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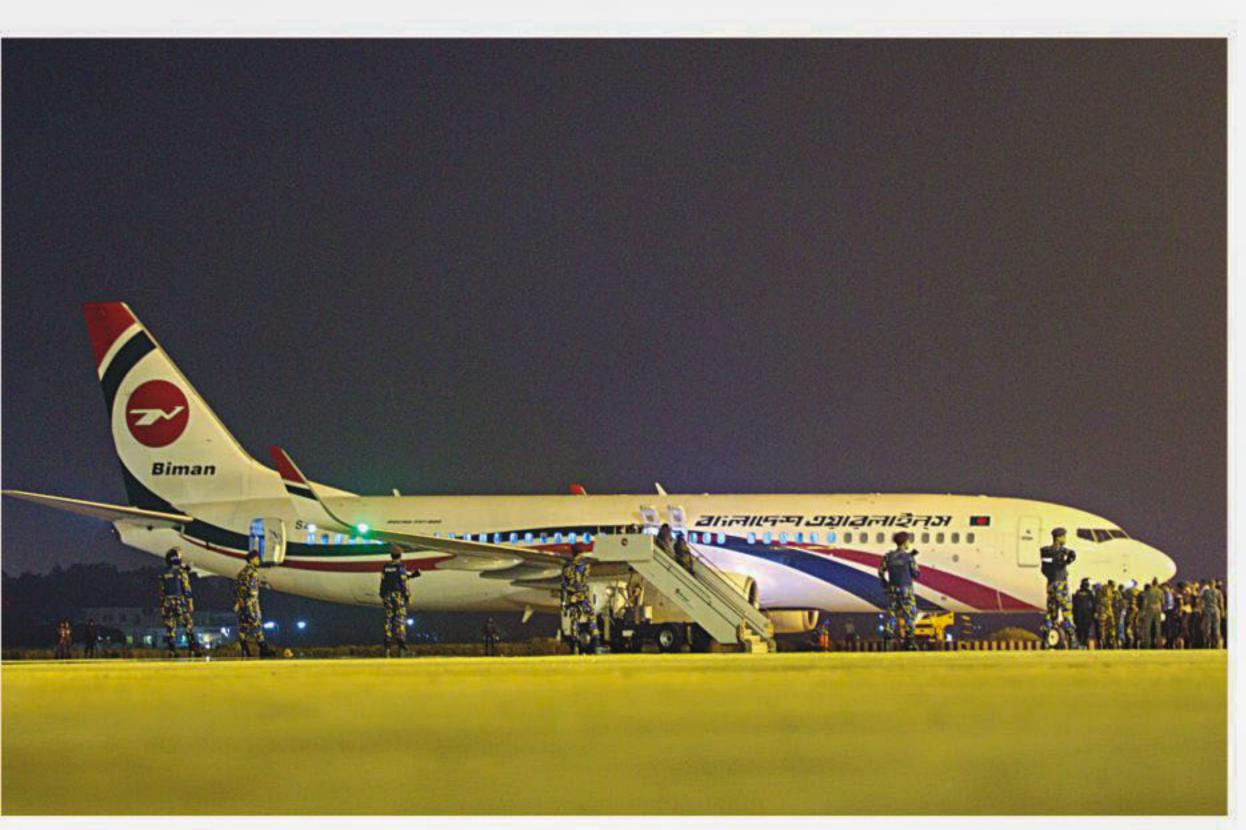
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Your Right to Know

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Security personnel surrounding a Boeing 737-800 of Biman during a standoff with a man who attempted to hijack the plane.

PHOTO:
RAJIB RAIHAN

## Hijack bid foiled; suspect shot dead

The 'armed man' boards Dubai-bound Biman flight in Dhaka; plane makes emergency landing at Ctg airport; commando operation ends standoff; all passengers, crew safe

STAR REPORT

A man who allegedly tried to storm the cockpit of a Biman flight was killed in a commando operation at Shah Amanat International Airport in Chattogram yesterday evening after all passengers were evacuated safely.

The airport was closed after Flight BG-147 made an emergency landing at 5:41pm. The pilot had informed the control tower about the situation eight minutes prior to landing.

