

## Homebound

FROM PAGE 3

Only 10 percent buses of their fleet were in operation after public transport resumed operation after three months, Sattar said.

"We thought the situation will change ahead of Eid. But people's movement is very thin even two or three days before Eid," he added.

### SUFFERING AT FERRY TERMINALS

Homebound people to the southwestern region of the country are facing hassles, as authorities are failing to operate most ferries on Shimulia-Kathalbari route due to strong current in river Padma, which washed away a pontoon of Shimulia ferry terminal on Tuesday.

As a result, many are taking the alternative Paturia-Dauladia route, resulting in huge pressure of vehicles there and causing tailback of waiting vehicles.

Shib Pada Dey, a private service holder, started from Dhaka in the morning in his private car with his family to go to village home in Bagerhat. "We reached Shimulia terminal around 7am and were able to cross the river after 3pm," he told The Daily Star yesterday.

A staffer of Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Corporation (BIWTC) said the swollen Padma washed away the third and busiest pontoon of Shimulia ferry terminal and a portion of the approach road on Tuesday.

As a result, ferry service in the route was disrupted and Ro-Ro ferry service was suspended on Tuesday. "Bus, today [Wednesday], 10 out of 16 ferries were operating. But its taking almost double time due to strong currents," he told this correspondent, wishing not be named.

As a result, Paturia-Dauladia route is facing pressure of increasing number of vehicles, Zillur Rahman, BIWTC deputy general manager at the terminal, told The Daily Star yesterday.

"There was pressure of vehicles till 2pm today. But there is no big pressure now," he told this correspondent around 6pm yesterday.

He said they are operating 15 ferries now but all ferries are taking more time than the usual due to strong current on the river he said.

### TRAIN AND LAUNCH

Alamgir Kabir, joint director of Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority (BIWTA) at Sadarghat Launch Terminal said the number of passengers at the terminal yesterday was less than normal.

He said 80 to 90 launches usually left the terminal daily during the normal time, while 82 launches left Dhaka on Tuesday.

"However, the number is likely to increase tomorrow [Thursday] after authorities announced closure of RMG factories," he told The Daily Star.

Meanwhile, Bangladesh Railway is operating only 17 intercity trains with 50 percent of the passenger capacity. As all tickets were sold out online and people without tickets were not allowed to travel, there was not pressure of passengers at railway stations, sources said.

## Cattle markets

FROM PAGE 3

customers are being asked to maintain strict health guidelines as the coronavirus pandemic is yet to dissipate. In this regard, cautionary signs and guidelines have been put up across the markets.

Yet, while visiting the markets in the city such as Rupatoli, Baghia, Port Road cattle markets in the last couple of days, this correspondent found most buyers, sellers, and visitors completely ignoring the regulations. Rather than wearing masks and maintaining distance, people were seen huddling in and commuting in groups.

Yunus Ali, a lessee at a cattle market, acknowledged that regulations are completely flouted at the markets. "The administration should be stricter to prevent these violations," he said.

Contacted, ASM Ajiur Rahman, deputy commissioner of Barishal, said, "We have instructed the lessees to maintain health regulations, but they are not following the directions properly. We will ensure strict monitoring at the markets with the help of law enforcers."

## Farmers worried

FROM PAGE 3

If buyers from other deficit districts do not take animals from them, many farmers would be in trouble.

Besides, sale will not be as expected, as the economic condition of rural and urban people is bad due to the pandemic and floods. "Ten percent of the cattle are expected to remain unsold," said an official.

Farmers said many of them could not sell their animals last year, possibly due to a similar surplus.

Rafiqul Islam, a farmer from Dinajpur Sadar upazila, said he started rearing six bulls eight months ago, investing a huge amount of money. Recently, potential buyers saw the bulls over video-call.

The buyers offered Tk 3.5 lakh for all six bulls, but Rafiqul said he would incur a loss if they are not sold for Tk 5 lakh at least. "Everything, including fodder, is expensive now."

Similarly, Rezwanaul Haq, owner of a farm "Livestock Complex" in Rangpur city, said he has 15 cows for sale and would face losses if each one is sold below Tk 60,000. "I spent Tk 3,000 daily just to rear the cows for the last five months."

