

## Badiuzzaman Tunu Bir Protik passes away

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

Badiuzzaman Tunu Bir Protik, a prominent freedom fighter from Rajshahi, passed away early yesterday. He was 91.

During the Liberation War, he left his job at a pharmaceutical and fought in the front-lines.

His son-in-law Arifur Haque Kumar said Tunu had a heart attack a week ago. He was admitted to Rajshahi Medical College Hospital and went home after a few days. On Sunday evening, he fell ill again and was taken to the hospital, where he breathed his last, Kumar said.

He left behind five children and a host of friends and well-wishers.

His namaz-e-janaza was held at Laxmipur Shahi Jame Mosque after Zohr prayers. He was laid to rest with state honours in city's Hatem Khan graveyard.

Rajshahi city mayor AHM Khairuzzaman Liton and lawmaker Fazle Hossain Badsha condoled his death.



## Pran-RFL hands PPE to police, health workers



CITY DESK

Pran-RFL Group donated a consignment of protective equipment among police personnel and health workers in Chattogram on Sunday, said a press release.

Nurul Afsar, Head of Corporate Brand at the conglomerate, handed over the items to ABM Azad, Divisional Commissioner of Chattogram; and Amena Begum, Additional Police Commissioner of CMP.

Kamruzzaman Kamal, Marketing Director of Pran-RFL Group, said, "Throughout this pandemic, we have continued to provide support to the country in the fight against the novel coronavirus. This time, we have distributed surgical masks, PPE, gloves and sanitisers of 'Getwell' brand among police officials and health workers of Chattogram."

"Police and health workers of the city are discharging their duties risking their lives. We have come forward with the protective equipment to honor their relentless hard work and professionalism," he added.

Meanwhile, Pran-RFL group has set up an isolation unit at Amjad Khan Chowdhury Memorial Hospital in Natore to aid in the treatment of Covid-19 infected patients. The group has also set up sample collection booths, PPE, gloves and sanitisers to the Director General of Health Services (DGHS) and 10 hospitals in Dhaka and Bhola.

Additionally, Pran-RFL has already provided food aid to 60,000 families under economic strain during the pandemic under the 'Pash-e Achi Bangladesh' programme.

## Ducusu's

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After the one-year tenure of the incumbent committee ended on March 22 this year, it was extended up to June 22 in line with the charter.

Defending his stance, VP Nur, who was elected from the quota reformists' platform Sadharan Chhatra Odhikar Sangrakkhan Parishad, said, "We want the extension since we have many tasks left unfinished due to the indefinite closure of the campus following the coronavirus pandemic."

Nur also said that earlier on June 14 he had asked university VC and Ducsu President Prof Akhtaruzzaman about holding the polls, but the VC did not respond.

"We repeatedly asked the VC to take the steps necessary to hold the upcoming election, but he did not pay any heed. If the incumbent body is dissolved then Ducsu polls will be impossible," Nur added.

Meanwhile incumbent Ducsu General Secretary Golam Rabbani, who was expelled from Chhatra League's GS post during this tenure over allegations of "misconduct", said he would leave his post at Ducsu after 12:00 tonight.

However, he agreed with Nur to a certain extent.

"Tk 90 lakh remains unused in the Ducsu fund right now. We also have some other duties which we were meant to be carried out in the last three months. I will leave my post tonight but will request the VC to extend the tenure for a time frame so that we can complete all our tasks," Rabbani told The Daily Star.

Contacted, Prof Akhtaruzzaman said all decisions will be taken as per university rules and the charter.

## Bangladesh should

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This is something that is possible in Gulf countries, he said, adding "All that is required for the mission is to document and then follow up."

He said grievances can be documented during the quarantine stage upon workers' return to the country of origin.

Bangladesh, through its bilateral agreements and relationship with labour destination countries, should insist that they do not repatriate Bangladeshi migrant workers without giving them the opportunity to file any labour complaint, William said.

