

BNP terms

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He claimed that the economic model the government was following was not citizen-friendly.
"They have made the decision of 15 percent flat VAT probably because the real economy is not doing well."
"According to the government statistics, people's purchasing capacity has decreased in the last few years and if they have to pay VAT [at 15 percent], this will further reduce their purchasing capacity. It will impact their living standard," Amir Khasru said.
Abdul Moyeen Khan, party's standing committee member, said, "In spite of big claims by the government in respect of massive increase in revenue collections, the fact remains that the proposed imposition of 15 percent VAT across the board has created a strong resentment amongst the low income and small business groups in the country."
"No wonder the government is left with any other choice but to repress the poor through such high 15 percent VAT on everything in order to cover up for several fold increase in revenue expenditure," he added.
BNP Vice-Chairman Major (Rtd) Hafizuddin Ahmed claimed the decision was illogical and that it contradicted the basic principles of making a budget.
"This will create barrier to businessmen and ultimately people have to suffer for it," he said, adding, "If the government can bring discipline in the economic sector by removing corruption in financial institutions and banking sector, it would be good for the country."
Abdul Awal Minto, adviser to BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia, said the rate was too high and would create chaos in some sectors and people would have to suffer if the new VAT rate was implemented.
"Yes, the BNP is in favour of VAT and the expansion of VAT coverage. But 15 percent VAT for all sectors is irrational and illogical as it would create a financial burden on the people," he said.
The former president of the Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FBCCI) said the government was making false and confusing statements over budget size, its implementation and the overall economic sector.
Party insiders said the BNP would give a formal reaction on the overall budget issue after the government placed the budget. The party was keeping an eye on the issue and preparing documents in this regard.

Two accused get bail after around a decade in jail

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
The High Court yesterday granted bail to two murder accused after they languished in jail for around a decade as their trials dragged on.
Mojibur Rahman, 53, of Mymensingh's Gauripur upazila was arrested on August 13, 2009 on charges of killing his wife and Sohel, 38, of Fulbaria upazila in the same district was picked up on August 15, 2007 on charges of killing his brother-in-law.
The HC granted them bail considering that the two were languishing in jail with little progress in the trials.
The HC bench of Justice AKM Abdul Hakim and Justice SM Mozibur Rahman gave the order after examining the documents of the two cases and hearing the statements of the accused.
The judges also set deadlines for the trial courts concerned to complete the trials of three other prisoners, who have been behind bars for about 10 years.
The three are Sanju, 37, of Mymensingh, Zinnat Ali, 42, of

Two lakh

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The area -- a warren of closely spaced buildings and narrow streets -- has posed a significant challenge to Iraqi forces, which have surrounded it with a large number of civilians trapped inside.
"The Old City has been blockaded for a while, completely from the south and now our units are present on the north and west," he said, while the area's eastern side is bordered by the Tigris River.
The fall of Mosul would, in effect, mark the end of the Iraqi half of the "caliphate" declared nearly three years ago by Islamic State leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi in a speech at the mosque.
About 700,000 people, about a third of the pre-war city's population, have already fled, seeking refuge either with friends and relatives or in camps.

Britain tells Merkel it will be 'strong partner'

AFP, London
Britain yesterday said it would be a "strong partner" to Germany in response to comments by German Chancellor Angela Merkel about Britain and the United States no longer being reliable allies.
"As we begin the negotiations about leaving the EU, we will be able to reassure Germany and other European countries that we are going to be a strong partner to them in defence and security and, we hope, in trade," interior minister Amber Rudd told BBC radio.
"We can reassure Mrs Merkel that we want to have a deep and special partnership so that we can continue to maintain European-wide security to keep us all safe from the terrorists abroad and those that are trying to be nurtured in our country," she said.
Britain voted to end its four decades of European Union membership in a

