

# DSCC extends free health service for residents

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka South City Corporation (DSCC) has extended its free primary health service for two more weeks till December 27.

DSCC Mayor Sayeed Khokon made the announcement at a press briefing in the capital's Nagar Bhaban yesterday.

The door-to-door health service was launched for a fortnight from November 28 to help people suffering from cold, breathing difficulties and winter flu. Under the programme, doctors visit people at their homes under DSCC areas and provide them with treatment and medicines once the residents call for health service using the hotline -- 09611000999.

Till now, 3,318 residents have received free treatment at their homes while 47 others received health advice over the phone.

# It must be

FROM PAGE 1  
The High Representative/Vice-President Federica Mogherini at the European Parliament plenary session on the situation of the Rohingya.

It could be an entry point to address the crisis - from a bilateral point of view, between Bangladesh and Myanmar, and together with the agencies, starting with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), she said.

The EU High Representative said they will work to address the root causes of the crisis, and push for the full implementation of the Annan commission report.

In light of disproportionate use of force by the army, the EU also decided to suspend invitations to the Commander-in-Chief of the Myanmar armed forces and other top military officers, and to review ongoing practical defence cooperation.

Meanwhile, they have been active at the UN Human Rights Council: first, they supported the extension of the Fact-Finding Mission's mandate; second, they supported a Special Session on Myanmar last week, and the resolution proposed by Bangladesh.

"We also supported a resolution at the UN General Assembly's Third Committee," she said.

The EU has been the one pledging more money than anybody else.

"And if you look at the EU and Member States together, we pledged more than the rest of the world combined. And let me add that our pledges always turn into real money, into real projects that help real people, meaning that we always deliver on our pledges," she said.

The EU High Representative said it is now up to Myanmar to improve the situation in Rakhine State, so that everyone can go back to their homes in a safe and dignified way.

"Rule of law and full humanitarian access must be granted as a first step. The government has granted access so far to the Red Cross and the World Food Programme in Rakhine State, but we will continue to press for full access to the broader UN and NGO community."

# Juboraj

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Arif Hasan, upazila veterinary surgeons Jakir Hossain and Rakibul Hasan. Chondon Kumar Podder, district veterinary officer was present during the autopsy.

When queried, Arif told his reporter that the average lifespan of a male lion in the wild was around 14 years, adding that Juboraj was 17 years old. However, he did not mention how long a lion survives in captivity.

Arif Hasan said he found all organs of the deceased to be sufficiently normal. "I may just say 'death due to senility' in comments," he said.

Surgeons have collected visceral samples and submitted them to the district veterinary hospital yesterday which will forward them to Dhaka today.

According to the zoo's contractor, Masudur Rahman, he brought Juboraj to Comilla zoo from Chittagong zoo in 2004, when the lion was four years old.

Juboraj led a solitary existence for the last thirteen years in his zoo. He spent most of his time lying quietly on the ground.

After a video showing Juboraj's condition went viral on social media, the zoo authority called in veterinarians who reported that the lion's health had deteriorated beyond recovery. Eminent wildlife conservationist Reza Khan had said that the Comilla zoo authorities should euthanise Juboraj.

According to Sanjoy, in the beginning of the year, they had called a team of veterinarians and the Dhaka Zoo curator to come and observe the lion's condition. The team had then mentioned that Juboraj was suffering from old age complications and would stop eating soon.

# Licence to rape

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Washington to impose economic and travel sanctions targeting the military and its business interests.

In an article in the Guardian on November 13, Republican representative Steve Chabot and Democratic representative Joseph Cowley said it was time to expeditiously impose sanctions.

The "time" they talked about was actually long overdue.

Back in 2014, the report of the Secretary General to the Security Council had reported "incidents of sexual violence including rape" in Myanmar during 2013.

In 2002, the Shan Women's Action Network and the Shan Human Rights Foundation based in Thailand jointly released a report "Licence to Rape". It detailed 173 incidents of rape involving 625 girls and women by the Myanmar army, 83% of these committed by officers, in most cases in front of their troops. The report drew significant international attention.

And what was Myanmar's response?

Despite Myanmar's continuing to be the kind of rogue country against whom ICC should move for the Security Council's approval for action, it had denied the allegations all along of rape as an official instrument of strategy against the Rohingyas.

Myanmar conducted an investigation in August 2002 into the "Licence to Rape" report. People of the Central and Southern Shan State were forced to sign documents testifying that no incidents of sexual violence had been

# Rangpur win

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The 38-year-old smashed his 20th T20 hundred, second in the ongoing tournament and first-ever in a final, leaving even a player like Brendon McCullum as a mere spectator.

The left-hander remained unbeaten on a 69-ball 146 while Brendon McCullum was not out on 51 off 43 as the pair added 201 runs for the second-wicket, which was the highest partnership in the history of the BPL.

Rangpur posted a huge 206 for one in 20 overs and it was none other than Gayle who stepped in to bowl the final over of the tournament in another dose of his showmanship. Dhaka needed 60 off that over and helplessly surrendered the chase on 149 for 9 in their allotted overs.

Shakib Al Hasan will definitely have a sleepless night after dropping a straightforward catch at cover when Gayle was on just 22, a mistake he perhaps never thought could be so

# The men in the mist

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winter. So much so that it has become a common phenomenon.

"Winter is a sleepless season for us as we fear will see more incidents of livestock robbery. So, we are individually tightening the security by employing more staff at our farms", Nayeem Uddin, general secretary of Chittagong Dairy Farm Association, told The Daily Star.

At least five incidents of robbery had taken place in the last two months in three upazilas of Chittagong, he added.

Sixty cows, worth Tk 1.2 crore, have been taken away in those incidents, he claimed.

"They take the opportunity of winter as fog makes it convenient to steal the livestock. That is why when winter comes, our anxiety runs high", Nayeem told The Daily Star.

The association sat with Chittagong Metropolitan Commissioner (CMP) Iqbal Bahar seeking remedy in this regard.

One of the victims, Md Imran, hailing from Najumia Haat under Sikarpur Union of Hathazari Upazila, said a group of people pretending to be livestock buyers approached him to negotiate a price for his cows. They promised they would come back again to finalise the purchase.

"The next night, the same group stormed into my farm and took away at least ten cows worth Tk 20 lakhs, holding my staff at gun point", he recalled.

Imran filed a general diary with Hathazari Police Station in hopes of recovering his cattle.

In another incident Abdul Hakim, resident of Sikolbaha under Patia Upazila told The Daily Star, that on the night of 24 October, his two Australian breed cows worth Tk 5 lakh were stolen.

"I filed a general diary with Patia Police Station but am yet to get back my cows", he said.

However, after police busted a gang of cattle robbers, there was a lull in robberies. The robbers were picked up from Baskhali Upazila. They were found to be using a black Hiace and another microbus.

When contacted, Noor E Alam, Police Super of Chittagong district, told The Daily Star that in Chittagong there are two belts where the robbery takes place.

The southern belt includes Raozan and Hathazari while the northern one includes Satkania, Patia, Chondonaish, Anowara and Baskhali Upazila.

"The rise in cattle robbery actually begins when the Aman harvest leaves the paddy fields empty, allowing the robbers to move freely", he said.

committed by the army. Fake demonstrations were staged in support of their "testimony".

The Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar reported in September 2013 that, "with respect to abuses perpetrated in Rakhine State, including rape and other forms of sexual violence", Myanmar did not meet its obligation to investigate and hold perpetrators to account.

And this time around, Myanmar again denied rape of the Rohingyas by its troops. In a tell-tale demonstration of its denial and falsehood, Myanmar this time said its military's internal probe interviewed 2,817 people from 54 Rohingya villages and "found" that its army did not rape or commit sexual violence against women.

The facts speak otherwise - for the Myanmar army, rape is a conventional weapon of war. It is not a by-product of conflict but a well-thought-out military strategy as had been in cases of Bosnia or in Bangladesh in 1971 or in the occupied Nanking of China in 1937 by the Japanese army.

And Myanmar's de facto leader Aung San Suu Kyi cannot become amnesic now of what she had said in May 2011 at the Nobel Women's Initiative Conference: "Rape is used in my country as a weapon against those who only want to live in peace, who only want to assert their basic human rights, especially in the areas of the ethnic nationalities. Rape is rife. It is used as a weapon by the armed forces to intimidate the ethnic nationalities to divide our country".

costly.

Apart from Jahurul Islam's fifty, Shakib added 26 as Dhaka's star-studded batting line-up were made to look ordinary, losing wickets right from the start of the chase in the all-important final.

Off-spinner Sohag Gazi, Isuru Udana and left-arm spinner Nazmul Islam took two wickets for Rangpur as Mashrafe Bin Mortaza lifted the BPL trophy for the fourth time in his fourth final appearance in five BPL editions.

Earlier Rangpur looked to be in trouble after losing previous game centurion Johnson Charles for three, but after that it was simply a Gayle storm that kept the stadium on their feet till the end of the innings.

The left-hander, who didn't hit a six until the 15th ball he faced, was unstoppable after getting that lifeline and reached his fifty off just 33 balls and continued to wallop Dhaka's bowlers all over the park.

# Anisul, Fakhrul

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They also take the advantage of the scarcity of people in the areas because of the cold, he said, adding police are going to take extra measures to tackle the robbery.

"We already had a meeting over the livestock robbery where we decided to accelerate the patrolling on highway and [start] public awareness programmes", he added.

Apart from this, police will also check cattle laden vehicles at a strategic point of the highway to contain the robbery.

Mina said they arrested some groups last year and will look for those who are still free.

He advised the farmers to tighten the security around their cattle shed and arrange lighting for it.

# Anisul, Fakhrul

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the lower court judges' disciplinary rules, keeping the president's authority over their conduct.

The president will make necessary decisions in consultation with the SC, and the law ministry will implement those, a high official of the ministry said interpreting the contents of the notification titled "Bangladesh Judicial Service (Discipline) Rules 2017".

About the criticism against the disciplinary rules, Law Minister Anisul said those who were criticising the rules were doing so without understanding it.

The government has no objection to the constructive criticism, he said, adding that if the critics study the rules, they cannot find anything in the rules to criticise.

Supreme Court Bar Association President Zainul Abedin told reporters that the government put "the last nail in the coffin" of independence of the judiciary through issuing the notification on the lower court judges' disciplinary rules.

The SC has lost its supremacy following the notification. The government has done everything to control the judiciary, he said.

Talking to journalists at his office yesterday, Attorney General Mahbubey Alam said he got relieved of a burden.

He said he had to take time again and again from the SC for issuing the notification, which was very embarrassing for him.

The lower judiciary was separated from the executive branch on November 1, 2007, following the SC directives in the Masdar Hossain case, also known as the judiciary separation case.

# MOSQUE COMMITTEE ASK slams 'ban' on women in Kushtia crop fields

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Rights organisation Ain o Salish Kendra (ASK) has condemned the incident of prohibiting women from going to crop fields by a mosque committee in Kushtia on December 8.

Expressing concern over the incident, the ASK in a statement yesterday said such incident violates article 27 of the constitution, which ensures equal rights for all citizens.

According to the statement, Kalyanpur Jame Mosque Steering Committee in Kushtia's Kumarkhali upazila prohibited local women from going to crop fields alleging that they were getting involved in anti-social activities and damaging crops.

The committee announced the decision through loudspeakers of the mosque after Juma prayers on December 8. They also called upon the villagers to appoint chowkidars (night guards) to stop such activities by women, the statement added.

The rights body said the incident also violated article 28 of the constitution which stipulates that no discrimination can take place between religions, races and sexes.

Such incidents violate national and international policies on women, said the statement.

