



**Firearms, sharp weapons, ammunition and bomb-making materials Rab recovered during a raid at a flat in the capital's Jatrabari area yesterday.**

## Four 'JMB men' held in city

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Replying to a query, the Rab official said the arrestees did not get any scope for putting up any resistance as the Rab men entered the flat suddenly, aiming to arrest them alive to get more clues.  
Locals said many neighbours were panicked and kept their doors closed until the Rab men left the place with the arrestees, arms and ammunition. The situation became normal around 8:00am.  
Saber Hossen Anas, son of house owner Shailu Begum, told The Daily Star that two men, aged around 32 and 28, rented the flat on January 20 for Tk 7,000 a month. They said they were siblings.  
The two started living in the two-room flat on January 23. One of their wives was to stay with them from yesterday.  
They dilly-dallied to submit tenant information forms, saying they would fill

those up after her arrival.  
It was not clear whether the two were among the four arrestees as he did not see the four, said Saber.  
His mother Shailu and a ground floor tenant, Faruque Hossain, were picked up by Rab for interrogation.  
According to Rab, Ashfaq got involved in militancy in 2011 when he was a university student.  
He then got acquainted with Tamim Ahmed Chowdhury, the top coordinator of "Neo JMB". Tamim was killed during a police raid in Narayanganj on August 27 last year.  
Rab also initially named the group as "Neo JMB" but started branding it as "Sarwar-Tamim group" following a rift with Counter Terrorism unit of the Dhaka Metropolitan Police over the position of Sarwar Jahan in the outfit. Sarwar

jumped to death while trying to flee during a Rab raid in Ashulia on October 8 last year.  
According to Rab, Ashfaq, who worked at different IT firms, was given the charge of IT section following the arrest of his predecessor Mostafizur Rahman Sifat by Rab on August 9 last year.  
Shahinuzzaman joined militancy in 2014 and took part in physical training with some others in Mirpur. He accidentally shot himself in the leg during an arms training in Chittagong.  
Mahbur, a staff of a courier service, used to transport secret parcels of the group, Rab claimed.  
Another arrestee, Ashraf, a garment worker who studied up to class-VIII, got involved in militancy by one of his neighbours. He took arms training in Chittagong two years ago.

## Target low-cost kidney care

FROM PAGE 1  
Kendra (Peoples' Health Centre) is working to set up a non-profit dialysis centre at the Gonoshasthaya Nagar Hospital in the capital.  
The aim of the centre, to be named Gonoshasthaya Dialysis Centre, would be to provide kidney patients with global standard dialysis and transplantation services.  
Recently, Zafrullah, who also gets dialysis at the Kidney Foundation, shared with The Daily Star how the idea came to his mind.  
"One day, I saw a patient crying at the Kidney Foundation. As I asked him what had happened, he replied he didn't want to live anymore."  
The burden of his treatment cost had already become so heavy that his family could no longer continue the studies of his younger brothers and sisters.  
Zafrullah said he talked to several other patients at the Kidney Foundation, and almost all of them were in similar condition, after paying high fees for the dialysis for months.  
Later, he inquired about the dialysis fees charged by different private hospitals in Dhaka, and came to know that a hospital, on an average, charges at least Tk 3,000 for a four-hour session.  
A kidney patient needing dialysis has to have two or three such sessions every week. Besides, he or she needs to have blood tests and erythropoietin injections. So, the monthly treatment cost ranges between Tk 40,000 and Tk 1 lakh, said the public health activist.  
"This cost is too high and making the

