

Raihan Badol, with Masud Rana Miraj on his side, makes Covid awareness announcements using a megaphone at a house in Dashmina town of Patuakhali recently.

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The Corona fighter of Dashmina

Our Correspondent, Patuakhali

When there had been many incidents of people deserting their loved ones suffering from Covid infection, a man in Patuakhali's Dashmina upazila town made it his mission to create awareness on the disease by going to houses of Covid

Everyone's beloved Pabel Mahmud Raihan alias Raihan Badol, 45, works at a private firm and also a volunteer of the government's Cyclone Preparedness Programme (CPP).

After Jayanto Kumar Mandol, a teacher by profession, and his wife Ira Rani Mandol got infected with Covid-19, Raihan went to their house every day during their isolation to check on them and to provide encouragement.

On way to a patient's house, Raihan uses his megaphone to announce different health awareness messages for others in the locality.

Homemaker Asma Begum, 35, was

dismayed when she tested positive for Covid-19 on 14 July. She was worried about how she would protect the rest of her family members -- her husband, a day labourer, and their two children -- from the highly contagious disease.

No sooner had the news of her illness spread than Raihan arrived at their house with all the information she needed. Raihan explained her about the types of food she would need to ensure nutrition and the dos and don'ts during isolation. He also spoke with Asma's neighbours and explained how to eat healthy, keep fit and stop the spread of the virus.

Asma was later free from Covid and got out of her two weeks' isolation. None of her neighbours contracted the disease as they properly followed Raihan's precautionary tips.

This is how Raihan has been saving lives by roaming around the town and conducting Covid awareness campaign with his megaphone from the morning till

On way to a patient's house, Pabel Mahmud Raihan alias Raihan Badol, 45, uses his megaphone to announce different health awareness messages for others in the locality.

Asma said, "I was psychologically down after I got Covid. Raihan stopped by every day to make sure we were okay. Thanks to his awareness messages, I am now cured and my family members are no longer scared of the disease."

"We were kind of ostracised when others found out that we caught Covid. No one came to us and we couldn't go to anyone either. But Raihan didn't let us feel

that we were alone. Besides checking on us, he provided us encouragement and mental support," said Jayanto Kumar Mandol.

His wife Ira Rani Mandol said, "We can never forget the services we received from

Gazi Shahid, a prominent lawyer in Dashmina, said locals appreciate Raihan's work during the Covid situation.

He is a true humanitarian as he has always been there for the locals during any natural disaster as a CPP volunteer, he

His compatriot Masud Rana Miraj said he feels honoured to be able to work alongside Raihan, a kind-hearted man, whose dedication to humanitarian work is unparalleled.

Raihan Badol has been promoting human welfare for 17 years. In 2018, the Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief acknowledged his special contributions by honouring him with an

PM vows to find

over the virtual function from the Gono Bhaban, while other participants were connected from AL central office in the city's Bangabandhu Avenue.

She said those who took part in the brutal assassination and who stood by them or who prepared the grounds for it

About the demand for a commission to find the masterminds of the mayhem, Hasina said things would be very clear to all from the newspapers of those days.

"We will not need to go far to find them, if we see who criticised [the rule of Bangabandhu], who spoke [against it] and who prepared the grounds. You've asked for formation of a commission. It is fine. But if you read the newspapers of that time, many things would be very clear to all."

Hasina, also the eldest daughter of Bangabandhu, said the

Father of the Nation returned home on January 10, 1972, and the conspiracy against him started the same year, not giving him the time to rebuild the war-ravaged country.

It takes many years to rebuild a war-ravaged country, but criticism started just in one year, she added.

The PM said the killings were carried out as Bangabandhu could not be detached from the mass people by spreading propaganda against him.

Who had written those? Whom they wanted to satisfy? Who prepared the grounds for the killings?" she said.

Describing the August 15 incident as the most heinous

and cruel killing in the history, she said this carnage can be compared only with the Karbala tragedy.

"Women and children had not been killed in Karbala. But women and children were not spared [in the August 15 carnage] in Bangladesh," she lamented.

Hasina said it is seen that only the head of the state or the premier of the government is assassinated for grabbing state power.

Noting that the conspirators wanted to exploit and deprive the people of Bangladesh forever, she said the real revenge of the August 15 carnage would be taken when the people would get a decent life in every front, having food, clothes, shelter, education and health rights as dreamt by the Father

My father had liberated the country. This independence can't go in vain. It would be a success," Hasina said.

At the outset of the event, a one-minute silence was observed in memory of Bangabandhu and martyrs of the August 15 carnage.

AL General Secretary Obaidul Quader delivered the

welcome speech.

Govt signs deal

The Chinese ambassador said, "Both sides have worked very hard towards the same goal, and both governments have given necessary support to this end."

Vaccines are of vital importance in the battle against Covid-19, he noted.

"The immunization gap remains a prominent challenge to the world and deserves high attention from the international At the bilateral level, China is one of the most reliable partners

of Bangladesh in vaccine cooperation, mentioned Li Jiming. "China has provided 2.1 million doses of Sinopharm vaccine as gift to Bangladesh, 3.4 million doses under the Covax facility, and eight million doses as part of an

arrangement of a large-scale commercial purchase. The vaccine-producing countries should also support the developing countries, including Bangladesh, through joint production and safeguard the global supply chain of raw materials, he observed.

