

RAJBARI MUNICIPALITY

Mosquito making residents' lives miserable

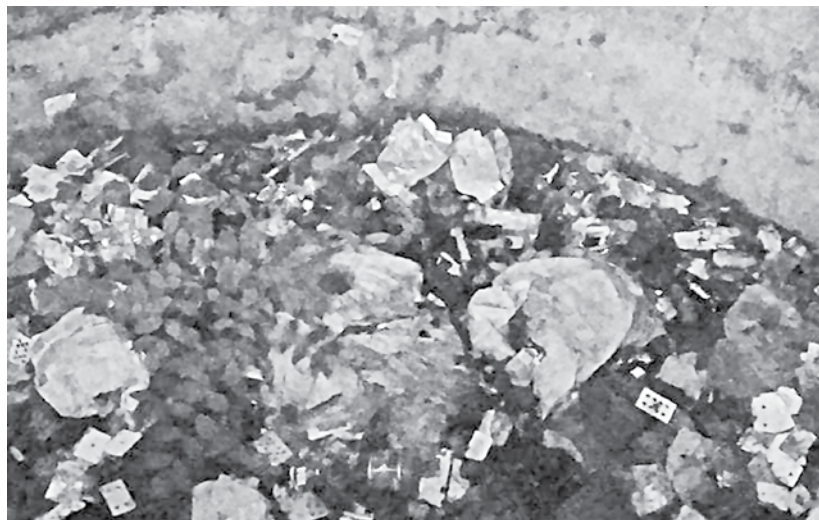
OUR CORRESPONDENT, Faridpur

Mosquito menace has taken an alarming turn in many parts Rajbari municipality area afflicting scores of people in this late monsoon, perfect weather for mosquito breeding.

Residents of Rajbari municipality claimed that mosquito infestation has increased as the municipal authority does not clean the drains of the town regularly and there is no mosquito control activity.

According to the sources of Rajbari municipality, the municipality does not have any fund allocation for combating mosquitoes in the current fiscal year.

Last year, this municipality got Tk 9 lakh and one thousand in two instalments. The municipality has six fogging machines. Among the six, four have been lying idle for long and the other two have remained out of order for about two weeks. As a result,



Unscrupulous garbage dumping exacerbating mosquito menace in Rajbari municipality area. The photo was taken from the rail station area of the town recently.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

the drains causing stagnation of water. The whole township has become breeding grounds for mosquitoes because of the lax maintenance of the drainage system and proper treatment of garbage.

Azaz Ahmmad, a resident of Charlaxmipur area said, "It is disturbing for us as mosquitoes are everywhere. If the authority does not take immediate steps to spray insecticides, we will have to suffer much."

Amit Kumar Ghosh, a student of Rajbari Government College, said, "We have come to this town for study purposes. But it becomes very difficult for us to concentrate on the study as a great number of mosquitoes attack us while sitting on the study table."

Abdur Rahim, a rickshaw puller of Rajbari town, said "Sometimes we have to stay at different places for

passengers but it becomes impossible for us to stay at a place for minutes due to mosquito bites. At night, the situation becomes more terrible."

Md Mohiuddin, clinical supervisor of Rajbari municipality, said, "There are six fogging machines in our municipality but all those are very old. After using 20-30 minutes, the machines break down. We have stock of insecticide but due to lack of fumigation machines we can't spray it."

Alamgir Sheikh, mayor of Rajbari municipality, said, "We do not have any fund allocation for combating mosquitoes this fiscal year. If we had funds for combating mosquitoes, we could spray insecticides all over the municipality. On the other hand, although we clean our drains regularly, people are not careful about dumping the garbage."

Sheikh Russell Children's Park comes into being

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Patuakhali

Children of Patuakhali now has a reason to be delighted, as an amusement park for them was inaugurated in the town on October 12.

Tajul Islam, minister for local government, rural development and cooperatives (LGRD) ministry, inaugurated the park named Sheikh Russell Children's Park in Circuit House area of the town.

The names of the various mechanical and non-mechanical rides the park offers include 'Honey-Go-Round', 'Honey Swing', 'Western Express Train', multi-slide, climbing, multi-swing, seesaw and paddle boat.

