Ahmed Fazlur Rahman Bahar passes away

City Desk

Former President of Bangladesh Indenting Agents Association Ahmed Fazlur Rahman Bahar has passed away on Tuesday. The 84-year-old was suffering from old-age complications, says a press release.

Rahman was a Deputy Honorary Consul of Austria. He was the owner of Liberty International; a member of FBCCI; and former director of Bangladesh-Malaysia Chamber of Commerce & Industry. He was associated with Lions Club and several other social organisations.

He is the elder brother of Mahbubur Rahman, president of International Chamber of Commerce Bangladesh.

His namaj-e-janaza was held on the same day after Zohr prayer at Siddheswari. He was laid to rest at Banani Graveyard.

Rahman left behind two sons and two daughters, grandchildren and a host of relatives, friends and well-wishers to mourn him.

Tenants in

FROM PAGE 3

who have the ability, should be more considerate.

Contacted, LGRD Minister Tajul Islam said they have received a request letter from the BGMEA to provide support to their workers.

"Based on the request from the BGMEA president, we have issued letters to all city corporations, municipalities and union parishads to take necessary steps and reduce 50 percent house rent of RMG workers," he said.

The minister said authorities will sit with owners and tenants; as they cannot impose it directly on owners.

Asked, Dhaka North City Corporation Mayor Atiqul Islam said it is indeed a dilemma and they have to sit with both parties -- landlords and tenants -- to come up with a solution.

Ad agencies

FROM PAGE 3

Year and Eid-ul-Fitr, and Eid-ul-Azha will be the same.

"Although economic activities remain stalled since March, house rents and other expenses are being incurred. Paying workers is now a big challenge. As a result, there is a huge pressure on working capital. Such stress is difficult to handle," Ramendu said.

Asaduzzaman Noor said, "We did not ask the government for help just for us. Newspaper and television advertisements have decreased. In some organisations, the advertising division has collapsed."

"If the government does not help, many institutions will close, and a lot of people will lose their jobs. We don't want to lose our long-time colleagues," the former minister observed.

Munir Ahmed Khan said advertising agencies never went to the government for help; they have taken care of themselves.

"Now, we need some help to survive," he pleaded

Members of AAAB's executive council Sanaul Arefin and Syed Gousul Alam also spoke.

AAAB, that was formed in 1978, represents all major advertising agencies in the country.

Healthcare

FROM PAGE 3

positive within the time frame of this research.

Family planning has also been also hampered, as 80 percent satellite family planning clinics can no longer operate, because house or spot owners are not providing them any space for sessions, according to the report.

Besides, 33 percent respondents mentioned facing problems in availing general health services from their previous health facility centres.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ON THE RISE

Of the female respondents, 97 percent mentioned that they faced personal or familial issues, 38 percent mentioned they had developed conflict with their husbands, and 33 percent complained about being physically abused by their husbands.

The women mentioned an increase in mental pressure and emotional burden, as they are facing severe financial crisis after their husbands lost their jobs, and they are also panicked due to the pandemic.

Addressing the discussion, Gazipur Civil Surgeon Khairuzzaman said they faced some problems regarding EPI coverage but could overcome those.

He said 25 new doctors have been appointed in the district recently and the civil surgeon's office is trying to provide necessary health services in the district.

He urged different factory owners to maintain proper health guidelines to ensure hygiene and health safety for workers there.

Addressing as chief guest, Gazipur City Corporation Mayor Jahangir Alam said they are ready to provide any sort of support to health workers to fight the pandemic.

In his welcome address, Care Bangladesh Deputy Country Director Prabodh Devkota said collective action from all including donors, NGOs, government and private sector actors is required to fight the pandemic.

Jahirul Alam, head of urban health at Care Bangladesh presented the report while the discussion was addressed, among others, by Mohiuddin Osmani, joint chief (planning) of health ministry.

250 isolation

FROM PAGE 3

Surgeon, a total of 972 persons have tested Covid-19 positive in the district as of yesterday, while a total of 127 patients have recovered, and 41 have died.

That means, a total of 804 patients swere currently undergoing treatment.

Excluding the 250, a total of 180 isolation beds are available at three Chattogram hospitals dedicated for those infected with the novel coronavirus, the office sources said.

However, such patients are also being admitted to 14 upazila health complexes.

According to Chattogram Civil Surgeon's office, a total of 315 isolation beds are present in the city and upazilas for treating patients infected with the novel coronavirus.

As the number of isolation beds is only 315 against 804 patients, a total of 489 infected persons have not had the opportunity to get hospitalised.

Asked, DGHS Divisional Director Dr Hasan Shahriar said most of Covid-19 patients have "no symptoms or mild symptoms" and so they receive treatment staying isolated at their houses.

"We will use Railway Hospital and Chattogram City Corporation General Hospital for treating Covid-19 patients, if needed," he said.

Patients in Ctg

FROM PAGE 3

to many port city residents, they also mentioned that patients have to wait for five to seven days to test for Covid-19 and also to get reports. Also, for them to go to the hospital and get tested, they have to wait in long queues for hours without maintaining any physical distance.

About Jamshed, Prof Dr MA Hasan, director of BITID, said the patient was suffering from heart disease and required ICU support. "So our duty doctor referred him to CMCH for ICU support," he added.

Contacted, SM Nazer Hossain, central vice president of Consumers Association of Bangladesh (CAB), said, "Like the banker, many patients in Chattogram are deprived of treatment. By denying patients treatment, hospitals are depriving them of their basic right. Covid-19 or non-Covid-19 criteria should not be taken into consideration when it's about saving someone's life."

Dr Mahfuzur Rahman, convener of Public Health Rights Protection Committee, Chattogram, said research shows that hearts and kidneys of many Covid-19 patients get affected. So, every dedicated Covid-19 hospital should have cardiologists and nephrologists so suspected patients are not referred to any other hospital.

"We need to increase testing facilities so that people can get test reports quickly and get treatment accordingly," he said, adding, "Besides, a separate flu corner should be introduced in every hospital to treat Covid-19 suspected patients."

Prof Shakeel Ahmed, an epidemiologist and in-charge of BITID laboratory, said if a separate flu corner is introduced in every hospital and doctors are equipped with PPE, no patient, whether Covid-19 suspected or not, would be deprived of treatment.

Returnees will need healthcare

FROM PAGE 12

restrictions, including curfew and shutdown, as well as imposed air travel ban.

IOM, the United Nations' migration agency, in partnership with Brac is focused on providing assistance to vulnerable migrants returning from the European Union countries and looking to secure additional funding to assist vulnerable migrants, particularly those returning from Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries where there have been "large-scale, sector-wide retrenchments following the decline in oil prices", said the statement.

With EU support and under the coordination of the expatriates' welfare ministry, IOM is assisting migrants stranded abroad and vulnerable migrants who have returned to Bangladesh from the EU, it said, adding that 806 vulnerable migrants, returning from the EU countries, have been traced since March.

They were provided with Covid-19-related information, and counselled on how to cope with the adverse impacts of the pandemic, including mobility restrictions, unemployment, and growing debt.

After a needs and vulnerability assessment to identify the most vulnerable, eligible returnees will be provided with an immediate cash grant, long- term reintegration support, skills training, and psychosocial counselling support, IOM said in the statement.

Besides, support and counselling are provided to callers to hotline set up by IOM for migrants and promoted and accessed through www.probashihelpline.com.

Since March, 1,11,470 migrants reached out via the website, either through social media interactions or through app-based calls, it said.

Expatriates' Welfare Ministry Secretary Ahmed Munirus Saleheen said the ministry is involved in many initiatives to support migrants.

Ambassador Rensje Teerink, head of EU delegation to Bangladesh, said the EU stands ready to help governments to address the negative impact of the pandemic -- on the short, medium and long term -- in particular with the most vulnerable communities which include migrants.

Brac Executive Director Asif Saleh said, "… In this crisis, migrant workers are suffering tremendously, and we need to prioritise our support for them both at home and abroad."

In addition to providing support to vulnerable migrants, IOM is supporting the government to respond to the Covid-19 outbreak, build capacity at points of entry, and provide humanitarian support to Rohingya refugees and vulnerable members of the host community in 18 camps and settlements in Cox's Bazar.

Actor Ajmeri Zaman

FROM PAGE 12

and Mustafa Monwar. In 1966, she appeared in Tahmina Banu's drama, Tridhara, alongside Syed Ahsan Ali Sydney and Lili Chowdhury, wife of Munir Chowdhury.

Among the first generation of actors in the industry, Ajmeri Zaman Reshma was praised for her performances not only in Bangladesh but also throughout the Indian subcontinent.

"She had tremendous acting skills," said eminent actor, director and scriptwriter Mamunur Rashid. "She went on to expand her fame with works like Raja Shonashhi and many other notable productions. Alongside Bangladeshi ventures, she also worked in Urdu productions in her career. She has been away from the industry for many years.

Student union sweeps Ducsu

FROM PAGE 12

the other seat. Mujahidul Islam Selim and Mahbub Zaman are elected as the new vice president and general secretary respectively. Bangladesh Students Union also wins a full-panel victory in Rucsu (Rajshahi University Central Students' Union) elections.

ROOPPUR NUCLEAR POWER PROJECT WILL BE RESUMED

Dr Mafiz Chowdhury, minister for science and technology, informs today that the government is planning to resume the long-awaited Rooppur Nuclear Power project. The project had been adopted in 1961, for which 260 acres of land were acquired in 1963. However, the project could not make much headway since then.

The minister further says that the government is preparing a power development plan with an aim to reach power to every household. He seeks active support from the scientists and engineers in this regard.

SUGAR SHORTAGE CONTINUES

There has been an acute shortage of sugar in the capital for the last few weeks. It is reported that there is a good reserve of sugar in the mills in North Bengal. Due to the unavailability of transport and poor communication system these reserves cannot be supplied to sugar-scarce areas.

SOURCE: May 22, 1972 issue of Dainik Bangla.

3 tests crucial for containing transmission

FROM PAGE 12

The accuracy level of PCR test depends on the efficiency of swab collection from throat and nose. Its false positive of false negative can be between 30 and 40 percent, Prof Muzaherul further said.

"Our health system has a huge management problem. Are we prepared if 12 crore people of the country are infected and five percent of them are to go through hospital treatment?" he asked.

Prof Muzaherul raised the question at a time when 386 people died of coronavirus and the number of total infection was 26,738.

Meanwhile, a team of Gonoshasthaya Kendra, led by Dr Bijon Kumar Sil, developed Rapid Dot Blot kit that can test both antibody in blood and antigen in saliva.

Gonoshasthaya Kendra applied for registration of the kit in mid-March, but has yet to get approval for mass production. The kit is now going through performance trial at the Bangabandhsu Sheikh Mujib Medical University (BSMMU).

At the seminar yesterday, Dr Bijon said no single test should be considered gold standard. Authorities should go for both antibody and antigen tests.

"The new coronavirus can last in saliva longer than that in droplets of sneezing. If saliva is left on the soil, it dries and then the virus can mix into the air," he said, adding that they have found good result by antigen test in saliva.

Dr AK Azad Chowdhury, a noted bio-chemist and former vice chancellor of Dhaka University, said if anybody is found negative in antibody test, a PCR test can be conducted on him for a comprehensive result.

Antibody and antigen tests may not be 100 percent accurate, but large-scale and quick tests are possible through this, he said.

Prof Kamrul Hasan Khan, former vice chancellor of BSMMU, congratulated Dr Bijon Kumar Sil for developing the Rapid Dot Blot, and added that there was nothing to make controversy out of it.

The kit is now undergoing trial at BSMMU, and if it is found successful, it will be fine, he said.

However, so far antibody tests are being used mainly for surveillance on population who developed immunity, not for diagnosis.

On the other hand, antigen test is yet to be used by any developed country and that there should be caution about its use.

He also said Gonoshasthay's way of dealing with the drug administration and blaming it for delay in approving the kit was not appropriate. Approving a kit has a rule that should be followed, he added.

Gonoshasthaya Kendra Founder and Trustee Dr Zafrullah Chowdhury said it is an emergency situation and the countries like USA and UK are issuing emergency authorisation of drugs, kits and vaccines.

"We should go for antibody and antigen tests alongside PCR tests for the sake of saving our people, our economy. We would also request BSMMU to complete the test before the Eid holiday begins because infection is going up every day and it's an emergency," he said.

Voices for Eid bonuses, pay, work get louder

FROM PAGE 12

managing director of Reza Fashions Ltd, for his comments as he did not receive phone calls.

