

Zero tolerance for drugs one of five goals set by PHQ

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police have set five new goals in order to be friendlier with people and enhance its service quality. One of the five goals is zero tolerance against drugs, said Assistant Inspector General (Media) of Police Headquarters (PHQ) Soheli Rana in a video message yesterday.

If any member of police is found to be involved with drug trade or consumption, stern action will be taken against them, the AIG said.

"In continuity with this direction by the PHQ, our field level units have started taking necessary steps," he said.

"We are dope testing the suspected members of police and taking measures accordingly," Soheli Rana said, adding that action will be taken if any connection of any member of police with drugs is proven.

As part of punitive measures against such crimes, DMP has dismissed 10 of its members and issued orders to eight others, seeking explanations as to why they should not be sacked.

If they fail to give satisfactory responses within a week, they will be dismissed as per departmental rules, DMP officials said.



Due to the pandemic, this year's tax fair, an event many prefer to go to for filing their tax returns, has been cancelled. However, authorities have decided to set up service centres in all tax zones, making it easier for everyone to contribute towards creating a better society. This photo was taken yesterday from port city's Agrabad.

PHOTO: RAJIB RAIHAN

A cancer hospital for the people, by people

Ctg Maa o Shishu Hospital ready to build 100-bed facility banking on donations

MOHAMMAD SUMAN, Ctg

Chattogram Maa O Shishu Hospital is planning to extend its services for residents of the port city, with a full-fledged 100-bed cancer hospital and research institute.

What is remarkable is that the nonprofit, semi-charitable hospital is planning to go ahead with the Tk 120 crore project mainly with donations from its 9,000 lifetime members and general people of society, the same way it operates its activities.

Hospital authorities said work on a ten-storey building for the cancer hospital will start next month, and it will be possible to provide free-of-cost cancer treatment to poor patients, as well as world-class medical services at low cost for others in near future.

According to hospital sources, authorities took the initiative three years ago to build the hospital, and have been following the procedure to get approval of government agencies, including Chattogram Development Authority, Bangladesh Atomic Energy Commission and the Department of Environment.

The building will be made on 10 kathas of land near the existing hospital, said Rezaul Karim Azad, treasurer of the hospital and member secretary of the cancer hospital implementation committee.

"The hospital and research institute to be built with financial support of people. We have already made an agreement for supply of medical equipment to the hospital. It will be possible to launch a world class cancer hospital in the next two and a half years."

"So far, we have collected a handsome amount of money, with which we

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Most 'down' govt websites back up and running now

At least 484 went offline for couple of days due to technical glitches

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Most of the 484 government-run websites of Bangladesh National Portal, which were suspended for a couple of days along with 62 sensitive sites like Bangabhaban, Prime Minister's Office, cabinet and different ministries due to overload of information in server, are up and running now.

Visitors will be able to avail of services from those sites once again, as they have identified and fixed the issue, said officials.

Over 700 websites initially experienced the malfunction, the websites of government offices and directorates were facing the problem till last evening.

This correspondent was unable to access at least 10 government-run websites including Ministry of Power, Energy and Mineral Resources, Ministry of Road Transport

and Bridges and UGC -- those were found functional since yesterday evening.

"All websites will be operational from tonight onwards," said Mohammad Arfe Elahi, chief technology officer (CTO) of Access to Information (a2i) programme under PMO.

The servers faced technical glitches for a few days due to recent increase in traffic and uploading of contents on the websites. They have already fixed the issue and were waiting for DNS propagation -- a time frame needed for any DNS changes like IP address update across the internet, a2i officials said yesterday.

A member of Portal Implementation Team of a2i told The Daily Star on Sunday that they had 33,000 sites which include government offices.

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PETITION AGAINST DSCC MOVE No dog relocation without consulting petitioners, ministry

Attorney general tells HC

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday dropped from its cause list a writ petition that sought a stay order on Dhaka South City Corporation's (DSCC) move to relocate stray dogs from areas under its jurisdiction.

The HC bench of Justice Md Ashfaqul Islam and Justice Mohammad Ali passed the order, after Attorney General (AG) AM Amin Uddin, on behalf of DSCC mayor, told the court that DSCC will not relocate dogs without consulting the writ petitioners and ministries concerned, Saqeb Mahub, a lawyer for the petitioners, told The Daily Star.

He said they can move the same petition before the HC for necessary orders, if any further move is taken to relocate the dogs in the city.

Dog relocation is halted at present, the lawyer said. Comments from AG Amin could not be obtained

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HC stays bail order of Rana Plaza owner in graft case

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday extended its stay order on the bail granted by a lower court to Soheli Rana, owner of Rana Plaza -- which collapsed leaving at least 1,135 people in April, 2013 -- in a corruption case.

The HC also issued a rule asking the state to explain in four weeks why the lower court order that granted bail to Soheli Rana in this case should not be scrapped.

The stay order on the bail will continue till disposal of the rule, the HC said.

The HC bench of Justice Md Nazrul Islam Talukder and Justice Ahmed Soheli came up with the order and rule after virtually hearing a petition filed by the Anti Corruption Commission (ACC) seeking cancellation of the lower court order that granted bail to Soheli Rana.

