



Shomman Foundation yesterday distributed face-masks and soap among building staffers, hawkers and people with disabilities at different areas under Dhaka South City Corporation.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

YOUTH

FROM PAGE 3
people to avoid crowds and public transports as a precautionary measure. However, a huge number of people depend on public transports like bus, minibus and CNG-run auto-rickshaws, for their daily commute.

Salman said they have installed six sinks in front of their office in Mirpur a week ago, so that people can wash their hands.

"Today, we saw DNCC [Dhaka North City Corporation] mayor installed hand-washing facilities in different parts of the city. We hope the authorities would also take steps to disinfect public transports," he said.

The organisation will continue their campaign today starting early in the morning, he said, adding that they would set up water drums at different points as hand-washing facilities, he added.

Bidyandono is being run by 40 officers and hundreds of volunteers, whose mission is to foster philanthropy domestically and internationally by designing innovative and inspiring programmes, according to its official website.

The foundation has garnered praise for various initiatives in the past, most recently for recycling laminated election posters used during Dhaka City Corporation elections.

The flipside of the posters was turned into notebooks, while the plastic was used to pack clothes and made into strings to bind food packets, they said. They had collected more than 1 lakh posters during the campaign.

Mask Sale
We sell Surgical Mask (with true Antibacterial part)
Contact: 01713491951

Return of the menace

FROM PAGE 3
"We have only three people to carry out the drive even though ours is a populous area [Dania]. We are only given 10 litres of adulticide per day. I have requested the authorities to double the amount."

"I carry out cleaning initiatives in the area on my own as we don't have any cleaning worker. I need at least 10. There are also two canals, which need to be cleaned regularly. I have informed the authorities about the issue as well," he said.

Contacted, Jamal Mostafa, panel mayor of DNCC, said the city corporation is taking various measures. "We are using larvicide and adulticide as well as applying malaria Oil-B to get better result following the suggestions of entomologists."

The panel mayor, however, said it is not just the city corporation's responsibility and everyone has to play their due role.

For example, he said, "There are many waterbodies inside privately-owned properties and land owned by other authorities where mosquitoes breed. It's their duty to clean those properly."

There are waterbodies and bushes in Dhaka airport area under the Civil Aviation Authority of Bangladesh, he said. "We have held meeting with them and also issued letters to different organisations to take necessary steps."

The panel mayor said they have engaged 11 teams from March 7 to conduct anti-mosquito drives. The teams will monitor activities at every DNCC ward.

Contacted last month, Chief Health Officer Brig Gen Sharif Ahmed of DSCC said they take measures round the year to check the population of Aedes mosquitoes, which spread dengue, chikungunya and other diseases. From November to March and April, they take steps to check culex, he said.

He said they had conducted a survey in the first week of November last year and identified many hot spots of culex mosquitoes. "We also did a follow-up drive near the end of December, and are continuing our anti-mosquito drives to bring the situation under control."

Another DSCC official said they have conducted a crash programme to destroy Aedes mosquito breeding grounds.

On March 25, DSCC Mayor Sayeed Khokon inaugurated the seven-day drive to destroy breeding sources of Aedes mosquitoes that were identified

by DGHS, he said.

They have also issued letters to organisations like Rajuk, Rehab, DMP, Wasa and BWDB to take necessary steps to destroy the breeding grounds, the official added.

11 ORGS MAKING MATTERS WORSE
When Dhaka residents are finding it hard to cope with the growing mosquito menace, eleven organisations have been found helping the insect population rise by the day in the city.

The organisations, including north and south city corporations, have around 50 canals, 12 lakes, 23 ponds, and other waterbodies spanning over no less than 4,000 bighas.

Most of them do not spend any money to clean the swatches of stagnant waterbodies in and around the capital, this newspaper had reported in November 2018.

There are around 2,700 bighas of waterbodies under the two city corporations; the DC office of Dhaka has 35 canals; Dhaka Wasa is in charge of 26 canals; Bangladesh Water Development Board has around 93km of canals, one retention area and one pond; PWD has two lakes and four ponds; National Housing Authority has three ponds; Rajuk has three lakes and two ponds; Jute Research Institute and Shishu Academy have one pond each; National Botanical Garden has seven lakes and five ponds, and Bangladesh Road Research Laboratory has six ponds.

