

Many Bangladeshis

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any help from the non-profits. He said many migrants are calling him, saying they have not received wages for the last two months.

In some cases, he said, he tried to reach out to locals for funds or connected migrants to non-profits providing food.

"What happens in the cases of migrants that they send money immediately after they get salaries. So, they don't have much saving with them," Abu Hayat said.

They even borrow money from relatives in their home countries or friends in Malaysia. Now the situation is such that they can neither bring money from home nor any of their friends in Malaysia, as all of them are in trouble, he added.

"I know a group of some 140 Bangladeshi migrants in Banting area of Selangor who used to buy from a grocery on credit since they haven't received wages, but now the grocery shop has also stopped selling to them on credit. I am trying to connect them to a non-profit," Abu Hayat said.

Harun Al Rashid said considering the fact that a large number of Bangladeshis work in Malaysia, the Bangladesh government needs to communicate and collaborate with Malaysian authorities so that the migrants needing assistance get it through government distribution channels.

"If need be, the Bangladesh government can make a contribution to Malaysian government. It's time for humanitarian diplomacy and solidarity. People, wherever they are, should not suffer for food," he said.



A police official stops a car in port city's Agrabad area yesterday afternoon to control unnecessary movement. Despite the countrywide shutdown to curb the spread of coronavirus, many continue to violate the guidelines.

PHOTO: RAJIB RATHAN

Withdraw

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Committee for the Protection of Fundamental Rights, in its statement, said journalists' contribution to conveying news to people risking their lives in this difficult time is commendable.

Sadly, the newsmen have to face various types of harassment, assault, intimidation and cases under the Digital Security Act if they cover corruption incident.

Yet, the government has assured of taking stringent measures in cases of corruption in humanitarian aid programmes, the statement further said.

The rights body believes that the importance of freedom of thought and expression, and universally recognised freedom of the media, are greatly enhanced during the period of disaster.

So, any control over press freedom during the coronavirus pandemic will weaken the state's efforts to deal with the disaster, it added.

Ctg to get

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Buddha Das received a letter signed by an additional director general of DGHS on Tuesday requesting him to start Covid-19 testing.

"We've got 500 testing kits from DGHS and the deputy minister for education will inaugurate the testing activities on Thursday and we will start testing on Saturday," said Prof Gautam.

"We will test around 100 samples a day," he said, adding, "We will not collect samples ourselves, but will rather test the ones collected by BITID."

Dr Shakil Ahmed of BITID said, "Our daily collection of samples is around 350 but we can test at best 150 with the existing manpower and logistics," he said.

Patients will be benefited because of the two new laboratories, he added.

Contacted, Dr Hasan Shahriar Kabir, divisional director of DGHS, said the number of testing samples would increase threefold in Chattogram once the laboratories become fully operational.

Fish farmers in trouble

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"Throughout last week I sold only around 50 maund [1.2 tonnes] of fish in the local market, but early March in just two days, I sold five tonnes of climbing perch," said Raihan, whose fish farm is on 10 acres of land.

He said the demand for fish in cities, where most supplies go, has decrease because many people went back to their villages in fear of coronavirus.

"Because of the dearth of buyers, I cannot harvest fish. Instead, I have to continue to feed them," said Raihan, who invested around Tk 35 lakh, mostly from bank loans, in his farm.

He is worried about not getting a fair price for his produce in future to help recover his loss.

About 3,200 fish farmers and 50 hatchery owners are facing similar plights in Trishal, informed Tofail Ahmed, senior fisheries officer of the upazila.

According to farmers, Mymensingh's fish sector employs some seven lakh people, many of whom may lose their jobs because

of the financial crisis faced by the farm owners.

About 26,000 fish farmers, 250 nursery and 12 hatchery owners in Netrokona are in the same state, said Md Fazlul Kabir, the district fisheries officer.

The supply of fish feed is still normal and the price is as usual. But the price may increase, if the present situation continues, he feared.

District Fisheries Officer Ripon Kumar Paul of Kishoreganj also said around 27,000 fish farmers in the district might count huge losses. But an exact figure is yet to be assessed.

Farmers are also having difficulty finding labourers for fish harvesting because many workers are reluctant to come out and catch fish during the pandemic, Ripon added.

