

LARGEST ONLINE BRANCH NETWORK

LARGEST PRIVATE COMMERCIAL BANK

FIRST BANGALEE BANK

Sharia'h based Islamic Banking
through 501 Branches & 162 Sub Branchesপূবালী ব্যাংক লিমিটেড
PUBALI BANK LIMITEDTake your remittance
Smile with your gift

ESTABLISHED IN 1959

64 YEARS IN BANKING

Excellence in Remittance Service

Armed forces always stand by people: PM

STAR REPORT

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday said members of the armed forces always stand by the people at home and abroad alongside discharging their professional duties.

The premier said this while addressing a programme marking the 48th founding anniversary of President Guard Regiment (PGR) at its headquarters in Dhaka Cantonment, reports BSS.

The PM appreciated the members of the PGR for professionalism, dedication and dutifulness.

Earlier, the premier went around different tables and exchanged pleasantries with the PGR members after arriving at the venue.

She handed over gifts to the family members of the PGR personnel who lost their lives and sustained severe injuries while on duty, reports UNB.

PM's Security Affairs Adviser Major General (rtd)

SEE PAGE 4 COL 7



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina signing the visitors' book at the President Guard Regiment headquarters in Dhaka Cantonment yesterday, marking the regiment's 48th founding anniversary. Chief of Army Staff General SM Shafiuddin Ahmed (left) and PGR Commander Brigadier General Mohammad Khaled Kamal accompanied her on the occasion.

PHOTO: PID

MJF condemns torture of house help Demands fair probe, punishment for perpetrators

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Manusher Jonno Foundation yesterday directed the authorities concerned to take legal action against perpetrators, following the torture of an 11-year-old house help in Sylhet.

The organisation, in a statement, called for an impartial investigation into the incident and demanded appropriate punishment for the accused.

According to the organisation, four more such cases occurred between January and May this year. All the victims were aged between 7 and 11 years.

Despite the identification of the perpetrators being evident, there is almost no instance of their conviction, the statement read.

MJF strongly urged

SEE PAGE 4 COL 5

BOTCHED C-SECTION

HC asks Dr Mili to surrender in four weeks

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday refused to grant anticipatory bail to Central Hospital's physician Begum Maksuda Farida Akhter Mili in a case filed on charge of negligence of duty during a C-section that led to the deaths of a newborn and her mother.

The newborn of Mahbuba Akter Akhi died while she was undergoing C-section in the hospital on June 10. Akhi, 25, who was taken to LabAid Hospital and had been on life support there, died on June 18.

The HC also ordered Maksuda to surrender before the chief metropolitan magistrate's court in Dhaka in four weeks.

The HC also asked the law enforcers not to harass or arrest her (Maksuda) during this time.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 4

COMBATING DENGUE

More proactive measures needed

Say health minister, DSCC mayor

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

As the number of dengue patients continues to rise rapidly, and fatalities soar, authorities are urging each other for more proactive measures.

Health Minister Zahid Maleque, addressing a programme yesterday, called upon all relevant authorities, including city corporations, to intensify efforts in eliminating the breeding grounds of Aedes mosquitoes.

"I would urge those responsible for mosquito control to enhance their activities as many [people] are dying; many are being infected. We have kept providing healthcare service; [but] hospitals are reaching capacity."

DSCC Mayor Sheikh Fazle Noor Taposh, in another event, voiced his concerns and asked the DGHS to focus more on reducing mortality rates.

"The quality and scope of medical services should be increased more. The pre-treatment facilities should be ensured so that a patient does not go into critical condition. Only then the death rates will be reduced."

Meanwhile, the mounting number of dengue cases and fatalities remains a grave concern. According to DGHS, one dengue patient died while 584 were hospitalised in the last 24 hours till yesterday morning.

On Tuesday, the country witnessed the highest number of dengue deaths this year, with five fatalities. The total number of deaths in dengue rose to 62 while number of cases stands at 10,482.