Apart from these, there are privately-owned waterbodies that are not being cleaned properly.

WHAT AUTHORITIES SAY
Asked, Wasa Managing Director Taqsem A Khan said they have started cleaning canals at a small scale. "We will launch a comprehensive drive soon."

"We dig up canals to increase their retention capacity; we do the work just before rainy seasons so that the waterbody does not get filled up with garbage before monsoon," said Taqsem.

He, however, blamed the city corporations for not cleaning up solid waste from the canals on a regular basis.

TM Rashidul Kabir, executive engineer (operation and maintenance; division 1), of BWDB, said, "We are maintaining the waterbodies under our jurisdiction on a regular basis."

However, the city corporation has to do their part as well and clean the waterbodies as they are in charge of

the mosquito control activities, he said.

Rehab President Alamgir Shamsul Alamin said they have already issued multiple letters to their members and asked them to take steps so that no stagnant water remains at construction sites or project areas.

'LAX MEASURES TO BLAME'
Architect Iqbal Habib said as per the city corporation act, there is no area in the city which is not under city corporations' jurisdiction.

"They can impose fines if one does not clean a waterbody, where culex mosquitoes are breeding. They can also clean the waterbody and charge a fee for that," he said.

"City authorities have to aware people of their responsibilities. A coordinated approach is needed in this fight," said the joint secretary of Bangladesh Paribesh Andolon.

Jahangirnagar University's entomologist Kabirul Bashar, along with a team of researchers, has been conducting surveys on the capital's waterbodies under a three-year project. He explained that until this year, the highest density of culex mosquito larvae was found in January -- at 50 larvae per 500ml of water.

"This year, for the first time, we found about 150-200 larvae in 500ml of water in a survey conducted between February 11 and 18 in the two city corporation areas," he said.

"Rise in temperatures from mid-February is leading to increase in organic matter in waterbodies, which provides food and a conducive breeding environment to mosquitoes. The situation will turn dire, unless larvicide is sprayed," he added.

Entomologist Dr Manzur Chowdhury, former president of Geological Society of Bangladesh, said the number of culex mosquitoes, which spread diseases like filariasis and avian malaria, has gone "out of control" in Dhaka.

Lack of effective measures by the two city corporations and the absence of proper logistics are mainly to blame for the situation, he said.

"If city corporations do not start taking effective measures now, the increasing trend in mosquito population density will continue until a nor'wester hits the capital. The storm naturally kills culex mosquitoes and reduces their number," he added.

He also said there are problems in the chain of command and line of communication among the authorities concerned -- which need to be resolved.

Of hugs, handshakes

FROM PAGE 5

Dal (Chattogram south district), was seen campaigning for BNP candidate Shahadat Hossain in Jamal Khan area.

Wearing a mask, Talukdar was handing over leaflets to residents. "Of course I'm worried," he told this newspaper. "Such gathering could lead to getting infected," he added. "But we have no alternative to campaigning, as the Election Commission did not postpone the polls yet," he said.

Bahauddin, a member of pro-BNP organisation Sramik Dal (city unit), also blamed the EC for not deferring the polls.

Port city residents, however, were not too enthused about the election-centric gatherings.

Kamrul Hasan, a resident of Jamal Khan area, suggested that the candidates conduct online campaigning. "They should be more sensitive about the present crisis," he added.

Rafik Ahmed of Askar Dighir Par area said, "I even told some candidates not to hold such gatherings in our area, but to no avail."

Contacted, Shahadat Hossain, who is also a practicing physician, said there is a tangible health risk during electioneering. "When we greet people during campaign, we shake their hands and embrace them. Being a politician, this is a common practice," he said.

He too advised the EC to take the situation seriously and urged them to ensure safety of voters as they are at risk of

getting infected.

Considering the situation, he said, they have launched a web portal yesterday and asked their activists to campaign online.

Jannatul Islam of Islami Andolan Bangladesh said the candidates had a meeting with the chief election commissioner (CEC) on March 14. "The CEC did not shake our hands at the meeting... but we have to shake hands and hug voters when we meet them, otherwise they might think we are not on their side."

He also demanded deferment of polls, considering the situation.

The Awami League mayor candidate, on the other hand, had a different outlook on the issue.

"As the government has not declared the virus epidemic, there is no problem to hold the election on March 29," Rezaul Karim Chowdhury told this newspaper.

