SAVAR TANNERIES Measures taken for smooth operations during Eid

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Savar

The authorities have already taken adequate measures to ensure smooth operations of factories in Savar Tannery Industrial Estate during Eidul-Azha, said Abdul Halim, secretary for Ministry of Industries.

All four modules of the Center Effluent Treatment Plant (CETP) in Savar Tannery Industrial Estate are running on trial and will provide required support during the Eid season, he added.

Besides, there is sufficient stock of salt for processing rawhide this year, he further added.

made the remarks at a press briefing in Savar Tannery Industrial Estate's auditorium. During the briefing, he said

The industries ministry secretary

construction works of Savar Tannery Industrial Estate would be completed by June 2020. Ninety-seven percent construction work of the CETP and 73 percent of the Savar Tannery Industrial Estate

have already been finished, he added.

On June 30 this year, a company -- Dhaka Tannery Industrial Estate Wastage Treatment Plant Company Limited -- was formed to manage CETP, the secretary said.

Top officials of industries ministry and Bangladesh Chemical Industries Corporation (BCIC), and chief consultant of Savar tannery were also present at the programme.

Tigers suffer

FROM PAGE 1

looked like even willing to stage a fightback, let alone create a chance for victory, as they were bundled out for 172 runs with 14 overs to spare chasing a target of 295 runs.

Whether it was bowling, batting or fielding, Bangladesh remained below-par in all three departments against their Lankan counterparts all throughout the series.

Apart from Soumya Sarkar's 69 off 86 balls - his first half-century after ten games – and Taijul Islam's unbeaten 28-ball 39, there were no substantial scores from the Tigers batsmen, with only two other batsmen reaching double figures.

Skipper Tamim Iqbal epitomised the malaise of the batting department with a score of just two, even if he was dismissed in a different manner this time, getting caught behind while trying to go for a wild drive against Kasun Rajitha. Things did not get any better for the

Anamul Haque, drafted into the playing XI after a year, wasted his opportunity, top-edging a flick against Rajitha for 14 after having struck consecutive boundaries against the same bowler.

visitors from there.

Mushfiqur Rahim, the everreliable No. 4, missed out on a substantial score for the first time in the series as he departed for 10, but Mohammad Mithun and experienced Mahmudullah Riyad were unable to make a statement of intent and continued their disappointing run.

Bangladesh kept on losing wickets at regular interval as there was not a single partnership which lasted more than 26 runs, reflecting the hapless state of the batting department.

The team had earlier made two changes to the playing eleven, with Mustafizur Rahman making way for Rubel Hossain and Mosaddek Hossain being replaced by Anamul Haque as the team management decided to increase the batting depth. Mustafizur's absence was initially thought to be due to a niggle he picked up during warm-up prior to the game, but sources inside the team later claimed that the leftarm pacer was dropped as part of a tactical move.

Sri Lanka made four changes to the team, giving all of their squad members a chance to prove themselves against a struggling Bangladesh team, and the hosts unsurprisingly decided to bat first on winning the toss.

Bangladeshi bowlers, however, made a good start, with Shafiul

Islam removing Avishka Fernando for six while Taijul and Rubel picking up the wickets of Dimuth Karunaratne and Kusal Perera for forties.

But just as it looked like Tigers

would put some pressure on the batting side, things started to slip away from them. Courtesy of some poor bowling

and catching effort from Bangladesh, Sri Lanka gained the ascendancy, riding on Angelo Matthews' 90-ball 87, featuring eight fours and a six, and Dasun Shanaka's 14-ball 30 as the home side added 106 runs in the last ten overs.

While the first match of the series will be remembered as a successful farewell from ODIs for Lasith Malinga, the last one was a tribute to another fast bowler -- Nuwan Kulasekara -- who announced his

retirement after the series. But for Bangladesh the tour will be memorable for all the wrong

reasons.

