

A hospital where patients contract new diseases!

Dogs, cats move freely in pediatric ward in Kishoreganj Sadar Adhunik Hospital: Sick babies share beds

MOKLESUR RAHMAN LITON, Kishoreganj

A baby admitted to Kishoreganj Sadar Adhunik Hospital for treatment of pneumonia is now attacked with diarrhoea also.

Three-month old Asadullah was admitted to the pediatric ward on June 12. The kid was shifted to diarrhoea ward before pneumonia was treated.

"My son was attacked with diarrhoea because of the filthy atmosphere there (pediatric ward)", his father Misir Uddin claimed while talking to this correspondent during a visit to the hospital on Friday.

"Even dogs and cats move freely there", he alleged. The room is dirty and disease-carrying flies and insects are all around. There is stinky smell as the floor is not cleaned regularly, he alleged. "Now my son is fighting for life", he said.

This correspondent also found a dog roaming in a room in the ward.

Sick babies were seen sharing beds in the pediatric ward. Salma Begum, mother of 10-month old pneumonia patient Roman said, "I admitted my baby to the ward for treatment of pneumonia. She has been kept on a bed along with two others, she said.

Diseases spread from one baby to another as they lie on the same bed, another mother, Salma, alleged Shamsunnahar, mother of two-year-old Junayed was seen helping her son inhale oxygen from an oxygen cylinder, which should be operated by a trained nurse.

No nurse or doctor was found in the ward from 12 noon to 1:30 pm on Friday.

A total of 53 babies were seen on 22 beds in the pediatric ward.

When contacted, Civil Surgeon (CS) Saj Uddin said babies share beds because of lack of beds. Asked

about allegation of unhygienic condition, he said he will look into the matter and take steps immediately.

There has been a rush of pneumonia patients in the hospital as the disease spread in the district in last two weeks. It killed two babies

and attacked over 500 during the period, sources at the Sadar hospital said.

The dead are Diba, 7, of Binnati area of Kishoreganj Sadar upazila and a three-day old unidentified baby from Choddosota area of the upazila.



A dog moving freely in the pediatric ward in Kishoreganj Sadar Adhunik Hospital.

PHOTO: STAR

Drug addict son kills mother

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

A drug addict son killed his mother following her refusal to give him money for purchasing drugs in Nagarpur upazila.

The victim is Rahima Begum Renu, 55, wife of former police constable Mohammad Kaikobad Miah of Bekra village.

Renu's drug addict son Mohammad Rumon demanded money from her Thursday morning. But she refused to yield to his demand. At once Rumon killed her with a sharp weapon causing her instantaneous death.

The villagers caught the killer and handed him over to police.

Later, police brought the body to Nagarpur Police Station.

Man trampled by elephant

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sirajganj

An artiste of circus party was trampled to death by an elephant at Nimgasi Gopalpur in Raiganj upazila yesterday.

Anwarul Islam, 35, of Kanchan Circus Party was trampled to death by an elephant of his own party at about 7.30 am. At that time, he was trying to feed the animal banana plants inside the boundary of the circus pandal.

On information, police rushed to the spot and sent the body to Sadar hospital morgue for autopsy.

Anwar was an inhabitant of Rangpur district.

Seminar held on role of NGOs

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Manikganj

A seminar on Role of NGOs in National Development was held at a community centre here yesterday.

Manikganj district unit of the Federation of NGOs in Bangladesh (FNB) organised the seminar where about 200 chief executives of small NGOs took part.

FNB district unit president Muhammad Abu Sayeed presided the seminar.

Former advisor of the caretaker government and BRAC executive director Abdul Mueed Chowdhury was present as chief guest while it was attended by Manikganj Deputy Commissioner SM Shamsheer Zakaria, FNB chairperson Dr Muhammad Ibrahim, vice chairman Abul Hashim Khan and The Daily Janakantha executive director Borhan Ahmed as special guests.

Soccer fans torch power station in Sylhet

REB offices attacked in Bagerhat, Jessore, Sunamganj

STAR NATIONAL DESK

Football fans ransacked power supply offices in Bagerhat and Jessore Friday evening as they could not enjoy the Argentine-Serbia match on TV due to power outage.

Angry football fans attacked Kachua upazila Rural Electrification Board (REB) office in Bagerhat, damaging doors and windows, our staff correspondent reported from Khulna.

The situation was brought under by Kachua Upazila Nirbahi Officer with the help of police.

The same power supply office came under attack on June 13 also as supporters of Brazil could not watch its match due to loadshedding.

The Kachua UNO held a meeting on June 14 with REB officials and then assured the people of uninterrupted power supply during World Cup matches.

As the promise was not kept, football fans attacked the power

supply office for the second time, said the Officer-in-Charge of Kachua police station.

Our Jessore Correspondent reported that soccer fans on Friday night burned a pick-up van of REB P at Jhikargachha, demanding uninterrupted power supply during World Cup football matches.

There was no electricity at Jhikargachha from Friday afternoon. When the Argentina-Serbia match began at 7pm, football fans became furious and attacked the power supply office and the residence of officials.

They pelted stones and torched a pick up van on the office premises.

