



A policeman stands by a car involved in a terrorist attack in Cambrils, a city 120 kilometres south of Barcelona, yesterday. "Alleged terrorists" drove into pedestrians in the Spanish seaside resort of Cambrils early yesterday before being shot dead by security forces, just hours after a similar attack in nearby Barcelona.

PHOTO: AFP

'Bigger attacks were planned'

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 project claimed by the Islamic State group.
 In what has been a complex, fast-moving investigation, police revealed yesterday afternoon that the suspects had apparently been planning something bigger.
 "They were preparing one or several attacks in Barcelona, and an explosion in Alcanar stopped this as they no longer had the material they needed to commit attacks of an even bigger scope," said Josep Lluís Trapero of Catalonia's police.
 He was referring to a blast in a house in the town of Alcanar Wednesday evening, which police said killed one person.
 Initially treated as a random gas blast, police later linked it to the Barcelona assault, believing occupants of the house were preparing an explosive device inside and slipped up.
 Around 20 bottles of butane were discovered in the ruins of the house in Alcanar following the explosion, which analysts said could have been loaded into a vehicle and combusted in a ramming attack, reported The Independent.
 Trapero said that after this, the suspects allegedly quickly went on to commit "more rudimentary" attacks. These involved the vehicles ploughing into pedestrians in Barcelona and Cambrils.
 The Cambrils suspects had an axe and knives in the car as well as fake explosive belts stuck to their bodies, said police.
 Both Spanish attacks followed the

same modus operandi.
 Drivers deliberately targeted pedestrians with their vehicles, the latest in a series of such assaults in Europe, where cars and vans have been used to lethal effect.
 The Mediterranean resort of Nice in France was particularly hard hit on July 14, 2016, when a man rammed a truck into a crowd, killing 86 people.
 But Otso Iho of Jane's Terrorism and Insurgency Centre said the Spanish assaults, which stretched out over two different cities, appeared to be "a much higher level of coordination than has been typically present in previous attacks."
 It is also believed to be the first time IS has claimed an attack in Spain.
 In a poignant moment yesterday, Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy, King Felipe VI and the president of Catalonia -- where both attacks took place -- held a minute of silence in Barcelona. It was followed by the crowd applauding and shouting "not afraid".
 Details started to emerge yesterday on the identity of victims, as did tragic stories of families ripped apart.
 Witnesses in Barcelona described how the van pushed through the crowd, leaving bodies strewn along the boulevard as people fled for their lives, screaming in panic.
 "We were on the city tour bus, we were 20 feet from the accident when it happened," said Alex Luque, a 19-year-old student from New York.
 "We heard the van and the impact with people and then we saw people running."

Then just eight hours later attackers struck in the early hours of yesterday in the seaside resort of Cambrils. An Audi A3 car rammed into pedestrians, injuring six civilians and a police officer. One civilian, a woman, later died of her injuries.
 The police shot dead the five attackers. They also said they had arrested four suspects -- three Moroccans and a Spaniard.
 There were some three dozen nationalities among the dead and injured, from countries including Algeria, Australia, China, France, Ireland, Peru and Venezuela, according to Spain's civil protection agency.
 Among the dead were at least two Italians, a 74-year-old Portuguese woman, and an American, officials from their countries said.
 Families posted messages on Facebook looking for lost relatives including one heartbreaking appeal for a missing seven-year-old boy, Julian Alessandro Cadman.
 Spain, the world's third most popular tourism destination, had until now been spared in the recent wave of extremist attacks that have rocked nearby France, Belgium and Germany.
 It had even seen a surge in tourists as visitors fled other restive sunshine destinations like Tunisia and Egypt.
 But it is nevertheless no stranger to jihadist attacks.
 In March 2004, it was hit by what is still Europe's deadliest, when bombs on commuter trains in Madrid killed 191 people in an attack claimed by al-Qaeda-inspired extremists.

2,500 hajj pilgrims

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 said they would identify the reasons and take actions against those responsible after sending all the pilgrims to Saudi Arabia within the deadline.
 "At this moment, our first priority is to send all the aspirant hajjis to Saudi Arabia. We will look into the matter later," he said.
 Sources at the Hajj Camp and HAAB said visa processing for around 2,500 pilgrims might not be possible in a day.
 "My experience says the Saudi embassy in Dhaka usually issues around 800 to 900 hajj visas a day. The number might go up to about 1,000 under special circumstances. In that case, performing hajj this year would be uncertain for some 1,500 pilgrims unless the Saudi authorities extend the deadline further," said Hasan Bari, owner of United Makkah Madinah Travel. He has been running the travel agency for several years.
 Talking to this correspondent, several more agency owners echoed the views of Bari.
 Religious Affairs Secretary Abdul Jalil said they already applied to the

