

No homecoming

FROM PAGE 3
“How long can we live there when all our belongings are at our home? So, I called my house owner again today [Saturday] to ask when I will be allowed to return home,” said the doctor.

“But he [house owner] took a strong position and said you can only return when situation becomes normal in the country,” he added.

When he contacted Mayor Harisur yesterday, he once again said, “You can return home but I would not take any responsibility if anything untoward occurs.”

Contacted yesterday, Harisur Rahman said he is not the authority to grant permission whether someone can return home or not; rather it is the responsibility of the local administration.

Claiming that the UNO locked down the area, Harisur said, “If local administration, taking their responsibility, allows them to return, that’s great. I can’t allow or bar them.”

When this correspondent mentioned that the house owner said the mayor’s permission was needed, he said, “I don’t know what the house owner said. Who am I to give permission?”

Asked whether he has any responsibility, Harisur said, “I won’t take any responsibility regarding this.”

“If they can return after talking to local administration, good for them. But if they return saying that the mayor has given permission and any untoward incident happens, I would not take responsibility,” he said.

Contacted, Gournadi Upazila Nirbahi Officer Israt Jahan said the doctor couple would be allowed to return home if they can show papers that they recovered from Covid-19. Asked about resistance from the house owner, the UNO said they would ensure the couple’s security.

Dr Nirupam Das, chief administration of Bangladesh Doctors Foundation, said, “Such harassment of doctors, who are now on the frontline in the fight against Covid-19, is very unfortunate. We want the authorities concerned to take prompt action in this regard.”

At least 324 doctors have been infected with Covid-19 so far and six of them have recovered, Dr Das told The Daily Star.



Riazuddin Bazar kitchen market’s new home at the nearby Railway Station parking lot. Not only shops are spaced out to ensure social distancing, law enforcers have also put up signs to generate awareness among shoppers. This photo was taken on Friday afternoon.

PHOTO: RAJIB RAIHAN

Prices of

FROM PAGE 3
Contacted, Md Idris, a wholesaler at Khatunganj, said the wholesale price of ginger went up around two weeks back due to supply shortage caused by the disruption in delivery of imported ginger from Chattogram port.

Wholesale price of onions -- both local and from Myanmar -- also went

up by Tk 20 a kg at Khatunganj. As a result, the retail price also rose by Tk 20-25 a kg and reached Tk 60-65 per kilo yesterday.

Ifar items such as green chili and cucumber were being sold at Tk 30 and Tk 40 per kg at kitchen markets respectively.

Shahajahan Khan, a service holder, said, “I find it strange that these two

items are still within the reach of consumers.”

Meanwhile, Reajuddin Bazar, one of the largest and major kitchen markets in port city, was relocated to the nearby Chattogram Railway Station parking lot on Friday to ensure social distancing.

The initiative was taken by Chattogram Metropolitan Police.

18-bed ICU set up at Barishal SBMCH

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barishal

From now on, coronavirus patients will get ICU support at Sher-e-Bangla Medical College Hospital (SBMCH) as an 18-bed Intensive Care Unit (ICU) with ventilators has been set up at its isolation unit.

“There will be a doctor and a nurse at the ICU in each shift; a panel of four doctors and 30 nurses will work at the unit,” said the hospital’s Director Dr Bakir Hossain.

Four intern doctors, a number of nurses and hospital staff have tested positive for Covid-19 in the last four days.

Around 150 intern doctors of the hospital have been quarantined since Tuesday, as all hostels of Sher-e-Bangla Medical College (SBMC) were locked down, as is Medicine unit-3 of the hospital.

According to SBMCH authorities, 31 coronavirus patients were treated at the hospital till yesterday morning.

Legal aid

FROM PAGE 3
different jails for over five to ten years across the country, SCLAC sources said.

A total of 64,785 disadvantaged prisoners received legal support during the six-year period, the report added.

Moreover, NLASO has collected Tk 35.2 crore by settling 27,070 cases out of court and awarded the money to victims of the cases.

Meanwhile, the law ministry has been running a national helpline (16430) to provide legal aid to poor people, particularly labourers, free of cost, even during the ongoing coronavirus pandemic. A total of 83,918 people have received legal assistance through the helpline since its launch in 2016, according to the report.

Masuda Yeasmin, assistant director of NLASO, told The Daily Star that the toll-free helpline is open 24/7.

She said many helpless people from across the country communicate with NLASO through the helpline every day. The organisation then tries to solve their problems either via district-level offices or instantly over phone.

Taking care of the neglected

FROM PAGE 12
CEO Mithun Das Kabbo.

It now runs two schools in the Bede and Harijan palls of Munshiganj’s Sirajdikhan upazila and Natore municipality.