Yesterday, he campaigned in city's different wards. Rezaul, however, did not seem to have any precautionary measure planned during campaigning to tackle the situation.

When asked about the probable risk, he said there is no risk as every voter will have to wash their hands before casting vote in EVM.

But Tauhid Chowdhury, a resident of Pahartoli, was not convinced. "Will washing hands protect us from coronavirus infection when we stand in long queues with a huge number of voters at polling centres?" he asked.

Bangabandhu's

FROM PAGE 5

Commissioner Dr KM Kamruzzaman Selim said, "We took such an initiative to introduce Bangabandhu to the next generations at grassroots level."

"Hopefully, initiatives like this will help them learn about the ideals of the Father of the Nation and inspire them to work for the development of the country, he added.

It is necessary to know about Bangabandhu as Bangladesh's identity without the great leader is incomplete, Deputy Commissioner Kamruzzaman further said.

Among others, district unit Awami League president Sadek Quraishi and AL upazila unit president Arunangshu Datta Tito spoke at the meeting with Upazila Nirbahi Officer Abdullah Al Mamun in the chair.

MUIJIB YEAR

10,000 students to get IT training

Bss, Bogura

Thengamara Mohila Sabuj Sangha (TMSS) has taken an initiative to provide training to 10,000 students on computer application courses on the occasion of the birth centenary celebrations of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

Additional deputy commissioner (education and ICT) of Bogura district Masum Ali Begum formally inaugurated the two-month training at a programme yesterday.

TMSS Executive Director Prof Hosne-Ara Begum, Director of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) of TMSS Nigar Sultana and senior officials, among others, were present on the occasion.

The students, who appeared in Secondary School Certificate (SSC) examination this year, will be given the IT training for free. Nigar Sultana told the news agency.

Thengamara Mohila Sabuj Sangha is a micro credit NGO founded by Hosne-Ara Begum, an Ashoka fellow, in 1980 in Bogura.

The women-oriented organisation works for alleviation of poverty, empowerment of women and improvement of socio-economic infrastructure in the country. TMSS has partnered with a number of organisations to help enhance services available in more rural areas.

Abul Mansur Ahmad's

FROM PAGE 3

(21-point programme) election manifesto of Jukta Front (a grand coalition of the three giants of our politics -- Sher-e-Bangla AK Fazlul Huq, Maulana Bhashani and Shaheed Suhrawardy) in the 1954 election through which Muslim League was ousted from power.

The Ekush Dafa was the first comprehensive articulation of the political, economic and cultural demands of the Bangalees of the then eastern part of Pakistan.

He was elected a member of East Bengal Provincial Assembly in that election, and served as health minister in the United Front cabinet under Sher-e-Bangla AK Fazlul Huq. In 1955, he was elected a member of Pakistan Constituent Assembly.

He was the minister for education in the United Front government of East Pakistan in 1956 and the minister for commerce and trade in 1956-1957. After the promulgation of martial law by Ayub Khan in 1958, he was imprisoned and subsequently released

in 1962. He then retired from politics.

Abul Mansur Ahmad was known for his strong stand in favour of regional autonomy of East Pakistan. He made remarkable contributions to industrialisation of the long-neglected East Pakistan. He always propagated secularism in a manner unparalleled in the forties, fifties and sixties.

Abul Mansur Ahmad's publications include satires like Aina, Asmani Purdah, Gulliverer Safar Nama and Food Conference. He also penned insightful works on social and political history of Bengal such as Bangladesher Culture. He has two autobiographical writings -- Atma Katha (About myself) and Amar Dekha Rajnitr Panchash Bachar (50 years of politics as I saw it).

Abul Mansur Ahmad was one of the greatest political personalities of the subcontinent who combined rare talents in three distinct fields -- politics, journalism and literary writing.

He was born in 1898 in Dhanikhola village of Trishal, Mymensingh.

DU inaugurates

FROM PAGE 3

Dr Akhtaruzzaman said the university will confer an honorary doctorate of law on the Father of the Nation posthumously through a special convocation on September 5.

Bangabandhu was a student of the university's law department, said Akhtaruzzaman.

He also announced programmes taken by DU marking "Mujib Borsho", which included building a sculpture of Bangabandhu, founding the "Bangabandhu Research Institute for Peace and Liberty", organising an international conference and publishing a book titled "Bangabandhu and Dhaka University".