families of the patients almost destitute."  
After learning about the fees, Zafrullah, who is recognised globally for his contribution to Bangladesh's essential drug policy and community-based healthcare, prepared a report on the healthcare of kidney patients in the country.  
Quoting official data, the report said 1.5 to 2 crore people in Bangladesh are suffering from chronic kidney disease (CKD), caused by uncontrolled blood pressure and diabetes, scabies in childhood, nephritis in kidney, long-time and too much use of painkillers or variety of antibiotics, and not having enough drinking water.  
CKD turns into End Stage Renal Disease (ESRD). Some eight lakh people in the country are currently suffering from ESRD that requires either dialysis or kidney transplantation, Zafrullah added.  
As per Bangladesh's Organ Transplantation Act, 1999, a kidney transplant can take place only when the patient and the donor have blood relations, an issue that limited the scope for kidney transplantation.  
On the other hand, most of the patients stop the dialysis after continuing it for about a year because of financial constraints, he said.  
The cost is reasonable at the public hospitals, but the dialysis machines there "often remain out of order". "Every year, 40,000 kidney patients die after failing to have dialysis."  
Taiwan, Japan, Iran, Canada, Cuba and the European countries have national health insurance schemes that

cover the dialysis cost for patients there. Even in India, the cost of each dialysis session is less than RS 1,000, he said.  
He said the Gonoshasthaya Kendra Welfare Trust had already approved 35,000-square-foot space inside the hospital for the Gonoshasthaya Dialysis Centre free of cost, initially for 10 years.  
"We have already ordered 100 dialysis machines. All the preparation were going on at full speed. We are inaugurating the centre this March," said Zafrullah.  
Of the total patients to receive services at the centre, five percent would be from the extremely poor families, and they would get free dialysis.  
Seventy percent of the patients, who would be from the poor families, would be paying just Tk 1,100 for each dialysis session.  
Again, 20 percent of the patients from the middle class would pay Tk 1,500 while the rest would be giving Tk 3,000.  
The centre, which is to remain open round-the-clock, will be able to conduct 400 to 500 dialysis every day. All the patients would avail erythropoietin injection for just Tk 600.  
"The patients staying on the peripheries of the city will be given transport during the night only for Tk 100," Zafrullah said.  
Asked, he said they were mobilising funds given by individuals and institutions as donations to set up the centre.  
"For capital investment, we needed Tk 30 crore. We have already collected Tk 18 crore. We are seeking assistance from businessmen in this regard," he said, adding that around Tk 15 crore would be needed every year to run the centre.

## 3 killed

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He said both the deceased were accused in robbery cases filed with the police station and several firearms, sharp weapons and a cell phone were recovered from the spot.  
The corpses were sent to Rangpur Medical College Hospital for autopsy, Latif added.  
In Magura, a "drug dealer" died on the spot during a "gunfight" between their gang and the police, reports our Jhenidah correspondent.  
The deceased was identified as Juban Ali, 50, son of Sohrab Hossain from Thaladhara village under Magura Sadar upazila.  
Ajmal Huda, officer-in-charge of Magura Sadar Police Station, said, a police patrol unit was fired upon when it raided a "drug dealers" meeting being held in Thaladhara village under Magura Sadar upazila around 3:00am.  
Juban sustained bullet injuries and died on the spot as the police returned fire in self defence, the OC said.  
Police recovered a pistol and three bullets from possession of the deceased and sent the corpse to Magura Sadar Hospital for autopsy, he said, adding that 13 cases were filed against Juban with Magura Sadar Police Station for various crimes including dealing in narcotics, rape and rioting.

## Paralysed patients

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Researchers leading this trial said the brain-computer interface (BCI), which is non-invasive, could transform the lives of such patients, allowing them to express feelings and opinion to their loved ones and carers.  
Counter to expectations, the researchers said, the patients reported being "happy" despite their condition.  
"The striking results overturn my own theory that people with complete locked-in syndrome are not capable of communication," said Niels Birbaumer, a neuroscientist at Switzerland's Wyss Center for Bio and Neuroengineering, who co-lead the study.  
The trial, published in the journal PLOS Biology on Tuesday, involved four patients with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) - a progressive motor neuron disease that destroys the part of the nervous system responsible for movement.  
The researchers asked personal questions with known answers, such as "Your husband's name is Joachim?", and open questions that needed yes or no answers, such as "Are you happy?".  
The BCI technique used technologies called near-infrared spectroscopy and electroencephalography (EEG) to measure blood oxygenation and

