

Metropolitan

New health and drug policies soon

3 AIDS patients detected: 1,50,000 die of cancer

A new health policy and a drug policy will be formulated in consultation with all concerned quarters, Education Minister Prof Badruddoza Chowdhury informed the House Thursday, reports UNB.

He was replying to a supplementary question from Shamsuddin (CPB) on behalf of the Health Minister Kamal ibne Yusuf who is now on a tour of diarrhoea affected areas.

The government of deposed President Ershad had formulated a health policy which was later annulled by the interim government of Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed.

Replying to a question from Col (Retd) Shawkat Ali (AL) Chowdhury said that the gov-

ernment was considering to set up separate wards for contagious diseases in the district hospitals and upazila health complexes.

In reply to a supplementary question from Rashed Khan Menon (Workers Party) he said three AIDS (Acute Immune Deficiency Syndrome) patients have been detected in the country so far and one of them died recently in a village of Noakhali.

Prof Badruddoza Chowdhury informed the House that a medical college would be set up at Khulna and the construction work would begin during the fourth five year plan.

He was replying to a question from Sheikh Haroon-un-

Rashid of Awami League.

BSS adds: The Deputy Leader of the House told Sheikh Fazlul Karim Selim (AL-Gopalganj) that about 150,000 persons had died of cancer in 1990.

Replying to a supplementary question, he said the government had a programme to set up a cancer institute in the country. A cancer unit in each medical college and general hospitals had already been opened, he said.

Besides, different preventive measures including anti-smoking campaign had been taken by the government to combat cancer.

The Deputy Leader of the House and Education Minister, Prof Badruddoza Chowdhury told the Jatiya Sangsad that the government, in cooperation with the opposition parties, would take steps for improving the country's health system.

Diarrhoea claims 25 lives in Rajshahi

RAJSHAHI, Apr 25: Health Minister Chowdhury Kamal ibne Yusuf today visited diarrhoea affected areas of Bugmara and Puthia upazilas of the district, reports BSS.

State Minister for LGRD and Cooperatives Kabir Hossain accompanied him.

During the visit the Minister enquired about the treatment of diarrhoea affected people and assured them of providing all possible government facilities. He urged the doctors to discharge their duties with sincerity and dedication.

Later, the Health Minister presided over the meeting of district diarrhoea task force. Kabir Hossain also attended the meeting.

The meeting was informed that diarrhoea has broken out in 70 villages of 18 unions under seven upazilas of the district. It was also informed in the meeting that the disease has so far claimed 25 lives while 1,548 people were affected.

Sixteen people were died at Bugmara, three at Paba two at Puthia, one each at Durgapur Tanore, Charghat and Godagary.

Sixtyfive medical teams have been working to treat the diarrhoea affected people. Sufficient amount of medicine, saline have been supplied to the affected areas and sufficient medicine were kept in stock.

The situation is now under control. Publicity arranged by the local administration is being done for motivating the people to create awareness among them.

397 health complexes to be set up: JS told

Health Minister Kamal ibne Yusuf told the Jatiya Sangsad Thursday that 397 health complexes would be set up under two projects in the Annual Development Programme of 1990-91 for the development of upazila health complexes of the country, reports BSS.

In a written reply to a question from Mohammad Abu Bakar (Jamaat-Natore), the Minister said of the total 347 complexes belonged to the first project while the rest 50, including five old, were under the second project.

The Health Minister said that Taka 21.50 crore and Taka 10.15 crore had been allocated for the first and the second project respectively during the current financial year.

He told the House that work on the first project began in 1972-73 but could not be completed till today due to constraint of local currency.

He, however, said construction of 227 centres had been completed. For the rest, he said, funds were being disbursed on priority basis to those centres which were near completion.

Chowdhury Kamal said construction of 20 centres out of 50 under the second project had been started with local resources. He said proposals for financial assistance were sought from the World Bank and other donor countries.

Tk 44.27 crore medicine distributed free of cost

medicine worth Tk 44.27 crore was distributed free of cost throughout the country between July 1990 and March 1991, Education Minister Prof AQM Badruddoza Chowdhury told parliament on Thursday, reports UNB.

He was replying to a question from Rashed Mosharrar of Awami League on behalf of Health Minister Chowdhury Kamal ibne Yusuf now touring country's diarrhoea-affected areas.

