

BANGLADESH
UPDATE



211
New cases in 24hrs



15,69,539
Total cases



27,868
Deaths



15,33,423
Recoveries

GLOBAL
UPDATE



50,13,435
Deaths



247,285,055
Total cases

He fought against communalism

Says speaker of parliament on late journalist Bazlur Rahman

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

All media persons should practise true and objective journalism taking lessons from the life of veteran journalist Bazlur Rahman, Jatiya Sangsad Speaker Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury said yesterday.

"In his life, he fought against injustice and communalism -- he taught [others] how to use journalism to build a conscious society," she said while addressing the award-giving ceremony of Bazlur Rahman Smriti Padak-2020, organised by the Liberation War Museum (LWM).

LWM introduced the award in 2008 with financial support from family members and friends of the eminent journalist, who passed away in 2008.

The awards are conferred on print and electronic media journalists for their reporting on the Liberation War.

"He was a patriot, a freedom fighter and a humble man. He was always vocal in implementing the spirit of the Liberation War," said Shirin Sharmin, who participated in the event virtually as the chief guest.

After Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and most of his family members were assassinated on August 15, 1975, there was an attempt to distort the real history of the country's independence.

"It is the duty of all to present the

true history of independence before the new generation," she added.

This year, the reporting team of Nagorik Television, Habiganj-based reporter Mamun Chowdhury and Dhaka-based reporter Rajan Bhattacharya received the awards.

Former LWM trustee and member secretary Sara Zaker, trustees Sarwar Ali and Mofidul Hoque, cultural personality Nawazish Ali Khan and Dhaka University Professor Robaet Ferdous and others spoke at the event.

Former DU vice-chancellor Prof AAMS Arefin Siddique presided over the programme.

Matia Chowdhury, Bazlur Rahman's wife and chairman of the parliamentary standing committee on agriculture ministry, was also present there.

Bazlur Rahman, who hails from Mymensingh, was conferred with Swadhinata Padak, Bangladesh's highest civilian honour, posthumously for his contribution to journalism in 2012.

He was the editor of daily Sangbad, founder editor of the weekly Ekota, a mouthpiece of the Communist Party of Bangladesh.

The veteran journalist participated in the Liberation War and also edited a magazine titled "Muktijuddha" during the period.

He was also the chairman of the country's reputed children's organisation -- Khelaghar.

Vaccination begins today

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College at Malibagh, Chittagong Grammar School at Banani, Dhaka Commerce College in Mirpur, Kakoli High School and College in Dhanmondi, South Breeze School in Uttara and Scholastica School in Mirpur.

As many as 25 booths have been set up in each centre, where students of other schools in the vicinity can come to get vaccinated as well, Haque said.

Students will need to bring copies of their birth certificates and vaccine cards to the centre.

The government, which ran a successful trial on 120 children in Manikganj, is aiming to vaccinate 4,000-5,000 children a day for now, according to Haque.

The vaccination programme will be rolled out in other centres in Dhaka as well as the rest of the country. Eventually, 35,000 to 40,000 school

children would get the jabs a day, he added.

A list containing names of more than 4 lakh students aged 12-17 years enrolled at schools in Dhaka has been sent to the ICT Division to arrange for registration, said Golam Md Golam Faruk, director-general of the Directorate of Secondary and Higher Education (DSHE).

There are about 6.5 lakh students of 12-17 years enrolled at schools in Dhaka.

Earlier DSHE sought information of students of 12-17 years, including their birth certificate number, from all schools and colleges of Dhaka. It also has asked all schools across the country to submit similar information for vaccine registration.

Education Minister Dipu Moni and Health Minister Zahid Maleque will inaugurate the vaccination programme at 9:30 am today.

PM for increased climate

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climate promises of \$100 billion in annual funding to developing countries for their survival.

They wrote, "Our climate emergency is global, yet it does not affect everyone equally. For the Climate Vulnerable Forum (CVF) -- a group of 48 countries spanning four continents -- climate change is quite simply an existential threat. This is not hyperbole."

