

# Patients take the brunt

**FROM PAGE 1**  
Usually, about 50 private ambulances operate at the DMCH every day. But yesterday, just about 15-20 were in operation, said Din Islam Dina, secretary of private ambulance service association at the DMCH.

Ultimately, patients and their relatives bore the brunt.

Take the family of Siraj Ali. The 85-year-old died at the DMCH in the afternoon. His family was desperately looking for an ambulance to take the body in their village home in Comilla.

After waiting for over two hours in vain, the frustrated family got the phone number of an ambulance service from a hospital employee, said his son Mofizul Islam.

At first, the driver refused to carry the body, but finally agreed when Mofizul offered Tk 8,000, which is nearly double the normal fare.

In the wake of Saturday's accident, all the ambulances left the usual ambulance stand in front of the DMCH. Parking near the gate is illegal, and so all the ambulances parked behind the DMCH and in adjacent areas.

Brokers and some hospital staff members, who often work hand in hand, took advantage of the situation. They arranged ambulances for the patients, allegedly making some quick bucks out of the deals.

"We used to park our vehicles on the street, but we are afraid to do so after the accident. Also, police barred us from parking our vehicles near the hospital. But we are giving the service on a limited scale, parking our vehicles in adjacent areas," said Din Islam.

Later at night, however, police

allowed a handful of ambulance to park in front of the hospital.

Abu Bakar Siddique, officer-in-charge of Shahbagh Police Station, said they would let five to six ambulances park before the hospital gate at a time.

Contacted, Saidur Rahman, director (Hospital) of the Directorate General of Health Services, dismissed reports that patients were suffering because of ambulance shortages.

"Private ambulances occupy the streets illegally and we cannot support it. There are ambulances of fire brigade and other state-run organisations as well, and people can take the service from them," he said.

Public hospitals, including the DMCH, rarely offer ambulance service, though the service exists on paper. The DMCH authorities claim that they have six ambulances, but sources say the hospital has only four -- two of those not operational.

So people are forced to take private services at high costs, as there are no regulations and monitoring authorities.

About this, the DGHS director said the health ministry was working to formulate a policy to regulate public and private ambulance service.

DMCH Director Brig Gen Mizanur Rahman said the authorities had already served a show cause notice on the DMCH employees who are allegedly involved with the syndicate that controls the ambulance service there.

He suggested setting up an ambulance stand for parking private ambulances near the hospital.

There should be rules that when approached for services, ambulance

drivers cannot decline, he told reporters, adding: "The ambulance fare should also be fixed."

Raghib Manzoor, CEO of CritiCare.Com and founder secretary general of Bangladesh Society of Emergency Medicine, said the government should formulate a policy for ambulance service.

Mohammad Momin Ali, president of Dhaka City Ambulance Owner Cooperative Limited, said there must be a crackdown on the ambulance syndicates in state-run hospitals to ensure better services for patients.

"A list of private ambulance services along with the phone numbers can be pasted at all state-run and private hospitals. Patients will then be able to choose which service they will take," he said.

**TWO BROKERS JAILED**  
Two men were sentenced to six months in prison by a mobile court for trying to stop an ambulance at the DMCH yesterday evening.

They are Tanvir and Abir.

Sarwoer Alam, executive magistrate of Rab, said, "We heard that a patient died at the DMCH. The patient's relatives hired an ambulance from outside the DMCH to carry the body to Sirajganj. But two brokers of private ambulance services barred the ambulance from entering the DMCH."

Still, the ambulance driver managed to enter the hospital premises to carry the body.

"The two brokers then tried to stop the ambulance. A Rab team saw the incident and informed me about it. I then sentenced the two," he told The Daily Star.

# Communist

**FROM PAGE 16**  
His body has been kept at the hospital. He will be buried after his daughters and son come from abroad, said Ajoy's family members.

His body would be placed at the Central Shaheed Minar between 10:00am and 11:00am tomorrow so that people from all walks of life could pay him their last respect, they added.

As per his last wish, Ajoy will be buried at his ancestral home in Kishoreganj's Katiadi.

The veteran communist leader had actively taken part in movements opposing the British rule in the sub-continent. He was also one of the organisers of Bangladesh's war of independence.

