



Chained and bruised 17-year-old Mehedi Hasan right before he was rescued on Sunday. PHOTO: COLLECTED

Madaripur man sent to prison

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Mehedi's mother Parul Begum said, "Mehedi cannot speak well. He complains of pain all over his body. We are afraid of the influential quarters.

Doctors have advised better treatment for Mehedi. But we are poor and unable to bear the expenses of his better treatment."
Sayeed Ahmed at Shibchar Upazila

Health Complex said, "When Mehedi was admitted to the hospital, there were injury marks all over his body. He needs to get digital X-ray done and moved elsewhere for better treatment."

Ministry to take action against the DC

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But as a custom, officials could attend farewell programmes organised by colleagues. However, it should be on a "limited scale and without any exaggeration," said a top ministry official.

accepted those as a government official is not decent and expected," said one official of the public administration ministry, asking not to be named.

The DC was a patron of various cultural groups of the town, he added. Sajjad Jahan Chowdhury Shaheen, secretary of Mymensingh Sports Association, said they organised the programme as the deputy commissioner was the ex-officio president of the organisation.

Sources said Mustakim's farewell programmes spanned over 15 days -- September 3 to September 18 -- and were hosted by the upazila administration, professional bodies and different socio-cultural organisations. The ones that drew much attention were arranged by the town's Onsumble Theatre and the district sports association. Photos show that during the Theatre-organised event, the DC and his wife wearing royal dresses and crowns, which were hired by the group for the occasion. In the sports association's programme, Mustakim, who worked as Mymensingh DC for three years, rode a horse cart. "The way he [Mustakim] has been given the farewells and the way he

About the probable action, the official said Mustakim would face departmental action. Departmental actions include suspension and even termination. Earlier, media reports said the Anti-Corruption Commission decided to send a letter to the ministry, requesting necessary action against the DC. The graft watchdog made the decision as part of its corruption prevention agenda, said ACC Secretary Abu M Mustafa Kamal. Talking to The Daily Star, Onsumble Theatre President Abul Monsur said, "We never thought that it will create such an embarrassment for the DC and also for us. "We received him as our lifetime member, and the reception was in accordance with the tradition of the troupe."

Contacted, the DC said he was accorded no more than 22 farewells. "Some called on me personally to say goodbye. Most of them were small gatherings." About the royal costume, he said, "It wasn't a farewell programme rather a reception as I was made lifetime member of the theatre. They adorned me with the royal dress as part of their tradition. It had no connection with the farewell." He added that he had worn that costume for about five minutes. About 35 people were present there, and one of them took a photo, which later made headlines, Mustakim told this newspaper.

3 Bangladeshis among 6 'JMB men' held

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command of the outfit in the state. The Special Task Force of Kolkata police made the arrests at different times, he said.

He said the arrestees went into hiding in northern and southern India after the Burdwan blast.

Rubel, Abul Kalam Azad and Zahirul, he said.

However, according to Indian newspaper The Hindu, five of the JMB operatives were arrested on Saturday while another was arrested yesterday morning. Detonators, 2kg powder (suspected to be explosives), mobile phones and equipment used for cutting wires were seized from them, Vishal said.

The six would be interrogated in police remand to know if they had plans to carry out attacks in areas other than West Bengal, the joint commissioner added. The Indian National Investigation Agency (NIA) had announced Rs 10 lakh reward for information leading to the arrest of Maulana Yusuf. It also announced Rs 3 lakh and Rs 1 lakh for information leading to the arrest of

Vishal claimed that the six JMB operatives were arrested in different areas. Anwar was arrested from Bongaon-Bagda border area. He might have crossed over to India a few days ago. Asked about the three Bangladeshi suspected JMB operatives' arrest in India, Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan Kamal yesterday at a briefing at his ministry said he was yet to be informed about the matter.

Remains of 3 victims recovered

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The court, however, ruled that the owners can withdraw money from the bank accounts only for payment of salaries, relevant benefits, compensation for workers and repair of factory.

The organisations on September 19 submitted the petition as public interest litigation to the HC, seeking its directive on the authorities concerned to give sufficient compensation to the victims.

the factory owners must ensure workers' safety, congenial working environment and a fire extinguishing system.

In response to a writ petition, the HC directed the relevant authorities to submit reports to it in a month on how much money was given to workers as salaries, benefits and compensations and to repair the damaged factory. The HC bench of Justice M Enayetullah and Justice Ashish Ranjan Das also issued a rule upon the authorities concerned to explain why they should not be directed to give sufficient compensation to the victims. The court passed the order and issued the rule following the writ petition filed by rights organisations Ain o Salish Kendra, Bangladesh Environmental Lawyers Association and Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust.