The vaccine cooperation between Beijing and Dhaka has become a role model in this region.

"From it, we can see that vaccine cooperation requires greater solidarity and sense of responsibility, and full mobilisation of governments, businesses and international organisations, so as to form synergy," added the ambassador.

Liu Jingzhen, chairman of Sinopharm; and Ji Rong, counsellor on Asia affairs at the Chinese foreign ministry, spoke as special guests from Beijing through video conferencing.

PM's housing project ushers in human habitation in deserted village

Azibor Rahman

Deserted village of Mongolpur under Elangi union in Kotchandpur upazila in Jhenidah is again seen human habitation thanks to the prime minister's housing project for the

homeless marking Mujib Borsho. The upazila administration has acquired 16 decimals of land in the desolated village and built eight houses at Tk 1.90 lakh each and handed over it to eight landless families recently starting human habitation after 75 years, Kotchandpur Upazila Nirbahi Officer (UNO) Ashaduzzaman Ripon said.

Local union land office bears valid papers of the village and its JL No- is 66 in the map of the union.

It is mysterious why people do not live in the village, he said.

If the archeological department takes steps to delve deep into the mystery, an unknown chapter of the history might be unraveled, he also

Sources and locals speak of a

the jurisdiction list number 66. There are marks even today of people that used to live here. There are three ponds and an Eidgah.

According to the account of the villagers, once there lived a Mughal family in the village long ago. They left the village after the end of Mughal dynasty. Fearing torture, they left the village for India. After their departure, around 120 to 130 families of lower caste inhabited the village. Cholera broke out around 75 years ago and a great number of the people died. Rest of the villagers started leaving the village thinking that a curse has descended upon them.

Nawab Ali Kha, 72 a villager of Balabaria of village said, he has heard that this village was named after Mughal dynasty. After the end of the dynasty, people of lower castes made the village their home. Around 75 years ago hundreds of people of died of cholera and the rest of them fled in fear of being cursed.

Now they are very happy that deserted village.

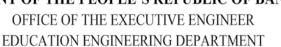
village named Mongolpur bearing habitation has started in the deserted village again.

> Md Abdul Kuddus Khan, the imam of Mongolpur village mosque said, he unearthed a lot of skeletons in 1992 which are about 8.50 feet in length. He has heard from his forefathers that all the families left the village long ago.

> Elangi union land assistant officer Iqbal Hossain under Kotchandpur upazila said, this Mongolpur village (JL-66) covers an area of 260.50 acres land. Of which 16 decimals were khash (free land). Most of the lands have been exchanged at that time. Besides, those who left the village fearing fatal diseases sold their lands to nearby villagers after several years, he told quoting the locals.

> Echoing the same, 5-No Elangi UP chairman Mizanur Rahman Khan said, fearing ill omen no body lived here. But thanks to Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina habitation in the village has started. The locals are happy for re-habitation in the

GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH



<u>MANIKGANJ</u>

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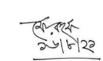
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| 08 | 569593 | Repair and Renovation Works of Office building Block-C at Manikganj Govt. Mohila College Sadar Upazila Manikganj District. | 01-Sep 2021 15:00PM | 02-Sep 2021 10:00AM | 02-Sep 2021 10:00AM |
| 09 | 569594 | Repair and Renovation Works of Principal's dormitory at Manikganj Govt. Mohila College Sadar Upazila Manikganj District. | 01-Sep 2021 15:00PM | 02-Sep 2021 10:00AM | 02-Sep 2021 10:00AM |
| 10 | 569595 | Re-Construction and Repair works of Boundary wall at Manikganj Govt. High School Sadar Upazila Manikganj District. | 01-Sep 2021 15:00PM | 02-Sep 2021 10:00AM | 02-Sep 2021 10:00AM |
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86 people forcibly disappeared still missing

commanders found responsible for serious human rights abuses, including commanders who failed to prevent or punish abuses by

individuals under their command. "The US Department of State's Bureau of Political-Military Affairs should ensure that any support under the Global Peace Operations Initiative is not used to train members of RAB for deployment in UN peacekeeping operations," said the report.

The report suggests that civil and political rights should play a stronger role during future discussions around duty-free treaty programmes like the Generalised System of Preferences and Everything But Arms (EBA) schemes.

The report also urged the United Nations human rights experts to lead an independent investigation

into the "enforced disappearances" at the hands of security forces documented were mainly opposition in Bangladesh, an allegation the Bangladesh government has all along

Bangladesh prove that it is serious up measures to hold senior about investigating cases of enforced disappearances, by inviting the relevant United Nations special procedures -- including the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances, the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention, the special rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, and the special rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading

It also demanded that Bangladesh also establish an independent commission of inquiry to investigate all cases of disappearances and custodial deaths.

treatment or punishment.

The 86 cases the political activists, who went missing over the past decade.

"Senior UN officials, donors, The watchdog suggested that and trade partners should step members of Bangladesh security forces accountable, stop enforced disappearances, and prevent future abuses," the HRW urged in its report.

> The HRW also found that the authorities use enforced disappearances, and the threat of enforced disappearances, to silence critics, chilling free speech.

> "Bangladesh authorities mock victims and routinely obstruct investigations, making clear that the government has no intention of meaningfully addressing enforced disappearances by its security forces," Brad Adams, Asia director at Human Rights Watch, said in a news release.

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