The fisheries officials informed that they are preparing lists of the fish farmers to send to the Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock for the financial assistance offered under the stimulus package of Tk 5000-crore declared by the prime minister recently to address the Covid-19 fallout.

Bangladesh will again

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is eight in the evening. The villagers all of a sudden find the prime minister in their village on a surprise visit. When he left Gono Bhaban at 7:15pm none could guess where Bangabandhu was going.

At Kuria, the villagers are overwhelmed with joy, flock around him and narrate their sorrow and sufferings. They also describe to Bangabandhu how the Pakistan army, coming out not far from Kurmitola Cantonment, had lined up the able-bodied youths of the village and shot them dead. Bangabandhu is visibly moved listening to the villagers. He tells them that Bangladesh will again be Shonar Bangla if people devote their energy to the task of national reconstruction.

17,000 AWAMI LEAGUERS KILLED BY PAK ARMY

A preliminary survey conducted by the Bangladesh Awami League reveals that more than 17,000 workers and leaders of the party were killed by the Pakistan army during the nine months of Liberation War in Bangladesh. In every town and village, the occupation army specifically looked for Awami League members. The Awami Leaguers, if found, were killed and if not found their homes were burnt and their relatives victimised.

NAP WILL BACK BANGABANDHU TO ACHIEVE SOCIALISM

Maulana Abdul Hamid Khan Bhashani, chief of the Bangladesh National Awami Party, today warns the big powers against any machinations against Bangladesh's independence. Addressing a public meeting at Circuit House Maidan in Khulna he says that the people who won Bangladesh at such a heavy price will not only defend its independence but will establish a society free from exploitation as well. He further says that his party will wholeheartedly support the government under the leadership of Bangabandhu for implementing socialism in the country and to eliminate exploitation.

50,000 TONNES OF CEMENT FROM INDIA FINALISED Arrangements for the import of 50,000 tonnes of cement from India under Tk 25 crore commodity aid pledged by India to Bangladesh has been finalised. Shipment of the commodity will begin by the end of this month. There is a scarcity of cement all over the country and traders who stock cement are charging exorbitantly high prices. In this situation the construction work both in the public and private sectors have been greatly hampered.

SOURCES: April 24, 1972 issues of Bangladesh Observer, Dainik Bangla and Ittefaq

Nasa finds earth-like

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undiscovered planet.

In fact, it is the most similar to Earth of any planet discovered by the Kepler space telescope, in terms of its size and estimated temperature. While other exoplanets may be more similar in size or temperature, no world has been discovered that has quite such a combination of those two qualities, as well as lying in the habitable zone.

The planet is 300 light-years from us, just a little larger than our Earth and receives about 75 percent of the light that we get from our own Sun. That means the temperature could be similar, too, allowing for the conditions required for life.

Scientists are concerned, however, that its star is a red dwarf, unlike our own more stable Sun. Such stars are known for throwing out stellar flare-ups that could destroy any potential life before it takes hold on the planet.

Scientists now hope to learn more about the planet, including any information about its atmosphere and to get more specific knowledge of its size and conditions.

"This intriguing, distant world gives us even greater hope that a second Earth lies among the stars, waiting to be found," said Thomas Zurbuchen, associate administrator of Nasa's Science Mission Directorate in Washington.

"The data gathered by missions like Kepler and our Transiting Exoplanet Survey Satellite (TESS) will continue to yield amazing discoveries as the science community refines its abilities to look for promising planets year after year."

10-month-old tests positive

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on the day, he added.

The 10-month-old boy is the youngest victim of covid-19 in the region. Earlier, a six-year-old was tested positive, the civil surgeon said.

The baby has been undergoing treatment at Chattogram Medical College Hospital since Saturday. After receiving the result, health officials shifted him to Chattogram General Hospital, he added.

Meanwhile, the healthcare workers were trying to identify from whom or where the baby contracted the virus.

"We have come to know that his father is an expatriate working in a Middle Eastern country, but he did not visit the country recently," said the civil surgeon.

Contacted, Dr Jamal Mostafa, focal person of Covid-19 treatment in Chattogram General Hospital, said they collected samples of the baby's mother.

With that baby, a total of 27 coronavirus patients have been undergoing treatment in Chattogram General Hospital, he said.

