

Doctor tries to flee leaving patient at OT

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna
A mob beat up a doctor and his assistant at a "sealed-off" private clinic in Pabna's Chatmohar upazila on Monday when they allegedly tried to flee from the operation theatre leaving a patient in critical condition.
The patient Taslima Khatun, 35, wife of Ismail Hossain of Bothor in the upazila, died that night, said police.
Officer-in-Charge Sheikh Nasir Uddin of Chatmohar Police Station said Taslima had been admitted to the Chatmohar Islamic Hospital on Monday afternoon with labour pains. She was immediately taken to the operating table and the hospital surgeon Saddam Hossain performed a c-section to deliver a girl, said the police.
But as the mother's condition deteriorated, the doctor along with his assistant Asaduzzaman tried to flee from the operation theatre, the OC said quoting the patient's relatives.
The family members of Taslima caught the duo at that time and they

along with others in the hospital beat them up, he added.
Police went to the hospital and detained the doctor and his assistant.
Taslima was moved to Pabna Medical College Hospital where she died of excessive bleeding at 9:30pm, said Baizid-Ul-Islam, resident doctor at Chatmohar Upazila Health Complex.
The infant was healthy and was handed over to the relatives, the doctor said.
OC Nasir said the clinic was sealed-off by a mobile court of the upazila administration on July 3 for operating on patients in unhygienic condition and without general anaesthesia.
Pabna Civil Surgeon Mehedi Iqbal said they had no idea how the hospital reopened.
"We have given immediate order to shut the hospital down again."
The Daily Star correspondent tried several times to contact the owner of the clinic Amir Hossain Bablu over phone but he could not be reached.

US top court to examine 'Dreamers' programme

APP, Washington
Angelica Villalobos came to the United States illegally as a child and lived in the shadows until she and 700,000 others like her gained protection from deportation under a program that the Supreme Court was set to take up yesterday.
The court will hear arguments on the fate of these people known as "Dreamers," whom the administration of then president Barack Obama "gave wings," in Villalobos' words, in 2012 by letting them have work and study permits.
President Donald Trump -- who campaigned on a starkly anti-immigrant platform -- moved in 2017 to end the Delayed Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program that has given Villalobos and others legal cover in the US.
Trump gave Congress six months to devise a plan to replace DACA, saying he was sympathetic to the "Dreamers" but that Obama had established the program illegally.
But lawmakers were unable to reach agreement, and the program expired the following year.
The phase-out of the program has been appealed to several courts across the country, ultimately reaching the Supreme Court.
It is not expected to issue a ruling before next year, when the US will hold a hotly contested presidential election.
If the Supreme Court fails to

extend legal protection to the "Dreamers," they are not expected to be automatically deported; most will probably slip quietly into the shadowy life of the undocumented, for whom working and studying is fraught with difficulty.
In the meantime "this is has been like a roller coaster," said Villalobos, a 34 Mexican and mother of five who works in an auto repair shop in Oklahoma.
She said she and her husband, who also entered illegally as a minor, talk to their children about what might happen if the court ruling does not go their way and they may be unable to drive or work anymore -- "things that we're doing right now that keep the family more normal."
Like them, nearly 700,000 others "have been in the country for at least 12 years, become part of the fabric of our communities or institutions," said Omar Jadwat of the American Civil Liberties Union.
He said the Trump administration moved to end DACA in order to use "Dreamers" as "bargaining chips" with the Democrats to achieve other immigration goals.
Indeed, Trump tried in vain to obtain congressional funding for his promised wall along the border with Mexico in exchange for new protections for the "Dreamers," many of whom have little to no memory of the country in which they were born.

Dev projects

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see the bad kind of development, that's going to destroy the Sundarbans; that is a bad thing," he said.
Huq made the remarks during a session on "Coast and communities: A new framework for prosperity and resilience" on the second day of the three-day Dhaka Global Dialogue organised by the Bangladesh Institute of International and Strategic Studies and Observer Research Foundation at the hotel InterContinental Dhaka.
The director of International Centre for Climate Change and Development, Independent University Bangladesh, also said the Bangladesh government needed to immediately make comprehensive plans to address the issue.
"If we don't have regulations and policy, and more importantly, [if we do not] implement them, then we will end up destroying the Sundarbans.

And I am very, very scared about that," he said.
Huq said the Sundarbans was a world heritage site and "we all have a responsibility to preserve it."
"One of the things we need to be thinking about is how to build the infrastructure that we need," he said, emphasising on nature-based solutions or green development.
He said the economic development in the country was good, but it had come at a cost to the environment.
"We cannot continue to let that happen," he said.
SM Daud Hassan, director of the International Centre for Ocean Governance, Western Sydney University, said while the oceans held huge potential for development, there should be rules and regulations -- both at national and regional levels -- to make sure the oceans were not polluted.

Onion prices under control

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However, the industries minister said, "I believe the onion market, which had gone beyond control, has now become under control."
He made the remarks in absence of Commerce Minister Tipu Mushi while responding to a supplementary question from BNP lawmaker Jahidur Rahman.
The minister said onion prices soared as the neighbouring India stopped exporting the bulb to Bangladesh following flash floods there.
"But we brought the situation under control quickly by importing onions from Myanmar and Turkey," he said.
Saiful Islam, a resident at Moghbazar area in Dhaka city, disagreed with the view of the minister.
"He is not right. Onion prices are rising and such a comment from a minister is unexpected. They should admit the reality," said Saiful.
He demanded the government increase the number of TCB pickups selling onions at Tk 45 a kg so that people can buy the bulb at reduced prices.
The industries minister said this

was the lean period for onion and there is usually a crisis at this time of the year.
"Our local onion is yet to hit the market, but it will come within few days," he said.
The minister said the government was launching mobile courts in districts and upazilas to prevent selling of onion at higher prices.
Besides, the minister said the directorate of Consumer Rights Protection and other government agencies were monitoring markets across the country.
Replying to a written question from Awami League MP Anwar Khan (Laxmipur-1), he said the annual demand of onion in the country is 24 lakh tonnes, while the country produces 23.31 lakh tonnes.
"Of the produced amount, 30 percent get damaged during collection and preservation. That means, the total amount of production becomes 16.31 lakh tonnes. The deficit is met by importing from India," he added.
The minister said the government started to sell onion in the open market through TCB to control the onion market.



Israeli firefighter trucks douse a burning factory in the southern Israeli town of Sderot, after it was reportedly hit with rockets fired from the Gaza Strip, yesterday. PHOTO: AFP

Ctg port users complain of irregularities

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and-a-half-hour long public hearing that began at 10:00am. Chattogram Divisional Additional Commissioner Nurul Alam Nizami, the moderator of the programme, read out rest of the written complaints.
Talking about their complaints, several clearing and forwarding (C&F) agents said some crane operators and staffers cause unnecessary delay in finding containers at the yards and transporting those inside the port

unless they are bribed Tk 2,000 to Tk 3,000 for each container.
Shahed Sarwar, director of Bangladesh Shipping Agents Association, complained about long delay in auctioning off the undelivered import containers by the customs authorities. He said such delay in the process was tarnishing image of the port authorities.
ACC Commissioner (investigation) AFM Aminul Islam, also the chief guest at the programme, directed

the CPA chairman to investigate the allegations and submit reports to the graft watchdog within a stipulated time.
He stressed the need for strong monitoring of the activities of the field-level officials and employees.
CPA Chairman Rear Admiral Zulfikar Aziz said services of the port have improved over the last few years due to several steps taken by them.
He assured the port users of resolving the prevailing problems.

Burglars loot

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currencies, he said.
Customs officials disclosed the matter last night.
The building's security guards claimed they were taking shelter inside as Cyclone Bulbul was ongoing at the time.
Customs and police officials suspected the criminals used the cover of the storm to plan the burglary.
Five officials, including vault in-charge Sahabul Sardar, was suspended over the incident. A nine-member committee led by the customs Joint Commissioner Shahidul Islam was formed to probe the theft.
Apart from the government officials, some outsourced workers had been working in the office over the years.
Police picked up five persons -- the vault in-charge, three peons and a sepoy -- for interrogation.
Different wings of law enforcement agencies have started investigating the theft.
The Criminal Investigation Department collected fingerprints from the vault.
Though customs officials said criminals broke open the vault, Mamun Khan, officer-in-charge of Benapole Port police station, said they might have used alternative keys for opening the vault.
An investigation is going on, he said.