Soheli Rana cannot get released from jail following yesterday's HC order, ACC lawyer Khurshid Alam Khan told The Daily Star. He said the ACC filed the case with Savar

Model Police Station on December 31, 2017 against Soheli Rana on charge of amassing wealth worth Tk 2.54 crore beyond known sources of income.

A Dhaka court on May 17 granted bail to Soheli Rana in the corruption case.

Following the ACC's petition, the then virtual HC bench of Justice Md Nazrul Islam Talukder on June 8 stayed the lower court order that granted bail to Soheli Rana. The stay order will continue after the regular activities of the court resumes following the then holiday, the HC bench had said.

Courts across the country then went on general holiday declared due to the coronavirus pandemic.

The ACC lawyer yesterday moved the same petition before the HC bench for its hearing and a further order.

Lawyer Khurshid Alam Khan appeared for the ACC and Deputy Attorney General AKM Amin Uddin Manik represented the state and lawyer Alamgir Hossain argued for Soheli Rana.

'NOT SUBMITTING WEALTH INFO' Ishraque acquitted in ACC case

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday acquitted BNP's Ishraque Hossain, a candidate for the last Dhaka South City Corporation election, in a graft case filed for not submitting his wealth statement to the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC).

Judge Shaikh Nazmul Alam of the Special Judge's Court-4 of Dhaka passed the order in presence of Ishraque, son of former Dhaka City Corporation mayor Sadeque Hossain Khoka, in a packed courtroom.

In the judgment, the judge said he found no satisfactory evidence to convict Ishraque. The prosecution have completely failed to produce vital witnesses to prove the charges. Moreover, the notice was not duly served upon Ishraque.

So the accused was acquitted, the judge said.

The judge also said the notice was served by hanging it on the wall of 20 Hare Road where the then mayor Khoka lived.

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Tk 100cr wealth of expelled JL leader Anisur confiscated

Khaled laundered Tk 8.75cr to three countries, finds ACC

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Anti-Corruption Commission yesterday confiscated expelled Juba League office secretary Kazi Anisur Rahman's assets worth Tk 100 crore.

Deputy Director Gulshan Anwar Pradhan seized the assets, confirmed ACC public relations officer Pranab Kumar Bhattacharyya.

The seized assets include a five-storey house at Kalabagan in the capital, two flats at Dhanmondi and Wari, three shops at Elephant Road and 13 square feet of commercial space and two shops at a market in Gulshan-2, reports UNB.

Besides, ACC seized a house in Boalia of Muksudpur in Gopalganj, a petrol pump, 15 bighas of land worth Tk 30 crore and 40 kathas of land in Keraniganj.

ACC also detected a bank transaction of Tk 50 crore.

On September 29, 2019, ACC filed a case against Anisur for

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Four sustain burns in gas line explosion

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Four persons, including an employee of Titas Gas and its two hired day labourers, were injured in an explosion at Dhaka's Panthapath minutes after they had gone there Sunday afternoon for gas line repair.

The injured -- Abdullah (55), the employee; Azim (40) and Ruhul Amin (40), the labourers; and Kazi Zafar (30), a pedestrian -- were rushed to Sheikh Hasina National Institute of Burn and Plastic Surgery, said police.

Azim and Zafar were undergoing treatment with 30 and 27 percent burns while the other two left the hospital after taking

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Star HEALTHLINE



Boost your immunity AGAINST COVID-19

Now more than ever, it is important for your immune system to stay in tiptop shape with the Covid-19 pandemic threatening a resurgence in winter across the world. One of the best ways to stay healthy is by maintaining a nutritious diet. Here are some of the foods that can help boost your immune system.

VITAMIN A

This vitamin assists with the health of your intestines and respiratory system. Vitamin A-rich foods include carrots, sweet potato, spinach, broccoli and red bell peppers.

VITAMIN C

Vitamin C helps stimulate the formation of antibodies. This particular vitamin is a crucial participant in the army of immunity. It helps prevent the common cold. Citrus fruits, strawberries, red bell pepper and kiwi are all rich in vitamin C.

VITAMIN D

Vitamin D supplements have a mild protective effect against respiratory tract infections. Most people are deficient in vitamin D, so it is best to consult with a doctor about taking a vitamin D supplement to boost immune response.

VITAMIN E

This nutrient promotes the neutralisation of free radicals by working as an antioxidant. Foods full



of vitamin E include vegetable oils, nuts, seeds and avocado.

ZINC

There are many zinc-dependent enzymes in our body and deficiency has been linked with immune dysfunction. Zinc deficiency often makes one more susceptible to flu, cold and other viral infections. Zinc-rich foods include beans, seeds, nuts, meat, poultry and seafood.

PROTEIN

Specific amino acids found in protein are essential for T-cell function, which are cells that protect the body against pathogens. Meats, poultry, seafood, eggs, beans, nuts and seeds all have lots of protein.

These nutrients have been shown to help your immune system work most efficiently and effectively, but too much of a good thing can be harmful. Eat these nutrients in moderation and stay healthy. As always with preventing the spread of illness, wash your hands frequently and maintain social distancing.



Youngsters have made this section under the Kadamtali flyover in Chattoogram city into their personal miniature football field. From friendly matches to tournaments, this place has become lively with all the activities, drawing in audience from nearby. Hawkers often illegally occupy such spaces, but the children made great use out of the vacant area amid the dearth of playing fields. This photo was taken on Friday.

PHOTO: RAJIB RAIHAN