It has so far supported around 4,000 transgender, Bede, Harijan, tribal, differently-abled persons, fishermen and labourers’ families in 13 districts, including Nilphamari, Natore, Munshiganj, Cox’s Bazar, Bhola, and Barishal, during this time. In Dhaka, it provided cooked meals to more than 2,000 rickshaw pullers.

Gift for Good is running with the financial assistance from non-profits and organisations such as ASA, Hope for Bangladesh, and Food Bank Network Bangladesh, and local youth organisations, Mithun said.

Around 200 local volunteers in the 13 districts have been working to provide support for these communities since March 15, he added.

The volunteers wear personal protective

equipment and maintain physical distancing during relief distribution. Alongside food, they also provide hand sanitisers and masks to the vulnerable groups.

“To continue providing support for families in this crisis, we regularly raise awareness about our work and campaign on social media to raise funds,” he said.

A member of the Harijan community in Natore municipality said the relief supplies they received from the local administration were inadequate. So, such support from volunteer organisations came as a welcome relief for them.

Tashnuva Anan Shishir, a member of Gift for Good and a transgender rights activist, said many transgender persons of various brotels in Iashore and Mongla are crying out for help during this time. However, the initiative is unable to reach out to them due to a lack of funds.

Mithun added that they would soon also provide floating sex workers with food staples, if able to raise sufficient funds.

5 private

FROM PAGE 12
University of Bangladesh ranked 301.

The rankings are the only global performance table that assess universities against the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It uses carefully calibrated indicators to provide comprehensive and balanced comparisons across three broad areas: research, outreach and stewardship.

The second edition included 766 universities from 85 countries.

The list is once again led by New Zealand’s University of Auckland, while three Australian universities complete the rest of the top four: University of Sydney, Western Sydney University and La Trobe University.

Japan is the most-represented nation in the table with 63 institutions, followed by Russia’s 47 and Turkey’s 37.

Charity dogs

FROM PAGE 12
be able to screen hundreds of people very, very rapidly so we know who needs to be tested and isolated,” Claire Guest, founder and chief executive of Medical Detection Dogs, told AFP.

“We have evidence that dogs can detect bacteria and other diseases, so we believe that taking this project forward will make a huge difference to the ability to control Covid-19 spread.”

Guest is working with the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM) and Durham University in northeast England -- the same team that recently collaborated to show dogs can be trained to detect malaria.

No settlement without Bangladesh’s

FROM PAGE 12
talks with Pakistan because it is an independent country and thus free to have a dialogue with anyone it wishes.

The report says that the point Bangabandhu made repeatedly, at times in a raised voice, was that Bangladesh is an independent country without any string pulled from outside.

He further said that Pakistan held that Bangladesh was dependent on New Delhi’s wishes and that the surrender of Pakistan Army before the joint command of Indian and Mukti Bahini forces was a fiction.

Bangabandhu said, “It is not fiction but a hard fact.”

He said that he knew that Bhutto wanted to exchange the PoWs with the Bangladeshis in Pakistan. Soldiers were never exchanged with civilians, “I am willing to exchange the Biharis in Bangladesh with the Bangladeshis in Pakistan,” the Bangladesh Prime Minister added.

INDIA-BANGLADESH WATER TALKS OPEN

Bangladesh and India reaches complete understanding today in all issues in the first round of minister-level talks on flood control, water and power resources.

In a two-hour long talk, the representatives of the two countries discuss the sphere of mutual cooperation in the fields of flood control, flood forecasting, flood and cyclone warning and irrigation of common rivers. The topic of power resources also features in the discussion.

INDO-PAK TALKS BEGIN

The emissaries of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and President Bhutto today hold a discussion for three and half hours on various aspects of India-Pakistan relations in a bid to frame an agenda for a summit meeting between the two countries.

SUGGESTION INVITED FOR THE DRAFT CONSTITUTION

The Constitution Drafting Committee has so far considered the clauses relating to fundamental rights and the fundamental principles of state policy for inclusion in the draft.

Interested people have been requested to submit their suggestions to the committee for consideration. These suggestions should reach the secretary of the Committee by May 8, 1972.

ABANDONED PROPERTY OWNERS ASKED TO SUBMIT VALID DOCUMENTS

Dhaka Nagar Committee has asked the lawful owners of abandoned properties to come forward with valid documents to establish their right of ownership.

The persons concerned have been advised to submit applications to the sub-divisional officer, Sadar South, within three days.

SOURCES: April 27, 1972 issues of Bangladesh Observer, Dainik Bangla and Ittefaq

Six more die after showing

FROM PAGE 12
like symptoms, died yesterday.

The child from Bagerhat’s Kachua upazila was admitted to the hospital on Friday night as he was suffering from loose motions and respiratory problems, said Dr Shailendranath Biswas, spokesperson of the KMCH.

As her condition deteriorated, she was shifted to the hospital’s isolation ward where she breathed her last around 10:30am, the doctor added.

In Cox’s Bazar, a 22-year-old youth died after suffering from respiratory problems at Ramu Upazila Health Complex early yesterday.

The youth from Satkania upazila of Chattogram became sick at his in-law’s house in Ramu on Friday. He was admitted to the health on Friday night.

He died around 4:00am yesterday, said Dr Nobel Kumar Barua, Ramu upazila health and family planning officer.

In Sylhet, a 30-year-old man died from Covid-19-like symptoms at Shaheed Shamsuddin Ahmed Hospital yesterday. The deceased was from a Nizampur villager in Habiganj.

The man was admitted to Habiganj Sadar Hospital on April 21 with respiratory problems. As his condition worsened, he was shifted to Shaheed Shamsuddin

Ahmed Hospital on the same day, said Habiganj Civil Surgeon Dr Mokhlesur Rahman Uzzal.

In Laxmipur, a 45-year-old housewife died of coronavirus-like symptoms at her home in Charjangalia village of Kamolnagar upazila yesterday.

She was admitted to Kamolnagar upazila health complex with fever and respiratory problems on Friday. As her condition deteriorated, doctors there referred her to Laxmipur Sadar Hospital.

But her family members did not shift her to Laxmipur Sadar Hospital. Rather, they took her home where she passed away yesterday morning, said Rezaul Karim Rajib, medical officer of Kamolnagar Upazila Health Complex.

Our correspondents from Faridpur, Khulna, Cox’s Bazar, Moulvibazar and Noakhali contributed to this report.

India plans

FROM PAGE 12
The Chinese Embassy in New Delhi has called the new screening policy discriminatory.

A senior Indian government source who is involved in policymaking told Reuters that New Delhi will try to approve any investment proposal in a non-sensitive sector within 15 days when the stake being bought is not significant.

Tunisia hopes novel methods will aid virus fight

AFP, Tunis

The feared impact of coronavirus on Tunisia’s fragile public health system has provoked a flurry of innovation from robotics to digitalisation efforts to bolster the North African country’s pandemic response.

The government has even turned to

students for help, asking the engineering school in Sousse, south of the capital Tunis, to task its students with designing a locally made ventilator as their end-of-year project.

Ventilators are crucial for treating critically ill Covid-19 patients, but as in many countries, Tunisia’s poorly equipped hospitals lack sufficient numbers of the devices.

Trump

FROM PAGE 12
disinfectant product be administered into the body through injection, ingestion or any other route,” it said in a tweet.

Health professionals have been encouraging people for some time to wash their hands thoroughly with soap or to use hand sanitizer to help stop the spread of the virus.

At the Thursday briefing, Bryan unveiled findings that the coronavirus appears to weaken more quickly when exposed to sunlight, heat and humidity. That message stuck with Trump, who, while conceding that he is not a doctor, has used his metaphorical megaphone as president to talk up treatments and put a positive spin on his administration’s handling of the outbreak.

“I do think that disinfectant on the hands could have a very good effect,” he said on Friday, continuing with the theme.



VACANCY NOTICE

World Health Organization (WHO) invites applications from the interested and eligible candidates for the following position under Special Service Agreement:

- Data and Information System Associate (ROSTER), SSA6

For further details on the terms of reference and deadline for applications, please visit our website:
<https://www.who.int/bangladesh/about-us/employment> and
<http://www.searo.who.int/bangladesh/about/employment/en/>

Qualified female candidates are highly encouraged to apply

 WHO has a smoke-free environment and does not recruit smokers or other tobacco users.

Office of the Muktagacha Pourashava District: Mymensingh.

Memo No. : Mukta:Poura/Prokow:2020/094

Date: 23/04/2020

2nd Corrigendum for e-Tender No-03/2019-20

This is notify to all concern that e-Tender Notice No- 03/2019-20 vide memo no Mukta/Poura/Prokow:2020/064, Date:05/03/2020. Has been amended as follows due to unavoidable circumstances (General Holiday declared by Government due to corona crisis.

Tender ID No.	Package No.	Subject	Old Value	New Value
433665	UGIIP-III-3/AF/MUKT/MF/01/2019	Tender Document Selling date & Time	04-05-2020, 15:00 PM	18-05-2020, 15:00 PM
		Tender Security Submission Last date & Time	05-05-2020 13:00 PM	19-05-2020 13:00 PM
		Tender Closing date & Time	05-05-2020 14:00 PM	19-05-2020 14:00 PM
		Tender Opening date & Time	05-05-2020 14:00 PM	19-05-2020 14:00 PM

All Others documents, terms & conditions will remain unchanged.
This amended notice will be treated as the parts & parcel of the tender document.

Sd-
(Md. Mukhlesur Rahman)
Executive Engineer
Muktagacha Pourashava
District-Mymensingh.

GD-757