Besides, sweets were distributed among students at dorms of the university, while special prayers were offered at the university's central mosque after Zohr prayers, seeking eternal peace of the departed soul of Bangabandhu.

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার
প্রবাসী কল্যাণ ও বৈদেশিক কর্মসংস্থান মন্ত্রণালয়
প্রবাসী কল্যাণ ভবন
৭১-৭২, পুরাতন এলিফ্যান্ট রোড, ইফাটন গার্ডেন, রমনা, ঢাকা-১০০০
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করোনা ভাইরাসে উদ্ভূত পরিস্থিতিতে জরুরি বিজ্ঞপ্তি

করোনা ভাইরাস সংক্রান্ত বর্তমানে জৈবগত সীমানা অতিক্রম করে বৈশ্বিক রূপ লাভ করে মহামারির আকার ধারণ করায় প্রবাসী বাংলাদেশি কর্মী ও তাদের পরিবারসহ দেশের জনগণের স্বাস্থ্যগত নিরাপত্তা, বৈদেশিক কর্মসংস্থান এবং সামগ্রিক সুরক্ষার লক্ষ্যে নিম্নরূপ পদক্ষেপ গ্রহণের জন্য সংশ্লিষ্ট সকলকে অনুরোধ জানানো হলোঃ

- যে সকল অভিবাসী কর্মী ছুটিতে বা অন্য কোন কারণে দেশে এসেছেন এবং যারা নতুনভাবে কর্মসংস্থান নিয়ে বিদেশে যাওয়ার জন্য অপেক্ষা করছেন তাদের ভিসার মেয়াদ উত্তীর্ণ হওয়ার বিষয়ে উদ্বিগ্ন না হওয়ার অনুরোধ করা হলো। পরবর্তীতে পরিস্থিতি স্বাভাবিক হলে এ ধরনের ভিসার মেয়াদ বর্ধিত করার বিষয়ে বিভিন্ন দেশ হতে ইতোমধ্যেই আশ্বাস পাওয়া গেছে।
- বিদেশে অবস্থানরত প্রবাসী কর্মীকে করোনা ভাইরাস নিয়ে আতঙ্কিত না হয়ে এর প্রতিরোধ ও মোকাবেলায় সংশ্লিষ্ট দেশের নির্দেশনা/অনুশাসন কঠোরভাবে মেনে চলতে এবং নিজের, পরিবারের ও দেশের জনগণের স্বাস্থ্যগত নিরাপত্তার স্বার্থে পরিস্থিতি স্বাভাবিক না হওয়া পর্যন্ত স্ব স্ব দেশে অবস্থান করতে অনুরোধ করা হচ্ছে। প্রবাসী কর্মীদের দেশে অবস্থানরত পরিবার পরিজন এ বিষয়ে সংশ্লিষ্ট কর্মীদের অনুরোধ জানাতে পারেন।
- একান্ত অনিবার্য না হলে প্রবাসী কর্মীগণকে আন্তর্জাতিক চলাফেরার সাময়িকভাবে বন্ধ রাখার অনুরোধ করা হচ্ছে। এ বিষয়েও দূতাবাসসমূহে প্রয়োজনীয় কার্যক্রম গ্রহণ করা হচ্ছে।
- যে সকল প্রবাসী কর্মীদের জন্য কোয়ারেন্টাইন প্রয়োজ্য তাদের তা দায়িত্বশীলতার সাথে পালন করতে হবে। আপনার ও আপনার পরিবারের স্বাস্থ্যগত নিরাপত্তার স্বার্থে এ নির্দেশনা আনুষঙ্গিকভাবে পালনীয়।
- প্রবাসী কর্মী ও তাদের পরিবারের কল্যাণার্থে সংশ্লিষ্ট যে কোন তথ্য বা জিজ্ঞাসার জন্য প্রবাস বন্ধ কল সেন্টার (০১৭৮৪ ৩৩৩৩৩৩, ০১৭৮৪ ৩৩৩৩৩৩, ০২-৯৩৩ ৪৮৮৮) এ যোগাযোগ করতে পারেন (সপ্তাহের ৭ দিন ২৪ ঘণ্টা)।
- দেশে জরুরি প্রয়োজনে স্বাস্থ্য পরামর্শ পেতে ১৬২৬৩ অথবা ৩৩৩ নম্বরে কল করুন।
- বিদেশ ফেরত কিংবা বিদেশ গমনোচ্ছ প্রবাসী কর্মী ও তাদের পরিবারসহ সকল নাগরিক কর্তৃক করোনা ভাইরাস প্রতিরোধ ও মোকাবেলায় সরকার নির্ধারিত করণীয়সমূহ কঠোরভাবে অনুসরণ করতে হবে।

