



THIS CHAIR IS NOT FOR SITTING ... With this manhole cover in the middle of the street gone missing in the capital's Arambagh, locals have placed a broken chair frame and a wooden box to demarcate the gape, so vehicles can steer clear of danger. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

Moderate to heavy rainfall likely this week

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The country may experience moderate to heavy rain in the next three to four days as a depression has formed over Bay of Bengal.

The Met office asked maritime ports to hoist local cautionary signal number-3.

Due to a depression over Bay of Bengal, many parts of the country may face light to heavy rain from today, said meteorologist Abdur Rahman Khan.

It may fade after a day or two, but rain may continue across the country, as monsoon will be active, he said.

The Met office predicts light to moderate rain and thunder showers accompanied by temporary gusty wind in places in Khulna, Barishal, Chattogram and Sylhet divisions, and at one or two places in Rangpur, Rajshahi, Mymensingh and Dhaka divisions.

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION IN CTG
No care for health guidelines
Transport workers, passengers blame each other

ARUN BIKASH DEY, Ctg

Health guidelines are not being followed in public transports in Chattogram, increasing the risk of worsening coronavirus situation.

The government has instructed transport owners and workers to carry passengers half of the vehicle's capacity and to keep one of every two seats vacant to maintain social distance. It has also increased fare 60 percent so that vehicle owners do not incur loss.

The instructions were followed only for around 15 days in Chattogram after it were imposed, said locals.

According to transport leaders, around 1,200 mini buses and 2,000 human hauliers ply on 12 routes in the port city every day.

Passengers and transport workers blame each other for the violation of health rules.

"When the government decided to resume public transports with following health directives, we appreciated the move. Even we also accepted to pay 60 percent additional fare," said Abdus Sattar Roni, general secretary of South Chattogram Passengers' Welfare Association.

"The transport workers followed the rules for two to three weeks and thereafter they started taking passengers like in the past without maintaining physical distance," he said.

Now they take passengers as many as they can with that extra fare, he added.

"The drivers do not start vehicles until all the seats are filled up," he told The Daily Star. "When any passenger protests, they are humiliated by transport workers," Roni said.

Sulata Chowdhury, a resident from Chawkbazar, said she faced such a situation in a bus while she was going

to New Market from her residence on Wednesday. "When I protested, they asked me to get down..."

Transport owners and law enforcement agencies especially the traffic department should be held responsible for the situation, she said.

On the other hand, Imran Hossain, line secretary of Chattogram Auto-rickshaw Auto-tempo Workers' Union, blamed the passengers for violating the rules.

"The passengers do not pay heed to our words when we forbid them to board vehicles violating health rules," he said. "Many of them said, 'there is no more coronavirus...'"

When asked why they charge passengers extra then, Imran said they have nothing to do with the fare set by the government in consultation with the owners.

Contacted, Tarun Dasgupta, general secretary of City Bus Owners' Association, Chattogram, admitted that public vehicles were realising extra fare from passengers.

"We instructed the workers to follow health guidelines and not to realise fare more than 60 percent; but in many cases, we get complaints of violation of the instructions," he said.

Contacted, Ilias Kanchan, chairman of Nirapad Sarak Chai, said health guidelines are actually not being maintained in public transports, posing threat to further deterioration of Covid-19 situation.

Mohammad Shahidullah, deputy commissioner (traffic) of Chattogram Metropolitan Police, said they file around 200 cases a day on different routes against the vehicles for violating traffic and health rules.

"Passengers also have to be aware of health guidelines," he said.

ATTACK ON PEERS
CMCH intern doctors go on work abstention

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Intern doctors at Chattogram Medical College Hospital went on a work stoppage yesterday, protesting an alleged attack on two of their fellows the day before.

MA Auwal Rafi, joint convener of Intern Doctors' Association at CMCH and vice president of CMC Central Students Union, alleged that their rival group attacked the two with sticks at the city's Gulzar intersection around 11:30pm on Thursday.

Osman Gani, convener of the association; and Sunny Hasnain Prantik, a fifth-year student of the college, were going to Chawkbazar Police Station to file a case following a scuffle that took place on Thursday evening between two Bangladesh Chhahtra League groups. They belonged one of the factions, said Rafi.

Immediately after the attack, the injured two were admitted to CMCH, he said. "We will continue the work stoppage until the authorities take punitive action against the attackers," he added.

Contacted, CMCH Director Brig Gen SM Humayun Kabir said, to settle the matter, he will soon hold a meeting with all departmental heads where the student leaders from both the groups will be present.



PHOTO: STAR

Interns of CMCH gathered in front of the hospital yesterday to protest the alleged attack on their peers.

Police official dies from Covid-19

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A police officer died from Covid-19 at Central Police Hospital Dhaka early yesterday.

The deceased, Suman Ali (38), was inspector (investigation) of Baraigram Police Station in Natore.

He was admitted to the hospital on August 2 after testing Covid-19 positive. He was later put on life-support as his condition deteriorated, says a press release of Police Headquarters.

With him, at least 67 members of Bangladesh Police died from Covid-19 while discharging duties across the country.

Hailing from Chapainawabganj's Shibganj upazila, Suman joined Bangladesh Police as a sub-inspector in 2008. He left behind his wife and daughter.

The body was buried at the family graveyard in his village home.

Suman's father Abdul Latif said his son was an honest officer and did not harm anyone in his service life. He was dedicated to his duty.

He requested all to pray for the salvation of Suman's departed soul.

Disinformation campaign targeting Bangladesh condemned

Indian Deputy High Commission urges all to disregard false info

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

The Bangladesh Deputy High Commission in India has condemned what it said is a disinformation campaign by some Indian media targeting Bangladesh, and urged all to disregard the false information peddled by those outlets.

In a statement yesterday, it said it recently noticed that some web portals based in India's northeastern region have published totally false and baseless articles and rumours regarding Bangladesh's prime minister, ministers, advisers, military and security forces and intelligence agencies.

"Most notably, the said portals have run distorted and photoshopped image of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and Pakistan's Prime Minister Imran Khan, in an attempt to hurt the existing friendly ties between Bangladesh and India."

The Deputy High Commission said it understands the web portals -- theeasternlink.com, nenow.in and lookeast.in -- are operated by or under the auspices of a discredited Indian journalist with a track record of disseminating false information about Bangladesh. In 2017, he published a baseless and debunked article suggesting a deadly coup and murder attempt against the Bangladeshi premier.

"In addition, these portals have published serious and provocative articles about Bangladesh military and security forces, lacking any sense of journalistic integrity," it said.

The Deputy High Commission said, "We condemn such disinformation campaign targeting Bangladesh. We would like to urge all concerned to disregard the false information peddled by these web portals."

Tk 5 lakh

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Another arrestee Babu mostly worked for top-criminal Jamil and his brother Mamun. Babu also used to send money to Jamil in India and Mamun in Nepal, said ADC Sumon.

Babu is wanted in a number of cases filed with Pallabi and Bhasantek police stations.

The activities of Jamil, Mamun and Shahadat came to the fore following arrest of three associates of Jamil on July 29 on charges of killing two ruling party leaders in Mirpur.

Police sources said these gangs, especially Jamil, took contracts to kill either Pallabi Jubo League general secretary Jewel Rana or councillor of ward-6 Taizul Islam Bappi.

The criminals were given the contracts for Tk 5 crore to take control over "extortion scene" in Mirpur and Pallabi areas, according to sources.

But the "dramatic bomb explosion" inside Pallabi Police Station foiled their plan, according to police officials involved with the investigation.

Asked about it, ADC Sumon said they have learned about the plot but did not find involvement of these five arrestees.

"The associates of these top-criminals went into hiding after the arrest of the five. We, however, got their identities and some locations and we are now conducting drives to arrest them," he added.

The nation's

FROM PAGE 3


"The law should be revoked immediately and freedom of expression of free thinkers should be ensured," he said.

