

# 31 more hospitalised with dengue

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

At least 31 people with dengue fever were admitted to hospitals in the country during 24 hours till 8:00am yesterday. Only three were from outside the capital. With the new cases, total number of dengue patients rose to 510 this year, according to the Directorate General of Health Services. Among them, 83 are still undergoing treatment.

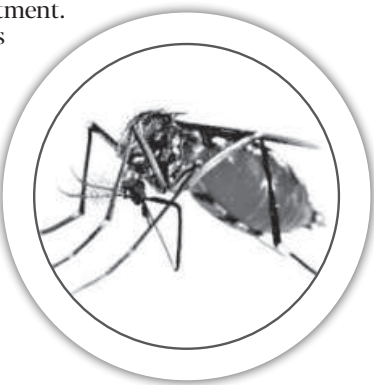
A total of 427 patients have recovered and released from hospitals.

Warning the two city corporations of a major outbreak of dengue virus this year, experts suggested the corporations take extensive measures to control the Aedes mosquitoes.

Dhaka is at risk of a major dengue outbreak this year compared to the last couple of years, as clear, stagnant water, the breeding ground for Aedes mosquitoes, at under-construction buildings is abundant this time around.

The situation came to light after the DGHS conducted a pre-monsoon survey between March 23 and April 4.

The survey found three Dhaka South City Corporation wards to be at “high risk” and 10 at “medium risk” of an outbreak. Nine wards in Dhaka North City Corporation are at medium risk.



## Two killed in road accident

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Jhenidah

Two people were killed after a pickup and truck collided on Jhenidah-Kushitia highway early yesterday.

The deceased are pickup driver Billal Hossain (45) and his helper Khokon Mia (25), said police.

Sanjoy Kumar Debnath, fire service official in Shailakupa upazila, said the pickup, on its way to Barishal, hit a truck from behind at Chandpur.

Billal and Khokon were declared dead at a local health complex. The bodies were sent for autopsy.

# ‘Pay up, or you’ll end up like Tipu’

People connected with the AL leader getting threatening calls

SHAHEEN MOLLAH and MOHAMMAD JAMIL KHAN

Just a week before Eid-ul-Fitr, a businessman, who has shops at the capital’s AGB colony kitchen market, received a call from an internet-generated number.

The caller, without disclosing his identity, claimed that he was calling from Dubai.

“You have to pay up if you want to continue your business. Or else, your fate will be like that of Jahidul Islam Tipu,” he said.

Tipu, former general secretary of Motijheel Awami League (AL), was shot dead by unidentified assailants on March 24. To add to that tragedy, Samia Afran Jamal Prity (22), a rickshaw passenger, got hit by a stray bullet and died.

After the call, the businessman was terrified and contemplated shutting down his shop.

The shops have been closed ever since Eid.

“My life is more important than money,” he said on June 1, seeking anonymity out of fear.

“Tipu had a bodyguard and yet got killed. We don’t have that kind of support, so we have to think about our life first,” he said.

He has filed a GD with Motijheel Police Station.

This is not a one-off incident. Businesspeople in Motijheel area, especially those who were well-connected with Tipu, are getting such calls since the murder, according to local ruling party leaders and traders.

At least seven GDs have been filed by traders of Motijheel for such threats, they said.

They claimed that those who are making the threats are the planners of Tipu’s murder.

Abdul Ahad, deputy

commissioner of Motijheel police, told this newspaper on June 4 that several GDs were filed in this connection, and they have forwarded the complaints to police’s Detective Branch (DB), as it is investigating Tipu’s murder.

Asked about the traders’ security, Ahad said police patrolling has been increased. Of the complaints, this newspaper has managed to collect three. One of the complaints was filed by Tipu’s wife Farhana Islam Doly, also a ward councillor, on April 1.

According to the complaint, around 6:17pm on April 1, Doly received a phone call from the number 72972823.

“Are you Doly?” the caller

Detectors said the arrest of Musa, the prime suspect, will be a vital breakthrough in investigating the extortion calls and the murder.

asked. “Yes,” she replied and asked for the caller’s identity.

Without answering, the caller asked, “Where do you stay?”

She asked for the caller’s identity again, and he replied, “I’m Tomal. I’m calling from Dubai. You shouldn’t have mentioned my name to police,” the complaint read.

Earlier on March 25 and 30, Doly got calls from the same number, asking for her address.

“Now, I feel really unsafe,” Doly mentioned in the GD.

Talking to these correspondents at her residence on May 30, Doly said law

enforcers have arrested some people over the murder, but investigation remains stalled.

“Now, planners of Tipu’s murder are threatening me to back away from the case. But I won’t do that,” she said.

Asked about all this, Rifat Rahman Shamim, deputy commissioner of DB’s Motijheel division, told The Daily Star that investigation is underway.

The investigators earlier claimed that Tipu was murdered by his political and underworld rivals to establish supremacy at Motijheel. They mentioned Sumon Shikder Musa, who is believed to have connections with underworld gangs, as the murder’s mastermind.

The killing was planned three to four months back, with a contract of Tk 15 lakh.