electrical activity in the brain.  
"The machine records the blood flow... and calculates how (it) changes during "yes" and during "no", and the computer develops an idea, a pattern," Birbaumer told Reuters.  
"And after a while, we know what the patient is thinking, when he thinks "yes", or when he thinks "no", and from that we calculate the answer."  
The "known" questions elicited correct responses seven times out of 10, and the question "Are you happy?" resulted in a consistent yes response from the four people, repeated over weeks of questioning.  
John Donoghue, director of the Wyss Center, welcomed the work as "a crucial first step in the challenge to regain movement" for completely locked-in patients.  
**UK parliament**  
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do I believe that is what the British people want either."  
Former Chancellor of the Exchequer George Osborne, who was a vocal supporter of Britain remaining in the European Union, said he would nonetheless vote in favor of the bill to respect the democratic will of the people.

## Measures

FROM PAGE 2  
TIB Executive Director Iftekharuzzaman said Bangladesh has been hailed nationally and internationally for its achievement in fighting natural disasters.  
He said such researches would not only consolidate and carry forward this achievement, but also help identify the lack of good governance.  
"If we can help bring changes by working on the lacking, that would be our success," Iftekharuzzaman added.  
The report was prepared on the basis of data collected between May, 2016 and January, 2017 from 10 unions under five most affected districts -- Chittagong, Cox's Bazar, Laxmipur, Bhola and Barguna. Information and data from May to June of 2016 was taken into account for the report.  
A TIB research team selected one worst and one less affected upazila from each district and then selected the worst affected union from each upazila.  
However, names of the 10 unions were not mentioned in the report.  
While preparing the report, the research team took into account areas vulnerable to climate change alongside the number of death tolls, affected families and houses.  
The report made 15 recommendations for concerned stakeholders to assess the extent of loss and allocation and distribution of relief after a cyclone.

## SSC exams

FROM PAGE 16  
Amid persecution and ethnic cleansing in Rakhine state, more than 67,000 Rohingyas have entered Bangladesh since October 9 last year. They are currently living in different camps -- Nayapara, Leda and Kutupalang in Teknaf and Ukhia -- apart from other parts of the country.  
According to officials, the number of documented, undocumented and newly arrived Rohingyas could cross 4,00,000. "The government has no plan to give the undocumented Rohingyas refugee status," Shahriar added.  
He said the government's decision to shift the Rohingyas came in the wake of the existing situation. The Bangladesh Army has been given the responsibility of land development and making the area liveable, while the local government would implement the plan.  
In reply to a question, he said during implementation of the plan and relocation, Bangladesh might seek support from its foreign friends. Several countries have already offered assistance, while others have asked the OIC to help Bangladesh take care of the Muslim refugees during the OIC foreign ministers' meet in Malaysia on January 19.  
Asked about a probable time to start relocation, Shahriar said the plan would not be executed overnight. "It's now at the very early stage and will take a long time to establish housing facilities in a new place."  
He added the government is also discussing some ideas to provide support to Rohingyas and manage their livelihoods through livestock, dairy and agriculture at the planned new camps after making the place liveable with required physical structures.  
"Discussion on creating employment opportunities for them is also going on. Poultry and cattle can be provided so that they have some resources for better living," the state minister observed.

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"This is against the fundamental principles and values on which our societies are based," said the UN chief.  
On Monday, Human Rights Watch had called on Guterres to clearly denounce the ban.  
"At a time when governments, civil society and business leaders are increasingly speaking out, it's important that the UN's message not come solely from the UN human rights chief," said HRW deputy director for global advocacy Philippe Bolopion.  
"Secretary-General Guterres should take a clear stand that Trump's executive order is a blow to refugees, reflects bigotry and will do little to address terrorism."