The ASK demanded the state and the authorities concerned take appropriate measures in this regard. If they didn't, the incident would instigate fanaticism and fundamentalism, warned the rights organisation.

# Corrupting

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Panchanan Bala, the district primary education officer, confirmed this while talking to The Daily Star last night saying they took instant action.

New dates of the examinations of class II, class III and class IV will be announced later after preparing a new set of questions under the supervision of a magistrate, Panchanan quoted the deputy commissioner as saying.

On Monday night, a number of parents complained to Deputy Commissioner Saila Farzana about the leak and sent emails attaching the leaked question papers.

The DC told reporters yesterday that after getting the complaints and emails, she directed the administration and department concerned to postpone the test in question.

A three-member committee, led by Additional DC Shawkat Alam, has been formed to investigate the matter, she said.

"We are not sure who leaked the question papers. We will inform you about it after completion of the investigation."

This newspaper tried to contact Directorate of Primary Education Director General Abu Hena Mostafa Kamal over the phone, but he did not pick up the phone.

Meanwhile, police detained eight college students from different areas of Munshiganj in connection with the leak.

# Two killed

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group that controls the small coastal enclave.

On Monday, Israel's Iron Dome anti-missile system intercepted a rocket fired by militants in Gaza. Shortly afterward, Israel responded with tank fire and air strikes targeting positions of Hamas.

Protests across the Middle East and Muslim world have been raging since US President Donald Trump declared the move.

On Monday, Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan and Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin warned that Donald Trump's recognition of Jerusalem as the capital of Israel risks escalating tension in an already tense region.

Trump's decision and his plan to move the US embassy to Jerusalem sparked violence in Jerusalem, with a fifth day of protests in the Middle East.

"Both Russia and Turkey believe that the decision... does not help regulating the situation in the Middle East but instead destabilises the already complicated atmosphere," Putin said during a press conference in Ankara.

"It can derail the Israel-Palestine peace process," he warned after his meeting with Erdogan following lightning visits to Syria and Egypt earlier on Monday.

Erdogan said that he and Putin had taken a similar approach on the issue as he accused Israel of continuing to "add fuel to the flames".

"Israel is using this as an opportunity to further increase the pressure and violence against Palestinians," he added.

# Fulfill climate deal promise

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fight climate change.

Hasina said she believed that collective commitments and actions for "resilience and adaptation" would contribute to peace, stability and prosperity across societies.

The Bangladesh government would initiate programmes to increase the country's tree coverage from 22 percent to 24 percent in the next five years, she added.

About the influx of Rohingyas to Bangladesh, the premier said the country was facing a huge challenge due to the entry of over one million forcibly displaced Rohingyas from Myanmar.

She told global leaders that Bangladesh sheltered Rohingyas on 1,783 hectares of forest land in Cox's Bazar on humanitarian grounds.

"This crisis has severely affected the forest and environment in that area. In this situation, climate adaptation has become a major challenge."

Hasina said Bangladesh is one of the most vulnerable countries to climate change although it is not responsible for it.

"With our limited resources, we're addressing the consequences of climate change by mitigation and adaptation. This has been mainstreamed in our sustainable development strategy aimed at becoming a middle-income country by 2021."

Despite being a developing country, Bangladesh spends over one percent of its GDP on combating climate change, the PM pointed out.

"We're making our agriculture climate resilient. We're also working on reducing dependence on groundwater for urban water supply."

Hasina, also a member of the UN-World Bank High Level Panel on Water, said Bangladesh was committed to prioritising the water sustainability issues in all its economic, social and environmental actions.

She said one of the means to address the climate change challenges and environmental degradation is afforestation, and the Bangladesh government has already taken up massive projects for plantation.

Hasina said implementation of a \$50.76 million flagship project is underway for the conservation of the Sundarbans, the world's largest mangrove forest and also a world heritage site.

Bangladesh is creating a green belt in the coastal regions to protect people from cyclones and tidal surges, coastal erosion and saline water intrusion. Around 67,000 hectares of land have been identified for afforestation, she said.

The premier reaffirmed her pledge to implement the Paris Agreement.

The UN secretary-general and the World Bank president also spoke at the summit, with the French president in the chair.

**HASINA MEETS MACRON**  
French President Emmanuel Macron yesterday assured Bangladesh of his country's humanitarian support and playing a role in the UN and other international forums to find a permanent solution to the Rohingya crisis.

He gave the assurance during a bilateral meeting with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at the Elysee Palace in Paris.

Briefing reporters after the meeting,

Foreign Secretary Shahidul Haque said Macron wanted to know about the present status of the Rohingya crisis, what Bangladesh was doing and what it expected from France.

Hasina said over one million forcibly displaced Rohingyas were living in Bangladesh which was a big burden on the country. It was also causing problems to the country's environment.

The premier briefly mentioned the five-point proposal that she had placed in the last UN General Assembly. She said the real solution to the problem lies in the implementation of those proposals.

The Bangladesh foreign minister recently visited Myanmar and signed an agreement with the country, she added.

"We inked the bilateral agreement but we want the international community to continue their support [Bangladesh] and keep up the pressure [on Myanmar] in this regard, or else the agreement would not be implemented."

Shahidul said the two leaders agreed to form a joint economic commission to explore the trade and investment potentials of the two countries. The modalities of this commission will be decided later.

Macron called upon Hasina to identify the priority sectors for French investment. The PM in this regard mentioned energy, infrastructure, pharmaceuticals and ICT sectors, and special economic zones.

Describing terrorism and militancy as a global problem, the PM said Bangladesh maintains a "zero-tolerance" policy about the two menaces and it has been handling those with an iron hand.

Accepting Hasina's invitation to visit Bangladesh, the French president said he might travel to Dhaka early next year during his Asia tour.

Earlier, the French president received the Bangladesh PM at the Elysee Palace. The premier was given a guard of honour.

Senior Secretary of the Prime Minister's Office Suraiya Begum and Bangladesh Ambassador to France Quazi Imtiaz Hossain were present.

# Two cousins hacked to death in Gazipur

UNB, Gazipur

Two cousins were hacked to death by criminals at Duttapara in Gazipur city last night.

The victims are Akhtar Hossain, 35, son of Mujibur Rahman, and his cousin Ashiqur Rahman, 27, son of Habibur Rahman, of Duttapara.

Firoz Talukder, officer-in-charge of Tongi Police Station, said some criminals attacked the two around 7:00pm and stabbed them indiscriminately when they were chatting in an under-construction building near Duttapara Baitul Rahman Jam-e-Mosque.

Locals took the two to Tongi Government Hospital where doctors declared them dead.

Akhtar returned home from the UAE a year ago and Ashiqur from Italy around six months ago, the OC said, adding that they were yet to find out the motive behind the killings.

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Tender/Proposal ID	Name of work
ID-145233 e-GP/33/EE/CRD/RHD/2017-18	Maintenance of Plants, Replantation and Ancillary Works of different types of Decorative Plants at Ch 165700 Dhomghat to Ch 231567 City Gate Road Median of Dhaka Jatrabari-Comilla Moynamati-Chittagong-Cox's Bazar-Teknaf National Highway N-1 under Chittagong Road Division during the year 2017-2018.
ID-145234 e-GP/34/EE/CRD/RHD/2017-18	Supplying of Asphalt materials for Routine Repairing Maintenance Works of different Road of Chittagong/Sitakunda/Fatikchhari Road Sub-Division under Chittagong Road Division during the year 2017-2018.
ID-145236 e-GP/35/EE/CRD/RHD/2017-18	Repair works of labour shed at Hathazari Section Office under Chittagong Road Division during the year 2017-2018.
<b>জুলফিকার আহমেদ</b> পরিচিতি নং-৬০২১৩৮ নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলী (চঃদাঃ), সওজ চট্টগ্রাম সড়ক বিভাগ, চট্টগ্রাম	
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