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Medicare gone on Eid holidays

SHAHEEN MOLLAH

Ahead of Eid the attendance of doctors and nurses in the city's public hospitals has become very low and most of their patients are advised to visit after the celebration.

Sources in the hospitals said, doctors and nurses took unwritten leave and a few who come to the hospital do it for showing their attendance rather than working, sources said.

Visiting DMCH, National Institute of Traumatology and Orthopaedic Rehabilitation (NITOR), National Institute of Cardio-vascular Diseases (NICVD) and Shaheed Suhrawardy Hospital over the last three days, this correspondent found that the number of patients in these otherwise busy hospitals has come down sharply.

No patients except emergency cases were admitted to the hospitals during this period and the patients who have been staying in the hospital for long are given different terms' leave.

Usually 2,200 to 2,300 patients remain admitted in Dhaka Medical College and Hospital, but the number dwindled to 1,517 as of Sunday.

Jibon Chandra Barman, 35, who met a road accident in Gazipur, was admitted to NITOR on August 12. His right leg was amputated on August 28.

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The Burn and Plastic Surgery Unit of Dhaka Medical College Hospital is almost without patients and doctors. Patients leniently considered well enough to go home are released while 10 out of 50 doctors take the helm of the unit for the Eid holidays.

PHOTO: SHAWKAT JAMIL

RAJSHAHI ZOO 2 suspended over illegally felling trees

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

Rajshahi City Corporation (RCC) yesterday suspended two of its staff and withheld the auction for selling 16 trees at Shaheed Quamaruzzaman Central Zoo after the auction winner felled additional seven large trees.

The suspended staffs are assistant supervisor Dulal Sheikh and gardener Sirajul Islam, said RCC Secretary KM Abdus Salam.

RCC Mayor AHM Khairuzzaman Liton instantly withheld the auction that was won by Samad Sheikh of Chandipur in the city, he added.

The RCC authorities also seized four big Koroi trees which were being taken out the zoo.

According to the zoo authority, Samad recently purchased 16 trees of the zoo for Tk 28,000 after the RCC authority decided to sell by an

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Govt hopes to get \$1b from IMF

Muhith says after meeting with IMF team

UNB, Dhaka

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) is likely to provide one billion US dollars to Bangladesh, almost without any interest, by next two to three months for the implementation of the PRS-II launched earlier this year.

"We've earlier sought IMF assistance for implementation of the Poverty Reduction Strategy-II (PRS-II). We hope to get US\$ 1 billion from them in the next two to three months," said Finance Minister AMA Muhith soon after an IMF delegation called on him at his Secretariat Office yesterday.

IMF's Director of Asia Pacific Department

Anoop Singh led the delegation, which also included IMF Mission Chief David Cower and Resident Representative Eteri Kvintradze.

Talking to reporters after the meeting, the finance minister said the IMF delegation is considering the proposal of the government and a decision is likely by this December or next January.

He said the assistance would be free money, almost without any interest, and it could be used in different sectors. "We could use the money in agriculture, social safety net and road construction etc."

Muhith said that out of the total resource

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Maiden junior school exams from Nov 4

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The first-ever Junior School Certificate (JSC) and Junior Dakhil Certificate (JDC) examinations for class VIII students will begin on November 4 this year.

Some 15,20,731 students-- 12,48,078 from schools and 2,72,653 from madrasas-- across the country will take the exams under eight general education boards and one madrasa education board.

Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid said this to reporters at a press conference

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AGITATING BANGLADESHI WORKERS Move on getting them other jobs in Libya

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Bangladesh embassy in Libya has decided to shift the protesting workers to other companies as they have been refusing to work for their current employer, a construction firm, Al Rayed for alleged tortures and non-payment of salaries.

At least 197 Bangladeshis, along with 28 Indian workers, left their camp on August 30 and since then have been staying in an open field near a police station of Borak Al Shafi, about 1000km from the Libyan capital, Tripoli.

