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STRIKE IN PRIVATE CLINICS

Patients in Ctg suffer for 2nd day

ARUN BIKASH DEY, Chittagong

Patients in Chittagong city continued to suffer for the second consecutive day yesterday as doctors stopped providing all sorts of healthcare services in private clinics and diagnostic centres.

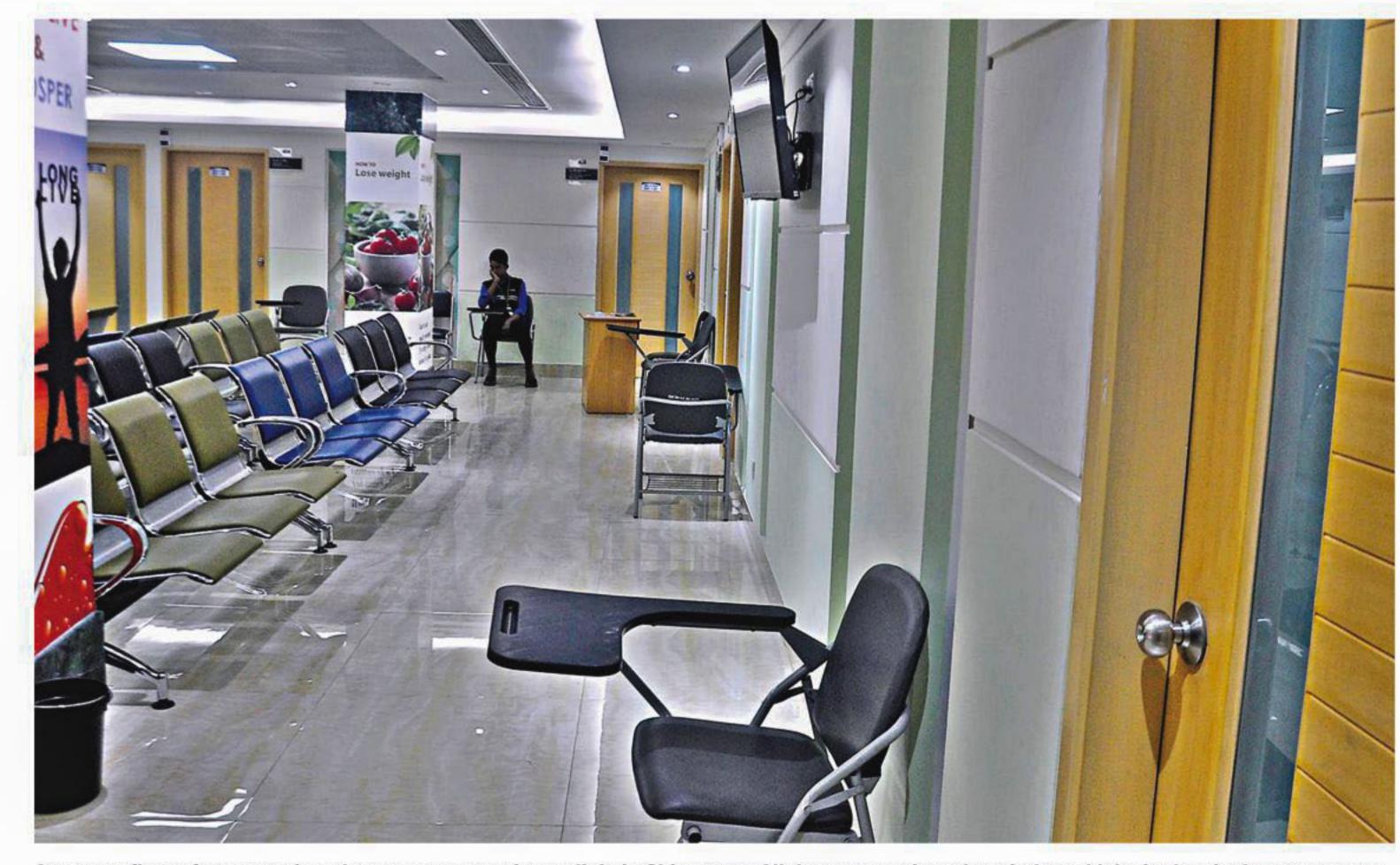
Physicians also refrained from seeing patients in private chambers. Visiting different private clinics and diagnostic centres in

the port city, The Daily Star correspondent found that the clinics were not receiving patients and the diagnostic centres not conducting any tests.

Physicians of private clinics and diagnostic centres in the city went on an indefinite work abstention on Wednesday, demanding withdrawal of two cases filed against three of their colleagues on charge of negligence in duties.

The work stoppage forced hundreds of patients to crowd Chittagong Medical College Hospital (CMCH) for treatment. The CMCH authorities were seen struggling to cope with such a large number of patients.

Majeda Begum went to Holy Crescent Hospital with SEE PAGE 11 COL 5



An empty floor of an outpatient department at a private clinic in Chittagong. All doctors at private hospitals and labs in the city have gone on a strike demanding a withdrawal of two cases filed against three of their colleagues on charges of negligence in duty. PHOTO: STAR

Hasina among 10 best heads of government

Says CJ

UNB, Sylhet

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina is one of the 10 best heads of government in the world, Chief Justice SK Sinha has said.

"She [Sheikh Hasina] is compared with the statesmen credited with creating Model Singapore and Model Malaysia," he said at a programme in Sylhet yesterday.

The chief justice was addressing a function organised to distribute awards among teachers and students of Madan Mohan College on the occasion of its diamond jubilee.

On Thursday, the PM inaugurated the diamond jubilee celebrations of the college and announced plans to nationalise it.

