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সংস্করণ ১৫



বিশ্ব বলেছিলো- পন্থা সেতু 'সম্ভব না'
একজন প্রধানমন্ত্রী আর ১৬ কোটি বাঙালি বলেছিলো-
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IS suicide blast kills 41 in Kabul

Attacker targets Shia cultural centre and media offices of Afghan Voice Agency; 84 injured

More than 40 people were killed and dozens wounded in a suicide blast targeting Shias in Kabul yesterday, officials said, with chaotic scenes at the city's hospitals as anguished families sought loved ones.

The Sunni Islamic State group (IS) claimed responsibility for the gruesome assault on the pro-Iranian Tabayan cultural centre, the third deadly attack it has claimed in the Afghan capital this month.

Up to 100 people had gathered at the centre to mark the 38th anniversary of the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan. It is located in western Kabul, in the same building as affiliated Afghan Voice Agency (AVA), an anti-IS media outlet.

"The latest figures we have from this tragic incident shows 41 people have been killed and a further 84 people injured," health ministry spokesman Waheed Majroh told reporters.

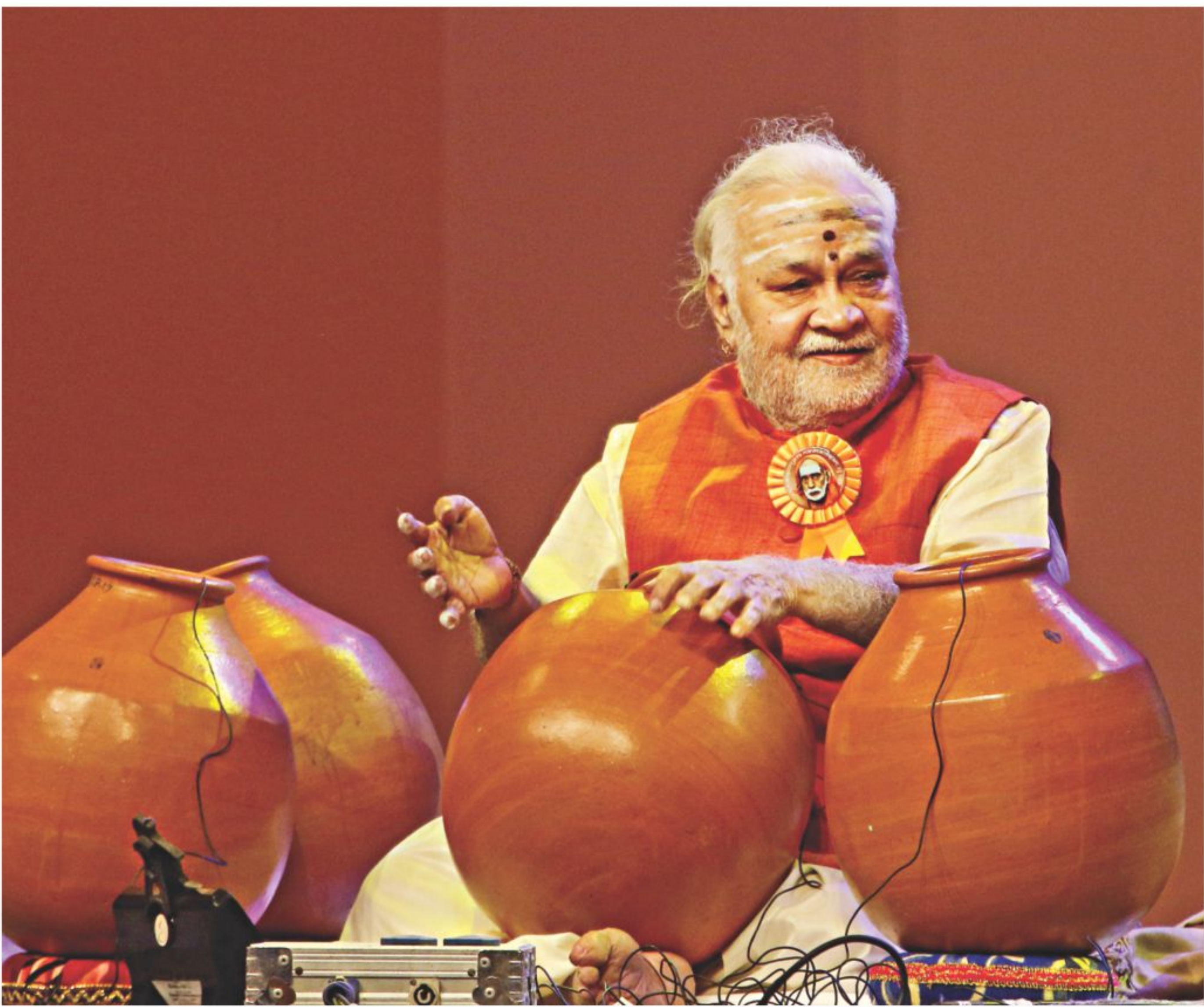
Kabul has become one of the deadliest places in war-torn Afghanistan for civilians in recent months, as the Taliban step up their attacks and IS seeks to expand its presence in the country.

