

MILESTONE JET CRASH UK team arrives to provide advanced care to the injured

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

A specialised UK Emergency Medical Team arrived in Bangladesh yesterday to provide advanced care to those injured in the tragic aircraft crash at Milestone School and College in Uttara's Diabari area on July 21.

The nine-member team comprises highly experienced clinical professionals, including infectious disease specialists, intensive care doctors, infection prevention and control nurses, and rehabilitation specialists, the UK High Commission said in a statement.

Over the next three weeks, they will work alongside local physicians to deliver critical care and rehabilitation services to injured students receiving treatment at the National Institute of Burn and Plastic Surgery, it added.

British High Commissioner to Bangladesh Sarah Cooke said, "The UK stands in solidarity with those affected by this tragic incident and wants to extend its support. I am confident that the specialised treatment offered by the UK medical team will accelerate the recovery and rehabilitation of the injured students."

At least 34 persons, mostly students, were killed and more than 150 others injured in that fighter jet crash.

Tk 10cr allocated to revive Haridhoya

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Narsingdi

The Disaster Management and Relief Ministry has allocated Tk 10 crore to clean up and restore the heavily polluted Haridhoya River in Narsingdi.

The Bangladesh Water Development Board (BWDB) has been entrusted with implementing the project.

Md Humayun Kabir, sub-divisional engineer of BWDB's Narsingdi office, said, "Due to excessive pollution, the Haridhoya River has lost its natural flow and ecological balance, causing numerous problems for locals. The ministry has allocated Tk 10 crore for restoration, but we are yet to receive the government order (GO) for fund release. We expect to receive it soon, after which work will begin as per the government's plan."

Once a vital source of livelihood with clear water and abundant fish, the Haridhoya has now become critically polluted. Locals blame untreated industrial waste, residential sewage, and piles of plastic and solid waste for turning the river into a near dead waterway.

No progress on separate judiciary secretariat

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as recruitment, transfer, and promotion of lower court judges, allowing room for executive interference.

Supreme Court officials say forming a separate secretariat would transfer these powers to the apex court, marking a major step towards judicial autonomy.

A law ministry official said, "We've drafted the ordinance for establishing the secretariat and held a couple of meetings with the Supreme Court. The draft is now nearly final. There's no further update."

He declined to provide more details.

On October 27 last year, the SC submitted a proposal to the law ministry along with a concept paper explaining the reasons and objectives behind establishing a separate judicial secretariat.

According to SC sources, the proposed ordinance aims to institutionalise judicial independence. It outlines a framework for recruitment, promotion, transfer, budgeting, training, and professional development of lower court judges and staff under the Supreme Court secretariat.

On March 17, Chief

staff, according to ministry sources.

In the concept paper, the apex court noted that meaningful separation of the judiciary had long been elusive, mainly because successive governments lacked the political will to implement it.

However, a few days later, the ministry returned the proposal to the SC, requesting modifications.

On April 21, the court sent a revised draft titled "Supreme Court Secretariat Ordinance 2025" to the ministry, along with a list of proposed amendments to the Rules of Business 1996, the Allocation of Business, and the secretariat's organogram.

It also urged the ministry to take necessary steps.

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Led by Justice Shah Abu Nayeem Mominur Rahman, a retired Appellate Division judge, the commission recommended amending Article 116 of the Constitution to ensure full judicial independence and separation of powers.

Justice Syed Refaat Ahmed said the judiciary can only fulfil its responsibilities effectively when institutional independence is ensured by establishing an independent judicial secretariat.

Chief Adviser Prof Muhammad Yunus, at a national seminar on June 22, said the government cannot avoid creating a separate secretariat for the judiciary. The chief justice and Law Adviser Asif Nazrul were also present there.

The Judiciary Reform Commission, which submitted its final report to the Chief Adviser on February 5, proposed transferring control and discipline of lower court judges from the President to the Supreme Court, along with establishing a separate secretariat.

Led by Justice Shah Abu Nayeem Mominur Rahman, a retired Appellate Division judge, the commission recommended amending Article 116 of the Constitution to ensure full judicial independence and separation of powers.

Article 116 currently states: "The control (including the power of posting, promotion, and grant of leave) and discipline of persons employed in the judicial service and magistrates exercising judicial functions shall vest in the president and shall be exercised by him in consultation with the Supreme Court."

The commission proposed enacting a separate law or ordinance to establish the secretariat, amending the Rules of Business, 1996, and creating rules and guidelines for its operation.

Speaking on the matter on July 31, Law Adviser Asif Nazrul said the government recently formed a separate service led by the chief justice to create posts for judicial officers, which is a step toward establishing the separate judiciary secretariat.

"This is being done step by step," he said, expressing hope that the secretariat's formation would be completed during the interim government's tenure.

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Such technical failures have become common for Biman flights.

For example, a flight to Damman returned mid-air due to a technical issue on July 28, while an Abu Dhabi-bound flight had to return after a toilet malfunction on Friday.

Last Wednesday, a Bangkok-bound flight returned mid-air because of unusual engine vibrations.

Due to such frequent technical problems on Biman flights, passengers have grown anxious and increasingly dissatisfied.

They expressed concern about their safety because of these repeated incidents.

Sources say Biman's Boeing 737 and Dash 8 aircraft have recently been experiencing recurring technical faults.

Aviation experts believe these problems are caused

Late night

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Siddiq Hossain, sub-inspector of Banani Police Station and the investigating officer of the case, told The Daily Star, "The driver, Rintu, lost control of the vehicle and crashed into the divider. One victim died instantly at the spot while the other succumbed to injuries at the hospital."

"The injured cousin is currently in critical condition and police have not been able to speak with him yet. The car was seized and sent for forensics," Siddiq added.

Police said the divider near the Mohakhali flyover is poorly lit and without any paint, contributing to frequent accidents in the area.

Relatives rushed to the hospital after learning about the accident.

Shawkat's wife Moushumi Karim said their home is in Hazaribagh's Moneshwar first lane.

Shawkat was employed at an insurance company, also involved with the tannery business, she said.

Rintu, also from Hazaribagh's Moneshwar first lane, was living in Dhanmondi with his wife and children. The private car involved in the accident belonged to him.

Shawkat's elder brother Sazzad Hossain Tapan said, "We don't know the exact circumstances of the accident, but police told us the car hit the divider in the Banani area, causing the crash."

Both bodies were sent to the DMCH morgue for postmortem examination, said police.

Land, rights, recognition

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He said the issues of the Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT) could be resolved quickly if the government acted with generosity and sincerity.

"We see one system of governance across Bangladesh and another in the hilly areas. Because of this, we are not safe to walk freely, are deprived of our right to education, and have endured a long history of oppression and exploitation," he said.

Ushatan called for unity to protect indigenous existence, identity and rights, and to implement the CHT Accord.

Also speaking at the event were Bangladesh Adivasi Forum (CHT region) President Prakriti Ranjan Chakma, former National Human Rights Commission member Nirupa Dewan, and educationist and cultural activist Shishir Kanti Chakma.

The discussion was chaired by Chathowai Mong Marma, president of the celebration committee. Distinguished social worker and indigenous leader Sudhakar Tripura was the chief guest, with Monotosh Tripura as moderator.

3 more divisions

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But the number rose sharply over the last 70 days, with the caseload reaching 1,711 and four deaths reported as of yesterday.

Asked about the cause, Habibur Rahman, director of Rajshahi division of DGHS, said the sharp rise in cases in the Chapainawabganj district is the main reason have contributed to this. Additionally, many patients arrived with multiple complications.

In response to another question, he said the increase in the density of Aedes larvae, caused by various factors, is driving the rise in dengue cases.

Both the city corporation and his office are working to improve the situation, he told this correspondent last night.

As for Khulna, the division had only 163 dengue cases and two deaths until June 1.

However, by yesterday, the numbers increased to 1,200 cases and four deaths.

Prof Yunus

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Named an Honorary MBE in February 2025, Anam was recognised for her work in social justice, inclusion, and gender equality – values shared by the UK and Bangladesh.

The UK has partnered with the Manusher Jonno Foundation for over two decades, supporting more than 460 grassroots organisations to promote dignity, inclusion, and justice nationwide.

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'অকেজো গাড়ি নিলামে বিক্রয়ের বিজ্ঞপ্তি'

নম্বর: ১৩.০০.০০০০.০০০.০১৫.২৬.০০০২.২৩.৮২৪

খাদ্য মন্ত্রণালয়ের প্রশাসনিক কাজে ব্যবহৃত অকেজো ঘোষিত ঢাকা মেট্রো-৫-৫-৫২৫ নম্বর মাইক্রোবাসটি, খাদ্য অধিদপ্তর, ১৬, আব্দুল গফি রোড, ঢাকা এর চতুরে সংরক্ষিত যে অবস্থায় আছে সে অবস্থায় নিলামে বিক্রয়ের লক্ষ্যে দরপত্র আহ্বান করা যাচ্ছে। দরপত্রের শর্তাবলী সম্পর্কিত সিডিউল প্রতিসেট ১,০০০/- (এক হাজার টাকা (অফেরখ্যোগ)। সরকারি আর্থিক কোড নং: '১৪৮০১০১-১৩০২১৯-১৪২২৩২৮-দরপত্র দলিল ফি' খাতে ট্রেজারি চালানের মাধ্যমে সোনালী বাংকের যে কোন শাখায় জমা দিয়ে চালানের কপি প্রদর্শন পূর্বে নিম্নস্থানকর্কারীর দণ্ডের হতে ২০/০৮/২০২৫ খ্রি। তারিখের মধ্যে অফিস সংরক্ষিত বাসে অনুমতি দেওয়া হবে। দরপত্র আগমনী ২১/০৮/২০২৫ খ্রি। তারিখ দুপুর ২.০০ টার মধ্যে নিম্নস্থানকর্কারীর অফিসে সংরক্ষিত বাসে অফিস সংরক্ষিত যোগাযোগ করায় যাবে।

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