



Dengue claims one more life

UNB, Dhaka One more death was reported from dengue in 24 hours till yesterday morning, raising the number of fatalities from the mosquito-borne disease in Bangladesh to 75 this year. During the period, 249 more patients were hospitalised with viral fever, according to the Directorate General of Health Services. Of them, 34 dengue patients were admitted in hospitals under Dhaka North City Corporation while 61 were hospitalised in Dhaka South City Corporation. Some 1,049 patients are receiving treatment in different hospitals across the country. A total of 1,065 dengue cases have been reported since January 1, 2024. Last year, 1,705 people lost their lives due to dengue, making it the deadliest year on record. DGHS recorded 321,179 dengue cases and 3, 18,749 recoveries last year.

DHAKA UNIVERSITY Students, teachers call for non-partisan VC

SIRAJUL ISLAM RUBEL

With growing calls for reform across various sectors, a section of Dhaka University students is advocating for a vice-chancellor who is professional, academically distinguished, visionary, and has no direct affiliation with any political parties.

The demand has not only been made by students and teachers, but the university's alumni as well as leaders of some student organisations.

After some teachers' names surfaced as potential candidates to become the next DU VC, widespread discussions have sparked everywhere, as well as on social media.

"I understand that negotiations are ongoing for the VC post. But I do not accept the process of appointing VC through political considerations," said Shakibur Rahman, a student of Physics department.

Rifat Ahmed, another DU student, said, "We all realised the importance of a student-friendly VC during the protests. If the then VC sir had not allowed law enforcers to enter the campus that day and emptied the halls, they couldn't have harmed us."

Salman Siddiqui, a DU student and president of Samajtantrik Chhatra Front, said, "We want to see the kind of VC who will work in the interests of students and teachers,

not political parties. Someone with academic excellence, who stands by the oppressed."

Raquiuddin Ahmed, former president of Dhaka University Alumni Association, said, "The time is perfect for a reform. As an alumnus of the university, I hope the VC position goes to a teacher who possesses a good personality, is academically sound, student-friendly, and most importantly, is politically neutral."

In many cases, party lobbying and politics were prioritised for promoting teachers.

Dhaka University currently has around 2,000 teachers, and over 800 of them belong to the blue panel, the pro-AL teachers' organisation.

Meanwhile, around 300 teachers belong to the white panel, pro-BNP teachers' organisation.

Prof Lutfar Rahman, convenor of the white panel, said, "The students' demands are reasonable. However,



We want to see the kind of VC who will work in the interests of students and teachers, not any political party. Someone who will have academic excellence.

SALMAN SIDDIQUI DU student and president of Samajtantrik Chhatra Front

During the Awami League regime, teachers loyal to the party were appointed as VCs across the universities, and in many cases, those VCs were seen prioritising party interests over that of students'.

With the VCs holding the highest power in universities, the former government appointed people loyal to the party everywhere -- from teachers to hall provosts to administrative officials -- establishing a culture of partisanship.

no one is politically neutral. The university has to be run with many considerations in mind...," he added.

Meanwhile, the University Teachers' Network on Monday proposed ending political dominance and ensuring academic and administrative accountability within universities.

They urged the government to be accommodating and to allow universities to operate autonomously, without any form of political interference.

Khulna and Barishal univs' VCs resign

STAR REPORT

The vice chancellors of Khulna University and Barishal University have resigned from their posts.

KU VC Professor Dr Md Mahmood Hossain sent in his resignation letter citing personal reasons to secretary to the Chancellor and President Mohammed Shahabuddin, and also to secretary to the Department of Secondary and Higher Education.

The VC himself confirmed the matter to The Daily Star.

The university's Pro-Vice-Chancellor Mosammat Hosne Ara, Treasurer Amit Roy Chowdhury, and Registrar Khan Ghulam Qudus, among 67 others, also resigned from their respective posts.

Earlier yesterday noon, VC Prof Mahmood discussed his decision to resign with students.

"It is not possible for me to stay any longer. I don't want you to do anything else. All of you return to your classes," he told them.

On Monday, BU VC Prof Dr Badruzzaman Bhuiyan sent his resignation letter to the Ministry of Education citing personal and family reasons, following students' agitation demanding that he step down within 24 hours.

BU Proctor Qayyum Hossain and other officials of the proctorial body also resigned from their respective posts.

Md Faisal Hasan, public relations officer of the university, confirmed the matter.

Extradite ousted Hasina to Bangladesh

UNB, Dhaka

BNP Secretary General Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir yesterday asked India to extradite ousted Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina to Bangladesh and let her face trial here.



"It is our call to you that you should hand her over to the government of Bangladesh in a legal way. The people of this country have given the decision for her trial. Let her face that trial," he said.

The BNP secretary general made this call while talking to reporters after paying tribute to BNP founder President Ziaur Rahman in the city.

"Staying there, she [Hasina] has started various plots to thwart the revolution that happened in Bangladesh," he alleged.

826 looted arms recovered

UNB, Dhaka

Law enforcers have recovered 826 arms looted in recent times from police stations, police lines, police outposts and other places, till Monday.

Police headquarters shared this information yesterday afternoon.

Moreover, a total of 20,778 rounds of bullets, 1,482 tear gas shells, 71 sound grenades have been recovered till date, it said.

A large number of arms and ammunition were looted from the police stations and other protected zones after law enforcers were attacked before and after August 5. Members of the Bangladesh Army have also been working to recover the looted arms across the country.

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KILLINGS OF PROTESTERS

Form independent probe body Says HRSS

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Human Rights Support Society yesterday demanded the formation of an independent investigation commission to ensure justice for all the killings during the recent anti-discrimination students' protest.

The rights body, in a statement, also demanded compensation for the families of the deceased, coverage of medical expenses for the injured, and their rehabilitation.

They also demanded to take steps against those involved in the recent attacks on minority communities across the country.

HRSS statement read they have got information on the deaths of 819 people from the victims' families, hospitals, witnesses, and national dailies.

According to their findings, the highest number of deaths occurred on August 5, with 205 fatalities, followed by 130 on August 4 and 119 on July 19.

Of the deceased, 455 were shot to death, 79 were burned to death, while 78 others were beaten to death, the rights body claimed.

HRSS demanded that the government issue a public notice seeking information from people to create a list of those killed.

HRSS also demanded the formation of an independent commission to ensure justice for previous incidents of extrajudicial killings and enforced disappearances.

It also demanded identifying the false cases filed beforehand and taking steps to withdraw those in the quickest time possible.

Avoid crowding at hospitals

Says home adviser after visiting injured protesters

STAR REPORT

Home Adviser Lt Gen (Retd) Jahangir Alam Chowdhury yesterday said the government is taking all necessary measures to assist those injured during the recent student-led protests.

During a visit to the National Institute of Traumatology and Orthopaedic Rehabilitation (NITOR) around 9:30am yesterday, the adviser inquired about the condition of injured individuals receiving treatment.

He spoke with patients and their relatives, and discussed the situation with the hospital director and medical staff.

"The government is doing everything necessary for the injured," he said after his visit.

The adviser also urged the public not to gather at the hospital to see the injured, in order to avoid overcrowding and to ensure proper care for the patients.

Meanwhile, Farooq E-Azam Bir Pratik, adviser to the Ministry of Liberation War Affairs and the Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief, said he hasn't watched television for the past 15 years.

He was talking to local officials and residents after visiting the graves of his parents at his ancestral home Chattogram.

"Whenever I turn on the TV, all I see is misinformation, which is why I haven't watched television for 15 years," he added.

"The interim government is sincerely working for the welfare and development of the people," he said.

চট্টগ্রাম জিএস মোড়ে ইউনিসকো সিটি সেন্টারে আনুমানিক ১০ (দশ) হাজার স্কয়ার ফিটের একটি ফ্লোর বিক্রয় হইবে

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Local Government Engineering Department Office of the Executive Engineer Jhalakathi www.lged.gov.bd Memo: 46.02.4200.000.07.004.24.2109 Date: 20.08.2024 Tender Notice No. 04/2024-25 (OTM: 29 & LTM: 30-32)

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার বাংলাদেশ পুলিশ অধিনায়কের কার্যালয় রূপায়িত এ্যাকশন ব্যাটালিয়ন-১০ কেরানীগঞ্জ, ঢাকা দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি