



WITH TODAY'S ISSUE

Star Showbiz



FRANCE ATTACK

Rihanna's concert cancelled after the act of terror in Nice

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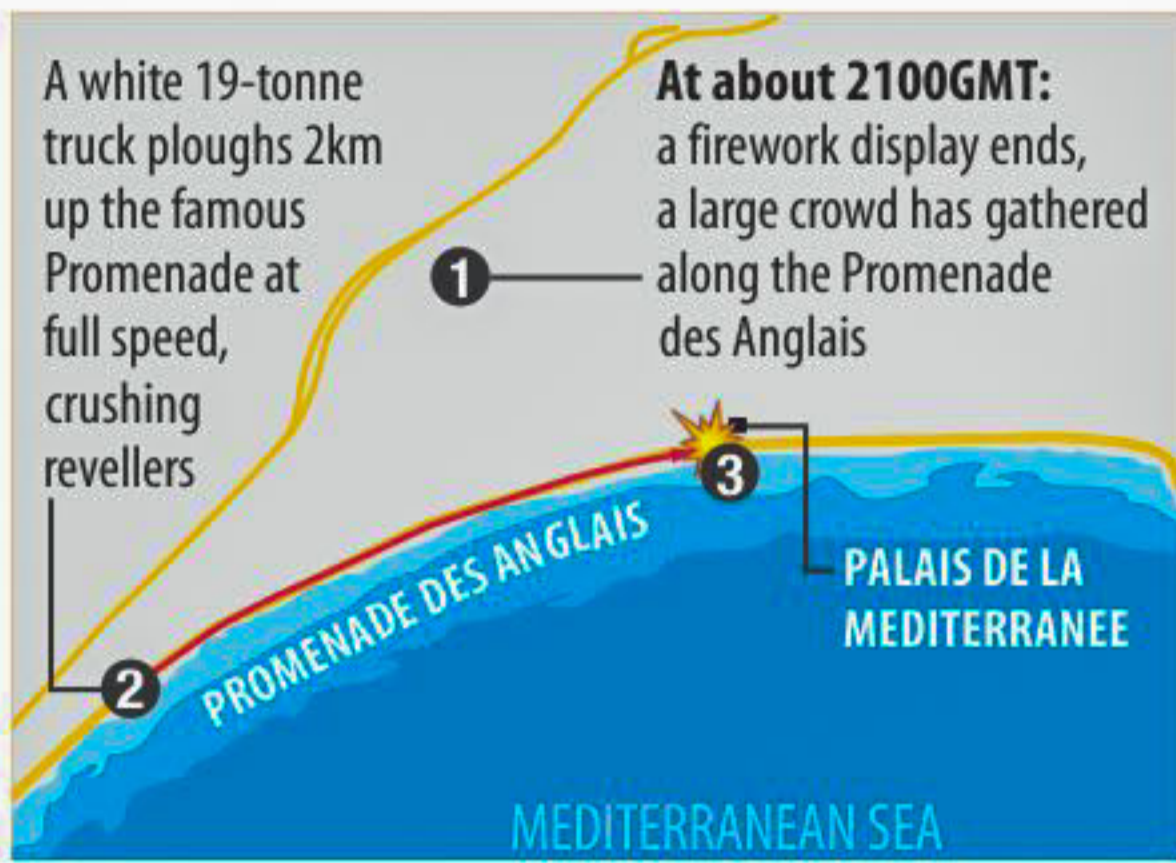
FOR UK UNITY

New British PM Theresa May heads to Scotland

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Lorry attack in France kills 84

Terror probe opens after attacker ploughs his lorry into crowd at Nice during Bastille Day celebration



REUTERS, Nice

An attacker ploughed a truck into crowds celebrating Bastille Day on the French Riviera, killing at least 84 people in what President Francois Hollande called a terrorist act by an enemy determined to strike all nations that share France's values.

The driver, identified by police sources as Mohamed Lahouaiej Bouhlel, a 31-year-old Tunisian resident in France, also appeared to open fire before officers shot him dead. He was known to the police in connection with common crimes such as theft and violence but was not on the watch list of French intelligence services, the sources said.

The third mass killing in Western Europe in eight months caused more fear across an already anxious continent struggling with security challenges from mass immigration, open borders and pockets of Islamist radicalism.

Hollande said France would observe three days of national mourning from today, Paris city hall said the Eiffel Tower will be lit in France's national colours in tribute to the victims.

The truck zigzagged along the seafront Promenade des Anglais in the city of Nice as a fireworks display marking the French Bastille Day celebration.

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Top, police forces and forensic officers stand next to a truck that ran into a crowd celebrating the Bastille Day in the French city of Nice, killing at least 84 people. After the incident, bodies are seen, bottom left, on the ground, and bottom right, rescue workers help an injured woman to get in an ambulance.

Turkey army group goes on air to announce takeover

BBC ONLINE

An army group in Turkey last night said it took control of the country, with bridges closed in Istanbul and aircraft flying low over Ankara. PM Binali Yildirim earlier denounced an "illegal action" by a military "group", stressing it was not a coup. He said that the government remained in charge.

