

KINDERGARTEN BLAST

Man with health issues behind attack: China

AFP, Fengxian

A bomb blast that killed eight people and injured dozens outside a kindergarten in eastern China was the work of a 22-year-old introvert who was among the dead, authorities said yesterday.

The public security ministry said in a statement that the suspect was a man with health problems who rented a room near the school in Fengxian, where Thursday's blast occurred.

Police found material to make a homemade explosive device at the apartment, which had the words "die", "death" and "destroy" written on the wall.

The statement said the man, surnamed Xu, suffered from dysfunction of the autonomic nervous system, a disorder that can cause heart and blood pressure problems.

Liu Wenxiang, a police investigator, said on CCTV state television that Xu worked at a restaurant in Fengxian after he was suspended from school in May 2016.

Liu described Xu as "introverted and withdrawn" when interacting with others.

The motive was not immediately known and police did not say whether the kindergarten was the target, but schools have been attacked by knife-wielding assailants in the past.

The explosion in Jiangsu province left victims bleeding and weeping, with images posted on state media showing some had their clothes torn off by the force of the explosion.

The Fengxian county government said class had not yet been dismissed and that no teachers or students were among the casualties.



Debris fly as smoke rises after an artillery attack on the Islamic State militants' positions by the Iraqi Army in the Shifa neighbourhood during clashes in western Mosul, Iraq, Thursday.

PHOTO: REUTERS

OFFENSIVE TO LIBERATE WEST MOSUL FROM IS

100,000 held as 'human shields'

REUTERS, Geneva

About 100,000 civilians remain trapped behind Islamic State lines in Mosul with a US-backed government offensive to recapture the Iraqi city entering its ninth month, the United Nations refugee agency UNHCR said yesterday.

Islamic State snipers are shooting at families trying to flee on foot or by boat across the Tigris River, it said.

"These civilians are basically held as human shields in the Old City," said the UNHCR representative in Iraq, Bruno Geddo, referring to Mosul's historic district where the militants are besieged by Iraqi government forces.

"There is hardly any food, water, electricity, fuel. These civilians are living in an increasingly worsening situation of penury and panic because they are surrounded by fighting."

The offensive to retake Mosul, Islamic State's de facto capital in Iraq, started on

Oct. 17 with air and ground support from a US-led international coalition.

Iraqi government forces regained eastern Mosul in January, then a month later began the offensive on the western side that includes the Old City.

The Old City "is a very dense labyrinth, a maze of narrow alleyways where fighting will have to be done on foot, house by house," said Geddo.

"ISIS (Islamic State) snipers continue to aim at people trying to flee because there is this long-standing policy of executing people trying to flee the territory of the caliphate," he said.

The fall of Mosul would, in effect, mark the end of the Iraqi half of the "caliphate" that Islamic State leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi declared in a speech from an historic mosque in the Old City three years ago, covering parts of Iraq and Syria.

Moscow said on Friday its forces may have killed Baghdadi in an air strike in

Syria last month, but Washington said it could not corroborate the death and Western and Iraqi officials were sceptical.

About 200,000 people were estimated to be trapped behind Islamic State lines in Mosul in May, but the number has declined as government forces have thrust further into the city.

About 800,000 people, more than a third of the pre-war population of the northern Iraqi city, have fled, seeking refuge with friends and relatives or in camps. UNHCR has provided many with shelter, food and other necessities.

Geddo voiced deep concern about "collective punishment" of families whose relative may have been an ISIS fighter.

"Collective punishment means in a deeply tribal society that you see evictions, destruction of property, confiscation of property for families perceived as being associated with ISIS because one family member might have been having that link."



The vicious debt cycle of urban Myanmar

AL JAZEERA ONLINE

Three rows of wooden stilts elevate Than Than Htwe's house above a stagnant pond in Seikkyi Khanaungdho township, an island that lies at the convergence of the Yangon river and Twante canal in Myanmar's largest city. She shares the one-room house with eight members of her family and a scourge of deadly mosquitoes that fester in the thick, green water beneath her feet.

A television used to decorate one corner of the house, balanced on a shelf to avoid the floodwater and sewage that seeped through the floorboards while seasonal rain thrashed the hand-built structure from above. But they no longer have to worry about the television getting wet in monsoon season. They pawned it for cash earlier this year.

Than Than Htwe has struggled to support the household since her grandchildren moved in last year. With her husband out of work, she had to borrow 40,000 kyat (roughly \$30) from her sister.