Experts continue to urge the authorities to conduct drives identifying hot spots of Aedes mosquitoes as soon as possible.

Meanwhile, the DSCC mayor urged people to assist them in combating dengue. "If you give us information, our mosquito control workers will reach there within 15 minutes."

Taposh acknowledged that dengue had emerged earlier than expected this year, even during scorching heat, and emphasised the need to expand dengue control activities.

Saying that dengue cannot be eradicated entirely, the mayor said, "If you compare the data and statistics with developed countries, then you will see that we are in a good position."

DNCC deploys drones

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka North City Corporation has deployed drones to identify mosquito breeding sites, especially on rooftop gardens of houses.

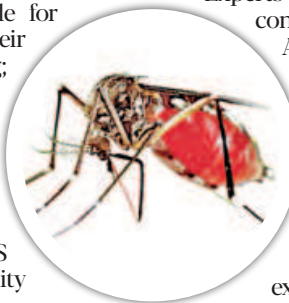
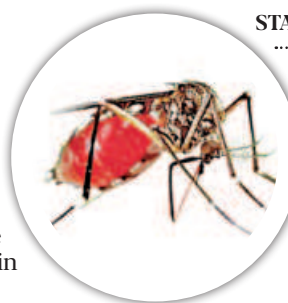
DNCC Chief Executive Officer Selim

Reza launched the survey programme in Mohammadpur area around 11:00am yesterday morning to identify accumulated water on rooftops.

He said a month-long programme to expedite the ongoing fight against Aedes mosquitoes will start on July 8. Over the next four days, five separate drones will be utilised to survey the rooftops of every house.

Reza explained that due to the close proximity of houses in the city, conducting surveys by physically visiting each roof is not feasible.

"Instead, by utilising drones, it becomes possible to survey rooftops within an approximately two-kilometre area from a single location and the rooftops of houses across the entire city will be surveyed using the five drones," he added.



PADMA BRIDGE

Automatic toll collection starts on trial basis

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Munshiganj

Automatic toll collection from moving vehicles, known as the Electric Toll Collection System (ETCS), started on a trial basis at the Padma Bridge yesterday.

This experimental toll collection started at one booth at both ends of the Padma Bridge at 10:30am using the Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) system.



Any registered vehicle in front of the toll plaza will be detected by a camera and toll will be collected automatically. Once the prescribed toll is collected, the automatic barrier will be raised and the balance will be displayed on the screen.

Md Manjur Hossain, secretary of Bridges Division, inaugurated the experimental programme.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 5

Curtailing EC's power will hinder democratic process

Shujan on RPO amendment

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The latest amendment to the Representation of the People Order, reducing the Election Commission's power to cancel polls, will "put fair elections and democratic process at risk", said Shushashoner Jonno Nagorik (Shujan) yesterday.

In a statement, the civil society platform also said the amendment passed by the parliament on Tuesday will make the commission "a powerless institution to conduct free and fair elections".

"So far, the Election Commission has not achieved the trust of all political parties and organisations. Through this amendment to the RPO, it will fall in more crisis," the statement read.

Expressing concern over the move, Shujan strongly "opposed" such initiatives and called on authorities to return the power of EC to stop voting at any time after announcement of election schedule.

Currently, the EC can postpone an election at any stage if it thinks that it will not be able to hold a lawful election due to irregularities or malpractices after announcement of election schedule.

The amended RPO stipulates that the EC can suspend the results of only those (one or more) polling stations where irregularities have been reported. It can cancel the results and hold new elections at those centres concerned following investigations.

Another provision of the amended RPO allows

SEE PAGE 4 COL 5



Dayaganj City Corporation Market, which houses shops and residents, has been in a dilapidated condition for a long time. According to locals, the building needs urgent repairs but the authorities concerned continue to turn a blind eye to the situation. Inset, plasters have fallen off the building's ceiling in many places, which locals said have already injured a few.

PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN