

## CHATTOGRAM CITY

## Vaccines arrive but training of health workers yet to start

ARUN BIKASH DEY, Ctg

A consignment of Oxford-AstraZeneca Covid-19 vaccines have reached Chattogram city yesterday morning, as vaccination in the district is scheduled to start from February 7.

Thirty-eight cartons with 45,600 vials of vaccines reached the port city from Dhaka around 7am, Civil Surgeon Dr Sheikh Fazle Rabbi said. Each vial contains 10 doses of vaccine, he added, which means the total number of doses is 456,000.

The vaccines have been stored at the central storage in civil surgeon's office, maintaining temperature between 2 degree Celsius and 8 degree Celsius, the civil surgeon said. Those will be supplied to vaccination centres across the port city and 14 upazilas of the district.

The vaccination programme will be conducted in 15 centres in metropolitan areas -- including Chattogram Medical College Hospital and Chattogram General Hospital -- while there will be one centre in each of the 14 upazilas.

A total of 42 teams -- each comprising two nurses and four volunteers -- will conduct the vaccination programme in the city.

For the upazilas, two teams will operate vaccination programme in each centre, Dr Rabbi said, adding that the upazila health complexes will be used as vaccination centres.

A 14-member committee headed by the CMCH director has been formed to observe vaccine recipients' health condition, he said.

Meanwhile, training of health staffers who will operate the vaccination programme is yet to start in the metropolitan areas.

Asked why they could not start training, Dr Selim Alter Chowdhury, chief health officer of Chattogram City Corporation, said a complication arose due to the recently concluded CCC polls.

As the CCC mayor is the head of a committee headed to coordinate the vaccination programme, it may take a little bit of time before the newly-elected mayor can start working properly, he said. However, preparations are currently underway

for the training sessions.

In addition, medical officials, including the civil surgeon and chief health officer, are yet to be informed about exactly how many people and who are to receive the vaccines for the initial phase.

"We asked all government, public and private hospitals to send us a list of their officials and staffers for vaccination," said Dr Rabbi. "Most of them sent the list, but I couldn't tell the exact number of recipients," he said. Dr Selim echoed the same.

As probable vaccine recipients are eagerly waiting for the programme to start, some of them told this correspondent they are worried to know the training is yet to start.

"I request the authorities to start the training programme as soon as possible as it's a matter of life and death," said a senior staff nurse of CMCH.

However, training for health officials who will conduct vaccination in the upazilas have started on Saturday, said the civil surgeon, adding that it will conclude tomorrow.



A goods-laden truck fell into a roadside ditch in Barishal-Dhaka Highway's Kashipur area yesterday after its driver lost control over steering.

PHOTO: TITU DAS



With vaccination in the port city scheduled to start from February 7, 38 cartons containing 45,600 vials of vaccines reached the port city from Dhaka yesterday morning. Each vial contains 10 doses of vaccine, meaning the total number of doses is 456,000. This photo was taken from the Civil Surgeon's Office.

PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

## Data unavailable

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ponds (except fish farming on commercial basis) will be included, he said.

Meanwhile, replying to Jatiya Party MP Shameem Haider Patwari, Liberation War Affairs Minister AKM Mozammel Huq said names of some 234,347 freedom fighters have been published in the gazette whereas some 191,898 are getting honorarium.

He said for getting the honorarium allowances, a freedom fighter has to be listed in of the 33 accepted proof documents.

Expatriates' Welfare and Overseas Employment Minister Imran Ahmad yesterday informed parliament that manpower export in different Middle East destinations are becoming normal gradually in recent times, as more than 1,500 to 2,000 migrant workers are going to different countries in Middle East every day.

The minister said this while participating in the thanksgiving motion on the President's speech.

He also said problems centring manpower export in Malaysia will be resolved soon.

## Man killed over land dispute in Rajshahi

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

A man succumbed to his injuries in Rajshahi yesterday, three days after he was beaten by his rivals over a land dispute, said police.

Sohel Rana (35) died with head injury while undergoing treatment at Rajshahi Medical College Hospital in the early hours, said Belpukur Police Station Officer-in-Charge Alamgir Hossain.

The deceased was an assistant teacher of Domadi Government Primary School in Puthia upazila, he said.

On Friday morning, a group of people, who had been disputing with Sohel Rana's family for several months over land, beat him up with sticks, police said quoting family members.

Police said Sohel's father Abdus Sobhan, a freedom fighter, bought 15 kathas of land at Mahendra Bazar in the late 1990s. One Tajul Islam of the area rented 0.5 decimal of the land in 2019. Three months later, Tajul and his family started claiming its ownership.

