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# BB FUND HEIST Top US senator probes SWIFT, New York Fed

REUTERS

The Senate Homeland Security Committee's top Democrat sought information Thursday from global financial network SWIFT and the Federal Reserve Bank of New York on steps being taken to bolster cyber security in the wake of the theft of \$81 million from the central bank of Bangladesh.

Senator Tom Carper of Delaware requested that both answer questions and brief his staff by June 17 on how they were handling issues following the February heist, during which hackers wired money out of an account at the New York Fed held by Bangladesh Bank, as well as how they were safeguarding against other potential cyber threats.

"These cyber attacks raise important questions about the security of the SWIFT system and the ability of its members to prevent future attacks," Carper wrote in his letters.

The inquiry comes as policymakers, regulators and financial institutions around the world increase scrutiny into the heist at Bangladesh Bank and a separate attempt to use fraudulent SWIFT messages to steal from a commercial bank in Vietnam.

The Association of Banks in Singapore told Reuters it had invited SWIFT for a meeting in June to discuss the latest cyber attacks. The Bank of England last month ordered British banks to provide documentation on SWIFT security measures.

In his letters, Carper said there appeared to be no evidence the Federal Reserve systems were penetrated or compromised in the Bangladesh attack. The New York Federal Reserve has denied responsibility for the intrusion, which

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Flanked by high officials, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has official talks with Bulgarian Prime Minister Boyko Borissov, sitting across her, and his delegation at the Council of Ministers' Plenary in Sofia yesterday.

# Dhaka, Sofia sign 4 deals

Hasina holds talks with Bulgarian PM

BSS, Sofia

Bangladesh and Bulgaria yesterday agreed to formulate a roadmap for future economic cooperation to boost trade and investment between the two countries.

The consensus came during the official talks between visiting Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and her Bulgarian counterpart Boyko Borissov at the Council of Ministers here in the morning.

Following the meeting, the two countries signed four instruments to bolster bilateral cooperation in the areas of economy, trade and diplomacy.

Foreign Secretary Md Shahidul Haque and PM's Press Secretary Ihsanul Karim briefed reporters after the meeting.

They said before holding the official talks, the two premiers discussed how the bilateral ties could be improved further.

With the visit of the Bangladesh PM, a new horizon would be opened up in

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# Bangladesh not worried at all

Shahriar tells The Daily Star about Pakistan's 'move to go to UN over Nizami issue'

REZAUL KARIM

Bangladesh is not worried about the threat by Pakistan that it would move the UN to raise the issue of hanging war criminals as the initiative would only expose Pakistan's heinous and brutal wartime role.

"We're not worried at all, absolutely not. I think Pakistan will think twice before going to the UN," State Minister for Foreign Affairs Md Shahriar Alam said.

If Pakistan goes to the United Nations, it would be exposed to embarrassment, he told The Daily Star in an exclusive interview on Wednesday. "They'll be exposed to the whole world."

Sartaj Aziz, foreign affairs adviser to the Pakistan prime minister, recently said his country would take up the issue of hanging Jamaat-e-Islami leaders in Bangladesh with the UN Human Rights Council (UNHRC) and other countries.

Speaking in the Senate, he also regretted the executions of "political opponents" by the Bangladesh government, saying that both the "Muslim world and the international community expressed concern" over the issue.

On the support from Bangladesh's friends, including

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# Wreckage of EgyptAir plane found in Med

Search teams spot passengers' belongings, aircraft parts 290km north of Alexandria; French investigators in Cairo to help probe the mysterious crash

AFP, CAIRO

Egypt found wreckage including seats and luggage yesterday from the EgyptAir plane that crashed in the Mediterranean, as investigators tried to unravel the mystery of why it swerved and plummeted into the sea.

Search teams spotted personal belongings of passengers and parts of the Airbus A320 about 290 kilometres north of Egypt's coastal city of Alexandria, the military said.

The country's aviation minister has said a "terrorist attack" was a more likely cause than technical failure for the plane's disappearance on a flight from Paris to Cairo with 66 people on board.

But French Foreign Minister Jean-Marc Ayrault said there was "absolutely no indication" of why the plane came down. "We're



looking at all possibilities, but none is being favoured over the others," he said.

