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DMP now seeking volunteers

Wants them to deliver food, notify violations of social distancing directives

Dhaka Metropolitan Police is set to go tougher on those who would roam around streets as the number of Covid-19 patients has been ratcheting up in the country. DMP Commissioner Shafiqul Islam yesterday told The Daily Star that they were looking for some volunteers in every area. They would inform police if they notice anyone wandering purposelessly. Police would then arrive at the spot and force the violators to go back home, the DMP boss said, adding that law enforcers had been fining 100 to 150 people every day for defying the social-distancing directives. Earlier on Friday, DMP high-ups held a meeting with Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan where they agreed to beef up measures to ensure social distancing. Sudip Chakraborty, deputy commissioner of police in Gulshan division, said they were also trying to provide all



Many of these women could eke out a living by working in well-off people's flats or engaging in manual labour before the coronavirus pandemic happened and the economic activities came to a grinding halt. But now they roam the streets in the capital's Gulshan and run towards anyone who appears to have the means to spare something for them. The photo was taken yesterday.

STAY HOME, STAY WELL. Time to kick smoking habit. MOHAMMAD AL-MASUM MOLLA

The ongoing coronavirus pandemic could possibly be the best opportunity for smokers to quit their habit. Talking to The Daily Star yesterday, Nazmul Hasan, assistant professor at the Department of Internal Medicine of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University, said, "People may take this opportunity. A time of crisis is a time of opportunity." It will not be tough for smokers to quit smoking if they are strongly determined, he said. The doctor said many suggest to quit smoking gradually but the smokers should quit abruptly. "The sooner a smoker quits, the better it is for him or her." Some people may feel issues

Eight killed in lightning strikes

Around eight people, including two children, died while three were injured in separate incidents of being struck by lightning in four districts yesterday. Out of the eight, four died in Sunamganj, and two each in Sylhet and Mymensingh. Most of the victims were farmers who were struck while harvesting boro paddy on the field while one was feeding his cow. In Sylhet, a lightning strike killed a father and his child while they were harvesting paddy at Kalaruka haor of Sylhet Sadar upazila yesterday afternoon. The dead are Shamsher Ali, 58, and his son Soyful Ahmed, 12, from Kalaruka Uttarpara village. Okil Uddin, officer-in-charge of Jalalabad Police Station, said, "A thunderbolt strike hit them while they were harvesting Boro paddy at the haor. Their body was recovered and handed over to their family." In Sunamganj, the dead were identified as Shankar Sarkar, 26, from Shalla upazila, Shipon Miah, 32, from Jagannathpur upazila, Farid Miah, 35, from Dakkhin Sunamganj and Taposh Mia, 35, from Ajmiriganj upazila in Habiganj. They came to Sunamganj to harvest paddy in Derai upazila.

FIRST YEAR OF BANGLADESH BANGABANDHU'S NATION-BUILDING CHALLENGES

India seeks Bangabandhu's view on Indo-Pak talks



DP Dhar, Chairman of the Policy Planning Cell, Indian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, calls on Bangabandhu on April 19, 1972.

April 19, 1972 SHAMSUDDOZA SAJEN DP DHAR CALLS ON BANGABANDHU To prepare ground for the summit conference between Indira Gandhi and ZA Bhutto, the emissary level meeting between India and Pakistan will begin in Rawalpindi on April 25, 1972. This is disclosed to the press by the spokesmen of Bangladesh Foreign Office and Indian Embassy following a 90-minute discussion between Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and DP Dhar at the prime minister's official residence today. DP Dhar, Chairman of the Policy Planning Cell, Indian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, who will lead the Indian team to Islamabad arrives

Tests can't confirm immunity

Warns WHO as many got infected a second time in China, S Korea

The World Health Organization issued a warning Friday that there was no evidence serological tests can show whether a person has immunity or is no longer at risk of becoming reinfected. "These antibody tests will be able to measure that level of serology presence, that level of antibodies, but that does not mean that somebody with antibodies" is immune, said Dr Maria Van Kerkhove, head of WHO's emerging diseases and zoonosis unit. So-called serological, or antibody, tests can indicate whether a person has had Covid-19 in the past and was either asymptomatic or recovered. More than 560,000 of the 2.1 million coronavirus cases across the world are marked as recovered, according to data compiled by Johns Hopkins University. However, infectious disease experts say the case total is likely much higher as people go undetected and countries struggle with testing. In South Korea, health officials are trying to solve a mystery: why 163 people who recovered from coronavirus have retested positive, according to the Korea Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (KCDC). The same has been recorded in China, where some coronavirus patients tested positive after seeming



A canal of dark water flowing from garment factories and residential buildings in Zerabo area of Ashulia to the Turag river, which is already in a bad shape due to relentless pollution and encroachment.

16 journalists tested positive for Covid-19

Leaders of Dhaka Union of Journalists have expressed deep concern over 16 journalists, including nine in Dhaka, getting infected with coronavirus. In a statement issued on Friday, DUJ President Quddus Afrad and General Secretary Sajjad Alam Khan Tapu said journalists and their family members were getting infected with Covid-19, but they continue their professional duties, risking lives. They also urged the owners of media outlets to clear the arrears, including salaries of March, of journalists. The journalist leaders also said the DUJ would inform the authorities concerned and take the next course of action if salaries for the month of March were not cleared by the third week of April.

Another dies showing symptoms

A 35-year-old man died, after showing coronavirus symptoms, at Shaheed Shamsuddin Ahmed Hospital yesterday. A resident of Sylhet's Kanaighat upazila, the man was admitted to the hospital on Friday with fever, cold and respiratory problems, said Dr Sushanto Kumar Mohapatra, resident

Ireland 'flattened the curve'

Ireland has successfully "flattened the curve" of coronavirus transmission and no longer expects a peak in infections, chief medical officer Tony Holohan said. "We think we've flattened that [...] curve so much that there is no peak," he said on RTE's Late Late show on Friday. "We think we can go along at a low level and reduce it even further." He said nationwide adherence to a lockdown -- imposed until 5 May -- had "already saved hundreds of lives and admissions to intensive care".

PRAYER TIMING APRIL 19. Fajr, Zohr, Asr, Maghrib, Esha. AZAN 4-35 12-45 4-45 6-24 7-45. JAMAAT 5-10 1-15 5-00 6-28 8-15. SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

JMI জেএমআই গ্রুপ. N95 Mask বিষয়ে প্রকাশিত সংবাদ ও ভুল-বুঝাবুঝির অবসানকল্পে বিজ্ঞপ্তি. জেএমআই (JMI) দেশের স্বাস্থ্যসেবার মৌলিক চাহিদা পূরণের জন্য অ-পরিষ্কার অস্বাস্থ্যমিত্তিক, জরুরিস্থিতিতে ব্যবহার করা যেতে পারে এমন উচ্চমানের একটি মাস্ক তৈরি করেছে।