'Drug dealer' killed

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adding that after the miscreants fled, Ekramul was found lying on the ground with bullet injuries.

He was pronounced dead by doctors when he was taken to Joypurhat Modern Hospital, the ASP said.

The body was sent to a morgue for autopsy, he added.

3 arrested for stealing rice

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Against this backdrop, the authorities are carrying out drives against those involved in irregularities.

Law enforcers and administration officials have recovered about 319 tonnes of rice, 5 tonnes of sugar, 8,090 litres of edible oil and 25 sacks of chickpea in different districts since March 30. They also arrested 59 people in this connection, according to media reports.

In Noakhali, a team of the local administration recovered 459 kg rice from several houses in Nobipur union of Senbagh upazila on Tuesday evening. The rice was meant for sale to the poor at Tk 10 a kg under the government's Food-Friendly Programme.

Two AL men were also arrested during the drive, led by Khemalika Chakma, assistant commissioner (land) of the upazila.

The arrestees are Shajahan Khan Saju, general secretary of Nobipur union AL, and Ismail Hossain, member of Senbagh upazila AL.

In Mymensingh, the Rab seized 42 litres of soyabean oil and 67 empty bottles of soyabean oil from two shops in the city's Akua Chukaitola area on Tuesday evening. The edible oil was meant for sale by the state-owned Trading Corporation of Bangladesh at fair price.

Owners of the two shops -- Md Fazlul haque, 49, and Md Helal Uddin, 42, -- were arrested, said Hafizul Islam Babu, senior assistant superintendent of police (ASP) of Rab-14.

The two were handed over to Kotwali

6 more die after showing Covid-19

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Foundation as per the guidelines set by the World Health Organization," the civil surgeon said.

At the isolation unit of Bogura's Mohammad Ali Hospital, which is dedicated for coronavirus patients, a 45-year-old man died with Covid-19 symptoms on Tuesday evening.

He had been suffering from fever, cough and shortness of breath since last Friday and died around 5:00pm, an hour after he was taken to the hospital, said Shafique Amin Kajal, residential medical officer of the hospital.

In Satkhira, two people died with Covid-19 like symptoms on Tuesday

morning.

One of them was a night guard in Tala upazila and the other a college teacher in Ashashuni upazila, a correspondent from Satkhira reported.

Samples of the deceased and eight of their family members have been collected and sent to Khulna Medical College Hospital for covid-19 tests, Hussain Shawkat, civil surgeon of the district, said.

A 27-year-old woman died with coronavirus-like symptoms in Jamalpur municipality area on Monday night.

The woman had recently returned home from her workplace in Narayanganj, said Shafiquzzaman, deputy civil surgeon of Jamalpur.

RFP Ref. No.: LRPS- BAN-2020- 9157746

Request for Proposal (RFP): Construction, Vertical Extension and renovation of primary and pre-primary classrooms in government primary schools, 2 Upazilla resource centers and 1 Upazilla primary education office at different sub-districts (8) of Cox's Bazar District, Bangladesh under district primary education office (Lot - 1 to 8).

UNICEF-Bangladesh is inviting interested companies with a strong record and credibility of providing the above required service. To receive the detailed scope of work and procedure to submit the bid response, please email to "supplybangladesh@unicef.org"

Pre-bid Meeting date: **Monday, 4 May 2020; Time: 11:00 Hrs**

The deadline to submit proposal is **Monday, 18th May 2020; Time: 12:00 Hrs**

Please note UNICEF does not charge any fee at any stage of solicitation process.

