



Men take their pet dogs for a stroll during lockdown in Kolkata on Thursday. ■ SNS

98,789 patients have recovered till now.

KOLKATA 20 AUGUST

West Bengal today yet again witnessed a record number of cases by registering a single-day spike with 3,197 Covid cases, which is the highest till now and 53 deaths in the last 24 hours taking the total case count to 1,29,119 and death toll to 2,634.

A highest number of 3,126 patients were discharged from hospitals in a single day thereby recording a discharge rate of 76.51 per cent while there are 27,696 active cases. The single-day testing has increased to 35,059 samples and a total of 98,789 Covid patients have recovered in the state till now. Registering a sharp rise in single-day Covid cases, North 24 Parganas recorded the highest number of fresh cases in the state by recording 747 cases and 14 deaths. Kolkata ranked second with 583 cases and 11 deaths while South 24 Parganas recorded 174 cases and eight deaths and Howrah 160 cases and three deaths.

Currently, there are 2,610 people in government quarantine centres, 45,184 in home quarantine and 1,919 in the 200 safe homes. With a bed occupancy of 36.2

4 per cent, 7610 out of 11935 beds in Covid-designated government hospitals and 710 out of 2617 Covid beds in private hospitals are vacant. ■ SNS

esidents

The MCMPU has been successfully producing Anbhum brand ghee and has tied up successfully with e-commerce giant Amazon India for retail. At present is has four stalls in Purulia town and the milk products are also available through mobile apps.

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Mr. Nirmalya Ranjan Sarkar, managing director of MCMPU said that at the end of the day the cooperative society will also take back those unsold sweet items but the franchisee owners need to procure their own vehicles.

Singur Hospital turns breeding ground for water-borne diseases

HOOGLHY 20 AUGUST:

The Singur hospital is in a deplorable state with the surrounding area having turned into a breeding ground for dengue mosquitoes and other water borne diseases.

Nursing staff, health workers and other employees residing in the hospital quarters within the hospital premises alleged the huge trees which got uprooted during the Amphan cyclone still lay as it is while the compound area is full of weeds and thick wild bushes.

Additionally they complained of lack of proper drainage system leading to the waste water accumulation. The rain has worsened the conditions.

The staff alleged that the hospital which has already been designated for Covid

Nursing staff, health workers and other employees residing in the hospital quarters within the hospital premises alleged the huge trees which got uprooted during the Amphan cyclone still lay as it is

treatment will now raise worries among them since they are now vulnerable to vector borne diseases.

Sagar Maity, Biswajit Maity and other kins of admitted patients complained lack of resting area and unhygienic toilets.

The Singur BMOH, Mr Rajat Pal, said steps are being taken to work upon the problems. ■ SNS

rs against storage of hazardous cargo



carried in ships. Some materials are not dangerous in themselves but can become explosive under certain conditions. Kolkata Port however for the past few years have stopped receiving hazardous cargo."

Mr Chakraborty recalled, Earlier, during the late 19 to

early 20th century, the English had introduced a facility at Moyapur near Diamond Harbour, some 30 to 40 km ahead of the Kolkata port where the ships bringing powder magazines had to first unload such a cargo there and then sail towards the port.

This was done to avert any explosion near the port, located at the heart of the city, which can have severe ramifications. The facility however now remains defunct."

A port official, however, requesting anonymity, said that IMDG code though has not yet been directly ratified by the Indian government but the Indian ports follow the code as part of the Safety of Life At Sea (SOLAS) conven-

tion. The Director-General of Shipping had issued a circular post-Beirut blast giving instances of similar incidents across the globe and drew the attention of port stakeholders to the IMDG Code.

The Kolkata Port chairman, Mr Vinit Kumar told The Statesman, "We have already issued warnings to stakeholders and we don't store such hazardous cargo in port warehouses anymore." The circular issued by Kolkata Port stated, "To prevent fire hazard of any degree, Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port, Kolkata (the erstwhile Kolkata Port Trust) issued several notices and reminders to all its ten-

ants from time to time.

It was through such communications that all Lessees and Licensees, using KoPT's land/structure/godown/premises, were repeatedly reminded of their sole responsibilities for maintaining fire safety and security measures and restrictions on storing inflammable materials."

"In the wake of the recent massive explosion near Beirut Port from a cache of stored chemicals and consequent loss of lives and extensive damage of property, it has become extremely urgent for Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port, to remind all the occupants in the properties of the Port to take immediate measures," said the circular. ■ SNS

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W.B. HUMAN RIGHTS
COMMISSION
KOLKATA-27

File No. /25 / /2020

Date: 26. 08. 2020.

Enclosed is the news clipping of the 'Statesman', an English daily dated 21st August, 2020, the news item is captioned " Singur Hospital turns breeding ground for water-borne diseases'.

District Magistrate, Hooghly is directed to cause an enquiry into the matter and to furnish a report to the Commission within 4 weeks from the date of communication of the direction.

(Justice Girish Chandra Gupta)
Chairperson

(Naparajit Mukherjee)
Member

Encl: News Item Dt. 21.08.2020

Ld. Registrar to keep NHRC posted about cognizance taken on the subject by WBHRC and upload in the website.

Asstt. Secy.(L & R Wing) / S.O.
is to take immediate action

28.06.2020

SDB

Done Sent

SDB (BS)
29/8/2020