Mahfuza Arief passes away

City Desk

Mahfuza Arief, a teacher of SFX Greenherland International School, passed away at the age of 61 yesterday, due to a suspected case of Covid-19.

With schools shut down due to the ongoing pandemic, she had been spending her time at home with her family. For nearly two weeks, she had a fever and bouts of coughing that were described as "not alarming".

Yesterday morning, she complained that she was having breathing difficulties, but the situation quickly worsened.

She was rushed to Dhaka Medical College Hospital, where she was declared dead. Her death certificate read that she was suspected to have been infected by Covid-19.

She left behind three sons, including Abrar Hossain, a journalist at The Daily Star. Her eldest son is a service holder while the youngest resides in the US.

She was laid to rest at Rayerbazar graveyard yesterday.

Unpaid pvt

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Unlike Stamford, the number of students at Daffodil is increasing every year. Asked why the university is still failing to pay salaries, the Pro-VC said they are facing the crunch due to several development projects they have undertaken, like permanent campus, hostels and state-of-the-art laboratory facilities.

Meanwhile, American International University Bangladesh (AIUB) has paid half of the salaries for April.

AIUB pro-VC Tofazzal Hossain said the rest will be paid soon.

Association of Private Universities of Bangladesh (APUB) chairman Sheikh Kabir Hossain, also chairman of Board of Trustees of Fareast International University, said his university could not arrange for full salaries in March and have not paid anything for April so far.

"Taking the realities into consideration, we have sought incentives from the government," he added.

On April 27, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina said all educational institutions may stay closed until September if the situation does not improve.

There are 105 government approved universities in the country, of them 96 are carrying out academic activities right now. According to the latest (2018) University Grants Commission (UGC) annual report, there were some 3,62,000 students in these universities, along with about 16,000 full-time and part-time teachers and 12,960 staff members.

These universities are not providing salaries, although the education ministry and UGC after a meeting on April 30 asked all private universities to pay salaries to the teachers and staff regularly.

Among others Education Minister Dipu Moni, UGC top officials, vice-chancellors of several public and private universities and leaders of Association of Private Universities of Bangladesh (APUB) attended the meeting.

Private universities have sought a stimulus package from the government so that they can pay salaries to teachers and staff for at least six months. APUB sent a letter to the UGC in this regard on April 29.

The association promised to repay the amount in installments over three years when the situation stabilises.

At least two teachers proposed that the government can allow private universities to use their reserve fund deposited to bank in line with law for six months. The government can set a condition that the amount they are withdrawing from reserve fund will be repaid within a year of normalcy.

According to the Private University Act 2010, each private university in Dhaka and Chattogram has a reserve fund of Tk 5 crore, private universities in other metropolitan cities have reserve fund of Tk 3 crore each and universities established in other places have reserve fund of Tk 1.5 crore.

UGC Private University Division Director Fakhrul Islam said the universities cannot use the reserve fund without an approval from UGC.

Asked, UGC Chairman Prof Kazi Shahidullah appealed all private universities to pay the salaries.

"If they send us any proposal of using reserve fund for paying salaries and repaying it later, we will sit and study their proposal to come up with a solution in this regard," he told this newspaper last week.

Ctg running

FROM PAGE 3

Dr Mahfuzur Rahman, convener of Public Health Rights Protection Committee, Chattogram, said "At least 1,000 beds should be made ready immediately. Railway Hospital and Chattogram Port Hospital can be used in this regard."

Dr Faisal Iqbal Chowdhury, general secretary of Bangladesh Medical Association, Chattogram unit, said, "The government can also use private hospitals to treat Covid-19 patients."

Contacted, Dr Hasan Shahriar Kabir, Chattogram divisional director of DGHS, said they are aware of this matter and planning to add another 300 isolation beds soon.

"A 100-bed Holy Crescent Covid-19 Hospital has been prepared by private clinic owners and we can requisite it right away," he said. "Besides, a 100-bed Chattogram City Corporation General Hospital can be used. I had a talk with the port city mayor and he has given consent," he added.