## 'Blind measures'

FROM PAGE 16  
correct what has often been perceived in Bangladesh as a slight by their more established cricketing neighbours.  
The lack of an invitation from India has become a bone of contention in cricketing circles in Bangladesh over the years, especially among fans, as evidenced by the extra needle whenever India and Bangladesh lock horns in ODIs, a format in which Bangladesh have enjoyed a measure of success over their opponents.  
In Tests however, it has been all India, who while withholding an invitation have been generous visitors to these shores. Including that one-off inaugural Test in 2000, India have visited Bangladesh to play five Test series of varying lengths, and in those eight matches have won six and drawn two. Three of those wins were by an innings, so Bangladesh have their work cut out if they are to make an impression on the number one Test side in the world in their own backyard.

## Tigers depart

FROM PAGE 16  
The Tigers will be boosted by the return of skipper Mushfiqur Rahim, who along with top-order batsmen Imrul Kayes and Mominul Haque missed the second Test on the recently concluded New Zealand tour. Mominul and Imrul have also been passed fit, but young pace star Mustafizur Rahman has chosen to opt out of the tour as he said that he is still not comfortable while bowling, having recently recovered from a shoulder surgery and taken part in the four limited-overs games in New Zealand.  
For their part, India have named a full-strength squad and much will depend on how Bangladesh handle the twin spin threat of Ravichandran Ashwin and Ravindra Jadeja. In the three Tests played at the RGICs, India have won two and drawn one, and have never been dismissed below 400.

## One killed as 2 groups clash in Banshkhali

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Cg  
One person was killed and at least nine others were injured when two groups of locals clashed during a meeting over building of the controversial coal-fired power plant in Chittagong's Banshkhali yesterday.  
Liaquat Ali, former chairman and a BNP leader, called the meeting on the plant's proposed site following an "agreement" between local land owners, security forces and S Alam Group, which is implementing the project.  
During the meeting around 1:00pm, the group led by Jubo League leader Nur Mostafa protested the move, saying Liaquat had no right to call the meeting. It is because of him that four people were killed during a protest against the plant last year, they argued.  
The two groups hurled bricks at each other and clashed with bamboo sticks, police and witnesses said.  
On April 4 last year, four people died after police opened fire on protesters at Gondamara union of the upazila where the 1,320 megawatt plant is planned. Tension between locals and S Alam Group has been

running high since then.  
In October last year, members of navy, Rab, police, Bangladesh Border Guard and Coast Guard were deployed on the site.  
Liaquat had been protesting against the plant from the beginning, but later changed his position.  
After the clash, Mostafa told journalists that Liaquat had no right to strike any agreement after the loss of four lives.  
Liaquat said Mostafa did not want the problem to be solved and that's why he created chaos.  
Assistant Superintendent of Police (Satkania Circle) Mofiz Uddin said, "Both groups were involved in the clash which began after someone hurled a brick chip."  
The dead is Mohammed Ali, 27, of Barghona village in Gondamara.  
The injured were treated locally. They are Md Younus, 65, Mostafiz, 58, Kabir Ahmed, 55, Nur Uddin, 45, Jamal Hossain, 40, Md Selim, 36, Abdur Rashid, 28, Abu Syed, 25, and Abdur Karim, 25.

