

Key accused recaptured

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3:30pm on Sunday as he hid the right hand with handcuffs in his pants' pocket, the DC said at a press briefing at his office in Gulshan.
Two police men, Sub-inspector Emran Ul Hasan and constable Dipak Chandra Poddar, who escorted him to the Dhaka court, were suspended.
Moving out of the court, Rubel took a piece of cloth from a nearby shop and wrapped it around the handcuffs, making it look like a bandage. He then phoned a relative and received Tk 1,000 through mobile money transfer.
Police haven't disclosed the name of the relative for investigation purpose.
Rubel stayed at a mosque until the night fell on Sunday since police were frantically searching for him, the DC said.
Outside the mosque, he had a cup of tea and a cigarette. From there he went to Gulistan by bus and later to Badda.
Around 9:30pm on Sunday, he got down near Svastu Tower in Badda but felt it wasn't safe there. So, he moved on to Bhatara.
Having snacks in dinner, Rubel tried

to contact his friends. Those he managed to get in touch with avoided the rape accused. He spent that night sleeping on the rooftop of a nearby building, the DC said.
The next morning, he thought of leaving Dhaka since he could not get the handcuffs off and police were looking for him everywhere, he added.
Having a quick breakfast with a piece of cake and soft drink, Rubel headed for Tongi. In Board Bazar area, he had lunch and sugarcane juice.
He still could not find a way to get rid of the handcuffs. He then went back to Badda, the police officer said.
Rubel went to a deserted place behind Svastu Tower to spend the night on Monday. He took shelter at a mess.
On information, police carried out a raid throughout that night to capture him but failed.
He was finally caught by policemen in plainclothes yesterday morning.
The alleged rapist shouted out "snatchers" as a last-ditch attempt to flee, but the policemen took the cloth off revealing the handcuffs, said Mostaq Ahmed of the DMP.

Replying to a query whether Rubel could flee from court due to police's negligence or in exchange for bribe, the DC said it was negligence on the side of the law enforcers as per the primary findings.
Though the DC gave a detailed account of what Rubel did after he escaped and before he was recaptured, he did not say how the rape accused fled from police custody.
The matter is under investigation, Mostaq said.
One of the prosecution told The Daily Star that Sub-inspector Emran had entered magistrate's chamber to know if he should take Rubel inside for recording of his deposition. Constable Dipak at the time was waiting with the accused outside.
Coming out minutes later Emran found neither Dipak nor Rubel. Within moments, Dipak emerged from a toilet.
A Dhaka court yesterday remanded Rubel for six days.
During yesterday's hearing, Rubel told the court that he had fled fearing police would kill him.

Going blind doesn't worry him

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measure for us? No matter what happens to me, my children, wife and parents would need a place to live," he keeps on saying.
Dwijen Tudu, 36, a day labourer, is one of the 15-20 people injured during the November 6 eviction drive at Shaheganj Sugar Mills in Gobindaganj of Gaibandha that also left two Santals dead.
He received numerous pallet injuries in the upper part of his body and one of the pallets went through his left eye.
"Doctors say I am not likely to be able to see with my left eye again while the right eye is also not working right," he told this correspondent who was visiting the National Institute of Ophthalmology and Hospital in the capital yesterday.
He is one of the three injured Santal men shown arrested in a case filed after the November 6 incident. Police brought him to the hospital, hand cuffed and tied two days later.
Police on Monday took off the handcuffs hours after a High Court directive. Three policemen, however,

were seen on guard.
"We starved for the first few days when we came here. I had to share whatever the hospital gave him," said Dwijen's younger sister Martha Tudu.
She, however, was grateful that people sympathetic to the cause of the Santals have been coming to the hospital with food over the last couple of days.
Dwijen's father Iliam Tudu, a man in his mid 70s, told The Daily Star that he was concerned about Dwijen's well being as he is his only son.
"I can hardly stand on my feet. He was the breadwinner of the family. His children will starve if he goes blind," he said.
Director of the hospital Golam Mostafa said a five-member medical board formed to treat him found that his left eye was too damaged to treat.
THE LAND IN QUESTION
Families evicted from the predominantly indigenous villages in Gobindaganj upazila of Gaibandha have been asking the local administration to reclaim their ancestral land.