Traffic has been stopped from crossing both the Bosphorus and Fatih Sultan Mehmet bridges in Istanbul.

There are reports of gunshots in the capital Ankara.

Gunfire was also heard outside Istanbul police HQ and tanks are said to be stationed outside Istanbul airport. All flights are cancelled.

A statement from the military group read out on NTV television said: "The power in the country has been seized in its entirety."

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Govt to find out roots of terrorist attacks

Hasina tells Japanese PM; Asia-Europe Summit begins in Ulaanbaatar



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and other world leaders pose for a photo during the 11th Asia-Europe Meeting (Asem) in the Mongolian capital of Ulaanbaatar yesterday.

PHOTO: PID

BSS, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday said her government was trying to trace the roots of recent terrorist attacks in Bangladesh.

In a meeting with her Japanese counterpart Shinzo Abe on the sidelines of Asem Summit, the PM said a national consensus has been developed in Bangladesh and the country's intelligent people are very active to overcome the situation.

Briefing reporters after the meeting, PM's Press Secretary Ihsanul Karim said the Japanese premier expressed strong determination and solidarity with Bangladesh to combat terrorism.

Hasina offered condolences for the Japanese victims of the recent terror attack at a Gulshan restaurant in Dhaka.

Abe assured Hasina of his government's pledge to continue all official development assistance projects and share information to know the background of the terror attacks in Bangladesh.

He also expressed gratitude to Bangladesh PM for showing sympathy and solidarity with the families of the Gulshan attack victims.

Condemning the barbaric attack, Abe said the Asem summit will deliver a strong message that its member countries would not tolerate terrorism and would act in voice to denounce terrorist activities.

Hasina said Bangladesh considers Japan a tested friend. "So I have given instructions to all the authorities concerned to ensure safety and security of the people including Japanese who are working in various sectors in Bangladesh."

Foreign Minister AH Mahmood Ali, PM's Principal Secretary Abul Kalam Azad, Foreign Secretary Shahidul Haq, Bangladesh Ambassador to Mongolia Fazlul Karim and Bangladesh envoy to Belgium and EU Ismat Jahan were present.

PM FOR SMOOTH CONNECTIVITY

The Bangladesh PM yesterday stressed the need for smooth connectivity among all countries and communities to secure peace, stability and prosperity.

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Asem leaders denounce terrorism

AFP, Ulan Bator

Leaders of Asia and Europe condemned international terrorism at a summit in Mongolia yesterday, as an attack in Nice drew attention away from Beijing's rejection of a tribunal ruling dismissing its extensive South China Sea claims.

The biennial Asia-Europe Meeting (Asem), which is celebrating its 20th anniversary, is supposed to be a venue for increasing cooperation across the Eurasian region and exploring ways to strengthen global agreements governing everything from trade to civil aviation.

Counter-terrorism efforts were already due to be discussed, but the issue was given renewed urgency by the carnage in Nice, where a truck ploughed into Bastille Day revellers, killing at least 84 in what President Francois Hollande called a "terrorist" attack.

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ANTI-TERROR SERMON Good start More coordination needed

STAR REPORT

Those who are killing people in the name of Jihad are the enemies of Islam as this religion has no place for militancy.

This was the message of a special anti-terror sermon [khutba] delivered at the Juma prayers at a number of mosques of Dhaka and different other district towns.

On Thursday, the Islamic Foundation authorities urged mosques across the country to follow the sermon to be delivered at Baitul Mukarram National Mosque during yesterday's Juma prayers.

However, imams of various mosques said they could not deliver the prescribed sermon as they did not get its copy, reports our correspondents from different districts.

In Sylhet, imams at most of the mosques read out the anti-terror sermon formulated by the Islamic Foundation but did not explain the issue in the speech.

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Extra security for diplomatic zone, foreigners

PARTHA PRATIM BHATTACHARJEE and TUHIN SHUBHRA ADHIKARY

In the wake of the recent terrorist attacks, the government has beefed up security for the capital's diplomatic zone and foreign nationals working in different projects in Bangladesh.

Government officials have also advised foreign nationals to move in groups and stay in places with satisfactory security system, said home ministry sources.

Many embassies, foreign organisations and individuals wrote to the home ministry asking for additional security, and the authorities concerned took steps accordingly, said the sources.

Talking to The Daily Star, Mozammel Haque Khan, senior secretary at the home ministry, said, "Yes, we received requests from some organisations where foreign nationals are working... some individuals also sought security... We directed the police to take necessary measures."

According to sources, a number of embassies, including that of Japan, India, Denmark, South Korea, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Bhutan, Austria, Thailand and the Netherlands, sought additional security for diplomats, UN organisations and their nationals living in Bangladesh.

Wishing anonymity, a foreign diplomat said they had asked the Bangladesh government to provide security at several places visited by their nationals.

The diplomat said similar requests were made by almost all missions of western and major Asian countries in Bangladesh.

The foreign missions and UN organisations in Dhaka officially sought stringent security measures for their

'We're under pressure'

Hannan Shah tells BBC about BNP's ties with Jamaat

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The BNP is now under pressure over partnership with Jamaat-e-Islami while building a national unity against terrorism, said BNP standing committee member ASM Hannan Shah yesterday.