"Two other hospitals -- a 50-bed Railway Hospital and a 50- bed Chattogram Port Hospital -- can also be used if needed," said Dr Hasan.

240 Bangladeshis

FROM PAGE 3

hand gloves, head and shoe cover, and vitamin tablets -- and fruits and vegetables on the flight.

Earlier in the morning, around 54 Bangladeshis born in UK came to Dhaka from Sylhet by a special flight of Novo Air to catch the flight to London.

So far, around 1300 stranded British nationals -- most of whom are expatriate Bangladeshis residing in UK -- have left Dhaka by special chartered flights of British Airways arranged by the UK government in coordination with the British High Commission in Bangladesh, sources at HSIA said.

Bangladesh government has suspended air communication with all countries except China from March 16 to contain the deadly Covid-19.

Condition of

FROM PAGE 3

is fluctuating every other hour."

Prof Anisuzzaman, one of the most prolific essayists of the country, was previously hospitalised for one week in the beginning of April.

The academic taught at Dhaka and Chittagong universities, was a post-doctoral fellow at University of Chicago, and a Commonwealth Academic Staff Fellow at University of London.

He was also associated with research projects of United Nations University. He was a visiting fellow at University of Paris, North Carolina State University, University of Calcutta, and a visiting professor at Visva-Bharati of India.

He was awarded Ekushey Padak and Swadhinata Padak, the highest state awards given by the government, for his contribution to education.

The Indian government had awarded him Padma Bhusan, the country's third highest civilian honour, for his distinguished service in fields of Bangla literature and education.

Born in Kolkata in 1937, Prof Anisuzzaman and his family shifted to Bangladesh soon after the partition in 1947.

Filmmaker Rana Hamid passes away

UNB, *Dhaka*

Film producer, director and actor Rana Hamid passed away at a hospital in the capital on Saturday night.

He had been suffering from stomach cancer and kidney-related problems for some time.

He died at a private hospital at Shyamoli around 11:30pm, said a Press Information Department handout.

Rana was a former director of Bangladesh Film Development Corporation (BFDC) and a member of Bangladesh Film Artistes' Association.

Also a member of Bangladesh Film Censor Board, he made several films, including "Masud Rana Ekhon Dhakay" and "Dhakar Rani".

Information Minister Dr Hasan Mahmud and State Minister for Cultural Affairs KM Khalid expressed deep sorrow at the death of Hamid.

No dialogue before recognition

FROM PAGE 12

He further says that Pakistan had to free Mujib and they will have to free all stranded Bangalees.

Bangabandhu advises Bhutto not to waste his efforts to save war criminals. "They will be tried for the brutality they committed in Bangladesh during the war," says the prime minister.

Referring to the national reconstruction efforts, Bangabandhu says that the rule of peasants and workers has been established in Bangladesh. The seven crore people are now the owners of all the resources of the country. Expressing his deep commitment to democracy, the prime minister says that his government is ready to hold elections anytime. He asks the critics of the government to contest election and prove the validity of their position.

Bangabandhu appeals to the people to put extra effort to increase production in agricultural and industrial units. He asks government officials to work extra hours. He urges cooperation from all to build an exploitation-free society. The prime minister also encourages people to adopt family planning methods to lessen the burden on the country.

FOOD CRISIS IN DINAJPUR AND SATKHIRA

Food crisis has taken an acute turn in several areas of Dinajpur and Satkhira. There is serious shortage of food supply in these areas; whatever is available is beyond the means of the common people. There are also allegations of corruption against the ongoing relief distribution activities in these areas.

1,000 TRUCKS AND 700 BUSES WILL BE IMPORTED SOON

Communication Minister Mansur Ali informs today that 1,000 trucks and 700 buses will be imported on an emergency basis to revive transport facilities in the country. These transports will be handed over to private entrepreneurs, he adds. The minister further informs that 84 buses will hit the roads of the capital within a week, and that will significantly reduce the existing transport crisis.

SOURCE: May 12, 1972 issue of Dainik Bangla.

AL leader, husband held for rape of niece

FROM PAGE 12

unconscious, Koyes raped her and Sumi recorded a video of it."

