



On the footpath stretching from Karwan Bazar to Farmgate, at least seven to eight such craters have been created which turn into dangerous puddles after rain. With the capital going back to its busy self gradually, these would only bring more suffering to pedestrians. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

BNP hopes govt will consider extension of Khaleda's release

Party's 42nd founding anniversary observed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP yesterday expressed its hope that the government would extend the temporary release of party Chairperson Khaleda Zia. The party expected that the government will consider Khaleda's application for the extension positively. "We have repeatedly said that Khaleda Zia was convicted unfairly in false cases. She deserved bail, not punishment," said Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir, secretary general of the party. Fakhrul was talking to journalists after placing wreaths at party founder Ziaur Rahman's Sher-e-Bangla Nagar grave, marking BNP's 42nd founding anniversary. Fakhrul along with the standing committee members went to the grave maintaining health rules. Later, party's senior leadership, front and associate bodies paid their respect to Ziaur Rahman. Fakhrul said restoration of democracy is the biggest challenge now and there is no alternative to get united to do so. "One-party ruling system was established in the country," he said. On September 1, 1978, Ziaur Rahman founded the party with 19 points. After his assassination Zia on May 30, 1981, in Chattogram, his wife Khaleda Zia took over the party leadership.

Two people killed in separate boat accidents in Meghna

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barishal

Two people were killed in separate boat accidents on the Meghna River in the last two days.

Asim Kumar Sarker, officer-in-charge of Hijla Police Station, said an 11-year-old girl was killed and three others were injured in a head-on collision between two speedboats on the Meghna River in Hijla upazila of Barishal. In another accident around Hijla old launch ghat, an angler died after being hit by an unknown water vehicle, the official added.

On Monday morning, 11-year-old Razia, of Bhairiya village under Hijla upazila, died from an accident near Memania point.

Nazrul Islam Milon, chairman of Hijla Gaurabadi Union Parishad, said Razia's uncle Abdullah went to Barisal on Saturday for medical treatment, taking Razia with him.

The accident occurred on their way back. When their speedboat reached the Meghna estuary, it collided with another speedboat coming from the opposite direction. The boats were carrying six people including the drivers.

Following the collision, the body of the speedboat broke and hit Razia in the abdomen, killing her on the spot, locals said. Meanwhile, the locals rescued and rushed the other injured, including the two drivers, to Hijla Upazila Health Complex.

In another accident at Hijla's old launch ghat area, angler Joyal Abedin (47) was killed after colliding with an unknown water transport early yesterday.

"Joyal was found seriously injured after taking a hit from an unknown water vehicle while he was netting at the Meghna river," said Hijla police OC Ashim kumar Sarker.

Fares back

FROM PAGE 3

Asked, Md Harun, conductor of a minibus, said they forbade additional passengers from boarding but they do not pay heed. "What can I do?" he asked.

When asked about allowing passengers who do not wear facemask, he said he could not compel anyone to wear facemask. "It is the duty of law-enforcers."

According to health experts, if health guidelines are not followed inside public transports, the situation may further deteriorate.

Contacted, Prof Shakeel Ahmed, an epidemiologist and in-charge of Bangladesh Institute of Tropical and Infectious Diseases lab, said health guidelines should be ensured to prevent the spread of Covid-19. "There is no scope to relax health rules at this moment."

Contacted, Belayet Hossain, president of Chattogram Metropolitan Paribahan Malik Group, said they instructed workers to not even carry one passenger more than the capacity and not allow passengers without facemasks.

"We did not do business for the last six months, and if needed, we would not for the next two months for the sake of public wellbeing," he said. "We will strictly monitor whether the health rules are being followed."

Mobile courts of Bangladesh Road Transport Authority (BRTA) were seen on different routes yesterday. BRTA Mobile Court Bench Assistant Emil Chakma said three such courts were being conducted.

Contacted, Mohammad Shahidullah, deputy commissioner (traffic) of Chattogram Metropolitan Police, said traffic department teams were monitoring different routes to ensure health guidelines. "We are imposing fines on vehicles that do not follow the instructions and will be stricter regarding this matter."

