

Dengue claims another life

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

One more person died from dengue in the 24 hours until yesterday morning raising this year's death toll from the mosquito-borne disease to 20, according to the Directorate General of Health Services.

The latest death was reported from Cox's Bazar, where the dengue death toll stood at 11.

Nine other fatalities were from Dhaka.

With 201 new patients, 52 from outside Dhaka, the total number of dengue cases this year rose to 5693 during this time.

A total of 668 dengue patients, including 551 in the capital, are still undergoing treatment at different hospitals across the country.

As many as 5,005 patients have been released from hospitals so far.



Just two years ago, the entire Khalishpur area in Khulna used to be abundant with people -- jute mill workers and their family members -- hustling and bustling as they went on about their daily lives. With the shutting down of the mills, the area is almost a deserted zone. The photo was taken from Crescent Jute Mill's workers' colony recently.

PHOTO: STAR

Waterway passengers dropped significantly

State minister for shipping tells JS

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Passengers on almost all waterways from Dhaka to the country's southern region declined significantly due to the Padma Bridge, State Minister for Shipping Khalid Mahmud Chowdhury told parliament yesterday.

In reply to a query from Awami League MP Sayeda Rubina Akter, he said, "Around 85-90 launches were plying from Dhaka River Port to the southern region every day (before opening of the Padma Bridge). But now it has been reduced to 60-65."

"Besides, the ferry service on the Mawa-Majhirkandi route has come to a halt. The movement of vehicles on the Paturia-Daulatdia ferry route has declined significantly and thus the BIWTC is losing revenue."

However, he said, there is a possibility to increase the waterway passengers slightly within the next six months. He said a feasibility study is being conducted to create new river routes for passengers and cargo transportation at affordable prices.

Turning into a GHOST TOWN

Population sees decline in Khulna's Khalishpur due to closure of jute mills

DIPANKAR ROY, Khulna

As soon as one enters the first gate of Platinum Jute Mill Workers Colony next to Khulna's BIDD road, they can see rows of empty two-storey buildings, overgrown with careless neglect.

However, the scene was not quite the same just two years ago. The entire area used to be abundant with people -- workers and their family members -- hustling and bustling as they went on about their daily lives. They would often accommodate relatives from distant areas too, who would come for job searching.

With the shutting down of jute mills in the area, Khulna's Khalishpur is almost a deserted zone as workers and their families have left the area. Rental houses outside the quarters have also mostly been deserted, with "To Let" signs hanging on their entrances. It is as if Khalishpur is on the verge of turning into a ghost town.

The reflections of this phenomenon have been cast on the recent census as well. According to the Bureau of Statistics, the population of Khalishpur Thana during the 2011 census was 1,65,299.

In the 2022 census, it came down to 1,51,684 people.

Although the population has increased in every area of Khulna in the last 10 years, Khalishpur, the city's industrial zone, has seen a decline in population by 13,615 people.

Mintu Khalifa (62) came to Khulna from Madaripur's Kalkini and started working in



the hand sewing department of Platinum Mill in 1988.

"I used to live in the Kacha Colony Line. Before the mill's closure, around 4,000 people lived there. However, the BJMC authority issued a written notice that required us to vacate the colonies before we got our arrears," said Mintu.

Mintu currently lives in Arongghata, outside of Khulna. Thousands of workers like Mintu had to move out of the area due to the loss of jobs in the jute mills.

However, the closure of mills has affected the lives of people other than the workers as well.

Abul Kalam, owner of Janani Hair Cutting salon in front of Platinum Mill Gate, shared

his tale of misfortune with this correspondent.

"Since the closure of the mills, the number of customers at the salon has decreased. I'm trying to move out of the area as well," said Abul. "I hired three people to work in the salon whom I had to lay off as well," he added.

Crescent Jute Mill, which has the country's biggest mill workers colony, was also on a desolation row when this correspondent visited the site recently.

Raju Ahmed, who works as the security guard at the mill, told this correspondent that around 5,000-6,000 workers used to live in the colonies.

"Around 60-80 percent of them went back to their village homes with their families. The

SEE PAGE 5 COL 7

Bogura OC transferred

He was accused of tampering with evidence, plotting to kill a man

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bogura

The officer in charge of Bogura's Dhunat Police Station was transferred to the district police of Pabna on Sunday.

Recently, two separate allegations of tampering with evidence of a rape incident and planning to kill a person were brought against him.

Rajshahi Range DIG Abdul Baten signed his transfer order on Sunday, stating that OC Kripa Sindhu Bala will join Pabna district police for the sake of public interest.

Recently, two people brought allegations against Kripa, and police started investigating the matter. The investigation is still ongoing.

On August 22, in a written application to Bogura's superintendent of police, a rape victim's mother alleged that Kripa destroyed some evidence of the rape incident, like video clips, after he retrieved two smartphones from those accused of raping the person.

According to the mother, Kripa deleted the clips after taking bribes from the accused.

Kripa was also accused of planning to kill one Ariful Islam Hitlu, who was reportedly murdered by some local drug leaders.

Hitlu's wife Shefali Khatun of Dhunat upazila wrote to the home ministry that Kripa made a plan with the drug dealers to kill her husband.

When Hitlu was killed on April 16, Kripa refused to file a case by saying that a mob killed him, Shefali told the ministry. Kripa has a close relationship with the accused drug dealers, she claimed.

SEE PAGE 5 COL 6

Chisty sued over Tk 10 crore graft

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Anti-Corruption Commission yesterday filed a case against Mahbubul Haque Chisty, former chairman of Farmers Bank audit committee, and 10 others on the charge of embezzling Tk 10 crore loan from the bank.

ACC Chattogram District Integrated Office-1 Assistant Director Md Enamul Haque filed the case with the office, said Deputy Director Nazmus Sadat.

