

# Police Scotland

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said: "I am delighted to make this announcement and welcome the support from both the Muslim community, and the wider community, as well as police officers and staff."

"Like many other employers, especially in the public sector, we are working towards ensuring our service is representative of the communities we serve. I hope that this addition to our uniform options will contribute to making our staff mix more diverse and adds to the life skills, experiences and personal qualities that our officers and staff bring to policing the communities of Scotland."

The announcement was welcomed by the Scottish Police Muslim Association (SPMA), a group that aims to build links between Muslim communities in Scotland and the police.

Fahad Bashir, chair of the SPMA, said: "This is a positive step in the right direction, and I am delighted that Police Scotland is taking productive steps in order to ensure that our organisation is seen to be inclusive and represents the diverse communities that we serve across Scotland."

"No doubt this will encourage more women from Muslim and minority ethnic backgrounds to join Police Scotland."

Police Scotland's diversity drive follows statistics from the Scottish Police Authority released earlier this year which showed just 127, (2.6 percent) of the 4,809 applications to join the force were from people with ethnic backgrounds.

The report said: "If the black and minority ethnic groups (BME) national average of 4 percent is to be met within the organisation, an additional 650 BME recruits are required across all areas of the business."

"Considering current application trends, this would appear to be unachievable."

# Italy quake

FROM PAGE 20  
The Red Cross began shipping in food and water supplies for homeless residents.

Among those who came to pick up emergency provisions were Maria Atrimala, 48, and her 15-year-old daughter.

"We escaped by pure luck, the stairs of the house held and we ran, blindly in the dark and dust," she said with tears rolling down her face.

"When we got out we could hear the cries of people still trapped and we helped those we could."

Hundreds of people spent the night sleeping in their cars or in hastily-assembled tents, the aftershocks adding to their discomfort.

The extensive damage to lightly-used properties has raised the spectre of some of the smaller hamlets in the region becoming ghost towns.

"If we don't get help, l'Arquata is finished," said Alejandro Petrucci, the mayor of Arquata del Tronto, which accounted for 57 of the confirmed deaths to date.

Petrucci said it was impossible to say exactly how many people were in the 13 tiny communities that make up l'Arquata when the disaster struck.

In Pescara del Tronto, which was virtually razed by the quake, there are only four permanently resident families but there could have been up to 300 people there on Wednesday.

Measuring 6.0-6.2 magnitude, the quake's epicentre was near Amatrice and its shallow depth of four kilometres exacerbated its impact.

It occurred without warning but in an area with a long history of killer quakes.

The Civil Protection agency which is coordinating the rescue effort said that in addition to the dead, 264 people had suffered injuries serious enough to be hospitalised. Several of them are in a critical state.

Rescue workers were pessimistic about the chance of finding any more survivors although the last survivor in L'Aquila was rescued after 72 hours under rubble.

Prime Minister Matteo Renzi vowed lessons from L'Aquila, which still bears the scars of 2009, would be applied. "The objective is to rebuild and start again," he said.

After L'Aquila, the Civil Protection agency made almost one billion euros available for upgrading buildings in seismically-vulnerable areas. But apparently little had been done so far.

"Here in the middle of a seismic zone, nothing has ever been done," said Dario Nanni of the Italian Council of Architects.

"It does not cost that much more when renovating a building to make it comply with earthquake standards. But less than 20 percent of buildings do."

Nanni said the quake's impact had been increased by the widespread use of cement rather than wood beams. "These indestructible beams hit walls like a hammer and that is what made so many (houses) collapse."

# Mohitul Islam

FROM PAGE 20  
But at the same time he was confident that the trial of this assassination would one day be held.

With the changeover of political scenario, Mohitul filed a case on October 2, 1996 as a witness to one of the darkest and heinous crimes committed in Bangladesh's political history.

Though it took long, the nation finally got justice in November 2009.

The man who made it happen died at 63 of kidney complications at Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University (BSMMU).

Mohitul was admitted to the hospital with kidney failure, hypertension and diabetes on July 12 and shifted to the ICU two or three days later, said BSMMU Vice Chancellor Prof Kamrul Hasan.

As his condition improved, he was moved to a cabin on July 20, but shifted to the ICU again seven days later as his health deteriorated, he said.

Since then Mohitul was in a critical condition and was on life support, the VC said adding, "We have tried our best but failed."

After his death, the hospital authorities gave bath to the freedom fighter and wrapped the body with the national flag, the VC said.

The first namaz-e-janaza was held at the BSMMU mosque, participated, among others, by Awami League lawmakers.

Mohitul left behind his wife, a daughter and a host of relatives, admirers and friends to mourn his death.

Family sources said he would be buried tomorrow after Zohr prayers at

his family graveyard at Kashimpur village under Monirampur upazila in Jessor, reports BSS.

President M Abdul Hamid and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina conveyed deep sympathy to the members of the bereaved family and prayed for eternal peace of the departed soul.

In a condolence message, the president said the nation would remember with gratitude the courageous role of Mohitul in the trial of Bangabandhu murderer forever.

Only because of his courageous steps, the killers were punished, and Bangladesh and Bangalees were freed of a curse, he added.

PM Hasina recalled with profound respect the courageous role of Mohitul during the brutal killing of the Father of the Nation in 1975.

Mohitul was at the Dhanmondi-Road-32 house when the killing took place on the dreadful night of August 15, 1975.

"He (Mohitul) hid Sheikh Russell, the youngest son of Bangabandhu, to save him from the heinous killers. But the murderers killed Russell after snatching him away," Hasina said in her condolence message.

"Through his (Mohitul) death, we lost a person who was dedicated to the Awami League and Bangabandhu family," she added.

Road Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader, Law Minister Anisul Huq, Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid and Dhaka University Vice Chancellor Prof AAMS Arefin Siddique also expressed shock at the demise of the freedom fighter.

# Attack on Kabul US

FROM PAGE 20  
Hundreds of trapped students were rescued during the overnight operation, many of whom tweeted desperate messages for help. Some used classroom furniture to barricade the doors while others made a mad scramble to escape through windows.

The attack began just after dusk, when the private university is usually packed with students, many of them working professionals doing part-time courses.

"Students were pushing each other out of the classroom window," Farzana, a young student who managed to flee told AFP. "I was reluctant to jump but a fellow student pushed me and I fell down. The rest I don't remember."

Authorities refused to confirm whether any hostages had been taken.

Nato military advisers helped Afghan forces to respond to the attack, a US official said, without specifying how many troops were involved.

At dawn, after the assault had ended, a few women students, some of them terrified and weeping, were escorted out of the campus by policemen.

**BRUTAL ATTACK'** The attack, apparently the first major militant assault on a prominent university in Afghanistan, has cast a pall on the education sector, seen as a rare symbol of hope for the country's burgeoning youth at a time of rising insecurity.

The growing number of students attending university, especially women, has been hailed as a success story in Afghanistan since the 2001 ouster of the Taliban regime, which banned women's education.

"Terrorist groups, by attacking civilians, educational institutions, residential areas, culverts, bridges, electricity stations... want to obstruct growth and strengthening of the values that Afghans believe in," President Ashraf Ghani said in a statement, condemning the "brutal attack".

The attack was "organised and orchestrated" from Pakistan, his office said in a separate statement, adding that Ghani spoke to Pakistan's powerful army chief General Raheel Sharif to demand "serious measures against the terrorists".

The elite American University of Afghanistan, which opened in 2006 and enrols more than 1,700 students, was long seen as a high-profile target for militants partly because it attracts foreign faculty

**Saarc finance**  
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commitments at home, the official said.

The two-day event is being attended by around 100 delegates from the eight Saarc countries.

The member countries are reviewing different activities being carried out under Saarc mechanism, including customs cooperation, avoidance of double taxation, promotion and protection of investment, cooperation in banking sector, and trade liberalisation.

The conference will also recommend measures to enhance regional cooperation to move fast towards South Asian Economic Union.

members.

The two foreign professors at the university were seized from their vehicle on August 7, when the kidnappers smashed the passenger window and hauled them away at gunpoint.

Their whereabouts are still unknown and no group so far has publicly claimed responsibility for the abductions, the latest in a series of kidnappings of foreigners.

The uptick in violence comes as the Taliban escalate nationwide attacks, underscoring the worsening security situation since Nato forces ended their combat mission at the end of 2014.

Afghan forces backed by US troops are seeking to head off a potential Taliban takeover of Lashkar Gah, the capital of the southern opium-rich province of Helmand.

The turmoil convulsing Helmand, blighted by a huge opium harvest that helps fund the insurgency, has left thousands of people displaced, sparking a humanitarian crisis.

The Taliban have also closed in on Kunduz -- the northern city they briefly seized last year in their biggest military victory so far -- leaving Afghan forces stretched on multiple fronts.

# CPJ calls

FROM PAGE 1  
"Proposed cyber-crime legislation, if passed, would have a stifling effect on media freedom in Bangladesh," said Shawn Crispin, CPJ's senior Southeast Asia representative.

"The draft law's language dangerously conflates cyber-crime with fair critical comment. We strongly urge parliament to reject the bill and ensure that any future version includes clearly defined press freedom and freedom of expression guarantees," Crispin added.

The Digital Security Act-2016 was approved on August 22 by the Bangladesh cabinet and is pending in parliament, the CPJ said in its news alert from Bangkok on Wednesday, quoting media reports.

If passed into law, the bill will enable the creation of a new agency charged with monitoring for violations, including the use of electronic media to "carry out propaganda," "hurt religious sentiments," or "create enmity and disturb law and order," it said.

Maximum penalties would include life in prison for spreading false information about the Liberation War or about Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, seven years for disturbing public order and two years for defamation or harming religious sensitivities, the reports said.

Cybercrime laws intended to extend penal codes to the online world can too easily be broadened to criminalise the standard practices of online journalists, the CPJ has found.

While publicly justified as a means of preventing terrorism or promoting stability, the laws are also used to restrict information critical of or embarrassing to authorities.

The Trust said it will continue to publish till November 2016 and meet all its outstanding obligations before suspension of operations. The Trust added that it will resume publication when circumstances in Nepal (or elsewhere) make it possible.

Bangladesh ranks 12th on CPI's Impunity Index, a global measure of countries where journalists are slain and the killers go free.

# Missing kid

FROM PAGE 20  
Raiganj Upazila Health Complex for illness, said Md Golam Sarwar Liton, chairman of the local union parishad.

"The imam dug a pit on the clay floor of his room and kept the kid there," said Md Mahbub Alam, officer-in-charge of Raiganj Police Station.

After receiving a complaint from the child's family, police on Monday night detained Robiul, also an irrigation pump operator, at the village.

Following the rescue of Pallab, his father filed an abduction case with the police station on Wednesday night accusing the imam. The minor boy used to go to the imam as they were neighbours, the OC said.

Talking to journalists at her home, Pallab's mother Dola Chakraborty said her son was playing near their home on August 21. She had seen her son walking to Robiul before he went missing.

Polan thanked the police and locals for rescuing his son. He, however, was worried about Pallab's security.

Meanwhile, police yesterday produced the imam before the Sirajganj Judicial Magistrate's Court and sought 10-day remand for him. The court fixed Sunday for hearing the remand prayer and sent the accused to jail, said OC Mahbub.

UP Chairman Sarwar said Robiul was removed from his post yesterday. Villagers demanded exemplary punishment for the abductor's son, he added.

While we continue to gain inspiration from the vision and leadership provided by Nobel Laureate Muhammad Yunus, he does not "run" Grameen Foundation.

Furthermore, said Hollingworth, the AP article incorrectly implies that Grameen Foundation's original partnership with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), and subsequent grant funding, were the result of a meeting between Prof Yunus and Hillary Clinton in April 2009.

"On the contrary, the partnership entered between the USAID and Grameen Foundation in 2009 was based on both organisations' strong commitment to microfinance as a path out of poverty for the world's poor."

The statement said Grameen Foundation had worked in microfinance since its founding in 1997. The partnership, formalised by a memorandum of understanding signed in October 2009, was to extend \$162.5 million as loan guarantees in support of microfinance institutions in poor countries, thus enabling those institutions to support more low-income individuals and small businesses with microloans, as a pathway out of poverty.

The \$162.5 million was not money that went to Grameen Foundation. It was a pool of funds to provide credit guarantees to enable microfinance institutions in poor countries to operate and continue to serve low-income clients. Grameen Foundation managed the fund on behalf of the USAID and provided additional co-guarantee funding.

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