The Boeing 737-800, bound for Dubai via Chattogram, was carrying 143 passengers and seven crew members. It was immediately surrounded by members of the army, navy, SWAT and Rab while four fire engines were on

standby

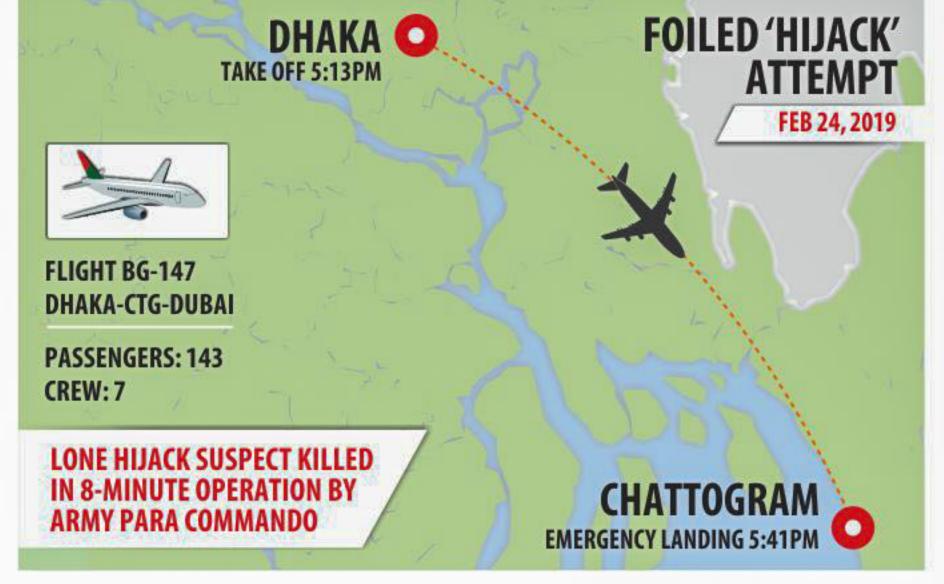
Tang, a business-class passenger, said the suspect tried to go inside the cockpit about 20 minutes after take-off from Dhaka at 5:13pm. He knocked on the cockpit door several times and asked the crew members to open it.

"He said he wanted to hijack the plane. He then fired three shots at the cockpit door but could not get in," the Malaysian national told The Daily Star at the Chattogram airport.

According to an ISPR press release, the crew members tactfully took the passengers out of the plane while the suspect remained inside holding a cabin crew member hostage.

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RELOCATING HAZARDOUS OLD TOWN INDUSTRIES:

## At primary stage, perennially

4 projects couldn't progress much for land acquisition problems, red-tapism even after 9 yrs

REJAUL KARIM BYRON and TUHIN SHUBHRA ADHIKARY

After an inferno had claimed 124 lives in Old Dhaka's Nimtoli in 2010, the government took up four projects to relocate four types of industries -- chemical, plastic, printing and light electronics -- from this part of the capital.

Around nine years down the line, the implementation of those projects still remains at the preliminary stage mainly due to problems associated with land acquisition and bureaucratic tangles, say officials.

Demands for relocation of such industries have found new vigour after a chemical-fuelled fire killed at least 67 people and injured scores in Chawkbazar of Old Dhaka on Wednesday night.

Experts and activists say the latest disaster

could have been avoided had the authorities taken prompt action to relocate those industries following recommendations of a taskforce formed after the Nimtoli fire.

Take the example of BSCIC Plastic. Industry Estate project in Sirajdikhan upazila of Munshiganj. The Executive: Committee of the National Economic: Council (Ecnec) approved the project in July 2015 and the work is scheduled to be completed by June 2019.

But the Tk 133 core project witnessed only 0.20 percent progress till October last year, officials said.

The government took the move to relocate plastic industries from Old Dhaka in 2004 considering fire risk and environmental hazards for the densely populated area.

