




"MY HOME IS AS GREAT AS THE PADMA BRIDGE TO ME"

Whether for your home or the Pillars of Padma Bridge
We forge steels with the same expertise

COUNTRY'S NO. 1 STEEL EXPERT

BSRM
building a safer nation



Rooppur Nuclear Power Plant

Work in progress
using Shah Cement

SHAH CEMENT

Dengue takes alarming turn

741 infected in country in May-June; two die so far

HELEMUL ALAM

The dengue situation in the country is getting worse this year as the number of infected people has more than doubled since last month, compared with the same period last year.

According to a report of Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS), 155 people were infected with dengue last month and 586 more till the 23rd of this month. However, the number was 52 in May and 295 in June last year.

Experts said climate change effects, intermittent rain, pattern of weather and lack of cleanliness were the main reasons for this increase in dengue cases.

A total of 10,148 people were infected with dengue last year and 26 of them died. It was a record for the number of dengue cases in a year. The previous highest was 6,232 in 2002.

A survey by DGHS found high presence of Aedes mosquito in the capital.

The communicable diseases wing of the DGHS conducted the survey from March 3-12. It surveyed water samples collected from 998 houses at 100 places under 97 wards of two city corporations in Dhaka.

The survey found high level of larvae of Aedes mosquito in water collected from abandoned tyres, plastic drums, buckets, open tanks in under-construction buildings and flower tubs.

According to the survey, the density of mosquito larvae in water was high in wards 35, 1, 4, 19, 20, 16, 22, and

SEE PAGE 5 COL 1



Stacked, barrels of insecticides rust on the premises of Dhaka Mosquito Control Office near Bakshibazar yesterday. Dengue cases in the capital have increased in recent months and a DGHS survey has found high level of Aedes larvae in several places of the city.

PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON

ACC sues DIG Mizan over illegal wealth

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Top-ranking police officer Mizanur Rahman, who came to the spotlight last year for "forcibly marrying and torturing" a woman, has amassed Tk 3.28 crore illegally over a period of 20 years, finds an investigation.

The deputy inspector general (DIG) of police made the money by taking bribes and committing corruption, according to the probe conducted by the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC). Between 1998 and 2018, Mizan earned Tk 4.63 crore, but only Tk 1.35 crore of it came from legal sources.

After finishing the probe, ACC recorded a case against DIG Mizan yesterday.

The Daily Star has got a copy of the case statement.

DIG Mizan came under scanner in January last year when he was accused of forcibly marrying and torturing a woman. Later, he was withdrawn from his post at Dhaka Metropolitan Police, and ACC opened an investigation into him in May

SEE PAGE 5 COL 1



Remove expired drugs by July 2

Health minister threatens action if drug stores do not comply with govt order

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Health and Family Welfare Minister Zahid Malik yesterday announced that all expired medicines must be removed from pharmacies across the country by July 2.

"Stern measures will be taken against those who would be found selling expired medicines," he said.

The minister came up with the remarks while addressing a press conference at his ministry.

Citing the government's commitment to ensuring proper health services, Zahid said that they will not tolerate any malpractice which may pose risk to the health of people.

"It is our duty to ensure health services for the people of Bangladesh," he added.

Besides, the minister urged the people to inform the ministries concerned or law enforcing agencies if they find any expired medicine at any of the 1,30,000 drug stores throughout the country.

Expressing disappointment over the news that 93 percent pharmacies in the capital keep expired medicines, the minister said such an awful situation will not be tolerated.

Health Secretary Asadul Islam, Director General of Health Services Dr Abul Kalam Azad, Institute of Epidemiology, Disease Control & Research Director Dr Meerjady Sabrina Flora were present on the occasion, among others.

The drug producers and importers on Sunday declared they would collect the best-before-date expired medicines from pharmacies across the country and destroy those within July 2.

SEE PAGE 5 COL 6

BNP wins low turnout Bogura-6 by-election

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bogura

BNP's Golam Mohammad Siraj won yesterday's Bogura-6 by-elections, which saw the use of EVMs in all voting centres.

Siraj bagged 89,782 votes while his nearest rival Awami League's T Zaman Niketa got 32,297 votes, said Zakir Hossain, Bogra Sadar upazila election officer, in an announcement last night.

The turnout was around 35 percent, he told The Daily Star.

For the first time in Bangladesh, the Election Commission used no ballot papers in any election. People cast their votes through electronic voting machines (EVMs) at all the 141 polling stations.

The voting ended peacefully. No incident of violence or any allegation of irregularities was reported till 8:00pm last

SEE PAGE 5 COL 5

Life on Mars!

Nasa rover discovers gas that suggests alien life



INDEPENDENT.CO.UK

Nasa's Curiosity rover has discovered high amounts of methane gas on the surface of Mars that suggests the possibility of alien life on the planet.

The discovery of the gas is significant because on Earth methane is usually produced by living things.

Any methane detected now must have been released recently as sunlight and chemical reactions would break up the molecules within a few centuries.

The data from the Curiosity rover arrived back on Earth on Thursday, and by Friday, scientists working on the mission were excitedly discussing the news.

"Given this surprising result, we've reorganised

SEE PAGE 5 COL 1



None can destroy AL

PM tells discussion on party's founding anniversary

BSS, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday described Bangladesh Awami League as one of the most "well-organised political parties" in the subcontinent and cited confidence that no-one could destroy the organisation.

"Awami League is one of the well-organised and oldest political parties in the subcontinent ... none could break the party despite the attacks it faced time and again and none would be able to do it in future either, Insha Allah," she said.

Hasina, the Awami League president, said this while presiding over a discussion commemorating the 70th founding anniversary of the party at the Bangabandhu International Conference Centre yesterday.

AL advisory council members Amir Hossain Amu, Tofail Ahmed, presidium members Matia Chowdhury, Sheikh Fazlul Karim Selim, and Mohammed Nasim, eminent historian Prof Muntasir Mamoon, AL joint secretaries Jahangir Kabir Nanak and Abdur Rahman, Dhaka North City AL unit President AKM Rahmatullah, MP, and, Dhaka South City AL Unit President Haji Abul Hasnat took part in the discussion.

AL Publication and Publicity Secretary Hasan

SEE PAGE 5 COL 1



PRAYER TIMING JUNE 25

Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha
AZAN 4-05 12-45 5-00 6-52 8-17
JAMAAT 4-40 1-15 5-15 6-55 8-45

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION



Fishermen washing styrofoam, buoys and making nets, *inset*, in Chattogram city's Ananda Bazar on Sunday. Many of the fishermen in the area, who are going through a hard time amid a 65-day ban on netting fish in the Bay of Bengal since May 20, alleged that they did not receive rice from government in compensation.

PHOTO: RAJIB RAHMAN

Court orders division for OC Moazzem in prison

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A tribunal in Dhaka yesterday ordered the jail authorities to provide former Sonagazi Police Station OC Moazzem Hossain with division in jail as per the Jail Code.

The former policeman is accused in a case filed over the recording of Nusrat Jahan Rafi's statement on his phone and circulating the video clip on social media without her consent.

Dhaka Cyber Tribunal Judge Ash Sams Joglul Hossain passed the order after Moazzem's lawyer submitted a petition for providing him with first class division in jail considering his social status.

Supreme Court lawyer Sayedul Haque Suman filed the case against Moazzem on April 15.

The tribunal on May 27 issued an arrest warrant against the former OC after Police Bureau of Investigation submitted

SEE PAGE 5 COL 1

Iran denies US cyberattack

Plays down new sanction threat as Pompeo discusses Tehran with Gulf allies amid crisis

AFP, Tehran

Iran yesterday denied that it was hit by a US cyberattack and played down the threat of new US sanctions as Washington was expected to tighten punitive measures on Tehran in a standoff sparked by the US withdrawal from a nuclear deal.

Tensions have flared after Iranian forces shot down a US drone Thursday, the latest in a series of incidents including attacks on tankers in sensitive Gulf waters that have raised fears of an unintended slide towards conflict.

Both the US and Iran have repeatedly said they want to avoid going to war, but the spiralling tensions saw US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo travelled yesterday to meet

SEE PAGE 5 COL 5

For integrated treatment of Kidney disease and right safe dialysis

**United Hospital
Renal Care Centre**



Appointment **10666
9 8 5 2 4 6 6**