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ATTACK ON KABUL MILITARY HOSPITAL Blasts, gunfire kill at least 25

REUTERS, Kabul

At least 25 people were killed and more than 50 wounded yesterday in an attack on Afghanistan's biggest military hospital which saw two heavy blasts followed up by gunmen assaulting the site in central Kabul, officials said.

The explosions took place at the entrance of the 400-bed Sardar Mohammad Daud Khan hospital and were followed immediately with an assault by a group of gunmen, Taliban spokesman Bilal Karimi said.

Four of the attackers were killed by Taliban security forces and a fifth was captured, he said.

The blasts add to a growing list of attacks and killings since the Taliban completed their victory over the Western-backed government in August, undermining their claim to have restored security to Afghanistan after decades of war.

There was no immediate claim of responsibility but the operation was typical of the complex attacks mounted by Islamic State. It follows a string of bombings by the group which has emerged as the biggest threat to Taliban control of Afghanistan.

A Taliban security official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said at least 25 people had been killed and more than 50 wounded in the assault but there was no officially confirmed casualty toll.

Photographs shared by residents showed a plume of smoke over the area of the blasts near the former diplomatic zone in the Wazir Akbar Khan area of the city and witnesses said at least two helicopters flew over the area as the assault went on.

A health worker at the hospital, who managed to escape, said he heard a large explosion followed by a couple of minutes of gunfire. About ten minutes later, there was a

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A side of the Karnapara canal in Savar is grabbed by a vested quarter while another is clogged by garbage. Such a condition left the canal almost dead, making locals suffer immensely. The photo was taken from Bank Town area yesterday.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

GAS EXPLOSION 6 of a family suffer burns

3 killed in same building in similar incident last year

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A gas explosion took place on Monday night in a residential six-storey building in Chattogram where an identical explosion took place last year killing three.

This time, six people, all tenants of the building in Uttar Kattali ward, suffered serious cases of burns and are now fighting for their lives at the Chattogram Medical College Hospital, drawing attention to the sheer negligence of the landowner.

The injured are Sajida, 40, wife of Jamal Sheikh, and their daughter Mahia, 9, three sons Sunny, 24, Jibon, 15, Shadin, 15, and daughter-in-law Dilruba, 19.

The explosion happened when Mahia pressed the button on the handle of the mosquito racket at around 10:30 pm, said fire service, police and experts.

"I was in the toilet when

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'CUSTODIAL DEATH' IN RANGPUR HC enquires about it all

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday wanted to know about an alleged custodial death of a man in Rangpur, the subsequent attack on law enforcers by a mob, and the government steps taken over the issues.

Citing locals, it was reported in the media that a man named Tajul Islam was tortured to death under police custody in Rangpur's Kaunia on Monday.

The bench of Justice Mamnoon Rahman and Justice Khandaker Diliruzzaman asked Deputy Attorney General Amit Das Gupta to enquire about the incident and to inform the court today.

The court will give an order on the issue today.

The bench passed the order after Supreme Court lawyer Jyotirmoy Barua placed a Prothom Alo report on the incident and appealed to the court to pass necessary directives on the issue.

Amit told The Daily Star that he would talk to the Rangpur metropolitan police commissioner to know about the incident.

After the news spread that a man was tortured to death by police, a mob reportedly threw brick chips at Haragach Police Station and vandalised a few police vehicles on Monday evening.

Police said they had not tortured anyone.

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ROAD TO FREEDOM THIS DAY IN BANGLADESH LIBERATION WAR HISTORY

Sit-in before Pak High Commission

NOVEMBER 3, 1971

SHAMSUDDOZA SAJEN

KISSINGER'S MEMORANDUM

The US President's Assistant for National Security Affairs Henry Kissinger, in a memorandum sent today, informed President Nixon that Pakistani President Yahya Khan was willing to pull some units back from the border on the basis of Indira Gandhi's oral assurance to Nixon that she would take a reciprocal step. He further reported that Indira Gandhi in her meeting with British Prime Minister Heath voiced reservations about the pullback idea. Kissinger, however, advised Nixon to pursue Indira Gandhi to accept this plan during their meeting next day.

