



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.

SKOP declares blockade over leasing out port terminals

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

The Chattogram unit of Sramik Karmachari Oikya Parishad (SKOP) yesterday announced blockades on the approach roads to Chattogram port and protest programmes in all districts of the Chattogram division on Wednesday, protesting leasing out New Mooring Container, Laldia Char, and Pangaon port terminals – to foreign operators.

Kazi Sheikh Nurullah Bahar, general secretary of Jatiyatabadi Sramik Dal, Chattogram division, made the announcement at the divisional trade union convention held at July Revolution Hall of the Chattogram Press Club.

The convention was organised by the SKOP Chattogram unit to press home a 13-point demand, including revising labour laws, ensuring trade union rights under a single law, and fixing fair wages.

Leaders and members of various workers' organisations attended. Bahar, chairing the convention, said two terminals had already been handed over to foreign operators, but details of the agreements were unknown.

"A lawsuit has been filed regarding the NCT handover. The court has ordered suspension of all contract activities until the hearing, but the order is not being followed," he alleged.

He vowed to force the government to cancel the decisions to hand over the terminals.

As per the protest schedule, blockades will be enforced from 10:00am to 1:00pm on Wednesday at the port approach points in Agrabad, Boropole and Mailer Matha. Protest rallies will also be held in all districts. Labour leaders expressed concern that leasing out Chattogram port to foreign companies would cripple the economy and leave 90 percent of port workers jobless.

Jahid Uddin Shahin, general secretary of Jatiya Sramik Jote, Chattogram district, made the same allegation.

Tapan Dutta, president of the Trade Union Centre, Chattogram district, said policy failures of the previous government caused immense suffering, while the new government's decisions were also not worker-friendly.



The participants at the convocation ceremony of Stamford University Bangladesh at International Convention City Bashundhara in Dhaka yesterday.

PHOTO: COURTESY

IDP, Star

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University; The Australian National University; The University of Adelaide; Flinders University; LA Trobe University; University of Lancashire; Macquarie University; University of Missouri-Kansas City; The University of Newcastle, Australia; University of New Haven; Nottingham Trent University; University of Portsmouth; The University of Queensland; SOAS University of London; Swinburne University of Technology Sarawak Campus; University of Technology Sydney; Thompson Rivers University; Victoria University; University of the West of England Bristol; Western Sydney University; and University of Wollongong.

Alongside well-recognised schools, global agencies such as Navitas, OnCampus, INTO University Partnerships, and Education Centre of Australia were also present at the expo.

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 case. 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.



6 workers injured in boiler explosion

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inquired, the management stated that while feeding coal into the boiler, some hot coal splashed onto a few workers, causing burns to six of them."

He added, "Although the coal splashed on their bodies, no fire broke out,

which was why they did not inform us. A detailed report will be available after investigation."

Bashundhara Cement Factory Senior Executive (Admin) Abdur Rahim said all six were working at the factory when the boiler exploded, causing

severe burns. They were immediately rushed to Dhaka for treatment.

Shaon Bin Rahman, resident surgeon at the burn institute, said, "Six patients were brought from a cement factory in Bandar with burn injuries."

Nahid suffered over 40 percent burns, Kamrul 26 percent, Taijul 12 percent, Torab 16 percent, Ferdous 10 percent, and Atikur 27 percent, he said. All six workers suffered damage to their airways, the doctor added.

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