Replying to Mizanur Rahman Manu, also of AL, he said family welfare centres had been set up in 2,244 unions.

Management course for doctors stressed

By Staff Correspondent

Professor K M Fariduddin, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, on Thursday stressed the need of hospital management course for the doctors working in the hospital and other health institutions.

He was speaking as the Chief Guest at the inaugural session of the Hospital Management Training Course held at the Auditorium of NIPSON.

Prof A K M Salahuddin, Head of the Department of Hospital Administration, in his speech highlighted the need and the background of the training course. This is the fourth such course conducted by the Department of Public Health Administration of National Institute of Preventive and Social Medicine (NIPSON), in collaboration with World Health Organisation.

A N A Abyeundere, World Health Organisation (WHO) representative, also attended the session.

Prof Md Khabiruddin, Director, (NIPSON) delivered the address of welcome.

Osmany made envoy to UN European Offices

Ambassador Muslehur Rahman Osmany has been appointed Permanent Representative of Bangladesh to the European Offices of the United Nations in Geneva, Foreign Office sources said in Dhaka on Thursday, reports UNB.

M R Osmany who is at present Ambassador to Iraq returned home from Baghdad along with other officials and staff of the mission mid-January in the wake of the Gulf war.

Osmany held many important posts both at home and abroad since he joined the government service in 1964.

Netherlands to import more garments

Netherlands has given indication of increasing the quantum of garments import from Bangladesh when its Ambassador Gajentaan called on Foreign Minister ASM Mustafizur Rahman on Thursday, reports UNB.

They discussed matters of bilateral interests with particular reference to Dutch economic assistance to various development programmes in the country, foreign ministry sources said.

Netherlands, a member of the Aid to Bangladesh Consortium, has also been extending bilateral assistance to Bangladesh in the field of agriculture, especially potato cultivation.

Mustafizur Rahman lauded the Netherlands for providing continued support to Bangladesh in its development efforts.



Dr. Michael Pepperman, Consultant-Anesthetist, Leicester Royal Infirmary, UK, addressing a symposium on "Use of Dormium in the induction of Anesthesiology" at the ninth annual conference of Bangladesh Society of Anesthesiologist at a local hotel in Dhaka on Thursday. The conference was sponsored by Hoffman-La-Roche Ltd.

Dateline Khulna

Shipping Minister M K Anwar told the Jatiya Sangsad Thursday that work on the capital dredging of Mongla Port will begin in the last week of this month and is expected to be completed in June 1992, reports BSS.

Replying to a question from A Khaleque Talukdar (AL-Bagerhat) the Minister said the estimated cost of the project was Taka 2547.35 lakh including a foreign exchange component of Taka 1474.53 lakh. He said the volume of dredging will be 35 lakh cubic metres.

Anwar said Mongla Port will bear the cost from its own fund.

In reply to a question from Ilias Ahmed Chowdhury (AL-Madaripur) the Minister said at present, there was no plan to buy dredgers for Mongla Port.

M K Anwar further said two feet of silts had deposited at the river bed of the anchorage point of the ocean — going vessels of the Mongla Port.

Dateline Chittagong

Foreign vessel salvaged: quality tea to be produced

From Staff Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, Apr 25: A foreign ship, MV Fut Bay, that ran aground at the outer anchorage of the Chittagong Port was salvaged this morning.

The Malta flag carrier on Wednesday ran aground at the port channel as its draft was higher than the level. The vessel was carrying clinkers from Turkey.

BSS adds: Commerce Minister M Keramat Ali said here today that the government would do everything possible to help produce quality tea in the country and increase marketing facilities for it at home and abroad.

He said, demand for tea greatly depended on quantum of production, quality and international economic condition. He, however, said that the problem of marketing could be considerably eased in case of quality production.

The Minister was addressing as the chief guest the 31st annual general meeting of Bangladesh Cha Sangsad at a local hotel here.

Keramat Ali disclosed that the government was having formal preliminary talks with the British government in connection with next stage of tea garden rehabilitation project. He assured that the Minister of Commerce would take necessary steps to achieve success in that field in consultation with the Cha Sangsad, Tea Board and donor countries. He also said that his ministry was having talks with National Board of Revenue about reintroduction of 20 per cent rebate facilities in respect of machinery imported under UK commodity aid. He hoped to arrive at an acceptable decision in this regard.

