

Seven more children die from measles, symptoms

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Seven more children died from measles and measles-like symptoms in 24 hours till 8:00am yesterday, taking the total number of confirmed and suspected measles deaths to 343.

Of the seven, one is a confirmed measles death, according to the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS).

With the lone death, the number of confirmed deaths rose to 58. The death was reported from Barishal division, according to the DGHS.

With six more suspected measles deaths reported during the same period, the total number of suspected deaths is now 285.

Of the latest deaths, three were reported from Sylhet division, while two were reported from Dhaka and one from the Khulna division.

During the same period, 282 new confirmed cases were reported, bringing the total to 6,490.

Besides, the DGHS recorded 1,212 new suspected cases in 24 hours, bringing the total to 46,710.



PRAYER TIMING
MAY 9

Fazr	Zohr	Asr	Maghrib	Esha
AZAN 4:15	12:45	5:00	6:34	8:00
JAMAAT 4:50	1:15	5:15	6:38	8:30

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

Noor Ali, firm sued over laundering of Tk 115cr

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Criminal Investigation Department (CID) has filed a Tk 115.58 crore money laundering case against Unique Group chief Mohd Noor Ali and Borak Real Estate over allegations of building a 28-storey structure on government land in Banani and laundering earnings from hotel operations there.

In a press release issued yesterday, the CID said preliminary findings found evidence that the accused illegally earned and laundered Tk 115,58,24,707 by operating a hotel business in an unauthorised building.

The CID alleged irregularities and fraud in the "Banani Super Market cum Housing" project on government land under DNCC control.

The case was filed with Banani Police Station on May 7 under sections 4(2) and 4(4) of the Money Laundering Prevention Act 2012.

According to the CID, Borak Real Estate had an agreement to construct a 14-storey building in

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Student activists under the banner of Gonotantrik Chhatra Jote bring out a torch procession on the Dhaka University campus last evening demanding cancellation of the "anti-state" trade agreement signed between Bangladesh and the United States.

PHOTO: MEHEDI HASAN

RMG SECTOR

Myriad abuses of women workers

From pay gaps to sexual harassment, exploitation runs deep

TANGILA TASNIM

Samia Khatun (pseudonym), 31, has faced injustice since her first day as a worker at a garment factory in Tongi, when she was just 16.

"I could not complete my education, and I work from early morning until late at night, sometimes even continuously for 24 hours during peak periods.

"Yet my pay is miserly, to say the least. When I ask my supervisor for a raise, I'm told I'm not educated enough to deserve a higher salary. But I see male workers, even those who joined much after me, earn more than I do... There is a lot of injustice against women in our factory. When I fall sick or ask for leave, my supervisor often scolds me or cuts my salary."

Despite years of toiling, Samia's monthly salary, which is also not paid on time, stands at Tk 18,000.

Apart from a glaring wage gap, women like Samia also fall victim to other workplace abuses. "When I was younger, I faced repeated sexual harassment at the workplace. I used to cry and thought about quitting many times, but I had responsibilities, so I could not leave."

Such accounts align with broader findings that point to persistent gender inequality in wages and workplace conditions across the garment industry.

A 2023 report by the South Asian Network on Economic Modeling (SANEM), conducted with Microfinance Opportunities, finds that women garment workers in Bangladesh face a wage gap of 51-60 percent across major industrial hubs.

Women, who make up about three-quarters of the workforce, consistently earn less than men, according to the report, which was based on a survey of 1,300 workers since April 2020 in Dhaka, Chattogram, Gazipur, Narayanganj and Savar.



I believe gender discrimination in our sector has significantly decreased. The earlier notion of systemic bias against women has largely diminished. As for sexual harassment, it is now virtually nonexistent within factories. Factory regulations are strict, and complaints can be lodged easily. I can confidently say that among all workplaces in Bangladesh, the garment sector is one of the safest.

ANWAR-UL-ALAM CHOWDHURY PARVEZ
Former president, BGMEA

The former BGMEA president's statement is completely false and unreal. It is not surprising that owners speak from their own side, but they do not see the real conditions of workers. Every day, there are cases of sexual harassment -- unwanted touching and verbal abuse are very common for women workers.

MOSHREFA MISHU
President, Garments Sramik Unity Forum

Median monthly earnings that year (2023), excluding overtime, stood at Tk 9,669 for women and Tk 10,928 for men. Both figures

fall far short of living wage estimates set by the Global Living Wage Coalition, ranging from Tk 19,200 to Tk 26,000.

Research also shows that male supervisors frequently bully, harass and sexually abuse women workers, particularly those from marginalised backgrounds, often without consequence.

At the heart of Bangladesh's economy lies the ready-made garment (RMG) sector, whose share of exports rose to around 60 percent over time, peaking at 84 percent in FY 2022-23, and it employs roughly four million workers, about 80 percent of them women.

According to Economic Observatory, the rise of the RMG sector has been dramatic -- from just \$1.8 million in exports in 1980 to about \$47 billion in 2023, driven by a mix of entrepreneurial initiative and state support.

Yet, despite its global success, compliance gaps remain widespread.

RMG Bangladesh's 2026 report says that even after the newly elected government took power, nearly one-third of factories failed to pay Eid bonuses five days after the government-set deadline ahead of Eid-ul-Fitr this year.

Despite instructions to clear bonuses by March 12 and February wages by March 9, more than 3,000 factories, about 30 percent, had not paid Eid bonuses, according to the Industrial Police.

The non-compliant units include over 3,000 ready-made garment factories, as well as establishments in the textile, chemical and other sectors.

This failure comes amid mounting pressure on the RMG sector in recent years.

Before Covid-19, around 4,500 factories under the Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association employed roughly 5.5 million workers, with 75-85 percent being women.

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Doctor who treated 11-yr-old rape victim gets death threats

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Netrokona

The doctor who treated an 11-year-old rape victim in Netrokona's Madan upazila and later shared details of the case with the media has allegedly received death and rape threats.

Dr Sayma Akter, a gynaecologist at a diagnostic centre in the upazila, filed a general diary with Madan Police Station on Thursday, said the station's Officer-in-Charge Mohammad Tarikul Islam.

"Police are taking her security concerns seriously," the OC added.

According to the GD, the 11-year-old girl went to Dr Sayma on April 30 with medical complications. An examination found that she was 27 weeks pregnant. After speaking with the girl and her mother, the doctor learned that a teacher at the madrasa she attended had allegedly sexually abused her.

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Rooppur plant gets automated control system for unit-1

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

Russia's Rosatom nuclear energy corporation has completed the delivery and installation of the full automated process control system (APCS) for the first power unit of the Rooppur Nuclear Power Plant.

"This is another milestone in Bangladesh's first nuclear power project," Rosatom said in a press release yesterday.

The system was supplied by Rosatom Automated Control Systems (RASU).

The delivery included 22 subsystems covering automated process control and radiation monitoring for unit-1, which features a VVER-1200 reactor.

Saikat Ahmed, media focal point officer of Rooppur Nuclear Power Plant, said the systems act as the plant's "brain", using operational and safety controllers to adjust valves and pumps instantly, keeping the plant within safe operating envelopes.

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Songs, recitations mark Tagore's 165th birth anniv at Chhayanaut



PHOTO: ABRAR FAIYAZ NILOY

STAR REPORT

The first evening of Chhayanaut's two-day "Rabindra Utsab 1433" unfolded yesterday at the Chhayanaut Auditorium, as artistes and audiences gathered to celebrate the 165th birth anniversary of Rabindranath Tagore through music, recitation, and performance.

The programme began at 6:30pm with an opening address by festival president Dr Sarwar Ali, who formally inaugurated the celebration.

Reflecting on Tagore's lasting influence on Bangalee culture and humanity, he said, "Rabindranath spent his whole life trying to establish peace and harmony through his songs and stories. Chhayanaut is merely continuing what he had started."

The auditorium, lit in soft blue hues and centred around a towering portrait of Tagore, saw the evening open with a group dance-chorus performance of "Bhubanjora Ashonkhani" by Chhayanaut artistes.

Throughout the programme, performers presented a carefully selected repertoire of

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Man beaten to death on theft suspicion

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bogura

A man was beaten to death by a mob while allegedly trying to flee after a burglary in Bogura's Shibganj upazila early yesterday.

The deceased was identified as Selim Fakir, a resident of Tinkunja village in Kahalu upazila of the district.

According to locals and police, the incident took place between 3:00am and 4:00am at the house of Gopal Chandra in Chhatua Matalpara village.

"Early this morning, three thieves entered Gopal Chandra's house by digging a tunnel. Selim Fakir was caught by locals while trying to flee after the burglary. He died on the spot after being beaten by villagers," Shibganj Police Station Officer-in-Charge Shahinuzzaman Shahin told The Daily Star.

The OC said police recovered the body and sent it to a hospital for autopsy.

Preparations are underway to file two cases, one over the alleged theft and another over the mob beating that led to his death, he added.

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BE A PROUD MEMBER OF UTTARA BANK FAMILY

Career Opportunity

Uttara Bank PLC. invites online applications from young, smart & energetic persons for appointment as Assistant Officer (General) & Assistant Officer (Cash) in the Bank.

Candidates fulfilling the following criteria are eligible to apply :-

01. Academic Qualifications :-

For Assistant Officer (General) :

(a) Master's degree or 04 (four) years integrated Honours Degree in any discipline from any recognized educational Institution.

(b) The candidates must have at least one 1st Division/Class/equivalent GPA/CGPA in any of the Board/University examinations & no 3rd Division/Class/equivalent GPA/CGPA in any of the said examinations.

For Assistant Officer (Cash) :

(a) Bachelor/Bachelor (Hons) Degree in any discipline from any recognized educational Institution.

(b) The candidates must have at least one 2nd Division/Class/equivalent GPA/CGPA in any of the Board/University examinations. In case of the results published in grading system the previous 1st, 2nd & 3rd Division/Class will be determined against the existing GPA/CGPA as under :-

(i) For the results of S.S.C. and H.S.C examinations or equivalent examinations thereof :-	
G. P. A 3.00 or above	1st Division
G. P. A 2.00 or above but below 3.00	2nd Division
G. P. A 1.00 or above but below 2.00	3rd Division

(ii) For CGPA given by the recognized University/Educational Institution.

CGPA obtained		
In the Scale of 4.00	In the Scale of 5.00	Equivalent class/ Division
3.00 or above	3.75 or above	1st Division/Class
2.25 or above but below 3.00	2.813 or above but below 3.75	2nd Division/Class
1.65 or above but below 2.25	2.063 or above but below 2.813	3rd Division/Class

02. Age : Not over 32 years as on 31st May, 2026.

03. Period of probation/ training, confirmation and Salary :

There will be a 01 (one) year period of probation/training which will start from the date of joining in the Bank's service. An Assistant Officer (General) will be paid monthly consolidated emolument of Tk. 28,000/- (Taka twenty eight thousand) only and an Assistant Officer (Cash) will be paid monthly consolidated emolument of Tk. 26,000/- (Taka twenty six thousand) only during the probation period. After successful completion of the probation period, an Assistant Officer (General) will be confirmed in the scale of pay of Tk 15000-1000X8-23000-1500X15-45500/- with other allowances/benefits as admissible in the grade and an Assistant Officer (Cash) will be confirmed in the scale of pay of Tk.14000-950X8-21600-1250X15-40350/- with other allowances/benefits as admissible in the grade.

04. Computer literacy is essential.

The interested candidates may apply through the Website of Uttara Bank PLC. (www.uttarabank-bd.com) latest by the 17th May, 2026 by filling up the Online Application Form of the Bank. Upon successful submission of the online application, candidates will be able to download a copy of the submitted Application Form containing a Tracking Number. All instructions provided therein must be followed carefully.

Any employee of Uttara Bank PLC. or any person who has been engaged as Assistant Officer (General) (on contract basis)/Assistant Officer (Cash) (on contract basis) in the Bank having requisite qualifications may apply through proper channel, if he/she is not above 35 (thirty five) years of age as on 31-05-2026.

Only shortlisted candidates will be notified of the Written Test through the Bank's website and SMS to their respective mobile numbers. Candidates who meet the prescribed eligibility criteria and whose applications are found valid upon scrutiny will be called to appear in the MCQ Test for shortlisting.

- Any form of Persuasion/Influence/Recommendation/Canvassing will make the candidate liable for rejection of his/her application.
- One candidate may apply for only one post either Assistant Officer (General) or Assistant Officer (Cash).
- The candidate who is in job elsewhere needs to apply through proper channel.
- The candidates who are not willing to serve anywhere in Bangladesh need not to apply.
- The candidates must have a valid mobile number and email address.
- No application/document in person will be received.

Incomplete application will not be entertained. The competent authority of the Bank reserves the right to accept or reject any application at any stage without assigning any reason and also reserves the right to cancel/modify the recruitment/selection process, if need arises without assigning any reason.

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