10 British MPs move for an end to forced disappearances in Bangladesh

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Ten British lawmakers have initiated a move to put pressure on the Bangladesh government for ending disappearances and extrajudicial killings.

The move was made through an Early Day Motion (EDM) tabled in the British parliament on Monday.

According to the parliament website, the motion was signed by Peter Bottomley and Bob Blackman of Conservative Party, Julian Huppert and Bob Russell of Liberal Democrats, John McDonnell and Liz McInnes of Labour Party,

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INDEPENDENCE DAY

President invites Khaleda

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

President Abdul Hamid has invited BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia at his official residence Bangabhaban in Dhaka to attend a programme marking the Independence Day today.

An employee of Bangabhaban handed over

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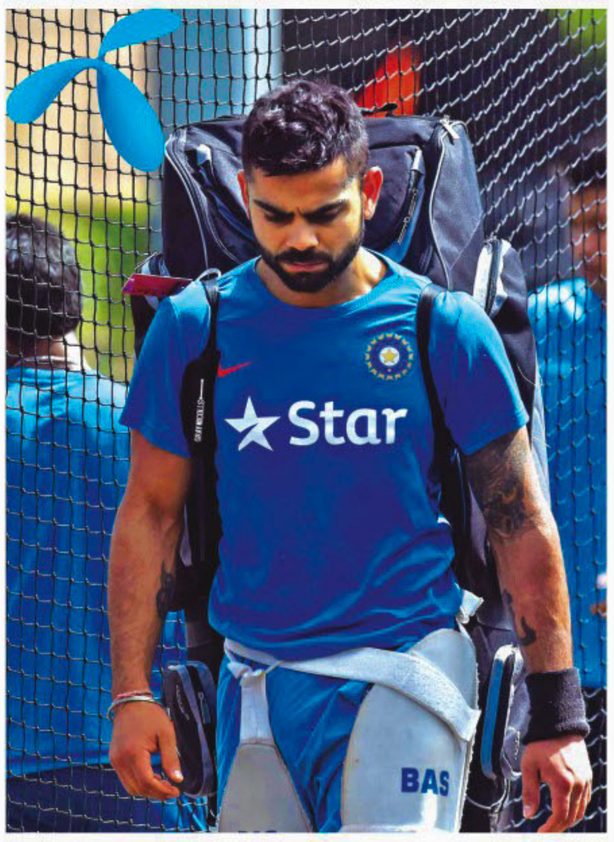


IT DOESN'T GET ANY BIGGER THAN THIS! A World Cup semifinal between defending champions India and Australia at the SCG today. It's a game which will decide where Virat Kohli, *left*, will be heading for, a flight to the MCG or a long flight back home.

PHOTOS: AFP

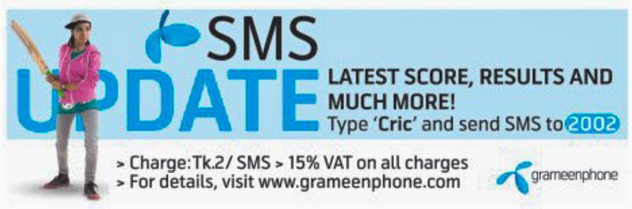
Final before the final

India face Australia in 2nd semifinal today

AFP, *Sydney*

Defending champions India will hope the law of averages does not catch up with them when they clash with hosts Australia in a widely-anticipated World Cup semifinal in Sydney on Thursday.

India have beaten Australia just once in 35 years in a one-day international at the Sydney Cricket Ground when a Sachin Tendulkar century helped them win the first of the three-match tri-series final in 2008.



But Mahendra Singh Dhoni's men have confounded critics by recovering from a winless bilateral tour of Australia before the World Cup to brush aside all-comers in the tournament.

Starting with two wins against Pakistan and South Africa, India won all six group matches to top Pool B and then downed spirited Bangladesh by 109 runs in the quarterfinals.

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Hill dist bodies reconstituted

Councils now have 15 members each

STAR REPORT

The government yesterday reconstituted the Khagrachhari Hill District Council (KHDC) and Bandarban Hill District Council (BHDC) with a 15-member body for strengthening the capacity of the council.

Chief Executive Officer of the KHDC Salahuddin Ahmad welcomed the reformed interim 15-member KHDC body.

Senior Assistant Secretary to Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT) affairs ministry Farhana Hayat yesterday sent an order in this regards, said the KHDC boss.

According to the order, Khagrachhari district Awami League Senior Vice President Kongjari Chowdhury was made chairman of the KHDC, while AL leader Jahedul Alam, Abdul Jabbar, Nirmolendhu Chowdhury and Nigar Sultana were selected as Bengali community members. Advocate Ashutosh Chakma, Satish Chakma, Juwel Chakma, and Shatorupra Chakma were selected from Chakma community, while Khokenaswar Tripura, Rono Bikrom Tripura, Khogeswar Tripura were selected from

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The X-Files on TV again

AFP, *Los Angeles*

Cult sci-fi TV show "The X-Files" is returning for six new episodes, 13 years after David Duchovny and Gillian Anderson's last outing as agents Fox Mulder and Dana Scully.

