



CREDIT, DEBIT CARDS

Swindling on the rise

Fraudsters clone cards with data skimmed from shops

SAJJADUR RAHMAN

A credit card holder of an international bank in Bangladesh got a phone call from her bank last week. She was asked if she had made two transactions that day of about \$450 from Spain and New Jersey.

She was dumbfounded. Not only that she was in Dhaka, the places the bank mentioned were nearly 6,000km apart.

She had become one of the latest victims of identity theft in Bangladesh.

Fraudsters, a few days earlier, had captured data of several debit cards from a point-of-sales (POS) terminal at a merchant's outlet. The terminals are calculator-like devices used for swiping cards.

They made cloned cards and used them to make off Tk 6 lakh from six ATM transactions before the banks could smell something fishy.

Identity theft, with fraudsters taking advantage of weaknesses in the cards, ATMs, POS and banks, is on the rise in Bangladesh but banks do not always report these incidents, industry insiders said.

They have their goodwill and reputation to protect. More often than not, banks quietly compensate the victims and avoid audits by the regulator, sources in several banks told The Daily Star.

The victim, whose magnetic-stripped card was cloned and used by fraudster in Spain and New Jersey, said, "The

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Dhaka-Agartala highway in Akhaura, Brahmanbaria, gets flooded after incessant rains in the last two days. People tried to make the best of it by trying to catch any fish in the flowing water beside the road. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: MASUK HRIDYO

Heavy rains raise fresh flood alarm

STAR REPORT

Flash floods, triggered by continuous downpour over the last couple of days and onrush of water from the hills, inundated Hili and Akhaura land ports yesterday, halting export-import activities there.

Thousands of hectares of land with Aman crops were also damaged, several hundred schools were closed and many people were forced to take shelter on high ground as vast areas of Dinajpur, Lalmonirhat, Kurigram, Brahmanbaria, Sunamganj, Panchagarh, Thakurgaon and Habiganj went under water.

At least 15 rivers, including the Jamuna, Teesta, and Surma, were flowing above the danger mark. They may continue to do so in the next 72 hours, further deteriorating the situation, Flood Forecasting and Warning Centre officials warned.

According to the FFWC, the Jamuna was flowing 25cm above the danger level at Serajganj point while the

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Obaidul Quader meets chief justice

Pro-AL lawyers announce 3-day protest over SC observations

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Awami League General Secretary Obaidul Quader met Chief Justice Surendra Kumar Sinha last night, AL sources said.

Quader, also the road transport and bridges minister, went to the CJ's official residence on the city's Hare Road around 8:30pm and then to the Gono Bhaban, official residence of the prime minister, said the sources.

What was discussed at the meeting could not be known immediately.

The meeting came at a time when several ministers and ruling party leaders have been criticising the Supreme Court verdict that scrapped the 16th amendment to the constitution. Food Minister Qamrul Islam, a senior AL leader, has even demanded removal of the CJ.

Earlier in the day, Bangabandhu Awami Ainjibi Parishad announced a three-day protest programme against what it said were unexpected, irrelevant and unconstitutional observations made by the chief justice in the 16th amendment case verdict.

Members of the pro-Awami League lawyers' platform will form human chains and hold meetings on the premises

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Myanmar must show restraint

Says UN over troops deployment in Rakhine

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The UN Special Rapporteur on Myanmar Yanghee Lee has expressed deep concern over reports that an army battalion has been flown into the country's Rakhine state to help local authorities boost security in the region.

This development, which reportedly took place on Thursday, is a cause for major concern, reads a UN press release issued in Geneva yesterday.

She said the Myanmar government must ensure that security forces exercise restraint in all circumstances and respect human rights in addressing the security situation in Rakhine.

"I am particularly reminded of the allegations of serious human rights violations which followed

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All eyes on court

Nation waits to see the HC verdict on the chilling Narayanganj 7-murder by criminals, errant Rab men

TUHIN SHUBHRA ADHIKARY, WASIM BIN HABIB and SANAD SAHA

Shah Jamal grew up on the bank of the Shitalakkhya. In his life of 70 years, he has seen an awful lot happening along the river, in Narayanganj.

But what he saw on April 30, 2014, was something he would not forget till the day he dies -- bodies floating on the patches of water hyacinth in the river, swollen and giving off a terrible stench.

The memory of that summer morning left a deep scar on his psyche.

"I saw a dead body floating on this side of the river, tied to a sack full of bricks with its belly cut open. The scene was horrible; I would never forget," said Jamal, a ragpicker, pointing at the edge of the river at Shantinagar point of Bandar upazila of Narayanganj on August 8.

There were five more bodies a little away. All were in similar conditions, said Jamal, a resident of Shantinagar, talking to these correspondents.

Another body was found the following day. The nation watched in horror as the seven bodies were pulled out of the river, and stories on a mindless savagery

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Photo she hides from daughter

WASIM BIN HABIB and TUHIN SHUBHRA ADHIKARY

Shamsunnahar Nupur always tries to hide a framed photograph of her husband Jahangir.

It's because every time their little daughter sees it, she starts asking questions about her father. Nupur has no answer.

"What should I tell her? Whenever she sees it, she asks 'where is my father?' and 'when would he come back?'. Sometimes, she keeps insisting on bringing him back... I can't give her any answers," said the 24-year-old mother as she tries to hide her tears.

Jahangir Alam, driver of Jubo League activist Moniruzzaman Swapan, was among the seven men who

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CONVICTED

35

(25 Rab members, 10 civilians)

DEATH PENALTY

26

(16 Rab members, 10 civilians)

IMPRISONMENT

9

(All are Rab members)

IN JAIL

28

ON THE RUN

7



Nupur usually doesn't bring out this framed picture of her slain husband Jahangir Alam to avoid loads of questions from her daughter. The photo was taken recently.

PHOTO: WASIM BIN HABIB

NOTRE DAME UNIVERSITY BANGLADESH
Vice-Chancellor

The Honorable President of Bangladesh, who also serves as Chancellor of all universities, on 8 August 2017, has appointed Father Patrick Daniel Gaffney, CSC Vice-Chancellor of Notre Dame University Bangladesh.

Born and brought up in USA, Father Patrick Gaffney was granted MA and PhD degrees (in Anthropology) from University of Chicago, BA (Classical & Modern Languages & Literature) and MA (Theology) from University of Notre Dame, Indiana, USA. Father Patrick, a Holy Cross priest and a scholar, can speak, read, and write in 8 languages—English, Arabic, French, German, Dutch, Spanish, Italian, and Russian, and can read Latin, Greek, and Hebrew. He has a vast experience of 38 years in teaching and administration at the University of Notre Dame, USA. Besides, he was visiting professor of University Dhaka one year (2013). He has been staying in Dhaka and learning Bengali language and culture. We are very pleased to have him as our Vice-Chancellor.

Chairman
Board of Trustees

N. B.: Admission is going on ...

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