

Life expectancy at birth rises

SVRS delivers promising figures

REJAUUL KARIM BYRON and MOHIUDDIN ALAMGIR

Life expectancy at birth for Bangladeshis has risen to 72.6 years because of what experts said was progress made in health care and economy.

This marks a rise of 1.7 years since 2015, according to the Sample Vital Registration System (SVRS) 2019 launched yesterday by the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS).

It was 72.3 in 2018, said the report unveiled by Planning Minister MA Mannan.

Women's life expectancy in 2019 was 74.2, higher than men's 71.1.

Experts attribute these to economic development, expansion of health services, better access to health care facilities and improvement in nutrition.

POPULATION (JAN 1, 2020) 167.43m

LIFE EXPECTANCY 72.6 yrs in 2019 70.9 yrs in 2015

ADULT LITERACY RATE 74.7 pc in 2019 64.6 pc in 2015

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AT HOSPITAL'S DOOR, NO CARE



The wife of Covid-19 patient Shafiqul Islam, 48, a clinic employee, takes him to Mugda General Hospital around 10:00am yesterday. They wait at the entrance to the hospital for about half an hour but nobody comes to help. Placing Shafiqul on a gurney, she takes him near the emergency department. Shafiqul tears off his shirt as he cannot tolerate the heat. The gurney breaks, top right, and he falls to the floor. A hospital staff appears and asks them to go to DMCH or elsewhere. Shafiqul's wife then calls in her son and relatives who carry him to an ambulance at 12:20pm. The wife told this paper around 3:30pm that Shafiqul got admitted to Mitford hospital and his condition was unstable.



PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN



Jute workers postpone demo

Decide to start work today, wait for official word

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Workers of nine state-owned jute mills in the Khulna region last night postponed their demonstrations demanding cancellation of the decision to close all government jute mills.

Bangladesh Jute Workers Protection CBA and Non-CBA Sangram Committee said workers would join their work today as they did not receive any letter from the authorities concerned regarding closure of the jute mills.

Earlier in the day, the workers staged a sit-in with their family members in front of their factories. They demonstrated for the second consecutive day.

Over 30,000 permanent and temporary workers of five jute mills in Khulna city, two mills in Khulna's Atra industrial area and two mills in Jashore are taking part in the protest.

There are 8,100 permanent workers in these jute mills, while the number of temporary workers is 30,000.

Visiting at least four jute mills, including Crescent and Platinum, in the city's Khalishpur area, this correspondent found hundreds of workers were demonstrating on their respective mill premises.

They were chanting slogans against the government decision.

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WHO warns of 'pandemic virus'

REUTERS, Shanghai

A new flu virus found in Chinese pigs has become more infectious to humans and needs to be watched closely in case it becomes a potential "pandemic virus", a study said, although experts said there is no imminent threat.

A team of Chinese researchers looked at influenza viruses found in pigs from 2011 to 2018 and found a "G4" strain of H1N1 that has "all the essential hallmarks of a candidate pandemic virus", according to the paper, published by the US journal, Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (PNAS).

Pig farm workers also showed elevated levels of the virus in their blood,

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FLOOD RAVAGED AREAS

Farmers fear the worst

STAR REPORT

Farmers in flood-hit areas of the north and north-eastern districts are fearful of incurring huge losses as vast croplands have been inundated over the last couple of days.

The crops include Jute, Aush paddy, vegetable, grains, and seedbeds of Aman paddy.

On the one hand, their houses have been washed away and on the other, their crops are at risk of being damaged. So, the flash flood has emerged as a double blow for them.

Officials of the Department of Agricultural Extension (DAE) said some portion of the crops can be saved, if

floodwater recedes quickly. But almost all the crops will be damaged if water stays for one week.

Meanwhile, an eight-year-old boy drowned in flood water on Monday in Kurigram.

In Bogura, some 7,868 hectares of cropland have been inundated in Sariakandi, Sonatala, and Dhunat upazilas. Farmers cultivated jute and planted seeds of Aman and Aush paddy in these land.

If the water does not recede within a week, almost all the crop will be damaged, according to local agriculture officials.

Some 61,000 people have been directly affected. Many are enduring untold

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The end of quota

2,204 recommended in final results of 38th BCS

SHARIFUL HASAN

The final results of the 38th Bangladesh Civil Service (BCS) examinations under the Public Service Commission (PSC) were published yesterday.

Some 2,204 candidates have been recommended provisionally for appointment to different cadres, said PSC officials. Of them, 613 were recommended for general cadres.

With this exam, the quota system in BCS came to an end -- a demand for which students staged a massive protest in 2018.

PSC officials told The Daily Star that there was a full commission meeting around 3:00pm yesterday, led by PSC Chairman Mohammad Sadiq. The final results of the 38th BCS were approved at that meeting.

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Wasa to collect raised water tariffs

SC clears HC's injunction

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court has cleared the way for the Dhaka Water Supply and Sewerage Authority (Wasa) to collect the hiked price of water it had fixed earlier.