The Commerce Minister also said that the government had taken decision about short and long term lease of tea garden land and registration of lease documents would be expedited in the cases of first class and medium category gardens, he hoped that tea garden owners would properly perform their responsibility in that respect.

Diarrhoeal situation not out of control, says ICDDR, B

The International Centre for Diarrhoeal Diseases and Research, Bangladesh, (ICDDR, B) has set up a makeshift tent to accommodate 20 extra beds to cope with rush of diarrhoea patients in the last few days, reports UNB.

The number of patients exceeded the maximum capacity of its 450-bed hospital recording 513 patients last week that forced the authorities to make additional arrangements, ICDDR, B sources said.

All the patients at the hospital were from Dhaka and its adjoining areas, a source said. He, however, assured that the "situation is not yet out of control".

Growing public awareness about diarrhoeal diseases — borne mainly by contaminated water, fatality rate could be contained these days as patients were being brought in better conditions than before, he said.

The rush has been less during the last couple of days due to rains, he said but warned that the number of patients might rise again if the hot-spell resumes.

Meanwhile, the ICDDR, B an internationally reputed centre for diarrhoeal diseases research and treatment, has sent two medical teams to the southern districts where diarrhoea tended to take an epidemic form claiming nearly 400 lives since mid-March.

Nationwide figure for diarrhoeal casualty so far has been nearly 600 with reports of more areas being affected by the killer disease. According to official figures, more than 36,000 people have so far been affected by diarrhoea across the country.

CARE distributes 40,000 ORS packets

CARE, an American relief and development agency, has distributed over 40,000 ORS packets from its Barisal sub-office to diarrhoea affected people of the region, reports UNB.

At least 75,000 more ORS packets and one lakh water purification tablets are also being despatched, says a press release here today.

The ORS have been distributed through CARE's existing network in the area.

CARE sources said the situation was not totally under control yet but efforts are being made by all concerned quarters.

DMC classes resume Apr 28

All classes of Dhaka Medical College will resume Apr 28, a Medical College press release said on Thursday, reports BSS.

The hostels, however, will remain open from April 27 to facilitate the residential students.

THE STAR SERVICE	
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DMCH..... 505025-9	Airport Inquiry 894870-4
PG..... 500121-6	894350
SMCH..... 505194-8	Airport 894771-9
Holy Family... 240061-3	Airport Customs 894485
	Aeroflot 506626
	Air France 251900
	239353
POLICE	
DMP Exchange 410061-5	Air India 259594
Control Room... 509922	Alitalia 500070-1
Telephone Inquiry 239900	238144
Central..... 254666	280052
Sher-e-Bangla Nagar 312141	Biman 240151-10
402030	British Airways
	Reservation..... 861091-4
RAILWAY	Airport Inquiry 894410
Inquiry 409686	Burmah Airways 253090
Reservation (Intercity)... 413173	Cathay Pacific 254484
Others..... 40434-9	Druk Air 259901-11
	Emirates 280791
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Gabtal..... 380507	236262
Mahakhali..... 600230	231687
	258747
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Sonargaon..... 315001-9	JAL 258390
315071-9	251059
Sheraton..... 861191	KLM 315001
863391	Kuwait Airways
Purbani..... 864926-30	Lufthansa 502858
Sundarban..... 505055-9	PIA 502668
Park International... 410031-5	501112
	259455
CHITTAGONG	PAN AM 258128
Agrabad..... 031-500111-8	241337-38
	Qantas Royal Nepal
OTHER PUBLIC SERVICE OFFICES	Airlines 251900
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Seminar on 'Post-war development in Gulf today

The International Relations Alumni Association, University of Dhaka, will hold a seminar on "Post-war Developments in the Gulf" at the National Museum, Shahbagh, at four this afternoon.

Dr. Akmal Hussain, Associate Professor, Dept of International Relations, Dhaka University, will present the keynote paper.

The seminar will also be addressed by The US Ambassador in Bangladesh William B. Milam, USSR Ambassador Vitali S. Smirnov and the Iranian Ambassador Mohammad Ganji Doost.

A. T. M. Shamsul Haque, President of the Association, will preside.

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মতিঝিল, ঢাকা-১০০০

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