He came across several customers but the price they offered is terrible, he said.

Finding no other option, Saiful Islam, another farmer living in the city, sold his cow at a cheap price, after estimating that further delays to sell it can bring losses.

Most farmers said they are getting overwhelming response online, but the prices offered is frustrating. Hence, farmers are displaying their cattle in the markets, risking their health.

Similar comments came from several farmers from other districts -- including Thakurgaon, Nilphamari and Kurigram.

Most markets in Dinajpur were overcrowded, with little care about maintaining social distancing and wearing masks. There are 60 markets in the district's 13 upazilas.

Dr Habibur Haq, deputy director of Divisional Livestock Department in Rangpur, said there will be no shortage of cattle in these districts. All steps have been taken to ensure profitability through the online marketplace.

Lumpy Skin Disease would not affect sale, he said.

KM Tariqul Islam, divisional commissioner of Rangpur Police Range, said they have taken comprehensive measures to ensure security at 400 cattle markets.

## Take steps

FROM PAGE 3

Bhattacharjee and his wife being burnt in a fire caused by a lit cigarette coming in contact with hand sanitiser.

Rajib Bhattacharjee (36), a neurosurgeon at Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University, died on July 28 at the intensive care unit of Sheikh Hasina National Burn and Plastic Surgery Institute.

Barrister Mahfuzur Rahman Milon himself argued for the petition while Deputy Attorney General Amit Dasgupta represented the state.

## Ensuring health

FROM PAGE 3

On the other hand, those in-charge of the markets tried to avoid responsibility and blame traders. Mohammad Hanif, in-charge of maintaining health guidelines at Sadeque Hossain Khoka cattle market, said they requested traders to follow the guidelines but to no avail.

He also said they will take necessary steps to aware traders through loudspeakers and set up a hand wash facility by tonight (yesterday night). At Kachukhet market, only a handful of buyers and traders were seen wearing masks and maintaining distance.

Shamim Al Razi, a veterinary surgeon at the market, said as the place was small, maintaining physical distance was quite difficult.

### WARNINGS FELL ON DEAF EARS

Dr Md Shahidullah, president of NTAC, told The Daily Star if city corporations arrange cattle markets in Dhaka, Chattogram, Gazipur and Narayanganj, rate of infection, which is now stable, will increase after Eid.

The committee suggested not to set up markets in the four cities because 76 percent of Covid-19 cases are from there. He suggested running online markets and strictly maintaining health guidelines.

As Covid-19 is not yet under control, the committee, in its 14th meeting, suggested implementing strict control in Dhaka and nearby areas.

NTAC's seven-point suggestion regarding cattle markets include not setting up markets inside towns; setting up in open spaces; not allowing entry to the elderly or sick; having separate entry and exit paths; and sacrificing cattle at fixed locations instead of at home.

Contacted, Rasel Sabrin, chief estate officer of Dhaka South City Corporation, said they are trying to maintain and ensure health guidelines at the markets. "We have also set up mobile courts in this regard."

When informed about the health regulations being flouted as seen by these correspondents, he said they will double their efforts to make sure such irregularities do not take place anymore.

## AL's savings rise by 35pc

FROM PAGE 12

At the end of 2019, the party had Tk 50.37 crore.

Of the amount, Tk 40 crore is saved in banks as Fixed Deposit Receipt (FDR).

According to the audit report, the ruling party's highest income source was selling party nomination forms, which fetched Tk 12.32 crore in 2019.

It also collected money from its tri-annual council, subscription fees from the members of its central committee, advisory council, national executive council, and lawmakers, and received bank interests and money from well-wishers and sales of books and old documents.

Its biggest expenditure was holding the council, which had a bill of around Tk 3.43 crore.

Besides other sectors of expenditure were the maintenance of its Dhanmondi office and its central office on Bangabandhu Avenue, salaries of employees at party offices, organising party programmes, printing banners and festoons, advertisements, and conducting relief activities.

All registered parties have to submit their annual audit reports certified by a registered chartered accountancy firm within July 31 of the following year, according to the Political Parties Registration Rule, 2008.

According to EC sources, only seven political parties, including Awami League and Jatiya Party, submitted their audit reports to the EC.

They also added that the EC was going to extend the deadline for submitting the report by a month.

