

ENGLISH-MEDIUM SCHOOLS

Guardians seek 50pc tuition waiver

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Parents of students studying at English-medium school yesterday formed a human chain demanding 50 percent tuition waiver from all the schools, as the authorities are only conducting online classes.

Around 200 guardians of four schools, under the banner of Bangladesh English Medium School Parents Forum, staged demonstration in front of Hurdco International School in the capital's Bashundhara area.

Students' parents from Hurdco International School, DPS STS School, Sir John Wilson School and Play Pen School joined the human chain, said forum general secretary AZM Salahuddin.

Its president AKM Ashraful Haque and Salahuddin, among others, spoke at the programme. They alleged that many school authorities are refusing to give password and link for online classes to the students who have not paid full tuition fees amid this coronavirus crisis.

"This is inhuman," said Salahuddin.

The speakers said many parents of English-medium students -- who are working at private institutions or operating small or medium businesses -- are facing huge financial crisis amid the pandemic.

They also put forward a six-point demand -- including ensuring quality education at all such schools by formulating an acceptable policy, and formation of school management committee with representation from guardians.

Keeping the tuition and other fees of English-medium schools at an acceptable level and formation of an autonomous regulatory body to oversee activities of the institutions were also among the demands.

They said studentship of any student should not be cancelled due to delay in payment of tuition fees or non-payment during this crisis.

Due to the coronavirus outbreak, education in Bangla and English medium schools are suffering. All educational institutions remained closed since March 17. The closure was extended till August 6.

Earlier on July 8, the parents' forum held a press conference where they raised the demands.



Pandemic or not, when it comes to following traffic rules, it's still the same scenario in the capital. Vehicles still move about without a care, which resulted in a long tailback at Mirpur Science Lab area yesterday. A pleasant commute seems like a far-fetched dream without proper enforcement of the rules.

PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

Two killed in road accidents in capital

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Two persons were killed in separate road accidents in the city's Airport and Uttara areas in the last two days.

One of the deceased was identified as Faisal Kabir (42), a garment buying house official, who died at an accident around airport area.

The identity of the other victim, a woman aged around 35, could not be known as of the filing of this report.

In the airport area, Faisal died after his private car hit a parked cargo truck from the back.

A resident of Uttara Sector-6, Faisal had come out of his residence around 4am driving his private car.

He sustained severe injuries from the collision, said Moshui Alam, a sub-inspector of Airport Police Station.

He was rushed to Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) where doctors declared him dead around 8am, he added.

Meanwhile in Uttara Sector-6, an unidentified woman sustained severe injuries after a microbus hit her near the Abdur Razzak School around 8pm on Wednesday night.

She was rushed to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital where doctors declared her dead around 11pm.

Palash Chandra Sarker, a sub-inspector of Uttara East Police Station, confirmed the matter.

Both the bodies were kept at DMCH mortuary for autopsy.

MARCH 22 TO JULY 11

1,776 died with Covid symptoms: CGS report

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Some 1,776 people have died after showing Covid-19 symptoms from March 22 to July 11 in the country, said a report of Dhaka University's Centre for Genocide Studies.

It, however, said all the deaths might not have been related to Covid-19, as many of the deceased tested negative.

According to the report, highest 552 people died with Covid-19 symptoms in Chattogram division, followed by 371 in Dhaka division, 227 in Khulna, 210 in Barishal and 183 in Rajshahi. Also, 95 people died in Sylhet, 81 in Rangpur and 57 in Mymensingh showing Covid-19 symptoms, the report added.

The CGS shared the report styled "Covid-19 Graphics" with the media yesterday. It is the 14th edition of a series of reports by Bangladesh Peace Observatory, a CGS initiative.

The report was prepared based on news reports published or aired by 25 media outlets, including national and local dailies, online news sites, and television channels.

The latest report said some 87 people were arrested in connection with 84 incidents of spreading rumour over Covid-19 in the country.

It said 583 people were picked up and another 11,475 fined between March 8 and July 11 for committing various offences related to the virus outbreak.

The offences included relief embezzlement, arranging social gatherings, violation of social distancing rules, selling counterfeit safety gears and oxygen cylinders, and traveling without face masks.

Amid coronavirus pandemic, 212 protests took place in the country, said the report. Also, 135 incidents of violence related to novel coronavirus took place in the country which caused deaths of 18 people and 553 injuries.

Tourist guide found dead in Jaflong

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

A tourist guide was found dead at Jaflong area of Sylhet's Gowainghat upazila on Wednesday afternoon.

Deceased Saddam Hossain (30), of Kalinagar village in the upazila, was a professional tourist guide and photographer.

His cousin Alamgir Hossain, general secretary of Jaflong Tourist Guide and Studio Owners' Association, said, "Saddam went missing around 8am (on Wednesday) after he went out from home. Around 5pm in the afternoon, locals found him dead at Greenpark area of Jaflong."

On information, police recovered his body and sent it to Sylhet MAG Osmani Medical College Hospital for autopsy, police said.

"A blood-stained knife was recovered from the spot, leading to suspicions that he was murdered," said Abdul Ahad, officer-in-charge of Gowainghat Police Station.