The Emmy- and Golden Globe-winning series -- which ran for nine seasons, or over 200 episodes between 1993 and 2002 -- will

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ABDUCTEES IN LIBYA

Freed, yet could not be traced

STAR REPORT

The Bangladesh Embassy in Libya could not establish contact with the two Bangladeshi workers even 30 hours after their release from suspected militants' captivity on Tuesday.

The employer company, which earlier had said that it would bring the two to Tripoli yesterday, hasn't done so.

Moreover, the Austrian company -- Value Added Oilfield Services (VAOS) Ltd -- now refuses to clearly state the whereabouts of the Bangladeshis -- Helal Uddin from Jamalpur and Anowar Hossain from Noakhali.

"It seems puzzling to me because the oil company is not clarifying the whereabouts of the two migrants after their

SEE PAGE 8 COL 5

The Daily Star
Integral Energy Limited
ONLINE POLL
Do you think the upcoming elections to three city corporations will be participatory and competitive?
Yes (45%)
No (55%)
TOTAL VOTES: 113
TODAY'S POLL
Do you agree with State Minister for Finance M Abdul Mannan that despite BNP-Jamaat alliance's violent activities, country's economy is on the right track?
PLEASE CAST YOUR VOTE AT www.thedailystar.net

Eat cold rice to avoid more calories

BBC ONLINE

Scientists say they have found a way to make rice less calorific - boil it with coconut oil and then refrigerate for half a day before eating.

According to the Sri Lankan researchers, treating rice in this way reduces its calories by up to 60 percent.

They told the American Chemical Society how the method made the starch in the rice less digestible so the body took on less fuel than it otherwise would.

UK nutrition experts

SEE PAGE 8 COL 4

PLANE CRASH IN ALPS

Usable data extracted from black boxes

France vows to decode crash mystery

AFP, *Seyne-les-alpes*

Investigators made the first breakthrough yesterday in the probe into the crash of an airliner in the French Alps, as President Francois Hollande vowed everything would be done to explain the tragedy that killed 150 people.

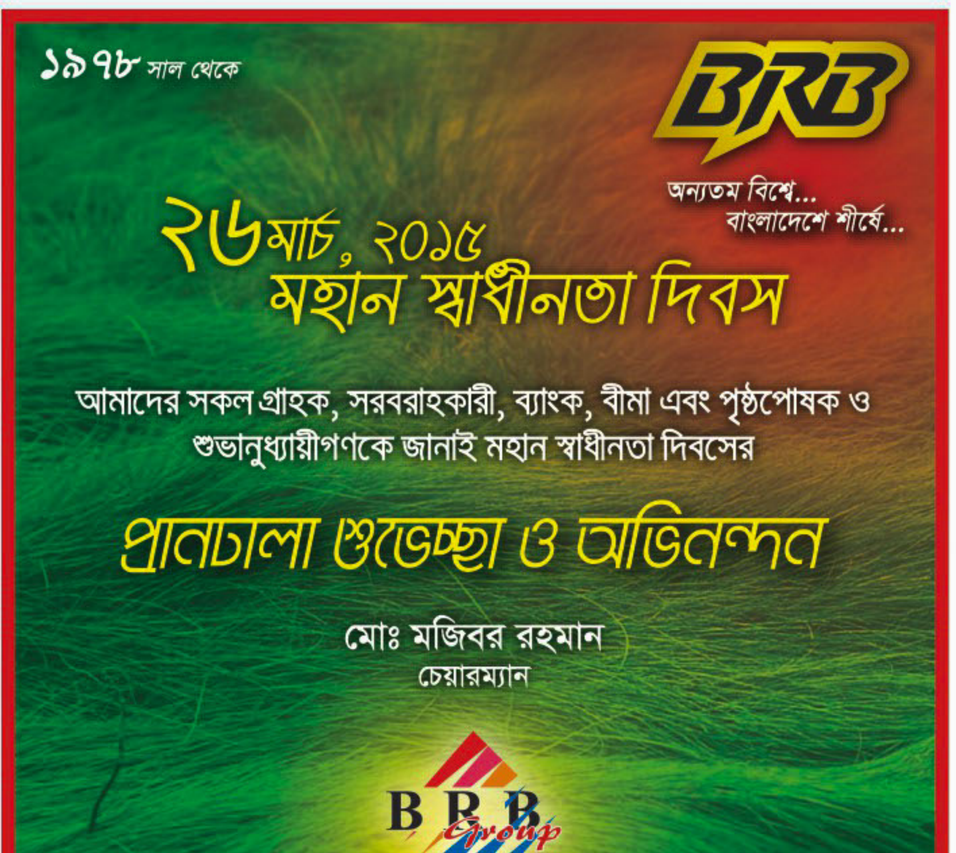
Officials from the BEA crash investigation agency said they had extracted "usable data" from one of the Germanwings Airbus A320's two "black boxes" found among the debris, with recordings from the cockpit, but still had no explanation for the mysterious crash.