"Definitely, we are under pressure. Different political parties and individuals are making open objections over Jamaat. Is it not pressure?" Hanna Shah told the BBC Bangla.

He also said the party's policymaking body might hold a meeting as soon as possible to take a decision regarding Jamaat issue before organising an anti-militancy national convention.

Meanwhile, when reporters asked BNP Secretary General Mirza Fakhru Islam Alamgir while he was visiting ailing BNP leader Rizvi Ahmed at Dhaka's Square Hospital about Jamaat's involvement and said the ruling Awami

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A tedious journey thru' river

Indian elephant waits for rescue

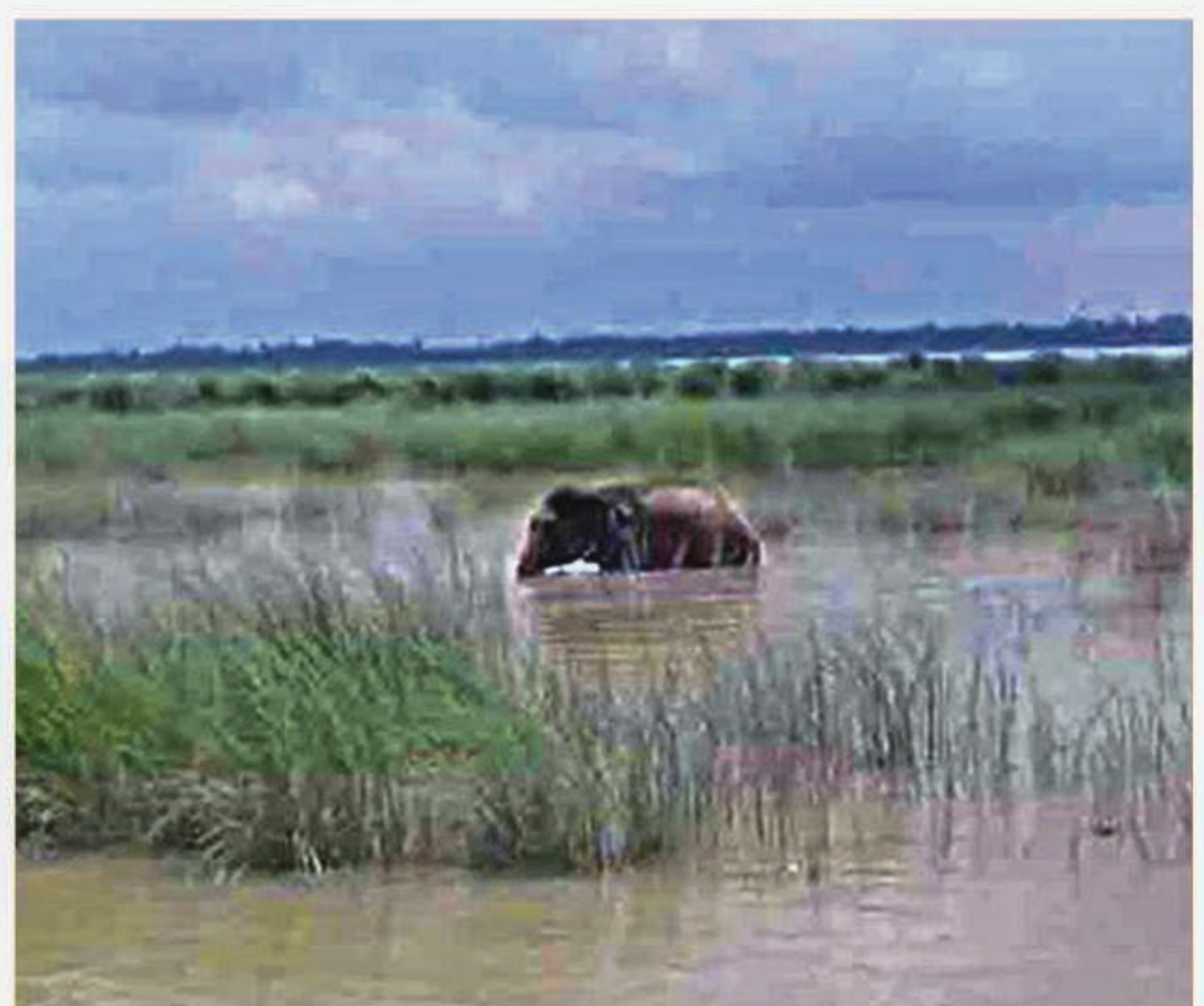
OUR CORRESPONDENT, Jamalpur

An Indian wild elephant that entered Bangladesh floating with the currents of the Brahmaputra river 18 days ago is frantically moving from one place to another.

The animal, which has become feeble for a lack of adequate food, is living on grass and bark from char areas.

The elephant is chased away by locals whenever she approaches localities.

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The wild elephant that came from India floating with the currents of Brahmaputra is seen in the char areas of Dewanganj upazila of Jamalpur on Monday.

PHOTO: COLLECTED