The tragedy raised fears of a repeat of the bombing of a Russian passenger jet by the Islamic State jihadist group over Egypt last October that killed all 224 people on board.

In Cairo, French and Airbus investigators were to meet their Egyptian counterparts to lay the groundwork for their probe.

Relatives of some of the passengers and crew met EgyptAir officials and later gathered at a hotel near Cairo airport to exchange information.

"They haven't died yet. No one knows. We're asking for God's mercy," said a woman in her 50s whose daughter had been on board.

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# Genes decide how people's noses look



INDEPENDENT.CO.UK

Scientists have found the genes that decided how your nose looks.

The four genes that determine exactly how your schnozzle formed have been revealed by scientists.

The researchers looked at the faces and DNA of more than 6,000 people, finding out what determined their breadth, pointiness and other characteristics.

They identified four genes that affect the width and pointiness of the nose, known as DCHS2, RUNX2, GLI3, and PAX1.

A fifth gene, EDAR, was found to influence the jut of the chin. The genes are among those that regulate the growth of bone and cartilage, and the shape of the face.

GLI3, which drives cartilage growth, had the strongest effect on the breadth of the nostrils. DCHS2 was linked to pointiness, while the

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# Buddha Purnima today

BSS, Dhaka

Buddha Purnima, the biggest religious festival of the Buddhist community, will be observed today in Dhaka and elsewhere across the country.

Like other countries in the world, the Buddhist community in Bangladesh has taken up elaborate programmes, including colourful processions, puja, discussions and cultural functions, to mark the day.

The day is a public holiday.

According to Buddhism, the emergence of Lord Buddha took place on this day 2,559 years ago. Lord Buddha was born on the full moon day in 563 BC (Before Christ), attained supreme enlightenment and passed away on the same day.

President Abdul Hamid and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, in separate messages on the eve of the day, greeted members of the

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# MP's son held with firearm

A CORRESPONDENT, Satkhira

Police arrested a son of a female lawmaker and recovered his mother's licenced pistol from him in Shyamnagar upazila on Thursday.

Safayet Sarwar Rumon, 27, is the son of Begum Rifat Amin, an Awami League MP of a reserved seat for women in Satkhira, was held from Barsha Resort near the Sundarbans, said Enamul Haque, officer-in-charge of Shyamnagar Police Station.

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# FLASHFLOODS IN MOULVIBAZAR Villagers move to safer places

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

Flood situation in the district's Juri upazila has worsened due to incessant rain and onrush of water from the hills for the last couple of days.

Water of the Juri river was flowing above the danger level yesterday.

Most affected unions are Joyfornagar, Sagornal, Pachim Juri, Gualbari and Phultola. Locals are moving to safer places.

Road communications between Juri upazila town and the five unions have remained snapped as many roads and bridges went under water.

Production at Ratna and Kapnapahar tea estates was shut down on Thursday as the tea gardens were flooded.

Moriom Begum, 45, of Phultola village under Phultola union, said their family took shelter in a safer place, fearing that something bad might happen.

Husna Akther, 32, of Ranimura village in Sagornal, said she and her other family members found shelter in her parents' house in Krishnanagar village in the same upazila.

Fish of over 100 ponds was washed away. Relief materials were sought from the government for the affected people, said Emdadul Islam Chowdhury, chairman of Sagornal union.

Foyaz Ali, chairman of Phultola union, said 11 houses in Gouripur village were washed away by flood water yesterday morning.

Kishore Roy Chowdhury Moni, Juri upazila vice-chairman, said at least 20 government primary schools were submerged.

Over 5,000 families of the flood-affected upazila were suffering from acute shortage of drinking water, he added.

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People try to move their belongings to higher grounds as the rising water level of the Juri river in Moulvibazar worsens the flood situation yesterday. Inset, a madrasa flooded by the onrush of water in Juri upazila. PHOTO: MINTU DESHWARA



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**PRAYER TIMING MAY 21**

Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha

AZAN 4-05 12-45 5-00 6-40 8-00

JAMAAT 4-40 1-15 5-15 6-45 8-30

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION