

3 more die with measles-like symptoms

UNB, Dhaka

Three more children have died with symptoms consistent with measles in 24 hours until 8:00am yesterday, taking the combined tally of confirmed and suspected measles-related deaths to 686.

The DGHS has classified the latest deaths as suspected measles fatalities.

With the latest update, the number of suspected measles deaths has risen to 593, while the number of laboratory-confirmed measles deaths remained unchanged at 93, it said.

A total of 1,009 new suspected measles cases were reported during the 24-hour period, taking the cumulative number of suspected cases nationwide to 94,764.

Only 7 verdicts

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Referring to information shared by the law minister on June 21, she said 80 cases have been filed with the International Crimes Tribunal over crimes during the July uprising. Of them, seven verdicts have been delivered, 22 cases are under testimony, and 51 are under investigation.

She said the process is too slow, noting that only seven verdicts in nearly two years is not satisfactory. She urged the law minister to provide regular updates on the cases.

She also said the number of July martyrs is over a thousand, but only 834 have been gazetted so far, while 50 remain unlisted.

She demanded adequate allocation for investigation and gazette notification of injured July fighters and martyrs. She also called for proper categorisation and services for injured fighters.

Shesaid the July Martyrs' Memorial Foundation has supported families with financial aid, medical care, rehabilitation, mental health services and remembrance activities. So far, Tk 120 crore has been distributed to martyrs' families and injured fighters.

However, she said the foundation's staff have not received salaries or Eid bonuses in the last three months. "Those who helped martyrs' families are now in crisis."

She demanded necessary financial support for the foundation.

Following her speech, Law Minister Md Asaduzzaman responded under Rule 300, saying the words of the "martyr mother" reflect the nation's emotions and struggle.

He said legal protection has been given to July fighters within the legal framework.

He also said every law is a political document and public policy, and the protection provided by the government is within this framework, adding, "This protection should be considered political protection."



Abdul Mannan Hawlader, 68, weaves poultry cages from thin bamboo strips in Daharpara area of Barishal's Wazirpur upazila yesterday. The cages, widely used in rural households for keeping ducks and chickens, sell for Tk 200 to Tk 250 each at weekly markets.

PHOTO: TITU DAS

A playground under water for 4 months

Students miss sports, assemblies and outdoor activities during monsoon

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

The playground of a primary school in Mymensingh's Phulpur upazila remains waterlogged for at least four months a year, depriving students of sports, assemblies and co-curricular activities.

Teachers and students of Madhya Sahapur Poura Govt Primary School said the playground remains waterlogged for days after heavy or moderate rain.

During the monsoon, stagnant water remains on the ground for months, stopping students from taking part in outdoor activities.

Locals alleged that the field has also turned into a breeding ground for mosquitoes, exposing children to health risks. They said the situation was not only disrupting education but also affecting the children's mental wellbeing.

As the adjacent road and surrounding areas are at a higher level, rainwater accumulates on the school ground and remains stagnant during the rainy season.

The problem has continued for over 20 years, according to locals.



Tayebe, a fifth grader, said the school field remains underwater and muddy for months during the rainy season.

"We cannot play with our classmates. We cannot even hold our daily assemblies," she said.

Another fifth grader, Shanto Mia, echoed her.

Locals alleged that the culverts used to drain rainwater from the school area had been blocked in recent years, worsening the situation.

Md Ashik Ullah, headteacher of the school, said around 160 students were directly affected by the poor condition of the playground.

The school was established in a low-lying area in 2003, and the problem has continued since then. However, the situation has deteriorated in recent years, he added.

Md Kosimuddin, donor member of the school managing committee, said the authorities concerned had been informed on different occasions, but no effective action had been taken yet.

Upazila Education Officer Shahnewaz Begum said the problem had worsened in recent years after the earlier drainage system was blocked by a section of locals.

Contacted, Md Shafiqul Islam, assistant commissioner (Land) and administrator of Phulpur municipality, said they had been informed about the problem and necessary steps would be taken soon.

He said he had already managed a fund to build a mud road so that students and teachers could reach the school from the main road.

MOHAMMADPUR IN MAGURA

Dilapidated bridge puts villagers at risk

MOHSIN MILON, Benapole

A 30-year-old dilapidated bridge over a canal in Balidia village under Mohammadpur upazila of Magura has long been causing suffering to several thousand residents.

During a recent visit, this correspondent found the bridge's railings collapsed years ago, while several sections in the middle have either sunk or deteriorated. In some places, local residents carried out temporary repairs with concrete to keep it usable. Cracks have also appeared on the southern side of the structure.

Hundreds of schoolchildren use the bridge every day. During the monsoon, its risky condition leaves them exposed to the danger of serious accidents.

Residents of at least 15 villages, including students, farmers and general commuters, use the bridge daily.

The bridge is around 135 feet long and six-and-a-half feet wide. With no protective railings on either side or a 15-20 feet deep canal below, pedestrians face constant danger while crossing it.

Locals said the bridge is a vital link to several educational institutions and local markets nearby.

Mahafuzur Rahman, headteacher of Balidia Secondary School, said the bridge had long remained in a risky condition.

"Minor accidents occur frequently. Considering the safety of students, a new bridge should be constructed to replace it soon," he said.

Golam Mortaza, a local teacher, said the bridge was built around 1996-97 and has received little meaningful maintenance since then.

The railings were damaged around 2015, forcing residents to use the bridge amid risk for more than a decade, he said.

Contacted, Md Golzar Hossain, upazila engineer in Mohammadpur, said the necessary design and project information had already been sent to the higher authorities for construction of a new and wider bridge.

"The matter is currently under process," he added.



Menon and Qamrul's

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18, 2024, when police fired shotguns and tear gas at the protesters. Later, he learned through media reports that a student had been killed and many others were injured by pellets there.

The following day,

Sakib said, he again joined the protest with two others including one Maruf, and saw police and Border Guard Bangladesh personnel firing at protesters heading towards Rampura Bridge. Maruf was shot in the abdomen, Sakib said, adding that he also saw five bullet-riddled bodies on the bridge.

Sakib also said he and others rushed critically injured Maruf to a local hospital before doctors referred him to Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH). Police and BGB

personnel stopped their ambulance near Rampura Bridge for about half an hour.

"Maruf's condition deteriorated during the delay, and he later died near Shantinagar on the way to DMCH," Sakib told ICT-1.

He also said he saw numerous bullet-hit bodies lying on the floor of DMCH, and alleged that hospital authorities refused to release Maruf's body, citing instructions from higher authorities.

The first charge in the case concerns killings across the country during the uprising following a meeting at Gono Bhaban. The second alleges that the decision to use lethal force led to 23 deaths in Badda and nearby areas on July 20.

The tribunal adjourned proceedings until June 29.

'Ensure justice or step down'

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Shafiqur claimed the BNP had abandoned its earlier stance of bringing those responsible for crimes committed during the "fascist regime" to justice after coming to power.

He alleged that more than 600 people had been killed over the past four months, adding that BNP activists had also been killed in intra-party violence.

"If a party cannot protect or care for its own workers,

there is reason to question how committed it will be to 200 million people," he said.

He also alleged attempts to delay the investigation into the killing of Inquilab Mancha Convener Sharif Osman Bin Hadi and said no charge sheet had yet been filed.

"Whom is this delay meant to please? What truth is being concealed? The people deserve answers," he said.

Referring to the killing of Islami Chhatra

Shibir leader Saifullah Bari in Gaibandha, he said no ideology could be eliminated through violence and urged the BNP not to attempt to "eradicate" Jamaat's ideology.

Calling the politics of "elimination" a virus, he said Bangladesh needed another revolution against fascism, corruption and partisan control of state institutions and said Jamaat would lead such a movement.

Criticising what he described as growing politicisation under the current government, he alleged that partisan influence had spread across Bangladesh Bank, commercial banks, educational institutions, district administrations, and even the sports sector.

Speaking at the rally, National Citizen Party (NCP) Convener Nahid Islam said it was disappointing that people were still protesting two years after the July

uprising to demand justice for disappearances, killings and alleged massacres during the Awami League era.

He criticised the lack of progress at the International Crimes Tribunal, demanded the resignation of the chief prosecutor, and called for banning the AL and speeding up trials.

He also said the government might not complete its five-year term if it does not ensure justice. Bangladesh Khelafat

Majlish Ameer Maulana Mamunul Haque similarly demanded justice for the AL-era atrocities.

He also demanded justice for the killing of Sharif Osman Hadi and urged India to hand over those accused in the case.

Leaders of several parties in the 11-party alliance also spoke at the rally. The programme was chaired by Hamidur Rahman Azad, coordinator of the alliance and assistant secretary general of Jamaat-e-Islami.

18 pro-Jamaat DAGs Bangladesh student

FROM PAGE 3

Golam Rahman Bhuiyan, Tarikul Islam and Md Asad Uddin.

Imrul Kayes Rana, Humayun Kabir Tanim, Abdul Qayyum Bhuiyan, Abdullahil Maruf Fahim, Jowadur Rahman, Shamsil Arefin, Mahabuba Akter Roly, Nur Nabi Ujjal and Al Reza Amir, Rezaul Karim and Md Zakir Hossain resigned from AAG posts, Advocate Tarikul Islam, who resigned from the office of DAG, told The Daily Star.

He said the 18 pro-Jamaat lawyers were appointed as the law officers of the state for moving cases at the Appellate and High Court Divisions of the Supreme Court at different times during the regime of Prof Muhammad Yunus-led interim government.

In his resignation letter, Tarikul said, "Thereby tender my resignation from the office of Deputy Attorney General for Bangladesh with immediate effect. It has been a privilege to serve the Republic in this capacity

and to discharge the responsibilities entrusted to me. However, after careful consideration, I have come to the conclusion that I can no longer continue in office due to fundamental differences concerning certain recent actions and positions of the present Government."

"I am deeply concerned by the failure to implement the July Charter in accordance with the mandate and aspirations expressed by the people. I am equally concerned by the Government's opposition to the establishment of an independent secretariat for the Judiciary and its position in matters relating to judicial independence. Furthermore, the repeal of the Supreme Court Judges Appointment Ordinance has, in my respectful view, weakened important safeguards relating to judicial appointments and the independence of the judiciary."

Attorney General Md Ruhul Quddus Kazal could not be reached.

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Shahriar's mother, Papiya Begum, said she last spoke to her son on June 11 afternoon when he told her that he would be joining a new workplace that night. He shared the same information with his father and his roommate, Raihan Mia, in Cyprus.

According to the family, Shahriar reached his workplace around 9:00pm local time and sent his location to Raihan. Afterwards, all communication with him stopped.

Around 10:00pm, a message was sent from Shahriar's WhatsApp to his father, claiming he had been kidnapped and demanding the ransom.

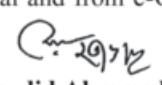
Initially, the family believed his WhatsApp account had been hacked. However, when he failed to return home the following morning, concern deepened. Raihan later filed a missing person report with local police.

Papiya said ransom demands continued daily for next 10 days.

Shahriar's younger brother, Nayon Ahmed said, "As the police could not show any significant progress, we agreed to send the ransom money. After negotiations, the amount was settled at Tk 500,000." "On Sunday afternoon, we went to a bank to transfer the money. Before sending it, we requested to speak with Shahriar once. They refused. We then returned home. Later that evening..., we learned that Cyprus police had recovered Shahriar's body. Raihan and other acquaintances in Cyprus confirmed the news," he added.

Raipura Upazila Nirbahi Officer Md Masud Rana said the administration had received information in this regard.

"However, the matter has not yet been officially communicated through the Bangladesh embassy or relevant authorities. If the family seeks government assistance, the administration will take the necessary steps," he added.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh			
Local Government Engineering Department			
Office of the Executive Engineer			
District: Jamalpur.			
www.lged.gov.bd			
Memo No. 46.02.3900.000.07.001.25- 2309		Date: - 23-06-26	
e-Tender Notice No-35/2025-2026			
e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (http://www.eprocure.gov.bd) for the Procurement of works details in table:			
Tender ID	Tender Reference No	Name of work	Tender Publication Date & Time and Tender Opening Date & Time
1293913	EARN-LGED-INFRA-W-18	Repair & Maintenance of YTC Buildings at Jamalpur Upazila, Dist: Jamalpur	25-Jun-2026 12:00 and 09-Jul-2026 13:00
This is an online Tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted.			
To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP System portal (http://www.eprocure.gov.bd) is required.			
The fees for downloading the e-Tender Documents from the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through any registered Banks' branches.			
Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).			
 (Rozdid Ahmmed) Executive Engineer LGED, Jamalpur			
GD-1614			