The OC said they tried in vain several times to settle the matter during arbitration. On Friday, they sat again and at one stage, Tajul and his men beat Sohel Rana. They fled when Sohel fell onto the ground.

Abdus Sobhan filed a case accusing Tajul and seven others for beating his son, the OC said, adding that the case was recorded as a murder case yesterday after the teacher's death.

Police arrested Tajul's brother Mazedul Islam in connection with the incident.

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(Md. Helal Uddin)  
GM & Division Head



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PUBALI BANK LIMITED

ICT OPERATION DIVISION  
Head office, 26 Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka.

## No alternative

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dengue larvae were found were construction sites, while more than 35 percent were multi-storied buildings and more than 16 percent were independent households.

Speaking as chief guest at the event, Prof ABM Khurshid Alam, director general of DGHS said, "There are many offices working to control the mosquito-borne disease. There is a need for coordination among these offices."

Prof Dr Baizid Khurshid Riaz, Director of NIPSON said, "Mosquitoes have been the deadliest killer in the history."

"Especially we have to arrange modern

mechanism to manage solid waste to combat it," he added.

Prof Dr Nazmul Islam, director of disease control of DGHS, said, "Mosquitoes has been a threat due to the long-run mismanagement, and our failure to work collectively."

Prof Nasima Sultana, additional director general of the DGHS; Prof Tahmina Shirin, director of the Institute of Epidemiology, Disease Control and Research (IEDCR); Dhaka South City Corporation chief health officer Brig Gen Sharif Ahmed; and Dhaka North City Corporation chief health officer Brig Gen Md Jubaidur Rahman also spoke.

## Progress report

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bail to Wasim and kept the petition stand over (waiting for hearing) for two months.

On June 5, 2016, Mitu was stabbed and shot dead when she was walking her son to his school bus stop at port city's GEC intersection.

After the murder, her husband Babul Akter filed a case against three unidentified men with Panchlaish Police Station.

Law enforcers reportedly arrested five persons -- Wasim, Anwar Hossain, Ehteshamul Haque alias Bhola, Md Shahjahan and Saidul Sikder Shakur.

Wasim and Anwar have given confessional statements before a court, implicating seven persons, including Musa, who, according to the two, directly took part in the killing.

Of the accused, Nurul Islam Rashed and Nur Nabi, whose names were mentioned by Anwar and Wasim, were killed in "gunfights" with police in July, 2016 in Chattogram, while Musa and another accused, Kalu, are still "on the run".

## Councillor

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The manager and the bank staff member told the investigators that Rajib used to send money through people who did not know how to sign. So, the manager instructed the staff to deposit the money since Rajib was a big and influential client, the investigator added.

"We are looking into whether their claims are authentic," said CID special superintendent Mostafa Kamal.

According to the policy of Bangladesh Financial Intelligence Unit of the central bank, if anyone deposits money to someone else's account, the depositor must submit photocopy of his or her NID and mention the source of the money, said another CID official.

But, no such procedure was followed when the bank staff deposited the money on various occasions. "There is possibility that the staff was paid for this," he added.

The story of Rajib's meteoric rise from the son of a mason to a political powerhouse is almost cinematic. Once an assistant to his father in their village in Bhola, he later came to Dhaka and worked as an assistant at a grocery shop in Shia Mosque Market, according to people who know Rajib for a long time.

After 2009, Rajib became close to a local influential ruling party leader, from which point his life completely turned around.

Soon afterwards, he joined Jubo League, the youth wing of the ruling Awami League, and was elected councillor of Ward 33 of Dhaka North City Corporation, which covers part of Mohammadpur, in 2014.

According to locals and investigators, Rajib proceeded to earn a huge amount of illegal wealth through extortion at bus and truck stands and land grabbing in the area.

## Shut down

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December 14 last year directed the government to take necessary steps to shut the illegal brick kilns in Chattogram in a week to save the environment.

On December 31, Alamgir and on January 18 Rahman fined some illegal brick kilns and gave them two months' time to collect environmental clearance certificates without shutting them down, said the petitioner.

During hearing of the petition on January 26, HRPB counsel Manzill Murshid told the HC that the two have not closed the illegal brick kilns, which is a violation of the HC directive and tantamount to contempt of court.

Murshid prayed to the HC to issue a contempt of court rule against the two and issue summons asking them to appear before it to offer their explanation.

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Publication of prospectus : 01 February 2021, "The Daily Jugantor"

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