The case statement said the accused misused their power and issued Tk 10 crore loans and later misappropriated it in collaboration with each other through transferring and changing the money.

Rajshahi city bus service launched

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

Transport owners introduced city bus service in Rajshahi yesterday.

They took the decision in the afternoon while auto-rickshaw drivers were observing their second day of strike, demanding a hike in fares.

Salfat Manjur, joint secretary of Rajshahi Transport Owners Group, said a total of 30 buses will ply two routes -- Katakhal Bazar-Rajshahi court and Nawhata Bazar-Rajshahi court.

Initially the buses would charge the same fare as the auto-rickshaws, the bus owners said. Meanwhile, the auto-rickshaw drivers began a wildcat strike on Sunday demanding fixation of a minimum fare of Tk 10 from the current rate of Tk 5.

FAKE NEWS ON FB, YOUTUBE

HC order on writ petition today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The HC will deliver its order today on a petition seeking its order on the authorities concerned to stop running Facebook posts and YouTube videos containing "fake and concocted news that incite violence and public disorder" in Bangladesh.

The bench of Justice Md Khasruzzaman and Justice Md Iqbal Kabir yesterday fixed the date for passing an order after concluding hearing on the petition, DAG Bepl Bagmar told The Daily Star.

City University
Khagan, Birulia, Savar, Dhaka-1216

"Recruitment Circular"

City University, Permanently affiliated by the Government of Bangladesh and one of the top ranking Private Universities in Bangladesh, invites applications for the following positions:

No	Title	Educational Qualification & Experience
01	Vice-Chancellor	PHD degree from any reputed university having minimum 1st class or equivalent degree in Honors & Masters from any recognized university with minimum 10(ten) years teaching experience with research from recognized university or total 20 years experience in research/Administration. Candidates serving under any Public or Private University shall have to submit their application through proper channel. The candidate should also submit a letter of consent separately along with their application for further processing as required by UGC Act 35 of 2010. The candidate must have demonstrated competence in understanding relevant regulation (including amendments thereto) and in maintaining effective liaison with the regulatory and governmental agencies for ensuring smooth functioning of the university.
02	Professor: Department of Civil Engg., CSE, EEE, Textile Engg., DBA	Preferably PhD degree in the relevant field from a recognized university with a minimum 12 years of full time teaching experience at university level with minimum number of publications as required by UGC. Retired Professor from any Public/Private University will be given preference.
03	Associate/Assistant Professor: CSE, EEE, Textile Engg	With minimum 8(eight) years active teaching experience out of which at least 4(four) years as Assistant Professor with 5(five) publications out which 3(three) as Assistant Professor. For Assistant Professor 3 years teaching experience with 3 Publications. Preference will be given to PhD holders from any renowned university.
04	Lecturer: CSE, EEE, ME, Civil Engg., English, Agriculture, Pharmacy & Pure Science	Masters with Honors or equivalent degree in relevant discipline with minimum CGPA of 3.5 on a scale of 4.0. For 4 years B.Sc (Hon's) degree in engineering subjects with minimum CGPA 3.5 or 3 first class. Publication will add extra preference.

Requirements:
Candidates have to work at Permanent Campus, Khagan, Birulia, Savar, Dhaka. Single accommodation is available in the Permanent Campus. Application along with CV, Attested photocopies of all academic records and 2(two) recent Passport size photographs, NID should reach to the office of the Registrar, City University, Khagan, Birulia, Savar, Dhaka-1216 or E-mail to ar@gmail.com by 11 September, 2022.

Website: <http://www.cityuniversity.edu.bd/>

Tough times for tannery workers



AKLAKUR RAHMAN AKASH, Savar

With the ongoing energy crisis and the rising price of commodities, the tannery industry has been gravely affected, and with that, their workers.

Since the wage scale of the workers are determined by the rate of production at the factories, with decreased rates of production, their earnings have significantly decreased.

Mohammad Nazim Uddin (30) is a permanent worker at a tannery in Savar Tannery Industrial Estate. With wages and other benefits, his monthly salary is Tk 14,340.

Depending on the rate of production, he can work overtime and earn around

Tk 25,000 – 26,000 each month. Last June, he earned Tk 25,000.

However, his earnings went down to Tk 17,000 (including overtime) in July.

Nazim now spends his days in worry as his income decreased at a time when commodity prices are increasing and he probably won't be able to earn more than his baseline salary.

"Generally during this peak season, I used to get so over-ridden with work, but this year, we only have eight hours of duty," he added.

"The factory's production has been down since last July due to the electricity crisis. In this current month, rawhide processing has halted and in the up

SEE PAGE 5 COL 7

PRAYER TIMING					
AUGUST 30					
Fazr	Zohr	Asr	Maghrib	Esha	
AZAN 4:30	12:45	4:45	6:30	8:00	
JAMAAT 5:05	1:15	5:00	6:36	8:30	
SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION					

LOST	
I have lost my WED bonds No. AAAA 1107220-22 & AAA 320453, Reg. No. WDB2017/6000740, from Uttara, Dhaka, GD (1886) filed on 23.08.2022 with Uttara (West) Police Station, Dhaka. Nazrul Islam 01715016919 D-107	

Vacancy

A Diplomatic Mission would like to recruit an experienced Accountant and a Translator under the following terms and conditions:

1. Applicant must be excellent in all four skills of Arabic and English languages.
2. Applicant must hold a graduate degree from a recognized University.
3. Applicant must be excellent in the use of computer in both Arabic and English.
4. Applicant must be 25-45 years old.
5. Salary is commensurate with experience and qualification. Applicant are requested to email their application with relevant documents to kuwait_embd@yahoo.com by September 15th.

D-105