

17 Gaibandha lawyers get HC nod to practise

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday cleared the way for 17 lawyers of Gaibandha to practice law.

The court stayed the Gaibandha Bar Association's decision that suspended the memberships of 17 lawyers for participating in the virtual court proceedings.

The HC also ordered the bar association not to restrain any lawyer from participating in the court functions.

The bench of Justice JBM Hassan passed the order on a suomoto (voluntary) move after Attorney General Mahubey Alam placed the issue before the court and prayed for necessary directives.

The attorney general told the court that the courts of the country have started virtual functions through using information and communication technology in line with the ordinance issued by the president.

There is no illegality in running the virtual court proceedings and participating in the court functions by the lawyers, he said, adding that no bar association can prevent lawyers from joining the court activities.

Attorney General Mahubey Alam told The Daily Star that Gaibandha Bar Association on May 17 suspended its 17 members as they joined the virtual court functions through video conference.

The bar association has sent the resolution containing the suspension decision to the Supreme Court Bar Association president, he said.



OLD HABITS DIE HARD... Although many citizens are conscious of Covid-19 safety precautions, they continue to ignore the immediate danger of fast-moving vehicles. At Savar Bus Stand, a man, with groceries in his hand, climbs over a divider to cross the road, despite two footbridges being nearby. Inset, another fellow, wearing mask and hairnet, is seen trying to vault over a divider at the capital's Sonir Akhra. These photos were taken recently.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN, AMRAN HOSSAIN

Ctg cop tests Covid-19 positive after death

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Sub-inspector Ekramul Islam of Sitakunda Model Police Station under Chattogram district police, who died with Covid-19-like symptoms on Saturday, later tested positive.

Police officials received his results on Saturday night. Additional Superintendent of Police of district special branch, Mohiuddin Sohel said, "SI Ekramul Islam, 48, who died at his residence with fever and cough, was found positive for Covid-19. His sample was collected after death."

According to the district police, 127 police personnel were infected till June 6. Before Ekram, a constable of Chattogram district police died of Covid-19 on May 21 at Chattogram General Hospital.

SI Ekramul had been suffering from fever and other Covid-19 symptoms since June 3 and taking treatment at his residence alone.

Apart from that, three police personnel of Chattogram Metropolitan Police have died from Covid-19 so far.

14 retired

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A total of 13 RT-PCR machines are working in all CMHs, including the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology, to test samples of Covid-19 for members of the armed forces, their families and retired members. In addition, all CMHs have adequate stocks of PPE, masks, gloves and essential medicines and other medical equipment.

To date, a total of 17,151 samples from 10,378 members of the armed forces, 2,120 members of their family and 4,653 civilian members, have been tested in the PCR laboratory of the army.

Round the clock treatment of Covid-19 infected patients is being ensured by the trained army doctors in line with the guidelines of the health ministry, added the release.

Two more workers die in BSRM factory accident

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Two more workers, who suffered burns in an accident at Bangladesh Steel Re-Rolling Mills (BSRM) on Saturday, died while they were being shifted to Dhaka from Chattogram for better treatment yesterday.

The deceased are Gias Uddin (24), and Nazrul Islam (35).

Earlier on Saturday, another worker -- Abul Kashem (50) -- died when a fire broke out at BSRM factory in Jorarganj area of Chattogram's Mirsarai upazila.

Three other workers -- Nur Hossain (30), Mohiuddin (28), and Sikander -- were also injured in the incident.

Of them, Nur Hossain and Mohiuddin were undergoing treatment at the Burn and Plastic Surgery unit of Dhaka Medical College Hospital in critical condition.

Nur Hossain suffered 98 percent burns while Mohiuddin 80 percent, hospital sources said.

The BSRM authorities said the workers had been working inside the factory when molten iron accidentally fell on them.

Immediately, the workers were admitted to the Burn and Plastic Surgery Unit of

Chattogram Medical College Hospital. As their condition deteriorated, they were referred to Dhaka Medical College Hospital, they said.

Tapan Sen Gupta, deputy managing director of BSRM, told The Daily Star yesterday, "As per doctors' instruction, we were transferring the injured workers to Dhaka. But when the ambulance reached Cumilla, Nazrul Islam and Gias Uddin succumbed."

We are trying to identify the cause behind the accident, he said. "BSRM always commits to safety on its premises and have created a team to investigate this unfortunate accident. BSRM Group extends its sincere condolences to the bereaved families of the victims and conveys its sympathy to those affected from this incident," said the BSRM official.

Azizur Rahman, assistance director of Agrabad Fire Service and Civil Defence, said, "The accident took place around 3:15pm. When we rushed to the spot, we found that the factory workers had brought the fire under control around 3:40pm. We rescued the victims and sent them to CMCH."

Migrant workers

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while several have family problems back home.

He said the number of such workers may rise in the coming days, although it is tough to say how many Bangladeshis will lose their jobs.

Liton said after receiving funds from Bangladesh government, the embassy has already provided food support, and in some cases cash support, to 1,150-1,200 Bangladeshi workers.