"The victim was later admitted to the One-stop Crisis Centre of Sylhet MAG Osmani Medical College Hospital and two cases were filed, accusing the couple under the Pornography Act and Woman and Child Repression with the Station," he said.

Following the case, the couple was arrested by Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) and was handed over to police that day.

"During primary interrogation, the accused admitted to their crimes and were sent to jail on Saturday after appearing before a Sylhet court," the OC said.

Meanwhile in Lalmonirhat's Hatibandha upazila, a man was arrested on Saturday night for raping a fourth-grade student.

The arrestee Alamgir Hossain, 22, an electrician, is a resident of Councilpara in the upazila, our local correspondent reported.

He was arrested following a complaint filed by the victim's grandmother, said Omar Faruk, OC of Hatibandha Police Station.

Following the arrest, the grandmother lodged a case with the station accusing Alamgir.

The 10-year-old girl was admitted to Hatibandha Upazila Health Complex on Saturday afternoon, OC Omar said.

Dr Al Mamun, resident medical officer of the health complex, said the victim, who had been bleeding, would be sent to Lalmonirhat Sadar Hospital.

(Our Correspondent from Sylhet and Lamonirhat correspondent.)

SOCIAL MARKETING COMPANY

CAREER OPPORTUNITY

SMC Live better

Social Marketing Company, is a large well-reputed not-for-profit company involved in implementing health and family planning programs throughout the country. The Company is implementing a project to set up a sustainable business model, where affordable Multiple Micronutrient Supplements (MMS) tablets will be available for pregnant women across the country. The company seeks a talented and aspiring candidate who would lead the project team and meaningfully contribute to the efforts to attain the project's goal.

Position Title: Project Team Leader (Multiple Micronutrient Supplement)

Job Summary:

This is a senior management position of the Company, who will be overall responsible for implementing a five-year Donor-Supported Project. Under the guidance of the Chief of Program Operations, the Project Team Leader will lead the project at national level. S/he will carry out the major activities of the project including developing annual work plan, annual marketing plan, procuring high-quality MMS in collaboration with the local pharmaceutical company and ensuring its sales, distribution, monitoring and reporting of the project.

S/he will guide the marketing team to design and develop the product, BCC/IEC product promotional materials and guide the field operation teams, which are located countrywide, to increase demand and ensure distribution and utilization of MMS. S/he will ensure the regulatory compliance of the Government of Bangladesh (GOB) and the technical standard, protocol and guideline of the Donor and SMC as well. S/he will maintain close collaboration with the Donor, Intermediary Organization, Development Partners, Technical Advisory Group for MMS, IPHN, DGHS, DGFP, DGDA and other relevant stakeholders to create a favorable environment for smooth implementation of MMS project. In addition, s/he will guide the team to prepare different periodical reports and other reports as and when required, within deadline and will contribute to the development of materials to disseminate information and best practices.

Qualification & Experiences:

- Masters in Science/Social Science/Nutrition/Public Health/Business Administration/ Pharmacy. Medical Graduates with relevant experience can also apply.
- Ten years experience in management/senior management position, and marketing of pharmaceutical products or implementation of nutrition focused public health programs.
- Pharmaceutical product marketing or donor supported nutrition project implementation experiences.
- High competence in project and stakeholder management.
- Excellent interpersonal, written and oral communication skills.
- Good supervision and monitoring skills and ability to lead a dynamic team.
- Report writing skills, having good command over English and Bengali, development and documentation of best practices, success stories and case studies.
- Coordination and communication skills with the GOB, implementing partners, vendors and other stakeholders.
- Competency in Microsoft applications including Word, Excel, PowerPoint and Outlook.
- Hard working, ability to multitask and ability to work under pressure; and
- Ability to undertake frequent field visits throughout the country.

Selected candidate will be offered an attractive salary and benefits package.

Interested candidates may apply in confidence with a detailed CV, names and contact information of three referees, a cover letter supporting the candidature for the position and two copies of recent passport size color photographs to the Additional GM-HR, SMC, SMC Tower (Level-12), 33 Banani C/A, Dhaka-1213 or apply online. The deadline for submission of the application is **May 31, 2020**.