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STAFF CORRESPONDENT

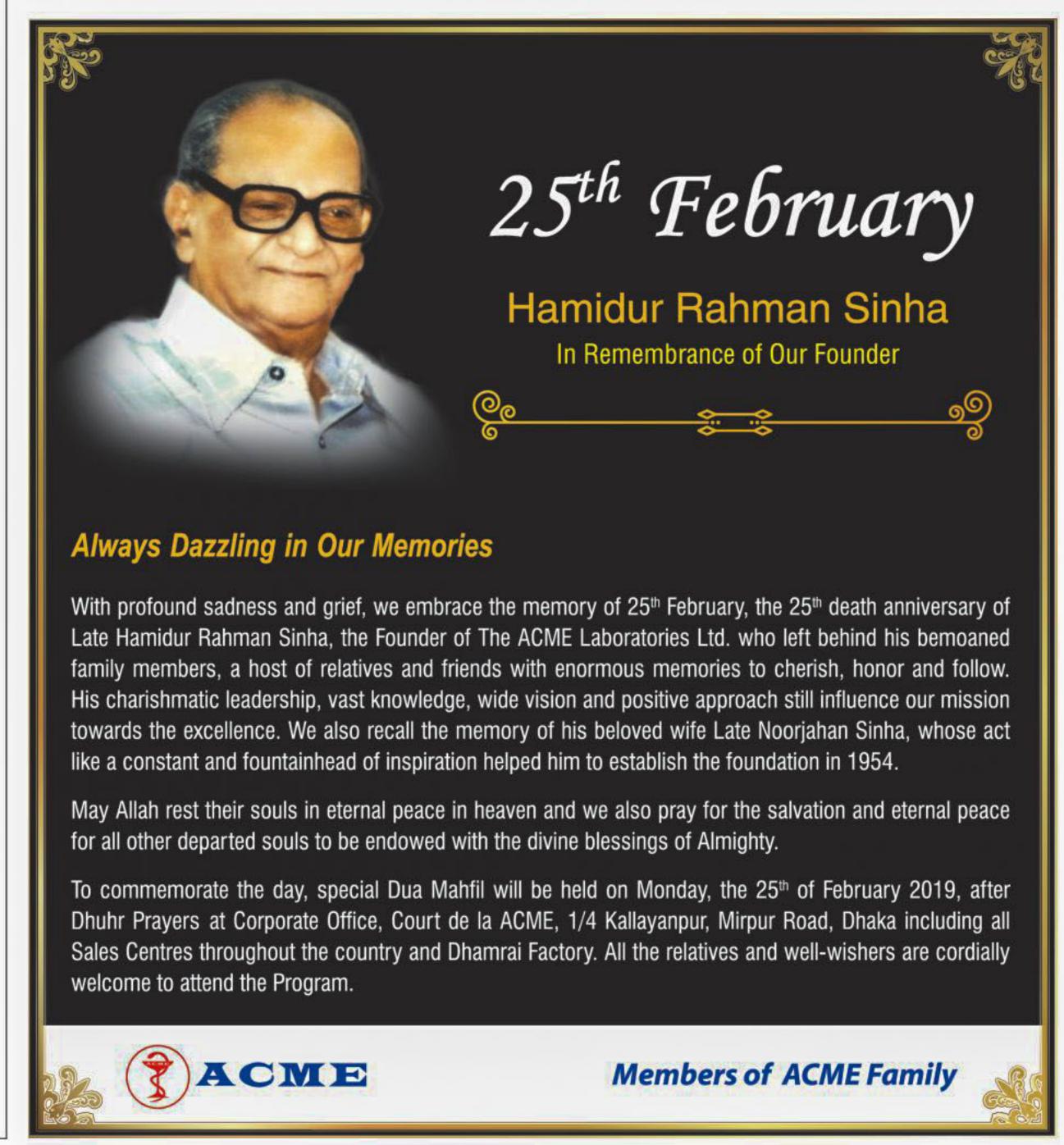
The nation is holding a one-day national mourning for the victims of Chawkbazar fire that claimed 67 lives on Wednesday and Thursday. The Cabinet Division

yesterday issued a circular asking all government, semi-government, non-government and autonomous organisations to keep the national flag at half mast.

Meanwhile, the parliament yesterday unanimously adopted a condolence motion expressing profound grief at the deaths.

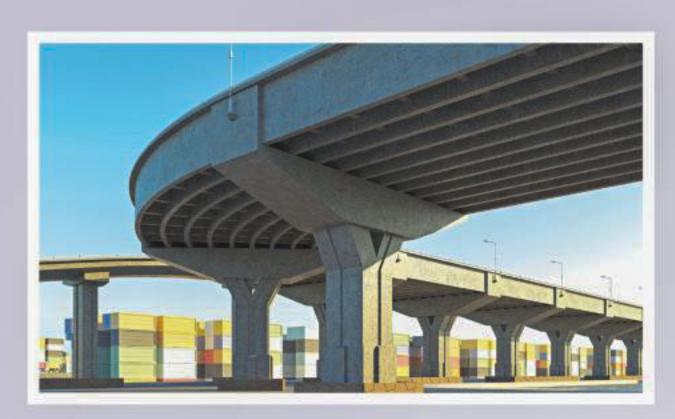
Speaker of the

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## FURTHERING ECONOMIC PROSPERITY TWO STEPS AT A TIME

CONGRATULATIONS HONOURABLE PRIME MINISTER SHEIKH HASINA

As a firm believer of the development of Bangladesh, KSRM is thrilled to witness the inauguration of boring works of the Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Tunnel and the ground breaking of the Lalkhan Bazar to Shah Amanat International Airport Elevated Expressway.