

‘Clean schools, no mosquitoes’

DNCC launches dengue prevention drive in 536 educational institutions

10 HOUR(S) AGO UPDATED 8 HOUR(S) AGO BANGLADESH

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To curb dengue risks among students, Dhaka North City Corporation (DNCC) yesterday launched a special cleanliness and mosquito-control campaign across 536 educational institutions under its jurisdiction.

The initiative comes as schools, colleges, and madrasas reopen after the Eid holidays -- a period when stagnant water in unused premises can increase the breeding of Aedes mosquitoes.



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The campaign, titled “Clean School, No Mosquito”, was inaugurated at Dhaka Residential Model School and College by DNCC Administrator Md Shafiqul Islam Khan.

“Educational institutions are reopening after a long closure. This programme is being conducted with special emphasis on preventing Aedes mosquito breeding on campuses,” he said.

He also stressed the need for public awareness, adding that collective efforts are required to build a liveable, mosquito-free, and odour-free city.

DNCC Chief Health Officer Brig Gen Imru-al-Quais said prolonged school closures had led to poor maintenance in many institutions.

Under the programme, DNCC will carry out a coordinated three-day mosquito control operation.

Officials said all potential sources of stagnant water will be removed or destroyed. Larviciding and adulticiding will also be conducted in classrooms, school premises, and surrounding areas.

Awareness campaigns will also be held to educate students about dengue prevention and the risks posed by Aedes mosquitoes.

Experts warned that Aedes mosquito eggs can survive for long periods, and with the dengue virus still present, rainfall can create new breeding sites.

Without proper preventive measures -- especially after the Eid vacation -- the risk of mosquito proliferation increases, they said.

Prof Kabirul Bashar, an entomologist at Jahangirnagar University, urged residents to take precautions before leaving home.

“Any place where water can accumulate must be emptied. No container should be left where rainwater can collect, as it can become a breeding site for Aedes mosquitoes,” he said.

Entomologist GM Saifur Rahman stressed the need for proactive measures.

“Authorities should use environmentally safe BTI insecticides to control Aedes mosquitoes, but their application is often neglected. Even light rainfall can trigger a rise in dengue cases, as the first generation of mosquitoes helps the population grow. Early BTI application can prevent their spread,” he said.