

It's different

FROM PAGE 12
separated on the basis of religion.
“Bangabandhu was clear in his mind that political use of religion can mean favouring certain religious groups,” the Bengali economist and philosopher said.

Bangabandhu, through his struggles, sought to build a society that will have freedom and equal rights for all, he said.

He, however, said religions are still being used for political purposes in some parts of the Indian subcontinent.

Prof Rehman Sobhan, a freedom fighter and member of Bangladesh's first planning commission, said Bangabandhu had a seminal role in creating Bangladesh in the face of the bad governance of the Pakistani regime and cultural dominance.

Bangabandhu, however, was wrongfully interpreted by his successors who thought he refused the majority population's religion. Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, the Father of the Nation, strongly believed in an inclusive society where opportunities are democratised, he said.

Rehman Sobhan said Bangabandhu was against the ruling elitism and privileged groups that catalysed the repression of the Bangalee population during the Pakistani regime.

“If we want to honour Bangabandhu and the people of Bangladesh, the most effective way is to resurrect his ideas of egalitarian society,” he said at the virtual event.

He lamented that though today Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina maintains the similar ideas of secularism, the society has not become more secular. There is a tendency not only in Bangladesh but around the world that societies are becoming more sectarian.

Rehman Sobhan, also chair of Centre for Policy Dialogue, said inequality in Bangladesh is a major challenge as powerful vested interest groups have become influential.

Baroness Minouche Shafik, director at the LSE, chaired the event, while LSE South Asia Centre Director Prof Alnoor Bhimani and Bangladesh High Commissioner to the UK, Saïda Muna Tasneem, also spoke.

Covid daily

FROM PAGE 12
A total of 477,935 patients (89.59 percent of the total reported cases) have recovered from the virus so far.

So far, 3,600,508 samples have been tested, including 15,932 in 24 hours till yesterday morning.

Bangladesh reported its first novel coronavirus cases on March 8 last year and the first death on March 18.



INVITATION FOR TENDER

Pubali Bank Limited, the largest online commercial Bank in Bangladesh is hereby inviting sealed Tenders from the eligible Tenderers, who can participate in any of the following tender but in separate envelope as defined in the tender documents of the under mentioned work as per terms & conditions stated below:

1. **Civil, Electrical & Networking works** at present premises of our **Anderkilla Branch, Chattogram**.
2. **Civil, Electrical & Networking works** for **Centralized Trade Processing Center (CTPC) of International Division & Foreign Exchange Department of Motijheel Corporate Branch, Dhaka**.
3. **Civil, Electrical & Networking works** of our proposed **Nesarabad uposhakha under Sarsina Branch, Pirojpur**.
4. **Supply, installation & commissioning of Air coolers** at our (i) **Shahbagh Avenue Branch, Dhaka** (ii) **Shibu Market Branch, Narayanganj** (iii) **National Medical College Hospital Sub- Branch under Jhonson Road Branch, Dhaka** (iv) **Bazar Road Branch, Barishal** (v) **Bhairab Bazar Branch, Kishoregonj** (vi) **Sonapur Sub-Branch under Pangsha Branch, Rajbari** & (vii) **ICT Operation Division, H/O, Dhaka**.
5. **Printing & supply of 1,00,000 (One lac) pieces of Office file (Yellow)**.

Please visit our web site, <https://www.pubalibangla.com/tender.asp> for details. Interested Parties may purchase the Tender document by **04 February, 2021** duly filled up all requirements and submit their offer in the tender box by **07 February, 2021** (before 11.00 A.M.). Tender will be opened on **07 February, 2021** at 11.30 A.M.



পূবালী ব্যাংক লিমিটেড
PUBALI BANK LIMITED

Dilip Kumar Paul
General Manager

Establishment Division
Head office, 26 Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka.

Kerry assures Bangladesh of continued

FROM PAGE 12
the 1890s (the so-called “preindustrial period”).

Biden appointed Kerry his special envoy on climate and signed an executive order to rejoin the Paris Agreement. Immediate past president Donald Trump had withdrawn his country from the global deal.

However, US's return to the Paris Agreement generated high hopes of climate actions across the globe.

Momen recollected the vital contribution of Kerry towards the Paris Agreement and welcomed the decision of the US to return to the agreement.

Bangladesh is one of the most vulnerable countries in terms of climate change and there are predictions over 25 million people in the country's coastal areas could be displaced with a one-metre sea-

level rise. Besides, extreme weather conditions will have devastating impact on life and livelihood.

During the telephone call that lasted about half an hour, Momen remembered the time-tested US-Bangladesh relations and expressed the satisfaction of Bangladesh government for the appointment of Kerry as US Presidential Envoy.