Justice Sinha also expressed his gratitude to SEE PAGE 11 COL 1

American Airlines sued for discrimination

Lawsuit says Sikh, 3 Muslims including 2 Bangladeshis were ordered off flight just for their looks

AGENCIES

A 23-year-old New York man remembers being "dramatically" woken up by a flight attendant who "demanded" he exit the aircraft.

Believing the plane was undergoing an emergency evacuation, he complied, only to realise later that he was being singled out.

The man, identified only by the initials "WH" in a \$9 million federal lawsuit filed yesterday, and three of his friends, Shan Anand, Faimul Alam, and another friend identified by the initials MK, are alleging they were asked to leave an American Airlines flight from Toronto to New York in early December because of their appearance.

Of the four, Alam and another flier are Bangladeshi Muslims, one is an Arab Muslim and Anand a Sikh from India. All from Brighton Beach, they were among six longtime pals who spent several days in Toronto this December.

They had originally booked different flights home, but later decided to return on the same 2:00pm American Airlines flight.

Two of the pals, Shan Anand and Faimul Alam, paid \$75 to switch to the flight that two others -who are comfortable being identified only by their initials, WH and MK -- had already booked.

WH and MK also changed their booking before boarding, paying \$70 for an upgrade to business

SEE PAGE 11 COL 5

CRACKDOWN IN MALDIVES

Bangladeshis among dozens arrested

STAR REPORT

Immigration police in the Maldives have arrested 20 Bangladeshi migrants in the capital Male, reports Channel i, quoting Bangladesh's high commissioner in Male.

An immigration official told Maldivian Haveeru online that the arrest of the Bangladeshis was a part of an ongoing crackdown on undocumented migrant workers. The department, however, did not give the exact number of arrestees.

An eyewitness said at least 20 expatriates were taken into custody from a market area in Male on Thursday morning.

Undocumented migrant workers were SEE PAGE 11 COL 1

'It may be too late'

Scientists urge world to stop 'killer robots'



AFP, Davos

The world must act quickly to avert a future in which autonomous robots with artificial intelligence roam the battlefields killing humans, scientists and arms experts warned at an elite gathering in the Swiss Alps.

Rules must be agreed to prevent the SEE PAGE 11 COL 4



'BCL men assault' JU teacher

IU CORRESPONDENT

Three Bangladesh Chhatra League activists allegedly assaulted a Jahangirnagar University teacher as he protested harassment of a female visitor and her companion on Thursday.

Prof Mozahidul Islam of history department said he saw a few BCL men harassing a girl and beating up her male companion in the campus's Chaurangy area around 5:00pm.

He said that as he stepped in to save the two from harassment, the BCL men assaulted him.

"The situation was brought under control after some senior students reached there and rescued me," the teacher said.

Campus sources said the assaulters are residents of Al Biruni Hall and

SEE PAGE 11 COL 3

Islamist gunmen kill 20 as terror strikes Somalia

INDEPENDENT.CO.UK

At least 20 people have died in a terrorist attack in Somalia. A siege at a beachfront restaurant in the capital Mogadishu ended yesterday morning after more than eight hours.

Islamic extremist group al-Shabab has claimed responsibility for the attack.

The security forces took control of the restaurant just before dawn, said Captain Mohamed Hussein, speaking from the scene of the attack in Mogadishu. It was not clear whether Hussein's report of more than 20

killed included the assailants. Members of al-Shabaab claimed responsibility for the attack in a broadcast on its online radio late on Thursday. "I was intending to go out but suddenly we heard a heavy

explosion followed by gunfire. ... I saw a militant fighter shooting indiscriminately on everybody. Then I locked myself inside a room until we were evacuated peacefully by the security forces," said Abdulkadir Mohamed Somow, who had been trapped inside the restaurant.

Blasts and bursts of gunfire could be heard as Somali special forces went from room to room pursuing the al-Shabaab gunmen who were holed up inside the restaurant. Hussein, the police official, said the security forces

SEE PAGE 11 COL 4



PRAYER TIMING

JANUARY 23

JAMAAT 6-05 1-15 4-30 5-47 7-45

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

44 migrants die in Aegean

3 boats sink off Greek islands near Turkey, Germany seeks Turkish help on migrant issue

AGENCIES

crisis.

At least 44 people, including 20 children, drowned when 3 boats capsized off two Greek islands near the Turkish coast yesterday, coastguards said, marking one of the deadliest days for migrants risking the perilous route to Europe from Turkey.

The tragedy came as German Chancellor Angela Merkel sought to Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha press Turkey to play a bigger part in AZAN 5-30 12-45 4-15 5-43 7-15 resolving Europe's escalating migrant

Germany and Turkey have emerged as crucial players in the biggest migration crisis to rock Europe since World War II, and both Merkel and visiting Prime Minister Ahmet Davutoglu will seek to drive a hard bargain in Berlin where the two countries' cabinets are meeting.

The outcome of the talks is not only important for Merkel, who faces intense pressure at home to impose a cap on Germany's refugee intake, but it will also have resonance across Europe where public opinion is hardening

against a record asylum seeker influx.

Despite wintry conditions, thousands of people fleeing war and misery are still embarking on the dangerous journey across the Mediterranean to seek a better life in Europe.

In a stark illustration of the high cost of the voyage, Greek and Turkish coastguards recovered the bodies of 44 migrants -- including 20 children -whose boats capsized on their way to Greece, officials said yesterday.

SEE PAGE 11 COL 5

Question: Fill in the blanks with the missing words. Quest for the futur.

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It's possible.

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