"We are expecting to provide similar support to more workers gradually," he said.

Besides, IOM Iraq has provided cash support to nearly 100 Bangladeshi workers so far, while a local foundation also provided similar support to another 400 workers, he added.

Liton said officially, one Bangladeshi has died from Covid-19 in Iraq till date.

IOM SUPPORT

An official at IOM Bangladesh confirmed the global organisation's cash support in Iraq.

IOM Iraq on Thursday delivered the first round of cash assistance in Erbil to vulnerable Bangladeshi and Filipino migrants, who have lost their jobs and income due to the pandemic, according to a report published on its official website.

Each received USD 182 to enable them to meet essential needs such as food, rent, and utilities, said the report. The recipients were referred to IOM Iraq by their respective embassies.

It commenced screening of over 100 individuals in late April using a vulnerability assessment tool, and expects to receive further referrals.

In the coming days, a second phase of cash assistance will commence.

Like in other countries, migrant workers in Iraq have been disproportionately affected by the global crisis, with widespread layoffs leaving many in a precarious financial situation, unable to meet their basic needs, said the UN migration agency.

"Migrants are among those who have been especially hard hit by the Covid-19 outbreak in Iraq," said IOM Iraq Chief of Mission Gerard Waite in the report.

"Many of them live month-to-month, sending earnings home to their families. The loss of income has left them unable to afford food and at risk of eviction," Waite further added.

Let's fight

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save lives and sustain our development, the government and NGOs need to work hand in hand," he said.

Disaster Forum Member Secretary Nayeem Gowhar Warha called for strong coordination between local government and NGOs, especially in district level for long term planning and implementation of programmes required to mitigate the fallout of the pandemic.

Abu Morshed Chowdhury, co-chair

of CCNF, said UN agencies and donor countries should provide direct funding to national and local NGOs; international aid and UN agencies should play the role of monitoring and providing technical assistance.

This will help sustainability of national and local NGOs, he further said.

Dr Ehsanur of NAHAB, Bimol Sarkar of CCNF and Rafiqul Islam of FNB also spoke at the event, moderated by Rezaul Karim Chowdhury of BDCSO Process.

They too

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Once they receive a call from the police control room, they take preparations for the funeral, said Farid Uddin bin Jamir Uddin, chief executive officer (CEO) of the foundation.

Till now, they have performed burials of over 100 bodies, he added.

Asked what prompted the foundation to take the initiative, Farid said after hearing the news of people leaving the bodies unattended, members of their organisation decided to do something about it.

"Reading about such news was heartbreaking. Can you imagine body of your loved one left unattended, no one is there to perform the last rites? Every deceased, infected by Covid-19 or not, deserves a dignified burial," Farid told this newspaper.

In April, the foundation, led by its chairman Helal Uddin, met the police commissioner of Chattogram Metropolitan Police, the deputy commissioner of

Chattogram and health officials of the division to put their plans into motion.

After getting approval, they started their endeavour with 32 volunteers and five ambulances, he said.

He said they also wash, clean and dress the bodies.

"In many cases, locals appreciated our initiative when we went to bury a deceased in their locality while some did not want us to be there. But we continued with our efforts," he added.

Farid Uddin urged people to donate them PPE, masks, gloves and face shields so that they can perform the burial works efficiently in the coming days.

Arshad Ali, a member of the foundation, said in a crisis, everyone should try their best to help others any way they can.

Contacted, Sheikh Fazle Rabbi, civil surgeon of Chattogram district, said they are grateful to the foundation. "Without their support, the task of managing coronavirus related deaths would have been really difficult for us," he added.

Launch owner sets up spl deck for social distancing



These bunk beds were set up on the deck of launch "Pubali-1", which runs on Dhaka-Barguna route. The launch's owner took this initiative so passengers can maintain social distancing while travelling.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

SUSHANTA GHOSH

A special deck has been introduced on a passenger launch running on Barguna-Dhaka route, to maintain social distancing among passengers.

The owner has set up bunk beds spaced across the deck. Therefore, passengers will get separate beds like a cabin, which is beneficial for maintaining health regulations during the pandemic.

The first of such a facility was introduced on "Pubali-1" launch.

Masud Khan, the launch's owner, took such measures on his own initiative. He said he plans on installing fibreglass to separate the beds so that there would be no physical contact between passengers.

No one knows who is infected among passengers, so this is a great way to ensure maximum health precautions, he added.

Barguna-Dhaka launch passengers welcomed the initiative in this critical time.

Dhiman Sarkar, a regular passenger who travels on the route, said now it is possible to maintain safety rules even without staying in cabins.

Another regular passenger, Khorshed Alam, said although some trains have such a system, he was seeing this for the first time on a launch.

Dr Mizanur Rahman, member secretary of Nagorik Samaj, said the system will help passengers be safe by being apart from each other.

Ajmal Huda Mithu -- assistant director of BIWTA, Barisal -- said, "The system would allow passengers to travel safely and comfortably. No one knows when the pandemic will go away, so we must adopt new approaches for transportation."