The foreign minister described all the actions taken by the Bangladesh under the leadership of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina on mitigation, adaptation and measures to strengthen resilience.

He also briefed all the current and future actions of Climate Vulnerable Forum (CVF), whose chair is Bangladesh, and the Global Centre on Adaptation (GCA) Dhaka office.

Kerry conveyed his greetings to Hasina and agreed that the

international financial institutions could do more for the issue of climate change.

He also opined that many countries were not responsible enough when it came to adequate mitigation and adaptation issues and their part of contribution.

Kerry also agreed with Momen that displacement due to climate change would be a vital security issue for everybody.

He emphasised on using the current opportunities to maximize inclusion of as many people as possible, and expressed his interest to be updated about the functions and priorities of the CVF and GCA.

Both of them agreed to work closely at COP26 to be held in the UK this November and other multilateral platforms.

GAVI asks for political support

FROM PAGE 12
income country, enough to protect the health workers and the most vulnerable high-risk groups,” Berkley said.

‘DIMINISHING RETURNS’
GAVI and partners would share “indicative dose allocations” with countries this week, he added.

Berkley, asked about possible EU vaccine export bans, noted that 190 countries had joined the COVAX facility and that US President Joe Biden had announced it was joining

and providing significant funding.

“Our hope is this will lead to a consensus of trying to keep the vast majority of work in a pandemic effort to be done through multilateral mechanisms and not bilateral. We have no ability to stop those bilateral mechanisms,” he said.

“And the challenge right now frankly is that there are new bilaterals being done now and at some point it goes to diminishing returns, there won't be adequate doses, there won't be adequate supplies for vaccines, the

Hostel supers, 5 guards

FROM PAGE 12
commit the heinous crime on the college campus, the probe report mentioned.

The HC bench of Justice Mohammad Mozibur Rahman Miah is scheduled to deal with the inquiry report on February 4.

The inquiry report was submitted by the four-member committee, headed by Sylhet's District and Sessions Judge Md Bazlur Rahman, on October 20 last year.

Other three members of the committee are Sylhet's Additional Metropolitan Sessions Judge Mominun Nesa, Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Mohammad Abul Kashem and Additional Deputy Commissioner Sharmin Sultana, sources said.

Supreme Court lawyer Mohammad Mesbah Uddin, who read the probe

report, told The Daily Star that the probe committee made 15 recommendations in order to ensure security on the college campus.

The inquiry committee placed a 176-page report to the court through its Registrar Mohammad Golam Rabbani in line with its September 29 directive.

The HC bench recently held a hearing in part on the rule involving the issue.

On September 29 last year, the HC bench formed the committee to conduct an inquiry into the incident of rape of a woman at the campus of the college on September 25 last year.

The court also issued a suo moto (voluntary) rule asking the respondents to show causes why they should not be directed to take appropriate legal steps against the principal and hostel superintendent of the college for their

negligence and failure to save the innocent woman from being gang raped.

Secretaries to the ministries of home, law and education, vice chancellor and registrar of the National University, DC and SP of Sylhet and principal and hostel super of MC College have been made respondents to the rule.

The HC bench came up with the order and rule on a suo moto move following two reports published on The Daily Star on September 27 on the incident of gang-rape of an innocent woman at MC College campus.

Lawyer Mohammad Mesbah Uddin placed The Daily Star reports under the headlines “Rape in MC College: 6 accused BCL men moved with impunity” and “Unpublished crimes led to horror like this” before the HC bench for necessary orders.

PSC extends deadline for cadre aspirants

FROM PAGE 12
still not over due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

In a letter, the UGC said all education institutions have been closed since March 18 last year following a government announcement of nationwide closure due to Covid-19. As such, Honour's and Master's exams were not conducted as per schedule.

Through the general 43rd BCS, 1,814 officials will be recruited, including 300 in the public administration, 100 in police, 25 in foreign services, and 843 teachers.

10,964 PASS 40TH BCS WRITTEN EXAM

A total of 10,964 candidates have passed the written test of the 40th BCS examinations. The results were published by the PSC after approval at a special meeting of the commission yesterday afternoon.

PSC Public Relations Officer Ishrat Sharmin told The Daily Star that the results were published on the commission's website. In addition, the results can be known through Teletalk mobile by sending a text message. The viva examination will start from February 16. Detailed schedule will be informed in due course.

The PSC had published the advertisement of the 40th BCS in

September 2018 to recruit a total of 1,903 cadre officers to various government posts. Four lakh 12 thousand and 532 candidates had applied for it.

The preliminary examination was held on May 3, 2019. Three lakh and 26 thousand candidates took part in it. The results of the preliminary examination were released on July 25 of that year. Twenty thousand and 26 candidates passed the preliminary exam.

Although the written test was conducted in January last year, the results could not be published earlier due to Covid-19.