The families first lost their homes and were forced to leave the area in 1962, when the Pakistan government acquired the land for cultivation of sugarcane to be used in Rangpur Sugar Mill, found a probe by additional deputy commissioner (revenue) of the district last year.
The probe was conducted after the families rendered homeless on November 6, brought the issue to the attention of the administration in March last year.
The memorandum, which allowed Pakistan Industrial Development Corporation to acquire the 1,842.3 acres of land, mentioned that the land would be taken back by the government and returned to its previous state, if anything but sugarcane was cultivated there, added the report.
However, paddy, wheat, maize, tobacco, potato and mustard were found to be cultivated in the area by influential people who leased the area from the mill authorities, found the probe by the administration which concluded that the Santals had a claim to the land.

Cash crunch turns grave

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daily in Dhaka, reached Kolkata on Sunday. His father Nazrul Sarker and mother Rihia Khatun had appointments with physicians at a hospital in the capital of Pashchimbanga on Monday.
Parvez could not even collect enough Indian currency to pay the bill for their lunch in the city. He went to the Sonali Bank branch in Dharmatola and got some dollar changed which allowed him to pay for their lunch.
Jhorna Moni, another journalist of a daily, came to Kolkata for her eye operation. She had planned to pay the operation bill by changing dollar and some Bangladesh currency into Indian banknotes. But the sudden decision by the Indian government put her in an awkward situation. As a result, she could not get the eye operation done.
"If I had anticipated the problem beforehand I would not have come to India for the eye operation."
She said she wondered in Kolkata for two days with the rupees she had and it seemed she was like a beggar.
She said some of her acquaintances came to her rescue with a little bit of cash, but she didn't get the large amount she needed for her treatment.
Mortuza of Sonali Bank said of the 180 Bangladeshis who got tokens from the bank, 60 could exchange their currency, mainly US dollars, for a maximum \$200 for each day.

During a visit to the branch yesterday afternoon, this correspondent found about 700 to 800 Bangladeshis queuing to exchange their dollars.
The branch is exchanging a maximum \$200 and Rs 4,000 of the recently banned Rs 500 and Rs 1,000 notes for each person.
The branch will change old notes belonging to Bangladeshi tourists in Kolkata in the future too, Mortuza added.
Debashish Chatterjee, chief of immigration at Petrapole border, said with the introduction of new Rs 2,000 notes the arrival of Bangladeshi tourists will become normal in the next few days.
Both money changers and tourists have been facing problem in getting their money changed at the border, he said.
Madhab Saha, a money changer at Petrapole border, said they would not be able to change money at a normal pace until adequate small notes come in circulation.
The cash crunch also hit the trade between the two countries.
Atul Chandra Das used to buy betel leaf and fish from Hawrah haat and export those items to Bangladesh. But he could not export any item to Bangladesh since the announcement of the Indian government's decision on November 8.
Sujon Hossain, a businessman at Baro Bazar in Kolkata, could not export onion to Bangladesh for the last four days.

Kartik Chakraborty, a clearance and forwarding agent at Petrapole border, has been exporting to Bangladesh only those goods against which letters of credit were opened earlier. No commodity under new LCs has yet crossed into Bangladesh.
About 20 to 25 tonnes of fish and 50 to 60 tonnes of betel leaves are exported to Bangladesh through Petrapole-Benapole and Ghojadanga borders in Basirhat every day.
In the last one week, the export of fish and betel leaves fell by 80 percent, said Atul Chandra Das, president of the West Bengal Fish Importer-Exporter Association.
On average, 6,500 Bangladeshis enter into India through Petrapole border every day. The number has dropped to 800-1,000.
Modi ordered the withdrawal of large denomination banknotes from circulation to fight tax evasion, corruption and forgery.
The government only gave people a few hours before cancelling old 500 and 1,000 rupee banknotes that accounted for 86 percent of cash circulating in Asia's third-largest economy.
The sudden move has caused huge disruption to daily life, especially for poor people who live in the cash economy.

Tussle in Trump's transition team

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No matter who gets what job, one description seems to fit the makeup of the short list: unconventional. And it highlights the dilemma faced by Trump, who is now torn between a campaign promise to shake up Washington and a need to build a national security team with policy experience.
The presence of so many political backers could signal that Trump values loyalty over experience and is keen to have people on board who share his worldview and are willing to depart from conventional wisdom.
RUDY GIULIANI
Giuliani, a former federal prosecutor and mayor of New York, has little foreign policy experience to speak of but has been a vocal advocate of Trump's since early on in the campaign.
During his own run for the presidency in 2008, Giuliani espoused a fairly conventional Republican foreign policy view, calling on continued US engagement abroad and robust efforts to fight terrorism and stabilize Iraq and Afghanistan.
He also signalled support for democracy promotion, something at odds with Trump's pronouncements where he has put value on stability and counter-terrorism as opposed to democracy and human rights.
A source familiar with the transition process told CNN that Giuliani has expressed his preference for the secretary of state position as opposed to the

post of attorney general.
SEN JEFF SESSIONS
According to one source familiar with transition, the job of Defence Secretary is Sessions' if he wants it. Trump is also interested in the senator for attorney general, CNN's Dana Bash reports.
Sessions would also be a more conventional choice having represented Alabama in the Senate since 1997. He sits on the Senate Armed Services Committee and also served in the US Army Reserve from 1973-1986.
Sessions also meets the loyalty test having been the first sitting senator to endorse Trump during the campaign.
But Sessions is not a typical Washington insider, at times taking positions at odds with his colleagues on the Armed Services committee.
While Sessions has called for a defence spending boost, many of his other positions, such as a skeptical view of NATO and friendlier view of Russia, while at odds with his Republican senatorial colleagues brought him more into line with Trump's campaign comments.
Sessions shares Trump's hardline positions on immigration as well and is also under consideration for Attorney General.
LT GEN MICHAEL FLYNN
On the defence side, retired Lt Gen Michael Flynn has emerged as a possible choice for national security adviser. Former military officers have found themselves in the role before, Barack

Obama's first national security agency was former Gen. James Jones and Colin Powell served as the National Security Adviser to President Ronald Reagan.
Flynn, the former director of the Defence Intelligence Agency, is well versed in international and security affairs.
But Flynn, a vocal and sometimes fiery advocate for the president-elect during the campaign, has also echoed Trump's rhetoric of fighting terrorism, boosting ties with Russia, and casting a more critical eye on NATO.
WHY THERE ARE SO FEW CONVENTIONAL CHOICES
A few more establishment type names are being floated for roles that oversee the intelligence community.
Burgess, the former DIA director, is also thought to be a potential selection for the director of national intelligence, which oversees the sprawling intelligence community.
And Pete Hoekstra, a long-serving former congressman from Michigan who chaired the House Intelligence Committee from 2004-2007 is thought to be in the running for the same role or director of the CIA.
While more conventional picks had initially been rumoured for State and Defence such as the head of the Council of Foreign Relations, Richard Haas, and George W Bush's National Security Adviser, Stephen Hadley, most analysts are beginning to believe that the odds favour a more conventional choice.

Alt-right

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Bannon has referred to the site as a "platform for the alt-right" in an interview with Mother Jones in August. Democratic nominee Hillary Clinton targeted the alt-right in a speech that month, accusing Trump of "taking hate groups mainstream and helping a radical fringe take over the Republican party".
Now the "alt-right" has its own representative at the helm of the 45th US presidency.
So what makes the "alt-right" different from white supremacist groups as we know them?
Nothing.
The media has generated some criticism for their use of the term "alt-right" in lieu of "white supremacist", as people call for the need to address the rampant issue as hate crimes continue to rise in the wake of Trump's election.
The Southern Poverty Law Centre describes the "alt-right" as such:
A set of far-right ideologies, groups and individuals whose core belief is that "white identity" is under attack by multicultural forces using "political correctness" and "social justice" to undermine white people and "their" civilisation.
The organisation adds that the group relies heavily on social media and memes to "embrace white ethnonationalism as a fundamental value".
Mobilisation of the "alt-right" led to the inclusion of a once-popular, innocuous meme, Pepe the Frog, in the Anti-Defamation League's Hate Symbols database.
"In recent years, with the growth of the 'alt-right' segment of the white supremacist movement ... the number of 'alt-right' Pepe memes has grown, a tendency exacerbated by the controversial and contentious 2016 presidential election," the ADL explained.
"Though Pepe memes have many defenders, the use of racist and bigoted versions of Pepe memes seems to be increasing, not decreasing."
"Alt-right" is a term coined by National Policy Institute president Richard Spencer in 2008. Spencer is an outspoken support for making the US an all white ethno-state. But he hopes to bring white supremacy to mainstream politics -- something a Trump win would help achieve.

