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SHAH CEMENT

PROCESSED FOOD Govt to ensure safety by 2021

Move to register 25 lakh food business operators for proper monitoring, supervision

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government aims to make processed food producers comply with set standards so that safe food could be ensured by 2021.

Bangladesh Food Safety Authority (BFSA) said it had taken up an initiative to get 25 lakh food business operators registered. This would allow them to be properly monitored and supervised.

The BFSA is also taking strides to ensure risk-based food inspections to guarantee food safety, from farm to fork, said its officials at the first ever Bangladesh Food Safety Conference that began at Hotel Sonargaon yesterday.

The conference is being held at a time when people are worried about food adulteration.

Inadequate internationally accredited laboratories, lack of skilled people and technicians, differences between global and domestic standards, and poor awareness among producers and consumers were major challenges for BFSA.

"We have become an example for many countries in ensuring food security. Yet, ensuring safe food remains a major challenge," said Industries Minister Amir Hossain Anu at the inaugural ceremony.

Bangladesh Foreign Investors Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FICCI), Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and Industry (MCCI), BFSA and Bangladesh Standards and Testing Institution (BSTI) jointly organised the two-day event with the theme "Protecting Consumers: A Shared Responsibility".

A number of the participants yesterday raised concern over the sale of food items in unhygienic and open places and blamed the regulators for their lack of action.

"Those who have enough money can buy quality meat from different super stores. But how will people like us be sure of safe meat when we buy it from the open market," a teacher in the audience asked the food safety regulators during a session on food safety management yesterday.

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LOADED AND STALLED

A long string of trucks loaded with stones from quarries in Bhola are stuck on the Sylhet-Companiganj road for three days. The poor condition of the road caused many trucks to break down and block the road creating about a 10 km tailback. Traders had to switch to boats, bottom, to transport stones and sand. The photos were taken on Tuesday.

PHOTO: SHEIKH NASIR

Flower vendor 'beaten up' by magistrate in Meherpur

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kishida

A senior judicial magistrate has allegedly beaten up a street flower vendor for not serving him instantly Tuesday afternoon.

The vendor Tutul Hossain has been undergoing treatment at Meherpur General Hospital.

Contacted, Senior Judicial Magistrate Sanaullah said, "It was a misunderstanding... It will be sorted soon." He also denied beating up Tutul.

Meanwhile, Meherpur Traders Association at a rally in the town yesterday demanded the magistrate be withdrawn in 24 hours.

Tutul alleged that Magistrate Sanaullah went to his shop around 5:00pm and asked him to make a bouquet of flowers immediately. But Tutul told him to wait for a while as he was serving other customers.

Sanaullah then threatened Tutul with actions and revealed that he was a senior judicial magistrate, the flower vendor alleged.

Around 30 minutes later, Sub-Inspector Rafiqul Islam of Meherpur Police Station picked up Tutul and took him to the magistrate's office.

"The magistrate beat me up indiscriminately," Tutul said, adding that the magistrate then locked him and

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BID TO FOIL NO-TRUST VOTE AGAINST SPEAKER Maldives parliament reconvenes under military guard

ANS, Maldives Independent

Scuffles erupted yesterday between opposition and pro-government lawmakers as Maldives parliament convened under heavy military guard, which opposition said was an attempt to block a motion to impeach the Speaker of the House.

Imthiyaz Fahmy, of the opposition Maldivian Democratic Party (MDP), tweeted a video of what he said was security forces in plain clothes blocking representatives from entering the chamber, the Guardian reported.

A close ally of President Abdulla Yameen, Speaker Abdulla Maseeh Mohamed opened the session on Tuesday and then immediately closed it before MPs were able to vote on the no-confidence motion, she said.

Another lawmaker from the MDP, Eva Abdulla, said MPs were eventually allowed in but were prevented approaching the speaker who was surrounded by soldiers.

"The session was over in five minutes," she said by phone. Lawmakers said they raised the motion against the speaker after he repeatedly refused parliamentary requests to scrutinise the government.

The opposition says the People's Majlis has been under "military siege" since the unprecedented expulsion of opposition lawmakers from the

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Rodents force Buhari to work from home

AFP, Lagos

Nigerian President Muhammadu Buhari will work from home after rodents damaged his official office during a more than 100-day overseas medical absence, a presidential spokesman told AFP Tuesday.

The animals damaged furniture and air conditioning fittings in the president's official Abuja office while he was in London receiving treatment, his media adviser Garba Shehu confirmed.

"These are also general works"

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Trump unshackled US president says he is willing to 'close gov't to build Mexico wall

REUTERS, Phoenix

US President Donald Trump revved up supporters on Tuesday with a defence of his response to a white supremacist-organized rally in Virginia and a promise to shut down the US government if necessary to build a wall along the border with Mexico.

Under fire for saying "both sides" were to blame for the violence between white supremacists and left-wing counter protesters in Virginia on Aug 12, Trump accused television networks of ignoring his calls for unity in the aftermath.

"I didn't say I love you because you're black, or I love you because you're white," Trump said. "I love all the people of our country."

Police used pepper spray to disperse crowds after protesters threw rocks and bottles outside the convention center where Trump spoke, police said.

Trump, who often uses news organizations as a foil, repeatedly singled out the media for criticism of how it covered the violence in the Virginia college town of Charlottesville and the resulting political fallout.

"These are just dishonest people. They're bad people. I really think they don't like our country," Trump said. "The only people giving a platform to these hate groups is the media."

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SIBL Foundation Hospital & Diagnostic Center

PRAYER TIMING
AUGUST 24

Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha
AZAN 4:25 12:45 4:45 6:38 8:00
JAMAAT 5:00 1:15 5:00 6:41 8:30

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

Death Anniversary



Today is the first death anniversary of Mrs. Syeda Jehan Ara Mansur, [B.A., B.T., M.A.], beloved mother of Betty, Bapi and Bablu. A graduate from Lady Brabourne College under Calcutta University, Mrs. Mansur was a teacher of Vigarunissa Noon School [1955-1959] and of Residential Model School/ College, Mohammadpur, from its inception in 1960 to 1987. Friends, relatives and her beloved students are invited to join in a prayer mahfil to be held at her residence in Sector-7, Uttara, on 25 August 2017 [Friday] after Asr prayers.

TK 89.65CR GRAFT CASE ACC arrests suspect at Dhaka airport

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Anti-Corruption Commission yesterday arrested an accused of a case filed over Tk 89.65 crore misappropriation from Pubali Bank Ltd, as he was about to leave the country from Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport.

Immigration police made the arrest of Babauddin Sadi when he tried to flee to Singapore. He was later handed over to the ACC, sources at the anti-graft body said.

Last week, the ACC arrested a contractor and Jubo League leader Khalid Huda at the airport before his scheduled

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Trust of 10 Million Families The largest digital payment service in Bangladesh

Rupali Bank SureCash is disbursing government primary education stipend to 10 million mothers in eighty thousand villages across the country. Each mother has received a mobile banking account. A mother can make and receive payments anytime using her own phone.

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