



Patients suffer as doctors strike

Physicians resume emergency services on condition that they're shadowed by law enforcers

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Following an attack on a doctor at DMCH on Saturday night, physicians went on strike at key public hospitals in the capital and in some districts yesterday, causing numerous patients to suffer.

Services at the country's largest, Dhaka Medical College Hospital, ground to a halt in the morning.

Following a call for "complete shutdown" in the afternoon, doctors at Sir Salimullah Medical College Hospital, Shaheed Suhrawardy Medical College Hospital, and Mugda Medical College Hospital in Dhaka and public hospitals in several districts, including Chattogram and Khulna, followed suit.

Eventually, doctors, nurses, interns, and medical students called strike in public and private hospitals nationwide.

This put patients, especially those in critical condition, in serious trouble.

However, service providers in most private and some public hospitals did not respond to the call for strike.

The health adviser yesterday evening assured the doctors of meeting their demands, but the physicians of government hospitals stuck to their

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An elderly patient lying on a gurney outside the emergency department of Dhaka Medical College Hospital as the doctors went on strike in protest of an assault on a physician on Saturday night.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

Govt asks all its staffers to submit wealth statements

BAHARAM KHAN

The government has instructed all its employees to submit their wealth statements as per the existing rules.

This directive was issued in a notice signed by Senior Secretary Md Mokhlesur Rahman of the Ministry of Public Administration yesterday.

Details regarding the process and deadlines for submission will be communicated to the relevant parties through upcoming meetings.

Under existing laws, every government employee is required to declare their immovable and movable assets at the time of joining service.

Subsequently, they must submit a statement on any changes in their assets every five years through the appointing authority to the government.

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Beximco laundered \$135 million: CID

MOHAMMAD JAMIL KHAN

Beximco Group laundered at least \$135 million by exporting goods through 18 companies without repatriation of the export value, said the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) yesterday.

The CID's financial crime unit termed the anomalies as "trade-based money laundering" and has already started an investigation on this, said Kusum Dewan, deputy inspector general (organised crime).

About \$23.04 million was laundered through Apollo Apparels, \$24 million through Bextex Garments, \$25.20 million through Int'l Knitwear and Apparels and \$24.39 million through Esses Fashions, according to CID's database.

All are concerns of Beximco Group, whose vice-chairman Salman F Rahman was the private industry and investment adviser to former prime minister Sheikh Hasina.

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SECONDARY EDN Science, arts, commerce groups return

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The education ministry has reinstated the stream-based system at the secondary level, reinstating science, humanities, and business studies groups that were scrapped under the new curriculum introduced by the previous government.

The Secondary and Higher Education Division issued a notice yesterday,

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WORKERS' PROTESTS Production shuts at 10 RMG, 20 pharma units

JAGARAN CHAKMA, AKLAKUR RAHMAN AKASH

Amid workers' demonstrations for better pay, regularisation, and two-day weekend, production at some 10 garment and 20 pharmaceutical factories stopped on the outskirts of the capital on Saturday and yesterday.

The demonstrations took place in Savar, Ashulia, Dhamrai and Gazipur.

If the workers continue the strike, there will be a long-term impact on the industry, said M Mohibuz Zaman,

managing director at ACI Healthcare.

"The unrest at pharmaceutical units suddenly began 10 days ago. I suspect there is a conspiracy," he told The Daily Star.

The management talked to the workers and promised to grant what they want in phases, he said, adding that raising the salary would be possible now, but complying with the other demands would take time.

But the workers are not getting back to work, disrupting the supply

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No more than 2 consecutive terms as PM

Tarique wants provision in constitution

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP acting chairman Tarique Rahman said yesterday that his party wants to include a provision in the constitution that would prevent anyone from serving as prime minister for more than two consecutive terms.

He made the remarks while virtually addressing party leaders and activists from

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Bangladesh batter Liton Das raises his bat after scoring an epic hundred against Pakistan on the third day of the second Test in Rawalpindi yesterday. The right-hander's sublime 138, backed up by Mehedi Hasan Miraz's vigilant 78, helped the visitors bounce back from the depths of 26 for six to post 262 in their first innings.

PHOTO: AFP

BUSINESS

Remittances jumped 39pc in August

Remittances sent by Bangladeshis living abroad soared nearly 39 percent year-on-year to \$2.2 billion in August, which is likely to ease pressure on the foreign exchange reserves to some extent.

August's receipts were 16.10 percent higher than those recorded in July, when remittances hit a 10-month low of \$1.90 billion.

The slump in July occurred because expatriates were unable to send funds in the middle of the month as the government imposed an internet blackout to quell protests centring the quota system in government jobs.

STORY ON B1

Liton, Miraz turn the tide on Day 3

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A day that had Bangladesh staring at ignominy in the morning ended with them in the ascendancy, owing to the tremendous resolve of Liton Das and Mehedi Hasan Miraz as their historic stand fueled the tourists' fightback on the third day of the second Test against Pakistan in Rawalpindi yesterday.

Liton scored a majestic 138 while Miraz made a valiant 78 as they added 165 runs for the seventh wicket to rescue the Tigers from a precarious 26-6 and help them put up 262 on the board, 12 runs short of Pakistan's first innings tally.

Pacer Khurram Shahzad was the standout bowler of the day, claiming a career-best 6-90, and was Bangladesh's main tormentor in the morning session with his deadly in-swingers.

Hasan Mahmud, who made an unbeaten 13 off 51 balls in a vital ninth-wicket stand with Liton worth 69 runs, snapped up two wickets in just 10

deliveries late in the day as Pakistan were reduced to 9-2 at stumps, leading by 21 runs.

A day that ended in a positive note for Bangladesh had begun in the worse way possible, with the team losing six wickets inside the first hour.

Bangladesh's southpaw-heavy batting order, with five left-handers in the top six, were seemingly at the mercy of the Pakistan quicks, especially Shahzad, who used his ability to bring the ball sharply into left-handers to dismiss four lefties: Zakir Hasan (one), Shadman Islam (10), Najmul Hossain Shanto (four) and

Shakib Al Hasan (two).

Mir Hamza, the other opening bowler, also did some damage, dismissing Mominul Haque (one) and Mushfiqur Rahim (three).

The optimism emanating from Bangladesh's maiden Test win over Pakistan last week was at risk of getting replaced by the embarrassment of getting

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