



# A noble change in dire times

A cooperative in Bagerhat closes its restaurant to produce low-cost masks

PARTHA CHAKRABORTY, Bagerhat

Until March 20, Vumi Book Café and Guest House in Bagerhat were like any other small-scale hotel, serving customers hearty meals and comfortable lodging.

As the coronavirus infections cases rose in the country, Greater Unity for Reality (GUR), the cooperative society that runs the place, felt the urge to do something.

They turned the café into a facility for producing low-cost surgical masks.

While local vendors were selling similar masks for Tk 20 to Tk 30, the cooperative began selling their product for a price below Tk 10.

"We have closed our café and are only making home deliveries of food," said Mir Jaesi Asrafi Jems, project director of Vumi Book Café and Guest House.

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Employees of Vumi Book Café and Guest House in Bagerhat producing low-cost surgical masks inside the small-scale hotel recently. Greater Unity for Reality (GUR), the cooperative society that runs the place, turned the hotel into a mask-making facility after the country experienced a coronavirus outbreak.

IMPACT OF CLIMATE CHANGE

# Bangladesh may see more floods

Says UN report, warns increased concentration of pollutants could make matters worse

MOHAMMAD AL-MASUM MOLLA

More and severe floods are likely in Bangladesh and India due to climate change, says a UN study published on March 21.

The UN report titled "World Water Development Report 2020" said apart from flooding, Bangladesh will also be the country worst hit by droughts due to increased concentration of pollutants and low-quality groundwater sources.

The report began by saying that climate will continue to change, affecting societies mainly through water, and "will

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# Housewife gang-raped in Pabna

Five BCL men sued; one of them arrested

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

A housewife was gang-raped allegedly by Chhatra League activists in Char Sujanagar Bhabanipur area in Sujangar upazila on Sunday night.

The victim filed a case against five BCL men, including joint secretary of Sujanagar municipality unit BCL, the same night.

Police arrested an accused, Sumon Hossain Patol, 22, of Char Sujanagar village, yesterday and produced him before a Pabna court that sent him to jail.

Quoting the case statement, Hadiul Islam, officer-in-charge (investigation) of Sujanagar Police Station, said the woman, 30, of Santhia upazila, was going to her sister's house in Kuladi village of Pabna Sadar upazila.

When she reached Sujanagar Bazar on Sunday afternoon, her brother-in-law came to receive her. But the BCL men, led by Sumon Khan, joint secretary of Sujanagar municipality unit BCL, halted them and beat up her brother-in-law.

They then took the woman to a wheat field and raped her, the OC said, quoting the case statement.

The victim was sent to Pabna General Hospital for medical tests yesterday, he said.

During primary interrogation, the

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FIRST YEAR OF BANGLADESH BANGABANDHU'S NATION-BUILDING CHALLENGES

# Bangalees will defend their freedom at all cost: Bangabandhu



NAP Chief Prof Muzaffar Ahmed, accompanied by some of his party's senior members, calls on Bangabandhu on March 24, 1972.

MARCH 24, 1972

SHAMSUDDOZA SAJEN

ULTRAS, FOREIGN AGENTS BOUND TO FAIL

Prime Minister Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman declares today in Dhaka that the machinations of the foreign agents and so-called ultra-progressive and ultra-right elements would not be able to undo the hard-earned freedom of Bangladesh. Bangabandhu, who attends as the chief guest at a function arranged on the occasion of the golden jubilee celebration of the Anandabazar Patrika of Kolkata, is confident that the "Bangalees who have achieved independence at the cost of three million lives also know how to preserve it".

The Prime Minister expresses his profound gratitude towards

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Government of Canada

Gouvernement du Canada

**URGENT: Attention all Canadians in Bangladesh,**

Due to the **COVID-19** pandemic we are strongly urging all Canadian Citizens to immediately register as a Canadian abroad (ROCA) at <https://travel.gc.ca/travelling/registration> to enable you to receive important safety updates from the Government of Canada.

Please share this important information with other Canadian citizens in your area and encourage them to register with ROCA at <https://travel.gc.ca/travelling/registration>

Global Affairs Canada

**URGENT : Attention à tous les Canadiens au Bangladesh,**

En raison de la pandémie **COVID-19**, nous encourageons fortement tous les citoyens canadiens à s'inscrire immédiatement comme Canadien à l'étranger (ROCA) à <https://voyage.gc.ca/voyager/inscription> pour vous permettre de recevoir d'importantes mises à jour importantes en matière de sécurité de la part du gouvernement du Canada.

Veuillez partager cette information importante avec d'autres citoyens canadiens de votre région et les encourager à s'inscrire auprès de ROCA à <https://voyage.gc.ca/voyager/inscription>

Affaires mondiales Canada

কোভিড-১৯: চিকিৎসা বিষয়ে

জরুরী গণবিজ্ঞপ্তি

মুজিব বর্ষে স্বাস্থ্য খাত এগিয়ে যাবে অনেক ধাপ

আপনার জ্বর, গলা ব্যথা, ম্যাজ ম্যাজ ভাব, শরীর ব্যথা, হাঁচি, কাশি, সর্দি এসব উপসর্গ যদি থাকে তবে শ্বাসকষ্ট না থাকে-

তাহলে বাড়িতেই থাকুন এবং নিম্নোক্ত নিয়মসমূহ মেনে চলুনঃ

- কুসুম গরম পানি পান করুন ও গরম পানি দিয়ে গড়গড়া করুন
- বাড়ির অন্যদের থেকে আলাদা থাকুন
- দিনে অন্ততঃ দু'বার শরীরের তাপমাত্রা মাপুন
- মাস্ক পড়ুন
- বাড়িতে অতিথিদের আসা বন্ধ করুন
- ঘনঘন সাবান পানি দিয়ে হাত ধুবেন
- জ্বর কমানোর জন্য প্যারাসিটামল খাবেন
- সর্দি-কাশির জন্য এন্টিহিস্টামিন (যেমন ফেক্সোফেনাডিন, ক্লোরফেনিরামিন ইত্যাদি) খেতে পারেন
- হাত দিয়ে নাক, চোখ, মুখ ছোবেন না।

প্রয়োজনে ১৬২৬৩ বা ৩৩৩ নম্বরে ফোন করে বিনামূল্যে চিকিৎসকের পরামর্শ নিন

- আপনার উপরোক্ত উপসর্গসমূহ থাকলে এবং বয়স ৬০-এর বেশী হলে বা অন্যান্য অসুস্থতা যেমন উচ্চ রক্তচাপ, হাঁপানী, হৃদরোগ, ডায়াবেটিস, গর্ভাবস্থা থাকলে অবশ্যই চিকিৎসকের পরামর্শ গ্রহণ করুন।
- শ্বাসকষ্ট হলে বা অন্যান্য জটিলতা দেখা দিলে দ্রুত চিকিৎসকের পরামর্শ নিন।

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**PRAYER TIMING MARCH 24**

Fajr	Zohr	Asr	Maghrib	Esha
4:55	12:45	4:45	6:16	7:45
JAMAAT 5:30	1:15	5:00	6:20	8:15

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION