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WITH TODAY'S ISSUE

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**ENG TO BE BRIEFED TODAY**

Mashrafe urges England to visit Bangladesh as planned

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**ROHINGYA CRISIS**

Kofi Annan to advise Myanmar's new government on resolving conflicts

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## 120 dead in Italy quake

Death toll to rise; search on for survivors as many more feared trapped under rubble

AGENCIES

A powerful earthquake shook central Italy in the early hours of yesterday, leaving at least 120 people dead and a trail of destruction across several mountain villages packed with holidaymakers.

With 368 people injured, some critically, and an unknown number trapped under rubble, the death toll from the pre-dawn quake was expected to rise. Prime Minister Matteo Renzi told reporters after visiting the badly-hit village of Amatrice.

"This is not a final toll," he warned as hundreds of emergency services staff and volunteers prepared to work through the night in the hope of plucking more survivors from the ruins. Renzi, who gave the latest toll figure after visiting the area, called for national unity.

Hundreds of people were to spend a chilly night in hastily-assembled tents with the risk of aftershocks making it too risky for them to return home.

Scores of buildings were reduced to dusty piles of masonry in communities close to the epicentre of the quake, which had a magnitude of between 6.0 and 6.2.

It was relatively shallow at 4 km below the earth's surface. Italy's earthquake institute INGV reported 150 aftershocks

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A man cries in front of his damaged home in Amatrice after a strong earthquake in central Italy early yesterday. Inset, collapsed walls surround an ancient pagoda after a 6.8 magnitude earthquake hit Bagan of Myanmar later in the day.

PHOTO: AFP

## Quake hits Bangladesh

Originated in Myanmar, felt also in India; no report of casualties

STAR REPORT

An earthquake measuring 6.8 on the Richter scale hit different parts of the country and India, Myanmar and Thailand yesterday afternoon.

The earthquake was felt at 4:37pm in Dhaka. There were no immediate reports of casualties.

The epicenter of the quake was 25 km west of Chauk in Myanmar, which is around 500 km away from Dhaka, Syed Humayun Akhter, professor of geology at Dhaka University, told The Daily Star.

The quake struck at the depth of 84.1 km, according to United States Geological Survey.

Panic gripped people who came out of their offices and houses in Kolkata and Patna, reports

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## Hindu trader attacked

IS claims responsibility, terms him a priest, says SITE Intelligence

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A gang of three unidentified men hacked a Hindu trader with machetes in Madhabdi upazila of Narsingdi on Tuesday night, said police.

The victim, Chittaranjan Adya, 50, who suffered injuries to his head, neck, back and abdomen, is now receiving treatment at

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## Sifat led five militants to murder Dipan

Targeted for publishing blogger Avijit's books; killers motivated by sacked army officer Zia, say police

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Successful execution of a plot to kill writer-blogger Avijit Roy encouraged pro-al-Qaeda militant outfit Ansar al-Islam to hatch another plan to kill publisher Faisal Arefin Dipan last year, police said yesterday.

Motivated by their operation commander and sacked army major Syed Ziaul Haq, Ansar al-Islam members killed Jagriti Prokashani owner Dipan for publishing books of Bangladesh-born US citizen Avijit, said Monirul Islam, chief

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## Money came from abroad

Say police on Gulshan attack

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Funds used to finance the Gulshan café terror attack came from abroad, police said yesterday.

"The money came from abroad, but it's unclear whether it came via a Bangladeshi or a foreign national," Monirul Islam, chief of Counter Terrorism and Transnational Crime Unit of Dhaka

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## Trainer of female JMB unit, 4 aides arrested

STAR REPORT

Rapid Action Battalion arrested an alleged trainer of the female unit of Jama'atul Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB) and four of his accomplices in Gazipur early yesterday.

The trainer, Rasheduzzaman Rose, 30, is also the acting ameer of the banned militant outfit's southern region, claimed the elite force, adding that he graduated in Economics from a Canadian university in 2012.

The other arrestees are: Shahabuddin alias Rocky alias Shibhab, 23, Abdul Hai, 36, Firoj Ahmed Sheikh alias Ansar, 27, and

Saiful Islam, 29.