Yesterday's attack saw chaotic scenes at the Istiqlal hospital where ambulances and police pickups brought victims, including women and children. Many of them had suffered severe burns to their faces and bodies, as well as shrapnel wounds, AFP reporters said.

Visibly distressed relatives searching for their loved ones inside the medical facility slapped their heads in fury as they cried and cursed the government for seemingly being unable to end the regular carnage on their streets.

Some were so distraught they crawled on the ground pulling their hair.

AFP reporters saw more than a dozen badly burned bodies lying on the floor in a room inside the hospital and wooden coffins being delivered so families could take away the remains of loved ones.



Vidwan Vikku Vinayakram stirs up a storm on the ghatam, a Carnatic percussion instrument, on the third night of the Bengal Classical Music Festival on Abahani ground yesterday.

Vinayakram livens up day-3 of Bengal Fest

FAHMIM FERDOUS

Vidwan Thetakudi Harihara 'Vikku' Vinayakram and his ensemble brought the 6th Bengal Classical Music Festival to life on its third evening, with an astonishing display of Carnatic percussion.

People began pouring in on the weekend evening at the capital's Abahani ground, the festival's new venue, as students of Bengal Parampara Sengeetalay presented a sitar recital to set the evening in motion. The seven-member group presented a composition on Raga Kirwani, composed by their guru Pt Kushal Das.

South Asia's first Grammy nominee Vikku Vinayakram, his son Selvaganesh Vinayakram, grandson Swaminathan Selvaganesh along with A Ganesah took the stage next, performing Carnatic percussion on the ghatam (clay pot), kanjeera (frame hand drum) and a percussion set, kanjeera and konnakol (vocal 'bol') and morsing respectively. The quadrant shook the entire arena with

Arms for freedom

It was truly a fight between David and Goliath in 1971. The Mukti Bahini fighters fought the war armed with a collection of old and worn out weapons against the mighty Pakistan army, supposedly one of the best armed forces of the time.

While almost all of us are well-versed in how our brave freedom fighters won us victory, how many of us know about the weapons they used for the purpose?

The Daily Star wanted to find out what arms the Mukti Bahini used and how these arms were procured. A fascinating tale followed.

Most of the weapons used by the Mukti Bahini were taken from defeated soldiers. Then, there were homemade bombs, knives and even instances of the use of bows and arrows.

Some of the firearms though came from India; some had already been in use by the then-East Pakistan law enforcers.

A war criminal lives in luxury in London

He was convicted more than four years ago for committing crimes against humanity in 1971 and he is one of the 25 most wanted Brits by the Interpol. Yet, Chowdhury Mueen Uddin is leading a luxurious life in London.

British newspaper The Sun on Wednesday ran a news item on Mueen. He now lives in a £1 million home in Southgate of North London. The newspaper found him shopping and visiting a mosque.

Prosecutors and war crimes trial campaigner in Bangladesh viewed that this has been possible thanks to the inaction of the British government to take steps against the man who has been sentenced to death for killing the brightest luminaries of Bangladesh with a heinous intention to



Mueen Uddin

intellectually cripple the soon-to-be-born country.

"The British government is showing double standards in the case of Mueen Uddin," said Tureen Afroz, a leading prosecutor at the International Crimes Tribunal in Bangladesh.

"They are vocal about trial and punishment of war criminals and perpetrators of genocide worldwide. But they are allowing a convicted war criminal like Mueen Uddin to lead a life there freely," she said.

Immediately after December 16, 1971, when Bangladesh achieved victory in the war, Mueen, a leader of infamous Al-Badr Bahini, fled Bangladesh and emerged as a leader of the Muslim community in the UK.

Despite being a fugitive, he managed to

India's 'moonwalking' traffic cop turns heads

He is inspired by Bollywood and has a Freddie Mercury-style moustache -- but it is the Michael Jackson dance moves of traffic cop Ranjeet Singh that grab attention on India's chaotic streets.

Heads turn and drivers cannot fail to notice when the 38-year-old moonwalks across busy intersections, avoiding rickshaws and trucks in the centre of Indore, a city of two million people.



BAF PLANE CRASH Probe team formed

A high-level team formed to investigate the two Bangladesh Air Force trainer aircraft crashes on Wednesday visited Moheshkhali Upazila in Cox's Bazar yesterday, ISPR sources said.