Why ret'd

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The court also asked them to show cause as to why their inaction in giving the facilities to all such retired teachers should not be declared illegal.
The HC bench of Justice Obaidul Hassan and Justice Krishna Debnath came up with order and rule after hearing a writ petition filed by Human Rights and Peace for Bangladesh (HRPB).
The organisation filed the petition with the HC recently following a report published in a national daily on October 17 titled "76,000 teachers' agony at the last stage of their lives".
During the hearing of the petition, HRPB's lawyer Manzill Murshid prayed to the HC to pass an order on the authorities concerned to take steps to give relevant facilities to the retired teachers.
The lawyer told The Daily Star that the HC wanted to know the number of the teachers who didn't get facilities after six months of their retirement and the amount of money required for paying the retirement benefits.

7 JMB men

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and Sessions Judge's Court on October 13. Later, it was transferred to the Special Judge's Court on October 26.
Police have arrested five of the eight JMB militants, and they are now in Rangpur jail.
Saddam Hossain and Ahsan Ullah Ansari are yet to be arrested.
Three gunmen shot 66-year-old Kunio Hoshi dead on October 3 last year in Alutari village of Kaunia upazila.

AL wounding AL

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Kendra (ASK), a leading rights body. The ASK statistics are based on newspaper reports and its own investigation.
The death toll rose to 56 following Monday's Narsingdi clash in which four people were killed.
Over the same period, 35 clashes took place between AL and BNP men, leaving five people dead and around 350 injured. AL men were locked in clashes with Jamaat-Shibir activists twice, leading to death of two.
Establishing supremacy in areas appears as the major factor behind the internal conflicts at grassroots level of the AL.
And making money in unlawful ways like extorting, tender manipulation and influencing the government's development work is the main cause behind their frantic efforts to establish supremacy or retain control over a particular area, shows an analysis of the incidents of clashes.
The party's front bodies Jubo League and Chhatra League also engaged in infighting in the last two years.
Intra-party feuds at the grassroots level took place also when dissidents defying the party high command's order contested the last union parishad elections held in phases in the first quarter of this year.
Many AL dissidents were expelled from the party but punitive actions could not contain dissidents.
In many areas, AL men appeared as the main challenger of party nominated chairman candidates. Their supporters also engaged in clashes in many areas. However, the ASK statistics mentioned in this report does not include casualties in polls violence.
The incidents of internal conflicts have made the AL high command worried. AL chief Sheikh Hasina has directed grassroots leaders to resolve internal feuds, party insiders said.
Contacted, AL Joint General Secretary Mahbubul Alam Hanif, however, said AL is the biggest political party in the country with millions of leaders and activists.
"So there might be some differences of opinions and feuds inside the party," he said.
He said the organising secretaries have been directed to visit different areas and talk with local leaders to know about the reasons behind it.
"They [organising secretaries] will recommend steps so that such incidents do not recur," he told The Daily Star last night.
Nur Khan Liton, acting executive director of ASK, however, thinks that when democratic space shrinks, political opponents become weaker and do not get necessary environment to perform due roles. This situation is prevailing in the country now.
In the absence of strong opponents, leaders and activists of ruling party get involved in an unethical competition within themselves.
To be benefited economically, they want to establish supremacy inside the party and also in their localities, leading intra-party feud, said Nur Khan.
The situation was, however, different earlier.
Main political rivalry in Bangladesh was between the AL and the BNP -- the two major parties that have been