New option for hiring workers

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"They [employers] will have two options," said the minister while speaking at a press conference at his ministry office yesterday.
The press conference was arranged to inform the media about the outcomes of the minister's recent visit to the Southeast Asian country.
When the new system is implemented, the minister said, an employer will have to place a recruitment order to the platform known as MRA, and then the platform will contact a Bangladeshi agency.
Only "a certain number" of Bangladeshi agencies will be able to receive requirement orders either from the MRA or directly from the employers, he said.
A clause regarding MRA's role has been added to the existing "agreement" between the two countries, said Salim Reza, secretary of the ministry.
The "agreement" will be finalised during a Joint Working Committee (JWC) meeting in Dhaka scheduled for November 24-25, he said, adding that the two countries had reached an

understanding on several unresolved issues.
"We are hopeful Malaysia's market for Bangladeshis will be reopened soon," he added.
Malaysia suspended labour recruitment from Bangladesh on September 1 last year, alleging monopoly by a syndicate of 10 recruiting agents and high cost of migration.
Responding to a question, Minister Imran said he is not in favour of any "unethical syndicate", rather he wants to make sure that the poor migrant workers are going overseas at a low cost and sending remittance to the country.
He said the ministry is working to cut the labour migration cost.
During his visit, the minister discussed with Malaysian home affairs minister Muhyiddin Yassin to regularise those undocumented Bangladeshi workers who went there after paying money to local agents.
"I urged the [Malaysian] home minister, if there is any scope... whether they can be absorbed or rehired," he added.
Although the Malaysian minister

did not give any commitment, he "noted" the issue, said Imran, adding he would raise the issue again in JWC's meeting in Dhaka.
To curb the malpractice in labour migration, we have so far "suspended" licenses of 164 errant recruiting agencies, he added.
On female migrant workers' unexpected return to home and challenges in Saudi Arabia, he said his ministry has started to take action against travel agencies responsible for the current situation.
The ministry has also started a process under which migrant workers have to be registered with the Bangladesh mission in Saudi Arabia.
"Otherwise, we will not recognise them," he said.
He also said a joint technical committee meeting between Bangladesh and Saudi Arabia will be held in Riyadh this month to further discuss the issues related to labour migration.
The government is hopeful that it will be able to make unscrupulous Saudi employers accountable, he added.

Vietnam

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pushed to the brink of extinction by hunting.
However, Vietnamese biologist An Nguyen, who works with Global Wildlife Conservation and is a PhD student at the Leibniz Institute for Zoo and Wildlife Research, had been wondering for years whether the Silver-backed Chevrotain might still be holding on somewhere.
Working with colleagues Barney Long and Andrew Tilker, the experts got together with local villagers to sift through reported sightings.
Some were consistent enough with the Silver-backed Chevrotain to justify putting up more than 30 motion-activated cameras in nearby forested habitats.
"The results were amazing. I was overjoyed when we checked the camera traps and saw photographs of a chevrotain with silver flanks," said Nguyen.
Tilker cautioned in a blog post however that "just because we found this species relatively easily doesn't mean it is not threatened".
Forests in southeast Asia are under tremendous pressure from growing populations and development "so we need to get ahead of the curve" on conservation, Tilker added.
In May, a United Nations body of biodiversity experts, known as IPBES, issued a landmark report warning that up to one million species face the risk of extinction due to humanity's impact on the planet.

