



Bangladesh becomes first country to treat Covid-22 over phone

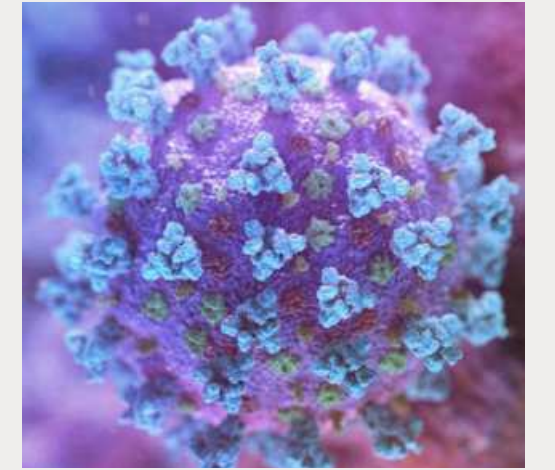
Call hotline to be asked basic questions and told you don't really have it

LUBNAN KHALEESI, OUR UNHEALTHY CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh became the first country in the world to treat coronavirus over phone. The country's Disease Uncontrol Centre run by Kooks (DUCK) came up with the brand new method even though THERE ARE MORE THAN ENOUGH TESTING KITS FOR ALL VIRUSES TM in the country.

"This virus is very easy to diagnosis. You don't even have to call our hotline. We hate all the calls we are getting. My social life has been in tatters ever since people started worrying so much about dying. It is the inevitable," Nawabzada Fauna, head of DUCK, told reporters outside her testing facility which has so many kits you would not even believe it.

"So your nose is blocked, you have a cough, and perhaps a little pneumonia. But have you recently been to a different country? Specifically these three countries? If not, then you do not have it. Take an aspirin and chill out," they said, adding that no one should panic if they are not tested considering the number of testing kits the centre



has can flood the entire country.

The new method of quick diagnosis has also instilled confidence in the country's people, with many now going out and about knowing they are not carriers of any virus.

Asked if the situation was so much under control, then why were all modes of public transport being suspended, Fauna said it was because too many people were using those to come to the DUCK headquarters.

"We have asked people on numerous occasions not to come here. But they just don't want to listen. Why are they behaving in such an odd way? There is nothing to see here except the billions of testing kits that we have. I promise. I swear to you," they said, breaking down in tears.

Fauna finally asked the reporters to leave and covered themselves with protective gear, including a bullet-proof vest and a very, very stupid looking hat.

Lubnan Khaleesi is a Nasa scientist with a moody disposition but a very sweet heart.

Mass gathering on social-distancing held; participants demand draconian laws be put in place now

OSAMA RAHMAN

A gathering of some 10,000 people -- standing 10 feet away from each other, decked out in gloves and masks -- yesterday demanded that draconian laws be enforced to tackle the growing virus outbreak.

"I read an article a few days ago which explained how during the plague even the most liberal countries had laws which even forced authorities to shut the sick in their homes for six weeks," one of the gatherers said. As they were wearing masks, this correspondent could not ask many questions. Who wears masks, if not the infected?

Others who had gathered echoed similar views.

"We need to all be put in a database and all our movements have to be tracked. This is no time to care about privacy and human rights," another participant said.

Pointing to the crowd, another participant highlighted how counterproductive the entire gathering exercise was. "We shouldn't even be here. But my son really wanted to be a revolutionary so I had to chaperone him here." We are using his quote to fill my word count quota.

Amid the congregation of sorts, calls grew for enacting something like the Plague Act of 1604, which made criticising any government initiatives illegal.

"We need an act like that. Stop asking why all the construction work is still going on amid all this crisis. Construction workers have inhaled so much dust and stuff, they are immune to the virus. Its science. Look it up, stupid," one of those who had joined said.

Following the gathering, the country's absolute ruler made an amazing address to the people, where they spoke about absolutely nothing important but

"We need an act like that. Stop asking why all the construction work is still going on amid all this crisis. Construction workers have inhaled so much dust and stuff, they are immune to the virus. Its science. Look it up, stupid,"

congratulated the people for being citizens of the country.

