



PVT HOSPITALS, DIAGNOSTICS

Patients suffer as doctors go on strike

Release of 2 physicians held over ‘botched’ C-section demanded

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Services for outpatients were suspended as doctors at private hospitals, clinics and diagnostic centres began their two-day strike yesterday to demand the release of two physicians.

The two doctors in question were allegedly involved in the botched C-section that resulted in the death of a mother and her newborn in the capital last month.

Outpatients seeking help at the private health facilities had to suffer throughout the day.

The medical officials on strike said they will decide the next course of action at a meeting tomorrow as the two-day strike ends today.

The Obstetrical and Gynaecological Society of Bangladesh (OGSB) enforced the strike that was joined in by doctors from other specialities.

On Sunday, the OGSB held a countrywide human chain.

All public hospitals and emergency departments at private healthcare facilities, however, were kept out of the strike's purview.

The two doctors involved in the C-section – Dr Shahzadi Mustarshida Sultana and Dr Muna Shaha – were arrested

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PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

Though Mugda Medical College Hospital continues to suffer from a crisis of beds, it admitted the highest number of patients yesterday since the dengue outbreak began this year. Most of the patients, all of whom are having to be on temporary “beds” on the floor, were children. Despite struggling to cope with the pressure, doctors at the hospital were seen trying their best in terms of accommodation and treatment.

Be careful what you say PM asks ministers



PARTHA PRATIM BHATTACHARJEE

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina directed ministers to practice restraint while making statements.

She said when speaking from a position of authority, they must speak responsibly.

Hasina asked them to return to their constituencies and publicise the development work done by the government, said sources present at an informal discussion held after the weekly cabinet meeting yesterday.

She also instructed them to forcefully counter the

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EU should send its observers for polls

Journos tells EU team, discuss media freedom

UNB, Dhaka

The Election Exploratory Mission of the European Union yesterday wanted to know from reporters about professional challenges the media might face while covering the next general election in Bangladesh.

The issue of media freedom came up for discussion when the EU delegation met a small group of senior reporters at the EU embassy in the capital.

The reporters shared their experiences with the EU mission about covering previous elections and the possible challenges that journalists may face in remote areas.

During the discussion, a reporter wanted to know why Jamaat-e-Islami was invited to a discussion given the fact that the European Parliament in a resolution in 2014 urged the BNP to “cut ties” with Jamaat and said that political parties

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REGISTRATION OF 2 PARTIES

Questions raised over EC’s picks

One offshoot of BNP, the other ally of Islamist parties with ties to AL

ASIFUR RAHMAN and ARAFAT RAHAMAN

A day after the Election Commission primarily cleared little-known Bangladesh Nationalist Movement (BNM) and Bangladesh Supreme Party (BSP) for registration as political parties, it now emerged that BNM is a party formed by some former BNP leaders while BSP is an ally of some Islamist parties having ties with the ruling Awami League.

Before the EC's announcement on Sunday that these two parties met the criteria for registration with the commission, neither party was really known to the political circle.

“Who are they? I’ve never heard of them before. The question is why is the Election Commission registering two unknown parties, excluding the parties that are rather active?” said Shushashoner Jonno Nagorik (Shujan) Secretary Badiul Alam Majumdar yesterday.

Leaders of different political parties also alleged yesterday that the EC “picked them on the advice of government agencies”.

“It’s an agency job. The party will

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get registration to create a rift in the BNP,” said Mustafizur Rahman Iran, chairman of Labour Party, which did not get registration.

He was speaking at a press conference at the Jatiya Press Club, jointly organised by nine parties whose applications for registration with the EC were rejected.

A BNP standing committee member told The Daily Star yesterday that they smelt a rat in EC’s decision.

“It’s part of the [government’s] conspiracy to split BNP,” he said, wishing anonymity.

BNM was formed in July 2021. Its convener is Abdur Rahman and member

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Russia halts Black Sea grain deal

UN chief warns millions will ‘pay the price’; Erdogan says talks continue

REUTERS, Moscow

Russia yesterday halted participation in the year-old UN-brokered deal that lets Ukraine export grain through the Black Sea, spreading a sense of dread in poorer countries where people fear price rises will put food out of reach.

Hours earlier, a blast knocked out Russia’s bridge to Crimea in what Moscow called a strike by Ukrainian sea drones. Russia said two civilians were killed and their daughter wounded in what Moscow cast as a terrorist attack on the road bridge, a major artery for Russian troops fighting in Ukraine.

The Kremlin said there was no link between the attack and its decision to suspend the grain deal, over what it called a failure to meet its demands to implement a parallel agreement easing rules for its own food and fertilizer exports.

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres signalled that Russia’s withdrawal meant that the related pact to facilitate Russia’s grain and fertilizer exports was also terminated.

“Hundreds of millions of people face hunger and consumers are confronting a global cost-of-living crisis. They will pay the price,” Guterres told reporters in New York.

Turkish President Tayyip Erdogan, the grain deal’s sponsor, said he still believed Putin wanted it to continue. The Russian and Turkish foreign ministers were set to talk later yesterday, he told reporters. “I hope that with this discussion, we can make some progress and continue on our way without a pause,” Erdogan said.

Meanwhile, Russian President Vladimir Putin blamed Ukraine for a “senseless” and “cruel” attack on the Crimea bridge, and vowed to respond to what he called a “terrorist” act early yesterday morning.

Aussie sailor, dog rescued after two months lost at sea

AFP, Sydney



An Australian sailor and his dog have been rescued after two months adrift in the Pacific Ocean, surviving the ordeal by drinking rainwater and snacking on raw fish.

Tim Shaddock and his dog Bella set off in a catamaran from Mexico’s seaside city of La Paz in April, and planned to sail about 6,000 kilometres (3,700 miles) before dropping anchor in tropical French Polynesia.

But they soon found themselves stranded in the vast Pacific Ocean after rough seas damaged the vessel and knocked out its electronics.

In an unlikely rescue reminiscent of the Tom Hanks movie “Cast Away”, the bedraggled amateur yachtsman was plucked from the water two months later by a Mexican tuna trawler.

“I’ve just got fishing gear,” he told one of his rescuers, in a video obtained by Australia’s Nine News.

Sporting a shaggy beard, 51-year-old Shaddock was visibly gaunt after surviving on the spartan seafood diet – but said he otherwise felt “in very good health”.

“I have been through a very difficult ordeal at sea,” he said in a separate video, obtained by Nine News. “I’m just needing rest and good food because I’ve been alone at sea a long time.”

Shaddock and Bella would soon be ferried back to Mexico, according to the outlet.



The approach road to Chanduail Bridge in Netrakona’s Kalmakanda upazila has subsided. Locals said unplanned construction of a new bridge nearby over the Zia canal led to the damage to the road. LGED officials, however, blamed plying of overloaded trucks on the road for the damage. Farmers are worried that their crops may go under water if this section of the road is washed away. The photo was taken on Saturday.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

MORE NEWS

Bad news for wheat market as Russia pulls out of grain deal
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18-40 age group the worst-affected by dengue
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Alcaraz attempts to keep lid on great expectations
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BANGLADESH-INDIA FRIENDSHIP POWER COMPANY (PVT.) LIMITED
(A JOINT VENTURE COMPANY OF BPDB AND NTPC LTD.)
BORAK UNIQUE HEIGHTS (LEVEL-17), 117 KAZI NAZRUL ISLAM AVENUE, ESKATON GARDEN, DHAKA-1000

Memo No.: BIFPCL/Hospital Project Consultant/EOI/950
Date: 18/07/2023

**REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI)
FOR ENLISTMENT OF APPLICANTS
FOR
ENGAGEMENT OF A HOSPITAL PROJECT CONSULTANT FOR 25 BED MAITREE HOSPITAL
FOR
2x660 MW MAITREE SUPER THERMAL POWER PROJECT AT RAMPAL, DISTRICT - BAGERHAT, BANGLADESH**

BIFPCL is constructing a 2x660 MW coal-based power project at Rampal, Bagerhat district of Khulna division. BIFPCL intends to enlist competent individual as “Hospital Project Consultant” for its upcoming 25 bed Hospital at Rampal, Bagerhat. The individual qualified through this EOI shall only be invited to participate further in RFP process. For Qualifying Requirement, EOI document and other information, please visit our website at www.bifpcl.com or contact Chief Procurement Officer, BIFPCL, Level-17, Unique Heights, 117 Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Eskaton Garden, Dhaka-1000, Tel. Nos. +88-0258314264, email: cpo@bifpcl.com. Interested individual may submit the Applications for Enlistment (Hard copy/through e-mail) on or before **02/08/2023** at 16:00 Hrs. at aforesaid address.

If the EOI opening day is declared as holiday by the Govt. of the People’s Republic Day of Bangladesh, EOI will be opened in the next working day.

Md. Ziaur Rahman
Chief Procurement Officer (CPO), BIFPCL