Children will be able to enjoy each ride for Tk 30 at the amusement park, Khalilur Rahman Mohan Mia, chairman of Patuakhali Zilla Parishad, said during the inauguration ceremony.

With an objective to ensure physical

and mental development of children in the area, Patuakhali Zilla Parishad, under the Annual Development Program of the LGRD ministry, spent Tk 6.40 crore to build the park on 5 acres of land.

Among others, LGRD Secretary Mohammad Helaluzzaman, Additional Deputy Commissioner Humayun Kabir, Patuakhali Zilla Parishad Chief Executive Officer Shah Md Rafiqul Islam and Assistant Engineer Mohammad Shahjahan were present at the ceremony.

The foundation stone of Sheikh Russell Children's Park was laid on May 3, 2011 by then State Minister for Ministry of Religious Affairs advocate Shahjahan Mia. Patuakhali Zilla Parishad Chairman Khalilur Rahman Mohan Mia inaugurated its construction work on January 15, 2018.

Although the construction work was completed exactly a year ago, on October 12, 2020, the park's formal opening was delayed due to the coronavirus situation.



The 'Western Express Train' ride at Sheikh Russell Children's Park in Circuit House area of Patuakhali town. The amusement park was made open to public on October 12.

PHOTO: SOHRAB SAJAN

JL LEADER MURDER Eight get life term

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Jhenidah

A court yesterday sentenced eight people to life term imprisonment in connection with a case for killing a Juba League (JL) leader in Sadar upazila in 2010.

The convicts are Shanti Hossain, Abdul Karim, Lavlu Hossain, Abu Jahid Moni, Mizanur Rahman, Ibrahim Khalil, Mukul Hossain and Nasir Hossain.

Jhenidah Additional Sessions Judge (Court-1) Mohammad Shawkat Hossain also jailed them for another seven years in a case filed under Arms and Explosive Act.

The court acquitted incumbent Ganna Union Parishad (UP) Chairman Nasir Uddin Malitha, one of the 11 accused of the case, as charges brought against him was not proved, while other two accused of case died during the trial of the case.

According to the case statement, a gang hurled crude bombs targeting Zakir Hossain Mondol alias Shanti, then joint convener of was a Ganna union unit Juba league, while he was returning home on his motorcycle on July 7, 2010, leaving him seriously injured.

Injured Zakir was first taken to Jhenidah Sadar Hospital and later referred to Faridpur Medical College Hospital, from where he was shifted to a private hospital in the capital.

He succumbed to his injuries while undergoing treatment there on July 11, 2010.

Rajbari municipality has six fogging machines. Among those, four have been lying idle, and the other two remained out of order for the last two weeks.

the mosquito control activity has remained suspended for several days.

The residents claimed that houses are being built in an unplanned manner in the municipality area and there is no visible activity of the municipality authority to clear the drains and the unscrupulous people dump wastes indiscriminately into

Ex-Rajuk chair, three others

FROM PAGE 12

The Anti-Corruption Commission on July 25 that year filed a case against Humayun, Saidur, SMHI Faruque, Liaquat and Syed Makbul Ahmed, former authorised officer of Rajuk, over forgery in the design of FR Tower.

During investigation, the anti-graft body found that the 23-storey FR Tower had narrow exit points and staircases, and no fire alarm, while the fire exits were blocked.

The building authorities had

obtained permission for a 15-storey building, but they illegally added eight more floors over time.

On October 29 the same year, Abu Bakar Siddique, deputy director of ACC, submitted the charge sheet against the five.

Judge KM Emrul Kayesh of the Senior Special Judge's Court in Dhaka took cognisance of the charges against the five accused on February 11 last year. Of the five, Makbul died on April 15 this year, so his name was dropped.

HC forms board to run Evaly

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nor a refund, which prompted him to take the legal route.

The board has been asked to submit a report on the company on the next due date of the court, said Syed Mahsib Hossain, the petitioner's counsel.

Whether the board would find any success in returning the money of the customers and vendors is highly doubtful seeing that the controversial e-commerce platform hardly has any assets but a mountain of liabilities.

According to Evaly's own assessment, it has assets amounting to Tk 121 crore, while it owes customers and merchants more than Tk 1,000 crore.

The company took advance payments by tempting people with massive discounts on products and promising delivery in 7-45 days.

However, many never received their orders. At the same time, many vendors never received payment for merchandise they had supplied to Evaly.

Subsequently, several cases were filed against Evaly Chief Executive Officer Mohammad Rassel and Chairperson Shamima Nasrin on

allegations of embezzlement and cheque fraud. The couple was arrested on September 16.

Evaly's seeming success spawned many imitators. Now, they are all in the same boat, and on October 12, the cabinet division formed a 15-member committee to find a solution to the conundrum.

The committee will recommend measures on the recovery of money from 10 errant e-commerce firms within the next one month, its chief AHM Shafiguzzaman told journalists yesterday after its first meeting.

It is now waiting on the reports from government agencies like the National Board of Revenue and the Bangladesh Bank to proceed with its next plan of action.

Based on the committee's report, the cabinet division will take a call on how to recover the money from the errant e-commerce companies, he said.

The 15-member committee will also prepare reports on how to protect the interests of consumers and merchants and recommend to the government how to bring all the e-commerce companies under one umbrella.

2 housewives raped

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In another incident, a mother of two was raped by her husband's maternal uncle in a village of Baufal upazila on Sunday.

She lodged a rape case against Harun Hawlader, 55, with Baufal Police Station at night.

She was sent to a hospital for medical examinations yesterday.

According to the case statement, Harun, who stays in the same house, forcibly entered the house and raped the woman while her husband was outside home on Sunday afternoon.

Harun has been on the run since the incident.

Al Mamun, OC of Baufal Police Station, said legal action would be taken against the accused.

MAGURA 4-MURDER

Case filed against 68

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Jhenidah

A murder case was filed yesterday in connection with Friday's clash that left four people killed in Magura Sadar upazila.

Anwar Hossain, brother of victim Kabir, lodged the case against 68 named and 10-15 unnamed accused with Sadar Police Station, said Monjurul Alam, officer-in-charge of the station.

According to the case statement, three victims -- Sabur Mollah, his brother Kabir Mollah, of Dakshin Jagdal village, and their cousin Rahman Mollah -- were going to the house of Abdur Rahim, headmaster of Jagdal Junior High School, for discussing the upcoming Jagdal Union Parishad elections around 4:00pm on Friday.

When they reached in front of the headmaster's house, some supporters of incumbent member Nazrul Islam waylaid and attacked them with sharp weapons, the statement added.

The attack led to the clash between two groups of villagers, killing four people. Nazrul was made the key accused.

The other deceased is Imran Mollah.

Hiccups are harmless

FROM PAGE 12

regarding the central nervous system. A good threshold will be to wait for 2 days -- if the hiccup persists, check with your doctor.

Otherwise, there are millions of home remedies: holding breath and standing still for 10 seconds, drinking water in between hiccups, biting on a lemon, even the occasional jumpscare in some cases. But if your hiccups get worse, disrupt your sleep, speech, and general comfort, it is imperative you seek a doctor's advice.

Indira rules out talks

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He added that the people had chosen Bangabandhu as their undisputed leader in the last election.

Referring to Yahya's statement that he was prepared to discuss the India-Pakistan issue with Indian leaders anywhere and at any time, Hossain Ali said India had nothing to do with Bangladesh affairs. The statement was motivated to drag India into "our affairs". India came into the picture only because "our people had to flee to India as a result of atrocities committed by the Yahya regime", he remarked, and added that India was only interested in the return of over nine million refugees to their home with a sense of security.

ON THE WAR FRONT

In the Rangpur-Dinajpur-Rajshahi sector, Mukti Bahini raided occupation troops in Khoribari and killed seven enemy soldiers. On the same

day, Mukti Bahini encountered Pakistani troops in Muradpur area killing two enemy soldiers. In an engagement with the occupation troops in Godagarhat area of Dinajpur district, freedom fighters killed five enemy soldiers. They ambushed the Pakistani army patrol in Haragobindapur on the same day and killed one and wounded two enemy soldiers.

Mukti Bahini launched a mortar attack on the occupation army position in Nalua area of Tangail, killing three enemy soldiers.

At Miabazar and Pannapur of Comilla district, Mukti Bahini raided Pakistani troops' positions. Thirteen enemy soldiers were killed and two were seriously wounded in these operations.

Shamsuddoza Sajen is a journalist and researcher. He can be contacted at sajen1986@gmail.com

Let girls return

FROM PAGE 12

urgent funding for an education plan for Afghan children.

A petition alongside the letter had received more than 640,000 signatures yesterday.

Education activist Yousafzai was shot by militants from the Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan, an offshoot of the Afghan Taliban, in her home town in the Swat valley while on a school bus in 2012.

Now 24 years old, she advocates for girls' education, with her non-profit Malala Fund having invested \$2 million in Afghanistan.

The British Museum

FROM PAGE 12

Pleiades constellation.

It was discovered in 1999 near the town of Nebra in Germany and is being loaned to the British Museum by the State Museum of Prehistory in Halle. It is the first time it has been loaned internationally for 15 years.

It will form part of an exhibition on Stonehenge which will open in February.

Neil Wilkin, curator of The World Of Stonehenge at the British Museum, said: "The Nebra Sky Disc and the sun pendant are two of the most remarkable surviving objects from Bronze Age Europe."

School kids outside

FROM PAGE 12

education officers will forward the emails to district education officers by October 25, it said.

The district education officers have been asked to send all the information by email to addresshesecondary2@gmail.com by October 27.

Students must include their 17-digit birth registration number, their name, school name, school code, date of birth and guardian's mobile number in the excel sheet.

7.86m at risk of learning loss

FROM PAGE 1

of Governance and Development (BIGD) shared the study findings with journalists at a virtual press conference yesterday.

The government had closed schools and other educational institutions across the country on March 17 last year as part of its efforts to contain the spread of Covid-19. In-person classes resumed at the institutions on September 12 after the situation improved.

Based on a previous study in March, PPRC and BIGD had said 5.92 million primary and secondary students in the country were at risk of learning loss as a result of the closure.

The term learning loss refers to any specific or general loss of knowledge and skills or to reversals in academic progress, most commonly due to extended gaps or discontinuities in a student's education, according to education and development forum UKFIET.

The learning crisis has worsened in the last six months, says the new study done in August and September.

About 22 percent primary school and 30 percent secondary school students surveyed were at risk of learning loss. It means 3.96 million primary and 3.9 million secondary students -- a total of 7.86 million

students -- are at the risk, PPRC Executive Chairman Hossain Zillur Rahman said while disclosing the study findings yesterday.

"As a result, the dropout rate might go higher... The decision to reopen the schools was accurate and timely, but only reopening will not be enough to recover from learning loss," he said. "Supplementary remedial programmes are essential for both primary and secondary level students."

Yesterday, PPRC and BIGD shared findings from the first part of their fourth round of survey, which focused on the extended impact of Covid-19 on children's education in the country.

The survey was based on telephone interviews of heads of 4,872 rural and urban slum households with school-going children. Fifty-four percent of the respondents were from urban slums, 45pc from rural slums and one percent from Chattogram Hill Tracts. The interviews were taken between August 21 and September 8.

Carried out in March, the previous survey, titled "PPRC-BIGD Rapid Response Research: COVID Impact on Educational Life of Children", was based on telephone interviews of heads of 6,099 rural and urban slum households having school-going children. The study showed

that 17 percent primary and 25 percent secondary students were at risk of learning loss in March.

Researchers said the latest study found that students at risk of learning loss were those not studying at all or studying without any supervision or studying irregularly via online classes or studying with help of family members or private tutors.

The risk of learning loss was more prominent among male students of secondary schools compared to their female counterparts.

Twenty-six percent of secondary male students were at risk in March. It increased to 34 percent in August.

The survey has found a direct relationship between a child's learning loss risk and the mother's education level. For example, children whose mothers never went to school face the highest risk.