Top Islamic Jihad man killed

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Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu described Al-Atta as a "ticking bomb" who was responsible for a string of recent cross-border rocket, drone and sniper attacks and was suspected of planning more very soon.
"Israel is not interested in escalation, but we will do everything required to protect ourselves," said Netanyahu, who oversaw Israel's last Gaza war in 2014 but appeared to be urging restraint. "This could take time. What is needed is stamina and cool-headedness."
SHOWDOWN WITH IRAN?
By early afternoon Gaza authorities reported four killed, including Al-Atta, 42 and his wife in the predawn Israeli strike that destroyed a floor in their home, scattering debris around their neighbourhood.
Another air strike in Gaza hit two men riding a motorcycle, killing one and wounding the other. The Israeli military described them as an Islamic Jihad rocket crew. A third Palestinian man died in another strike.
Gaza medical officials said 24 Palestinians had been wounded, as ambulances streaked through abandoned streets and Israeli missiles landed, many in open fields,

apparently targeting hidden rocket silos.
 Hamas joined Islamic Jihad in condemning Israel, though the two factions have not always been in agreement over strategy. Islamic Jihad, free of the burden of governing Gaza's impoverished two million Palestinians, has at times chafed at Hamas's ceasefire efforts.
Israeli officials said 22 people had been wounded by early afternoon, most of them sustaining light injuries. Among the sites hit by Palestinian rockets were a toy factory in the border town of Sderot and a highway where CCTV footage showed cars and a bus barely escaping the impact.
"We decided to take the kids and go to Jerusalem to their grandparents," said Sderot resident Aviram Harish. "There the children can be calm and peaceful."
The Israeli military said its Iron Dome air defence systems intercepted some of the Palestinian rockets.
Israel's banking regulator instructed banks in areas within rocket range to operate under emergency procedures, with essential staff only. The main Tel Aviv share index was down 0.5%. The shekel was 0.2% weaker against the dollar.

Israel casts rising Gaza tensions as part of a regional struggle with arch-foe Iran that has also played out in Syria. Netanyahu, a four-term conservative, has invoked such scenarios in trying to form a broad coalition government with centre-left rivals after two inconclusive elections this year.
Islamic Jihad said the target of the Damascus attack was the home of a political leader, Akram Al-Ajouri. Israel's Army Radio described Al-Ajouri as head of Islamic Jihad's military wing.
Israel "bears full responsibility for all consequences of this escalation," Hamas said in a statement, pledging that Al-Atta's death "will not go unpunished".
At the scene of the Damascus strike, a Reuters journalist said the top floor of a two-storey building had been completely scorched. A neighbour said he had been woken up at around 4:00 am by three explosions that had blown open the doors in his house.
Syrian state media said six people were wounded in the attack, describing the target as a civilian home in Mezzah, a western district of the capital where several embassies are located.

Samrat sued

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Samrat came under the spotlight after Rapid Action Battalion busted his illegal casino business at different sporting clubs in Dhaka. He was expelled from the Jubo League following his arrest.
On October 6, Rab members arrested Samrat and his close aide Enamul Haque Arman, former vice-president of the same unit, in Cumilla after raiding a house near Indian border.

Samrat hailed from an impoverished family of Feni's Parshuram Studying up to eighth grade, he became involved in Chhatra League politics in 1990. During the BNP-led four-party rule from 1991 to 1996, he joined the Jubo League and was elected organising secretary of its Dhaka city (South) unit.
FEROZ CHARGED
Rab yesterday pressed charges against Kalabagan Kirira Chakra President Shafiqul Alam Feroz in an arms case

filed on September 21.
Sub-Inspector Mohammad Jasim Uddin of Rab-2 submitted the charge sheet before the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's Court, Dhaka.
Feroz, a former central executive committee member of Krishak League, and his four associates were arrested at the club on September 20 for possessing illegal firearm and drugs. The law enforcers lodged two cases against them with Dhanmondi Police Station the next day.

Rohingya

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Combined Military Hospital in Chattogram and were out of danger.
"The criminals fled the scene and entered inside Myanmar border," he said.
Seeking anonymity, some locals told The Daily Star that Harakah al-Yaqin, a Rohingya insurgent group, were behind the attack.
Asked, the BGB commander said, "No Rohingya insurgent group operates in our territory."