



Obesity rising

52pc urban mothers are overweight, 15pc of them obese, says study

PORIMOL PALMA

Rising trend of overweight and obesity among urban people, especially women, is emerging as a serious health concern in Bangladesh, show study reports.

Around 17 percent of adults are overweight and 4 percent of them obese in the country, as obesity rose to 4 percent in 2013 from 2 percent in 1980, says a study by the Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME) at the University of Washington in the US.

Fifty-two percent mothers are overweight and 15 percent of them obese, shows a 2013 icddr,b survey conducted on children between five and 18 years and their mothers in all seven divisional headquarters.

Of the children, 14 percent were overweight and four percent obese, found the survey by the Centre for Control of Chronic

Diseases at the icddr,b.

However, prevalence of overweight among the children was 27 percent in the richest quintile but it was only 3 percent in the poorest quintile.

"Dhaka and Chittagong cities have the highest proportion of overweight mothers and children," said icddr,b Associate Scientist Dr Aliya Naheed who was in the study team.

Though the survey didn't include male adults, it could be assumed that their condition would be almost similar to that of the women, said the researcher.

Overweight is defined as having body mass index (BMI) or weight-to-height ratio greater than or equal to 25 and lower than 30, while obesity is defined as having BMI equal or higher than 30.

Obese and overweight people have

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Glenn Maxwell embraces Shane Watson (2nd from R) after their unbroken 68-run partnership propelled Australia to a six-wicket victory against Pakistan in the third quarterfinal at the Adelaide Oval yesterday.

PHOTO: AFP

Australia down Pakistan

Set up semifinal with India on Thursday in Sydney

AFP, Adelaide

Australia overcame a fiery spell from fast bowler Wahab Riaz to record an entertaining six-wicket win over Pakistan in the World Cup quarterfinal at the Adelaide Oval yesterday.

The co-hosts, chasing Pakistan's modest 213 all out, were reduced to 59 for three in the 11th over before Steve Smith (65) and Shane Watson (64 not out) swung the match around with a fourth-wicket stand of 89.

Glenn Maxwell smashed an unbeaten 44 off 29 balls with five fours and two sixes as Australia recovered to coast home in the 34th over in front of a full house of nearly 47,000 spectators.

Watson hit the winning boundary after a tense start to Australia's chase which saw left-armers Wahab remove David Warner and skipper Michael Clarke in his first two overs. But two dropped catches cost Pakistan dearly.

Australia's eighth consecutive win over Pakistan on their own soil set up

an enticing semifinal clash against defending champions India at the Sydney Cricket Ground on Thursday.

Pakistan's defeat ended the one-day international careers of two veterans in captain Misbah-ul Haq and all-rounder Shahid Afridi.

Pakistan, who won the toss and elected to bat, were shot out for 213, with one ball to spare, as fast bowler Josh Hazlewood grabbed four wickets and Mitchell Starc and Glenn Maxwell took two each.

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142 killed in Yemen mosque attacks

ISIS claims responsibility

AFP, Sanaa

Multiple suicide bombings claimed by the Islamic State group killed at least 142 people yesterday at Shia mosques in Yemen's capital -- one of the strife-torn country's deadliest ever jihadist attacks.

The killings were the first claimed by IS in Yemen and represent a strong show of force by the group in a country where rival al-Qaeda is the most prominent jihadist organisation.

Charred bodies and pools of blood were seen at the scene of the blasts, which targeted supporters of the Huthi Shia militia that has seized control of the capital Sanaa.

Worshippers rushed the wounded to hospitals in pick-up trucks, while others evacuated mutilated bodies.

One suicide bomber struck inside Badr mosque in southern Sanaa while another targeted worshippers as they fled outside, witnesses said.

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Yemeni armed men inspect the damage following a triple suicide bombing at the Badr mosque in southern Sanaa yesterday.

PHOTO: AFP

Khaleda 'positive on city polls'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia will consider taking part in the city corporation elections if the government creates a congenial atmosphere, said Prof Emajuddin Ahmed, a former vice-chancellor of the Dhaka University.

Emajuddin was talking to journalists after a nine-member team of pro-BNP professionals headed by him met the BNP chief at her Gulshan office last night.

Emerging from the hour-long meeting, the former VC said the BNP-led 20-party alliance may change the pattern of the ongoing movement if it decides to join the elections.

If the authorities create an environment for free and fair elections, BNP will take its decision at the highest forum of the party and will also consult with the 20-party alliance, he added.

However, a BNP standing committee member

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TOP QUOTE

"I have given DB investigators photographs and names of those present there [with Avijit] that day... A month has passed but apparently there has not been much progress in

PROF JOY ROY
FATHER OF SLAIN WRITER-BLOGGER AVIJIT



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