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# Diarrhoea cases shoot up in city

SHAHEEN MOLLAH

Diarrhoea outbreak has taken a serious turn as the number of people affected by the waterborne disease has shown a steep rise in the capital with the onset of hot weather.

Sources at the International Centre for Diarrhoeal Diseases Research, Bangladesh (ICDDR,B) at Mohakhali said over 750 patients, mostly children, were admitted to the centre each day, over the last seven days.

However, the number of adult males have also increased in the last two to three days, Dr PK Bardhan, chief physician of ICDDR,B told The Daily Star.

Being unable to accommodate the staggering number of patients, the hospital has to release around half of the patients within 12 to 24 hours, said Azharul Islam Khan, another doctor at ICDDR,B.



A mother feeds oral saline to an infant suffering from diarrhoea at the ICDDR, B hospital in the capital's Mohakhali yesterday. Hospital sources say during the last four days they have been receiving 30 infant patients an hour.

PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON

SEE PAGE 19 COL 1

## Minar Mahmud found dead

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Noted journalist Minar Mahmud, editor of weekly Bichinta, was found dead at a residential hotel in the capital

SEE PAGE 19 COL 1



## WAR CRIMES TRIAL OF SAYEED 15 absentee witnesses' statements accepted

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The International Crimes Tribunal-1 yesterday received statements of 15 prosecution witnesses, given to an investigation officer, as evidence

against Jamaat leader Delwar Hossain Sayedee. It refused to do the same for 31 other witnesses. The three-member tribunal in the order said the remaining 31 wit-

nesses' situation was different and they did not come into the purview of a relevant law under which the other statements were taken in as evidence.

SEE PAGE 19 COL 2

## Rab men assault DU teacher

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Members of Rapid Action Battalion beat up a Dhaka University teacher as he requested them to move their car that was obstructing a narrow lane, the victim has claimed. Muhammad Saif Uddin Khan, lecturer of finance, was admitted to Pongu Hospital with severe injuries in his abdomen, forehead and left elbow.

SEE PAGE 19 COL 4

## US official due Apr 5

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

US Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs Wendy Sherman will arrive here on April 5 to discuss bilateral issues with top

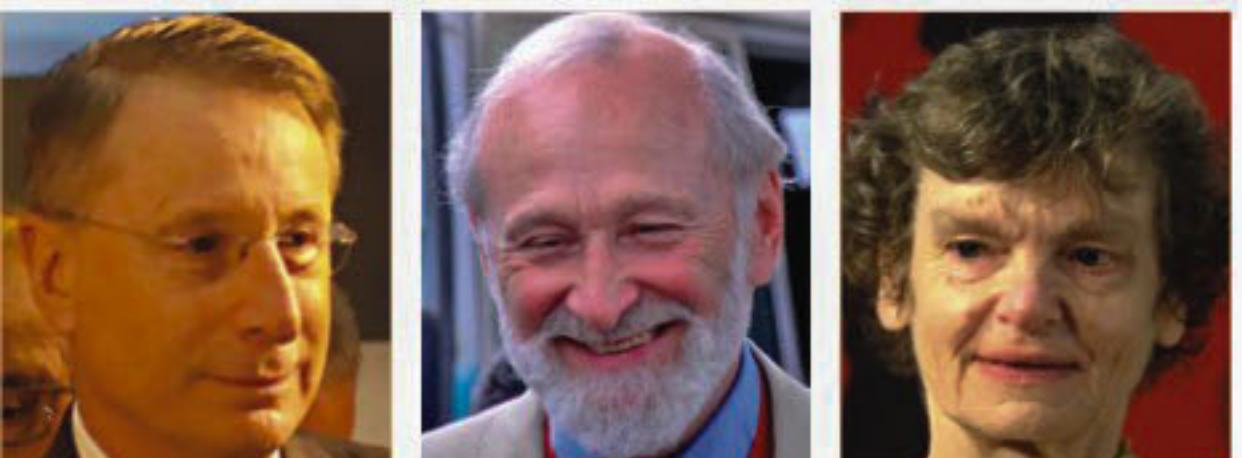


Wendy Sherman will arrive here on April 5 to discuss bilateral issues with top

SEE PAGE 6 COL 1

## For the cause of independence

Roles played by 3 foreign friends during Liberation War



David Weisbrod Lear Levin Nora Shariff

The 1971 war was long and painful. Final victory came through the ultimate sacrifice of lakhs of Bangalee men and women. But sacrifices were made too by some braveheart foreigners who risked their lives for the cause of Bangladesh's independence.

The Daily Star on Tuesday talked to three such Bangladesh's friends who came to Dhaka to receive state accolades for their role in the Liberation War.

Of them, Barrister Nora Shariff of Ireland had campaigned actively to gain support in favour of Bangabandhu's six-point demand and Lear Levin of USA risked his life to capture video footage of Pakistani brutality. Levin later made a film, "Joy Bangla," on the Pakistan occupation army's atrocities. David Weisbrod, another US citizen, along with other dignitaries put pressure on the then US administration to stop food and military assistance to Pakistan.

SEE PAGE 19 COL 5

**The Daily Star**

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**ONLINE POLL**

How do you look at an intelligence agency's interference to foil the book launching programme that was supposed to be attended by Khaleda Zia?

Bad sign for democracy (88.8%)

No big deal (11.2%)

TOTAL VOTES: 500

**TODAY'S POLL**

Do you think it was justified for the government to increase electricity price at all levels for the third time in four months?

PLEASE CAST YOUR VOTE AT [www.thedailystar.net](http://www.thedailystar.net)

YOU MAY ALSO VOTE AT [facebook.com/dailystarnews](https://facebook.com/dailystarnews)

**PRAYER TIMING** March 30

Azan	Jamaat
Fajr 4-45	5-20
Juma 12-30	1-15
Asr 4-45	5-00
Maghrib 6-20	6-25
Esha 7-45	8-15

Source: Islamic Foundation

মশাদের এই অত্যাচার নিমেষেই বন্ধ হবে এবার

এক্সপেল অ্যারোসল-এর কার্যকরী ফর্মুলা নিশ্চিত করে মশাদের মৃত্যু।

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Tk 468 Shrimp / kg	Tk 125 Telapiya / kg	Tk 98 Pangas / kg	Tk 24 Tomato / kg	
Tk 148 Rui / kg	Tk 245 Broiler Chicken (Without Skin) / kg	Tk 428 Mutton / kg	Tk 435 Chicken (Shonalika) / kg	