Several hundred workers of two garment factories in Narayanganj demonstrated for full Eid bonuses and salary for the month of May. Some of them blocked Dhaka-Adamjee-Shimrail road.

In Chattogram, workers of a factory have been demanding bonuses for the last two days.

Workers of Ittadi Jeans Ltd blocked Muradpur-Oxygen road for three hours since 9:00am to 12:00 noon yesterday.

The agitators said they gathered in front of the factory gate in the morning as the authorities earlier promised them that their bonuses would be paid yesterday. But they did not get their bonuses.

Amena Khatun, a sewing machine operator of the factory, said, "They promised us that they will give our bonuses today [yesterday], so we withdraw the demonstration."

The authorities agreed to give them 50 percent of their bonuses in a meeting with police, she said.

Priton Sarkar, officer-in-charge of Bayazid Bostami Police Station, they held a meeting with top officials of the factory and the authorities promised them of paying the bonuses as soon as possible.

Later, the workers withdrew the demonstration.

Meanwhile, leaders of Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA) and Bangladesh Knitwear Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BKMEA) in a joint statement threatened to shut their factories if the incidents of unrest were not stopped.

Many factory owners have yet to get loans from the government announced Tk 5,000 crore stimulus package because of their insufficient documents.

The statement also said some factories were failing to pay their workers as they were short of cash for not getting payment from their buyers and for work orders from their international retailers and brands.

Our correspondents in Savar, Narayanganj, and Chattogram contributed to this report.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Office of the Executive Engineer, DPHE
Bagerhat District, Bagerhat

শেখ হাসিনার মূলনীতি
গ্রাম শহরের উন্নতি

Memo No. 46.03.0100.061.07.032.15-554 Dated: 20/05/2020

e-GP Tender Notice No. 20 (2019-20)

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (http://www.eprocure.gov.bd) for the procurement of the following works. Details are given below:

Sl. No.	Package No.	Tender ID & Ref. No.	Description of works	Tender closing date & time	Tender opening date & time
1	VWSP-1751	461582, PD, VWSP, DPHE, MEMO No. 303, Dated-09/03/2020	Excavation of 02 Nos. pond construction fencing & plantation at Rampal upazila in Bagerhat district under village water supply project VWSP DPHE. FY-2019-2020	10/06/2020 16.00pm	10/06/2020 16.00pm

The interested persons/firm may visit the website www.eprocure.gov.bd to get the details of the tender.

This is an online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copy will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP System Portal is required.

Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd)

F M Ismail Hossain
Executive Engineer

GD-885

চট্টগ্রাম বন্দর কর্তৃপক্ষ

প্রকৌশল বিভাগ

নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলী/নির্মাণ এর দপ্তর, বন্দর ভবন, কক্ষঃ ২১৯, ফোনঃ ২৮১৭৩৮৪, পিএবিএক্সঃ ২৫১০, website: www.cpa.gov.bd

Memo No. 18.04.0000.327.07.001.20.2212 Dated: 19/05/2020

e-Tender Notice
Open Tendering Method (OTM)

Sl. No.	Tender/Proposal ID	Invitation Ref. No.	Name of Works	Tender Closing Date & Time	Tender Opening Date & Time
1	436934	163090.01	Construction of a 10 (Ten)-storied B-Type Building (Block No. 5) for accommodation of CPA staff at North Residential Area.	30/06/2020 at 12:30pm	30/06/2020 at 12:30pm

This is an online tender where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted.

To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP System Portal (http://www.eprocure.gov.bd) is required. The fees for downloading the e-Tender documents from the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through any registered bank's branches within the date mentioned in Tender Notice. Further information & guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

Shaif Uddin Ahmed
Executive Engineer/Construction
Chittagong Port Authority

GD-882

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Office of the Principal
Dhaka Medical College Hospital

DMC/2020/ Dhaka

E-Tender Notice

Sl. No.	Tender ID	Description	Tender opening date	Remarks
1	462797	Supply of Medical & Surgical Requisite	08-Jun-2020 12:30	N/A

This is an online tender, where only e-Tenders will be accepted in e-GP Portal, no offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender please register on e-GP System Portal (https://www.eprocure.gov.bd).

Prof. Dr. Khan Abul Kalam Azad
Principal
Dhaka Medical College Hospital
E-mail: pe@dmc.gov.bd

GD-884