"Whenever a government becomes authoritarian, autocrat, and fascist, it first attacks freedom of expression, freedom of speech, and freedom of the press; it also controls social media. That is what this government is doing in a planned and conscious manner," Fakhrul said.

Fakhrul said the Editors' Council has already voiced concern that journalists cannot write freely due to the Digital Security Act. He said for arrest warrant for many renowned editors have been issued by filing cases against them under the act, forcing them to go to court for bail, while some journalists have been arrested. The BNP leader demanded the government to free all those arrested in cases filed under Digital Security Act and withdraw cases, including that against Manabzamin editor-in-chief Matiuir Rahman Chowdhury and Prothom Alo editor Matiuir Rahman.

Replying to a question, the BNP secretary general said their party, if it returns to power through a fair election, will abolish all laws that curtail rights of the people, freedom of speech and freedom of thoughts.

Mirza Fakhrul also said his party will send a letter to the government urging it to scrap the Digital Security Act, but did not specify when that could happen.



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Office of the Executive Engineer
District: Manikganj
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Reference No. 46.02.5600.000.07.001.20-1955 Date: 13/08/2020

Invitation for Tender (Works)
e-Tender Notice No. 02/2020-2021

e-Tenders are invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of the following packages:

SL No.	ID No.	Package No.	Name of works	Tender method
1	482581	e-Tender/LGED/Manik/GOBM/20-21/W-01	On-Pavement Routine Maintenance Supplying Stone Chips 16mm & 12mm & 8mm down graded Coarse Sand Sylhet Sand 1st class Picked Bricks & Picked Bricks Bats Bitumin Bitumin Emulsion Empty Ganny Bag Local Sand etc. under XEN Office, LGED, Manikganj.	
2	482582	IPCP/MAN/SINGA/P/19-20/4.01	1. (a) Re-Excavation of Vakum Mosque & Madrasa Pond (b) Construction of 01 No. Ghatia 9.80 X 5.00m for Vakum Mosque & Madrasa Pond under union Joymontop upazila Singair, Dist: Manikganj.	LTM
3	482583	IPCP/MAN/SADAR/P/19-20/3.02	1. (a) Re-Excavation of LGED Pond (b) Construction of 01 No. Ghatia 9.80 X 5.00m for LGED Pond (c) Construction of LGED Pond Walkway XEN Office LGED Manikganj under Manikganj Pourashava Dist: Manikganj. 2. (a) Re-Excavation of DC Banglo Pond (b) Construction of 01 No. Ghatia 9.80 X 5.00m for DC Banglo Pond under Manikganj Pourashava, Dist: Manikganj.	
4	482584	LGED/SSWRDP/PHASE-2/BD-P98/2019-20/71005-Structure	a) Construction of Katakhal Khali WRS 3x2.5m2.5m at Ch. 0475km (b) Construction of WMCA Office 12.0m6.0m (c) Electrical works of WMCA Office (d) Supply of office Furniture of WMCA Office (e) Documentation of Works (f) Provisional sum of Katakhal Sub-Project SP ID-71005 under Upazila Ghior, District: Manikganj 2019-20 (4th Call)	
5	482585	MAN/AF-56	Rehabilitation of Manikganj-Bangladesh Hat-Tili-Kolia-Sonka-Nagarpur GC Road Doulatpur part. Ch. 0000-8040m (ID-356102007) Upazila: Daulatpur District: Manikganj (Salvage cost: 2661021.00) (5th Call)	OTM
6	482586	GDP-3/MA-53	Improvement of Manikganj-Harirampur Road Sorupi Bazar-Balirtek Bazar Putal-Balirtek Bazar Road Manikganj-Harirampur RHD at Sharupai Bazar-Balirtek Road at Ch. 5500-7575m under Upazila Sadar Dist: Manikganj (Road ID 356462008) Part-A (Salvage cost 231165.00) (4th Call)	OSTETM

These are online tenders where only e-Tenders 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 up to 05.00pm on 31-08-2020. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

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