He was born on December 30, 1928, in Mymensingh. He passed his matriculation exam in 1943 with first division and then passed ISC exam from Varanasi University in India in 1945.

Ajoy came back to Kishoreganj after his parents died. He had completed his B.Com degree in 1948.

He was involved in the communist movement while studying at school in Varanasi. Returning to Kishoreganj, he started politics of the Communist Party.

During the Pakistan regime, he was in jail for around 15 years. He had to go into hiding for around 12 years at different times.

After the independence of Bangladesh, he was elected a central member of Communist Party of Bangladesh in 1973. He left the party in 1993 and founded Communist Kendra.

Several organisations, including Workers Party of Bangladesh, Ekattorer Ghatok Dalal Nirmul Committee, Bangladesh Mohila Parishad, Bangladesh Puja Udjapan Parishad and Bangladesh Khetmajur Union, expressed their sorrow at the death of Ajoy, who was also a columnist.

# He avoided trial wilfully

**FROM PAGE 1**  
On July 21, an HC bench overturned a lower court verdict that had acquitted him in the money laundering case involving Tk 20.41 crore.

Tarique, who had emerged as the country's most powerful man during the 2001-2006 tenure of the then BNP government, was mired in controversy for his undue interference in the government administration.

He ran the controversial Hawa Bhaban, an alternative centre of power in the then government, which was shut down later on.

Tarique was arrested in an anti-corruption crackdown in March 2007 and was released on bail on September 3 the following year. He flew to the UK on September 11 for treatment and has been staying in London since then.

The HC said the facts of laundered money were within the knowledge of Tarique and the burden was on him to rebut the allegation against him.

"Having regarded to the fact that accused Rahman [Tarique] knowing fully well about the trial absconded, and avoided the trial wilfully..." said the HC in the full verdict which was released yesterday.

This is the first time Tarique, elder son of BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia, has been convicted and handed down punishment by a court in one of the 19 cases filed against him since 2007.

In the money laundering case filed in 2009, he was accused of siphoning off the money to Singapore when the BNP was in power.

The case became a high-profile one for several reasons.

For the first time in Bangladesh's history, a special agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation of the USA gave testimony and produced evidence against Tarique in a Dhaka court during trial of the case in 2011. The FBI gathered proof of money laundering by Tarique and his friend and business partner Giasuddin Al Mamun.

In 2013, the lower court acquitted the BNP leader of the money laundering charge. It jailed Mamun for seven years and fined him Tk 40 crore.

After delivering the verdict, the trial court judge left the country, giving rise to speculations that he acquitted Tarique following an alleged deal.

The HC said not only convict Mamun but also the prime accused Tarique steered the matter of obtaining the "dirty money" and getting it deposited in his friend Mamun's bank account in Singapore, disguising the source.

"Accused Rahman designed to get it happen by abusing his political position and might. It is to be noted with regret that accused Rahman belonging to a political class which was saddled with the responsibility of directing the affairs of the country had acted as a conscious part of the financial crime.

"He being the mighty political elite by virtue of his position obtained dirty money in the name of 'consultation fee' through his close cohort [convict Giasuddin Al-Mamun]. This kind of corruption being backed by political influence threatens good governance, sustainable development, and democratic process," observed the HC.

"This manner of financial crimes, the upshot of achieving wealth in corrupt ways committed under political shield has

increased," said the HC bench of Justice M Enayetur Rahim and Justice Amir Hossain.

"Time has come to get this type of criminal activities carried out by using political favour and patronisation halted for the cause of well being of the country and its development process."

"We emphatically observe that corrupt practices and political influences indisputably make significant space for an individual or group to be indulged in such financial crime like 'money laundering' which leaves perverse influence on the entire society."

The HC urged civil society, the print and electronic media to play a pivotal role in stopping money laundering.

Since convict Tarique has been absconding, the sentence of imprisonment shall be executed after his arrest or when he surrenders before the trial court, whichever is earlier, said the HC.

It also directed the trial court to issue conviction warrant against Tarique.

The HC said Tarique was culpably a conscious part of the financial crime and thus he deserves no leniency. Might of the offender engaged in laundering huge amount of ill-gotten money, hiding its source and means, must be resisted by awarding appropriate punishment for the sake of country's ongoing economic development.