Bigger subsidy

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more than the revised allocation for 2016-17.
Rice distribution through Open Market Sales (OMS) would also be increased, which would contribute to the increase in food subsidies, sources said.
The government wants, as a preliminary budget projections show, to increase the total disbursement to 27.40 lakh tonnes of rice and wheat in 2017-18, about a four-lakh tonne rise from the outgoing fiscal year's revised allocation of 23.50 lakh tonnes.
A constant rise in rice prices, at home and abroad, necessitated the enhanced food subsidy since the government was selling rice for Tk 10 a kg to the poor but it has to buy the rice at a much higher price.
In the new budget, the government is, however, lowering its domestic rice procurement target to 16 lakh tonnes for 2017-18 fiscal year. It had procured 18.50 lakh tonnes in 2016-17.
This development comes at a time when the government-offered Tk 34 a kg fell much short of current market price and millers and traders were declining to sell rice to public granaries.
Following the crop loss, the government for the first time in five years decided to buy rice from the international market.
After about 10 lakh tonnes of boro lost to floods and more losses due to fungi attack (rice blast), the government floated first two of a series of international import tenders on May 8 and 14, seeking to buy one lakh tonnes of rice.
The government took the import decision when the prices of the staple showed an upward trend with allegations that a section of millers and middlemen were deliberately supplying the market less rice to put pressure on the government to lift the 25 percent import duty.
Public granaries now have about 2.4 lakh tonnes of rice and 3.15 lakh tonnes of wheat, which is a six year low. The granaries have the capacity to hold 20 lakh tonnes.

CMCH burn unit

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Azad Hossain, a 13-year-old boy whose fingers of both hands conjoined after suffering burns, came to the hospital from Satkania upazila of Chittagong on March 31.
He needed immediate plastic surgery but doctors could not give him a date to operate on him before the first week of May as there is only one operating theatre in the unit.
The facility also does not have an intensive care unit (ICU), an integral part for burn treatment, and a specialised bathtub for washing burn patients, said Mrinal Kanti Das, head of the unit.
Many patients are referred to Dhaka Medical College Hospital only for ICU support. Some critically injured patients die on the way of at least six-hour journey from Chittagong to the capital, Mrinal said.
"Improvisation in treatment can cause bad impacts on [burn] patients but we are compelled to do so amid severe shortages of manpower and logistics."
The unit does not even have any medical officer.
Since the burn unit is supposed to

give emergency services 24 hours, doctors should be there round the clock, and so it requires at least 10 medical officers.
Surprisingly, there is no such post created for the unit, Mrinal said.
The post of professor has remained vacant for many years, he said, adding that the unit had an associate professor, two assistant professors, two registrars and two assistant registrars.
Brig Gen Jalal Uddin, director of CMCH, said the government had taken steps to build an independent hospital for burn patients under CMCH, with facilities like ICU and vital logistics and manpower. The Chinese government agreed to provide the fund.
A technical committee from China has recently visited CMCH and chosen a site for the purpose. The team members are engaged in technical works now.
"I have information so far that the construction of the hospital will begin in a few months." It will take nearly three years to complete the construction job, said the director of the hospital.
In the meantime, the authority will try to manage manpower and logistics to support the burn unit, he added.

Great Barrier Reef

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Like coral across the world, the reef has been severely damaged by the warming of the oceans with up to 95 percent of areas surveyed in 2016 found to have been bleached.
Bleaching is not always fatal but a study last year found the "largest die-off of corals ever recorded" with about 67 percent of shallow water coral found dead in a survey of a 700km stretch.
Now experts on a committee set up by the Government to improve the health of the reef have revealed that they believe the lesser target of maintaining its "ecological function" is more realistic.
In a recent communique, the expert panel said they were "united in their concern about the seriousness of the impacts facing the Reef and concluded that coral bleaching since early 2016 has changed the Reef fundamentally."
"There is great concern about the future of the Reef, and the communities and businesses that depend on it,

but hope still remains for maintaining ecological function over the coming decades," it said.
"Members agreed that, in our lifetime and on our watch, substantial areas of the Great Barrier Reef and the surrounding ecosystems are experiencing major long-term damage which may be irreversible unless action is taken now."
"The planet has changed in a way that science informs us is unprecedented in human history. While that in itself may be cause for action, the extraordinary rapidity of the change we now observe makes action even more urgent."
It recommended that reducing greenhouse gas emissions "must be central to the response."
"This needs to be coupled with increased efforts to improve the resilience of the coral and other ecosystems that form the Great Barrier Reef. The focus of efforts should be on managing the Reef to maintain the benefits that the Reef provides," it added.

