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FIGHTING AEDES MOSQUITO

# Import insecticide immediately

HC orders govt; new samples due in a few days, say Dhaka city corporations

ASHUTOSH SARKAR and HELEMUL ALAM

A new insecticide to kill mosquitos is expected to arrive in the country in a few days and, after necessary lab tests, it will be imported within the next couple of weeks, lawyers of the two Dhaka city corporations told the High Court yesterday.

Dhaka North City Corporation counsel Toufiq Inam and Dhaka South City Corporation counsel Sayed Ahmed Raja gave the assurance during a suo moto hearing on the dengue situation in the country that has taken an alarming turn.

During the proceedings, the HC ordered the government to "expeditiously" import effective insecticides through the two city

corporations since the existing insecticides are proving ineffective against Aedes mosquito, the carrier of dengue fever.

The court also directed the ministries of health and local government as well as the director general of the Directorate of Health Services to provide all necessary assistance to the two city corporations to facilitate the import.

The HC asked the authorities to ensure treatment for dengue patients at all government hospitals in Dhaka round the clock under special arrangements.

It also directed the government to take steps so that a doctor, not below the rank of associate professor, monitors the treatment arrangements for 24 hours. SEE PAGE 2 COL 3



A distraught mother presses a cold wet cloth against the forehead of her daughter at the capital's Shaheed Suhrawardy Medical College Hospital yesterday. Seven-year-old Jannat was admitted to the hospital with dengue on Saturday.

PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON

## AGARTALA AIRPORT India wants Bangladesh land for an expansion

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

India wants a piece of Bangladeshi land in Brahmanbaria to upgrade and expand the Agartala airport, which is set to become the third international airport in India's northeastern region by the end of this year or early next year.

India, however, did not send a detailed proposal in this regard.

Zanandra Nath Sarker, joint secretary at the civil aviation and tourism ministry, said India made a verbal proposal to Bangladesh's foreign ministry sometime in March.

"After the foreign ministry SEE PAGE 2 COL 6



AVIJIT MURDER

## 6 Ansar al Islam men indicted

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka Court yesterday framed charges against six Ansar al Islam leaders and activists, including Maj (sacked) Ziaul Haque in a case over the killing of blogger and writer Avijit Roy.

The other accused are Mozammel Hossain alias Saymon, 34, Abu Siddiq Sohel alias Sakib alias Sajid, 34, Arafat Rahman Siam alias Sajjad, 24, Akram Hossain Abir alias Adnan, 30, and Shafiqur Rahman Farabi, 27.

Zia and Akram have been absconding since the murder.

The rest of accused have been in jail. They pleaded not guilty after Judge Majibur Rahman of the Anti-Terrorism Special Tribunal read out the charges to them.

The tribunal fixed September 11 to begin the trial.

On February 26, 2015, SEE PAGE 2 COL 1

## Long queues at pathology labs

People rush to be tested for dengue; report delivery time lengthens

HELEMUL ALAM and SHAHEEN MOLLAH

"Do you want to kill my son?" a worried mother yelled at staffers of Shaheed Suhrawardy Medical College Hospital in the capital.

Her son, Mohammad Ali, 13, from Mohammadpur Geneva Camp, has had a 104-degree fever for the past three days.

At the hospital, mother and son were told that until dengue was detected, Ali would not be admitted. He was, however, showing apparent symptoms of the disease, his mother alleged.

SEE PAGE 2 COL 3

## Land taken from man on remand

Tortured, he had to transfer property to police housing project, says family

STAR REPORT

Zaher Ali signed three papers on July 26 last year, transferring his 88-decimal land in Sarulia of Demra in the capital to a housing project run by some top police officials.

But documents show he was on a five-day remand along with his son and son-in-law when the signing took place.

Family members alleged that he put his signature on those papers as police brutally tortured him and threatened to kill the other two detainees in "crossfire".

Between July 11 and July 26, Zaher had to transfer 62.5-bigha land in Rugganj and Demra to Ananda Police Housing Society. Police also grabbed his three houses in Demra and took away his three private cars, they added.

Additional Deputy Inspector General of Police Gazi Mozammel Haque, director of the housing project, signed all the documents to get the land transferred.

Legal experts say an accused cannot hand over property to anyone while in police custody. SEE PAGE 17 COL 2

## Father killed at daughter's wedding

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A man was stabbed to death and his wife injured at their daughter's wedding allegedly by a stalker of the bride in the capital's Moghbazar yesterday.

The dead is Dulal Mia, 45, a resident of Dilu Road.

His wife Firoza Khatun, 40, was undergoing treatment at Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

The incident took place around 1:30pm at a community centre, when one Sajib Ahmed Rokey, 22, entered the venue by jumping over the wall. At that time, only 15 to 20 family members and friends were present at the venue.

"Sajib tried to forcibly take away the bride. As her parents tried to stop him, he started stabbing indiscriminately, SEE PAGE 2 COL 3

## PVT INLAND CONTAINER DEPOTS Extra charges rile exporters, importers

BGMEA says it won't pay the additional charges

DWAIPAYAN BARUA, Ctg

Owners of the 19 private inland container depots increased their tariffs yesterday amid strong opposition from businesses and in violation of the ICD Policy 2016.

According to the policy, the Bangladesh Inland Container Depots Association (BICDA) needs to first apply to the ministry for a tariff review, while only a tariff committee can propose revised tariffs. Those, in turn, need to be approved by the ministry.

The BICDA, however, say the last increase in tariff around three years ago was not enough and the latest committee has done next to nothing to revise the rates since.

Also yesterday, the shipping ministry held a meeting with all the businesses on the decision of tariffs, but failed to reach a consensus.

Following the meeting, the Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association yesterday evening directed the SEE PAGE 2 COL 1

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