Rights activist and reserved seat lawmaker Aroma Dutta said formal letters from ministries concerned should be issued regarding workers' unpaid wages, especially addressing the "lost remittance" and a previously made proposal of getting six months' wage for workers who will be terminated.

She said an in-depth mapping was required on how and from what region migrant workers were going overseas and subsequently losing everything.

The ministry concerned should collect strong evidence to realise unpaid dues of migrant workers, said Syed Saiful Haque, executive director of WARBE Development Foundation.

Documentation is important for such negotiation, he said.

RMMRU Chair Prof Tasneem Siddiqui said recently they and Manusher Jonno Foundation (MJF) interviewed 50 migrants who returned because of the pandemic from Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Qatar and Malaysia.

Those who returned from Saudi Arabia, UAE and Qatar alleged they had unpaid dues ranging from Tk 9,500 to Tk 5 lakh, she said, presenting the outcome of the survey.

Prof Tasneem said 39 out of the 50 respondents said they were picked up by police during the pandemic and later repatriated.

Five migrants returned voluntarily, while three returned on leave and three with help from their employers, she said.

Every migrant worker deserves respect because the country's economy depends on their hard-earned remittance, said MJF Executive Director Shaheen Anam. She stressed for sending more skilled workers overseas to avoid exploitation.

Nazrul Islam, director general at the Foreign Affairs Ministry, said as of Saturday, some 16,484 migrant workers returned home during the pandemic.

Ahmed Munir Saleheen, secretary to the Expatriates' Welfare Ministry, said repatriation of workers during Covid-19 pandemic is a global phenomenon. "Many travel with 'free visa' for their jobs overseas. As a result, it becomes difficult to realise compensation for such workers," he said.

## Covid-19

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said they came to know of the letter. "But it doesn't address our demand."

"We wanted dedicated beds for doctors but the letter said doctors and health workers would be given priority at this hospital [Sheikh Russel Gastro Liver Hospital]. If no bed remains vacant, what would our doctors do?" he told The Daily Star yesterday.

In Saturday's letter to the health minister, the BMA blamed the health ministry and the DGHS for the high number of infections among doctors as they failed to provide proper precautions for them.

The ministry has taken initiatives for separate arrangements for journalists, police, lawyers and other professionals but has not shown any interest in taking similar steps to ensure treatment for the frontline fighters, the letter said.

At least 3437 health workers--1072 doctors, 938 nurses and 1427 other hospitals staffers--got infected with Covid-19 till June 20, which is 3.32 percent of total infection in the country, according to Bangladesh Medical Association (BMA).

The association said total 44 doctors died of the deadly virus till June 20.

## Time lost, lives too

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"All our way to Rajshahi, he had been crying for oxygen in a broken voice," said Hafizur's wife Mamtaz Rahman Joly.

"He was repeatedly telling us, 'Give me oxygen, I am dying without air. Take me back to Pabna. I was better with oxygen there. Can't you see I'm dying without oxygen?'" she said yesterday, sobbing over the phone.

"If there was an ICU available in Pabna, I could have saved my husband."

Hafizur, secretary of Ataikula Union Parishad, is a tragic example of how Covid-19 patients outside cities have been suffering due to the lack of ICUs at the district level.

While he was suffering because there was no ICU in Pabna, at least ten ICU beds were lying vacant at RMCH's 15-bed ICU.

A total of 49 people died of Covid-19 in Rajshahi division, as of Monday, while the number of the affected was 3,274.

According to an RMCH spokesman, at least 44 persons died at the hospital till yesterday with coronavirus or showing the symptoms. Of them, eight were confirmed cases while rest 36 were asymptotic.

Some of them were brought from other districts at their last stages after they suffered due to the lack of ICU facilities in their respective districts.

For Covid-19 patients in the eight districts in Rajshahi division, the Directorate General of Health Services arranged 23 ICU beds -- with an additional four from June 25 onwards -- in hospitals of Rajshahi and Bogura.

No separate ICU beds have been arranged for six other districts -- Joypurhat, Pabna, Sirajganj, Chapainawabganj, Naogaon and Natore.