House

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on May 14 convened the 16th session exercising the power bestowed upon him in Article 72 (1) of the Constitution.
Sitting for five days, the 15th session was prorogued on May 8.
INJURED MP
Deputy Speaker Fazle Rabbi Miah and Chief Whip ASM Feroz yesterday visited Awami League MP from Dinajpur Manoranjan Shill Gopal, who was injured in a road accident, at Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University, said another release.
Manoranjan and five others sustained injuries in the road accident on the Dinajpur-Dhaka highway in Ghoraghat upazila on Friday last.
An on duty doctor informed that Manoranjan's condition has slightly improved.

Indian police arrest three over sex assault video

AFP, New Delhi
Three men have been arrested after video emerged showing them assaulting two women in broad daylight as a dozen others looked on and ignored their screams for help, police said yesterday.
The blurry video aired by Indian television showed the men groping and pushing the women in Uttar Pradesh state as onlookers laughed and filmed the assault, later posting it on social media.
The incident took place last week in a remote village in Rampur district when the men surrounded the two women, whose ages and identities have not been revealed.
"We have arrested three of the main culprits and expect to get the fourth one shortly," Mohammad Tariq, a senior Rampur police official, told AFP.

Court asks

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Shafat's driver Billal Hossain confessed that he filmed one of the victims' male friends being forced by Shafat and Nayem to pose with yaba tablets.
Invited to Shafat's birthday party on March 28, the two girls went to the hotel around 9:00pm. After the party ended around midnight, Shafat and Nayem raped them in two rooms, one of the victims said in a case she filed with Banani Police Station on May 6.
Police collected Nayem's DNA samples to see whether it matched with DNA samples found on the dress of one of the victims.
As the victims claim that they were filmed when being raped, police have been trying to retrieve the video clips from the five mobile phones of the accused.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Office of the Project Director
Construction of 1.05 Lakh MT Capacity New Food Godowns Project
16, Abdul Goni Road, Dhaka
www.dgfood.gov.bd
Memo No. PD.1.05 GCP/Food/Tender-402015/1746 Date: 29/05/2017
Invitation for Re-Tenders (Works)
e-Tender Notice No. 04/2016-2017
e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of following works. Details are given below.

Zia's death

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Dal will arrange a photo exhibition at the National Press Club on May 30.
Khaleda will also distribute food among the poor at different places in the capital.
The party and its associate bodies have planned a 15-day programme to mark the anniversary that will end on June 10.
In a press release yesterday, BNP Secretary General Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir said "This illegitimate government is governing the country under one-party rule. They are reinstating old Baksal in a new style. They are killing democracy by suppressing rights of the opposition and freedom of expression."
"In such a situation, all democracy loving people should be united under the leadership of Khaleda Zia to restore multiparty democracy in the country," he said.
On this day in 1981, Zia was assassinated by a group of disgruntled army officers at Chittagong Circuit House.
Born on January 19, 1936, at Bagbari of Bogra, Zia was a sector commander during the Liberation War.
He was awarded Bir Uttam, the highest gallantry award for a living officer for his wartime services.

নিয়োগ বিজ্ঞপ্তি

বাংলাদেশ প্রকৌশল বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়
Project for Establishment of Ship Model Testing Centre (Towing Tank) at BUET
তারিখঃ ২৯ মে, ২০১৭ইং

বাংলাদেশ প্রকৌশল বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের Project for Establishment of Ship Model Testing Centre (Towing Tank) at BUET শীর্ষক প্রকল্পের জন্য সম্পূর্ণ স্বায়ত্ত্বাধীন ভিত্তিতে প্রকল্প মেয়াদকালীন সময়ের জন্য নিম্নবর্ণিত পদে লোক নিয়োগ করা হবে।

Serial No.	Position and salary	No. of post	Requisite qualifications
01	Instrumental Engineer/Tank Engineer Consolidated Salary: BDT 35600	01	a) The candidate must possess at least a 2nd class B.Sc. Engineering Degree or equivalent in Naval Architecture and Marine/Ocean/Mechanical/Electrical from a recognized university/institution. B.Sc. Engineering Degree in Naval Architecture and Marine will give preference. b) The candidate must not possess a 3rd class/division in any examination. c) Age: At most 35 year(s). d) At least 1 (one) year experience as instrumental engineer or relevant work experience in Towing Tank.
02	Assistant Accountant Consolidated Salary: BDT 19,600	01	a) The candidate must possess at least a 2nd class Bachelor Degree or equivalent in Commerce (Accounting)/BBA (Accounting)/BBS (Accounting) obtained from a recognized university/institution. b) The candidate must not possess a 3rd class/division in any examination. c) Age: At most 35 years. d) At least 3 (three) years experience in relevant work. e) Computer proficiency on MS Word and MS Excel. f) Excellent knowledge on record keeping/filing.

সাদা কাগজে নিজের নাম, পিতা ও মাতার নাম, বর্তমান ও স্থায়ী ঠিকানা, শিক্ষাপত্র যোগ্যতা, জাতীয়তা, অভিজ্ঞতা ইত্যাদি উল্লেখপূর্বক সঙ্গ সনদের ও জাতীয় পরিচয়পত্রের সত্যায়িত কপি এবং সদা তোলা দুই কপি পাসপোর্ট সাইজের ছবিসহ দরখাস্ত নিম্নলিখিত ঠিকানায় পৌঁছাতে হবে। কোন কারণ ব্যতিরেকে এই নিয়োগ প্রক্রিয়া গ্রহণ/বাতিল করার ক্ষমতা কর্তৃপক্ষ সংরক্ষণ করেন এবং নিয়োগ প্রক্রিয়ায় কর্তৃপক্ষের সিদ্ধান্ত চূড়ান্ত বলে গণ্য হবে।

অধ্যাপক ডঃ সৌভদ্র কুমার সাহা
প্রকল্প পরিচালক ও বিভাগীয় প্রধান
"Establishment of Ship Model Testing Centre (Towing Tank) at BUET" প্রকল্প
নৌযান ও নৌযন্ত্র কৌশল বিভাগ
6th Floor, Civil Engineering Building
বাংলাদেশ প্রকৌশল বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়, ঢাকা

দরখাস্ত দাখিলের শেষ তারিখঃ ২০/০৬/২০১৭
ফোন-১১৪২

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Sl No.	Tender package No.	Description of works	Tender last selling date & time	Tender closing date & time	Tender opening date & time	Tender ID No.
01	WD-12	Construction of (a) 01 No. 1000 MT Food Godown at Saltha, District-Faridpur, (b) 01 No. 500 MT Food Godown at Muksudpur LSD, District-Gopalganj, (c) 01 No. 500 MT Food Godown at Jajira LSD, District-Shariatpur & (d) 01 No. 500 MT Food Godown at Bhedergonj LSD, District-Shariatpur with ancillary works.	12/06/2017 (15:30)	13/06/2017 (12:30)	13/06/2017 (12:30)	106255
04	WD-25	Construction of (a) 01 No. 1000 MT at Sarasotipur LSD, Mohadebpur, District: Naogaon, (b) 01 No. 1000 MT at Natore Sadar LSD, Natore Sadar, Natore & (c) 01 No. 1000 MT at Puthia LSD, Puthia, Rajshahi with ancillary works.	12/06/2017 (15:30)	13/06/2017 (12:30)	13/06/2017 (12:30)	106270

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 up to 12 June, 2017 at 15:30.
Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

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Project Director (Joint Secretary)
Phone: 02-9586800

GD-1144