In the article, they called for greater ambition from the world to fend off the climate crisis, saying, "Greater funding for CVF countries will enable them to move from climate vulnerability to climate prosperity. That will be good for the 48 countries in greatest peril right now, but also for all those facing increasing threats. It is quite simply the right thing to do."

Referring to the response by governments around the world to the Covid-19 pandemic that has shown what is possible when we face imminent peril, they said, "We must harness this same drive in our response to existential climate threats."

About the adversity of climate change, they said that small island states such as Vanuatu, the Maldives and the Marshall Islands are being engulfed by rising sea levels.

"The vast and low-lying Delta region of Bangladesh, home to and food basket for more than 160 million people, is being poisoned by saltwater infiltration and may soon become an infertile wasteland. Extreme temperatures and severe droughts threaten to make large swathes of the Middle East, which is warming at twice the global average, uninhabitable. For the countries that make up the CVF, action on climate change, already urgent, simply cannot be delayed any longer," they continued.

At the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26) in Glasgow, the CVF will ask for greater ambition to keep the 1.5 degrees Celsius limit on warming, a matter of survival for many of the most vulnerable nations, the article read.

"We are also spotlighting the need to be more ambitious in adaptation because we are already living inside the eye of the storm that is the global climate emergency. And because of that, vulnerable nations are asking major emitting countries to join annual platforms at every UN climate conference to constantly raise ambition," they wrote.

But for the poorer nations, funding is essential to realise ambitious goals, they opined.

China rejects 'political, false' US report on Covid origins

AFP, Beijing

Beijing lashed out against a US intelligence review into the origins of the Covid-19 pandemic yesterday, calling it "political and false" while urging Washington to "stop attacking" China.

The Chinese foreign ministry's retort came days after the US Office of the Director of National Intelligence released a fuller version of its findings from a 90-day review ordered by President Joe Biden.

The paper said that, without new information, intelligence agencies would not be able to offer a better judgement on whether the virus emerged via animal-to-human

transmission or a lab leak.

It added that China's cooperation would probably be needed to reach a conclusive assessment on origins, although stressing that Beijing continued to "hinder the global investigation".

The so-called lab-leak theory says the virus was spread from a research facility in Wuhan, the central city where the contagion was first reported. The theory remains unsubstantiated, and China has repeatedly rejected it.

Foreign ministry spokesman Wang Wenbin responded in a statement Sunday that China had expressed firm opposition to initial findings published in the summary report in August.



Award recipients pose for a photograph with distinguished guests after receiving Bazlur Rahman Smriti Padak-2020 at the Liberation War Museum auditorium in the capital yesterday. Former Dhaka University VC Prof AAMS Arefin Siddique, who presided over the programme, is seen sitting with the guests.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

Bangladesh needs \$176b by 2030

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For that, the country will have to fork out \$32.25 billion over ten years.

In the conditional scenario, GHG emissions would be reduced by 61.9 Mt CO₂e (15.12 percent) below BAU in 2030 in the respective sectors and for that Bangladesh needs an additional \$143.67 billion.

To bring down emissions in Bangladesh by 21.85 percent, the highest amount of investment is required in the energy and transport sectors: \$168.27 billion.

With the financing, the country will implement renewable energy projects of 4,114.3 megawatts, use improved technology for power generation from coal (as 12,147 MW), install a new combined cycle gas-based power plant (5,613 MW), improve the efficiency of existing gas turbine power plant (570 MW) and install prepaid meters and bring down total transmission and distribution losses to a single digit by 2030.

Electric buses would be rolled out in major cities, and a charging station network would be established.

Besides, the money will be sent on the improvement of road traffic congestion (15 percent improvement in fuel efficiency), widening of roads (two- to four-lane) and improving the road quality, construction of non-motorised transport and bicycle lanes, introducing electronic road pricing or congestion charging, reducing private

cars and encouraging electric and hybrid vehicle use.

The industry subsector's target would be to achieve 20 percent energy efficiency through measures according to the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Master Plan (EECMP). It will also promote green industry and carbon financing.

The agriculture and forestry sectors need a total of \$3.27 billion from both sources.

The money in the agriculture sector will be needed for the reduction of methane emission reduction from rice fields with Upscaling Alternate Wetting and Drying in dry season rice fields in 100,000 hectares of croplands and rice varietal improvement for 2,129,000 hectares of croplands.