## Shutdown

FROM PAGE 12

take online classes so that academic activities are not interrupted.

Bangladesh recorded 35 deaths from Covid-19 in 24 hours till yesterday morning, pushing the official death tally from the virus to 3,035.

Besides, the country detected 3,009 new cases after testing 14,127 samples during the same period, taking the total number of confirmed cases to 232,194.

## Successful

FROM PAGE 12

GOVT WON'T IMPOSE PRESS ETHICS

Mizanur Rahman Chowdhury, minister for information and broadcasting, declares today that no press ethics would be imposed by the government on the journalists and adds that keeping the national interest in mind, the journalists are expected to formulate their own code of ethics.

The Minister assures that the journalists are free to make any constructive criticism of the government. The rights and privileges of the journalists would not be jeopardised, he adds.

SOURCES: July 31, 1972 issues of Bangladesh Observer, Dainik Bangla and Dainik Ittefaq.

## Virus deaths

FROM PAGE 12

Spain, one of the countries hit hardest by the pandemic, insists it is a safe destination despite dealing with 361 active outbreaks and more than 4,000 new cases.

Several countries have nonetheless imposed quarantines on people returning from Spain, including its biggest tourist market, Britain.

## Model

FROM PAGE 12

"At first I removed some of the tables to have more space in between, but it then looked so lonely, as if the restaurant was under renovation," Takemine told AFP.

## 'I only said what I've seen'

FROM PAGE 12

department officials were present during the meeting.

Before Monday, officials from the Bangladesh High Commission talked to Rayhan. According to the Foreign Ministry, Rayhan's issue will be resolved by maintaining bilateral relations with Malaysia.

"I did not lie. I have only talked about discrimination against the migrants. I have not committed a crime. I want the dignity of migrants and my country ensured. I want all migrants and Bangladesh to stand with me," Rayhan had told The Daily Star in a WhatsApp message shortly before his arrest.

Rayhan Kabir's family of four lives in Bandar upazila of Narayanganj. His father Shah Alam works in a garment factory.

Rayhan's mother has been unwell for the last one month, his father Shah

Alam said. Apart from his parents, Rayhan has a sister in his family.

According to Shah Alam, his son has been arrested for protesting against discrimination and exploitation. He believes his son did not do anything wrong. The family wants immediate release of Rayhan. To his neighbours in Bangladesh, Rayhan was known to speak up against injustice and often helped out local kids with donations of old books.

Rayhan, 25, who went to Malaysia in 2014 and had been working after completing his bachelor's was the target of Malaysia's manhunt after his criticism against Putrajaya's detention of undocumented migrant workers in an Al Jazeera documentary titled "Locked Up in Malaysia's Lockdown" aired on July 3.

In the 26-minute video produced by Al Jazeera's 101 East team, he accused the authorities of racism against

undocumented migrants. ACTIONS AGAINST KABIR SENDS A CHILLING MESSAGE: HRW

"The Malaysian authorities' arrest of a Bangladeshi migrant worker who was featured in an Al Jazeera documentary was clear retaliation for his criticism of government policies towards migrants," Human Rights Watch said yesterday.

The authorities should immediately release Rayhan and reinstate his work permit, it added.

Phil Robertson, deputy Asia director of HRW, said, "The Malaysian authorities' actions against Kabir sends a chilling message to all migrant workers that speaking out about rights abuses risks arbitrary arrest, deportation, and blacklisting."

"The arrest of a source in a documentary adds to the devastating assault on free speech and media freedom in Malaysia."

The writer is a freelance journalist.

## Journo Kajol denied bail

FROM PAGE 12

also the investigation officer of the case, submitted an application on July 22.

On March 11, Sumaiya Chowdhury Banna, a member of Bangladesh Jubo Mahila League's central committee, filed the case against Kajol with the capital's Kamrangirchar Police Station.

On June 23, he was shown arrested in another case filed with Sher-e-Bangla Nagar Police Station by Saifuzzaman Shikhor, ruling Awami League lawmaker from Magura-1.

On June 28, Kajol was placed on two-day remand in a case filed on March 10 with Hazaribagh Police Station by Usmin Ara

Beli, another member of the Jubo Mahila League committee.