## It's temporary

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On another question, Shahriar said no nation in the world stood against Bangladesh's stance on the Rohingyas issue. "Everybody says there is only one solution -- Myanmar must accept the Rohingyas as its nationals and take them back."  
Meantime, a visiting delegation of the Advisory Commission on Rakhine State from Myanmar on Tuesday said providing citizenship to and ensuring the dignity of the Rohingyas is the key to resolving the problems and ensuring a better situation there.  
The Cabinet Division at a meeting on January 5 decided to form a "committee to identify illegal intruders from Myanmar." The meeting was presided over by Secretary Mohammad Shafiqul Alam in the chair.  
Another committee has been working for the head count of Rohingyas living illegally in Bangladesh and was supposed to submit its report in January. However, the committee has been given three more months to complete the database due to fresh influx.  
Locals have been asked to assist the committee to identify the Rohingyas so that they come under the head count.  
The divisional commissioner of Chittagong is heading one of the committees. The police commissioner of Chittagong Metropolitan Police, regional commander, BGB, zonal commander, Bangladesh Coast Guard, divisional office head of the DGF, and deputy commissioners of Cox's Bazar, Chittagong, Noakhali and Bandarban are included in the committee.  
There are also separate committees headed by the deputy commissioners of Cox's Bazar, Chittagong and Bandarban. There will be upazila, municipality, ward and union-level committees under these three districts.

## Silversea ushers in tourism

FROM PAGE 16  
begin on February 11 and last for 16 days before it ends in Kolkata.  
After spending nine days in Colombo, Galle, Kirinda and Trincomalee in Sri Lanka and Andaman Islands in India, the Silver Discoverer will start cruising the Bay of Bengal. After a two-day journey, it will reach Maheshkhali Island in Cox's Bazar on the 12th day of the trip.  
"This is where [Maheshkhali] you will see the real rural Bangladesh," Silversea says in its website.  
To get a feeling of how the locals live, the tourists will take local transport (rickshaws and tuk tuks) and visit a Buddhist temple, meeting the monks and getting to know the daily routine of the apprentices and monks themselves. Later, they will visit a school and a group of Burmese weavers before visiting a small Rakhayn community at Thakur Tala village.  
On the 13 and 14th days, it will take the tourists to the Sundarbans. The ship will be moored in the Pashur River and will be accompanied by local guides and rangers. Local lecturers will talk about the Sundarbans.  
The tourists are expected to see wildlife sanctuaries in the Sundarbans where an estimated 350 Bengal tigers live. Other wildlife species present are macaques, Indian grey mongoose, leopard cats, Ridley sea turtle, wild boar, jungle cat, flying foxes, and spotted deer (Chital).  
On the 15th day of the trip, the Silver Discoverer will leave Bangladesh territory and reach Hooghly River in Kolkata late at night.  
Various ministries and government agencies have responded proactively to facilitate the voyage. To this effect, the tourism ministry held an inter-ministerial meeting involving the foreign, home, forest and shipping ministries as well as with officials of customs, immigration and coast guard in May last year.  
A taskforce headed by the tourism secretary is coordinating this effort on behalf of the Bangladesh government.  
The holidaymakers will be given immigration and customs clearance on the spot, said AKM Rafiqul Islam, executive officer of Bangladesh Tourism Board.  
He said tangible benefits would come in the form of visa fee, travel tax, food cost, transport and accommodation, but intangible benefits would be much greater.  
"If we can offer the tourists quality services, Bangladesh's image will brighten and tourism will flourish in the future," said Rafiqul.  
Bangladesh has long been trying to be included in the ocean cruise tourism, like Sri Lanka, India and the Maldives among the South Asian countries. Myanmar has made it to the list in recent years, according to Bangladesh Tourism Board.  
After years' of efforts by Journey Plus, Silversea agreed to come to Bangladesh by a ship named Silver Discoverer and sent a team to visit the places to see infrastructure and safety issues last year.  
Titled "Colombo to Kolkata Asia Expedition Cruise," the voyage will

## Acid attack on 2 cops

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Institute of Traumatology and Orthopaedic Rehabilitation (Nitor) where he was receiving treatment, police said.  
During primary interrogation, Zubayer gave important information which is being verified, said Noor Alam.  
Seeking anonymity, an official of Counter Terrorism Unit said the detainee gave the names of his two associates who escaped.  
"We think those are their organisational names. We will interrogate him further..."  
According to the official, the three were heading towards Islampur in Old Dhaka. They attacked the policemen as they were stopped at the checkpoint.