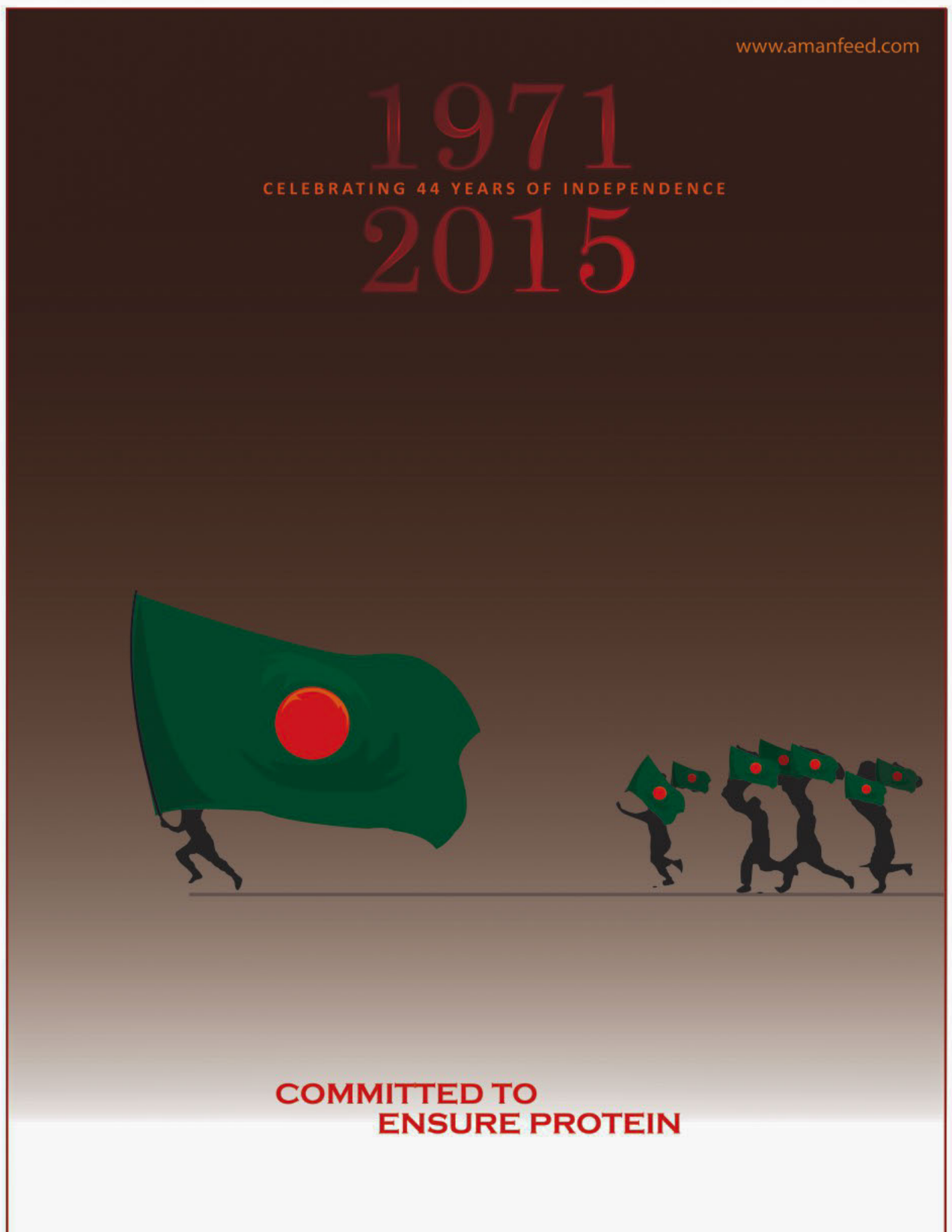
Hollande and German Chancellor Angela Merkel flew over the crash site to see the devastation for themselves before meeting rescue workers outside the crisis centre set up on Tuesday after the worst crash in France in four decades.

Spain's Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy also visited the centre to be briefed on the gruelling rescue operation in difficult mountain terrain where Flight 4U9525 crashed early Tuesday, scattering debris over a wide area.

Grieving relatives were also gathering near the crash site, where a

SEE PAGE 8 COL 6





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