The petitioners prayed to the court to direct the relevant authorities to provide proper treatment to the injured, identify those responsible for the tragedy and take appropriate legal action against them. They requested the HC to ask the government to submit probe reports to the court and take effective steps to stop the recurrence of such incidents. The organisations also urged the court to direct the government to freeze the bank accounts of the factory and its owners so that money could be used for compensation of victims. According to the writ petition, the explosion took place due to violation of relevant laws. Under the labour law, building construction act and boiler law,

Two cases have been filed so far with Tongi Model Police Station in this regard, one by the father of deceased worker Jewel and the other by police. However, law enforcers are yet to make an arrest in the cases. Army and fire service men have been carrying out a rescue operation at the factory site as 11 people remain missing following the accident. Our correspondent in Gazipur contributed to this report.

Britain's Johnson visits Turkey after failed putsch

AFP, Istanbul

British foreign minister Boris Johnson began a key visit to Turkey yesterday, months after he led the successful "Brexit" campaign that played on anti-Turkish sentiments. The trip by Johnson, who also won a prize for a rude poem about President Recep Tayyip Erdogan in May, is the first visit by a top level British official since the failed coup in July that aimed to overthrow the Turkish strongman. Campaigners for Britain to leave the EU in the June 23 vote repeatedly raised the spectre of millions of Turks being free to live in Britain as a reason to pull out of the 28-nation bloc.

Former London mayor Johnson risked further Turkish ire in May when he won a British competition calling for rude verse about Erdogan, organised in solidarity with a German comedian facing prosecution for doing the same. Turkish officials have played down possible setback in the two countries' relationship, saying British-Turkish ties are too important to be hostage to Johnson's statements. A spokesperson for the British embassy in Ankara told AFP that Johnson had arrived in Turkey, where he is to meet Erdogan and Prime Minister Binali Yildirim, as well as Syrian opposition groups. He is also due to visit the Turkish

parliament in the capital Ankara which was extensively damaged by airstrikes on the night of the failed July 15 coup, Turkish officials said. Johnson has made headlines in Turkish media because of his Turkish great-grandfather Ali Kemal, who was a politician and a journalist in the 1900s. Turkey's relations with Europe has soured after the coup attempt, amid concerns over Ankara's subsequent crackdown on alleged coup plotters. Turkey has angrily rejected the criticism that the vast purge might breach rights norms Ankara must meet for accession into the European Union.

MP Amanur

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Three days into the killing, his wife Nahar Ahmed filed a murder case with Tangail Model Police Station, accusing unidentified criminals. The case was later transferred to the Detective Branch of police. Following their arrests by the DB in August 2014, two of the suspects in the case -- Anisul Islam Raja and Mohammad Ali -- hinted at involvement of Amanur and his three brothers in the murder.

On February 3 this year, Mahfijur Rahman Ghulam of Tangail DB, investigation officer of the case, submitted the charge sheet to the Chief Judicial Magistrate's Court, naming 14 people, including Amanur and his brothers. The court accepted the charge sheet on April 6 and issued arrest warrants against 10 fugitives, including Amanur and his brothers Jahidur Rahman Khan Kakon, former president of Tangail Chamber of Commerce; Shahidur Rahman Khan Mukti, former mayor of Tangail municipality; and Saniyat Khan Bappa, former vice-president of Bangladesh Chhatra League.

Shortages worsen

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It was the fourth day of intense air raids on the city since a defiant Syrian regime launched a new assault, vowing to retake all of Aleppo following the collapse early last week of a short-lived ceasefire brokered by Russia and the United States.

The Observatory said yesterday that at least 128 people, nearly all civilians, had been killed in Syrian and Russian raids on eastern Aleppo since late Thursday. Among the dead were 20 children and nine women, said Observatory director Rami Abdel Rahman. At least 36 civilians, including 11 children and five women, were also killed in raids targeting rural areas of Aleppo province, he said. A Syrian military source told AFP regime forces had no intention of letting up on rebel-held areas. "The air force will bomb any terrorist movements, this is an irreversible decision," the source said, reiterating that the regime's goal was to "recapture all regions of Syria" outside its control. A medical source in rebel-held Aleppo said hospitals were struggling to deal with a huge number of casualties. "Hospitals that are still in service are under a lot of pressure due to the significant number of wounded in recent days, and the major shortage of blood," the source told AFP. "Because of this, serious injuries are requiring immediate amputations," he said. With Aleppo back under siege since regime forces again fully surrounded the city in early September, residents were having to deal with food shortages and skyrocketing prices as well as intensifying violence.

World's youngest

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McWilliams said: "Personally I don't think my age matters. I've been through the same training and passed the same command course as every other captain so I've proven myself capable regardless of my age."

"I do now get asked how old I am on an almost daily basis which didn't used to happen when I was a first officer. Usually that question comes from the cabin crew but sometimes passengers ask too. When I tell them I'm 26, most people are pleasantly surprised and impressed with my achievement at such a young age." She is also one of the few women to be promoted beyond the rank of first officer. Just five percent of commercial pilots are female and last year easyJet announced an initiative to double the proportion of female new entrants to 12 percent over two years. McWilliams said the lack of female role models made her 'never even thought it could be an option' to become a commercial pilot. And she felt she had no one to 'ask for advice' in order to pursue her dreams. Determined to succeed, she was flying loop-the-loops at 15 and made her first solo flight at 16. She joined a training programme at CTC Aviation in Southampton on her 19th birthday. In May 2011, she joined easyJet as a first officer and recently took up the rank of captain after passing the airline's command course. Originally from Carlisle, she is now based in Reigate, Surrey, and works from Gatwick Airport. She flies Airbus A319 and A320 planes to around 100 destinations, including as Reykjavik, Tel Aviv and Marrakesh. Julie Westhorp, chairwoman of the British Women Pilots' Association (BWPA), said she hopes McWilliams' progression inspires more women to consider pursuing a career in aviation.

Schoolboy gets PM's letter

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him of taking steps to build a bridge over the river. The PM also praised the boy for his awareness regarding his family's safety while crossing the river. Shirshendu, the student of Patuakhali Government Jubilee High School, received the letter at a programme held at the school's auditorium on Patuakhali Deputy Commissioner AKM Shamimul Huq Siddique, who is also chairman of the school's executive committee. Freedom fighter Abhinash Chandra Sonnamot, maternal grandfather of Shirshendu, Khan Mosharef Hossain, administrator of Patuakhali district council and Siddiqur Rahman, head teacher of the school, were present at the programme among others. "The prime minister has replied to my letter and I'll never forget this incident for the rest of my life," said the young hero of the school whose maternal grandfather, a freedom fighter, is a hero of the nation. Thanking the prime minister for her commitment over the bridge and for responding to Shirshendu's letter, Abhinash said he always feels proud as he had fought for the country during the Liberation War in 1971, and now his grandson has made him proud by writing to the PM, requesting her to build a bridge on the River Payra, to ease people's sufferings. Patuakhali district council administrator Khan Mosharef Hossain announced a Tk 50,000 fund for

Shirshendu's education while advocating Sultan Ahmed Miridha, former Sadar upazila chairman, added another Tk 10,000 fund for the same cause. "My village home is in Jhalakathi and we have to cross the Payra river to go to my home ... The river has high waves ... Sometimes boats and trawlers sink in the river," Shirshendu wrote in the letter. The letter from the prime minister was written on September 8 and reached the school on September 20, said sources at the school. MINISTRY GETS PMO LETTER TO BUILD PAYRA BRIDGE: QUADER The Prime Minister's Office (PMO) has already sent a letter to the ministry concerned to take necessary measures to construct a bridge on the Payra river in the southern Patuakhali district reports BSS. "The PMO has sent a letter to the ministry to construct a bridge on the Payra river following a letter of Shirshendu Biswas," said Road Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader while inaugurating Gabtali-Sinnirtek road in the city's Mirpur area yesterday. In line with the PM's assurance, Quader said the ministry has already started initial work and a team will visit Mirzaganj next week to initiate a feasibility study to this end. "Since Payra is a wide and turbulent river, it will require a double-lane bridge and so, it will take time," the minister said expressing the hope that the construction work of the bridge would begin by the next one and a half years.

Ctg tourism potential

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Shah Mizanur Rahman, manager of Motel Shaikat of BPC in Chittagong, said they are planning to build a resort on 13 acres near Parki beach and are scrutinising the land documents. While the development of Patenga and Parki is stuck at planning, Kattali beach, which has a mangrove forest, is still neglected. As a result, the beaches, which attract thousands of tourists daily, are being occupied by unplanned structures to cater for visitors, destroying their beauty. Besides, there is no initiative to ensure safety of visitors. On September 20, a boy drowned in the sea near Kattali beach. Like the beaches, the beauty of hills and waterfalls in Mirsharai upazila attracts visitors in thousands. Especially the Khoyachhara and Napittachhara waterfalls are full of visitors during the rainy season. But there are no roads or signs for the tourists to go to the places. As a result, visitors often get lost. On August 15 this year, a young engineer

died while going to Napittachhara waterfall. He had lost his way and had fallen from a hill. Mizanur said a BPC team would visit the waterfalls to see if taking up any project in the area was commercially viable. The only tourist destination that has been developed with infrastructure in the city is Foy's Lake. Around 336-acre lake on hills in Pahartali area has been developed as a tourist destination by a private firm in 2004. At present, it attracts around 5.5 to six lakh visitors yearly. Bishwajit Ghosh, marketing manager of Concord Amusement World Foy's Lake, says if the government cannot develop the tourist sites, they should give those to private or joint venture initiatives for development. If they leave the beautiful sites without proper development, then the sites will lose beauty and attraction by unplanned development. For this reason, tourists would look for alternative places abroad.

Trump, Clinton

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voters, with Libertarian candidate Gary Johnson at seven percent and Green Party candidate Jill Stein at two percent, according to the poll. In a two-way match-up, Trump and Clinton were even at 46 percent of registered voters. The survey showed a statistical tie among likely voters as well. Another poll out yesterday, by CNN/ORC, showed them separated by just a point in two battleground states, Pennsylvania and Colorado. Many analysts say debates usually don't win candidates the election but can well lose it for them. A single sentence or the slightest slip can do serious damage. "I think this thing will be close right up until the end," said Clinton running mate Tim Kaine. "We have to make our case every day. The debates are a great way to do that." UNFAIR TO BE 'TRAFFIC COP' The Clinton campaign expressed concern Sunday over what it called a double standard, with a number of experts saying the bar has been raised higher for her. "It's unfair to ask that Hillary Clinton both play traffic cop with Trump, make sure that his lies are corrected, and also to present her vision for what she wants to do for the American people," campaign manager Robbie Mook told broadcaster ABC. Her team is concerned that the moderator, Lester Holt of NBC, will toss simpler "softball" questions in Trump's direction while pressing Clinton with a much more challenging interrogation. "All that we're asking is that if Donald Trump lies, that it's pointed out," Mook said. But Trump has already stated that he does not believe Holt's purpose as moderator is to police each candidate. Mind games were also on display as Trump threatened to invite Jennifer Flowers, a former lover of Bill Clinton, to watch the high-stakes battle from a front-row seat. Trump campaign manager Kellyanne Conway said it was meant to show the New York billionaire had ways "to get inside the head of Hillary Clinton" but she told CNN there were no plans to actually invite Flowers. Nine percent of voters by some estimates still don't know who to cast their ballot for, after a long campaign in which bitter attacks have often replaced talk of substance. And this year has been like none in the past, with Trump using social media around the clock in combative

fashion, while often making mistakes, misstatements and blunders that do not seem to trouble his base. PREPARATION 'GOING VERY WELL' Ahead of the debates Clinton has been cloistered with aides and her papers at home in Chappaqua, north of New York, even practicing with relatives playing Trump. She has been focusing on his psychological profile, with a goal to get Trump to crack, to show that he can't control himself and lacks the even-handed temperament a president needs. If he reacts by attacking, Trump risks losing votes from women. He already has a harder time with women voters, and they make up 53 percent of those who turn out. Trump in turn says his debate practice is "going very well," trying to at least appear relaxed. Amid preparations, he has continued with campaign rallies, including Saturday night in Roanoke, Virginia. NEGATIVE OPINIONS Clinton, making her second bid to become the America's first female president, is an old hand at debates and considered solid -- so in some ways, she may have more to lose. Some 88 percent of Americans say they believe she is smart, but in the latest poll 66 percent said they do not find her honest. In addition, Clinton's image has been sullied by Trump attacks over her email scandal, the Clinton Foundation's alleged pay-to-play donations, and her ties to Wall Street. Some 57 percent have a negative opinion of Clinton who they see as cerebral, distant or cold. Trump's negative numbers are virtually identical. Shariatpur ASP FROM PAGE 16 In connection with torturing her for dowry, Shamsul said. In April 2014, ASP Razzak married Jahangirnagar University student Shafia, daughter of Sub-Inspector Khalilur Rahman from Ishwardi. "Razzak used to torture my daughter for dowry. The torture increased as he was involved in an extra-marital affair," alleged Khalil. Talking to The Daily Star, Shamima Akter, additional superintendent of police in Pabna, said a report against the accused police officer was sent to the police headquarters and the Shariatpur police administration. "As the ASP was sent to jail, the police headquarters will take departmental steps against him," Shamima said.