The possible social and political costs of money laundering, if left unchecked or dealt with ineffectively, are serious, reads the judgment. "Organised crime can infiltrate financial institutions, acquire control of large sectors of the economy through investment, or offer bribes to public officials and indeed governments."

"The economic and political influence of criminal organisations can weaken the social fabric, collective ethical standards, and ultimately the democratic institution of the society," said the HC.

"In countries transitioning to democratic systems, this criminal influence can undermine the transition," it added.

# JMB now regrouping

**FROM PAGE 16**  
Law enforcers believe "Boma" Mizan, an explosives expert, is also hiding in India. Hafez Mahmud, Khulna divisional commander of JMB and condemned to death, has been killed in an operation.

"Operatives of JMB have recently carried out several robberies to collect funds," Monirul told The Daily Star on the sidelines of a press briefing at the DMP Media Centre yesterday.

He referred to a recent robbery in Narsingdi following which four suspected JMB men were caught.

Local officials said the group committed robberies in seven to eight houses there. An agent of bKash (a money transfer service) was also robbed by them.

The militants looted cash and gold ornaments, they added.

Monirul said a good amount of the looted money was spent for legal fight to get the banned group's acting chief Abdullah Al-Tasnim Nahid out on bail. Tasnim along with his six accomplices were arrested on September 19, 2014.

Wishing anonymity, a top police official said that they became alert after being informed about JMB's attempt to get Tasnim released on bail.

Asked about the strength of the mainstream JMB, Monirul Islam said the banned group still has a good number of activists in

Jamalpur, Mymensingh, Tangail and North Bengal region -- the areas known to be JMB strongholds.

Established by Shaykh Abdur Rahman in April 1998, the group started underground activities that year to establish Taliban-like rule through armed actions.

It, however, grabbed the lime-light in April 2004 when it started vigilante operations against the ultra-left outlaws, popularly known as Sarbaharas, in Rajshahi, Natore, Naogaon and Bogra.

The JMB on August 17, 2005 struck terror across the country detonating 459 bombs in 63 out of the 64 districts almost simultaneously.

Since the execution of first JMB chief Abdur Rahman along with five top militants in 2007, the outfit tried to regroup under the leadership of some top militants.

JMB operatives, who became inactive after Saidur Rahman took over as the chief following Abdur Rahman's execution, formed a new group.

This offshoot, now called "Neo JMB", emerged in 2014 after Islamic State burst onto the international scene. But it drew law enforcers' attention only after committing a grisly bank heist in Ashulia in April last year, leaving eight people dead, said police sources.

Investigators say the "Neo JMB", which is inspired by IS ideologies,

was responsible for the July 1 Gulshan café siege in which 20 hostages, including 17 foreigners, were killed.

The armed attack launched near the historic Sholakia Eidgah on the July 7 Eid day, leading to the death of two policemen, a housewife and a militant, is also an act of "Neo JMB".

As Monirul's attention was drawn to the IS threat issued in Rumiya magazine, he said militants do not have the capability to carry out any organised attacks here as most of their leaders have been either killed in operations or arrested.

"If they want to launch such attacks, they have to recruit members, train them up and have to manage firearms and explosives," said Monirul, also an additional commissioner.

He, however, said there are still some concerns as any radical individual can carry out an attack.

Monirul mentioned that a good number of militants have been responding to the law enforcers' call to surrender after feeling that they chose the wrong path. He, however, would not disclose the identities of those who surrendered or their number.

Recently, "Neo JMB" distributed leaflets saying those who are surrendering would be considered *kafir* (nonbeliever) and *murtad* (apostate), he added.

# China defends

**FROM PAGE 16**  
is opposed to linking any country to terrorism.

Answering a question on Modi's criticism of Islamabad in aiding and abetting terror groups opposed to India, she said "on counter-terrorism, China's position is consistent".

"It is the same way we oppose linking terrorism with any specific country or religion," she said.

"We oppose terrorism in all forms and we believe that international concerted efforts are needed to ensure stability and security of all countries," she said.

"We oppose linking terrorism with any specific ethnicity or religion. This is our long-standing position. China and Pakistan are all-weather friends."