Saudi authority to extend the visa application submission deadline by another day or two.
 "We are yet to receive a response from the Saudi government," he told The Daily Star yesterday.
 According to him, around 1,500 pilgrims were yet to get visas. Some 700 to 800 pilgrims might not fly to Saudi Arabia this year, he added.
 "Every year, three to four percent visa applications are not filed due to death, serious illness and other issues involving the aspirant hajjis. This year, the number of such cases might be 700 to 800. In that case, we'll need visas for around 700 pilgrims."
 A total of 127,198 pilgrims are expected to perform hajj this year. As of 8:00am yesterday, 80,000 were sent to Saudi Arabia.
 The Biman and Saudi Arabian Airlines have been carrying the pilgrims. The last dates for operating pre-hajj flights are August 26 and 28 for Biman and Saudi Arabian Airlines respectively.
 Biman top officials said they already cancelled 24 hajj flights due to

shortage of passengers which could have carried over 11,500 pilgrims to Saudi Arabia.
 The Saudi Arabian Airlines on the other hand cancelled four flights so far which could have carried another 1,600 pilgrims.
 The Biman, however, got approval from the Saudi civil aviation authority to operate 21 extra pre-hajj flights.
 The national flag carrier also took measures to bring a Boeing 777 200 ER aircraft from Malaysia on lease on Sunday to facilitate transportation of pilgrims, said Shakil Meraj, general manager (public relations) of Biman.
 In a bid to make more aircraft available for operating pre-hajj flights, the Biman rescheduled its regular flights reducing flight frequencies on different routes, including Dhaka-London, Dhaka-Muscat, Dhaka-Dubai, Dhaka-Abu Dhabi and Dhaka-Kuala.
 Several Biman officials said they were hopeful the airline would be able to carry all the pilgrims to Saudi Arabia within the August 26 deadline provided that no more hajj flights are cancelled.

Bus operators

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 companies reserved the tickets of August 31 for the time when the rush would intensify.
 Russell Biswas, an employee of a private company, said he had to buy a ticket for Magura at Tk 615 although regular price is Tk 400.
 Mohammad Israfil, a counter master of Sohag Paribahan, said the price of tickets was set by the bus owners' association.
 About the allegation of overcharging, bus owners said throughout the year, they charge passengers less than the rates fixed by the BRTA as they earn both from up and down trips. But during the Eid season, they sell tickets at the fixed rate since they have no income from return trips.
 Most of the people who went to bus or train stations got tickets, but some did not get tickets for their desired dates.
 Illias Hossain, a resident of Dhamrai who came to buy tickets for Kurigram, said, "I have stood in the queue at 7:00am. It is now 12:15noon and I have yet to get my ticket. I do not know if I will get it as many ahead of me returned empty-handed."
 Several bus operators at Gabtoli Bus

Terminal said they sold fewer tickets, especially on southwestern routes, compared to previous the Eid due to bad condition of roads and ferry services.
 "In the Eid-ul-Fitr, we sold tickets worth around Tk 1.5 lakh in the first six hours of advance ticket sale, but it has been reduced to Tk 50,000 this time," said Mohammad Dulal, a counter master of Hanif Paribahan.
 Explaining the reasons, he said the buses could not maintain timing as many roads are severely damaged and ferry services were hampered due to bad weather and water level rise in the rivers.
 Ramesh Chandra Ghosh, managing director of Shyamoli Paribahan, said they were concerned about the road condition and had already altered the passengers about it.
TRAIN TICKETS 'AVAILABLE'
 Many ticket seekers began to gather in front of the closed ticket counters at Kamalapur Railway Station at night, while many arrived at the station in the morning.
 The Bangladesh Railway yesterday sold advance tickets for August 27. Tickets for August 28, 29, 30, 31 and September 1 would be sold on August

19, 20, 21, 22 and 23 respectively.
 Kamruzzaman Babu, a contractor, came to the station around 8:00am from Munshiganj to buy tickets and got two for Bogra at 11:10am.
 "It was not as tough as I thought," he said with a sigh of relief.
 Queues for the tickets for Rajshahi, Dinajpur and Khulna were seen longer than those for Chittagong and Sylhet.
 "I will go to Bogra, but road condition is very bad. So, I came here to buy train tickets," Sabuj Hossain Suman, a private service holder, said.
 As many as 22,496 advance tickets for 31 trains were available yesterday, said Station Manager Sitangshu Chakrabarty.
 Sixty-five percent of the tickets were sold at Kamalapur and 25 percent were sold online. Five percent were reserved for VIPs and another five percent for railway employees, he added.
 Besides, 30,570 tickets of mail, express and local trains were being sold on a daily basis, Sitangshu said.
 "There was crowd in the morning. However, everybody got tickets and ticket is available for all routes," he said at 2:00pm.

