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SECOND EDITION



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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

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 fever 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 disease. The kit is needed to do NS1 antigen test (nonstructural protein 1). Introduced in 2006, the kit 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. Meanwhile, two more people, including a female police official, died of dengue in the capital yesterday. With them, at least 43 people died of the disease at different hospitals this year, according to doctors and sources there. 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

CATTLE-LADEN TRUCKS

IGP warns cops against taking bribe

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The IGP yesterday instructed police officials not to stop any truck carrying sacrificial animals on the highways unless there is a specific allegation. "I do not want to see any news in the media about police constables taking SEE PAGE 2 COL 4

CONVENTION AGAINST TORTURE

Dhaka to work on its commitment

Says law minister

STAR REPORT

Bangladesh strives to fulfil its commitment to complying 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 (CAT) in Geneva on Tuesday, said the first engagement with the SEE PAGE 13 COL 1

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; SC stays HC ban on milk sale by 14 brands

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

There is no harmful substance such as lead and antibiotic in packaged milk of seven local brands, the agriculture minister said yesterday, citing a latest government study. Bangladesh Agriculture Research Council (Barc) carried out the test 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 odds with the results

of multiple tests carried out recently 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. SEE PAGE 2 COL 2



Tigers suffer whitewash

MAZHAR UDDIN from Colombo

There was no change in approach, body language, game plan and execution as Bangladesh suffered a 122-run defeat against Sri Lanka in the third and final ODI at the R Premadasa Stadium in Colombo yesterday to end their dismal tour with a 3-0 whitewash. Arguably yesterday's was the worst cricketing display from the Tigers as they never SEE PAGE 2 COL 1

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Govt officials are not VIPs

HC observes, orders probe into death of student on ferry

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A High Court bench yesterday observed that government officials are merely the servants of the republic, and they are not "very important persons" (VIPs). Only the president and the prime minister of the country are the VVIPs (very, very important persons) and security issues are involved with regard to their movements, said the bench of Justice FRM Nazmul Ahasan and Justice KM Kamrul Kader, while hearing a writ petition filed in connection with the death of 13-year-old Titash Ghosh. Following the petition, SEE PAGE 11 COL 1

We are commemorating 2nd 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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