2 more policemen die from Covid-19

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Two more police personnel, who earlier tested Covid-19 positive, died at Central Police Hospital yesterday.

They are -- Chhoton Deb (29), a constable of Special Branch of Cox's Bazar District Police; and Sirajul Islam (48), a constable of Uttara Division of Dhaka Metropolitan Police.

Chhoton was admitted to the hospital more than a month ago after he had tested positive for coronavirus.

A week ago, he was shifted to the ICU where he breathed his last around 1:30am, said Saiful Islam Shanto, an additional superintendent of police, at the hospital.

Cox's Bazar Superintendent of Police ABM Masud Hossain expressed deep shock at his death. The body was sent to his village home in Chattogram.

Meanwhile, Sirajul died at the hospital around 4:30am, says a press release from Police Headquarters.

He joined Bangladesh Police on January 10, 1994. He left behind his wife, two sons and a daughter. The body was sent to his village home in Trishal, Mymensingh.

With them, so far 53 police personnel have died across the country after being infected with Covid-19 while discharging their duties.

As of Tuesday, total 13,032 members of police were infected with Covid-19, according to Police Headquarters.

Of the infected, nearly 9,500 recovered and most of them rejoined works, it said.

Meanwhile, a member of Bangladesh Ansar and Village Defence Party, who died with Covid-19 symptoms on Saturday, tested positive yesterday, said a statement.

Mizanur Rahman (45) -- an assistant district commandant of Ansar VDP in Bagerhat, became the fourth member of the force to die from the virus.

87pc of

FROM PAGE 3

Respondents in Mymensingh and Sylhet divisions faced higher food shortage, while those in Rajshahi were deprived of nutritious food most.

It said about half the surveyed people received small food and cash support under different government and non-government initiatives.

During the shutdown, about 7 percent respondents changed occupation and turned into day labourers or farm workers.

As the shutdown was during Boro season, farm workers had sufficient work opportunities, it said.

The organisation suggested that the government increase its various support programmes including cash support to make emergency food support available to

poor people.

RFB Chairman Qazi Kholiqzaman Ahmad said the government should increase support for the poor and involve private sector NGOs in its initiatives.

He stressed the necessity for properly implementing government-announced stimulus packages.

Addressing the event as chief guest, food secretary Nazmanara Khanum affirmed that the country's overall progress has "slowed down a little" at present.

She said the government has provided food support to about 5 crore countrymen, including nutritious food for mothers and children.

However, it has to be agreed that overall food and nutrition security was affected during the pandemic, she added.



Selim Uddin travels to his Boalkhali village residence from Chattogram city's Chashma Hill residential area, failing to maintain his family in the city because of the losses he incurred in his small business. The photo was taken on Kalurghat Bridge on Wednesday.

PHOTO: RAJIB RAIHAN

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E-Tender Notice-01/2020-21
e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement as below:
Procurement Method: Limited Tendering Method (LTM).

Sl. No.	Tender ID	Package No.	Name of work	Document price (Tk)	Tender security (Tk)
01	445448	e-Tender/NBIDGPS/PER/PERU/2019-20/W1.08303	Construction of Uttar Manupur GPS (NBIDGPS-1 Project)	20000.00	2025000.00

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 through online at any branches of registered banks branches up to last selling 05.08.2020, 17.00pm, closing 06.08.2020 14.00pm and opening 06.08.2020 14.00pm. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

Harashit Sarkar
Upazila Engineer
LGED, Pirojpur Sadar, Pirojpur
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GD-1150

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Dilip Kumar Paul
General Manager

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Essay contest

FROM PAGE 3
The contest is not open to winners of previous editions.
For online submission, one can email a Microsoft Word file using the font SutonnyMJ to abulmansurahmad@gmail.com. Address for physical submissions is: Emran Mahfuz, coordinator, Abul Mansur Ahmad Essay Contest 2019, The Daily Star Centre, 64-65 Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Dhaka-1215.

Ganasamhati

FROM PAGE 3
"Forgery over coronavirus test certificate is similar to genocide -- due to this fraud, the virus has spread all over the country and the country's economy is ruined," he claimed.
In his speech, Nagarik Oikya Convener Mahmudur Rahman Manna said the government has completely failed to deal with the coronavirus epidemic.
"Realising such deadlock, many leaders of the ruling party and the government's ministers have started fleeing the country; the finance minister is not in the country when an economic crisis is going on. Why did he leave the country, how did he go? We do not know," he said.
Manna hailed the sit-in programme and urged all other democratic political forces to extend support to such movement against "the government's misrule".
Among others, Biplobi Workers' Party general secretary Saiful Haq, Left Democratic Alliance Coordinator Bazlur Rashid Firoz and recently dissolved Dhaka University Central Students' Union (Ducusu) Vice President (VP) Nurul Haque Nur also spoke at the sit-in programme.

Ensure strict

FROM PAGE 3
The infection rate at the area was 40 percent at the beginning of the lockdown.
He also directed to maintain home quarantine of Covid-19 patients strictly to stop further spread of the virus.
Councillor of ward-41 Sorowar Hossain Alo and representative of IEDCR informed the meeting that 28 teams have started going door to door to motivate people from today to give samples for the test.
Residents of the area will be able to take the test completely free of cost.

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