Fifty-three days into his disappearance, Kajol was found by Border Guard Bangladesh in Benapole on May 3. He was then arrested initially on charges of trespassing, but was granted bail by a Jashore court.

However, that same evening he was shown held under section 54 of the Code of Criminal Procedure after police informed the court that three more cases against Kajol were pending with different police stations in the capital.

The court then sent him to Jashore jail.

Later, he was shifted to Dhaka Central Jail in Keraniganj.

**Palli Karma-Sahayak Foundation (PKSF)**  
PKSF Bhaban, E-4/B, Agargaon Administrative Area, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207  
Phone: 8181658-61, 8181664-69, Fax: 8181678  
Website: <http://www.pksf-bd.org>, [www.facebook.com/PKSF.org](http://www.facebook.com/PKSF.org)

**Request for Expression of Interest (REOI)**  
**Selection of Individual Consultant (National)**

Palli Karma-Sahayak Foundation (PKSF) invites sealed applications from the interested Individual Consultants for completing task titled "Technical, Financial and Commercial Feasibility Study to start up 'Display and Sales Centre' at Shyamoli Bhaban of PKSF". This projects locates at Plot No.: 23/5, Block-B, Khiljee Road, Shyamoli, Mohammadpur, Dhaka-1207".

The detailed REOI and 'Standard Request for Application (SRFA)' document is obtainable from the office of the undersigned during office hours (10:00 am to 4:30 pm). It will also be available at PKSF website ([www.pksf-bd.org](http://www.pksf-bd.org)). RFA along with all necessary documents must be submitted in sealed envelope to the office of the undersigned by 2:30 pm on or before 20/08/2020.

PKSF reserves all rights to accept or reject any or all applications without showing any reason whatsoever.

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

**Good Neighbors Bangladesh**

**Vacancy Announcement**

Good Neighbors is an international humanitarian and development non-governmental organization with membership in General Consultative Status in the United Nations Economic and Social Council (UN ECOSOC). Good Neighbors Bangladesh (GNB), established in 1996, is operating 14 Community Development Projects (CDP) and 3 Projects with Specific Program (PSP) in 11 districts for child protection, education, health, women empowerment, income generating activities, DRR and humanitarian response. Winner of MDG 2 award in 2007.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CDP Program Manager</li> <li>• CDP Admin Manager</li> <li>• Grant Communication Manager</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Medical Officer</li> <li>• Officer (Health)</li> </ul>
---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

**Application Deadline: 9 August 2020**

Detailed information/job descriptions for the above positions are available at: <http://gnbangla.org/jobs/>  
Interview will be held in Dhaka office with the short-listed candidates only. **Female candidates get preference.**  
GNB is concerned about the rights of children and women and has "Zero Tolerance" policy for any kind of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse.

**Good Change for the World**

**North-West Power Generation Company Ltd.**  
ISO 9001:2015, ISO 14001:2015 & OHSAS 45001:2018 Certified  
(An Enterprise of Bangladesh Power Development Board)

**Office of the Plant Manager (Superintending Engineer)**  
Sirajganj 225 MW Combined Cycle Power Plant (Unit-1)  
Soydabad, Sirajganj.

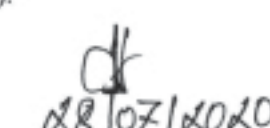
Ref: 27.28.8878.101.07.001.19.155 Date: 28/07/2020

**e-Tender Notice**

The following e-Tenders are invited in the National e-GP System Portal ([www.eprocure.gov.bd](http://www.eprocure.gov.bd)):

Sl. No.	Tender ID	Brief Description of Tender	Publication Date	Last Selling Date & Time	Opening Date
1	480854	Supply of Steam Turbine insulation materials and installation.	28/07/2020	12/08/2020, 3:45 PM	13/08/2020
2	481174	Medium Voltage Power Cable.	30/07/2020	31/08/2020, 3:45 PM	01/09/2020

This is 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 ([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 e-GP Help Desk ([helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd](mailto:helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd)).

  
**Engr. Md. Asad Halim**  
 Plant Manager (Superintending Engineer)  
 Sirajganj 225 MW Combined Cycle Power Plant (Unit-1)  
 NWPGL, Soydabad, Sirajganj.

GD-1207