

# Four more die of dengue, 1,512 get hospitalised

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**

At least four people died of dengue and 1,512 others were hospitalised with the viral disease in the 24 hours until 8:00am yesterday, according to the Directorate General of Health Services.

Of the four deaths, two were reported in Mymensingh division and one each in DNCC and DSCC.

With the latest fatalities and cases, the country's dengue death toll has risen to 368, while the total number of cases has reached 118,502.

Currently, 6,023 dengue patients are undergoing treatment at hospitals across the country.



**Friends Mijarul and Nayan herd their flock of 1,400 ducks across a muddy field at Purba Dahar Hapania Mor in Netrokona. The two rear ducks for both meat and eggs, selling each duck for around Tk 600-700. Their flock produces around 800 eggs daily, which sell for around Tk 18 each. Like them, many others in the area are turning to duck farming to become financially independent.**

PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

# Man shot dead over 'gang rivalry' in Khulna

**OUR CORRESPONDENT,** *Khulna*

A 32-year-old man was shot dead in Khulna city early yesterday in what police suspect was a clash between rival criminal groups.

The deceased, Tahedul Islam Tushar, was shot in the back near Ansar Ali Goli in Purba Baniakhhamar around 5:30am, said Sub-Inspector Md Shah Alam of Khulna Sadar Police Station.

Quoting locals, the SI said a scuffle broke out among several young men near Khademul Ulum Madrasa. Some pulled out firearms and opened fire, hitting Tushar. He died on the spot.

Police sent the body to Khulna Medical College Hospital for an autopsy. They also recovered a motorcycle and two bullet casings from the area.

SI Shah Alam said Tushar was a member of a gang led by Palash, a top criminal from Khulna currently in jail. He said a rival group killed Tushar.

Khulna Sadar Police Station Officer-in-Charge Md Lokmon Hossain said Tushar had entered an area controlled by rival groups, whose members spotted him and opened fire.

Police have identified the suspected assailants and launched an operation to arrest them, he added.

According to the OC, Tushar faced two cases involving firearms offences and extortion allegations. He was produced before a court on June 7 in an arms-related case and later released on bail.

# Couple dies after gas cylinder blast in Gazipur

**OUR CORRESPONDENT,** *Gazipur*

A couple died last night after suffering severe burns in a gas cylinder explosion at their home in Tongi on Wednesday.

The deceased were identified as Md Lalchan, 60, and Nasima Begum, 50, both garment workers.

Their daughter, Tanisa Akter, 16, is undergoing treatment at the National Institute of Burn and Plastic Surgery in Dhaka.

The explosion occurred around 6:00am in the Mudafa area of Tongi's Cherag Ali, reportedly due to a gas cylinder leak. The three were rescued and taken to the burn institute around 7:30am.

Dr Sultan Mahmud Shikder, a resident physician at the institute, said Lalchan had suffered burns to 95 percent of his body, Nasima 85 percent and Tanisa 86 percent.

Md Arifur Rahman, officer-in-charge of Tongi West Police Station, said the explosion was caused by a gas cylinder leak.

# Jibanananda lives on in every verse

## Barishal remembers its beloved poet on his 72nd death anniversary



FILE VISUAL: AFSANA MIM

**OUR CORRESPONDENT,** *Barishal*

The rivers, landscapes and natural beauty of Bengal, immortalised in the verses of poet Jibanananda Das, remain deeply intertwined with his birthplace, Barishal.

Yesterday, the city remembered one of Bangla literature's foremost modern poets on his 72nd death anniversary through floral tributes, discussions and exhibitions of his work.

Members of Pragati Lekhak Sangha and cultural activists placed wreaths at the poet's mural at the memorial auditorium on his ancestral homestead in Barishal in the morning.

Piyush Bandyopadhyay, secretary of the organisation, attended the programme alongside members of various cultural organisations.

In neighbouring Jhalakathi, a discussion meeting and an exhibition of the poet's books were held at Narayan Library in the afternoon.

In Barishal, Nilu Monu Trust and Bonolota Book Cafe also organised exhibitions featuring his published works.

Born in Barishal on February 17, 1899, Jibanananda Das carved out a distinctive place in modern Bangla poetry through his evocative portrayal of Bengal's landscapes, rivers and rural life.

His notable poetic works are "Jhora Palok", "Dhushor Pandulipi", "Bonolota Sen", "Mohaprithibi", "Shaat-ti Tarar Timir", "Shrestho Kobita" and "Ruposhi Bangla".