Govt now

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 and read," Anisul told journalists after a food distribution programme marking the National Mourning Day.
 The law, justice and parliamentary affairs ministry distributed food among 180 children at Tejgaon Shorkari Shishu Poribar, a state-run orphanage, in the capital.
 Law Secretary ASSM Zahirul Haque, Additional Secretary Mostafizur Rahman and Joint Secretary Bikash Kumar Saha and Inspector General of Registration Khan Mohammad Abdul Mannan, among others, were present on the occasion.
 "We respect the SC judgment, although we don't agree with some of its observations," the law minister said.
 Earlier this month, the attorney general's office applied to the SC for the certified copy of its verdict on the 16th amendment.
 On Wednesday, Attorney General Mahbubey Alam told The Daily Star that after receiving the certified copy, the government would be able to file a petition with the apex court seeking review of its verdict.

The law minister on August 13 told journalists that the government would seek review of the SC judgment so that some of the comments made in the verdict by the chief justice could be expunged.
 According to the SC rules, a review petition is to be filed within 30 days after receiving the certified copy from the apex court.
 The ruling Awami League lawmakers are criticising the verdict and the chief justice who delivered it. On the contrary, the BNP is praising the verdict, saying it exposed the government's misdeeds.
 The AL-led coalition has also voiced its dissatisfaction with some observations made by the SC in the verdict and said it would deal with the judgment legally and politically.

Fortress of data

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 The plants are filled with cupboard-sized racks of computer servers that store and move data such as photos.
 "Kolos will intelligently maximise green energy and the unique geographic features of northern Norway to deliver the most efficient data centre services," said a Kolos company statement.
 The centre is being built near the Norwegian municipality of Ballangen.
 So far, Kolos' architecture design partner HDR has created renders of what the site will look like.
 "As data centres face increasing scrutiny for their heavy power consumption and large carbon footprint, Kolos will lead the sector's shift to green energy, helping companies and brands support the world's efforts to transition to renewable energy," the company said.
 The company plans to operate at a 60 percent reduction in energy costs - which it claims would make it the most competitive data centre in the world.

Climate change

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 climate change-induced changes in weather.
 Wheat, rice, oilseeds, pulses, fruits and vegetables will see reduced yields over the years, forcing farmers to either adapt to challenges of climate change or face the risk of getting poorer. Adaptation will need different cropping patterns and suitable inputs to compensate yield fluctuations.
 The challenge is particularly urgent for Indian agriculture where productivity for crops like rice does not compare even with neighbours like China. The possibility of a further dip due to climate change will be particularly worrying as it could turn India into a major importer of oilseeds, pulses and even milk.
 By 2030, it may need 70 million tonnes more of foodgrains than the expected production in 2016-17.
 The economic survey, in its latest mid-year report, says "estimates indicate that currently India incurs losses of about \$ 9-10 billion annually due to extreme weather events. Of these, nearly 80% losses remain uninsured". It pointed out that 2014 floods in Kashmir cost more than \$ 15 billion and Cyclone Hudhud the same year cost \$ 11 billion.
 The quantum of loss will increase substantially in future if one takes into account the impact of climate change on farm productivity.

Trump's chief strategist

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 staff, looking to instill order in a chaotic White House beset by internal divisions, staff infighting and a storm of controversies.
 Bannon's exit meant one of the White House's most controversial staffers, the man generally perceived as the driving force behind Trump's "nationalist" ideology, would no longer be at the center of the Trump universe.
 Bannon joined Trump's campaign last year, moving from the sidelines as one of Trump's top cheerleaders to a position atop his campaign apparatus.
 He did not travel with the President during the first week of what White House officials described as a "working vacation" at Trump's golf course in Bedminster, New Jersey. Instead Bannon remained in Washington to work out of a temporary office in the Eisenhower Executive Office Building.
 Bannon was supposed to be fired two weeks ago, a White House official told CNN's Jeff Zeleny, but it was put off.
 CNN reports the President equivocated after an initial plan was to fire Bannon and then-Chief of Staff Reince Priebus at same time, the official says, because Rep. Mark Meadows, the influential chairman of the conservative House Freedom Caucus, and others urged Trump to keep him on board.
 The interview this week was enough for Meadows to change his view, a person close to him says.
 The question now is whether Bannon will be an ally or a thorn in the side of the Trump administration outside the White House, where he is likely to return to his role as head of Breitbart, the right-wing news site he ran until he joined Trump's campaign a year ago.