Yet another report

FROM PAGE 1

It also comes a day after Prime TO DRINK OR NOT Minister Sheikh Hasina cast doubt TO DRINK? over a recent study by some Dhaka University researchers. Hasina among consumers. also made remarks about the High Court ban on production, sale and milk or should we not? Who is right consumption of pasteurised milk of here? said Ishita Zabin, a mother of 14 companies.

The HC had imposed the ban on Sunday, after examining three and panicked to see on television separate laboratory test reports. The test found that packaged milk of these 14 companies contains antibiotics -- Oxytetracycline, Tetracycline and Ciprofloxacin -- as well as lead, a that milk contains no harmful harmful heavy metal.

These tests were carried out by said the BSTI, the sole quality control authority, at the laboratories of the Dhanmondi, shared her sentiment. Institute of Public Health, Bangladesh Council for Scientific and Industrial Energy Commission.

By yesterday, however, the Supreme Court temporarily lifted the ban on all the 14 companies, clearing the research found that more than way for them to resume production 75 percent of all pasteurised milk and sale.

and Milk Producer Ltd (Aftab), Akij Food and Beverage Ltd (Farm Fresh Milk), American Dairy Limited (MOO), Bangladesh Milk Producers' Cooperative Limited (Milk Vita), Baro Awlia Dairy Milk and Foods Ltd (Dairy Fresh), BRAC Dairy and Food brands. Project (Aarong Dairy), Danish Dairy Farm Ltd (Ayran) Ichhamoti Dairy and Food Products (PURA), Igloo Dairy Limited (Igloo), Pran Dairy Ltd (Pran Milk), Uttar Bango Dairy (Ultra), Purbo Bangla Dairy Food Industries (Arwa) and Tania Dairy and Food Products (Safe). The latest study was done on

-- Milk Vita (state-run), Aarong Milk, Farm Fresh, Igloo Milk, RD, Savar findings. Dairy and Pran Milk.

on July 16 after they were collected from Mohammadpur, Dhanmondi, Gulshan and Farmgate areas in the 11 brands. capital.

milk were collected from producers nongovernment of Rajason and Savar, and the test found no harmful substance in them as well, said the report.

minister said the samples of pasteurised and non-pasteurised milk were analysed directly and after boiling for nine minutes to examine the residue of antibiotics, sulpha drug and heavy metals.

"Analysing the research result, it can certainly be said that there is no health risk in the milk produced and marketed by [the seven] local companies," Razzaque said, hoping that the latest findings would dispel public fear.

Presenting the test report, Monirul Islam, director (nutrition) of Barc, said there was no internationally accredited laboratory in the country tests to confirm their findings. to test the quality of food items.

over the analytical capacity and the per the HC directives. quality of local laboratories," he said.

out to spread panic by preparing

reports without scientific data.

The latest test sparked confusion

"We are at a loss. Should we drink two from Mohammadpur.

She said they were shocked that several government and nongovernment organisations found harmful substances in packaged milk. "Now the government is saying

substance. It's a total confusion," she

Firoz Ahmed, a resident of "Can anyone tell me what we

should do now? We don't want to Research and Bangladesh Atomic be in such a situation. We want this confusion to end," he said. Concerns over the quality of milk grew in May last year, after an icddr,b

available on the local market were These companies are Aftab Milk unsafe for direct consumption. Worries grew further after Dhaka University researchers published their own test results on June 25 this year, saying they detected detergent

and three types of antibiotics meant

for humans in packaged milk of 10 On the same day, the BSTI submitted a report, based on a test done at its own lab, to the HC, saying they did not find any hazardous substance in the pasteurised milk of 14 brands, including some household names, sparking a debate as to which

A subsequent second test by pasteurised milk of seven companies the same DU researchers on the same samples reconfirmed their

test results to believe.

Later on July 16, Bangladesh Food The samples were sent to India Safety Authority (BFSA) submitted a report to the HC. Its test found lead and cadmium in pasteurised milk of

The BFSA did the test at the The samples of unpasteurised laboratories of six government and or-ganisations

Bangladesh Atomic Energy Commission, Bangladesh Institute, Agricultural Research At the press conference, the Bangladesh Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, Plasma Plus, WAFFEN Research and International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research, Bangladesh (icddr,b).

> The BFSA has subsequently sued 10 of these companies.

> Asked about their findings, BFSA Chairman Mahfuzul Hoque said they had their tests done at the country's leading laboratories as per the HC instructions.

"But the testing methods as well as the testing system at those laboratories do not seem reliable," he said, adding that they had even requested the court to order fur-ther

On why they did the test at those "There has always been a question laboratories, he said they did so as

The Daily Star tried to reach the He claimed a vested quarter was BSTI chairman, but his phone was found switched off.

MILK: TEST FINDINGS AND COURT ORDERS

MAY 17, 2018

75pc pasteurised milk unsafe for direct consumption, media reports say, citing icddr,b research.

MAY 20, 2018

SC lawyer Tanvir Ahmed files petition with the HC seeking its directives.

MAY 21, 2018

The HC orders formation of expert committee to test pasteurised milk and

submit report in a month. FEBRUARY, 2019 Health ministry study finds excessive

levels of lead, pesticide, antibiotic and bacteria in raw cow milk and high levels of chromium in cow feeds; says regular consumption harmful.

MAY 8, 2019

BFSA report submitted to HC finds harmful elements in most of 190 samples of raw and packaged liquid milk, curd, and fodder.

MAY 21, 2019

The HC expresses dissatisfaction at BSTI for not properly testing raw cow milk, curd and fodder and orders authorities to identify the quantity of harmful bacteria, chemicals, lead and antibiotics in them. The HC also directs BSTI and BFSA to get raw cow milk, curd and fodder examined in labs and submit test reports to it by June 23.

JUNE 25, 2019

Prof ABM Faroque, director of Biomedical Research Centre at DU, unveils findings that there are antibiotics meant for humans and detergent in packaged milk available in market after testing seven samples of widely-sold pasteurised milk brands and three samples of

JUNE 25, 2019

unpasteurised milk.

BSTI submits a report to the HC, saying

its test had not detected any hazardous substance in pasteurised milk from 14 brands.

JULY 13, 2019

Dhaka University researchers find antibiotics in milk again; detect four antibiotics for humans in 10 samples of pasteurised and non-pasteurised milk.

JULY 14, 2019

Amid controversies, the HC directs BSTI to test in a week the pasteurised milk produced by 14 companies at laboratories of IPH, icddr,b, Bangladesh Livestock Research Institute and Bangladesh Council for Scientific and Industrial Research.

JULY 16, 2019

BFSA submits a report to the HC, saying it has detected lead in pasteurised milk from 11 brands after tests at six laboratories and found lead, cadmium, and another heavy metal in raw cow milk available in market.

JULY 24, 2019

Following a July 16 HC order, the BFSA sues 10 pasteurised milk brands.

JULY 28, 2019

The HC orders authorities to stop production, distribution and sale of 14 pasteurised milk brands for the next five weeks.

JULY 30, 2019

The SC's Appellate Division clears the way for Milk Vita, Akij Food and Beverage Ltd (Farm Fresh Milk) and Pran Dairy Ltd (Pran Milk) to produce, distribute and sell pasteurised milk.

JULY 30, 2019

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina expresses concern over the HC directive banning the production, distribution, sale and consumption of milk from 14 brands.



Suffering from dengue, a 10-year-old girl propped up with pillows lies in her bed at Shaheed Suhrawardy Medical College Hospital yesterday.

RASHED SHUMON

Detection kits in short supply

The Directorate General of Health Services, however, says the number is

Meanwhile, dengue has spread to 63 districts, the DGHS said yes-terday, adding that there had been no reports of the mosquito-borne disease in Netrakona.

KIT SHORTAGE

Talking to The Daily Star, authorities of several hospitals, clinics and dialogistic centres said they were doing the NS1 test only when they find it necessary as their stocks of the kits was going down.

