Indian truckers flouting health guideline at Benapole port

Thousands of people are at risk of contracting a new variant of coronavirus

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Benapole

Hundreds of Indian truck drivers entering Bangladesh through Benapole land port are not following health guideline, posing the risk of spreading the new variant of coronavirus.

As a result, thousands of people in Benapole are at risk of contracting a new variant of the coronavirus.

According to Benapole port sources, on an average five to six hundred trucks of goods are imported from India and two to three hundred trucks of goods are exported to india through the port every day.

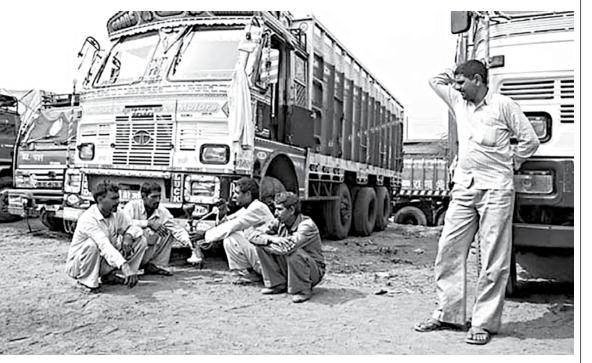
Most drivers and helpers do not wear masks or PPEs while entering the port from India. Leaving the trucks at the port, they also walk around the port without mask and using hand sanitizer in the port.

Due to the negligence of the port authorities, most of the drivers and helpers were seen leaving the port without masks and walking around the Benapole market in groups.

However, the port authorities say that all types of masks and hand sanitizer facility will be provided very soon in consultation with the health department.

Even port security personnel are on duty without masks.

Benapole Railway Station Master Saidur Rahman said, the health workers of the port's health department used to work at the railway station to prevent corona



Thousands of people are at risk of contracting a new variant of the coronavirus as Indian truckers at Benapole port are not following health quideline.

infection but now no one comes. Many products are currently being imported by train from India everyday. It is important to keep the prevention system in place for safety.

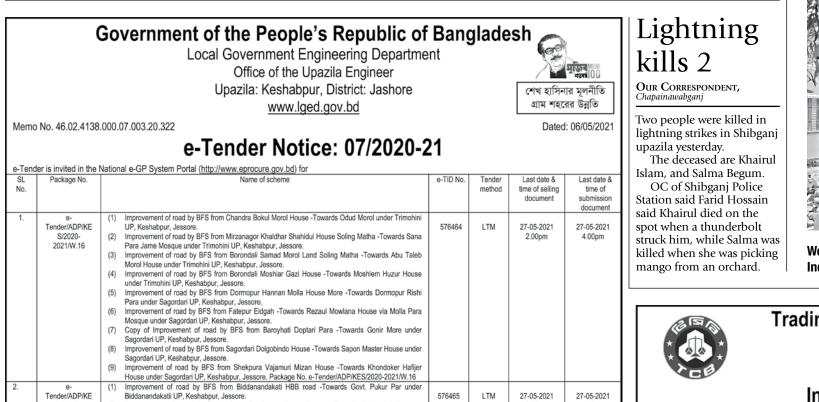
India-Bangladesh Chamber of Commerce and Industries Director Motiar Rahman said, truck drivers from different states of India are coming to Benapole port and they

are also going to India with goods i from different parts of Bangladesh. So, these truck drivers have to a follow the health guideline.

Benapole Port Acting Director Abdul Jalil said, the port authority took preventive measures from the onset of the viral outbreak. Now, some problems have been created due to manpower crisis. Truck drivers and port workers have been

instructed to obey the hygiene rules. "The matter is being monitored. All preventive measures will be implemented soon in consultation with the health department, he

said. Jashore Civil Surgeon Sheikh Abu Shaheen said, "If the port authority informs us about the matter, all kinds of preventive measures will be taken."



Pirojpur sees high season of palmyra palm fruits

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pirojpur

Traders of palmyra palm fruit in Pirojpur are enjoying higher profits this season with demands for the fruit on the rise across the country.

Improved road communications with different districts and cities, especially Dhaka, is also enabling the traders cater to the increased demand this year, said locals.

"Without much planning, we usually plant palmyra palm trees by roadsides or on the boundaries of our land," said Hafizur Rahman, from Pattashi village in Indurkani upazila.