Noting that India and Pakistan are "all victims of terrorism", she said Islamabad has made "great sacrifice to combat terrorism and this needs to be recognised by the international community".

To another question about Modi's criticism that Pakistan state continues to support anti-India terrorist groups giving them arms, financial support and helping them to cross the border to carry out attacks in India and whether it is China's view that international community should not take a stand on Islamabad's support to terrorists, Hu said: "I understand your concern."

"But, as I said on counter-terrorism China's position is consistent. It is the same way we oppose linking terrorism with specific country or religion," she said.

"As per the problem between India and Pakistan, both the two countries are close neighbours of China. We truly hope that they can resolve these differences in a peaceful way through dialogue and consultation, so that India and Pakistan relations can develop. This serves the interest of the two countries and the region," she said.

# 'Leader of killing team' detained

**FROM PAGE 16**  
side of his head from close range. The bullet pierced his skull.

Speaking at a press briefing at the DMP Media Centre, Monirul said Nazim was targeted for his writings in the social media.

A student of Jagannath University, Nazim used to criticise religious bigotry in his Facebook posts.

"In their [militants'] views, Nazim was an atheist and they had targeted him three months before the attack," Monirul said.

The official told The Daily Star that same militant group was involved in the killing of LGBT activist Xulhaz Mannan and his friend Mahbub Tonoy. "In one sitting, the murders were fixed as their action for the month of April."

Nazim was killed on Hrishikesh Das Lane on April 6. And Xulhaz and Tonoy were stabbed to death at the former's Kalabagan house on April 25.

According to police, Rashidun was among the militants who made the decision of the murders. He joined the outfit in 2015 during his final year at the Department of English in Comilla Victoria College.

Hailing from Nangalkot in Comilla, he passed SSC examinations from a school in Chittagong and HSC from a college in his upazila.

Police say he used to carry out militant activities under aliases -- Tipu, Russell, Rafique and Raihan.

Rashidun's Father Abdur Bari Bhuiyan, a joint convener of ward-1 of Nangalkot Municipality Awami League, claimed that his son is innocent.

Rashidun is religious and performs prayers five times a day and he is not involved in any subversive activities, said Abdur Bari.

"If investigators find him

involved in any crime, he must be punished," he said, adding that some plainclothes officials picked up Rashidun from their house on May 19.

Rashidun's uncle Sadek Hossain Bhuiyan, also principal of Nangalkot Hasan Memorial Degree College, said they had tried to file a general diary after that but Nangalkot Police station "refused to record it".

Md Ayub, officer-in-charge of the police station, said he joined the police station after May 19. But, he said, there is no reason not to register a GD.

At the press briefing, Monirul said the militants swooped on Nazim on the street instead of attacking him at his mess as his roommates were there, he added.

Days before the attack, they rented a house near the university and followed Nazim's movement, said the official.

Police claim Rashidun admitted his role in the killing of Nazim and provided police with the organisational names of his four accomplices.

He also gave information about the Kalabagan double murder and a murder attempt on publisher Ahmedur Rashid Tutul and two others.

The police said Nazim was in fear of an attack on him.

A Facebook conversation between Nazim and one Azharul Islam on March 31 last year shows the latter expressing his worries about Nazim. "I am concerned about your safety. Be a little cautious. You know what is happening around..."

In response, Nazim said, "I am also scared... scared of an untimely death. But what can I do, sir? Perhaps it is better to die than to live with your head down." He posted a smiley at the end of his message.

Nazim's grisly murder sparked

widespread condemnation from both local and international rights bodies.

Since February 2013, five secular online activists and a publisher were hacked to death with sharp weapons in a similar fashion.

## Museum

**FROM PAGE 16**  
But despite the limitations of space, it features etched glass, old photographs and a selection of personal items that tell the history of the village.

The phone box was revamped by members of Warley Community Association (WCA), who 'adopted' it from BT.

After researching the uses of other adopted phone boxes, including book exchanges and defibrillators, the group decided to create the museum.

The work and planning was carried out by Bailey, her joiner husband Doug, and Warley artists Paul and Chris Czainski.

Kathryn Gallagher, from WCA, said: "We just started talking about what we could do with it and came up with the idea."

"I live two doors down from the museum and we've had so many people who just had to come and look at it."

