



PHOTO: STAR
Supreme Court Bar Association formed a human chain yesterday to press for its six-point demand.

Draft nat'l policy on Hepatitis-B vaccination

BSS, Dhaka

The National Steering Committee on Prevention and Control of Hepatitis-B has prepared a draft national policy on Hepatitis-B vaccination.

The draft policy, adopted at a meeting of the committee here yesterday suggests all under-29 people be brought under Hepatitis-B vaccination programme, said an official handout.

The meeting, chaired by Health and Family Welfare Minister Dr. Khandkar Mosharraf Hossain, also fixed the estimated cost of the programme at Tk 854.21 crore.

The draft policy has kept a provision for expenditure of Tk 283.07 crore for the successful launching of Hepatitis-B vaccination of the children from new born to 5 years of age.

Grand Duke due in Nov as UNESCO ambassador

BSS, Dhaka

Syed Maudud Ali, Ambassador of Bangladesh to Belgium, concurrently accredited to Luxembourg, presented his credentials to the Grand Duke Henri of Luxembourg recently, a Foreign Ministry press release said yesterday.

While accepting the credentials, the Grand Duke said he was aware of the achievements of Bangladesh in recent times, in spite of natural calamities, poverty and other constraints.

The Duke expressed his intention to visit Bangladesh as an ambassador of UNESCO in the third week of November this year.

He also expressed his deepest condolence for loss of lives in the recent ferry tragedy at Chandpur, the press release said.

The minister told the meeting that the government, in cooperation with the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization (GAVI), started pilot programmes in six districts of the six divisions. Besides, a similar programme has been taken by Rajshahi City Corporation.

He said the vaccination of Hepatitis-B would be integrated in the on-going EPI programme.

Meanwhile, the United States has pledged 73 lakh 97 thousand 500 US dollars for successful implementation of this programme, he said.

Steering Committee members, Minister of State for Health Mizanur Rahman Sinha, Mayor of Barisal City Corporation Mujibur Rahman Sarwar, MP, MM Shaheen, MP, Health Secretary M. Fazlur Rahman, Social Welfare Secretary AM Abdul Jabbar, Additional Health Secretary M Lutfar Rahman Chowdhury, Director General of Health Prof. M Mizanur Rahman, DG of Prime Minister's Office M A Majid, DG, NGO Bureau Md. Shahjahan Majumder, Editor of Dainik Manobjamin Motiur Rahman Chowdhury and high officials of the organisations concerned were present.

2193 more arrested

UNB, Dhaka

Police arrested 2,193 people including 13 listed criminals from different parts of the country in the last 24 hours ending at 6am yesterday.

During the countrywide drive, they also recovered 13 firearms, one other weapon and 19 bullets and filed nine cases against eight people under the Arms Act, said an official handout.