A QUICK AND CONTENTIOUS TENURE
 Bannon's turbulent White House tenure was marked by controversy.
 In the administration, Bannon frequently butted heads with other advisers to the president, feuding with son-in-law and senior adviser Jared Kushner, chief economic adviser Gary Cohn and other more moderate members of the President's administration whom Bannon branded as "globalists."
 Bannon was often suspected by colleagues of badmouthing them to reporters and he rubbed colleagues the wrong way by attempting to ramrod his ideological positions.
 "Steve was never a team player," a senior administration official said.
 Bannon viewed himself as the populist defender of Trump's campaign promises in the White House, working daily to tick off items from the list of promises that hung on the walls of his West Wing office.

WHO ELSE LEFT TRUMP TEAM?

31 JULY

Anthony Scaramucci
Communications Director

28 JULY

Reince Priebus
Chief of Staff

21 JULY

Sean Spicer
Press Secretary

30 MAY

Mike Dubke
Communications Director

9 MAY

James Comey
FBI Director

14 FEBRUARY

Michael Flynn
National Security Adviser

Stabbing spree kills 2

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 central Turku," the tweet added.
 The motive of the suspect or suspects was not immediately known.
 The stabbing spree comes with Europe on high alert a day after drivers slammed vehicles into pedestrians in two attacks in Spain, killing at least 14 people and injuring more than 100 others. The Islamic State (IS) group has claimed responsibility for the Barcelona attack.
 The attack took place in the heart of the port city in southwestern Finland, just after 3:00pm (1300 GMT) in a bustling neighbourhood.
 "I saw an old woman, I tried to help her. She was bleeding all over her body," Wali Hashi, who witnessed the attack, told AFP.
 "She was wounded to her neck with the knife... I took her aside."
 Another witness, who did not want to give his name, told public television YLE: "A young woman screamed really loudly at one corner of the square. We saw a man on the square, with a knife in his hand and he was waving it."
 Central Turku -- located about 140 kilometres from the capital Helsinki -- was swiftly cordoned off and stores and restaurants closed.
 Police also tweeted that they had raised their emergency readiness nationwide, increasing security at

airports and train stations.
 Prime Minister Juha Sipilä tweeted that his government was "following the situation in Turku closely and the police operation underway."
 Police have refused to comment on whether the stabbing may have been terrorism-related.
 In June, Finland's intelligence and security agency Supo raised the country's terror threat level by a notch, from "low" to "elevated", the second notch on a new four-tier scale.
 "Supo has become aware of more serious terrorism-related projects and plans in Finland," it said.
 "Foreign terrorist fighters (who have) left from Finland have gained significant positions within IS in particular and have an extensive network of relations in the organisation," it said in its June assessment.
 In 2012, Finland's then-prime minister Jyrki Katainen escaped a knife attack in Turku while campaigning for municipal elections.
 The man who approached him carrying a knife was found to be psychologically disturbed and no charges were brought against him.
 A former capital of Finland, Turku remains a hub for business and culture.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
 Office of the Divisional Electrical Engineer
 Bangladesh Railway, Dhaka

e-Tender Notice No. 54.01.0000.212.07.267.17 Date: 16-08-2017

Invitation for e-Tender

e-Tender is invited in National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of following works, details are given below:

Sl. No.	Tender ID	Package No.	Description of works	Tender publication date & time	Tender closing & opening time
1.	115587	eGP-WED-4/17-18	Power supply arrangement for train lighting of Dhaka based 9/10/55/56 Surma/Vawal Express train passenger coaches 2 rakes by 4-6 K W Canopy type sound proof portable diesel engine generating set including operation at night period for 1 one year.	20 Aug 2017 16:00	10 Sep 2017 14:01
2.	115570	eGP/WED-3/17-18	Power supply arrangement for train lighting of Dhaka based 12/45/46/11 Noakhali/Samatat Express train passenger coaches 2 rakes by 4-6 K W Canopy type sound proof portable diesel engine generating set including operation at night period for 1 one year.	21 Aug 2017 12:35	11 Sep 2017 14:01
3.	115591	eGP/WED-2/17-18	Supply, installation, testing and commissioning of 100HP & 40HP submersible Pump motor set for Dhaka division.	23 Aug 2017 15:00	12 Sep 2017 14:01

This is an online Tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP portal and no offline/hardcopies 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 from the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through any registered banks branches up to one hour before tender last selling time. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

Md. Ariful Islam
Divisional Electrical Engineer
Bangladesh Railway, Dhaka

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