

## Friendly talks with Myanmar

FROM PAGE 12 security of the people of the country," she said, adding, "We've achieved successes in many sectors."

The prime minister that said the importance of the Armed Forces is unlimited in the context of safeguarding the country's independence and sovereignty.

Realising this, the Father of the Nation took necessary steps soon after independence to develop a disciplined and professional armed force in the country and formulated a defence policy to this end, Hasina said.

About the DSCSC, she called it the

most modern training and educational institution and hoped that the graduating officers would play their due roles in developing Bangladesh as a stable, sustainable, and self-dependent country through their skills, knowledge, and experience.

Earlier, the Prime Minister handed over graduation certificates among the course participants virtually.

A total of 225 officers of the Army, Navy, and the Air Force, including 43 officers from 16 foreign countries, successfully completed a year-long training course at the DSCSC.

## Frontliners lead

FROM PAGE 1 After receiving the shot, State Minister for ICT Zunaid Ahmed Palak said, "A vested quarter is spreading falsehood about the vaccine. I took the vaccine myself to stop the propaganda."

Palak, the first lawmaker to get the vaccine jab, said he was feeling well.

"Many people asked why politicians were not taking the vaccine. From that point of view, I decided yesterday to take the vaccine," he said.

The five hospitals where the two-day piloting took place were Dhaka Medical College Hospital, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University (BSMMU), Kurmitola General Hospital, Kuwait Bangladesh Friendship Hospital, and Mugda Medical College Hospital.

At the BSMMU, Vice-Chancellor Prof Kanak Kanti Barua was the first person to get a vaccine shot.

Former communication minister Syed Abul Hossain, Health Secretary Md Abdul Mannan, and eminent economist Wahiduddin Mahmud also got inoculated at the BSMMU.

After visiting a vaccination site, Health Minister Zahid Maleque told 'The Daily Star', "Despite uncertainties, we have started the first-run of vaccination. Some noted personalities have taken the shots. This will encourage others."

He added, "Anyone unable to register online, can go to a vaccination centre and register."

Economist Dr Wahiduddin Mahmud said, "I took the first shot today. The jab was painless and I felt okay afterwards."

At the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH), ENT Chief Prof Nurul Fatah Rumi was the first person

to get the shot.

After getting inoculated at the DMCH, State Minister KM Khalid of the cultural affairs ministry said, "It is the safest vaccine. Thailand, Myanmar, Sri Lanka and some other countries have yet to start vaccination, but Bangladesh has started this. It's a huge achievement."

DMCH Assistant Director Ashraf Alam said, "We took the vaccine to encourage people."

Meanwhile, speakers at a seminar at the BSMMU said the Covid-19 vaccine developed by Oxford-AstraZeneca was safe with nominal side effects.

Prof Saif Ullah Munshi, chairman of virology at BSMMU, said, "Some five percent people may show hypersensitivity to this vaccine. Given data from around the world, the Oxford vaccine has almost no side effects."

Speaking as the chief guest, Prof Kanak Kanti Barua said more doctors than nurses of the BSMMU showed willingness to take the shot.

**HOW IS RUNU?**

The country's first covid-19 vaccine recipient Runu Veronica Costa, said, "I am in good health. I did not feel any effect, except the slight pain where the needle was pushed. But that is not a constant pain."

"I talked to my colleagues who took the vaccine yesterday and no one complained of any complications."

A total of 26 people got vaccinated on the first day of the piloting.

The prime minister on Wednesday urged people not to fear the vaccine.

"There is no reason to worry. People should take the vaccine without hesitation."

## An elaborate con indeed

FROM PAGE 12 of Jhenidah to meet Salam. There, Jaman, impersonating as a Nasa employee, examined the coin and termed it genuine as the coin floated on water.

"It's a fake coin made of wood. It would definitely float ... ." the PBI chief said.

Mahbub paid Tk 1.5 crore and Jaman gave a cheque of Tk 8.5 crore to Salam. Mahbub took the coin and came back to Dhaka.

Later, Jaman said he was in Sylhet and he would complete the deal after returning to Dhaka. After three days, Salam called Bari and said that the coin was not genuine and he had the real one with him.