The funds will also be spent on 627,000 hectares of cropland management (leaf colour chart, soil test based fertiliser application, less tillage barn management etc.), improvement of fertiliser management (deep placement of urea in rice field, training, awareness) in 150,000 hectares, bringing more area under pulse cultivation among others.

In the forestry sector, the fund will be used to reduce deforestation, introduce reforestation/afforestation initiatives, measures for forest restoration and maintain forest and tree cover

The waste sector needs about \$4.3 billion for improving municipal solid

waste management, ensuring the 3R (Reduce-Reuse-Recycle) principle for waste management and improvement of sewerage treatment.

"The initiatives in the NDC are positive," Khondaker Golam Moazzem, research director at the Centre for Policy Dialogue, told The Daily Star.

But the government is not solely responsible for implementing those, he said, adding that participation from the private sector is needed as well.

"Globally, the private sector showed interest in mitigation measures."

The commitment from the developed countries and global companies that they will invest in some bankable projects such as electric bus and car manufacturing is also important, he added.

The developed countries, especially the G-20 countries, must take an active lead in all global initiatives to tackle climate change, said Md. Shahab Uddin, minister for environment, forest and climate change ministry, which prepared the NDCs.

The world leaders need to work on a long-term plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, he said, while calling on the Green Climate Fund and Global Environment Facility to address the existing problems so that the developing countries can receive \$100 billion a year in aid under the Paris Climate Agreement.

Shakib ruled out of T20

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stage as the 34-year-old will not be taking part in the Tigers' last two Super 12 clashes against South Africa and Australia on November 2 and 4, respectively.

"Shakib sustained a left lower hamstring strain while fielding during the match against the West Indies. In a clinical examination, it was diagnosed as an injury of Grade 1 intensity. He is ruled out from participation in the last two matches of the tournament and until further review," BCB's chief physician doctor Debashish Chowdhury was quoted as saying in a video message provided by the BCB media.

Having suffered a hamstring injury during Bangladesh's latest game against West Indies on Friday, Shakib had opened the batting for the first time in T20s and was seen struggling while running between the wickets and had also walked off the ground for some time during fielding earlier. Shakib, however, had completed his four-over spell with the ball in that game.

It was also informed that Shakib's condition will be reviewed by the BCB medical team in a week or two. Bangladesh, however, does not have any more reserve players with the squad for the World Cup and it was confirmed by the BCB that it will not take a replacement for Shakib. It is still not confirmed whether Shakib would stay back with the team or return to the United States to his family.

That raises the question over the lack of foresight by the Bangladesh team management who had no reserve player left with the team as Rubel Hossain, who was the only back up player travelled with the side, has already replaced another injured all-rounder Mohammad Saifuddin after the first Super 12 game against Sri Lanka.

With the current situation where wicketkeeper-batsman Nurul Hasan Sohan is also suffering from an abdominal injury and is yet to recover, Bangladesh squad now has a total of 13 eligible players for selection.

More than a dozen

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least nine others were injured in the clash, said police.

In a similar clash at Bihar union in Bogura's Shibganj upazila, three people were injured on the same day.

Three more were injured in pre-polls violence in Pirojpur Sadar upazila yesterday.

In Patuakhali's Naomala union, supporters of AL-nominated candidate Kamal Hossain tried to establish supremacy over the supporters of AL rebel candidate Shahzada Hawladar.

At one point, two gunshots were fired in presence of police, leaving one injured, alleged witnesses. The victim was admitted to Barishal Sher-e-Bangla Medical College Hospital where a surgeon removed the bullet from his body, reported our Patuakhali correspondent.

Contacted, Al Mamun, officer-in-charge of Baufal Police Station, said additional

policemen were deployed in the area fearing further deterioration of the law and order situation.

He, however, denied the shooting on Saturday night but said he heard about the removal of a bullet from a man's body.

In Bogura's Bihar union, supporters of AL candidate Mohidul Islam and AL rebel candidate Motiur Rahman Motin locked into a clash, reported our Bogura correspondent.