Like Hafizur, critical Covid-19 patients or those showing symptoms from these districts are being taken to either Rajshahi or Bogura if they

require ICU support.

"The arrangement of ICUs is not sufficient in comparison with the increasing numbers of the affected and deaths. But we're managing anyhow," said Dr Gopendra Nath Achariya, director of Rajshahi divisional health services.

Since the beginning of the outbreak in March, local health authorities had raised concerns and placed separate demands for ICUs due to the rising number of coronavirus patients, he said.

The government is considering setting up ICU beds in every district, said Dr Gopendra, divisional health director.

**SAMPLE COLLECTION 'ON HOLD'**  
Hafizur, for example, fell sick on June 10, said his relatives. His sample was collected in Pabna on June 14, but his test results were still not available as of yesterday. Samples from Pabna are mostly sent to Rajshahi.

Other than scarce ICU facilities, inadequate testing have forced health authorities to withhold sample collection in Rajshahi district.

The entire division has four public RT-PCR labs available -- with testing capacity of 564 samples a day.

But the daily collection of samples from eight districts of the division amounts to more than 1,500, said Dr Gopendra.

In an official order on June 18, Rajshahi's civil surgeon suspended sample collection from all nine upazilas in Rajshahi district for five days.

The order was given after RMCH authorities sent a letter saying that they could not bear the load of testing unless sample collection is stopped for five days, said Rajshahi Civil Surgeon Dr Enamul Haque.

"Despite the notice, we had to collect some 50 samples on an urgent basis, but we could not have those samples tested yet."

Health authorities in Naogaon

collect 600 samples a week, but are sending these to Dhaka to be tested as Rajshahi was unable to take these samples, said Dr Md Akteruzzaman, civil surgeon of Naogaon.

Health authorities in Rajshahi are receiving samples from Chapainawabganj, but are sending these on to Dhaka for testing since June 12, said the district's civil surgeon Dr Zahid Nazrul Chowdhury.

Testing of nearly 300 samples that were sent to Rajshahi a week ago are still pending, said Dr Mizanur Rahman, Natore's civil surgeon.

**DELAY IN TESTING**  
Delays in testing are causing general panic as some Covid-19 patients are not quarantined until the test results come back positive, said health officials.

Asymptomatic Covid-19 patients, who generally need at least two follow-up tests to see whether they are coronavirus-free, remain uncertain of their status.

This can have an impact on their mental health, said doctors.

Mansur Rahman, 38, of Rajshahi's Charchat upazila, tested positive for Covid-19 on June 6, six days after giving his sample. He had no symptoms and was advised to stay at home.

However, he could not be tested again since then, said Ashiqur Rahman, the upazila health officer.

"We didn't collect his sample again as we were being repeatedly asked to selectively collect samples."

Mansur had already been tested once and he was asymptomatic, so his was deemed non-urgent.

On Sunday, his 20th day of home quarantine, Mansur, who worked as a driver for the Rooppur Power Plant Project, considered that he had overcome the virus, said Ashiqur, quoting his family members. He even went out.

He died suddenly yesterday morning, from unknown reasons.

## S Korea

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that the economic impact of shutdowns is often worse than the virus itself.

Brazil is the second worst-affected country behind the United States, another country where political infighting has prevented a unified policy to handle the virus.

Mexico, Peru and Chile are also hard-hit as death tolls soar and healthcare facilities are pushed toward collapse.

Mexico City has delayed reopening markets, restaurants, malls, hotels and places of worship, with the country now recording over 20,000 deaths.

Highlighting the region's woes, Peru passed 8,000 deaths on Sunday.

**FETE IN FRANCE**  
In Europe, meanwhile, the feel-good factor continues as countries ease their lockdown restrictions.

Thousands of French danced and partied well into yesterday for an annual music festival, in the first big blow out since the lockdown.

Revellers packed the streets of Paris, most shunning masks and social distancing, to enjoy concerts in cafes and on street corners.