The theme is currently local history, but the group plans to make changes every three months.

WCA has also submitted an application for the museum to be included in the Guinness Book of World Records.

Eliana Bailey, WCA chairwoman, said: "We've had a phenomenal response. People thought it was amazing, when they saw inside they could not believe it."

"It's so inspiring when people come to have a look."

There was even an official museum opening by Mayor of Calderdale, Howard Blagbrough, and Bankfield Museum manager, Richard MacFarlane.

## Afghan troops blunt Taliban offensive

**REUTERS, Lashkar Gah**

Afghan government troops say they have fought Taliban forces to a standstill outside the capital of southern Helmand province, but the city remains surrounded after the insurgents launched one of their most brazen offensives.

A center of illicit opium production as well as a traditional Taliban stronghold, Helmand has been one of the areas that suffered the most violence in the insurgents' battle to topple the Western-backed government in Kabul.

In recent weeks, Taliban fighters battled their way into the outskirts of Lashkar Gah, the provincial capital, in an attack that was only blunted after hundreds of Afghan commandos were airlifted into the area.

Now officials on both sides say heavy casualties have forced the Taliban to regroup.

**Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh**

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Ref: GCCC/B-7/ Date: 16/10/2016

**Invitation for Re-Tender: Microbus**

1	Ministry/division	Ministry of Education.		
2	Agency	Govt. City College, Chittagong.		
3	Procuring entity name	Govt. City College, Chittagong.		
4	Procuring entity district	Chittagong, Bangladesh.		
5	Invitation for	Tender for procurement of vehicles: Microbus.		
6	Invitation Ref No.	শা-৮/সগাঙ্কি/২০১২(অল্-১)/৪২৩ তারিখ: ২৩ জুন ২০১৬		
7	Date	16-10-2016		
8	Procurement method	Open Tendering Method (OTM).		
9	Budget and source of funds	Ministry of Education Approved Fund.		
10	Tender publication date	17-10-2016		
11	Tender last selling date	05-11-2016		
12	Tender submission date and time	06-11-2016	12.00 noon	
13	Tender opening date and time	06-11-2016	12.30pm.	
14	Name & address of the office(s)			
	Selling tender document	Principal, Govt. City College, Chittagong.		
	Receiving tender document	Convener, Vehicle Purchase Committee (Govt. City College, Chittagong).		
	Opening tender document	06-11-2016 at 12.30pm. Convener, Vehicle Purchase Committee, Govt. City College, Chittagong.		
15	Eligibility of tenderer	Well reputed tenderers having (a) Current year trade license (b) Up-to-date Income Tax clearance certificate (c) VAT registration certificate (d) 10 years experience in supplying of similar nature of goods to gov't/semi-gov't/autonomous organization (e) Other requirements described in the tender documents/schedule/PPA-2006 & PPR-2008.		
16	Brief description of goods or works	Procurement for supply of vehicle 01 unit Microbus is to be latest model, international standard, good quality, brand new, fitted with modern amenities, high efficiency engine, CBU by the country of origin with detail specifications (supported by original voucher & other condition as per schedule).		
17	Price of tender document (Tk)	Tk 2,000/- (non-refundable).		
18	Lot	Identification of lot	Location	Tender security amount
	01	01 Unit Microbus	Govt. City College, Chittagong	2,00,000/-
				15 days from contract/work order
19	Name of official inviting tender	Professor Jhama Khanam.		
20	Designation of official inviting tender	Principal, Govt. City College, Chittagong.		
21	Address of official inviting tender	Principal, Govt. City College, Chittagong.		
22	Contact details of official inviting tender	Phone: 636051, 626204, 626603, Fax: 619468 E-mail: principal@gccc.edu.bd, info@gccc.edu.bd, principal_citycollege_ctg@yahoo.com Website: www.gccc.edu.bd		
23	The procuring entity is not bound to accept the lowest tenderer and reserves the right to accept or reject all tenders.			
	<b>Principal</b>	<b>Convener</b>	<b>Convener</b>	
	Govt. City College, Chittagong	Purchase & Tender Committee Govt. City College, Chittagong	Vehicle Purchase Committee Govt. City College, Chittagong	

GD-2076