



FIRST VACCINE OF INDIA GETS NOD FOR HUMAN TRIALS  
SEE PAGE 12

# The Daily Star

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BANGLADESH UPDATE



3,682  
New cases in 24hrs



1,45,483  
Total cases



1,847  
Deaths



59,624  
Recoveries

GLOBAL UPDATE



510,576  
Deaths



10,495,132  
Total cases

## Testing fee for whose benefit?

Covid-19 testing fees at govt hospitals will discourage poor to get tested, help the virus spread further, experts fear

WASIM BIN HABIB and MOUDUD AHMED SUJAN

A little over two months ago, the chief of the country's health directorate in an interview with an Indian magazine narrated Bangladesh government's position on Covid-19 testing, saying the tests were free of costs.

"Our government policy is that anyone who gets infected with Covid-19 -- rich or poor -- is a government patient. We will take care of them, for free. Our priority is to test everyone," Prof Abul Kalam Azad, director general of the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS), told The Caravan in late April.

"To make sure that happens, we have provided PCR tests to private laboratories for free on the condition that they would not charge the patients," he added.

SEE PAGE 2 COL 3

DEATH OF OTHER PATIENTS TWICE THE COVID-19 VICTIMS -- PAGE 5

## Highest 64 deaths in one day

Covid-19 death toll now 1,847

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The authorities yesterday reported 64 more Covid-19 deaths, the highest in a single day, and 3,682 new cases of infection.

The death toll has now reached 1,847 and total cases jumped to 145,483, Prof Nasima Sultana, additional director general of the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS), said during yesterday's briefing.

The previous highest single day death cases -- 53 -- were reported on June

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1



PHOTO: FIROZ AHMED

A relative of Ashik, an engine operator of sunken launch Morning Bird, shows his photo to journalists as she looks for him in Subhadda area of Dakshin Keraniganj yesterday. The 18-year-old launch employee remains missing since the vessel sank in the Buriganga on Monday morning.

## Sampadak Parishad slates cases, arrests under DSA

Urges JS to scrap the anti-freedom law

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Sampadak Parishad (Editors' Council) yesterday issued a statement condemning the recent spate of cases and arrests of editors, journalists, writers, university teachers under the Digital Security Act (DSA) for expressing critical views about mismanagement in dealing with Covid-19.

"In the last few months, close to 40 journalists have been charged under the

SEE PAGE 2 COL 5



## Night of horror

WASIM BIN HABIB

It was a quiet Friday evening at the Holey Artisan Bakery towards the end of Ramadan in 2016.

At the upscale eatery in the posh Gulshan neighbourhood, guests were ordering coffee, croissants, bagels, pizzas and pastries and about 20 waiters were rushing back and forth.

MORE ON PAGE 3

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1

## Budget passed amid pandemic challenge

Analysts still observe it's difficult to implement

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Jatiya Sangsad yesterday passed the Tk 568,000-crore national budget for fiscal 2020-21, which, according to experts, may prove difficult to implement amid the coronavirus pandemic.

With the theme "Economic Transition and Pathway to Progress," the budget was passed by voice vote with Speaker Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury in the chair. It comes into effect today.

Earlier on June 11, Finance Minister AHM Mustafa Kamal placed the budget in the House with an ambitious GDP growth target of 8.2 percent, focusing on health sector development and economic recovery amid Covid-19 pandemic.

Many experts, however, termed the GDP growth target impractical.

SEE PAGE 2 COL 3

## SALVAGE VESSEL BIWTA, RHD at odds over bridge crack

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A portion of the First Bangladesh-China Friendship Bridge, also known as Postogola Bridge, was damaged as the crew of a BIWTA salvage ship did not lower the crane installed on it, according to Roads and Highways Department.

"The bridge is of standard height. Nothing would have happened if

SEE PAGE 2 COL 6

## TACKLING COVID-19 Health minister under fire at JS

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Health Minister Zahid Maleque yesterday came under fire in parliament from opposition BNP and Jatiya Party MPs due to his ministry's alleged failure to tackle the Covid-19 pandemic and ensure treatment and testing facilities to the coronavirus infected people.

Participating in a cut-motion discussion on the Health Services Division's demand of Tk 22,883.86 crore from the budget allocation, a JP lawmaker even demanded that the prime minister replace Zahid Maleque with former agriculture minister Matia Chowdhury.

Refuting all allegations, the health minister said his ministry had taken proper measures to tackle the Covid-19 and that was the reason for lower death rate in Bangladesh

SEE PAGE 10 COL 2

## Survival shrouded in mystery

SHAHEEN MOLLAH

Around 12 hours after a launch capsized in the Buriganga river on Monday, authorities started to rescue the vessel when a man swam out alive, raising more questions than could be answered.

Sumon Bepari, a fruit vendor by profession, was taken to Mitford Hospital right after his rescue. At the hospital, he talked to media personnel describing his rescue.

SEE PAGE 2 COL 5

# ১ লক্ষ কোটি টাকা

আমানতের মাইলফলক অতিক্রম করল

# ইসলামী ব্যাংক

বাংলাদেশ লিমিটেড

এছাড়াও মে ও জুন মাসে অতীতের সকল রেকর্ড অতিক্রম করে  
সর্বোচ্চ রেমিট্যান্স আহরণ করেছে  
ইসলামী ব্যাংক

যার পরিমাণ মে মাসে ৪৬১ মিলিয়ন মার্কিন ডলার এবং জুন মাসে ৫৭৫ মিলিয়ন মার্কিন ডলার।  
যা অতীতে কখনো ৪০০ মিলিয়ন মার্কিন ডলার অতিক্রম করেনি।

ইসলামী ব্যাংকের শক্ত ভিত্তি পেলো আরো বেশি দৃঢ়তা। এইসব মাইলফলকের কৃতিত্ব দেশ ও প্রবাসের  
সকল গ্রাহক, শুভাকাঙ্ক্ষী ও ইসলামী ব্যাংক পরিবারের প্রত্যেক সদস্যের। স্থানীয় মালিকানা পরিবর্তনের  
কারণে ব্যাংকের গ্রাহকস্বাধীনতা আরো বৃদ্ধি পেয়েছে সর্বত্র। সরকার, বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংক, নিয়ন্ত্রক সংস্থা ও  
গ্রাহকসহ সকলের প্রতি আমাদের কৃতজ্ঞতা ও হৃদয় নিঃস্রাব্য ভালোবাসা।



ইসলামী ব্যাংক

বাংলাদেশ লিমিটেড  
ইসলামী শরী'আহু মোতাবেক পরিচালিত