



Scenes from the capital on the day of BNP's rally. Supporters of the ruling Awami League staged a demonstration in Dhaka's Bangshal area, in the presence of on-duty police and Ansar members. The capital's Fakirapool was seen devoid of any pedestrian or vehicular movement, with police personnel barricading and guarding the area. Meanwhile, BCL leaders put on a show with their bike rally in Dhaka University area, chanting and displaying anti-BNP slogans.

PHOTOS: PRABIR DAS, PALASH KHAN

Three more die of dengue

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

At least three dengue patients died, while 265 were hospitalised in the last 24 hours till yesterday morning.

The death toll has risen to 266, while total cases are now 60,078, of which 22,078 have been recorded outside Dhaka.

A total of 58,631 patients, 21,492 from outside Dhaka, have already been released from hospitals.

Some 1,181 dengue patients, 484 from outside Dhaka, are still undergoing treatment.

Experts have been urging authorities concerned to conduct extensive drives by identifying clusters of Aedes mosquitoes immediately.



‘Media’s role was key to improve situation’

Speakers tell workshop on maternal health, family planning

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The media played a key role in strengthening family planning, sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR), and maternal health services in Bangladesh, especially during the pandemic, said speakers at a dissemination workshop yesterday.

A strategic partnership developed between Advance Family Planning (AFP) and media houses at national and subnational levels increased the visibility of family planning through the publication of more than 210 articles, they said.

They made the remarks at the workshop, titled “Strengthening Family Planning through Advocacy: Learnings and Opportunities”, organised by Marie Stopes Bangladesh (MSB), in association with AFP and Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, at a city hotel.



PHOTO: STAR

Opportunities”, organised by Marie Stopes Bangladesh (MSB), in association with AFP and Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, at a city hotel.

Pulak Raha, chief executive officer of Team Associates, said AFP Bangladesh partnered with the media to influence policies and decision-makers and support government accountability.

Nilima Jahan, staff reporter of The Daily Star, attended the event as a panellist and shared her experience regarding how her reportage on maternal, child health, family planning and SRHR issues brought a concrete change in policies and helped women and girls from underprivileged communities.

“Last year, when the delta variant of the coronavirus was affecting more and more pregnant women, one of my reports on the need for their vaccination was read out at the High Court by Justice Enayetur Rahim, who asked the government to include expecting mothers in the Surokkha App within 72 hours,” she said.

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Putting on a show in response
AL takes over empty capital on day of BNP rally

STAR REPORT

Leaders and activists of the ruling Awami League and its associate bodies took a position at key points of the capital yesterday, as BNP held its rally at Golapbagh ground.

They chanted slogans, brought out rounds of processions, paraded the roads on motorbikes in groups, and played speeches of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman along with patriotic songs.

The AL central office on Bangabandhu Avenue was filled with the party's people, while a completely different picture was seen at BNP headquarters in the capital's Nayapaltan area, which remained padlocked.

The city streets, which usually bustle with people even during the weekends, wore a deserted look in absence of adequate public transport. This situation led to city dwellers suffering greatly.

Four correspondents of this newspaper found that AL men set up pandals to remain in the streets in some areas, including Mirpur 11,

The AL central office on Bangabandhu Avenue was filled with the party's people, while a completely different picture was seen at BNP headquarters in the capital's Nayapaltan area, which remained padlocked.

Shewrapara bus stand, Adabor Shampa Market area and Gabtoli bus stand.

Groups upon groups started to gather at AL's central office. Around 1:00pm, the office and street in front of it brimmed with activists.

AL Presidium Member Mofazzal Hossain Chowdhury Maya said, “BNP wanted to establish a reign of terror in the entire city in the name of the movement. But they failed to do so.”

“They wanted to gather 10 lakh people in Nayapaltan but could not,” he said.

The activists present there brought out rounds of processions and chanted slogans like “action, action, direct action”, “action against Khaleda Zia”, and “action against Tareque Rahman”.

The ruling party members also took positions in front of AL Helal Clinic in Mipur 10, Shewrapara, Farmgate intersection, Green Super Market area, and Shahjahanpur intersection.

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PRAYER
TIMING
DEC 11



	Fazr	Zohr	Asr	Maghrib	Esha
Azan	5-15	12-45	3-45	5-19	7-00
Jamaat	5-50	1-15	4-00	5-22	7-30

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION



These day labourers work for eight hours every day to load old academic books onto trucks for Tk 500. These books are collected from different parts of the city and stored at warehouses. The trucks then carry the books all the way to paper mills in Dhaka, where those are recycled. This photo was taken yesterday in Barishal city's Hathkhola area.

PHOTO: TITU DAS

A holistic approach is imperative

Speakers say at roundtable on malnutrition, gender inequality among adolescents



OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinaipur

A holistic approach to end malnutrition and gender inequality among adolescents is imperative, said speakers at a roundtable yesterday.

They especially stressed on meeting the nutritional needs of children aged five and below, pregnant women and

adolescent girls.

The event, titled “Adolescent Nutrition, Health and Gender Awareness: JANO's Experiences & Recommendations”, was held at Begum Rokeya Auditorium of RDRS Bangladesh in Rangpur.

The roundtable also focused on

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Teen killed, friend hurt in road crash

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinaipur

A teenager was killed and his friend injured as a truck hit their motorcycle in Dinaipur town yesterday.

Md Asif (17), son of Md Kibria from the town's Nimnagar area, died on the spot, said police.

The injured – Md Royal Islam – was undergoing treatment at M Abdur Rahim Medical College Hospital.

Asif and Royal were heading to Mohanpur village in Sadar upazila through Dinaipur-Gobindaganj road on the motorcycle, said Tanvirul Islam, officer-in-charge of Dinaipur Kotwali Police Station.

The accident happened when they arrived in front of the hospital.

DECEMBER 10
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Human Rights Day

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