



## Six doctors for 70,000 inmates

Rich prisoners buy hospital comfort while poor inmates deprived of proper medical care languish in 68 jails

PARTHA PRATIM BHATTACHARJEE, SHAHEEN MOLLAH and MOHAMMAD JAMIL KHAN

If you are poor and in jail for some reason and you happen to be seriously ill, you are probably out of luck. But if you are a rich inmate or have political clout, you do not even need to be sick to have extended holidays at the country's leading government hospitals.

Only four of the country's 68 jails have doctors. While the state "manages" health services inside jails with just six doctors and 112 doctors' posts vacant, it creates a serious problem for inmates with limited means.

The prisoners who are affluent and have muscle power and political clout can bribe their way to better medical care outside the jails, even when they

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## Time served, yet in prison

Lengthy procedure delaying release of 89 foreign nationals

PARTHA PRATIM BHATTACHARJEE and MOHAMMAD JAMIL KHAN

Foreign nationals often have to remain in jail way beyond their prison terms due to the cumbersome process of securing release.

In absence of proper cooperation from relevant embassies and missions, the prison authorities face obstacles in releasing them.

Till the first week of August, as many as 89 foreign inmates have been waiting for their release after serving jail

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## Bangladesh waits for goodwill from Myanmar

Home boss says on return from Naypyidaw

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh is waiting for the goodwill of Myanmar to begin to take back its nationals who have fled violence in Rakhine State, Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan Kamal said on his return from Myanmar last night.

Talking to journalists at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport, the minister said he called on Myanmar for an early repatriation of the Rohingya people. Earlier yesterday, State Counsellor Aung San Suu Kyi told Kamal that Myanmar started working to take back the Rohingyas.

The Myanmar de facto leader made the SEE PAGE 2 COL 2

## Dhaka pushing for special UN session

Foreign minister briefs envoys from different countries; China for a peaceful solution

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka has intensified diplomatic efforts for the UN Human Rights Council to hold a special session and adopt a resolution on the Rohingya crisis.

Such efforts, however, need support of at least 16 of the 45 member-countries for an exclusive session of the UNHRC on any issue, diplomatic sources said.

As part of the government effort, Foreign Secretary Md Shahidul Haque briefed diplomats from the US, UK, China, Russia, India, Brazil, Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey and Vatican yesterday morning.

Senior foreign ministry officials were also present during the briefing.

The foreign secretary also held an exclusive meeting with Saudi Ambassador Abdullah HM Al-Mutairi on the Rohingya issue.

During the briefing, foreign diplomats sought to know Dhaka's short, mid and long-term plans for the crisis.

In reply, officials said Bangladesh was focusing on immediate solution SEE PAGE 2 COL 2

## Rohingya Influx: Ministries ask for Tk 65cr to tackle situation

REJAUL KARIM BYRON

The finance ministry has moved to assess how much budgetary allocation is needed for handling the increasing number of Rohingyas fleeing into the country, as different ministries have already sought Tk 65 crore.

Finance Minister AMA Muhiut on Tuesday directed the finance secretary to submit a report on the need assessment in seven days. The move was made upon his return on October 22 from attending the World Bank-IMF annual meeting in

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Rohingya refugees walk through water at a port in Teknaf yesterday after crossing the Bangladesh-Myanmar border.

PHOTO: REUTERS

## Biman pilot saves the day

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

An aircraft of Biman carrying 71 passengers and crew narrowly escaped an accident yesterday after one of its wheels fell off during take off from Saidpur Airport yesterday.

The pilots managed to fly the Bombardier Dash-8 to Dhaka and land the plane at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport going easy on the right undercarriage, which had one of its two wheels missing.

The short-haul turbo-prop of the national flag carrier lost wheel number four during take off around 9:30am, said Shakil Meraj, general manager, public relation, Biman Bangladesh Airlines.

On information from the air traffic control (ATC) of Saidpur Airport, Captain Atique, who was at the

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## MOGHBAZAR MOUCHAK FLYOVER

becomes fully operational



## PROUD PARTNER

providing more than



## MILLION BAG CEMENT

SHAH CEMENT