



3 more die of dengue, 593 get hospitalised

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

At least three dengue patients died while 593 others were hospitalised in the 24 hours till 8:00am yesterday.

According to the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS), two deaths were reported from Barishal division and one from Dhaka South City Corporation.

With the new deaths and cases, the total number of deaths rose to 356, while total cases rose to 89,486 this year.

Currently, 2,799 dengue patients are undergoing treatment at different hospitals across the country.

PRAYER
TIMING

NOVEMBER 23

	Fazr	Zohr	Asr	Maghrib	Esha
AZAN	5-05	12-45	3-45	5-21	7-00
JAMAT	5-40	1-15	4-00	5-24	7-30

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

Coach shortage cripples services on 4 intercity trains

S DILIP ROY, Lalmonirhat

An acute coach shortage has emerged on four intercity trains operating between Dhaka and Lalmonirhat, Rangpur, Kurigram, and Burimari, forcing many regular travellers to make their journeys standing or in severely congested spaces due to a lack of adequate seating.

No additional carriages have been added to these trains to avoid schedule disruptions. As a result, delays in departure, prolonged halts along the route, and late arrivals have become routine, with passengers frequently facing disruptions ranging from one to five hours.

Railway officials and commuters say at least one more carriage on each of the four trains is now essential to handle the growing number of passengers.

According to the Lalmonirhat divisional railway office, the Lalmoni Express from Lalmonirhat, Rangpur Express from Rangpur, Kurigram Express from Kurigram, and Burimari Express from Burimari land port,



PHOTO: STAR

all run on the Dhaka route.

Each intercity train currently has 14 coaches, though the minimum requirement is 18 to 20. The existing coaches provide a total of 653 seats, which is insufficient to accommodate the heavy passenger load.

At Rangpur Railway Station, trader Hafizur Rahman, 60, a resident of Rangpur, was waiting for a train. "There are not enough seats in the train. Due to the shortage of coaches,

many passengers have to travel standing. Some buy standing tickets while others somehow manage to board without tickets. If the number of coaches is increased, the railway will benefit and passengers will be able to travel more safely," he said.

College teacher Shahidul Haque, 50, from Lalmonirhat, who frequently travels to Dhaka, said, "The Lalmoni Express and Burimari Express often run behind schedule. Delays of one to five hours are common. An additional carriage could have reduced these sufferings significantly."

Lalmonirhat Railway Division's

Divisional Mechanical Engineer (Carriage and Wagon) Sheikh Asif Ahmad said a proposal has been sent to add four to five coaches to each of the four intercity trains operating on the Dhaka route, along with one additional carriage to maintain schedule discipline.

"But there is a coach shortage countrywide," he said.

He added that the process of importing new coaches is underway. "Even if new coaches are delayed, receiving old ones could temporarily resolve the issue. We are trying to secure that," he said.

Three die from electrocution in two districts

STAR REPORT

At least three people died from electrocution in Kishoreganj and at Dhaka Medical College Hospital yesterday, according to reports from our correspondent and a news agency.

In Kishoreganj, two siblings died from electrocution in Galachipa village under Hossainpur upazila in the morning, UNB reported.

The deceased were identified as Nurul Islam alias Nuru Khan, 60, and his brother Shamsul Islam alias Fazlu Khan, 55, of the village.

Nahid Eva, upazila nirbahi officer of Hossainpur, said Nurul Islam came in contact with a snapped, live wire while bringing straw for cattle near their house and died on the spot.

Fazlu, who came to rescue Nurul, also met the same fate soon after, the UNO added.

In another incident, a former leader of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal from Noakhali's Kabirhat Municipality died while undergoing treatment at the burn unit of Dhaka Medical College Hospital in the morning, reports our correspondent from Noakhali.

The deceased, identified as Enamul Haque, 22, was the former president of ward-8 JCD unit in the municipality and a technician by profession. Enamul got electrocuted and sustained injuries while working in an under-construction building in Kabirhat Bazar on November 15, said his brother Abdullah Al Mamun.

He was first taken to Kabirhat Upazila Health Complex, and later shifted to Dhaka Medical College Hospital burn unit after primary treatment.

Mostafizur Rahman Monju, convenor of Kabirhat Municipal unit BNP, confirmed the information.

Md Shahin Mia, officer-in-charge of Kabirhat Police Station, said action would be taken if the deceased's family filed a complaint.



PHOTO: HABIBUR RAHMAN

Thick black smoke billows from a stove used during road repair work, polluting the surrounding area of a busy city street. The bitumen-melting process releases intense smoke that harms greenery and makes it difficult for pedestrians to breathe. The photo was taken at the Moylapota intersection in Khulna city yesterday.

Farmer shot dead in Kushtia

UNB, Kushtia

A farmer was shot dead and a local tea seller was injured by armed attackers in Bheramara upazila of Kushtia on Friday night.

The incident occurred around 8:00pm in Rayta Pathorghata area of Bahadurpur union.

The deceased was identified as Refajul Islam, 40, of the area.

According to police and locals, Refajul was standing outside a shop when several armed men fired at him, leaving him dead on the spot.

During the attack, Lalon Mondal, 50, a nearby tea seller, was also attacked with a sharp weapon and sustained injuries. He was later admitted to Bheramara Upazila Health Complex.

Lalon had gone to the site to fetch his son and came under attack from the assailants, said his son-in-law, Anik.

Ekramul Haque, residential medical officer at Bheramara Health Complex, said, "Lalon Mondal suffered multiple injuries on his head and body, but no bullet wounds. He is out of danger."

Delwar Hossain, additional superintendent of police (Bheramara Circle), said they are investigating the incident.

515 headteacher posts vacant in Bagerhat

PARTHA CHAKRABORTTY, Bagerhat

A severe shortage of permanent headteachers is hampering academic activities in 1,162 government primary schools across Bagerhat, raising concerns over school management and learning outcomes for thousands of children.

According to the District Primary Education Office, 515 headteacher posts remain vacant. Presently, 198 teachers are carrying out these duties in an acting capacity.

District Primary Education Officer Nasrin Akter said, "This is a major challenge for us."

Promotions cannot be processed because a related case is still pending in a higher court. "Once the court delivers its verdict, we will immediately begin the process," she said, noting that the director general has already taken steps to expedite proceedings.

School authorities say the leadership void comes on top of shortages in

infrastructure, teachers, and teaching materials.

At Shibpur Palli Unnayan Government Primary School in Kachua upazila, the impact is stark. The school has only two classrooms, forcing teachers to hold lessons outdoors.

"We take extra classes for fifth graders in the open air because we don't have enough classrooms," said assistant teacher Anwara Khatun, who is serving as acting headteacher.

Staff shortages have further strained the school, with one assistant teacher on maternity leave and another set to retire on LPR in March.

Students, too, voiced their frustrations. Fourth-grader Rafi ul Islam said, "We don't have enough classrooms, and our teachers are few. The field is also very small."

"The sooner the court gives its ruling, the better. Once promotions begin, we will finally be able to fill the 515 vacant posts," said an education official.



PHOTO: STAR

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Metropolitan Senior Special Judge Court, Dhaka

Present: Mr. Md. Sabbir Faiz
(Metro Sessions Judge)
Metropolitan Senior Special Judge, Dhaka

Order on Petition for Confiscation (arising out of
Permission Petition-758/2025

Pallabi Police Station Case No. 19 dated 07.09.2025, Under Sections 4(2)/4(4) of the Money Laundering Prevention Act, 2012

ORDER No. 02. Dated: 9th October 2025

This order arises out of an application filed by the Additional Superintendent of Police. Financial Crime Unit, praying for confiscation of frozen bank accounts in connection with the above-mentioned case, which is under investigation for offences under Sections 4(2) and 4(4) of the Money Laundering Prevention Act, 2012.

Background:

That Pallabi Police Station Case No. 19 dated 07.09.2025 was registered under the Money Laundering Prevention Act. 2012 on allegations of concealment, transfer, and conversion of illicit funds obtained through predicate offences.

That, upon prayer from the investigating officer, the Learned Magistrate earlier passed an order to freeze the relevant bank accounts linked to the accused persons, pending investigation. That now, the Additional Superintendent of Police (Financial Crime Unit) has submitted a formal application praying that the said frozen accounts be confiscated in favour of the State, citing that:

The investigation has revealed sufficient material indicating that the funds in the bank accounts are proceeds of crime as defined under the Money Laundering Prevention Act 2012: Allowing the accused to retain such property would frustrate the object and purpose of the statute:

The action is necessary to preserve the interest of the State and public justice.

Findings:

On perusal of the application, case diary, supporting materials including bank transaction records, and the preliminary investigation report submitted by the Financial Crime Unit, it appears that:

A prima facie case exists indicating that the frozen-accounts contain funds suspected to be derived from criminal activities:

The funds in question fall under the definition of "property involved in money laundering" as per Section 2(15) of the Money Laundering Prevention Act. 2012;

Under Section 20(1) of the said Act. the Court has the authority to order attachment. seizure, or confiscation of such property during investigation, if deemed necessary for protecting the interests of justice:

The prayer is in accordance with law, and no legal bar has been found in passing such order at this stage.

Order:

Accordingly, the prayer of the Additional Superintendent of Police, Financial Crime Unit is hereby allowed.

The previously frozen bank accounts linked to the accused persons in Pallabi Police Station Case No. 19 dated 07.09.2025 shall remain under confiscation in favour of the State, subject to further orders of the trial court or any superior court.

Let a copy of this order be sent to the concerned banks and investigating officer for immediate compliance.

Inform all parties accordingly.

Pronounced in open Court on this the 9th day of October. 2025.

Directed & Corrected by me.

Sd/-

Md. Sabbir Faiz

Metro. Senior Special Judge, Dhaka

Sd/-

Metro. Senior Special Judge, Dhaka

Memo Number: ১৬৩২৪(১০)/২৫

Date: 21/10/25

GD-2526