Besides, the study shows that 40 percent of the households surveyed have no device for remote learning, including online classes. About 60 percent households have only one such device.

The pandemic and the subsequent school closure also affected the mental health of children and adolescents, it also says.

In August, over 15 percent of the households reported that their school- or college-going children

had been suffering from mental stress since the beginning of the pandemic. It was 13 percent in March.

Prof Syed Md Golam Faruk, director general of the Directorate of Secondary and Higher Education (DSHE), said the government was aware of the issue and that they were providing training to 2 lakh teachers on "Psychological First Aid" to address the issue.

The study also said the number of school-going boys engaged in income-generating activities was on the rise.

It said about 8.7 percent of the school-going boys were engaged in such activities which was 8 percent in March.

BIGD Executive Director Imran Matin stressed the importance of finding innovative and scalable solutions to address the twin risks -- learning loss and mental stress -- to tackle the "educational emergency".

"The cost of not treating this as an emergency can be extremely high in the long term, off-tracking years of progress and ambition," he said.

The study recommends well designed supplementary remedial programmes to recover learning loss, but said the programmes must continue outside school hours.

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লিখিত পরীক্ষার বিজ্ঞপ্তি

দৈনিক জাতীয় পত্রিকায় প্রকাশিত ঢাকা দক্ষিণ সিটি কর্পোরেশনের ২৮.০২.২০২১খ্রিঃ তারিখের ৪৬.২০৭.০০০.০৩.০১.২৯৭.২০২১-১০৪ নম্বর বিজ্ঞপ্তির মাধ্যমে উপকর কর্মকর্তা পদের বিপরীতে টেলিটক বাংলাদেশ লিমিটেড এর কারিগরি সহযোগিতায় অনলাইনে প্রাপ্ত আবেদনকারীদের লিখিত পরীক্ষা স্বাস্থ্যবিধি অনুসরণপূর্বক নিম্নোক্ত সময়সূচি অনুযায়ী গ্রহণ করা হবেঃ

পদের নাম	লিখিত পরীক্ষার তারিখ, বার ও সময়	কেন্দ্র
উপকর কর্মকর্তা	৩০.১০.২০২১ তারিখ শনিবার সকাল ১১.০০টা হতে ১২.৩০টা পর্যন্ত।	ঢাকা মহানগর মহিলা কলেজ, লক্ষীবাজার, সূত্রাপুর, ঢাকা-১১০০।

০২। পরীক্ষায় অংশগ্রহণের জন্য পরীক্ষার্থীগণ তাদের স্ব-স্ব প্রবেশপত্র ১৯ অক্টোবর, ২০২১ খ্রিস্টাব্দ তারিখ হতে এ ওয়েবসাইটে <http://dsc.teletalk.com.bd> মাধ্যমে সংগ্রহ করতে পারবেন। প্রবেশপত্র ব্যতীত কোনো পরীক্ষার্থীকে পরীক্ষা কেন্দ্রে প্রবেশ করতে দেয়া হবে না।

০৩। পরীক্ষার্থীগণকে অবশ্যই স্বাস্থ্যবিধি পরিপালনপূর্বক মাস্ক পরিধান করে পরীক্ষার কেন্দ্রে প্রবেশ করতে হবে। মাস্ক ছাড়া কোনো পরীক্ষার্থীকে পরীক্ষা কেন্দ্রে প্রবেশ করতে দেয়া হবে না। কক্ষতান্ত্রিক আসন বিন্যাস এবং পরীক্ষার্থীদের জন্য অনুসরণীয় অন্যান্য নির্দেশনা প্রবেশপত্রে উল্লেখ থাকবে।

০৪। Online-এ প্রবেশপত্র পেতে কোনো সমস্যা হলে ১২১ নম্বরে অথবা vas.query@teletalk.com.bd ই-মেইলে যোগাযোগ করা যাবে।

০৫। পরীক্ষায় অংশগ্রহণের জন্য কোনো প্রকার টিএ/ডিএ প্রদান করা হবে না।

আকরামুজ্জামান
সচিব
ঢাকা দক্ষিণ সিটি কর্পোরেশন

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