Please mark the position applied for, on top of the envelope.

* We are an equal opportunity employer

RMG workers

FROM PAGE 12

Jane Alam Khan, assistant superintendent of Dhaka Industrial Police-1.

The workers said they would accept the government's decision regarding April's salary if their house rent was waived by 40 percent.

In another incident, around 800 workers of A-one (BD) Ltd, a closed factory in Dhaka Export Processing Zone (DEPZ), staged a sit-in program from 6:00pm to 10:00pm on Saturday in front of Ashulia Press Club demanding arrears of four months.

Contacted, Abdus Sobhan, general manager of DEPZ, told The Daily Star that he was in a meeting over the issue.

This correspondent could not get hold of him despite multiple attempts later.

Wife, son

FROM PAGE 12

the inspector said, adding that both mother and son also gave confessional statements before Dhaka chief judicial magistrate court after they were produced before it.

The victim's sister filed a murder case against the two over the incident, he added.

S Korea's

FROM PAGE 12

The fresh outbreak comes just as the government was easing some social distancing restrictions and moving to fully reopen schools and businesses, in a transition from intensive social distancing to "distancing in daily life."

"We must never lower our guard regarding epidemic prevention," Moon said in a televised speech marking the third anniversary of his inauguration. "We are in a prolonged war. I ask everyone to comply with safety precautions and rules until the situation is over even after resuming daily lives."

He said the KCDC will get greater power as part of the long-term fight and be renamed the Disease Control and Prevention Administration to reflect its enhanced position, while the authorities beef up local expertise.

Absolute

FROM PAGE 12

Trump has been criticised as essentially abdicating any leadership role in guiding the country through one of its worst crises in a century, leaving states on their own to grapple with the pandemic and even bid against each other to obtain critical medical equipment on the open market or abroad.

Critics say Trump, after first downplaying the threat posed by the virus, squandered precious time in February as the pathogen spread in America and his administration did little to stock up on testing kits and other medical gear or to develop a cohesive national strategy.

Hope there, worry too

FROM PAGE 12

Mortuz Shikder, a farmer of Jadavpur village under Tangail's Shakhipur upazila, has health safety concerns.

"Even if workers come, if anyone is infected, he will spread the virus among us," he feared.

Around two-third of the labourers, who harvest Boro in Tangail, come from other districts, farmers and DAE officials said.

Yet, Deputy Director Abdur Razzak of Tangail DAE is hopeful that the harvest can be completed in time if the weather remains favourable.

Mofazzal Hossain, a sub-assistant agriculture officer at DAE's Dhaka regional office, told The Daily Star on Saturday that harvest has been done on around 34 percent of the region's total land where Boro was cultivated.

The work is yet to begin in many areas under the Dhaka region including Manikganj, where the activity will start from May 15.

Shajahan Ali Biswas, deputy director of Manikganj's DAE informed that they distributed 26 combined harvesters and one reaper among the farmers.

These machines are also giving many farmers in Gopalganj district hope of getting their harvest done in time.

Samrat Hossain from Gopalganj Sadar upazila said he received assurance of getting a harvester from the local DAE office, when he requested for one.

Another farmer from Faridpur, Harun Mattabar, is hoping to find workers among those who returned to their village homes from outside the district.

In Faridpur region, which includes Faridpur, Gopalganj, Madaripur, Rajbari and Shariatpur, Boro harvest has begun from early May.

Of the six districts in the Barisal division, where harvest began last week, five do not have any farm-labour shortage. Only Barisal district, where Boro was cultivated in 49,068 hectares of land, needs workers, according to the regional DAE office.

Sources at the local administration and DAE office said around 10,000 workers are being brought to Barisal in phases from other districts.

Farmers in Jashore region, which includes Jhenaidah, Magura, Jashore, Chuadanga and Kushtia, are also worried due to the farm-labour shortage.