governing the country in turns since restoration of democracy after the fall of autocratic Ershad regime in 1990.
The January 2014 parliamentary election and its aftermath have gradually changed the political landscape, creating a situation in which AL is left alone to dominate, said political analysts.
The BNP-Jamaat-led alliance boycotted the elections and waged violent means to resist the polls, but failed.
The alliance waged violent agitation for the first three months in 2015 to topple the government, but failed again. Numerous cases were filed against its central and grassroots leaders.
Law enforcement agencies have launched crackdown several times on BNP leaders and activists. Many were put behind bars.
The party has apparently become dysfunctional. Some of its central leaders participate in some discussion programmes in the capital at best.
The BNP could not come up with any major political programme in the last two years. It also could not reorganise despite some efforts.
Jamaat-e-Islami, a key component of BNP-led alliance, has been facing biggest crisis since it resumed activities in independent Bangladesh as most of its top leaders were executed on charges of committing war crimes in 1971.
The party has been labelled as a criminal organisation in several judgments delivered by the international crimes tribunal.
The Jatiya Party became the main opposition in parliament following BNP's boycotting the last parliamentary election. But as the main opposition party, it could not challenge the AL in parliament as some of its MPs were inducted in the cabinet.
SOME CLASHES
On Monday, at least four people were killed and 50 others injured in fierce clashes between the supporters of current and former union parishad chairmen over establishing supremacy in a remote char of Narsingdi's Raipura upazila.
Police and locals said there had been a longstanding rivalry between AL-backed Nilokkha UP Chairman Tajul Islam and former chairman Abdul Haque, who is also a ruling party leader.
On October 18, AL leader and freedom fighter of Shailkupa in Jhenidah Moktar Mridha was seriously injured by his rivals within the party over tender dropping, said party sources and locals.
On October 30, ruling party men allegedly backed by a local lawmaker assaulted Tarash Upazila Parishad Chairman and local AL leader Abdul Haque in his office.
On September 17, Rizvi Hasan, a Jubo League leader, was shot dead, following internal feud over control of the Motijheel AGB Colony and its adjacent areas.
On March 29, Nasim Ahmed Soheli, a member of Chhatra League's Chittagong city unit and also a student of Premier University, Chittagong, was killed by allegedly his rivals in BCL.

Tension still runs high

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police tried to contain the situation," he said.
As many as 50 people were arrested and some lethal weapons were seized.
Drives were underway to arrest the attackers and some 100 policemen were deployed to avoid any further violence, he said.
The police official said males, females and even children from both sides took part in the clashes.
Locals said such clashes were nothing new in the areas.
For example, when this correspondent visited Haripur village, he saw two brick-built buildings in ruins. They were destroyed three years ago during another clash.
Armed with crude bombs, spears and other weapons, the two feuding groups clashed several times since morning at Amirabad and Sonakandi villages in Nilokkha Union on Monday. Later, the clash spilled over to the other villages in the union.
The deceased were Mamun Mia, 40, and Shahjahan, 40 of Amirabad village, and Khokon, 35, and Rakib, 16, of Sonakandi village.
Meanwhile, four separate cases were filed in connection with Monday's clashes.
Police filed the cases with Raipura Police Station against over 150 unknown people.
Police and locals said there had been a longstanding rivalry between Awami League-backed Nilokkha UP Chairman Tajul Islam and former chairman Abdul Haque, also a ruling party leader, over establishing supremacy in the union.
Tension between the two rivals grew after the Union Parishad polls on April 19. Since then, their supporters have clashed at least 10 times.
THE WAY MONDAY'S CLASHES ENSUED
Sitting at a local bazar on Saturday,

some men loyal to Tajul, who was involved in BNP politics in the past, threatened to completely destroy Haque's home.
Hearing about it, the supporters of Haque, an AL leader who had remained the local UP chairman for years, got furious. The next day, they attacked Tajul's home in Haripur village with spears and other weapons, said locals and police.
As Tajul's men tried to put up a resistance, a clash broke out, leaving five from both groups injured.
The attackers left but threatened to launch a "bigger attack" the next day.
On Monday, more than a thousand men from Haque's side carried out another attack on Tajul's home and vandalised it. During that time, Tajul's men opened fire and threw crude bombs, killing the four, added the locals and police.
[Our Narsingdi correspondent Benazir Ahmed Benu contributed to this report]
All 4 acquitted
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The allegations brought against them were not proved, but the HC and lower court had punished them considering the incident's "surrounding circumstances," said Mahbub, adding that the duo will get released from jail after the SC order will reach the jail authorities.
Meanwhile, Deputy Attorney General Khandaker Diliruzzaman told this newspaper that the government will decide whether to move a petition before the Appellate Division seeking review of the judgement after receiving its full text.
In 2003, a Dhaka court sentenced Kader, Shawkat and Kabir to death and Runu to life imprisonment and acquitted two others in the killing case.