The palmyra fruits used to get damaged when palm juice collectors climbed the trees to gather juice. But with passage of time, the juice collectors changed profession, allowing the palmyra palm trees grow plenty of fruits.

People involved in the business said the prices and demands for palmyra palm fruit are very high at the beginning of the season.

"At the beginning, one piece of palm fruit can be sold at a wholesale market in Dhaka for as high as Tk 15," said wholesale buyer Abdul Malek Howlader, from Uttar Bhabanipur village in Indurkani upazila.

Wholesale buyers in the area pay between Tk 500 and Tk 800 to the owner of a palmyra palm tree for all the fruits on the tree. Then there is a cost of around Tk 600 for collection and stocking. People involved in the business said the prices and demands for palmyra palm fruit are very high at the beginning of the season.

Finally, to transport the produce out of the district, the traders spend around Tk 16,000 to hire a truck that usually holds approximately 8,000 palmyra fruits.

By the time the season reaches its end, wholesale selling rate of each fruit falls to Tk 4 to Tk 5, said Abdul Malek.

After weeks of disruption during the season due to Covid-19 situation, the business started to pick up about ten days ago and now the traders have been shipping out over 50 thousand palmyra fruits every day to different parts of the country, said some of the traders.

The season of palmyra fruits is likely to last for another ten days, they also said.

The higher demands for the fruit are also strengthening the rural economy by creating work opportunities for local labourers.

Khejurtala village resident Selim Faraji said he has been making as much as Tk 600 daily, by climbing palmyra palm trees to collect the fruit.



Workers load up a truck with palmyra palm fruits in Charakhali village of Pirojpur's Indurkani upazila. PHOTO: HABIBUR RAHMAN



3. e-	 Improvement of road by BFS from Porchakra Bssur house -Towards Main Road under Biddanandakatii UP, Keshabpur, Jessore. Improvement of road by BFS from Hizoldanga Picher Road -Towards College Mosque under Biddanandakatii UP, Keshabpur, Jessore. Improvement of road by BFS from Kabilpur Puraton Jame Mosque -Towards Akimuddin Gazi house under Hasanpur UP, Keshabpur, Jessore. Improvement of road by BFS from Boga Purbapara Myna Khokon Pukur Par -Towards Minhaz Gazi Kobor under Hasanpur UP, Keshabpur, Jessore. Repair work of Burihati Dhakhil Madrasha Under Hasanpur UP, Keshabpur Upazila, Jashore. Improvement of road by BFS from Rezakati Babur House Soling Matha -Towards Ojiar Master House under Hasanpur UP, Keshabpur, Jessore. Improvement of road by BFS from Rezakati Babur House Soling Matha -Towards Ojiar Master House under Hasanpur UP, Keshabpur, Jessore. Improvement of road by BFS from Burihati Uttarpara Razzak House Soling Matha -Towards Azizur Sardar House under Hasanpur UP, Keshabpur, Jessore. Improvement of road by BFS from Hasanpur Mannan Kutgola -Towards Omar Master House under Hasanpur UP, Keshabpur, Jessore. Improvement of road by BFS from Hasanpur Mannan Kutgola -Towards Omar Master House under Hasanpur UP, Keshabpur, Jessore. Improvement of road by BFS from Sreefola Joban Sardar House Soling Matha - Sreefola End Portion 	5/0465	LIM	2.00pm	2/-05-2021 4.00pm	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8	Agenc Procur Procur Procur Invitati	ing entity name ing entity code ing entity district		(a) Refined Soy (b) White Refine (c) Red Lentil Ministry of Commer Trading Corporation Chief Officer (Comm Not applicable. Dhaka. (a) Refined Soyabe	ed Sugar ce. of Bangladesh (TCB). nercial), TCB, Dhaka. an Oil (b) White Refined S 08.151.21.1003 (b) 26.05	, <u> </u>	যাগাযোগঃ ০১৭৮৬-২৭১৩০০
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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 27-05-2021 at 2.00pm. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and also from E-mail: ue.keshabpur@lged.gov.bd or call to 04226-56236. For any queries interested tenderer are requested to communicate with the undersigned during office hours. Md. Shaiful Islam Molla Upazila Engineer Keshabpur, Jessore Phone: 04226-56236 GD-959 E-mail: ue.keshabpur@lged.gov.bd						26	8180074 8180057 tcbimp@tcb.gov.bd						