ACC summons 10 for quizzing

FROM PAGE 12
chairman of PLFSL Uzzal Nandi and former managing director ILFSL Rashedul Haque in connection with a case.

Of the Tk 346 crore, Anan Chemical allegedly laundered Tk 70.82 crore, Sudakha Properties Tk 69.80 crore, Borno Tk 66.98 crore, Rahman Chemicals Tk 54.55 crore and Moon Enterprise Tk 83.84 crore.

According to the case statement, these organisations produced fake documents and the officials of

ILFSL, in collaboration with others, sanctioned the organisations loans by misusing their power.

Halder came into limelight during the anti-casino drives in 2019. The ACC launched an investigation into the involvement of 43 people, including him, in the illegal casino business.

On January 8 last year, the Commission filed a case against Halder on charges of illegally amassing wealth worth Tk 275 crore.

The ACC earlier arrested four persons in connection with the case.

Several enquiries over the embezzlement of crores of taka from four NBFIs by Halder are pending with the ACC.

According to Canadian media reports, Halder is now in Toronto and the director of P&L Hal Holding Inc, a Canadian corporation.

Upon an order from the High Court, Bangladesh Police requested Interpol to issue a red notice against Halder.

Form a

FROM PAGE 3
returnee migrants, because all of them are not in the same category, he added.

Shameem Haider Patwary, chair of Parliamentarians' Caucus on Migration and Development, said “transitional and transnational” justice mechanism is required to address the issues of “wage theft” and wage-claim.

Gerry Fox, team leader of Prokas project of British Council, said the book is an “impressive piece” of work that incorporates strong information, based on research.

Moderated by BCSM Chair and RMMRU Executive Director Prof CR Abrar, the webinar was addressed -- among others -- by Additional Secretary Motahar Hossain of the Expatriates' Welfare Ministry, and migrant rights activists from home and abroad.



BHARAT HEAVY ELECTRICALS LIMITED
(A GOVT. OF INDIA UNDERTAKING)
Unique Heights (Borak), 8th Floor, 117 Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Eskaton Garden, Dhaka-1000, Bangladesh

TENDER NOTICE
BHEL invites open tender for Auction of Scrapped Generator Stator of Siddhirganj 2x120 MW Peaking Power Plant lying at Siddhirganj 2x120 MW Peaking Power Plant, Electricity Generation Company of Bangladesh Limited (EGCB) at Siddhirganj, Narayanganj, Bangladesh.
Interested Company (ies)/Service Provider (s) is/are requested to visit our office to collect tender document.
Tender Publication date: 28.01.2021
Last date for submission of Tender document is 17.02.2021 (14.00Hrs-BST)
For and on Behalf of BHEL
Dy. Manager (Finance)/01707009745

Govt eyes expanded circular rail

FROM PAGE 12
the draft report to the project authorities.

However, the railways minister asked the project authorities to explore the option whether Keraniganj, suburb of the capital, can be included in the circular railway network.

A railway official, who has idea about the project, said as per the current plan, part of the route would be Kamrangirchar-Sadarghat-Postagola-Pagla-Fatullah, mainly to facilitate passengers at Sadarghat Launch Terminal.

There is another route plan -- Kamrangirchar-Jhilmil North-Bashundhara Riverview-Fatullah. And in that case, the circular rail would not be able to cater passengers at Sadarghat, he said wishing not to be named.

Although there are two stations in Purbachal area, the minister asked the project authorities to consider bringing the entire Purbachal area under the network.

But in that case, the circular rail would go to the other side of the Shitalakhiya river and people living on the other side of the river, which is also under Purbachal, may not feel interested in using the circular rail crossing the river, the official said.

PROJECT'S MAIN FEATURES
The government proposed establishing a circular rail network to facilitate the commuters from the peripheral districts like Gazipur, Manikganj, Munshiganj, Narayanganj, Narsingdi, and Tangail.

Besides, the circular rail network -- already popular in many countries -- will greatly reduce traffic congestion in Dhaka, which so far centres around road communications, said BR officials.

Using the network, one will be able to go from the one end of the capital to the other without having to enter the city. Its many

interchange stations with the metro rail, bus rapid transit, or other modes will also allow people to enter the city, they said.

The rail network will have 24 stations, 12 of which will have interchange facilities with metro rail, dedicated bus services, and Sadarghat Launch Terminal, said the study report.

Around 10km of the rail track will be underground, while the rest will be elevated. Three of the stations will be underground and the rest elevated. The depot would be built near Demra and the stabling yard near Tirmukh.

The rail line would be able to carry 10.65 lakh passengers daily in 2035 and 15.75 lakh in 2055, says the draft report.

The maximum speed of the electric train would be 120km per hour and it would be ballastless continuous welded double lines.