Mohidul and his followers allegedly stabbed three men with sharp weapons and vandalised the houses of Motin's seven to eight supporters, alleged Motin.

Meanwhile, Mohidul brought counter-allegations against Motin and said his supporters started the clash.

Contacted, both of them denied the allegations.

Zahidul Islam, medical officer of Shibganj Upazila Health Complex, said three people were admitted to the hospital and received primary treatment.

Injured student

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of Nowfel, said the activists, who are supporters of Nasir, also general secretary of Chattogram city unit Awami League, hit Aqib on the head with sticks and iron rods and also hacked him when he was alone in front of Popular Diagnostic Centre, next to CMCH.

The attack happened following a clash between the two groups on Friday night.

"We were in a meeting with the principal at that time," he said, adding, "After hearing the news, we rushed to the spot and rescued him in a critical condition."

Contacted, Prof Dr Noman Khaled Chowdhury, head of neurosurgery department at CMCH, who operated on Aqib's head, said the operation was successful, but the patient was not out of danger.

"There was haemorrhage in his brain," said the doctor, "His skull was cracked."

Aqib and two other BCL activists at CMCH were wounded during the factional clash. After the clash, the academic council of CMCH sat in a meeting and decided to close the college for an indefinite time, said Prof Dr Shahena Akter, principal of CMCH.

BCL activist Taufiqur Rahman filed a case against 16 people over the incident, said Sadekur Rahman, inspector (investigation) of Panchlaish Police Station, adding that police arrested two of them yesterday.

BCL insiders said the CMCH campus, its central students' union and hostel have been fully dominated by BCL faction loyal to AJM Nasir Uddin since 2011. They had "driven out" the other student organisation activists from hostel and campus.

The monopoly of the BCL faction loyal to Nasir was challenged after the 2018 national elections. Nowfel was elected lawmaker from Chattogram-9 constituency and became president of CMCH management committee by virtue of his post.

Nasir, who was the mayor of CCC, failed to get the party nomination in the CCC polls scheduled to be held in 2020 (later held in January this year).

Nowfel, meanwhile, was made the deputy minister for education in the present government.

The balance of power in local politics had thus shifted towards Nowfel, who is the son of late AL Chattogram city unit president and former city mayor ABM Mohiuddin Chowdhury.

Soon, a BCL faction loyal to Nowfel demanded posts of college students' committee and central students' union while the Nasir faction was not ready to yield an inch to their rivals.

The result was clashes in the hostel and on campus on different occasions since 2019. The authorities banned political activities on campus several months ago after a clash, but it was in vain.



INDEPENDENT UNIVERSITY, BANGLADESH (IUB)
Purchase & Procurement Department
Plot #16, Block #B, Aftabuddin Ahmed Road, Bashundhara, Dhaka-1229

TENDER FOR PASSIVE NETWORKING & CABLING

Sealed quotations are invited from the manufacturers/bona-fide distributors/dealers for supply, installation, testing and commissioning of passive networking & cabling. The detailed specifications and quantity of the materials as well as other terms & conditions are mentioned in the tender schedule. Interested bidders are requested to collect tender schedule from the Purchase & Procurement Department on payment of Tk.2,000/- (non-refundable) by cash to the Finance & Accounts Department of Independent University, Bangladesh between the office hrs. from 9 a.m. to 4.00 p.m. (Sunday through Thursday) till **November 08, 2021.**

The sealed bids will be submitted by the bidders in two envelopes to the Purchase & Procurement Department, one for the **Technical Offer** and another for the Financial Offer. The bids (**Technical and Financial**) will be received till **November 18, 2021** on or before **2.30 p.m.** The Technical Offers will be opened on the same day at **3.00 p.m.** Subsequently, the Financial Offers of the technically qualified bidders will be opened in their presence. **The Financial Offers must be accompanied by an earnest money equivalent to 2.5% of the total quoted amount** in the form of Pay Order/Bank Draft from any scheduled bank favoring Independent University, Bangladesh without which the bid shall be rejected.

The University authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the bids and increase or decrease of the required quantities of the materials without assigning any reasons whatsoever and also is not bound to accept the lowest offer.



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