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DENGUE PREVALENCE

Upscale areas more prone

Govt surveys show; 5 to 35 age group more vulnerable

BISHAKHA DEVNATH and HELEMUL ALAM

Dengue infections and Aedes mosquito prevalence are higher in areas with too many multistory buildings and shiny infrastructures adorned with decorative greeneries, although there are a few exceptions, analysis of two government surveys shows.

Take Baridhara, in Dhaka North City Corporation. It is one of the upscale areas in the capital and home to most foreign missions. But larvae presence in buildings is high here, and 50-75 people from this area have taken treatment for dengue from May 1 to August 2.

In contrast, Gabtoli, a poorly maintained area inhabited mostly by low-income people, has so far seen 25-50 people taking dengue treatment during the same period. No Aedes larvae was found here during the survey last month.

In Baridhara, Aedes larvae was found in 50-70 percent buildings during the survey done by the health directorate. It is almost the same in Banani, Gulshan-1 and Gulshan-2.

In Dhaka south, areas such as Meradia, Goran, Sayedabad, Muradpur and Hazaribagh have seen fewer patients admitted to hospitals than Lalmatia, Segunbagicha, SEE PAGE 2 COL 2



A child with dengue falls asleep while sitting on his bed at Mughda Medical College Hospital yesterday. PHOTO: SK ENAMUL HAQ

OC, SI closed over gang rape of Khulna woman

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Two policemen, including an OC, were withdrawn and closed from Khulna Railway Police Station yesterday over the alleged gang rape of a woman in the district.

OC Osman Gani Pathan and Sub-Inspector Nazmul Haque were attached to Pakshey Railway Police Lines, said Firoz Ahmed, assistant superintendent of police (Kushtia Railway Circle).

"The action has been taken for a proper investigation into the allegation. It is for ensuring that they [the accused] cannot influence the probe," said Firoz, also the chief of a three-member probe committee formed by the Railway Police over the incident.

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DENGUE OUTBREAK Situation worsens

Further spread feared during Eid vacation

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The dengue situation keeps getting worse every day with the authorities fearing further deterioration during Eid holidays.

At least 2,428 dengue patients got admitted to hospitals across the country in 24 hours since 8:00am Tuesday, taking the total to 32,340 this year, according to Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS).

The number of patients getting admitted every day has been increasing since August 3 and Bangladesh never had more than 11,000 dengue cases in a year.

Meanwhile, two people died after being diagnosed with dengue yesterday, taking the unofficial death toll to 69.

Aulad Hossain, 32, who had been admitted to Dhaka Medical College Hospital, died around 4:30am, Assistant Director of DMCH Naseeruddin told The Daily Star.

At the hospital, 54 dengue patients got admitted in the 24 hours. The number of patients is 143 at Mitford Hospital and 100 at Mughda

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REPORTS ON SC Journo need to bear great responsibility

Observes HC

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday expressed hope that journalists would bear great responsibility while preparing and publishing reports on Supreme Court proceedings.

"This holds most true for those burdened with the task of delivering news to the public. Being the mouthpiece of the agents of society and state, we hold journalists in high esteem and thus

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