

Battery-run rickshaw-pullers go on strike in Rajshahi

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

Protesting a city corporation decision to limit their numbers in the streets, battery-run rickshaw-pullers of Rajshahi city observed an eight-hour strike yesterday.

Earlier last month, as the increasing number of easy bikes and battery-run auto-rickshaws have started to bear down on the city's traffic, the city corporation in its general meeting decided to limit their operations.

The decision, scheduled to take effect from yesterday, is to divide the rickshaws into two colours -- red and green -- and schedule the green ones to ply by day and red ones to run in the night.

In light of this, hundreds of rickshaw-pullers brought out a procession at 11 in the morning and started demonstrating by sitting-in in front of Rajshahi Nagar Bhaban.

They said they demand the city corporation give them permission to pull their battery-run vehicles all day long.

Protesters also told journalists that



PHOTO: COLLECTED
Rajshahi city mayor AHM Khairuzzaman Liton speaks to protesters.

they feel compelled to demonstrate as their livelihoods depend on it. By limiting their operations, the owners and rickshaw-pullers will be unable to earn enough money to pay for rent and food and payoff accrued loans, which will make things difficult for them especially during the ongoing pandemic, they said.

Around 1:30am, Rajshahi

City Corporation mayor AHM Khairuzzaman Liton came out of his office and talked to them.

He assured them that the decision will be reviewed after city corporation officials sit for a meeting with the rickshaw-pullers' leaders and hear their demands. He also said no decision will be taken to hamper anyone's livelihood in the city.

Dhirendra Nath new railway DG

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Dhirendra Nath Mazumder, the additional director general (infrastructure), of Bangladesh Railway has been appointed as director general of the state-run transport agency.

The railways ministry yesterday issued a circular in this regard. The order will come into action immediately, it said.

Following the order, Dhirendra took the charge yesterday, BR officials said.

He replaces Md Shamsuzzaman as DG.



NIKO GRAFT CASE AGAINST KHALEDA Charge-framing hearing adjourned till Feb 8

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday adjourned hearing on charge framing against BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia and nine others in Niko graft case till February 8.

Judge Sheikh Hafizur Rahman of the Special Judge's Court-9 of Dhaka passed the order after a petition was filed with the court on behalf of Khaleda, seeking an adjournment of the hearing, advocate Zia Uddin, one of her lawyers, told The Daily Star.

In the petition, the lawyer said Khaleda is sick and did not come out of her residence due to Covid-19 pandemic. So, the hearing should be adjourned.

Three accused, including Giasuddin Al Mamun, now in jail, were present at the makeshift court of Dhaka Central Jail in Keraniganj yesterday.

FARMERS BANK SCAM SC stays bail of Rashedul

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Appellate Division of the Supreme Court yesterday stayed for four weeks its High Court verdict that upheld the bail of Rashedul Haque Chisty, son of the former chairman of Farmers Bank audit committee Mahbubul Haque Chisty, in a money laundering case involving Tk 159 crore.

The apex court also asked the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) to file a leave to appeal petition with this court against the HC verdict in four weeks.

A three-member bench of the Appellate Division headed by Chief Justice Syed Mahmud Hossain passed the order after hearing a petition filed by the ACC seeking stay on the HC judgement.

'Read Aloud Day' observed

CITY DESK

"We read Bangla letters, but do we put in as much effort to understand the language and its pronunciations as we do for English?" former VC of Dhaka University Dr AAMS Arefin Siddique asked at a seminar held yesterday.

The programme -- organised by 'Read Aloud Bangladesh' at the National Press Club premises -- marked the World Read Aloud Day-2021 and featured speakers talking about the benefits of reading aloud, said a press release.

During the chief guest's speech, Dr Arefin Siddique also said, "We used to have a tradition of reading aloud back in the days -- one could hear the sound of students reading from every village household. Mosques and madrasahs also had this tradition, and still do to some extent, but we are gradually losing this heritage."

"If one wants to learn pronunciation,

there's no alternative to reading aloud," he asserted, and said everyone involved with education needs to take special care of this, or else proper pronunciation of Bangla could be lost forever, the press document said.

"We never even realised how important reading aloud could be!" said special guest Ilyas Khan, general secretary of National Press Club, adding, "This initiative should not be limited to just a single organisation's effort. I request the government to help spread it further."

The programme, moderated by Read Aloud Bangladesh founder Rupok Singha, also featured Dr Md Omar Faruk -- additional secretary, Technical and Madrasah Education Division, Ministry of Education -- as special guest, the press release said.

Following the seminar, the winners of an online quiz competition for students were announced and their certificates handed over by guests.

HC to

FROM PAGE 3

The defence prayed to the HC to acquit their clients, saying the trial court delivered the verdict based on confession by Hujji leader Mufti Hannan.

The bomb was recovered at Sheikh Lutfur Rahman Ideal College in Gopalganj on July 21, 2000, where Hasina was supposed to address a rally the next day.

Then sub-inspector Nur Hossain of Kotlipara Police Station filed the case under the Explosive Substances Act.

CID submitted charge sheet against Hannan and 24 others on April 8, 2001, with 83 people as prosecution witnesses.

Gopalganj District and Sessions Judge's Court framed charges against the 25 accused on July 2 the same year.

The Gopalganj court recorded statements of 40 prosecution witnesses, including the case's complainant. The case was then shifted to the Speedy Trial Tribunal for quick disposal.

The tribunal-2 in Dhaka on August 20, 2017 handed down death sentence to 10 leaders and activists of Harkat-ul-Jihad-al-Islami (Hujji). Besides, one was sentenced to life and three were handed 14 years in prison. Of the accused, 13 are in jail while 11 are on the run.

The court acquitted 10 others, as charges brought against them were not proven.

Hujji leader Mufti Hannan was found guilty but was acquitted as he was executed on April 12, 2017 at Kashimpur High-Security Prison for killing three people and injuring former British commissioner to Bangladesh and a dozen others in Sylhet in 2004.

PHQ to revamp

FROM PAGE 3

At present, a male SI and sergeant contender has to run 1,600 metres in 7.5 minutes, cross 10 feet in long jump, 3.5 feet height in high jump and climb 12 feet of rope. Women candidates have to run 1,000 metres in 7 minutes, cross 6 feet in long jump, reach 2.5 feet in high jump and climb 8 feet of rope.

As per the new proposal, a male SI and sergeant candidate has to perform 15 push-ups in 40 seconds, 15 sit-ups in 40 seconds and drag 160 pounds up to 30 feet. Female candidates have to perform 10 push-ups in 30 seconds, 10 sit-ups in 30 seconds and drag 120 pounds up to 20 feet.

PHQ proposed that male constable candidates will have to run 200 metres in 28 seconds and females 200 metres in 34 seconds. Presently, male constables run 1,600 metres in 6.5 minutes and women run the same distance in 8.5 minutes to get selected.

Besides, now SI and sergeant candidates have to undergo a computer competency test and they will be able to apply online along with constable contenders.

Such qualifications, along with educational qualifications, are required as SIs are responsible for investigating complex cases, maintaining law and order, arresting criminals and terrorists, and managing traffic, for which they have to take prompt decisions in various situations.

Contacted, Farjana Jesmin, deputy secretary at the home ministry, said it is an internal matter of police which is about to undergo some changes in the recruitment regulations for SI, sergeant and constable.

She declined to elaborate further on the process.

Md Mahfuzul Rahman Al-Mamun, assistant inspector general (recruitment and career planning-1) at PHQ, said, "If the changes are done the recruitment process will be time befitting; accountability and transparency will be ensured and more capable policemen will be recruited."

Make the

FROM PAGE 3

Bangladesh Road Transport Authority, following the road ministry's directives, prepared the draft rules of the act and sent them to the ministry in September last year. The ministry is expected to send the draft to the law ministry soon, sources said.

As per the draft, if a person is killed in a road accident, his or her family members will get Tk 5 lakh while an injured person will get Tk 3 lakh.

Lack of press

FROM PAGE 3

Harun said former and current mayors of Dhaka city corporations have been bringing charges of corruption against each other. But Anti-Corruption Commission is not filing any case against any of them.

Complaining that he was not allowed to speak in parliament, the BNP lawmaker said he has been trying to talk about contemporary issues for the last ten days, but was not given the chance to talk in parliament.

Responding to Harun's remarks, Speaker Shirin Sharmin Choudhury asked Harun to wait till the end of the day's important proceedings.

"But you didn't take the opportunity as you did not want to be present in Parliament till the end of the day's scheduled proceedings," added the Speaker.

Workers Party MP Fazle Hossain Badsha in his speech said the Anti-Corruption Commission has failed to take actions against money laundering due to weakness as an anti-graft body.

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 or all of the following tenders, but in separate envelope as defined in the tender documents of the under mentioned works as per terms & conditions stated below:

1. Civil, Electrical & Networking works at proposed premises of our **Babugonj Branch, Barishal.**
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Please visit our web site, <https://www.pubalibangla.com/tender.asp> for details. Interested Parties may purchase their Tender document by **09 February, 2021** duly filled up all requirements and submit their offer in the Tender Box by **10 February, 2021** (before 11.00 A.M). Tender will be opened on **10 February, 2021** at 11:30 A.M.

Dilip Kumar Paul
General Manager

পূবালী ব্যাংক লিমিটেড
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NGO FORUM FOR PUBLIC HEALTH REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)

For 'Vendor Enlistment for Construction of Central & Regional Offices and Training Centers of NGO Forum'

NGO Forum is planning to construct its Regional Office and Training Centers at different locations in Bangladesh. To ensure quality construction, NGO Forum is exploring experienced vendor for enlistment to carry out the construction of the Regional Offices and Training Centers which will be selected and enlisted based on their financial capability/solvency, technical capability, reputation, workforce and experience on relevant construction work. It is requested to collect the particular "Vendor Enlistment Form" from NGO Forum central office as well as regional offices which needs to be filled up by the interested vendor(s) with proper information and submit along with the required following document addressing to **NGO Forum for Public Health, 4/6 Block - E, Lalmatia, Dhaka - 1207 by 10 February, 2021.**

1. Current Trade License; 2. License from RAJUK/CDA/RDA/KDA etc., LGED/PWD/Education Department (minimum 2 nos.); 3. Updated Income Tax Certificate; 4. VAT/BIN Registration Certificate; 5. Yearly Turnover with Bank Statement for the last 12 months; 6. Company Profile; 7. Relevant Work Completion Certificates (at least 5 in last five years for constructing 5 storied building with basement/semi basement); 8. Minimum 5 crore in each Work Order (at least 3 in last five years); 9. List of Professional Engineer/Expert; 10. List of Machinery/Equipment; 11. List of Manpower; 12. List of Clients

NGO Forum authority reserves the right to define the selection process as per the rules and regulation of its own. The decision of the authority of NGO Forum for Public Health will be treated as final binding and no entity will be entitled to solicit any legal action against it. This circulation is not an assurance of any commitment and will be treated as the integral part of the process.

Authority, NGO Forum

Faculty Search

School of Humanities and Social Sciences
Department of Economics and Social Sciences



The School of Humanities and Social Sciences (SHSS) of Brac University is inviting applications for the positions of **Professor/Associate Professor/Assistant Professor** in the Department of Economics and Social Sciences (ESS).

Qualifications and Specialization:

- PhD in Economics from an internationally reputed university.
- Applicants should be ready to teach any course in Economics at the Undergraduate and Postgraduate levels, including advanced courses in Microeconomics, Macro-economics, Econometrics, and Quantitative methods.
- Applicants should be active researchers with an interest in international exchanges.

Position	Qualification	Teaching Experience	Publications
Professor in Economics	PhD in Economics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12 years Teaching, research, and service experience as Associate Professor or its equivalent for at least 5 years 	At least 15 publications (7 as Associate Professor), including at least 3 Scopus-indexed publications with a high impact factor in peer-reviewed journals.
Associate Professor in Economics	PhD in Economics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7 years Teaching, research, and service experience as Assistant Professor or its equivalent for at least 5 years 	At least 5 publications (3 as Assistant Professor), including at least 2 Scopus-indexed publications with a high impact factor in peer-reviewed journals.
Assistant Professor in Economics	PhD in Economics	Preference to applicants with teaching experience	Preference to applicants with publications in peer-reviewed journals

Application Procedure:

Interested candidates meeting these requirements may apply online at ateconrecruitment@bracu.ac.bd on or before **20 February 2021**.

Candidates are requested to submit:

- a cover letter,
- an updated CV with their list of publications,
- a statement on their teaching and research interests,
- a sample syllabus with teaching evaluation,
- two research papers.

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted. Any attempt to interfere with the selection process will disqualify the candidate.

Brac University
66 Mohakhali, Dhaka 1212, Bangladesh

Palli Karma-Sahayak Foundation (PKSF)

PKSF Bhaban, E-4/B, Agargaon Administrative Area, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207
Phone: 8181658-67, 8181664-9, 8181169 Fax: 8181671, 8181678
e-mail: pkfsf@pkfsf-bd.org; Website: www.pkfsf-bd.org; www.facebook.com/pkfsf.org

Request for Expression of Interest (REoI) (Selection of Consulting Firm: National)

Palli Karma-Sahayak Foundation (PKSF), an apex development and employment generation organisation, invites Expression of Interest from competent consulting firms/institutions for conducting a study titled "Baseline Survey of Pathways to Prosperity for Extremely Poor People (PPEPP) Project" under the PPEPP project of PKSF. The project is being jointly funded by the UK's Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO; formerly DFID) and the European Union (EU).

Detailed Terms of Reference (ToR) and Request for Expression of Interest (REoI) documents can be collected from the office of the undersigned during office hours (10:00 am to 4:30 pm) from Sunday to Thursday. The documents are also available on the PKSF website (www.pkfsf-bd.org). The REoI must be submitted in a sealed envelope to the office of the undersigned by **2:30 pm on or before 22-02-2021**. Request for Proposal (RFP) will be issued only to the short-listed firms/institutions.

PKSF reserves the right to accept or reject any or all expressions of interest without assigning any reasons.

Dr. Md. Jashim Uddin
Deputy Managing Director

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Local Government Engineering Department

Office of the Upazila Engineer

Upazila Singair, District: Manikganj

Memo No. 46.02.5682.000.99.039.19-81

শেখ হাসিনার মুদ্রিত
গ্রাম শহরের উদ্ভূতি।
Date: 01/02/2021

Tender Notice No. 04/2020-21 e-Tender Notice (Open Tendering Method)

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of the following works:

Tender ID	Package No.	Name of work
541563	INF-2019-20-305682-01	Supplying of Medical Equipment for Upazila Health Complex Community Clinic and Family Welfare Centre due to COVID-19 Pandemic Upazila Singair District Manikganj
541564	INF-2019-20-305682-02	Construction of Fish Shed on Sahrail Bazar Manikganj Hat & Joymondap Bazar Upazila Singair District Manikganj
541565	INF-2019-20-305682-03	Repair of Irta Athalia Parih Nowdha Community Clinic and Charigram Family Welfare Centre Upazila Singair District. Manikganj

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 mandatory.

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 **17.00 on 24-February-2021**.

Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

Muhammad Rubaiyet Zaman

Upazila Engineer

LGED, Singair, Manikganj

Tele: 02-7717030

E-mail: ue.singair@ged.gov.bd

GD-216