



# The Daily Star



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## DENGUE OUTBREAK

# Detection kits in short supply

Two more die in Dhaka; 1,477 new cases reported

HELEMUL ALAM AND SHAHEEN MOLLAH

At a time when the country is grappling with a record number of dengue cases, different hospitals, clinics and diagnostic centres face a short supply of a kit that is needed to detect the disease at the early stage.

Health experts and doctors say the government needs to import the kit in large numbers so that dengue patients do not suffer due to late detection of the fever.

The kit is needed to do NS1 antigen test (nonstructural protein 1). Introduced in 2006, the test allows rapid detection on the first day of fever, before antibodies appear



some five or more days later.

It takes only 15 minutes to get the test result after a doctor or a lab technician takes drops of blood from the patient's fingertip using the kit.

Meanwhile, two more people, including a female police official, died of dengue yesterday.

With them, at least 43 people died of SEE PAGE 2 COL 4



Employees of Shaheed Suhrawardy Medical College Hospital in the capital try to handle the huge crowd that showed up to receive dengue test results yesterday.

PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON

## DENGUE CONTROL

# Kolkata shows the way

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh can take a page out of Kolkata's playbook in tackling the spread of dengue, which has already infected a record 17,183 people in the country.

Over the last few years, Kolkata City Corporation has been working round the year to control the population of Aedes mosquito, the carrier of the disease.

Earlier, the corporation would start its mosquito-controlling activities during the monsoon, but by then the virus would have spread SEE PAGE 2 COL 4

## CONVENTION AGAINST TORTURE

# Dhaka to work on its commitment

Says law minister

STAR REPORT

Bangladesh would continue its effort to fulfil its commitment to comply with the convention against torture, said Law Minister Anisul Haq yesterday.

The minister, who presented the

country's maiden periodic report to the Committee against Torture in Geneva on Tuesday, in his concluding speech said the first engagement gave them a better understanding about ways to improve.

"On the paucity of deed, we concentrated SEE PAGE 2 COL 4

## BUSINESS

# BB unveils monetary policy for FY20

Bangladesh Bank yesterday unveiled a loose monetary policy for fiscal 2019-20 as it looks to pump in money into the economy to alleviate the banking system's prolonged liquidity crunch.

FULL STORY ON B1

## TEST OF PASTEURISED, RAW MILK

# Yet another report, more confusion

BARC tests find no harmful heavy metal, antibiotic

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

There is no harmful substance in packaged and raw milk processed and sold by local companies, the agriculture minister said yesterday, citing a latest government study.

Bangladesh Agriculture Research Council (Barc) carried out the tests this month at the SGS India, one of the world's leading testing and certification company, said Abdur Razzaque while sharing the findings at a press conference at the secretariat.

The findings are at odd with the results of multiple recent tests carried out by the BSTI, the Bangladesh Food Safety Authority,

the National Food Safety Laboratory and the Dhaka University.

Each of these tests, done at top government and private laboratories, found numerous harmful substances in milk, including detergent, pesticides, antibiotics meant for human, lead and cadmium.

The latest study comes amid concerns about the quality of packaged and non-packaged milk.

It also comes a day after Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina cast doubt over some recent studies. She also spoke about the High Court ban on production, marketing, sale SEE PAGE 2 COL 2



# Tigers suffer whitewash

SPORTS REPORTER

Instead of rallying to salvage some pride from a series that was already lost, Bangladesh put in their worst performance of a dismal series to lose the third and final ODI against Sri Lanka by 122 runs at the R Premadasa Stadium in Colombo yesterday. The defeat sealed a clean sweep of the three-match series for hosts Sri Lanka, who won SEE PAGE 2 COL 1

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## Welcome to IDP's Australia Education Event in Dhaka

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# 6 die while cleaning septic tank

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinaipur

Six men died in Joypurhat's Akkelpur upazila while cleaning a septic tank around 9:30am yesterday.

The victims first lost consciousness inside the septic tank and later died, said Kiran Kumar Roy, officer-in-charge of Akkelpur Police Station.

A unit of the upazila fire service rushed to the spot on information that six men fell unconscious inside a septic tank. They recovered tranquil bodies of the men and rushed those to Akkelpur Upazila Health Complex, the OC further said, adding that on-duty doctors at the health complex declared all six dead.

Dr Radheshyam Agarwala of Akkelpur SEE PAGE 2 COL 1

We are commemorating 2<sup>nd</sup> death anniversary of

Late **Harunar Rashid Khan Monno**,  
a pioneer of industrial revolution, educationalist,  
philanthropist, eminent politician and ex-minister,  
with great respect.

Born -17 August 1933, Died -01 August 2017

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