Every day that Than Than Htwe fails to repay the full amount, she must give her sister 2,000 kyat (\$1.48) in interest. A year later and she has paid her sister far more than the original sum through these daily interest payments, but the debt still stands.

She is not the only one to be crippled by high interest loans in Yangon. In a recent survey of three townships, Save the Children discovered that 85 percent of households have taken out a loan from a local moneylender. While the loan may rescue them from an immediate financial emergency, the interest rates - which range from 5 percent daily to 30 percent monthly - trap the borrower in a perpetual cycle of debt.

"I have worked in Asia most of my life and I have not come across such high levels of indebtedness. The number of people borrowing, the amount they are borrowing and interest rates are worse than anywhere else I have seen," says urban poverty adviser Mike Slingsby.

As the commercial capital of



Than Than Htwe's son dropped out of school at 16 and now supports the family by selling fruit at a nearby market. Her second daughter dropped out after just one year of education and was married at 14.

Her third daughter, now aged 14, stays at home to help her mother to look after the grandchildren. Out of school and with high familial debt, she too is vulnerable to child labour, early marriage or perhaps worse.

"With such high interest rates, a poor family can very quickly find themselves with 4 lakh (roughly \$296), 5 lakh (roughly \$370) or even 6 lakh (roughly \$444) of debt ... there are only [a] few ways to get that sort of money fast, and sex work is one of the fastest money earning activities you can find," says anthropologist Maxime Bouthy. "[A family's] last recourse might be selling their daughter."

Thai hospital bomber 'hated military': junta

AFP, Bangkok

A man who 'hated the military' has been arrested for carrying out last month's blast at an army-run hospital, the junta said yesterday, the first time officials have suggested a motive for the attack.

The blast occurred on the third anniversary of the junta's 22 May coup and struck a VIP waiting room inside a military-owned hospital in Bangkok, wounding 21 people.

Deputy junta leader Prawit Wongsuwan told reporters yesterday that an unnamed 62-year-old man had been detained for carrying out the blast.

"He did it absolutely," Prawit, a retired general, told reporters, adding the man "hated the military".

Bangkok's criminal court later named the suspect as Wattana Phumret, a retired engineer, and issued an arrest warrant for a series of charges including attempted murder and possession of explosives.

IS captures Tora Bora

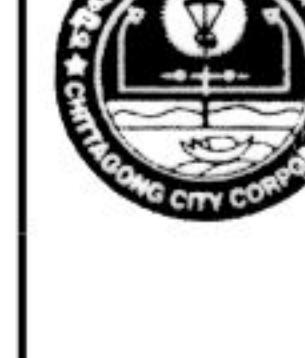
AFP, Jalalabad

Their research also shows that 50 percent of children drop out of school at the age of 13. While education is nominally free in Myanmar, the cost of snacks, notebooks and informal tuition fees are too much for families struggling to repay their spiralling debts.

Than Than Htwe's son dropped out of school at 16 and now supports the family by selling fruit at a nearby market. Her second daughter dropped out after just one year of education and was married at 14.

Her third daughter, now aged 14, stays at home to help her mother to look after the grandchildren. Out of school and with high familial debt, she too is vulnerable to child labour, early marriage or perhaps worse.

"With such high interest rates, a poor family can very quickly find themselves with 4 lakh (roughly \$296), 5 lakh (roughly \$370) or even 6 lakh (roughly \$444) of debt ... there are only [a] few ways to get that sort of money fast, and sex work is one of the fastest money earning activities you can find," says anthropologist Maxime Bouthy. "[A family's] last recourse might be selling their daughter."



Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Chittagong City Corporation
Anderkilla, Chittagong
www.ccc.org.bd

ময়লা আবর্জনা নালা
নদীমায় ফেলবেন না

Memo No. ২৮৭/চসিক/নিঃপঃতি-১/৭

Dated: 15/06/17

Re-Tender Notice-CE/XEN-2/04/2016-17

This is an online tender where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required.

The fees for downloading the e-Tender Documents of following packages from the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through any registered bank branches up to particular date specified on tender notice.

