

## Tk 707cr spent in 9yrs, dengue still ravages Dhaka

Experts blame outdated strategies, poor planning and lack of coordinated action

WASIM BIN HABIB and HELEMUL ALAM

Despite spending around Tk 707 crore over the past nine years, Dhaka's two city corporations have failed to shield residents from the relentless surge in dengue and other mosquito-borne diseases.

Dhaka North City Corporation (DNCC) spent nearly Tk 464 crore on pesticides, cleaning weeds and water bodies, and equipment purchases, while Dhaka South City Corporation (DSCC) spent around Tk 243 crore on similar initiatives during the period.

This year, DNCC proposed Tk 135 crore

ineffective due to outdated strategies, poor planning, and the absence of a comprehensive policy.

Without coordinated, science-based action backed by nationwide monitoring, the fight against Aedes mosquitoes, the vector for dengue, will remain futile, they warn, calling for an end to the repeated use of the same outdated approach year after year.

They suggest a specialised integrated vector management department to lead the initiatives with effective community engagement.

While city officials continue to debate

YEAR	DNCC	DSCC
2025-26	Tk 135.50 (proposed)	Tk 46.50 (proposed)
2024-25	Tk 110	Tk 46.75
2023-24	Tk 87.50	Tk 40.84
2022-23	Tk 52.50	Tk 31.07
2021-22	Tk 53.50	Tk 23.01

**BUDGET FOR MOSQUITO CONTROL (IN CRORES)**

budget and DSCC Tk 46.50 crore for mosquito-control activities.

Yet the capital remains in the grip of recurring outbreaks of mosquito-borne diseases that pose an escalating threat to public health.

Experts say the city corporations' mosquito control efforts have largely been

strategy and funding, residents continue to suffer. Neighbourhoods brace for the worst with every rainfall, and families fall ill despite taking every possible precaution.

Take the case of Asad Rahman, a private company employee living in a modest apartment in Mirpur. He spent

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Md Abdul Latif, 78, a respiratory patient, struggles to use a nebuliser on his own at the medicine ward of Sher-e-Bangla Medical College Hospital in Barishal yesterday. The hospital has been facing a severe workforce crisis since intern doctors went on strike over attacks on medical professionals and a lack of workplace safety.

PHOTO: TITU DAS

STONE LOOTING  
Sylhet DC withdrawn amid flak  
Companiganj UNO also transferred

STAR REPORT

Mohammad Sher Mahbub Murad, deputy commissioner of Sylhet, has been removed from his post and attached to the public administration ministry as an officer on special duty (OSD).

Sarwo Alam, who is currently serving as the private secretary to the Ministry of Expatriates' Welfare and Overseas Employment adviser, has been appointed as the new Sylhet DC.

The Ministry of Public

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## 'Ukraine peace deal possible' Says Trump as he meets Zelensky, European leaders

AGENCIES

US President Donald Trump yesterday said a peace agreement for the war in Ukraine is attainable as he met Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky and European leaders.

Trump, speaking with reporters present at the White House, said all would prefer an immediate ceasefire but that he was optimistic that an agreement could be reached to deter aggression in Ukraine.

He also said his Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin, at summit talks last week, had accepted that

PHOTO ON PAGE 12

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## Ducsu panels begin taking shape

Deadline for nomination collection, submission extended by a day

MAHATHIR MOHAMMED

Former Students Against Discrimination spokesperson Umarra Fatema, who collected her nomination papers yesterday, said she will announce her panel today.

Meanwhile, the university authorities extended the deadlines for collecting and submitting nomination forms for Dhaka University Central Students' Union election.

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## HSBC Export Excellence Awards 2025

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The HSBC Export Excellence Awards returns to honour the determination and achievements of Bangladesh's exporters – enabling businesses to open up a world of opportunities beyond borders.

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- Non-traditional and Emerging Sectors – Manufacturing
- Non-traditional and Emerging Sectors – Service

Nominations close on 18 September 2025.

For award nominations and more information, visit [www.business.hsbc.com.bd/EEA2025](http://www.business.hsbc.com.bd/EEA2025) or call +8801714-109696

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