They said a large number of panicked people were coming for dengue tests and a few of the results were being found to be positive.

Sheikh Muhammad public relations Muniruzzaman, officer of Popu-lar Diagnostic Centre Limited's Mirpur branch, said some 500 peo-ple do the test there every day and only eight to 10 percent of them are found to have been inflected with dengue.

"You see we are facing a serious shortage of the NS1 kits. So we are not carrying out the test unless patients have high fever," he said. Abdul Quddus of Exim Bank

Hospital echoed Muniruzzaman's statement. He said the hospital on Begum

Rokeya Sarani had run out of the kits and it bought 40 more yesterday. "Those are kept for emer-gency purposes only."

ASM Humayun, manager of Al-Razi

Hospital in Tejgaon, said they tried to purchase the kits from Medical and Surgical Equipment Market in Dhaka's Topkhana Road, but those

"We are facing serious problems in treating dengue patients," he said.

were not available there.

Also, they were doing 10 to 12 NSI tests every day last week, but the demand now has risen to nearly 150, he added.

Asked about the shortage, Prof Sanya Tahmina, director of communicable disease control at the DGHS, said the government imported 40,000 NSI kits this year and has distributed them to differ-ent government hospitals in and around the capital.

"We've already completed necessary procedures to import another 50,000 kits on an emergency basis. We will get them in seven days," she said.

one lakh kits from the World Health Organization from this year, as assured by it. She also said, "We purchased

proved to be insufficient due to a huge Branch. demand. "It will be a huge challenge if the 1:40am, said Sohel Rana, assistant dengue situation continues to be

same for two more months." Prof Sanya also said many people were going for dengue tests even with light fever and that was why the demand for the kits had shot up lately.

Asked, she said they were sending

150 to 200 kits to each of the districts outside Dhaka every day. Talking to these correspondents, different traders, who privately sell NSI kits to hospitals, said they were

many were cashing in on the situation. They said it takes at least three months to import the kits by road and 15 days by air.

"There are some brokers who

also facing a crisis of the kits and that

secretly sell the kits for double the worsened yesterday afternoon. He price," said a trader at Medical and Surgical Equipment Market Topkhana Road. "Usually, one kit costs Tk 160 to Tk 180, but it was being sold for between Tk 350 and Tk 400," he said. Several other traders said the same.

Md Alauddin, owner of Medi Star Surgical at the market, said he bought 500 kits in mid-July and all of them were sold instantly. "Had I bought thousands more

I would have sold them within moments," he regretted. Khairul Islam Rajib, who works

at an adjacent shop named Genesis International, said there were some 20 to 25 authorised importers who bring the product mainly from Australia, USA, Korea and China.

"We import it from Australia and USA. We normally bring 25,000 kits every year," he said, adding each kit is usable for a year. He also said they had to destroy 10

to 20 percent of the kits im-ported last year as their expiry date was over. **DENGUE SPREADS TO 63** DISTRICTS

The DGHS said dengue cases were reported in all districts, except Netrakona.

Until yesterday, a record 17,123 people have been infected with the disease, the DGHS said, adding 1,477

hospitals in 24 hours since 8:00am on Sunday. The police official who died of dengue

DEATH

Prof Sanya said they hoped to get new dengue cases were reported at

10,000 NSI kits last year. This year, we yesterday was identified as Kohinoor bought 40,000 kits, but those have Akhter, a sub-inspector of the Special She breathed her last around

> inspector general (media) at police headquarters. Kohinoor had been running fever since July 24. Initially, she was admitted to Rajarbagh Police Lines Hospital. Her condition

> Mohammadpur's City Hospital where she died around 1:40am, he added. Another dengue patient who died yesterday was Rabiul Islam Rab-bi, said Sub-Inspector Abdul Khan of