Salam demanded Tk 10 crore for the "real" coin. Later, Jaman's mobile phone was found switched off.

Then the chairman of Ananda Group realised that the whole thing was a scam and that everyone involved was already known to each other and none of them was US citizen or Nasa employee.

On January 6, MD Mahbub filed a case with Jhenidah Police Station over the fraudulence.

Two old coins, cash and various equipment were recovered from the arrestees, the PBI said.

The PBI chief said they were trying to arrest other members of the ring.

Banaj Kumar said the impersonating Nasa man is actually a sari trader. And that the old coin seller works as a caretaker at a house in Jhenidah. Another member of the ring, identified as the personal secretary of the buyer, is in fact a clothes trader, he added.

They told Bari that the coin's price was Tk 1,200 crore. If Ananda Group pays 35 percent to the government, it would be a legal deal.

To make the deal successful, they met several times in Dhaka at posh restaurants and hotels.

"On December 9, 2020, Ananda Group Managing Director AHM Mahbub Alam Sarker went to Udaipur

## S'pore launches self-driving

FROM PAGE 12 The charge is just Sg\$0.20 (\$0.15). It is not the first self-driving bus trial in the city but is the first to charge a fee.

Singapore's first trial of self-driving buses came in 2015, while a trial of driverless road sweepers was launched earlier this year.

Despite the technology on the buses, a driver is still at the wheel to take control if necessary and must drive the bus manually along part of the route.

Khor Jing Qian, a 23-year-old student who took the bus to attend a

scholarship interview on Wednesday, said the journey, which took about 10 minutes, was "convenient and easy."

"It was unnatural to see the bus driver not driving, but I've heard of these kinds of technologies, I've seen them before, so I think this is quite an innovative thing and definitely the way forward," he told AFP.

The shuttles are also operating in another area of the city on a fixed schedule as part of the same trial, according to a statement from the Ministry of Trade and Industry.

poor and rich nations, to help end the pandemic with Datta stressing Covid-19 vaccines were "a global public good."

According to AFP's own tally for Europe, which excludes some of the Central Asian countries in the WHO European region, new cases totalled 1,421,692 in the last seven days, down about 10 percent compared with the previous seven.

Days away from the one-year anniversary of the first confirmed cases of Covid-19 in Europe, Kluge said "breaking transmission chains is a clear priority."

However he also stressed that the impact on mental health was now so severe that poor mental health had become a "parallel pandemic".

Asked about delays in expediting Pfizer and AstraZeneca vaccines to patients across the 27-nation European Union, Kluge and a WHO-Europe vaccination expert, Siddhartha Datta, appealed to governments and manufacturers to cooperate in addressing "teething problems" in the rollout.

"The reality is there is a shortage of vaccines... (But) we don't doubt that manufacturers and producers are working 24-7 to bridge the gaps and we're confident the delays we are seeing now are going to be made up by extra production in the future," Kluge said.

The WHO reiterated that vaccines should be shared equitably, between

Mahbub further said.

"It is unacceptable that we cannot hold a proper election [even] on the 50th year of country's independence."

Two days ahead of polls on Monday, Mahbub said that The Election Commission (EC) cannot avoid responsibility for any kind of untowards incidents centring the election.

He also said there was enough reason for concern and fear of clashes during the crucial CCC polls.

They are going there voluntarily, he added.

According to locals, the Rohingyas who wanted to go to Bhasan Char willingly were kept at the transit point at Ukhaia on Wednesday evening.

The first batch of 1,642 Rohingyas was relocated to Bhasan Char on December 4 while the second batch of over 1,800 others on December 29 last year.

## Cold spell to last this entire

FROM PAGE 12 temperature may remain nearly unchanged in the country," said the bulletin that was released at 9:00am with a validity of 24 hours.

Yesterday's lowest temperature was recorded at 8.3 degrees Celsius in Dinajpur, said a report of Met office.

Bone-chilling cold continues sweeping over the northern region, paralysing normal life and causing immense hardship. Sunlight can hardly be seen as the sky remains overcast almost all day long.

In Dinajpur and Rangpur, people from all walks of life are going through hardship due to the bitter cold. The poor are facing a double blow due to shortage of winter clothes.

Besides, hospitals are witnessing a rise in patients with cold-related diseases like pneumonia, diarrhoea, and bronchitis.

