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ANTIBIOTICS CRISIS

It's bigger than Aids

WHO warns the drugs losing effectiveness in every country

AGENCIES

A child's scratched knee from falling off their bike, common bladder infections among the elderly in care homes and routine surgery to replace broken hips could all become fatal as antibiotics are becoming increasingly useless, the World Health Organisation has said.

The crisis is bigger and more urgent than the Aids epidemic of the 1980s, it was warned.

UK experts said the "era of safe medicine is

coming to an end" and government funds must be pumped into the production of new drugs.

Dr Keiji Fukuda, WHO's Assistant Director-General for Health Security, said: "Without urgent, coordinated action the world is headed for a post-antibiotic era, in which common infections and minor injuries which have been treatable for decades can once again kill."

"Unless we take significant actions to improve efforts to prevent infections and

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1



Back home with broken hearts

Cheated by manpower touts, 22 jobseekers return after months of ordeal in Iran

BELAL HOSSAIN BIPLOB and WASIM BIN HABIB

Most of them had cherished the same dream -- a decent job and handsome salary that would ensure the happiness of their families. And they thought their dreams had finally come true when they landed in Iran.

But none of them had ever imagined the nightmare waiting for them in their 'dreamland'. Deceived and thrown into a miserable life, 22 ill-fated Bangladeshi jobseekers

finally returned home yesterday after enduring untold sufferings.

"I did not see daylight for 40 days in a row. I lived on only bread and cabbage curry given to me twice a day. I was falling sick gradually and thought I would die," said Akhtaruzzaman, 40, one of the deceived migrants. He hails from Jessore.

"They [the agents of local brokers] used to beat me up for money, although I had

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1



JP MP Nasim Osman dies

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Nasim Osman, lawmaker from Narayanganj-5 constituency and Jatiya Party presidium member, died at a hospital in India early yesterday at the age of 65.

He will be flown home from Deradun Hospital in New Delhi, Akram Ali Shahin, personal secretary to Nasim, told The Daily Star.

Nasim left for India on April 18 and was admitted to the hospital on Tuesday after he fell sick.

SEE PAGE 10 COL 3

Modi flouts rules

Indian EC orders filing complaint against him for seeking votes outside a polling booth

OUR CORRESPONDENT, New Delhi

Bharatiya Janata Party's prime ministerial candidate Narendra Modi caused controversy yesterday after casting his vote in Gandhinagar city of Gujarat and soon he received accusation of violating electoral laws from Congress and the Election Commission.

Indian EC ordered filing an FIR or a complaint against Modi as BJP's arch-rival Congress drew its attention to his violation of the Representation of People Act, 1951 by showing his party's "Lotus" symbol and making a speech when the seventh phase of the parliamentary elections was ongoing.

"The Commission directs...that complaint/ FIR as the case may be, should be filed against Narendra Modi and all others who were involved in the convening and holding of the said meeting," the EC said in an order.

In Delhi, BJP spokesperson Meenakshi



Lekhi said Modi had not violated the election code since it was not an organised press conference.

She, however, added that, "The Election Commission is a constitutional institution and we respect it. We will abide by its decision."

Asked about the EC's directive on the Gujarat government to file an FIR against Modi, she said, "We will address the issue".

The electoral fate of Modi and other top guns of Indian politics like ruling Congress chief Sonia Gandhi was decided by 50 to 60 percent of nearly 14 crore voters, who exercised their franchise yesterday.

The round seven of the nine-phased national elections covered 89 parliamentary seats spread across seven states and two federally administered territories.

With this, polling drew to a close in 438 of the total 543 parliamentary seats and the remaining 105 seats will go to polls in the final two phases to be held on May 7 and May 12. Counting of the votes is scheduled for May 16.

SEE PAGE 10 COL 4

The Daily Star

Integral Energy Limited

ONLINE POLL

Do you think that the police department is active enough to rescue the victims of abduction and arrest the abductors?

Yes

(08%)

No

(92%)

TOTAL VOTES: 224

TODAY'S POLL

Do you agree with the Human Rights Watch that Bangladesh should prosecute members of law enforcement agencies found responsible for unlawful killings, torture, and other human rights abuses?

PLEASE CAST YOUR VOTE AT www.thedailystar.net

PRAYER TIMING		May 1
Azan	Jamaat	
Fajr	4-15	4-50
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	4-45	5-00
Maghrib	6-31	6-35
Esha	8-00	8-30

Source: Islamic Foundation

Obituary

Ms. Khaleda Fahmi, 83, passed away on Wednesday, April 30, 2014 at BIRDEM Hospital due to cardiogenic shock leading to respiratory failure (Inna Lillahi wainnailaihiraji'un).

She was born on March 5, 1931, to the late Syeda Salim Fahmi and Salimullah Fahmi. She started her career with Pakistan Television in 1966 and subsequently served as the Deputy Director General (Programmes) of Bangladesh Television (BTV) from 1986 to 1988.

After her retirement from BTV, she worked with various organizations, including BRAC as Manager Publications and JICA as Vice President. She also served on the Boards of National Council Diabetic Association, HiCare, Retired Government Officers Association, and Sajida Foundation.

Ms. Fahmi was educated at Dhaka University and Karachi University where she received Masters degrees in Islamic History and Bengali respectively.

She is survived by four sisters and one brother.

She was buried at Banani Graveyard.

Her Qul Khwani shall be held Baad Asr, Friday, May 2nd at Azad Mosque, Gulshan.

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Tk 11,100

Tk 13,288

Tk 15,100

Tk 13,405

Tk 15,770

Tk 13,872

Tk 16,320

Tk 22,466

Tk 25,530

Tk 24,420

Tk 27,750

Tk 24,420

Tk 27,750

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We thank all our stakeholders, especially our valued customers for this milestone achievement.

Mr. Abdul Khalek, Director-Finance and Company Secretary of BPBL, received the award on behalf of the company.

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