The poet, who taught English at Brojomuhun College in Barishal for many years, died in Kolkata on October 22, 1954, after sustaining injuries in a tram accident.

# Two killed as bus hits three-wheeler on Dhaka-Aricha highway

**OUR CORRESPONDENT,** *Manikgaj*

Two people were killed and two others critically injured when a bus collided with a battery-run auto-rickshaw on Dhaka-Aricha highway in Manikganj's Shibalaya upazila yesterday.

The deceased were identified as Yasin, 20, and Babul, 28, both from Mahali village in Ghior upazila.

Md Harun-or-Rashid, OC of Barangail Highway Police Station, said the bus, travelling from Dhaka towards Paturia, hit the auto-rickshaw heading from Aricha towards Barangail near Barangail bus stand.

He said that one victim died at the scene and another succumbed to his injuries at a local hospital.

Two others, who suffered critical injuries, are currently undergoing treatment at the hospital.

Following the incident, angry locals blocked the Dhaka-Aricha highway, leaving 200-300 vehicles stranded from 9:30am to 11:30am, the OC said.

Police are investigating the incident, he added.

**PRAYER TIMING**

**OCTOBER 23**

| | Fazr | Juma | Asr | Maghrib | Esha |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| AZAN | 4-50 | 12-30 | 4-00 | 5-36 | 7-15 |
| JAMAAT | 5-25 | 1-15 | 4-15 | 5-39 | 7-45 |

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

# Italy dream turns fatal for Sohel

## From Qatar to Egypt and Belarus, his journey ends in a Latvian hospital

**OMAR ALI SHOHAG**

Seven-year-old Jayan Ahmed keeps asking his mother, Jasmin Sultana, whether his father has called. She has no answer.

His father, Sohel Rana, 42, a transport businessman from Ramchandrapur village in Jhenaidah Sadar, died in a Latvian hospital on October 12 after reportedly falling ill while attempting to reach Italy through irregular migration routes.

His family now awaits his body, having spent Tk 31 lakh on what was initially promised as a legal journey to Italy.

According to the family, Sohel left for Qatar on April 6 last year after Sohag Sarkar, an Italy-based Bangladeshi from the same village, allegedly promised to arrange his migration to Italy for Tk 26 lakh within three months.

Instead, Sohel remained stranded in Qatar for about a year. When he decided to return, he was allegedly persuaded to travel to Egypt instead.

After several months there, he again tried to return home but was allegedly intercepted on his way to the airport and taken to Belarus.

"I last spoke to my husband on October 6 when he told me that he had been taken to Belarus," Jasmin said.

The following day, Sohag allegedly called her, claiming Sohel had fallen ill in a forest while travelling towards Latvia. He demanded another Tk 5 lakh for treatment but did not allow her to speak to Sohel.

With help from a foreign ministry welfare official, the family contacted the Polish embassy and Latvian police and learnt that Latvian border guards had found Sohel seriously ill on October 7.

He was admitted to a hospital in Daugavpils, where he died five days later.

"We do not know what actually happened to him. If his body is brought back, at least my two sons will have their father's grave to visit," Jasmin said.



SOHEL RANA

Sohel's father, Abul Hashem, said he sold land to finance the journey, while Jasmin sold her jewellery.

"My son had a good business. They lured him with the promise of a future in Italy," he said.

On October 18, Jasmin filed a human trafficking case with a Jhenaidah court against nine members of Sohag's family, including his parents.

This correspondent found Sohag's family home locked. Attempts to contact them by phone failed.

WFP World Food Programme

**SALE NOTICE**

The United Nations World Food Programme intends to sale old and obsolete assets **(Laptops, Office Equipment, Telecommunication Equipment, Safety Security Devices, Electrical & Electronics Items and Other Scrap Goods)** in several lots on **"as is where is"** basis through competitive sealed bidding process. The assets/ goods/materials will be on display between 09:00-16:00 hrs. during 28-29 Oct 2026 at the WFP Offices in Dhaka, Cox's Bazar, Rangpur and Khulna. Interested bidder(s) will need to collect the bid documents by sending an email request to **Bangladesh.Disposals@wfp.org** mentioning "Request for Sealed Bid Documents " in the subject line.

# Measles-like symptoms claim two more lives

**UNB,** *Dhaka*

Two children died with measles-like symptoms in the 24 hours preceding 8:00am yesterday, bringing the country's combined tally of confirmed and suspected measles-related deaths to 1,207 this year.