"Around 15 percent of patients admitted to different hospitals in our district are suffering from cold-related diseases," said Dinajpur's Civil Surgeon Abus Kuddus.

Officials of the local administration said they are distributing blankets and warm clothes among the poor.

In Lalmonirhat and Kurigram, people of shoal and river basin areas are passing hard days due to the severe cold. "We earn our wages on a daily basis.

But we could not leave home to work for the last few days. We are struggling hard to run our families due to financial problems," said Hamidur Rahman, 50, a labourer of Mahendranagar village in Lalmonirhat Sadar upazila.

Children and the elderly are being infected by cold-related diseases, said Dr Sirajul Islam, superintendent of Lalmonirhat Sadar Hospital.

Sources at Lalmonirhat Sadar and Kurigram General hospitals said some 1,250-1,300 people take treatment of cold-related diseases daily in the two hospitals.

Meanwhile, ferry services on the Paturia-Daulatdia route were suspended for around six hours due to thick fog.

"The service was suspended around 1:00am yesterday as the lights demarcating the route became invisible due to dense fog. The service resumed around 7:00am," said Zillur Rahman, deputy general manager (commerce) of Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Corporation at Aricha office in Manikganj.

Over 400 vehicles, including 300 goods-laden trucks, were stuck at the Paturia end and could not cross the Padma river due to suspension of ferry services, he added.

[Our correspondents in Dinajpur, Lalmonirhat and Manikganj contributed to this report.]

## 'Too early to ease' curbs

FROM PAGE 12 before everyone is safe," he said.

Asked about delays in expediting Pfizer and AstraZeneca vaccines to patients across the 27-nation European Union, Kluge and a WHO-Europe vaccination expert, Siddhartha Datta, appealed to governments and manufacturers to cooperate in addressing "teething problems" in the rollout.

"The reality is there is a shortage of vaccines... (But) we don't doubt that manufacturers and producers are working 24-7 to bridge the gaps and we're confident the delays we are seeing now are going to be made up by extra production in the future," Kluge said.

The WHO reiterated that vaccines should be shared equitably, between

professor, has been demoted to lecturer and his PhD degree has been cancelled. Syed Mahfujul Haque Marjan, who was a lecturer, is currently on a study leave.

The syndicate has decided that Marjan would have to discharge duties as lecturer for two more years after he rejoins the university.

## A 'model for irregularities'

FROM PAGE 12 He said everyone must find a way to conduct free and fair elections.

The consensus of all, irrespective of party and opinion, will be needed for that, he added.

Only 22.5 percent of the votes were cast in the election. Such a meagre turnout cannot be the yardstick for measuring the establishment of democracy. If the election was free and fair manner, credible in a legal way, voter turnout could be higher,

taken.

They are going there voluntarily, he added.

According to locals, the Rohingyas who wanted to go to Bhasan Char willingly were kept at the transit point at Ukhaia on Wednesday evening.

The first batch of 1,642 Rohingyas was relocated to Bhasan Char on December 4 while the second batch of over 1,800 others on December 29 last year.

## Three DU teachers demoted

FROM PAGE 12 The students are Md Shihab, Md Akash Hossain, Md Moshirur Rahman Bhuiyan, Md Tamim Hossain, Md Rizwan Rashed Soan, Fayzul Islam Nirob, Shimul Ahmed, Shakil Mahmud, Alauddin Yousuf, Rozen Noor and Saroar Hossain Shakil. Key accused Shihab, a student of the marketing department, has been suspended for two years and the rest for a year. All are second-year students of different departments.

In July 2019, Shihab, along with his accomplices, entered the common room of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Hall late at night and began bullying the freshers, the release said.

At one stage, they beat up a first-year student, leaving him unconscious.

11 students

FROM PAGE 12 The students are Md Shihab, Md Akash Hossain, Md Moshirur Rahman Bhuiyan, Md Tamim Hossain, Md Rizwan Rashed Soan, Fayzul Islam Nirob, Shimul Ahmed, Shakil Mahmud, Alauddin Yousuf, Rozen Noor and Saroar Hossain Shakil. Key accused Shihab, a student of the marketing department, has been suspended for two years and the rest for a year. All are second-year students of different departments.

