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SHAH CEMENT

Good news for heart patients

NICVD to provide free lifesaving injection to all heart attack victims at the hospital; project taken up to expand facilities

Mohammad AL-MASUM Molla

Cardiac patients now have much to cheer about as the National Institute of Cardiovascular Diseases is enhancing its healthcare facilities, including the allocation of a lifesaving drug for acute heart attack victims.

The free supply of Streptokinase injection, which is used for dissolving coronary blocks, was earlier limited to only 100 patients every month. From this month, the authorities have started to give the drug to all the patients who need it at the hospital.

Besides, to overcome the accommodation crisis at the hospital, a project has been approved for the vertical extension of the institute building where 18 new wards with around 450 beds will be set up.

"Earlier, we used to provide the injection to maximum 100 patients every month. Now there is no limit to it. Whoever needs it, will get it for free," said Prof Dr Afzalur Rahman, director of the NICVD.

Any hospital staff, if found advising patients to buy the drug from outside, will



face punitive actions, he added.

Dr Afzal said six to 12 hours following the onset of heart attack symptoms is considered golden hours. The first and foremost task then is to bring the patient to the hospital and dissolve the coronary blocks. Streptokinase is very crucial for such patients.

On May 7, the authorities issued a notice reading that from now on, the injection has to be supplied as needed by the patients admitted to the hospital.

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Work on building a new 396-metre dual-carriageway bridge next to the narrow Kanchpur Bridge on the Shitalakkhya is ongoing with funds from Japan International Cooperation Agency. The Kanchpur Bridge is now considered a traffic bottleneck on Dhaka-Sylhet and Dhaka-Chittagong highways. The new bridge is expected to be complete in mid-2018. The photo was taken recently.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

Edible Oil Exemption of VAT likely

Sohel Parvez

The government is likely to waive VAT on edible oil to prevent the risk of price hike of the essential cooking ingredient by dishonest traders when new laws come into effect from July this year, a senior official of the Finance Ministry said yesterday.

The move comes in the face of worries among consumers that implementation of the new VAT law will fuel a hike of living costs because of implementation of a uniform 15 percent VAT instead of the multiple rates applicable now to many goods and services.

At present, a VAT of 15 percent is collected on import of raw and refined soybean, palm and other types of vegetable oils. But this tax is waived on processing or production stage making it difficult for

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Split In Pro-AL Teachers' Panel At DU PM intervenes to resolve feud

Asks all to unite for senate polls; VC slated by teachers at PMO meeting

Hasan Jahid Tusser

Several pro-Awami League teachers of Dhaka University yesterday heavily criticised their vice-chancellor in front of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina over a split in the Blue Panel centring on the May 22 senate election.

The prime minister, on the other hand, directed the DU teachers to forget enmity and work together to ensure the victory of the pro-AL panel in the election keeping in mind the national political context.

VC Prof AAMS Arefin Siddique and 14 teachers from Prof Maksud Kamal-led faction of the panel participated in the two-hour meeting held at the Prime Minister's Office in the afternoon.

The PM convened the meeting to quell the feud between the two factions -- one led by Blue Panel Convener Prof Nazma Shahin and another by DU Teachers' Association President Prof Maksud Kamal.

Both the groups filed nomination papers in the election under the banner of Blue Panel, the panel of pro-AL teachers.

Sunday was the last day for pulling out of the race. With both sides refusing to budge, tensions mounted on the campus. Maksud-led faction alleges that the VC is backing the Nazma-led panel in the election.

A number of teachers say they believe that the next VC panel election is the main reason behind the division as the current VC's tenure will end in August.

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Chaos at BNP conference in Rajshahi

City mayor 'assaulted' by party men

Staff Correspondent, Rajshahi

Leaders and activists of district unit BNP yesterday locked in clashes and created chaos in front of central leaders at Uttara Community Centre in a similar fashion the city unit showed on Monday.

Unruly party men also assaulted City Rajshahi Corporation Mayor Mosaddek Hossain Bulbul and district BNP Secretary General Motiur Rahman Montu at Shah Makhdum Airport in the afternoon.

Rajshahi city BNP Secretary General Shafikul Haque Milon and his men assaulted them as they were returning from the airport after seeing off the central leaders.

Milon became angry with Montu when the latter asked him to keep away from district politics, according to insiders.

"Milon pushed me on the ground by holding my neck, while his men pulled my clothes," alleged Montu. They also

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Indian teen builds 'lightest satellite'



AGencies

Rifath Sharook, 18, from the south Indian state of Tamil Nadu has devised - KalamSat - the world's smallest and lightest satellite. Nasa will launch this satellite on June 21 from Wallops Island in the US.

Sharook, a Class 12 student from Tamil Nadu's Pallapatti town, created the amazing satellite named after former Indian President (late) Dr APJ Abdul Kalam.

This pioneering creation was made by Sharook as a part of a competition he took part in, called Cubes in Space, which was organised by Nasa and a global education company -- idoodlelearning Inc.

The Cubes in Space challenge was all about

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West Bengal Schools Bangla now compulsory

Our Correspondent, Kolkata

Learning Bangla is going to be made compulsory for every student in West Bengal, as per a state government announcement on Monday night.

Students in private and government schools currently learn three languages, the first usually being the educational institution's medium of instruction, followed by two other

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SIBL Social Islami Bank Limited

PRAYER TIMING MAY 17
Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha
AZAN 4-10 12-45 5-00 6-36 8-00
JAMAAT 4-45 1-15 5-15 6-40 8-30

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

16 sued in Bogra over schoolboy murder

Our Correspondent, Bogra

Sixteen people, including cricketer Mushfiqur Rahim's father Mahbub Hamid Tara and uncle Mejbaul Hamid, have been accused of killing schoolboy Mashuk Ferdous.

Victim's father Emdadul Haque Emdad, a Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal (JSD) central committee member, lodged the case with Bogra Sadar Police Station yesterday, three days after the killing of Mashuk.

Mashuk, 16, was a class-IX student of SOS Hermann Gmeiner School and College in Bogra town.

In the case statement, Mashuk's father Emdadul said there had been a conflict between the families of his and Mejbaul, who is the councillor of ward-17 of Bogra municipality, over the formation of the managing committee of local Matidali High School.

Mushfiqur's father is the president of the committee. Emdadul said the

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Carcasses of birds among torn and broken branches of trees in Suhrawardy Udyan in the capital. The nor'wester that hit Dhaka late Monday night toppled many trees and killed birds in the park. The storm caused several trees to fall on city streets as well.

PHOTO: RAshed SHUMON

Trump divulges secrets to Russia

Defends his action; Kremlin says uproar a 'nonsense'

AFP, Washington

Embattled US President Donald Trump yesterday insisted he had the right to share "facts" with Russia, one day after bombshell allegations that he divulged highly classified intelligence to Russian diplomats in the Oval Office.

According to an explosive report from the Washington Post, Trump revealed highly classified information on the Islamic State group during a meeting last week with Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov and Moscow's man in Washington Sergey Kislyak.

In a shock twist, the information reportedly came from a US ally who had not authorised Washington to share it with Moscow, a potential blow to intelligence relationships based on trust that secrets will be kept.

"As President I wanted to share with Russia (at an openly scheduled W.H. meeting) which I have the absolute right to do, facts pertaining to terrorism and airline flight safety," Trump pushed back in an early morning tweet.

Trump wrote that he was motivated by "humanitarian reasons, plus I want Russia to greatly step up their fight against ISIS & terrorism."

The US leader's disclosure of classified information did not break the law, according to the national security blog Lawfare, but such revelations could expose sources and methods and "substantially harm" US intelligence gathering partnerships with foreign governments.

"This is perhaps the gravest allegation of presidential misconduct in the scandal-ridden four months of the Trump administration," the blog said. "This story is likely to be immensely consequential."

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