DGHS classified the latest fatalities as suspected measles deaths.

With this, the total number of suspected measles deaths has reached 1,103, while confirmed deaths from measles have remained the same at 104.

**Flat Sale**

South facing Lake and Park views flats with modern facilities including Swimming Pool at Jolshiri Sector 14 for SALE. Contact for attractive price: **01769050505**

# 2 brothers electrocuted trying to save father

**UNB,** *Bhola*

Two brothers were electrocuted while trying to save their father after he came into contact with a live electric wire in Burhanuddin upazila of Bhola yesterday.

The deceased were identified as Abdur Rahim, 40, and Md Rakib, 30, sons of Md Alam Boktar of Tazumuddin upazila.

According to locals, Alam was cutting trees in a garden when he came into contact with the snapped wire.

The brothers rushed to rescue their father but also came into contact with the live wire and died on the spot. Alam survived.

Burhanuddin Police Station OC Md Ashrab Ali said no complaint had been filed.

WFP World Food Programme

**Invitation for Expression of Interest (EOI)**
**(WFP/BDCO/EOI/26/003)**
**For the Provision of Waterproofing Services for WFP Premises and Facilities**

The United Nations World Food Programme (WFP)- Bangladesh hereby invites Expressions of Interest (EOI) from eligible and qualified suppliers who wish to be considered for inclusion in WFP's vendor roster for the provision of Waterproofing Services for WFP Premises and Facilities for the industrial steel profile sheet roofs, Reinforced Cement Concrete (RCC) roof slabs, brick walls, sandwich panels, and associated components, including joints, flashings, and other related waterproofing elements.

**How to prepare and submit your Expression of Interest**

Interested suppliers are required to provide the following documents:

1. The filled in EOI Response Form, which includes:
   - Table 1. WFP Requirements
   - Table 2. Supplier Information;
   - Table 3. Supplier Financial Status;
   - Table 4. Supplier Relevant Experience;
   - Table 5. Signatory by the authorized company representative and company stamp.
2. Supplier Vendor Registration Form

The detailed EOI information, necessary forms are available in the link: **https://cutt.ly/lyRi1rsw**
Companies who meet the WFP pre-defined criteria will be selected for vendor registration in WFP suppliers' roster for invitations to participate in tenders.

**Submission Process**
Interested suppliers are requested to submit the duly completed EOI Response Forms along with all required supporting documents email to: **ban.nfiprocurement@wfp.org**
Recommended email subject line for EOI Submission: **EOI Submission – WFP/BDCO/EOI/26/003 – Waterproofing Services for WFP Premises and Facilities – [Your Company Name]**

For any enquiries or clarifications, please **contact: ban.nfiprocurement@wfp.org**

**Deadline for submission: Closing date for submission is 15 calendar days from the date of publication**

**Office of the Sub Project Manager**
**"PIN 13362 Advancing Climate-Smart Low-Trophic Extractive Mariculture: Integrating Research, Capacity Development, and Coastal Livelihood Resilience to Foster the Blue Economy of Bangladesh" Sub-Project**
**Department of Marine Bioresource Science**
**Chattogram Veterinary and Animal Sciences University**

HEAT Higher Education

Memo No. CVASU/PIN13362/G-2/95 Date: 19 /10/2026

**e-Tender Notice**

e-Tender has been invited in the national e-GP system portal (https://www.eprocure.gov.bd) only for the procurement of following Tender ID.

| Tender ID No. | Package No. | Description of Goods | Publication Date and Time | Last Selling Date and Time | Closing & Opening Date and Time |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1345532 | CVASU/PIN13362/G-2 | Procurement of Chemicals for research on low-trophic mariculture | 25-Oct-2026 10:00 hr | 08-Nov-2026 15:00 hr | 09-Nov-2026 15:00 hr |

This is an e-Tender, and only electronic tenders submitted through the National e-GP System Portal will be accepted. No offline or hard-copy submissions will be accepted.

To participate in this e-Tender, registration with the e-GP System Portal (www.eprocure.gov.bd) is mandatory. The fees for downloading the e-Tender Documents from the e-GP System Portal must be deposited online through any e-GP-registered bank branch during banking hours.

Further information and guidelines are available on the National e-GP System Portal. For assistance, please contact the e-GP Help Desk at helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd.

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GD-2569