaban, Hazrat Shahjalal Int'l Airport, Dhaka-1229 as well as from Finance Manager, Biman On-Line Stations on all working days up to 02-03-2015. Detail technical status of Aircrafts and Landing Gears is available in the schedule may be viewed at Biman website: [www.biman-airlines.com](http://www.biman-airlines.com). An application on companies letterhead pad mentioning tender No. and Group No. will be required for purchasing of tender schedule.

Intending bidders may visit the Aircrafts mentioned in the schedule on 03-03-2015 at 1100 hrs. showing original (Yellow) Cash Receipt for purchasing of tender schedule to Manager Commercial Stores, Biman Admin. Building, HSA, Dhaka.

Tender in sealed covers to be dropped in the tender box kept in the Office of the Manager Commercial Stores, Procurement & Logistic Support Directorate, Biman Admin. Building (1<sup>st</sup> Floor), Room # 205, HSA, Dhaka as well as Office of the Divisional Commissioner, Ground Floor, 1<sup>st</sup> 12 Storied Govt. Office Building, Segunbagicha, Dhaka-1000 latest by 1130 hrs. (BST) on 05-03-2015. Offers via Postal Mail/Courier Service will also be accepted but no offers shall be accepted after closing time & date. Tender will be opened on the same day at 1430 hrs. (BST) in the Tender Room of Procurement & Logistic Support Directorate in presence of the bidder(s)/representative(s), if any. Biman Bangladesh Airlines Authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.

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Manager Commercial Stores

GD-505