

Contaminated food harms mothers, babies

Experts say

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Health experts at a programme yesterday said excessive use of pesticides and formalin in fruits and vegetables can cause a wide range of hazards to female health.

They were speaking at a programme titled "Dangerous effects of pesticides and formalin on women's health and society" jointly organised by Life and Health and Zonta Club of Dhaka 1, district 25, Area 2 at The Daily Star Centre.

During his presentation, Dr Nilanjon Sen, also the managing director of Life and Health, said, exposure to contaminated food affects both expectant mothers and their unborn child.

When mothers eat pesticide-contaminated food, it can affect the growth of the unborn child. Also, formalin-laced food can reach a newborn through breastfeeding, causing health hazards, Dr Sen added.

To get rid of contamination, Dr Sen suggested the use of "Carbon Green," a pesticide-removing powder - initiated by Life and Health Limited, a project affiliated with Bangkok Hospital Office Bangladesh.

The powder contains 85 percent Sodium Carbonate and 15 percent Activated Carbon which removes surface contamination from fruits and vegetables.

A packet of "Carbon Green" consisting of five sachets can be bought for Tk 125 in Dhaka and Chittagong.

The powder, which is manufactured in Thailand, was initiated to promote food safety culture in the country and reduce the superficial chemicals upto 95pc, Dr Sen said adding that it has been tested by BCSIR, OMIC, SGS and Kasetser University laboratories of Thailand.



PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON

A STEP FORWARD: As police and BRTA crack down on unfit vehicles and unlicensed drivers, transport owners have stepped in to help. During a mobile court drive on Manik Mia Avenue in Dhaka yesterday, the members of Dhaka Transport Owners Association assisted the magistrate and officials of Bangladesh Road Transport Authority in checking relevant papers.

Prof Nurul Alam made JU pro-VC

JU CORRESPONDENT

Prof Nurul Alam of physics department has been appointed pro-vice chancellor (education) of Jahangirnagar University (JU).

President Abdul Hamid, also the chancellor of the university, appointed him to the post for the next four years, the education ministry said in a press release yesterday.

Prof Nurul is the president of JU Teachers' Association (Juta) and convener of a faction of pro-Awami League teachers association "Bangabandhu-Adorsher Shikkhak Parishad".

Earlier, he was three-time president of Juta and dean of mathematical and physical science faculty. Born in Dhamrai upazila of Dhaka in 1957, he joined the university in 1982.

Prof Nurul took office of pro-VC last evening in a ceremony at the university senate hall. The post had been vacant since March when the term of Prof Abul Hossain ended.

Caught in the act

ACC official imposter arrested

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Cg

Officials of the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) yesterday held a man from Chittagong Sadar Sub Registrar's Office in the city's Court Building area, while he was realising extortion money, posing as an ACC official.

The imposter was identified as Rezaul Islam, 48, from Comilla's Chaudhagram area.

"Rezaul is a professional fraudster and used to extort different government and private offices pretending to be an ACC official," Lutfur Kabir Chandon, deputy director (DD) of ACC in Chittagong, told The Daily Star.

The DD said posing as an ACC official, Rezaul went to the sub-registrar's office on August 9 and demanded Tk 1 lakh as extortion from the officials. Rezaul was asked to come back later as Sub-Registrar Mostafiz Ahmed was not in office at the time.

Rezaul went back to the office yesterday and demanded money to the sub-registrar. The sub-registrar then informed the police and the ACC without him noticing, and stalled him until the ACC officials arrived at the scene and caught the imposter red-handed.

He was later handed over to police and a case was filed in this connection, DD Lutfur added.

Bangabandhu gave citizens ownership of the state: Dr Kamal

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Eminent jurist and Gono Forum President Dr Kamal Hossain yesterday said Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman constitutionally ensured that citizens are the owners of the country.

Speaking as the chief guest at a discussion organised by Gono Forum at Jatiya Press Club in Dhaka marking National Mourning Day, August 15, he said "In the constitution, Bangabandhu made citizens the owner of the state and gave them supreme power. Nobody will be able to snatch our rights. Everybody should be united. If needed, we will sacrifice our lives to protect those [rights]," he added.

"Bangabandhu sacrificed his life to establish the rights of the people. He never compromised. Neither temptation nor fear could stop him in doing those," said Dr Kamal, who led the committee that formulated Bangladesh's constitution.

Krishak Sramik Janata League President Abdul Kader Siddique at the discussion alleged that Awami League rewarded many who opposed Bangabandhu and were indirectly involved with his assassination.

"The present Awami League is not the Awami League of Bangabandhu, Abdul Hamid Khan Bhashani and so on," he added.

Gono Forum General Secretary Mustafa Mohsin Montu also spoke at the programme.

Tk 86CR MISAPPROPRIATION Hall-Mark chairman denied bail

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Hall-Mark Group Chairman Jasmine Islam was denied bail by the High Court yesterday.

She is accused in a case over misappropriating Tk 85.87 crore from Janata Bank, a state-owned commercial bank.

The HC also directed jail authorities to immediately take necessary steps for providing proper treatment to Jasmine in jail.

Justice Md Nazrul Islam Talukder and Justice K M Hafizul Alam passed the order after hearing a rule issued earlier over granting bail to Jasmine, who is now in Kashimpur Jail in the corruption case filed by the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC).

ACC lawyer Advocate Khurshid Alam Khan told The Daily Star that the HC passed the order as the Kashimpur jail authorities yesterday submitted a medical report before the court, saying that Jasmine is suffering from various health issues including hypertension and urine diseases.

On November 1, 2016, the ACC filed the case with Motijheel Police Station accusing

Jasmine and 15 others for misappropriating Tk 85.87 crore from Janata Bank.

On November 5 last year, following a bail petition filed by Jasmine, the HC issued a rule asking the ACC and the government to explain why she should not be granted bail in the case.

Jasmine, wife of Hall-Mark Group Managing Director Tanvir Mahmud, was accused in charge sheets of all 11 cases filed on October 4 in 2012 by the ACC, over misappropriation of more than Tk 1,568 crore.

On July 17 this year, the HC directed the jail authorities to submit a report on Jasmine's health condition before the same court, after her lawyer Advocate Abdul Matin Khasru submitted a bail prayer for Jasmine as she was physically weak due to sickness.

On July 11 this year, a Dhaka court sentenced Jasmine to three years of rigorous imprisonment in a case filed over failure to submit her wealth statement to the ACC within a specified time.

Golam Sarwar's body arrives in Dhaka

Janaza in Barisal today; 2 more in Dhaka tomorrow

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The body of eminent journalist and Bangla daily Samakal's Editor Golam Sarwar was brought to Dhaka on a Singapore Airlines flight around 10:30pm last night.

The 75-year-old media personality, also the president of Editors' Council, breathed his last around 9:25pm on Monday at Singapore General Hospital.

From Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport his body was taken to his Uttara residence. Later, the body was taken to the mortuary at Birdem Hospital.

Today, his body will be taken to his birthplace in Banaripara of Barisal. Following a namaz-e-janaza there, the body will be brought back to Dhaka, says a press release.

Tomorrow (Thursday) around 9:00am, the body will be taken to Samakal office, his workplace, where his colleagues will pay their last respects.

The body will then be taken to Bangladesh University of Textiles ground, adjacent to Samakal office, for a second janaza.

Later, under the arrangement of Sammilita Sangskritik Jote, the body will be kept at the Central Shaheed Minar, where people from all walks of life will pay homage to the veteran editor.

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All secondary-level students

FROM PAGE 3

Ecnec also approved another Tk 155 crore project for extending the capacity of Police's data centre. Under the project, various online applications will be designed and existing ones updated for improving electronic policing system.

Ecnec approved another project, "Development of living standards of marginalised people in urban areas", at a cost of Tk 826 crore.

Under the project, the government will provide housing and loans to 20,000 ultra-poor families in city corporations and municipal areas.

DFID and UNDP will provide about Tk 698 crore of the budget as grants, with the

government providing the rest. The project's tenure will be till 2023.

According to the project proposal, 5,000 ultra-poor families will each be given a two-room flat free of cost, while 15,000 destitute families will be given interest-free loans under community housing development fund.

The flats and house building facilities will be given to residents of 11 city corporations and 25 municipalities, particularly those located along coastal areas at high risk of being affected by climate change, according to a planning ministry official.

Ecnec also approved five projects for development of roads in different areas of the country.

PASSPORTS LOST

I have lost my and my wife's Passports. My new Passport No. BH0696081 and old Passport No. L0305309, X0625441. My wife MRS. MAHABUBA SULTANA MUKTA new Passport No. BH0420042, old Passport No. AA9194735, R0305089. GD has been filed under Tongi Thana. GD No. 521, Dt: 12-08-2018. MD. KABIR HOSSAIN SHIMUL, PO: Morkur, Tistar Gate, Monnagar, Thana: Tongi, Zila: Gazipur. Cell No. 01713004929

SPACE SALE

Brand New commercial space in Gulshan (Floor-12, sft:3035) For Sale. Plot -38/A, Road : 35, Gulshan-2 (Behind Westin) # 01707061986

Bangladesh Red Crescent Society National Headquarters

684-686 Red Crescent Sarak, Bara Moaghbazar, Dhaka-1217.

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Bangladesh Red Crescent Society invites application from the suitable professional candidates for the position of Deputy Secretary General on contractual basis based in Dhaka.

He will be responsible for implementing the decisions of the Board and oversee its country-wide projects and programs. Planning, budgeting, budgetary control, supervision, monitoring, evaluation, reporting, human resources development and management are some of the key responsibilities. The person we are looking for should be able to maintain effective interrelations with Government of Bangladesh, UN agencies, national and international organizations, especially with humanitarian organizations.

Aged 50 years & above on 30 August, 2018 but below 62, the incumbent should possess a minimum Bachelor degree in any discipline with proven administrative and managerial experience of at least 15 years. A computer literate, fluent in spoken English and very high proficiency in written English are absolute requirements. Red Crescent Society being a voluntary humanitarian organization, experience and knowledge of crises management, disaster mitigation, attending and participating in international conference at home and abroad and working experience in humanitarian field will be given preference.

Applications should be submitted with full CV, two references, two recent passport size photographs and necessary documents to the Chairman, Bangladesh Red Crescent Society, 684-686 Red Crescent Sarak, Bara Moaghbazar, Dhaka 1217 by 30 August, 2018. Only short listed candidates will be called for interview. Salary and other facilities are subject to negotiation.

Chairman

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Vacancy Announcement

United Nations Development Programme in Bangladesh announces vacancies for the following positions under Service Contract modality with the **Activating Village Courts in Bangladesh Project Phase II**.

1. Finance Officer – Field Monitoring
2. Finance Associate

The duration of the service contract is one year initially, subject to renewal upon satisfactory performance and availability of funds.

For details of the Job Description and instructions to apply, please visit our website: <http://www.bd.undp.org/content/bangladesh/en/home/operations/jobs.html>. Applications should be received no later than **28 August 2018**.

Only short-listed candidates will be contacted. Female candidates are particularly encouraged to apply.