Although none of the usual extravaganzas were held beyond what French electronic music legend Jean-Michel Jarre billed as the world's first live virtual "avatar" concert, many felt the authorities were too lax.

"This is not what a gradual end to the lockdown looks like," said Dr Gilbert Deray.

Swimming pools and cinemas also reopened yesterday -- with one cinema opening one minute after midnight for a sneak preview of the upcoming French comedy, "Les Parfums" (The Perfumes).

Children up to the age of 15 also returned to school as attendance was switched from voluntary to compulsory, reports AFP.

**SECOND WAVE**  
Fears remain, however, that the virus, may be on its way back even as countries where infections have ebbed lift their lockdowns to restart battered economies.

Australians were warned yesterday to avoid travelling to Melbourne, as the country's second biggest city tightened restrictions over fears of a second wave.

Victoria state has recorded more than 110 cases in the past week -- many of them in Melbourne -- prompting leaders of other regions to warn against visiting the city's six designated virus "hot spots".

## 90-million-pound

FROM PAGE 12  
Britain tried its best to support the cause of Bangladesh during the Liberation War. The country provided extensive support for the maintenance of Bangladeshi refugees in India, he adds. The British Foreign Minister assures that his country will provide all kinds of support to Bangladesh in its efforts to be a happy and prosperous country. He further informs that 90 million pounds will be provided by Britain for reconstruction of war-torn Bangladesh.

**PM MOURNS LOSS OF LIVES IN SYLHET FLOOD**  
Bangabandhu today expresses deep condolences for the loss of lives due to flood in Sylhet and its adjacent areas. It is reported that 12 lakh people are affected and 38 are killed due to the flash flood. Bangabandhu assures that all the affected people will be provided relief and other necessary support.

**ANTI-HOARDING DRIVES CONTINUE**  
Police along with Jatiyo Rakkhi Bahini conduct raids against hoarders in several places in Dhaka and Chittagong, and recover huge amount of essential goods. 42 hoarders are arrested in these drives. The anti-hoarding operations began yesterday following the end of the 15-day ultimatum given by Bangabandhu on June 7 at Suhrawardy Uddyan. The drives will continue against hoarders, black marketers, illegal occupants of houses and other evil elements. The government also shuts down 12 ration shops for illegal trading. Due to mindless hoarding by a certain group of businessmen, prices of essential goods have skyrocketed in recent times.

**SOURCES:** June 24, 1972 issue of Purbodesh.

## NZ PM makes 'imperfect'

FROM PAGE 12  
The 39-year-old shared a photo of herself posing alongside the finished cake on Instagram and explained it was not as easy to make as she first thought.

### BUILDING & LAND SALE

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Head Office: Metropolitan Chamber Building (3<sup>rd</sup> Floor)  
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### INVITATION FOR TENDER

Standard Bank Limited would like to procure 21,000 (Twenty One Thousand) pieces Annual Report-2019. Sealed tenders are hereby invited from bonafide printing press/firm/creative agency who have at least 05 (five) years relevant experience. Interested bidders may collect tender schedule from System & Operation Division of the bank from 23.06.2020 to 28.06.2020 during office hour on payment of Tk.2,000/- (Taka Two Thousand) only (non-refundable) in cash.

Standard Bank Ltd. reserves the right to accept, modify or reject any bid partially or fully without assigning any reason whatsoever. Details of the invitation for tender are available at [www.standardbankbd.com](http://www.standardbankbd.com).

Head of System & Operation Division



### Bangladesh Milk Producers' Co-Operative Union Ltd.

Head Office: Dugdha Bhaban  
139-140 Tejgaon Industrial Area, Dhaka-1208  
[www.milkvita.org.bd](http://www.milkvita.org.bd)



### Appointment of a Marketing Consultant

We are going to appoint a marketing consultant purely on temporary and contract basis renewable for every 6 six months on the basis of performance to create new corporate/Industrial/Group customers to increase sales volume.