"Investigation is ongoing

SIBL Foundation Hospital & Diagnostic Center

PRAYER TIMING DECEMBER 29

Fazr Juma Asr Maghrib Esha

AZAN 5-30 12-30 4-00 5-27 7-00

JAMAAT 6-05 1-15 4-15 5-30 7-30

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

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NATURE QUEST

Madan Tak gives birth in captivity

ABU BAKKAR SIDDIQUE, Gazipur

The birth by a Madan Tak (Lesser Adjutant Stork) to four hatchlings over the past two months has elated officials and employees of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Safari Park in Gazipur.

This is the first instance of the bird giving birth in captivity.

More reason for the joy is that the Madan Tak is officially listed as a highly endangered species of bird, considered to be vulnerable in the IUCN Red list.

Wildlife inspector at the Safari Park, Anisur Rahman, said that when the park opened, it had six

SEE PAGE 17 COL 5

PUNISHING LAWYER AT MOBILE COURT HC rebukes AC (land)

The High Court yesterday rebuked and cautioned Biroda Rani Roy, assistant commissioner (land) of Bhurungamari in Kurigram, for sentencing a senior lawyer in Dinajpur through a mobile court over a trifling matter earlier this month.

Biroda has abused her power by sentencing the lawyer through the mobile court and she has to be careful so that such incident doesn't recur, the court said.

It said the salaries of officials like Biroda are paid from the people's tax money, but sometimes they try to misuse their power by dominating those people.

The HC cancelled the mobile court's verdict. However, it exempted Biroda from the charges of sentencing the lawyer as she offered unconditional apology and regretted to it for the incident.

On December 17, the HC bench of

বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংক

অনলাইনে অননুমোদিত ভার্চুয়াল মুদ্রায় (যেমনঃ বিটকয়েন) লেনদেন হতে বিরত থাকার বিষয়ে সতর্কীকরণ বিজ্ঞপ্তি।

সম্প্রতি বিভিন্ন সংবাদ মাধ্যম এবং ইন্টারনেট হতে প্রাপ্ত তথ্য থেকে জানা যায় যে, অনলাইন ভিত্তিক ভার্চুয়াল মুদ্রা বা crypto currency যথা Bitcoin, Ethereum, Ripple, Litecoin ইত্যাদি বিবিধ বিনিময় প্ল্যাটফর্মে (exchange platform) লেনদেন হচ্ছে। এসব ভার্চুয়াল মুদ্রা কোন দেশের বৈধ কর্তৃপক্ষ কর্তৃক ইস্যুকৃত বৈধ মুদ্রা (legal tender) নয় বিধায় এর বিপরীতে কোন আর্থিক দাবির (financial claim) স্বীকৃতিও থাকেনা। এসব মুদ্রায় লেনদেন বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংক বা অন্য কোন নিয়ন্ত্রক সংস্থা কর্তৃক অননুমোদিত নয় বিধায় এসব ভার্চুয়াল মুদ্রার ব্যবহার বৈদেশিক মুদ্রা নিয়ন্ত্রণ আইন, ১৯৪৭; সন্ত্রাস বিরোধী আইন, ২০০৯ এবং মানি লন্ডারিং প্রতিরোধ আইন, ২০১২ এর দ্বারা সমর্থিত হয় না। অনলাইনে নামবিহীন/হৃদনামিক প্রতিসঙ্গীর সাথে ভার্চুয়াল মুদ্রায় লেনদেনের দ্বারা অনিচ্ছাকৃতভাবে মানি লন্ডারিং ও সন্ত্রাসে অর্থায়ন প্রতিরোধ সম্পর্কিত আইনের লঙ্ঘন হতে পারে। মূলত অনলাইনভিত্তিক নেটওয়ার্কের মাধ্যমে ভার্চুয়াল মুদ্রায় অর্থমূল্য পরিশোধ ও নিষ্পত্তি সংঘটিত হয় এবং এটি কোন কেন্দ্রীয় কর্তৃপক্ষ/পেমেন্ট সিস্টেম নিয়ন্ত্রণ কর্তৃপক্ষ কর্তৃক স্বীকৃত না হওয়ায় গ্রাহকগণ ভার্চুয়াল মুদ্রার সম্ভাব্য আর্থিক ও আইনগত ঝুঁকিসহ বিভিন্ন ঝুঁকির সম্মুখীন হতে পারেন।

এমতাবস্থায়, সম্ভাব্য আর্থিক ও আইনগত ঝুঁকি এড়ানোর লক্ষ্যে বিটকয়েনের ন্যায় ভার্চুয়াল মুদ্রায় লেনদেন বা এসব লেনদেনে সহায়তা প্রদান ও এর প্রচার হতে বিরত থাকার জন্য সর্বসাধারণকে অনুরোধ করা যাচ্ছে।