



TIMELINE	ARREST JUNE 17, 2012	FORMAL CHARGE MAY 16, 2013	CHARGE FRAMING SEPTEMBER 5, 2013	TRIBUNAL VERDICT NOVEMBER 2, 2014
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DEATH stays for Jamaat's MONEYMAN

SC upholds capital punishment for former Al-Badr leader Mir Quasem Ali for war crimes committed in 1971

ASHUTOSH SARKAR, WASIM BIN HABIB and TUHIN SHUBHRA ADHIKARY

He was "an indispensable cog in the murdering machinery" installed at Mahamaya Dalim Hotel in Chittagong during the 1971 Liberation War.

His militiamen picked up freedom fighters and pro-liberation people from different parts of Chittagong and held them captive at the hotel, which he had transformed into an Al-Badr camp.

His men brutally tortured the detainees and killed many of them, turning the camp into a "death factory". The bodies of the victims were then dumped into the Karnaphuli river.

The mastermind behind it all is Mir Quasem Ali, the chief of Chittagong Al-Badr, an infamous auxiliary force of the Pakistan army.

More than four decades after committing the atrocities, Quasem faced justice. In November 2014, a special tribunal handed him the death penalty for the crimes against humanity.

And yesterday, a Supreme Court bench unanimously upheld his death penalty, paving the way for his execution.


Quasem, 63, is the fifth Jamaat-e-Islami leader to get the death penalty for notorious role

FINAL VERDICT

DEATH PENALTY on 1 charge

7-20 YEARS IN JAIL on 6 charges

ACQUITTED on 3 charges



in 1971. He is considered by many as the main financier of the anti-liberation party.

He now has the option of seeking review of the SC judgment after the release of full text of the verdict. If his review petition is rejected, he will get a chance to seek presidential clemency.

If Quasem decides not to seek clemency or is denied it, he will be the fourth Al-Badr top leader to walk the gallows.

Quasem, a member of Jamaat's central executive council, had allegedly paid \$25 million to an American lobbyist firm to carry out a smear campaign to make the war crimes trial controversial, the then law minister Shafique Ahmed told parliament on April 28 in 2013.

The International Crimes Tribunal-2 gave him death penalty on two charges and different

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2 ministers face contempt rule

SC summons them on March 15 over comments on chief justice

ASHUTOSH SARKAR

The Supreme Court yesterday issued a contempt rule on two ministers for their bitter criticisms of Chief Justice Surendra Kumar Sinha in relation to the hearing of an appeal of war crimes convict Mir Quasem Ali.

The apex court has ordered Food Minister Qamrul Islam and Liberation War Affairs Minister AKM Mozammel Huq to explain by March 14 their "derogatory and highly contemptuous statements" and then appear before it in person on March 15.

This is the first time that the SC has summoned two ministers together over possible



Qamrul Islam



AKM Mozammel Huq

contempt of court charges, said Attorney General Mahbubey Alam.

A nine-member full bench of the

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'Please pray for us'

Teenage freedom fighter's last words to cousin still haunt her

TUHIN SHUBHRA ADHIKARY and WASIM BIN HABIB

"Apa, please pray for us so that we can be successful."

These were the last few words Jasim Uddin spoke to his cousin Hasina Khatun before leaving her home on the Eid-ul-Fitr evening of 1971. The young freedom fighter from Sandwip of Chittagong could not make it to see the

cherished freedom for which he fought until his last breath.

The day after the Eid, 15-year-old Jasim was abducted by the notorious Al-Badr members from an unknown location in Chittagong. They took him to Mahamaya Dalim Hotel, which was turned into the main Al-Badr camp for torture, and inflicted brutal torture on him and other freedom fighters and

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Hackers chose weekend to break into BB systems

Tigers' World T20 campaign starts today

AL-AMIN from Dharamsala

The ICC World T20 proper will start in a week's time, but for the Asia Cup T20 runners-up Bangladesh it will commence from today.

As far as the format of ICC's second biggest flagship event is concerned, the Tigers will face Holland in the first of their three qualifying games at the picturesque Dharamsala Cricket Stadium. And when the game starts at 3.30pm, it will once again test the tenacity of the Tigers after

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REJAUL KARIM BYRON

A band of hackers chose the weekend in four countries as the opportune moment to break into Bangladesh Bank's systems to steal its money deposited in an account with the New York Federal Reserve Bank.

The weekly two-day bank holiday starts in Bangladesh at Thursday midnight and a day later in the US, the Philippines and Sri Lanka.

Knowing that there would be no mutual correspondence immediately, around midnight of February 4, a Thursday, the hackers forwarded fake payment orders of the BB.

A total of 35 orders were sent, one after another, which raised the alarm bells of the New York Fed's payment system.