"As the workers are reluctant to return to work for their present employer, we are consid-

ering transferring them to other companies," said Ahsan Kibria Siddiqui, first secretary of Bangladesh embassy.

"I have already spoken to some officials of the Libya's Labour Ministry in this regard, who assured that the workers can be transferred when the offices reopen after the Eid festival," Siddiqui told The Daily Star yesterday from Tripoli.

According to Libyan laws, it is possible for foreign workers to be transferred from one company to another as long as both the companies have the necessary agreements.

"The procedure of shifting jobs is not too

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MUNICIPALITY ACT Cabinet okays changes to hold overdue polls

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The cabinet yesterday approved the proposal for a amendment to Local Government (Municipality) Act, 2009 in an effort to promptly finalise a schedule to hold long overdue elections.

The amendment aims to preserve the geographical attachment of the wards as much as possible while redrawing the boundaries of the wards.

It has been proposed keeping in mind the elections are

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ACC sues 16 CDA officials for graft

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

The Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) yesterday filed nine more cases accusing 16 officials of Chittagong Development Authority (CDA) including its chief engineer and 10 contractors for embezzling a total of Tk 53,70,131 of a project.

The ACC also sued 12 CDA officials and 13 contractors in 13 cases for embezzling Tk 1,21,58,322 of the same project on Sunday.

In case statements, the ACC officials accused the CDA officials and contractors for embezzling the money while renovating a 4.3 kilometres long road stretching from FIDC (Bahir Signal) point of Shah Amanat Bridge Connecting Road to Kalurghat Bridge under a Tk 8 crore project.

The accused of the cases include CDA chief engineer Iqbal Hossain Majumder, the then superintendent engineers Nur Hossain and Jasim

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Urchins play in the afternoon rain following the daylong heat that caused sufferings to city dwellers. The photo was taken from Suhrawardy Udyan yesterday.

PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON

BDR MUTINY TRIAL Wounded officer tells of ordeals in confinement

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A BDR special court yesterday witnessed live proceedings as a BDR officer, who remained captive inside Pikhana with bullet wounds, gave an emotional account during cross-examination by three of the 667 accused.

One of the three hurled a plethora of questions to the BDR officer Major Zayed Hasan, also the 2nd witness, reminding him how he rendered services, like providing food, mobile phone,

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OnlinePoll

Do you think the proposed metro rail system will help reduce the traffic congestion in the capital?

- Yes (50.8%)
- No (48.3%)
- No Comments

Total votes: 744

TODAY'S POLL

Do you think ministers and MPs will follow Finance Minister AMA Muhith's footsteps and make their wealth statements public?

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19 dead in Pak suicide blast

BBC ONLINE

Four school children are among 19 people killed in a suicide car bombing in north-west Pakistan.

The attacker rammed a pickup into a police station in Lakki Marwat town, in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province.

Books and a school bag could be seen in the wreckage. Reports say the dead included 11 police officers.

More than 100 people died in attacks on Shia Muslims last week. The Pakistani Taliban says they carried out the attacks. More than 40 people were wounded in Monday's blast at Lakki Marwat.

The bomber reportedly struck a school van before ramming the rear wall of the police station; the building collapsed. A neighbourhood shop and mosque were also damaged. Rescue workers and police officials dug through the rubble to reach those trapped.

Police sub-inspector Ameen Khan Marwat was pulled out alive. "All the morning staff were there because they had not yet left for their duties," he said.

"Some were still lying around, others were getting ready for duty when the blast occurred.

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Iftar & Sehri timing for
Dhaka & neighbouring areas

Today's Iftar
6:14 pm

Ending time for tomorrow's sehri
4:22 am

Prayer Timing
September 7

	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	4-22	4-32
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	4-30	4-45
Maghrib	6-14	6-24
Esha	7-45	8-15

Source: Islamic Foundation

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