In July 2019, Shihab, along with his accomplices, entered the common room of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Hall late at night and began bullying the freshers, the release said.

At one stage, they beat up a first-year student, leaving him unconscious.

around 1:00am yesterday as the lights demarcating the route became invisible due to dense fog. The service resumed around 7:00am," said Zillur Rahman, deputy general manager (commerce) of Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Corporation at Aricha office in Manikganj.

Over 400 vehicles, including 300 goods-laden trucks, were stuck at the Paturia end and could not cross the Padma river due to suspension of ferry services, he added.

[Our correspondents in Dinajpur, Lalmonirhat and Manikganj contributed to this report.]

around 1:00am yesterday as the lights demarcating the route became invisible due to dense fog. The service resumed around 7:00am," said Zillur Rahman, deputy general manager (commerce) of Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Corporation at Aricha office in Manikganj.

Over 400 vehicles, including 300 goods-laden trucks, were stuck at the Paturia end and could not cross the Padma river due to suspension of ferry services, he added.

[Our correspondents in Dinajpur, Lalmonirhat and Manikganj contributed to this report.]

around 1:00am yesterday as the lights demarcating the route became invisible due to dense fog. The service resumed around 7:00am," said Zillur Rahman, deputy general manager (commerce) of Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Corporation at Aricha office in Manikganj.

Over 400 vehicles, including 300 goods-laden trucks, were stuck at the Paturia end and could not cross the Padma river due to suspension of ferry services, he added.

[Our correspondents in Dinajpur, Lalmonirhat and Manikganj contributed to this report.]

around 1:00am yesterday as the lights demarcating the route became invisible due to dense fog. The service resumed around 7:00am," said Zillur Rahman, deputy general manager (commerce) of Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Corporation at Aricha office in Manikganj.

Over 400 vehicles, including 300 goods-laden trucks, were stuck at the Paturia end and could not cross the Padma river due to suspension of ferry services, he added.

[Our correspondents in Dinajpur, Lalmonirhat and Manikganj contributed to this report.]

**Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh**  
Local Government Engineering Department  
Office of the Executive Engineer  
District: Faridpur  
[www.lged.gov.bd](http://www.lged.gov.bd)

Memo No. 46.02.2900.000.07.001.19.323

**e-Tender Notice No. 23/2020-21 (LTM)**

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

Sl. No.	Tender ID No.	Package No.	Name of work
01.	541740	GSIDP/FRD/RSDW-117	Remaining work of Baliahati Westpara Graveyard Union Manikdha Latitude 23.469 Longitude 90.07079.
02.	541739	GSIDP/FRD/RSDW-17	Remaining work of Khatra Pachimpura Graveyard Union Kawlibera Latitude 23.43365 Longitude 90.03311.

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 banks branches up to 4.00pm on 14-02-2021.

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

**K. M. Faruk Hossain**  
Executive Engineer  
LGED, Faridpur  
Phone No. 0631-63574  
E-mail: [xen.faridpur@lged.gov.bd](mailto:xen.faridpur@lged.gov.bd)

GD-188

**Bangladesh Bank**  
Information Systems Development and Support Department  
Head Office, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka-1000  
Website: [www.bb.org.bd](http://www.bb.org.bd)