A finance ministry official said the New

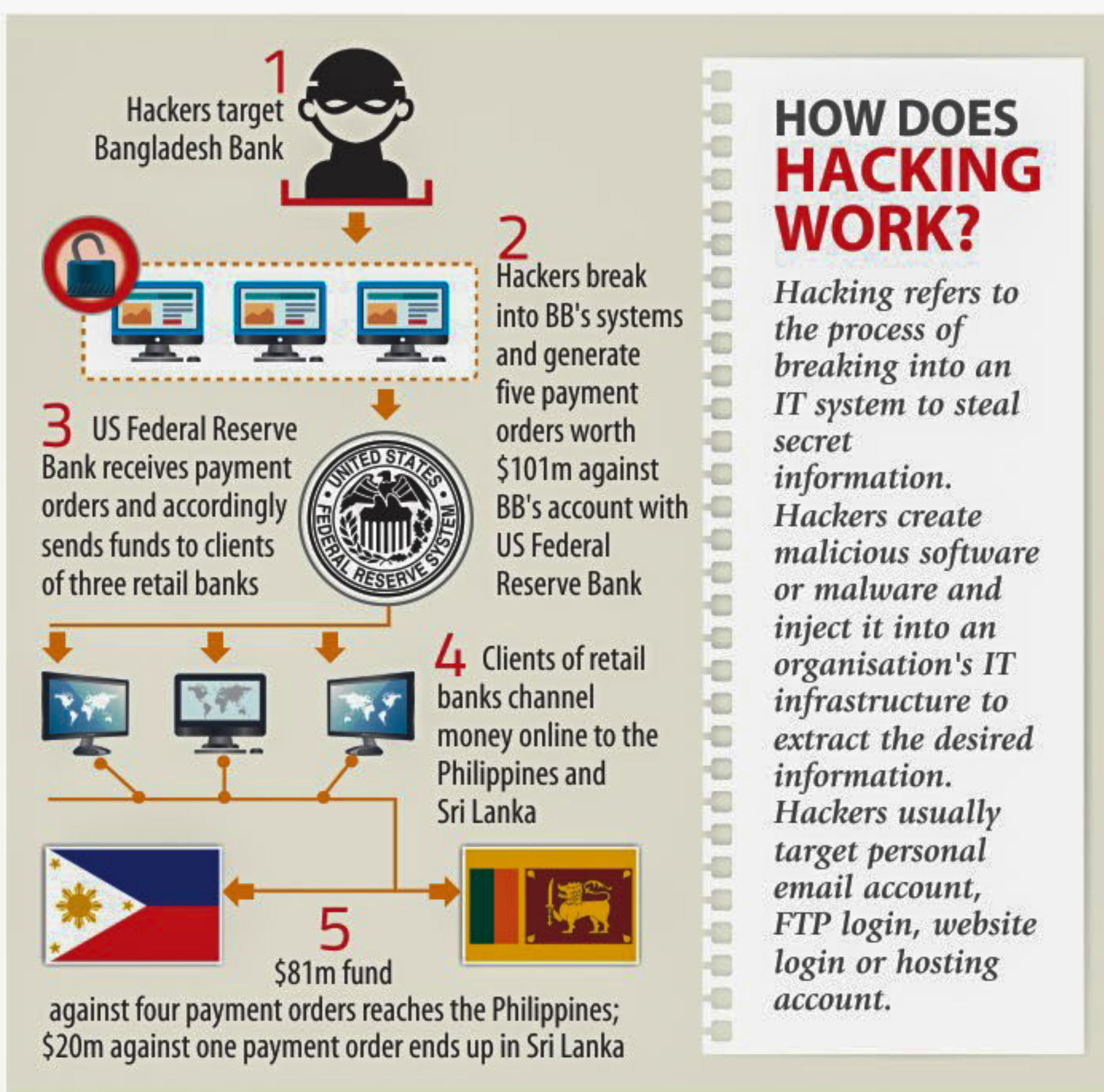
York Fed deemed the 35 payment orders suspicious and sent queries about them to the BB, but since it was the weekend a response could not be sent promptly.

Although payments against the orders were suspended, five of them slipped through, making the hackers \$101 million richer. Of the amount, \$81 million were wired to two banks in the Philippines and \$20 million to a bank in Sri Lanka.

Bangladesh is now mulling a legal battle against the New York Fed as it cleared the payment orders before receiving any reply from the BB.

Sources said the BB would consult the issue with lawyers in the US and file a case if it found any valid grounds.

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HOW DOES HACKING WORK?

Hacking refers to the process of breaking into an IT system to steal secret information. Hackers create malicious software or malware and inject it into an organisation's IT infrastructure to extract the desired information. Hackers usually target personal email account, FTP login, website login or hosting account.

ANTI-TERROR EFFORTS PM assures Saudi Arabia of support

BSS, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday assured Saudi Arabia of extending all support to its counterterrorism efforts.

She gave the assurance in a meeting with Saudi Foreign Minister Adel al-Jubeir at Gono Bhaban in the evening.

The PM said Bangladesh denounces terrorism in all forms and manifestations and is following a "zero tolerance policy" in this regard.

Briefing reporters after the meeting, PM's Press Secretary Ihsanul Karim said the two leaders discussed matters relating to mutual interests, including migration of workers and investment and trade.

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MAKEOVER SALON

নতুন সাজে

Polar
ice cream