No law

FROM PAGE 3

The act also confers certain powers upon the forest officer for dealing with offences. They are empowered to seize any forest produce and tools used to commit offences, and has the right to arrest (without warrant) any person who is reasonably suspected as being involved in such offences.

Though the act provides ample power to officers, it does not mention what action should be taken against such officers if they fail to perform their responsibilities. Rather, the act provides indemnity to them for any action done in good faith.

It is alleged that such protection provides favourable treatment, which goes against the constitutional stipulation of equality before law.

It is also noted that if the actions of those in power are not legally scrutinised or have no consequences, they might lead to abusive and discriminatory practices.

When asked about the lack of effectiveness of the existing law, ABM Imdadul Haque Khan, advocate of the Supreme Court, said, "The Forest Act 1927 was promulgated by colonial rulers, with a view to exploit forest resources for commercial purposes instead of conservation."

"Although the law has been amended, its spirit still bears this legacy," he said. "Moreover, the existing measures focus mostly on punitive measures instead of preventive ones. This is not in line with the international principle of precautionary measures."

As to possible ways of ensuring accountability of forest officers, he added, "The law should be amended to incorporate provisions to hold forest officers accountable if they fail to perform their obligations."



Black smoke emanating from the bus's exhaust covers a biker behind it at the capital's Bangla Motor. Normal face-masks are a great way to prevent the spread of Covid-19, but does little for the fine particles of pollutants we breathe in while commuting every day, slowly damaging our lungs.

PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN

Veggie prices

FROM PAGE 3

Vegetables from different upazilas of Chattogram and adjacent districts are now coming to the markets, but they are not sufficient to meet demands.

"That's why prices have shot up," he observed.

Contacted, Manju Sawdagar, a wholesale trader of Reazuddin Bazar, said there is no chance for prices to drop before winter.

Rangpur recreational

FROM PAGE 3

spots has brought joy to residents of the district, especially children.

Accordingly, their parents are preparing to their families out to the spots, although many are unsure of whether it is time yet, with the pandemic showing no signs of stopping.

ACC freezes

FROM PAGE 3

In 2007, ACC filed a case with Adabor Police Station against Dulu on charge of amassing wealth worth Tk 13.80 crore beyond his known sources of income.

Following a petition filed by Dulu, the High Court on July 18, 2012 quashed the case's trial proceedings. Later, ACC filed the appeal with the Supreme Court, challenging the HC judgment.

In 2015, the SC overturned the HC verdict and cleared the way for the lower court to resume trial proceedings against former BNP deputy minister Dulu.

Shafi Ullah said the trial is still pending before the court.

DNCC to

FROM PAGE 3

"There is no capacity of the city corporation to provide trade licenses in residential areas but they are doing business here. We want a solution in this regard," Atiql said.

The mayor visited different commercial establishments like supermarkets, offices, banks and houses.

DNCC also realised a fine of Tk 5.60 lakh from various establishments for not paying holding tax, keeping goods on footpaths and roads, and illegal advertising.

Atiql said the drive will identify businesses that do not possess a valid licences, and bring them under the legal system.

A six-member committee -- headed by the local councillor and woman councillor from the reserved seat -- will be formed in each ward where the reserved seat councillor will be the joint convener, he added.

The deputy revenue officer will be the member secretary.

"All DNCC residents will be able to pay their taxes online from January 1. No one needs to go to the zone office," said the mayor.

HUMAN HAULIERS, HAWKERS REMOVED FROM NEAR NAGAR BHABAN IN DSCC DRIVE

Meanwhile, Dhaka South City Corporation in drive yesterday removed a human haulier (laguna) stand from near Nagar Bhaban.

A mobile court, led by executive magistrate Irfan Uddin Ahmed conducted the drive to bring discipline to roads in the adjoining areas, according to officials of DSCC.

Officials later shifted the public transport stand near the eastern side of Nagar Bhaban.

The mobile team also evicted all hawkers from the footpaths in front of Nagar Bhaban.

SM Munir appointed additional attorney general

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Supreme Court lawyer SM Munir has been appointed additional attorney general for moving cases on behalf of the state before the SC.

With SM Munir, there are now three additional attorney generals.

President Abdul Hamid made the appointment under article 3(2) of the Bangladesh Law Officer Order 1972. The solicitor wing under the law ministry issued a gazette notification to this effect yesterday.

SM Munir is a former secretary of the Supreme Court Bar Association.

A post of additional attorney general remained vacant after the president had sacked the then additional attorney general MK Rahman on May 19, 2014.



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Request For Application (RFA)

Palli Karma-Sahayak Foundation (PKSF) is hereby requesting for applications from competent national individual consultants for conducting following three short term consulting services under a project titled "Promoting Agricultural Commercialization and Enterprises (PACE) Project, jointly financed by PKSF and International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD).

1. Problem Identification Study on Determination of most effective crab breeding time in Bangladesh.
2. Problem Identification Study on Preparation of effective and low cost feed for dearth period of Bees.
3. Problem Identification Study on Preparation of contamination free tissue culture seedling production protocol of Gerbera flowers in Bangladesh.

Each of the studies mentioned above will be considered as separate one. Interested consultants are requested to visit the website: http://www.pksf-bd.org/portal/e_recruitment for detailed Terms of Reference (ToR) and instructions regarding application procedures. The consultants who are able to fulfill the requirements of the ToR are encouraged to apply. **The works undertaken by the consultants that can best illustrate the capability of them to handle the assignments should be mentioned in the online application (in the field "other" under step-3).** Interested consultants are requested to submit online application by **22 September, 2020**.

Only short-listed consultants will be contacted. PKSF is an equal opportunity employer. Any kind of persuasions will be treated as disqualification of the consultant. PKSF reserves the right to cancel this advertisement without assigning any reasons whatsoever.

Deputy Managing Director-2

CR Dutta

FROM PAGE 3

He gave important direction at the crisis period of the country."

People will remember him forever for his brave role in the battle field, he added.

Maj Gen (ret'd) Chitta Ranjan Dutta, Bir Uttam, popularly known as CR Dutta, had been suffering from various old-age complications and passed away in the US on August 25 at the age of 93.

He was honoured with "Bir Uttam" title for his gallantry during the Liberation War.

He had been the founding president of Bangladesh Hindu-Buddha-Christian Oikya Parishad, a platform of different religious minority groups, until his death.

CR Dutta's coffin was kept at the mortuary of the Combined Military Hospital after it had arrived in Dhaka on August 31.

His two daughters and son also reached Dhaka by a Qatar Airways flight on Monday.

Talking to reporters, his son Chiranjit Dutta said, "He dreamed of a secular Bangladesh that nurtures communal harmony and worked throughout his life to ensure it. He had no regret but loved the country to the fullest."

"All his dreams were to ensure the development of Bangladesh," said Chayanika Dutta, one of his daughters.

Bangladesh Puja Udaypan Parishad and Mohanagar Sarbajanin Puja Committee placed wreaths on Dutta's coffin and paid their homage.

Other organisations who came to pay their tribute were Bangladesh Mohila Oikya Parishad, Hindu Dharmiyi Kalyan Trust, Bangladesh Hindu-Buddhist-Christian Unity Council, Bangabandhu Sangskritik Jote and Bangladesh Shikkhak Oikya Parishad.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
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Memo No. _____ Dated: _____

Tender Notice
e-Tender Notice (One Stage Two Envelopes Tendering Method (OSTETM))

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the

Tender ID	Package No.	Name of work	Last selling date & time for tender/proposal	Tender closing date & time	Tender/proposal opening date and time
487355	01-e-GP/ADP/PPFT/WD-05/2020-2021	Construction of 6.35 km (4+2 Lane) Payra Port Connecting Road including 7 Nos. P.C/RCC Bridges, 7 Nos. RCC Box Culverts, Toll Plaza & Electrical Works on Rajopara to Payra Port Connecting Road from Ibaria (Ch: 3+000) to Banatpara (Ch: 9+350) Payra Port 1st Terminal Link Patuakhali-Kuakata Road under Patuakhali Road Division during the fiscal year 2020-2021.	30-Sep-2020 17:00	01-Oct-2020 12:00	01-Oct-2020 12:00

- 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 (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required.
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- Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

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GD-1367