মুজিববার্ষিক আহবান, দক্ষ হয়ে বিদেশ যান।

প্রবাসীদের কল্যাণেঃ প্রবাসী কল্যাণ ও বৈদেশিক কর্মসংস্থান মন্ত্রণালয়

GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH			
College Education Development Project (CEDP)			
College Name: Dhaka City College			
Road #2, Plot # 5 Dhamondi, Dhaka 1205.			
Invitation for Tenders			
1	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Education	
2	Agency	University Grants Commission/National University	
3	Procuring Entity Name	Principal Dhaka City College	
4	Procuring Entity Code	N/A	
5	Procuring Entity District	Dhaka	
6	Invitation for	Procurement of Furniture for the Departmental Rooms Classrooms, Library & Labs	
7	Invitation Ref No	DCC/IDG/G/3/OTM/1	
8	Date	18/03/2020	
KEY INFORMATION			
9	Procurement Method	18/03/2020	
FUNDING INFORMATION			
10	Budget and Source of Funds	Development Budget (Government & IDA Credit)	
11	Development Partners	International Development Association (IDA), World Bank	
KEY INFORMATION			
12	Project Code	224017200	
13	Project Name	College Education Development Project (CEDP)	
14	Tender Package No.	DCC/IDG/G/3/OTM/1	
15	Tender Package Name	Procurement of Furniture for the Departmental Rooms Classrooms, Library & Labs	
16	Tender Publication Date	18/03/2020	
17	Tender Last Selling Date	01/04/2020 at 5:00pm	
18	Tender Closing Date and Time	02/04/2020 at 02:00 pm	
19	Tender Opening Date and Time	02/04/2020 at 03:00 pm	
20	Selling Tender Document	1. Primary Place: Dhaka City College, Dhaka, Road #2, Plot # 5 Dhamondi, Dhaka 1205. 2. Secondary Place: Dharmondi Model Thana, Road # 6, Dhamondi, Dhaka.	
21	Receiving Tender Document	Office of Principal, Dhaka City College	
22	Opening Tender Document	Office of Principal, Dhaka City College	
23	Place/Date/Time of Pre-Tender Meeting (Optional)	Not Applicable	
INFORMATION FOR TENDERER			
24	Eligibility of Tenderer	1. The Tenderer shall have a minimum of three (3) years overall experience in the supply of goods and related services; years counting backward from the date of publication of IPT in the newspaper. 2. The minimum specific experience as Supplier in supply of similar Goods of at least 02 contracts successfully completed within the last 3 years, each with a value of at least Tk. 25 Lac. 3. The minimum amount of liquid assets i.e working capital or credit line(s) of the Tenderer shall be Tk. 25,00,000.00 (twenty-five lac) 4. Others requirements as per tender data sheet.	
25	Brief Description of Goods or Works	Desktop Computer Table, Classroom Table and Metal Base with Foreign resin upper part Chair as per Design.	
26	Brief Description of Related Services	Related service shall be in accordance with Section 4; Particular Conditions of Contract, Section 6; Schedule of Requirements and Section 7; Technical Specification of the tender document.	
27	Tender Document Price	BDT 1,500.00 (One Thousand Five Hundred)	
28	Lot No	Identification of Lot	Tender Security Amount (TK)
28	01	Classroom Furniture	Tk. 80,000
28	01	Classroom Furniture	Tk. 80,000
29	Name of Official Inviting Tender	Md. Anwar Hossain	
30	Designation of Official Inviting Tender	Principal	
31	Address of Official Inviting Tender	Dhaka City College, Dhaka, Road #2, Plot # 5 Dhamondi, Dhaka 1205.	
32	Contact Details of Official Inviting Tender	Tel: 88-02-58610294, 88-02-9674115	Fax: 9675529
33	The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.		