Farmhands usually become scarce during Ramadan, when Muslims observe fast from dawn to dusk, Boro growers said.

"I have cultivated Boro paddy in four bighas of land. I am facing difficulty in arranging labourers," said Asman Ali Mollah, a farmer of Katlagari village in Jhenidah's Sailkupa upazila.

DAE officials in the region said the local administrations will arrange transports to bring workers from other districts.

Around 12 combined harvesters have been arranged for this region, said Partha Pratim Shaha, additional director at the DAE in Jashore region, where Boro harvest began last week.

Agricultural machines have not reached all the areas in the Rajshahi region.

Nasir Uddin from Rajshahi district's Tanore upazila said he did not get any harvester from the government yet.

He had managed to get only four out of 12 farmhands he needed for the Boro paddy harvest.

Sudhendra Nath Roy, additional director of Rajshahi regional DAE, said of the around five lakh labourers required for the region, about 3.5 lakh are already working in the fields.

Another 45,000 had gone to other districts including the haor areas for harvesting jobs, but are expected to return in a week or so, he said.

Sudhendra said 70 percent of Boro harvesting is complete in the Chalan Beel area of the region. In the rest of the Rajshahi division, 20 percent of Boro harvest has been completed.

DAE officials of Rajshahi said some 213 combined harvesters and 400 reapers may be provided this season.

Harvesting has begun in Rangpur region but yet to start in Dinajpur region. Farmers have not faced labour shortage in those areas yet.

In Cumilla region, Boro harvest has been somewhat delayed this year because of labour shortage due to the shutdown, said local DAE officials.

Farmers in Cumilla Sadar upazila complained of insufficient number of modern harvest machines distributed in their area.

Boro paddies have been cultivated in 5.90 lakh hectares of land in Dhaka region, 1.70 lakh hectares of land in Faridpur region, 1.25 lakh hectares in Barishal region, 4.01 lakh hectares in Jashore region, 3.53 lakh hectares in Rajshahi region, 5 lakh hectares in Rangpur region, 2.59 lakh hectares in Dinajpur region and 3.28 lakh hectares of land in Cumilla region, according to local and regional DAE data.

[Our Correspondents from Manikganj, Tangail, Barisal, Kushtia, Cumilla and Bagerhat, Faridpur, Rajshahi, Dinajpur contributed to the story]

Scientists

FROM PAGE 12

The images together represent the result of three years of observations that could be combined using special techniques. Together they are expected to help contribute towards observations from telescopes like Hubble and data from the Juno spacecraft to better understand our still mysterious, huge neighbour.

"The Gemini data were critical because they allowed us to probe deeply into Jupiter's clouds on a regular schedule," said Michael Wong of UC Berkeley.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Local Government Engineering Department
Office of the Upazila Engineer
Sadar, Mymensingh
www.lged.gov.bd

"দেশ গঠনের সুনীতি গ্রাম শহরের উন্নতি"

Memo No. 46.02.6152.000.07.001.19-315 Date: 10-05-2020

e-Tender Notice No. 08/2019-20 (LTM)

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (http://www.eprocure.gov.bd) for the procurement of following works:

Tender ID No.	Package No.	Name of work	Tender method
452728	e-Tender/Rev/MMN/SAD/2019-2020/W-27	Construction of Boundary Wall for Sadar Upazila Parishad Complex West Side Under Sadar Upazila, District-Mymensingh	LTM
452729	e-Tender/Rev/MMN/SAD/2019-2020/W-28	Extension of Upazila Chairman Office room under Sadar Upazila, District-Mymensingh	

These are an online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP System Portal (http://www.eprocure.gov.bd) is required. The fees for downloading the e-Tender documents from the National e-GP Portal have to be deposited online through any registered banks branches up to 12:00 Noon on 28-05-2020.

Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd) also E-mail: ue.mymensingh-s@lged.gov.bd or call to 091-63243.

Interested persons can communicate with the undersigned during office hours.

Md. Shanewaz
Upazila Engineer
LGED, Sadar, Mymensingh
E-mail: ue.mymensingh-s@lged.gov.bd

GD-817