The apex court yesterday stayed a High Court order for 16 weeks that issued injunction till August 10 on the Dhaka Wasa's decision of hiking the water tariff to 25 percent since April 1 this year.

Chamber judge of the Appellate Division of the SC Justice Md Nuruzzaman passed the order following a petition filed by Dhaka Wasa seeking stay on the HC order of injunction.

Following a writ petition, the HC bench of Justice M Enayetur

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FIRST YEAR OF BANGLADESH BANGABANDHU'S NATION-BUILDING CHALLENGES

No aid with strings



July 1, 1972 SHAMSUDDOZA SAJEN

TK 200 CRORE FOREIGN HELP AS GRANTS

Finance Minister Tajuddin Ahmad discloses at a crowded press conference today that out of Tk 375 crore foreign assistance shown in the budget, Tk 200 crore would be received as grants. The remaining Tk 175 crore would be available as loan from various sources and the country would not go to

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Bangabandhu planting a coconut sapling at Ganabhaban on July 1, 1972.

Zafrullah's health worsens

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The condition of Dr Zafrullah Chowdhury has worsened, as he developed secondary pneumonia following his Covid-19 infection, said a Gonoshasthaya Kendra press release yesterday.

He is suffering from an inflammation of the larynx, on top of his kidney disease which requires him to undergo dialysis thrice a week.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's personal physician Dr ABM Abdullah visited the public health expert yesterday to give him medical advice, said the release.

Furthermore, the Gonoshasthaya Kendra is going to build a 15-bed ICU at its city hospital, and Zafrullah is raising funds for that purpose, added the release.

Anger as China approves HK security law

REUTERS, Hong Kong

The European Union yesterday expressed anger while Britain, Japan and Nato voiced concern after China passed a national security law for Hong Kong that threatens to usher in the starkest changes for the former British colony since its return to China.

The law approved earlier by China's mostly rubber-stamp parliament, follows months of pro-democracy protests in Hong Kong, which was guaranteed

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Indian vaccine gets nod for human trials

Modi extends free ration scheme till Nov as some cities extend lockdowns

AGENCIES

Bharat Biotech's Covid-19 vaccine has been approved for human trials, making it India's first domestic candidate to get the green light from the government's drug regulator as cases surge in a country with more than 1.3 billion people.

The Drug Controller General of India has approved the company's application to conduct a Phase I and II clinical trial of Covaxin, which was developed along with the Indian Council of Medical Research's National Institute of Virology, the company said in a statement on Monday.

Human clinical trials are scheduled to start across the country in July for

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গণবিজ্ঞপ্তি

ঘরের বাইরে মাস্ক পরা অত্যাবশ্যিক।

মাস্ক না পরলে জরিমানা হতে পারে।

- করোনার সারা বিশ্ব আক্রমণিত।
- মনে রাখবেন অসামর্থ্যতা যে কেউ যে কোন সময় করোনা ভাইরাসে আক্রান্ত হতে পারেন।
- সামাজিক দূরত্ব নিশ্চিত করতে পরস্পরের মধ্যে কমপক্ষে তিন (৩) ফুট দূরত্ব বজায় রাখুন।
- স্বাস্থ্য অধিদপ্তর কর্তৃক প্রদত্ত সব স্বাস্থ্যবিধি অবশ্যই মেনে চলুন।
- বারবার সাবান পানি দিয়ে কমপক্ষে ২০ সেকেন্ড ধরে হাত ধুতে হবে। অপরিষ্কার হাত দিয়ে মুখ, নাক ও চোখ হোয়া থেকে বিরত থাকুন।
- নিয়মিত কুসুম গরম পানি, আলা চা, এবং গরম স্যুপ পান করুন। লবণ মিশ্রিত কুসুম গরম পানি দিয়ে দিনে ৩-৪ বার গড়গড়া করুন, নাকে মুখে গরম পানির ভাপ নিন।
- জ্বর, সর্দি, কাশি, গলা ব্যথা হলে বাড়িতেই আলোচনা থেকে চিকিৎসা নিন। জ্বর কমানোর জন্য প্যারাসিটামল ও সর্দি-কাশির জন্য এন্টিহিস্টামিন (যেমন ফেনোক্সিফেনাডিন, ক্লোরফেনিরামিন ইত্যাদি) সেবন করতে পারেন।

প্রয়োজনে করোনা বিষয়ক হটলাইনে ফোন করুনঃ ১৬২৬৩; ৩৩৩; ১০৬৫৫; ০১৯৪৪৩৩৩২২ অথবা নিকটস্থ স্বাস্থ্যকর্মী বা হাসপাতালে যোগাযোগ করুন।

মনে রাখবেন আপনার সুরক্ষা আপনারই হাতে

স্বাস্থ্য অধিদপ্তর স্বাস্থ্য ও পরিবার কল্যাণ মন্ত্রণালয়