INDIA SAYS TROOPS MAY NOT CROSS LINE
A Government spokesman said today that Indian troops had "strict orders" not to cross the border in their confrontation with Pakistani troops. The Indian spokesman, at a news briefing in New Delhi, said he was making this "clarification" to correct newspaper reports suggesting that Indian troops might have crossed the border last weekend in a counteraction against Pakistani shelling of Kamalpur, a border town in Northeastern India.

He further said that four Pakistani jet fighters intruded into Indian airspace yesterday over Punjab and that Indian planes had chased them away.

SIT-IN CONTINUES BEFORE PAK HC
The Bengali employees who had fought their way out of the Pakistani High Commission in New Delhi yesterday continued their round the clock sit-in in front of the High Commission today demanding immediate release of Hossain Ali and his family now

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SERIOUS OFFENCES CJ questions anticipatory bail orders

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Chief Justice Syed Mahmud Hossain yesterday questioned High Court orders granting anticipatory bail in the cases of serious offences, including murder and rape.

"If the High Court grants anticipatory bail even in murder, rape and heroin related cases, then what should we [Appellate Division] do? Will not we stay those orders? We must protect the country."

"Around 1,000 bail orders are passed by the High Court in a week. But the state moves appeals before the Appellate Division against only 50 to 100 High Court orders of bail," he said.

The chief justice said this in response to a prayer moved by Supreme Court Bar Association Secretary Ruhul Quddus Kazal while presiding over a full

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'Good' mosquitoes to combat dengue



REUTERS, Yogyakarta

Researchers in Indonesia have found a way to fight disease-bearing mosquitoes by breeding a species of the insect which carries a kind of bacteria that prevents viruses like dengue from growing inside them.

Wolbachia is a common bacteria that occurs naturally in 60% of insect species, including some mosquitoes, fruit flies, moths, dragonflies and butterflies. It is not, however, found in dengue-carrying Aedes aegypti mosquitoes, according to non-profit World Mosquito Program (WMP), which initiated the research.

"In principle we are breeding the 'good' mosquitoes," said Purwanti, a WMP community cadre. "The mosquitoes carrying dengue will mate with mosquitoes carrying Wolbachia, which will produce Wolbachia mosquitoes - the 'good' mosquitoes. So even if they bite people, it won't

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CASE AGAINST ANVIR PBI asked to submit probe report by Nov 21

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday asked the Police Bureau of Investigation to submit by November 21 the probe report in a case filed against Bashundhara Group Managing Director Sayem Sobhan Anvir and seven others over the rape and murder of a college student in a Gulshan flat.

Dhaka Metropolitan Magistrate Begum Yasmin Ara passed the order after investigation officer Golam Moktar Ashrafuddin, also an inspector of PBI, failed

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PRAYER TIMING NOVEMBER 3

Fajr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha
AZAN 4-55 12-45 4-00 5-30 7-15
JAMAAT 5-30 1-15 4-15 5-34 7-45

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

Six temples vandalised in Naogaon

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

Unidentified criminals vandalised 11 idols at six Hindu temples in Naogaon's Porsha upazila early yesterday.

The vandalism took place around the same time in two neighbouring villages of Bhabanipur and Soriala when the villagers were asleep, said police and local administration officials.

In Bhabanipur village, seven idols were vandalised at four temples. Of them, three were of a Kali temple, one of a Shiv temple, two of a Sannyasa temple and the other an under-construction idol of a Kali temple.

In Soriala village, three idols of Laxmi temple and one idol of a Monosha temple were damaged.

Locals came to know about the vandalism after they woke up yesterday, said Sudeb Saha, president of the upazila unit of Hindu Bouddha Christian Oikya Parishad.

Visiting the spots,

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A street in Khulna's Dumuria upazila town has been covered with electoral posters and banners ahead of the upcoming union parishad polls. The photo was captured in the town's Rangpur Kalitala intersection yesterday.

PHOTO: HABIBUR RAHMAN

Star HEALTHLINE

TINNITUS That annoying ringing in the ear

STAR HEALTH DESK

Tinnitus is the high-pitched ringing in your ear that others cannot hear. The condition usually does not indicate any serious health issue. Nevertheless, it can be very annoying.

Repeated exposure to loud noises is one of the most prominent reasons for the condition. That is why, more and more Bangladeshis are suffering from it due to increasing sound pollution.

Associated problems of tinnitus can be many, including

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