www.unicef.org/bd

unicef for every child



Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh						
Directorate General of Family Planning						
Mohammadpur Fertility Services & Training Centre and 100 Bedded MCH Hospital						
Aurangzeb Road, Mohammadpur, Dhaka-1207						
Ref No. DGFP/MFSTC/PP-DEV/CCSDP-1145/2019-2020/986				Dated: 21/04/2020		
Invitation for Tenders (Goods) (2019-2020)						
Sealed tenders are hereby invited as per "PPR-2008" from the eligible tenderers as defined in the tender document for the undermentioned goods as per terms and conditions stated below:						
1	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Health & Family Welfare.				
2	Agency	Mohammadpur Fertility Services & Training Centre and 100 Bedded MCH Hospital, DGFP.				
3	Procuring entity name	Director, Mohammadpur Fertility Services & Training Centre and 100 Bedded MCH Hospital, DGFP.				
4	Procuring entity code	N/A.				
5	Procuring entity district	Dhaka.				
6	Invitation for	1. Supply of MSS (lot-1) under package-1. 2. Supply of Consumable Stores (lot-1) under package 2.				
7	Invitation Ref No.	No. 986				
8	Date	21-April-2020.				
9	Procurement method	OTM.				
10	Budget and source of funds	Development Budget (GOB) as per released fund.				
11	Development partner	N/A.				
12	Project/programme code	N/A.				
13	Project/programme name	CCSDP under HPNSP.				
14	Tender package No.	1. DGFP/MFSTC/cocdev/1/2019-2020/ 2. DGFP/MFSTC/cocdev/2/2019-2020/				
15	Tender package name	1. Supply of MSS (lot-1) under package 1. 2. Supply of Consumable Stores (lot-1) under package 2.				
16	Tender publication date	21-April-2020.				
17	Tender last selling date	17-May-2020.				
18	Tender closing date and time	18-May-2020 at 1:00pm.				
19	Tender opening date and time	18-May-2020 at 1:45pm.				
20	Name & addresses of the offices	Selling & receiving tender document: 1. At the Office of the Director, Mohammadpur Fertility Services & Training Centre and 100 Bedded MCH Hospital, Aurangzeb Road, Mohammadpur, Dhaka-1207. 2. At the Office of the Line Director, CCSDP Unit (12th Floor), Directorate General of Family Planning, 6, Kawan Bazar, Dhaka-1215. Opening tender document: 1. At the Office of the Director, Mohammadpur Fertility Services & Training Centre and 100 Bedded MCH Hospital, Aurangzeb Road, Mohammadpur, Dhaka-1207.				
21	Brief eligibility & qualification of tenderer	The tenderer shall have a minimum of 5 (five) years of overall experience in the supply of goods and related services. The tenderer shall have successfully completed minimum 1 (one) number of supply contract of similar goods and related services within last 3 (three) years i.e. years counting backward from the date of publication of IFT in the newspaper and also as described in tender document.				
22	Brief description of goods	1. Supply of MSS (lot-1) under package 1 and 2. Supply of Consumable Stores (lot-1) under package 2 (detailed in tender schedule).				
23	Brief description of related services	1 (one) year warranty of goods as described in tender document.				
24	Price of tender document	Tk 1000/- (Tk one thousand) for each tender (per package) should be paid in Bangladesh Bank through Treasury Challan in Code No. 1-2781-0000-2366 in favour of Director General, DGFP, 6, Kawan Bazar, Dhaka-1215 and online verification copy must be submitted.				
25	Pkg. No.	Identification	Location	Tender security amount (Tk)	Completion time in weeks	Remarks
1.	DGFP/MFSTC/019-2020/	1. Supply of MSS (lot-1) under package 1	At MFSTC, Mohammadpur, Dhaka	10,000/- (ten thousand) per lot	4 weeks after the signing of the contract	* N.B. Tender security for each lot should be submitted in the form of Bank Draft/Pay Order from any scheduled Bank of Bangladesh in favour of Director, Mohammadpur Fertility Services & Training Centre, Aurangzeb Road, Mohammadpur, Dhaka-1207.
2.	DGFP/MFSTC/019-2020/	2. Supply of Consumable Stores (lot-1) under package 2	At MFSTC, Mohammadpur, Dhaka	10,000/- (ten thousand) per lot	4 weeks after the signing of the contract	
26	Name of official inviting tenderer	Dr. Md. Muniruzzaman Siddiqui.				
27	Designation of official inviting tenderer	Director.				
28	Address of official inviting tenderer	Mohammadpur Fertility Services & Training Centre and 100 Bedded MCH Hospital, Aurangzeb Road, Mohammadpur, Dhaka-1207.				
29	Contact details of official inviting tenderer	Phone: 9113814, 9131381.				
30	The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject any/all tender(s) without assigning any reason whatsoever. If schedule submission and opening is interrupted due to unavoidable circumstances, it will duly be conducted in the next working day. All other terms and conditions will remain same.					
						Dr. Md. Muniruzzaman Siddiqui Director MFSTC Ph: 9113814 (Off)
GD-751						