> deteriorated and she was shifted to

the Dhaka Medical College Hospital's police outpost. Rabiul had been admitted to Kurmitola General Hospital on July 22. He was rushed to Dhaka Medical College hospital after his condi-tion

died later, the SI added. RISKY MONTHS Though July has already broken all the records of dengue cases since the first outbreak in the country in 2000, upcoming August, September and October months are also being

considered to be risky. Experts said if extensive efforts were not taken immediately, the situation

could take a turn for the worse. MINISTRY STATEMENT

In a press statement yesterday, the information ministry yesterday requested all not to be misguided by a social media campaign that asks to use toilet cleaner and bleaching powder in

basins to kill Aedes larva. Experts said those would not destroy the larvae. Rather, the environment and the human health would be harmed, it said.

HIGH DENSITY IN 98 WARDS Meanwhile, a new survey of the DGHS has found a high density of Aedes

larvae in areas under 98 wards of the two Dhaka city corpo-rations. The survey was conducted in 100

areas of the wards between July 17 and July 27. The survey said Aedes larvae or pupae was found in wet floors, plastic barrels, buckets, clay pots, used or abandoned tyres, tubes, water tanks

and discarded colour pots.

Kolkata shows the way

to different corners of the city.

The corporation now keeps an eye on accumulation of stagnant water throughout the year and closely follows hospital records to see which tests are being done and whether people are being diagnosed with the disease, reports BBC Bangla. This way, the authority concerned can take prompt measures.

The huge undertaking means that a large number of people have been dedicated to monitor the dengue situation, with plans being mulled this year to deploy drones across Kolkata to tackle the situation. Kolkata Deputy Mayor and acting

Atin Ghosh told the BBC Bangla that the corporation monitor the dengue situation in different stages.

panel mayor of the health department

wards. One group conducts awareness campaigns on the disease, while the other looks for the presence of stagnant water in their areas. Rapid action teams, comprising

by. On information, they quickly move to destroy breeding grounds of Aedes mosquitos. To take the monitoring mechanism to another level, the corporation planning to deploy drones

8-10 members, are also kept on stand-

that, among other jobs, will spray mosquito-repellent oil. A mechanism has also been put in place to diagnose dengue and provide

treatment in all 144 wards. Atin Ghosh said that most of the laboratories in India were private corporation has also made a legal and so it was difficult to find out data on patients. To address this issue, a person has been deployed in every Some 20-15 men, divided into ward only to collect information cost of the water will also be added to two groups, work in each of the 144 regarding dengue from hospitals, the building's annual holding tax.

nursing homes and diagnostic centres. The information is quickly communicated to the mosquito

controlling teams. On the dengue outbreak in Bangladesh, Atin said he had learnt

about it from newspapers. "It is a matter of concern to us. Many people come to Kolkata from Bangladesh. If any of them carries the dengue virus, it creates a possibility of the disease spreading here. Therefore, if Bangladesh wants, we are ready to

He also offered assistance in tackling mosquito populations to any

district which needed it. In yet another measure, the city provision to fine any building Tk 1 lakh, if corporation staffers find accumulated water there. The cleaning

IGP warns cops against taking bribe FROM PAGE 1 smuggling of rawhides of sacrificial police to con-duct block raids and

Tk 5 or Tk 10 from cattle-laden trucks.

Unit chiefs concerned must take necessary steps about it," an official quoted Mohammad Javed Patwary as saying. Javed was addressing the crime

conference of police at the Police Head-quarters. The Inspector General of Police also said there shouldn't be any cattle said.

market on the highways and asked

officers to take measures to stop

cattle, according to a Police Headquarters press release. He asked the superintendents of police in the districts to supervise

rape investigations after an official said incidents of rape rose recently. Police have taken a tough position

against those creating instability through spreading rumours, he

checkpoints.

action against the members of gangs of young people. The police chief also said attention

continue search operations through

He asked police to take tough

should be paid so that Rohingyas and criminals do not get passports.

He mentioned that the National Emergency Service 999 was gaining Mentioning that militancy is pop-ularity and asked police to consider the calls important. under control, Javed instructed