Two policemen--Ashraf and Pannu--were injured as they tried to cool down the disappointed soccer fans. They were admitted to Jhikargachha Upazila Health Complex.

Power supply however resumed in the area 10 minutes after the incident.

The power supply office in

Chaugachha also came under attack due to outage during Friday's World Cup match at 10pm.

In Sylhet, a band of enraged soccer fans took to the street in the city at about 8m after power cutoffs during the match between Argentina and Serbia Montenegro.

They attacked three power stations in Jail Road, Upashahar and Kadamtali areas, our Staff correspondent reports.

The stone-throwing mob damaging a number of cars, furniture and assaulted 10 employees at the Jail Road power office, Power Development Board sources says.

The unruly protestors also set fire to Upashahar substation and damaged Kadamtali station.

In Sunamganj, protestors attacked the local power office, ransacked officers' club and offices of 3rd and 4th class employees.

They also damaged a generator and a card-phone booth in Jagannathpur upazila auditorium. Twenty people, including police, were injured during the melee.

WTO protects interests of rich countries

Satkhira seminar told

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Satkhira

Speakers at a seminar here yesterday alleged that the World Trade Organisation (WTO) is protecting interests of developed countries at the cost of developing countries like Bangladesh.

They said rich countries have forced poor countries to abide by their policies in the name of globalisation. WTO works as a conduit in this regard, they claimed.

They expressed concern over gradual emergence of genetically modified foods, which would further marginalise poor farmers in developing countries and benefit multinational companies operating from developed countries.

The seminar on "Food and livelihood sovereignty: Bangladesh's task as a country", was organised by Coastal Development Partnership, Satkhira a combine of local NGOs.

It was held at Satkhira Pres Club auditorium with Sheikh Abdul Wadood in the chair. Ashraf Alam Tutu, director of Khulna based NGO CDP, was the chief guest.

It was addressed by among Prof. Abu Ahmed, MA Jalil, Kazi Riaz, Rifat Amin, Kazi Saidur Rahman, Sudhansu Sekhar Sarkar, Monzur Hossain, Musa Karim, Sirajul Islam.

They claimed that present policies of WTO would not bring

any benefit to poor countries like Bangladesh. Prescriptions of the millennium development goals (MDG) will fail to reduce poverty in developing countries as those do not give any guideline to increase their exports and investments.

Developed countries are enhancing subsidy on their agriculture but pressuring developing countries to withdraw agriculture subsidy, they said.

Withdrawal of agricultural subsidy will seriously hamper Bangladesh's economy as it is still a food deficit country.

They also urged the government to increase subsidy on agriculture to boost food production.

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SHERPUR BCL LEADER MURDER

16 BNP men acquitted

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

A court in Sherpur acquitted all the 16 accused BNP men of their charges in BCL leader Abdur Rashid murder case.

Those who were acquitted included former joint convener of Sherpur district BNP, Fazlul Haque Badsha, former president of Sherpur city BNP, Saiful Islam Sawpan, Sherpur district Jubo Dal president Awal Chowdhury, and its general secretary Uzzal Sarkar, BNP leader Motalab Hossain, Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) leaders Ariful Haque Mithu, Jitendra Mazumdar, Emdadul Haque Bipu, Noor-e-Alam, Mosharaf Hossain, Tota Miah and Mohammad Kamal.

Sherpur district BCL treasurer Abdur Rashid was shot dead by BNP district unit president Advocate Habibur Rahman during

a procession on February 26, 1996. The procession was brought out protesting the February 15 controversial elections in 1996.

After the incident, the killer's grand son Mohammad Sumon was killed by angry people.

Slain BCL leader's father Mohammad Ali filed a murder case accusing 16 BNP men including Advocate Habibur Rahman as the prime accused. But the prime accused died while the trial was going on.

The court in its judgment delivered on Thursday dismissed the case terming it 'witness-proofless'.

Additional District and Sessions Judge, Sherpur Mohammad Nababur Rahman delivered the judgment.

Last month, the court acquitted all the accused in Sumon murder case showing the same reason.

Fair polls not possible under present CEC, Inu says

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangpur

Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal President

Hasanul Hoque Inu yesterday demanded resignation of the Chief Election Commissioner MA Aziz and reform to the caretaker system to hold the next parliamentary election in a free and fair manner.

"Fair election is not possible under the Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) as he conspired to prepare fake voter list ignoring the High Court order", Inu said while addressing a public meeting at Ikorchali High School ground.

The Election Commission (EC) is now planning to update the voter list as per desire of the the BNP-Jamast government, he alleged.

The BNP-Jamat government has planned to form a caretaker government with their own people with a dream to remain in power for five years more. People will resist the move, he said.

With Kumarsh Roy in the chair, the meeting was addressed by, among others, JSD joint secretary Shirin Akter, central leader Ekramul Hoque Spwan and its Rangpur district committee leaders Goutom Roy and Abdus Sattar.

Inu called upon the people to unite under the 14-party alliance to foil all conspiracies hatched by the alliance government.

He said the BNP-Jamat alliance government, which patronised Islamist militants, is planning to thwart the democratic process by not accepting the reform proposals for holding a fair election.



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