Candidates must be MBA/M.Com (Marketing/Accounting) from any public/ National University. Candidates willing to apply must have at least 15 years' experience in Marketing / Procurement & must have working experience in top leading Food & Dairy manufacturing company in Bangladesh. Salary and other facilities will be fixed on the basis of negotiation.

Interested candidates are requested to send application with updated Bio data, a recent PP size Photo addressing Managing Director, MilkVita, 139-140, Tejgaon I/A, Dhaka- 1208 on or before 30 June, 2020 to email ID: [md.milkvita@gmail.com](mailto:md.milkvita@gmail.com)

Only short listed candidates will be invited by mobile call for interview with all original certificates & evidences as given in bio data.

*Amar Chan Banik*  
16.6.2020

**Amar Chan Banik**  
(Joint Secretary)  
Managing Director

**Palli Karma-Sahayak Foundation (PKSF)**  
Plot: E-4/B, Agargaon A/A, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207.  
Phone : 8282658-61, Website: [www.pkfsf-bd.org](http://www.pkfsf-bd.org)  
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### e-Tender Notice for Goods

PKSF invites e-Tender in the National e-GP System Portal ([http:// www.eprocure.gov.bd](http://www.eprocure.gov.bd)) for the procurement of following goods:

| Tender ID No | Description                                                                                                                                                | Tender Publication Date & Time | Tender Closing Date & Time |
|--------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 448539       | Procurement of Training Equipment (Interactive Flat Panel, Interactive Camera with TV Screen (Digital Commercial Display), Multi Media and Digital Camera) | 21 June 2020<br>14.10 pm       | 20 July 2020<br>12.00 pm   |

This is an online Tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP System Portal and no offline/hard copy will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, registration in the national e-GP portal ([http:// www.eprocure.gov.bd](http://www.eprocure.gov.bd)) is required. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP helpdesk ([helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd](mailto:helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd)).

**Dr. Md. Jashim Uddin**  
Deputy Managing Director

### Request for Proposal (RFP)

**International Labour Organization (ILO) Dhaka invites proposals from interested Social Marketing/ Event Management company to develop a TVET marketing strategy, and awareness and increased enrolment campaign. The bidding documents can be downloaded from the ILO Dhaka website under Procurement Notices at [https://www.ilo.org/dhaka/WCMS\\_367536/lang--en/index.htm](https://www.ilo.org/dhaka/WCMS_367536/lang--en/index.htm)**

The deadline for submission of proposal is **Tuesday, July 14, 2020, by 04:30 PM (BST time)** at ILO Skills Programme Office, PPD Secretariat Office Complex, 2nd floor, Block-F, Plot-17/B&C, Agargaon Administrative Zone, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207, Bangladesh.

## A doctor

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of Covid-19 while nine others with coronavirus symptoms have passed away, according to a tally of Bangladesh Doctors' Foundation.

## HC issues

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General Mahubey Alam opposed it.

Later in the day, Tanvir told The Daily Star that the Dhaka Wasa could not collect the 25 percent hiked water tariff following the HC order.

He added that he would move a petition before the HC after August 10 seeking extension of the order.

In the petition, Tanvir had also prayed to the court to declare the Dhaka Wasa's decision illegal as it had increased water tariff by 5 percent on September 1 last year.

### ফ্ল্যাট বিক্রয়

মানিকগঞ্জ শহরে ২৯/৩ বন্যাস আবাদিক এলাকা, গঙ্গাবরপাটতে "জেমল আনেনা টাওয়ারে" ৯০০, ১০৬৪, ১১৯৩ এবং ১৩৪৪ বর্গফুটের ফ্ল্যাট বিক্রয় চলবে।  
রেডী ফ্ল্যাটের মূল্য ৩০০০ টাকা/বর্গফুট এবং নির্মাণাধীন ফ্ল্যাটের মূল্য ২৮৫০ টাকা/বর্গফুট।  
যোগাযোগ: ০১৯১৯০১৯৬২৮ কি-৬৪