SI No.	Package No.	Name of works	Tender ID	Last date & time of submission documents	Opening date and time
1	EC36005-NIF	Excavation of slushy earth from Fakirhat Khal of 36 No. Gosailenga Ward. Ch. 00 to 1333'-00"	108558	06/07/2017 13.00	09/07/2017 13.00
2	EC36003-NIF	Excavation of slushy earth by the side of Abdul Latif Road Khal of 36 No. Gosailenga Ward. Ch. 0-0 to 2970-0.	108559	06/07/2017 13.00	09/07/2017 13.00
3	RR36015-IIF-IIF	Development of West Gosal Dhanga Abdul Hadi Road at 36 No. Gosailenga Ward Ch: 0-460-0.	108560	06/07/2017 13.00	09/07/2017 13.00
4	CCC/APP/XEN-1/W-26/09	Construction of boundary wall at Halishahar Alhaj Mohabbet Ali City Corporation High School at 26 No. North Halishahar Ward.	108564	06/07/2017 13.00	09/07/2017 13.00
5	WR36003-NIF	Construction of retaining wall besides Moheskhal It 36 No. Gosailenga Ward Ch. 0-0-100-0.	108565	06/07/2017 13.00	09/07/2017 13.00
6	RR28020-IIP	Development of Kapuria Para Road with Drain Part-I at Ward No. 28 Chainage-0-00 to 700-0.	108566	06/07/2017 13.00	09/07/2017 13.00
7	ED11003-NIF/16-17	Excavation & removal of slushy earth from Bashor Colony Pari Mohan Das Bari and Bashonti School adjacent drains at 11 No. Ward.	108583	06/07/2017 13.00	09/07/2017 13.00
8	ED11002-NIF/16-17	Excavation & removal of slushy earth of port connecting road West Nasirabad Pollee Nibash Hamla Road Shyamoly R/A drains at 11 No. Ward.	108580	06/07/2017 13.00	09/07/2017 13.00
9	DR11002-NIF	Construction of National Housing Model Govt. Primary School drain at 11 No. South Kattali Ward.	108569	06/07/2017 13.00	09/07/2017 13.00
10	RR11009-IIF	Dev of Nasorullah Chowdhury Bari bylane at 11 No. South Kattali Ward.	108815	06/07/2017 13.00	09/07/2017 13.00
11	RR11006-IIF	Dev of Chowdhury Bari bylane with drain at 11 No. South Kattali Ward.	108817	06/07/2017 13.00	09/07/2017 13.00
12	DR11001-NIF	Cons. of North Soraipara Talukder Bari Loharpul Main Road Goinarchara drain at 11 No. South Kattali Ward.	108818	06/07/2017 13.00	09/07/2017 13.00
13	RR11008-IIF	Cons. of retaining wall at 3 No. Road in 13 No. Pahartali Ward.	108819	06/07/2017 13.00	09/07/2017 13.00

Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>).

Engr. Biplob Das
Executive Engineer (Division-2)
Chittagong City Corporation

Blasts kill 4 at Kabul mosque

8 wounded; IS claims responsibility

AFP, Kabul

Suicide bombers struck a crowded Shia mosque in Kabul late Thursday, killing four people in the latest in a series of militant attacks to rattle the Afghan capital during the holy month of Ramadan.

The assault claimed by Islamic State jihadists left eight others wounded when the bombers blew themselves up in the kitchen of Al Zahra mosque after police prevented them from entering the prayer hall packed with worshippers.

The carnage comes at a time Kabul is already on edge following a wave of deadly bombings, which triggered angry public protests calling for the resignation of President Ashraf Ghani's government over spiralling insecurity.

"Terrorist attack on Al Zahra mosque in west of Kabul," ministry spokesman Najib Danish said. "Three civilians and one policeman were killed and eight others were wounded."

IS, which has frequently targeted minority Shia areas in Kabul, claimed responsibility for the attack via its propaganda agency Amaq.

The Taliban, Afghanistan's biggest militant group locked in a fierce rivalry with IS, disavowed the attack with a spokesman saying they do not target places of worship.

The rise of IS has raised the spectre of sectarian discord in Afghanistan, something that the Sunni-majority country has largely been spared despite decades of war.

League for Democracy (NLD) came to power, with social media satirists, activists and journalists increasingly targeted.

Activists say various defamation laws are being used to stifle free speech and stop the media from criticising the government.

Kyaw Min Swe is being prosecuted under the country's broadly-worded telecommunications law -- known as "66(d)" -- which forbids uploading false of defamatory information online.

If convicted he faces up to six months in jail.

The writer of the article, Kyaw Swa Naing, was acquitted by the court yesterday because he did not actually upload his piece.

Dozens of journalists and free speech activists wearing white armbands and with painted faces protested near the court yesterday, displaying banners emblazoned with "press freedom" in red.