As per the project implementation plan, pre-construction preparation would start in January 2022, while the overall construction would begin in July 2022, according to the project documents.

Trial run of the line would start in September 2028 and the total construction period would be 75 months, read the documents.

As per the draft report, the project would be suitable to adopt build-operate-transfer mode for public-private partnership operation.

Icelanders get

FROM PAGE 12
can show a vaccination certificate during border checks and be exempt from border restrictions,” the ministry said.

However, the documents have yet to be recognised internationally.

CCC polls

FROM PAGE 3
BNP polling agents, mayoral and councillor candidates were driven out from most of the polling stations just after the voting began in the morning. Rizvi said.

Talking to media after filing a complaint with the returning officer (RO) in the port city over electoral irregularities, BNP mayoral candidate Shahadat Hossain alleged he had to “contest” police and administration instead of AL candidate, reports our Chattogram correspondent.

“Multiple misdeeds including arrest of BNP men and filing false cases against them by police and administration took place in Chattogram city since seven days before the election,” he said.

He alleged BNP agents were ousted from polling stations but police did not take any

action in this regard, adding that he visited at least 15 polling centres till 2pm and found anomalies.

Earlier in the day, casting his vote in the morning at Ekhlashur Rahman Government Primary School at Bahaddarhat area in the port city, AL mayoral candidate Rezaul Karim Chowdhury said he was cent percent hopeful to win the polls.

Saying that voting was going on peacefully, he promised to accept the election result whatever it is.

About BNP's allegation over ousting the party's polling agents from polling stations, Rezaul said, “BNP is a party whose main focus is to bring allegations against us. Their organisational capacity is very poor. They could not deploy polling agents due to their organisational weaknesses.”

Victim's family

FROM PAGE 3
During a visit to the victim's home along railway line at Ambagan area of Paharholi yesterday afternoon, this correspondent saw huge presence of riot police, Rab and BGB personnel patrolling the area amid prevailing tension over the two camps' face-off.

Locals are in fear of further violence after the death of Alo.

Sahinul Islam, officer-in-charge of Khulsi police station denied the allegation of police aiding the AL-backed councillor's supporters.

“This is completely a baseless claim,” he said.

But Mahmudur Rahman, opposition candidate of the ward told The Daily Star that the dead body was still with the morgue.

Though Alo died in the morning, police did not release his body till Wednesday evening. No case was taken regarding the

murder.

“Everyone saw how outsiders took control of the polling station, how they brandished firearms,” Mahmudur said.

Meanwhile, another youth was stabbed dead by his younger brother at Soraipara ward of the port city. Though two brothers belonged to two rival camps of councillors, police claimed the death did not have anything to do with election.

Faruk ul Alam, deputy commissioner of West Division of Chattogram Metropolitan Police, said Munna was stabbed dead by his brother Kamrul Islam near Baro Quarter area. The motive behind the killing was a longstanding personal dispute.

“It is not a polls-related incident though many are saying so. We have investigated it,” Faruk said.

The incident happened at an alley which is far from any polling station, added police sources.

1.67cr people

FROM PAGE 3
DEV PARTNERS DISBURSED \$1.5 BILLION TO TACKLE COVID-19
Hasina also said development partners and entities of the United Nations have already disbursed around \$1.5 billion to Bangladesh in order to tackle the Covid-19 pandemic.

The PM said there are possibilities of getting another \$1.9 billion from the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank and France to face the crisis and for buying

vaccines.

“Bangladesh has received enough response from the development partners to tackle the Covid-19 pandemic crisis,” Hasina said.

She said that multilateral development banks and different entities of the United Nations had promised to give \$1.817 billion. Of that, \$1.640 billion was as loan and rest was as grant. Of the promised amount, they have disbursed \$1.520 billion, she added.



বাংলাদেশ ডেভেলপমেন্ট ব্যাংক লিমিটেড
Bangladesh Development Bank Ltd
Head Office, 8, Rajuk Avenue, Dhaka-1000
Establishment & Common Service Department

Reference: 06.4/214

Date: 27/01/2021

Tender Notice No. BDBL/E&CSD/OTM/2021/01-01 (e-Tender)
e-Tenders have been invited in the National e-GP Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for procurement of the following goods.

S/N	e-Tender ID	Description	Method of procurement	Last date of selling document	Last date of receiving document	Date of tender opening
01	539331	Supply of 42 Single Note Banding Machine	(OTM)	15/02/2021 11:00am	15/02/2021 12:00am	15/02/2021 12:00am

These are online tenders, where only e-Tenders will be accepted and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP 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 bank's branches up to banking hours on.

Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd) (01762625528-31) (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>).

Abdullah Al Bashed
Deputy General Manager
Tel: 02-9555455

GD-183