BASIC Bank Limited
TENDER NOTICE
For Purchase of Computers and Computer Peripherals
01. Sealed tenders are invited from bona-fide suppliers for supplying following items:
Group-1 : Computers Group-2 : Line Interactive UPS.
02. The participating company must have at least 3 (three) years' proven experience in supplying computers/networking equipment/peripherals/accessories in any scheduled Bank in Bangladesh. Bangladesh Bank or must have previous record of successfully supplying computers/networking equipment/peripherals/accessories to BASIC Bank Limited. The participating company must submit relevant document(s) as proof of its experience as mentioned here.
03. The participating company must be an authorized dealer/distributor of the items offered in the tender.
04. The participating company has to submit BDT 65,000/- (Sixty Five Thousand) only with the tender through PQDD in the name of BASIC Bank Limited, Head Office, Dhaka as earnest money. Earnest money can be forfeited for reasons mentioned in the tender schedule.
05. The participating company may submit tender for the items in any or all groups.
06. The tender schedule may be obtained from ICT Division (Peoples Insurance Bhaban - 5th Floor, 36 Dilkusha C/A) of BASIC Bank Limited between 10:00 A.M. and 02:00 P.M. of all working days at a price of Tk 500/- only in cash (non refundable). No schedule will be sold after 02:00 P.M. of June 17, 2020.
07. Sealed tenders have to be dropped in the tender box kept at ICT Division (Peoples Insurance Bhaban - 5th Floor, 36 Dilkusha C/A) of BASIC Bank Limited on or before June 18, 2020 by 05:00 P.M. and the tenders will be opened at 03:15 P.M. on the same day in presence of bidders, if any.
08. Other terms and conditions can be found in the tender schedule.
Deputy General Manager
ICT Division

World Health Organization
Bangladesh
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)
World Health Organization in Bangladesh invites proposals/bids using "Two-envelope system" from the interested Companies/Institutes/NGOs in Bangladesh for the following service:
1. RFP/BAN/2020/004: Updating Health Vulnerability and adaptation assessment of climate change impact in Bangladesh.
Deadline for the submission of RFP: 14:00hrs, 25 June 2020.
Interested Companies/Institutes/NGOs can view and download the relevant RFP documents from: <http://www.searo.who.int/bangladesh/procurement/tender/en/>.
Interested bidders are requested to submit their financial and technical proposals in two separate sealed envelopes as per the instructions provided in the RFP documents at the Reception of WHO-Country Office for Bangladesh, United House, 10 Gulshan Avenue, Gulshan-1, Dhaka.

No. of

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The number of infected people in 24 hours was 57 in Pabna, 13 in Naogaon, nine in Joypurhat, eight in Sirajganj, two in Natore and one each in Rajshahi and Chapainawabganj. After Bogura, the second highest affected district is Joypurhat where a total of 214 people have been tested positive.

159 people in Naogaon, 129 in Pabna, 108 in Sirajganj, 76 in Rajshahi, 66 in Natore, and 57 persons in Chapainawabganj have tested positive, while 304 have recovered from Covid-19 in the division.

Masterplan for

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said they will always cooperate with the city corporation's masterplan to make the city liveable by filling the oxygen deficit, reducing pollution, reducing vehicles and increasing public transport.

There must be proper planning and implementation, he said, adding that they also need to come up with short-, mid- and long-term plans.

Istiaque Uddin Ahmed, president of Institute of Foresters Bangladesh, said if all the unplanned works are brought together in the masterplan, Dhaka will no longer be a gray city.

Mahfuz Hossain Mirdah, additional director of Department of Agricultural

Extension, said they need to plant trees that are suitable for the city so that people can get additional benefits such as food and nutrition from them.

The DAE can extend cooperation through manpower and technical advice in this regard, he added.

Ahsan Rony, urban agriculture expert, also stressed the importance of planting and protecting trees. He suggested that the city corporation becomes guardian/custodian of trees.

Prof AFM Jamal Uddin of the department of horticulture at Sher-E-Bangla Agricultural University said they are ready to extend full cooperation in support of the masterplan.

Sylhet City Corporation
Nagar Bhaban, Sylhet
www.scc.gov.bd
Tender Notice-09 (22)/2019-20 (Electrical)
46.07.0000.021.99.834.19.910.741 Date: 07-06-2020
1 Ministry/Division Ministry of the Local Government, Rural Development & Cooperatives.
2 Agency Sylhet City Corporation.
3 Tender ID No. Type of method Publishing & opening date of tender submission
465728 NCT, OTM 07-Jun-2020 10:00:00, 23-Jun-2020 15:00:00
4 Name, designation & address of PE. Md. Ruhul Alam, Executive Engineer (Electrical), Sylhet City Corporation, 0821-727151.
5 This is online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and offline/hard copies will not be accepted. Interested persons/firms can see details in the website: www.procure.gov.bd.
6 The fees for downloading the e-Tender documents from the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through any registered banks branches.
7 Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@procure.gov.bd).
(Sd/-)
(Md. Ruhul Alam)
Executive Engineer (Electrical)
Sylhet City Corporation
GD-961