Musa received the money and went to Dubai on March 12. From there, he coordinated and hired hitmen, claimed law enforcers.

Police said Musa has been arrested in Oman. A police team brought him to Dhaka from Oman on June 9. Six people have so far been arrested in the case.

Detectors said Musa’s arrest will be a vital breakthrough in investigating the extortion calls and the murder.

A trader filed a complaint against Musa with Motijheel Police Station on April 10.

As per the complaint, a call came from +882391, and the caller identified himself as Musa.

The caller then asked for money. When the businessman refused, he made threats.

About the arrest, Doly said, “Law enforcers arrested Musa. But, I think there is someone behind him.”

# Bangladesh-India bus service resumes today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

After remaining suspended for over two years due to the pandemic, the bus service between Bangladesh and India will resume today.

Tazul Islam, chairman of Bangladesh Road Transport Corporation (BRTC), confirmed this to The Daily Star yesterday.

Except the Dhaka-Sylhet-Shillong-Guwahati-Dhaka route, services on four other routes will resume from tomorrow and the first bus will start from Motijheel at 7:00am, he added.

The development came after the rail service between the two countries resumed on May 29.

Both bus and train services were suspended in March 2020, when the coronavirus hit Bangladesh.

Before suspension of services, buses were operated on five cross-border routes: Dhaka-Kolkata-Dhaka, Dhaka-Agartala-Dhaka, Dhaka-Sylhet-Shillong-Guwahati-Dhaka, Agartala-Dhaka-Kolkata-Agartala, and Dhaka-Khulna-Kolkata-Dhaka.

Discussion over resumption of bus service came to the fore after both the countries decided to resume train service.

Suvenker Ghosh Rakesh, managing director of Shyamoli NR Travels, said they are all set to resume services from June 10.

The discussion over the operation of fifth route is also going on, said a BRTC official.



### ট্রেডিং কর্পোরেশন অব বাংলাদেশ

প্রধান কার্যালয়  
১, কাওরান বাজার, ঢাকা।

নং-২৬.০৫.০০০০.০২৩.২২.০৯৫.২২.৩০৮ তারিখঃ ০৯-০৬-২০২২ খ্রিঃ

#### টিসিবি'র ১,৪২১ মেঃ টন (প্রায়) ছোলা 'ওপেন সেল' এ বিক্রয়।

এতদ্বারা সর্বসাধারণের অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, “আগে আসলে আগে পাবেন” ভিত্তিতে টিসিবি'র ক্রয়/আমদানিকৃত সর্বশেষ উৎপাদন মৌসুমের (Latest Crop Year) ছোলা প্রতি কেজি ৫০/- (পঞ্চাশ) টাকা (ভ্যাট ও ট্যাক্সসহ) দরে টিসিবি আঞ্চলিক কার্যালয় ঢাকার আওতাধীন ২৩০ ও ৩৪৪/সি তেজগাঁও, গুদাম এবং নিউদাপা, ফতুল্লা, নারায়ণগঞ্জ গুদাম হতে 'ওপেন সেল' এর মাধ্যমে আগামী ১৩-০৬-২০২২ খ্রিঃ তারিখ হতে বিক্রয় করা হবে।

অগ্রহী ক্রেতাগণ উক্ত ছোলা টিসিবি'র আঞ্চলিক কার্যালয়, ঢাকার আওতাধীন গুদাম হতে যে কোন পরিমাণ ছোলা ক্রয় করতে পারবেন। তবে ক্রেতার সংখ্যা অধিক হলে আনুপাতিক ভাবে বরাদ্দ প্রদান করা হবে। মজুদ শেষ না হওয়া পর্যন্ত উক্ত বিক্রয় কার্যক্রম চলমান থাকবে।

( মোঃ শেখাবুর রহমান)  
প্রধান কর্মকর্তা (সিএমএস ও বিওবি)

## Save CHT forests to protect biodiversity

### Experts tell seminar

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

To conserve the country’s biodiversity, efforts must be taken to protect the forests of Chattogram Hill Tracts (CHT), said speakers at a seminar.

They said this at a seminar titled “Priorities of Forest Landscape Restoration and Biodiversity Conservation in The Chattogram Hill Tracts” organised by Arannayk Foundation on Wednesday.

According to the foundation data, CHT accounts for about 10 percent of the country’s total land area. Only one percent of the total population live there.

The forest is now severely degraded due to multiple factors, including jhum cultivation, overharvesting, change in land use and lack of sustainable forest management, said speakers.

“To conserve the wildlife and greater biodiversity, we must protect CHT from the multiple threats it is facing,” said Ishiaq Sobhan, senior environmental specialist of the World Bank.

Satellite data from 2000 to 2015 suggest that the rate of deforestation and degradation is much higher in CHT than in the rest of the country, said Md Amir Hossain Chowdhury, chief conservator of the department.

Analysing satellite data from 2000 to 2015, it was noticed that the rate of deforestation and forest degradation is much higher in CHT than the rest of the country.

## SAVAR ROAD CRASH

### Another scientist dies

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Savar

Another scientist from Bangladesh Atomic Energy Commission (BAEC) – who was injured in a road accident on Dhaka-Aricha highway – died at Combined Military Hospital in Dhaka early yesterday.

The deceased is scientific officer Farhana Islam. The death toll currently stands at six. On June 5, a Safe Line Paribahan lost control and hit three vehicles, including a BAEC bus. The driver of the Safe Line Paribahan bus and four BAEC staffers were killed. Twenty others were injured.

Police are yet to make any arrests in this connection.

“The bus has no road permit and legal document. We are trying to find the current owner of the bus,” said SI Golam Mostofa of Savar Highway Police Station.



### Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

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Memo no: 26.00.0000.066.07.0369.22-348 Date: 09/06/2022

#### Request for Expressions of Interest (Consultancy/Research Firm)

**Assignment Title:** Consultancy/Research firm for conducting 03 studies suggested by NTFC in FY 2021-22.

**Reference No:** BRCP1/MOC/SD-16

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh has received financing from the World Bank for implementing the Bangladesh Regional Connectivity Project-I and intends to apply part of the proceeds for the consulting services to conduct studies suggested by NTFC in FY 2021-22.

The broad scope of consulting services (“the Services”) includes conducting the following three studies in 2021-22/23 fiscal year that are critical for export promotion and trade facilitation: These studies will be conducted under a single package to explore best output from the study.

The study will cover the following relevant areas, but not limited to:

- Study 1: Vehicle and Cargo tracking under free transit regime
- Study 2: Assessment study on necessity of more Off Dock/Dry Port
- Study 3: Feasibility study on enhancing trade and connectivity with North East India and Bangladesh.

The detail scope of the 3-studies proposed above is described in the Terms of Reference (ToR) – which will be available at address of the undersigned given at the top of the letterhead and in project website: [www.brpcp-1.gov.bd](http://www.brpcp-1.gov.bd)

Expected date for commencement of the services is 01 November, 2022 and duration of the assignment is anticipated to run for a period of six months commencing on the date of signing the agreement.

The Project Director, representing the Ministry of Commerce, Government of Bangladesh now invites eligible consultancy/research Firms to express their interest in providing the Services. Interested consulting/research Firms shall have to provide information demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experiences to perform the Services. The qualifications and experiences for short listing are:

- The consulting firm shall have the legal capacity to enter into the contract;
- The firm shall have at least 10 years of general experience in providing consulting/research services out of which at least 05 years of experience in national and international trade related research or studies for public and private sector;
- The firm must have successfully completed one service contract/study/research related to cross-border trade and related issues;
- The firm should have experience in working with development partner's funded projects (IDA financed project experience would be desirable).

The firm should propose the structure and composition of its team members as indicated in the ToR. It should list the main disciplines of the assignment, key experts, technical and support staffs.

Consultants are requested to submit, but not limited to, the following supporting documents in support of the above-mentioned criteria:

- (i) The Firm's Incorporation/Trade/registration documents from the country of the firm (ii) Firm's brochures; and (iii) Description of similar consultancy contracts, including the scope, contract amount, name of Client, period of the contract (date of contract signing to date of completion), location/county of the services, etc.

The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to the Section III, Para 3.14, 3.16, and 3.17 of the World Bank's 'Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers, July 2016 and updated in November 2020,' setting forth the World Bank's policy on conflict of interest.

A consulting/research Firm is allowed to submit the Expressions of Interest (Eoi) along if it considers itself to be fully qualified on its own for the assignment, as it is not mandatory for consultants to associate with any other firm(s), whether foreign or local. Alternatively, if consultants themselves choose to associate to enhance their qualifications and capability for the assignment, then such associations may either be as a Joint Venture (i.e. all members of the joint venture shall be jointly and severally responsible) and/or Sub-consultants (i.e. the Consultant will be responsible, including for the services of the sub-consultant). In case of an association, the Consultants must explain in the Eoi submission (a) the rationale for forming the association and (b) the anticipated role and relevant qualifications of each member of the Joint Venture and/or of each sub-consultant for carrying out the assignment, to justify the proposed inclusion of the JV members and/or sub-consultants in the association. Failure to provide the above explanation in the Expressions of Interest may risk the association not being shortlisted for the assignment. However, the qualifications/experience of sub-consultants will not be considered by the Client in the evaluation of Expressions of Interest for Shortlisting purposes.

A consultancy/research Firm will be selected in accordance with the Quality and Cost Based Selection (QCBS) method set out in the Procurement Regulations of the World Bank.

Further information can be obtained at the address of the undersigned given at the letterhead, during office hours from 9:00am to 5:00pm Bangladesh Standard Time (BST).

Expressions of Interest (Eoi) must be delivered in a written form to the address of the undersigned (in person or by mail or by e-mail) by 4:00pm (BST), **04 July, 2022.**

The Client will not be responsible for any expenses incurred by the firm(s) in connection with the preparation or delivery of the Eoi. The procuring entry reserves the right to accept or reject all Eois.

**Md. Mijanur Rahman**  
Project Director (Joint Secretary)  
Bangladesh Regional Connectivity Project-1  
Ministry of Commerce

GD-1206