Maj Azam, deputy commander of Rab-1, said they made the arrests based on information gleaned from arrested "JMB's southern region commander" Mahmud Hasan Tanveer and the "outfit's female unit leader" Aklima Rahman.

He said they had information that some JMB members would come to the capital from Gazipur to collect some "equipment" and to carry out subversive activities.

A Rab team arrested Rasheduzzaman, Shahabuddin and Hai raiding a shop and a

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This photo taken on June 16 shows the inauguration of eight easy-bike ambulances put into service in Dhamoirhat of Naogaon. Locals of remote areas now depend on these ambulances for access to emergency medical care.

PHOTO: STAR

## Ambulance for the poor

KONGKON KARMAKER, Dinajpur and AHMED HUMAYUN KABIR TOPU, Pabna

Two years ago, when Rawshan Ara Begum of Naogaon's remote Saraswatipur village became pregnant for the first time, she sought no antenatal care.

It was not the lack of awareness that stopped Rawshan Ara from visiting the Upazila Health Complex in Mohadevpur, about 10km from Saraswatipur, for check-ups during her pregnancy. Rather, she dreaded the hour-long bumpy ride on a rickshaw-van.

"It was quite a hassle to hire a rickshaw-van whenever I wanted to take her to the health complex, because vans were not always available in our neighbourhood," said Rowshan Ara's husband Sirajul Islam.

The situation would turn worse at night, when almost no transport was available, he added.

"But those days are gone. Now the villages have an ambulance," Sirajul said.

Upazila Nirbahi Officer AKM Tajkir-Uz-Zaman, who until recently was in charge of Mohadevpur upazila, is the man to be credited

with introducing a unique ambulance service in remote villages like Saraswatipur in Bhimpur union of the upazila.

To help ease the sufferings of pregnant women, Tajkir-Uz-Zaman came up with the idea of modifying a battery run easy bike into an ambulance. It has a siren atop and an oxygen cylinder inside the cabin, where patient can lie down easily on one side-seat while two to three attendees of the patient can sit on the other side-seat at the back of the vehicle.

A mobile phone number is printed on the

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## It's cruelty, not fun

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A man was critically injured after one of his co-workers allegedly pumped air into his body through the rectum at a furniture shop in the capital yesterday, in an incident that harks back to the murders of Rakib in Khulna and Sagar in Narayanganj.

The co-worker has been detained. He, however, said he did that "just to have some fun", said police.

The victim, Atiar Mollah, 27, an employee at "Akhtar Furnishers" in Bhatara area, was undergoing treatment at the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH). His condition was critical and his stomach "abnormally swollen", said sources at the hospital.

Quoting witnesses, police said the incident happened when Atiar and "Mamun" were working together at the shop around yesterday.

Suddenly around 12noon, Mamun took a nozzle of a compressor, meant for cleaning furniture, and inserted it into Atiar's rectum, making him sick.

He was first rushed to nearby Kurmitola General Hospital and later was shifted to the DMCH as his condition worsened.

Nurul Muttakin, officer-in-charge of Bhatara Police Station, said they have picked up Mamun.

During primary interrogations, he admitted that he

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## CLINTON FOUNDATION Donors had access to secy of state Clinton

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

More than half the people outside the government who met with Hillary Clinton while she was secretary of state gave money - either personally or through companies or groups - to the Clinton Foundation, reported the Associated Press.

At least 85 of 154 people from private interests who met or had phone conversations scheduled with Clinton while she led the State Department donated to her family charity or pledged commitments to its international programmes, according to a review of State Department calendars released so far to The Associated Press.

Combined, the 85 donors contributed as much

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DETAILS IN OUR ONLINE EDITION

## Aid package for flood-hit farmers

Govt to provide paddy seeds, saplings, fertilisers worth Tk 42cr

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government will provide a stimulus and rehabilitation package worth around Tk 42 crore for around 4.18 lakh flood-affected marginal farmers to boost production and make up for their loss.

As many as 4,01,003 farmers would get

paddy seeds, paddy saplings and fertiliser worth Tk 42.56 crore under the stimulus package. The rest 17,211 farmers would get paddy seeds and paddy saplings worth Tk 53.74 lakh under the rehabilitation scheme.

Agriculture Minister Matia Chowdhury yesterday announced the package for the

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