Tender No. ISDSD(Services)-12(88)/2021

Date: 28 January 2021

**Invitation for Tenders**

Bangladesh Bank, Head Office, Dhaka

1	Ministry/Division	Not applicable.
2	Agency	Not applicable.
3	Procuring entity name	Bangladesh Bank.
4	Procuring entity code	Not used at present.
5	Procuring entity district	Dhaka.
6	Invitation for	The Procurement of IT Equipment for Bangladesh Bank.
7	Invitation Ref. No.	ISDSD(Services)-12(88)/2021
8	Date	28 January 2021.
<b>KEY INFORMATION</b>		
9	Procurement method	Open tendering method.
<b>FUNDING INFORMATION</b>		
10	Budget and source of funds	Own source.
11	Development partners (if applicable)	Not applicable.
<b>PARTICULAR INFORMATION</b>		
12	Project/program code (if applicable)	
13	Project/program name (if applicable)	
14	Tender package No.	ISDSD(Services)-12(88)/2021
15	Tender package name	Supply, Installation, Testing, Commissioning and related services of Network Data Cabling and Node Installation at Bangladesh Bank Sena Kalyan Bhaban, Motijheel, Dhaka.
16	Tender publication date	Date
17	Tender last selling date	28 January 2021.
Date		
18	Tender closing date and time	17 February 2021 04:00pm
19	Tender opening date and time	17 February 2021 04:15pm
20	Name & address of the office(s)	Address
-Receiving tender document		
BB website e-Tender System and one hard copy document.		
-Opening tender document		
Information Systems Development and Support Department (ISDSD), Bangladesh Bank, 28th Floor, Head Office, Motijheel, Dhaka.		
17 February 2021 04:15pm		
<b>INFORMATION FOR TENDERER</b>		
21	Brief eligibility of tenderer	Tenderers having 5 years overall business experience and minimum specific experience as supplier in supply of similar goods of at least one contract of similar nature successfully completed within the last five years.
22	Brief description of goods or works	Supply, Installation, Testing, Commissioning and Related Services of Network Data Cabling and Node Installation at Bangladesh Bank Sena Kalyan Bhaban, Motijheel, Dhaka.
23	Brief description of related services	UTP Node Installation with 1 year warranty and 3 years Support & Maintenance service.
24	Lot No.	Identification of lot
A	Supply, Installation, Testing, Commissioning and related services of Network Data Cabling and Node Installation at Bangladesh Bank Sena Kalyan Bhaban, Motijheel, Dhaka	Location ISDSD Tender security amount (Tk) 40,000.00 Completion time in weeks/months from the date of 02 weeks
<b>PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS</b>		
25	Name of official inviting tender	Md. Amir Hossain Pathan.
26	Designation of official inviting tender	Systems Manager.
27	Address of official inviting tender	Information Systems Development and Support Department (ISDSD), Bangladesh Bank, 28th Floor, Head Office, Motijheel, Dhaka.
28	Contact details of official inviting tender	Tel: 9530161 Fax: 9530481 E-mail: <a href="mailto:amir.pathan@bb.org.bd">amir.pathan@bb.org.bd</a>
29	The procuring entity reserves the right to reject all tenders or annul the tender proceedings.	

ব্যক্তিগত ও আর্থিক সেবা পেতে হয়রানির শিকার হলে কিংবা কোনো অভিযোগ থাকলে ১৬২৩৬ নম্বরে ফোন করুন।

sd/-  
**Md. Amir Hossain Pathan**  
Systems Manager  
Phone: 9530161  
E-mail: [amir.pathan@bb.org.bd](mailto:amir.pathan@bb.org.bd)

DCP: 48/2021-334  
Date: 28-01-2021  
GD-196

**EDCL** ESSENTIAL DRUGS COMPANY LIMITED  
395-397, Tejgaon Industrial Area  
Dhaka-1208

**LOCAL PRESS TENDER NOTICE**

**Tender ref.: EDCL(Dhaka )/PUR/PT/2021/41** **Dated 28/01/2021**

Sealed tenders are hereby invited from the genuine Importers/Suppliers for Supply & installation of following items for EDCL Dhaka on urgent basis :

Name of items	Earnest Money	Cost of Tender Schedule	Last date of Closing & opening.
Supply & installation of 01 (one) No. Silverson Stirrer & 01(one)No. Liquid Transfer Pump (Details as per Technical specification )	Tk. 2.5% of quoted amount	Tk.750.00/set (Non refundable)	Closing: 15/02/2021 at 12.00 noon Opening : 15/02/2021 at 12.15PM

Tender schedule will be sold from the Accounts Department of Essential Drugs Company Limited, Dhaka payment as stated above during office hours on all working days (except Friday, Saturday and Govt. Holidays). No tender schedule will be sold on the opening date of the tender.

The tender will be accompanied by an amount of Earnest Money as mentioned above in the form of Bank Draft/Pay Order from any Schedule Bank of Bangladesh in favour of "Essential Drugs Co. Ltd." without which the tender will be considered as non-responsive.

EDCL authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.

(6"x4)

**General Manager,**  
Procurement Deptt.  
For: Managing Director.