They also said, for the first time in the ruler's history, that they had heard the people and would put in place really draconian laws. When asked whether

measures would be enacted to prevent criticism of the government, they laughed and said that had been in place for a very long time and whether everyone in the country had been sleeping all this time.

Asked about whether people would be forcefully quarantined, the ruler said, with a glint in their eye, that quarantine was now called "picked up for interrogation".

"With the courts closed, where are they going to run to?" they said with a smile in their eye and a song in their heart.

"I understand that some people are concerned. But we must not panic. We must deal with the situation calmly. Call the hotline. Stay at home. Stay out of our way. Just stop buying all the potatoes. What are you even going to do with those anyway."

While the address was going well, when the ruler asked people to stop spitting on the roads, another mass protest broke out. And so it began. And so it ended.

VIRUS FACTS AND FICTION: Are tigers back in Ramna Park? They were never there

THE CORRESPONDENT WHO WILL NOT BE NAMED

There is panic in the air. Rightfully so. A dangerous criminal has just been released amidst a possible withering away of the power structures as we know them. But before we get too caught up in Lenin's dreams, let's address some of the more important rumours and absolutely not debunk them.

The rumour: Reports and lies have emerged of Royal Bengal Tigers returning to Ramna Park after all the privileged people in the city went into self-isolation. As the environment began to improve in literally three days, the tigers made the arduous journey from god knows where to post up in the park, known as the lungs of the city.

FALSE: There are no tigers in Ramna Park. People have also not really gone into self-isolation because had they done so, how did they know there were tigers in Ramna Park? None of that really makes any sense whatsoever. Experts say it is more possible that what was thought to be tigers were actually just unemployed cricketers roaring at each other.

The rumour: Disinfectant will now be sprayed all over the city using helicopters.

PARTIALLY TRUE: While not exactly disinfectants, they are what is normally known as chemtrails. Chemtrails are the way, smoky lines you see behind planes. Look up and you will be sure to notice them. The planes are spraying chemicals down from the sky to depopulate the earth. This has been going around for years.



But considering that the human population went up from 1 billion in 1800 to 7.616 billion in 2018, we can safely say the chemtrail plan has been a spectacular failure.

The rumour: The men in green will be picking up people from their homes and murdering them to stop the spread of some virus.

WE WISH: We don't really wish it, although there are proponents for it in this country. These people are very loud or maybe they are the only ones talking in this time of immense crisis.

But if you are outside to hang out with your friends, because for some reason you think your close friends would never give you a virus, then I guess it's a simple choice of harming a million or harming one.

The rumour: Mass prayers are the best way to fight a contagious infection.

UMM?: A highly infectious virus should be not be fought off with mass prayers. Does that make sense? If a virus spreads from one person to another, then why would you all congregate together and then pray it doesn't infect you. BUT, have you heard of the universal shared-consciousness theory? It posits that if a lot of people come together and will for something to happen, or if only one person does it, then the universe will listen. Dr Shahrukh Khan proved this theory in some movie where he said something about how the universe comes together to do what you want if you want it bad enough. So, we can be on the fence about this one, not because we want to, but you know it's the better option given considering how offended some of these folks can be.

The rumour: Women are safer on the roads as most of the men are gone. **FALSE:** Just no. They will come back. It's a pheromone thing.

Woman on the way for 38 years finally reaches office; gets fired

Due to the sensitive nature of this story, reader discretion is advised.

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Her family members, colleagues and friends were stumped. Munnii, 24, had told everyone that she was on her way to work. That was in 1982. She reached only yesterday.

In a time before cellphones, the last call Munnii received was from her boss, who she told she was on the way and

would be in the office soon. But soon could not come soon enough.

Before that conversation, she had called her husband, who was also told that she was on the way. For 38 years, they all waited. Her husband remarried after a decade long wait, while her boss eventually hired someone to fill Munnii's position.

When she finally arrived yesterday, Munnii found herself without a job and a husband. She instantly broke down in tears.

"I was stuck in traffic. You know how horrible Dhaka traffic is!" she was quoted as saying.

She then set back on her way home. She has yet to reach.

