

Pakistan seeks to improve relations with Bangladesh

Country's president tells envoy to Dhaka

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Pakistan President Dr Arif Alvi has said his country wants to improve commercial and cultural relations with Bangladesh.

Pakistan highly values its ties with Bangladesh and wants to further expand cooperation by using the existing bilateral mechanisms, including Political Consultations at Foreign Secretary Level and Joint Economic Commission, the president said while talking to Pakistan's High Commissioner to Bangladesh, Imran Ahmed Siddiqui, who called on him at Aiwan-e-Sadr, the presidential palace, in Islamabad Tuesday, according to a press statement from the Pakistan High Commission in Bangladesh.

The statement comes when Bangladesh celebrates 50 years of independence from the oppression of Pakistan through a brutal war in 1971. Bangladesh has reiterated the importance of resolving outstanding bilateral issues with Pakistan, including an official apology from Pakistan for the genocide it committed during war. Dhaka has also sought completion of the repatriation of stranded Pakistanis in Bangladesh, and settling the issue of the division of assets.

There is some trade between the two countries, but recent actions by Pakistan have seriously irritated Bangladesh. For example, the Pakistan parliament adopted resolutions against the war crimes trial of Bangladesh, in which some major criminals who committed crimes against humanity in 1971 were convicted and hanged.

According to the Pakistan High Commission statement, Pakistan President Alvi underscored the need to enhance commercial relations, business-to-business cooperation and people-to-people contacts.



A young cyclist pops a wheelie at the front of a rally in Barishal city yesterday. On the occasion of the birth centenary of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and National Children's Day, Barishal City Corporation organised the vibrant bicycle rally where people of all ages joined. Starting from the zila school area, the rally paraded the city. This photo was taken yesterday afternoon from C&B area.

PHOTO: TITU DAS

Fire guts 80 tin-shed rooms in Ashulia

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Savar

A fire gutted dozens of tin-shed rooms at a workers' colony in Ashulia of Savar yesterday.

Fire service sources said the fire broke out around 9:30am in the colony at Berun in Jamgora area.

Jahangir Alam, senior station officer of DEPZ fire station, told The Daily Star that 70-80 rooms made with bamboo and tin were burnt. However, no casualty was reported, said the fire official.

"We suspect that an electric short circuit from a nearby shop caused the fire that spread quickly," said Jahangir.

Four firefighting units from the station rushed to the spot and doused the blaze in one and half hours of efforts, he said.

Contacted, Savar Upazila Nirbahi Officer Begum Shamim Ara Nipa said they heard about the fire incident. "We will try our best to help the fire victims after discussing with the district administration."

FLAT FOR RENT
2200 SFT, 4 BED, 5 TOILET, VARANDA, DRAWING/ FAMILY LOUNGE, CAR PARKING, LIFT, UTTARA SECTOR-4, ROAD-9, HOUSE-21, 1ST+3RD FLOOR FOR RENT.
CONTACT: 01715000166

Abul Mansur

FROM PAGE 3

He wrote about the language issue from early 1940s and contributed to the Language Movement as the editor of the Ittehad.

A very successful politician, Abul Mansur Ahmad played a key role in the formation of the Awami Muslim League. He served as vice-president of the organisation from 1953 to 1958.

Abul Mansur Ahmad was the author of the famous Ekush Dafa (21-point programme) election manifesto of Jukta Front in the 1954 election through which the Muslim League was ousted from power. The Ekush Dafa was the first comprehensive articulation of the political, economic and cultural demands of the Bangalees of the then eastern part of Pakistan.

He was elected a member of East Bengal Provincial Assembly in that election, and served as health minister in the United Front cabinet under Sher-e-Bangla AK Fazlul Huq. In 1955, he was elected a member of Pakistan Constituent Assembly.

He was the minister for education in the United Front government of East Pakistan in 1956 and the minister for commerce and trade in 1956-1957. After the promulgation of martial law by Ayub Khan in 1958, he was imprisoned and subsequently released in 1962. He then retired from politics.

Abul Mansur Ahmad was known for his strong stand in favour of regional autonomy of East Pakistan. He also made remarkable contributions to industrialisation of the long neglected East Pakistan. He always propagated secularism in a manner unparalleled in the forties, fifties and sixties.

Ahmad's publications include great satires like "Aina", "Asmani Purdah", "Gulliver Safar Nama" and "Food Conference". He also penned insightful works on social and political history of Bengal such as "Bangladesher Culture". He has two autobiographical writings -- "Atma Katha" and "Amar Dekha Rajnitir Panchash Bachar".

He was born in 1898 in Dhanikhola village of Trishal, Mymensingh.

In 2015, five researchers were awarded for their works on Abul Mansur Ahmad -- Dr Nurul Amin, Dr Rajib Humayun, Dr Chengis Khan, Dr Mizanur Rahman, and Imran Mahfuz. A special honorary memorial award was given to Professor Emeritus Dr Rafiqul Islam for editing a six-volume work of Abul Mansur Ahmad.

PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

Create pvt sector opportunities for them: speakers

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speakers at a webinar have stressed on creating employment in the private sector for persons with disabilities.

Bangladesh Business and Disability Network (BBDN) and Chittagong Chamber of Commerce & Industry organised the session on "Disability Inclusive Skills & Employment Opportunities in the Private Sector" on Tuesday.

The event was held as a part of a project called Innovation to Inclusion (i2i) funded by the British Government (Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office).

It was attended by BBDN and CCCI members and business representatives. Deputy Minister of Education, Mohibul Hassan Chowdhury was present as chief guest.

Salahuddin Kasem Khan, chairperson of BBDN; Mahabul Alam, president of CCCI; Vashkar Bhattacharjee, national consultant for accessibility, Aspire to Innovate (a2i); Murteza Rafi Khan, CEO, BBDN; Zahir Bin Siddique, country representative, Leonard Cheshire; Sadaf Saz Siddiqi, trustee and chair of executive committee, BBDN were present at the event as panelists.

The webinar was moderated by Aziza Ahmed, head of operation, BBDN.

Working for

FROM PAGE 3

Hasina said the father of the nation had made the primary education free for students and the secondary education for girls.

With a view to protecting the rights of children, Bangabandhu enacted the Children Law in 1974, the prime minister added.

RALLY AT TUNGIPARA

The Ministry of Women and Children Affairs and Gopalganj district administration jointly organised the rally of schoolchildren from different educational institutions of Tungipara, the birthplace of Bangabandhu, with Anusua, a class six student, in the chair.

The theme of this year's birth anniversary of Bangabandhu and National Children's Day is "Bangabandhur Janmadin, Shishur Ridoy Hok Rangin".

State Minister for Women and Children Affairs Fazilatun Nessa Indira and Women and Children Affairs Secretary Md Sayedul Islam spoke at the programme at Tungipara.

Swapanil Biswas, a second-grader, presented the shorter version of Bangabandhu's historic March 7 speech.

Safwan, a class three student, and Rubaba Zaman, a sixth-grader, spoke on behalf of the children.

Later, the prime minister exchanged greetings with some students who were present at Tungipara.

State Minister for Women and Children Affairs Fazilatun Nessa Indira, on behalf of the prime minister, distributed prizes among the children who participated in the literary and cultural competitions organised by Gopalganj district administration marking the day.

BSS adds, President M Abdul Hamid and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday paid rich tributes to Bangabandhu on the occasion.

They placed wreaths at the portrait of Father of the Nation in front of Bangabandhu Memorial Museum at Dhanmondi Road No-32.

Bangabandhu's younger daughter Sheikh Rehana, Speaker Dr Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury and Chief Justice Syed Mahmud Hossain were present.

Moudud's body

FROM PAGE 3

village home in Noakhali's Companiganj upazila.

He will be buried at his family graveyard after his final jazana at Bashurhat Government Mujib College after Asr prayers, Sujon said.

Moudud Ahmed died at Mount Elizabeth Hospital, Singapore around 6:30pm on Tuesday, at the age of 81.

The BNP leader had serious kidney complications and was struggling to get oxygen due to lung congestion.

The veteran politician was admitted to Mount Elizabeth Hospital for advanced treatment on February 1.

BNP TO MOURN TODAY

BNP will observe today as a mourning day over the death of its senior leader Moudud.

Party senior joint secretary general Ruhul Kabir Rizvi came up with the announcement at a press conference at BNP's Nayapaltan central office on yesterday.

He said the party will hoist a black flag at party offices across the country while party flags will be kept at half-mast throughout the mourning day.

Moudud Ahmed is one of the founding members of BNP. He joined Jatiya Party in 1985 and served as prime minister and vice president in military ruler HM Ershad's government.

After the fall of Ershad, Moudud returned to BNP in 1996 and was made law minister in Khaleda Zia's government in 2001.

He also served as the first post master general of Bangladesh after independence.

He was elected MP five times from Noakhali-5 seat and once from the Bogura-6 constituency.

Women bear

FROM PAGE 3

the needs of women and girls and those in vulnerable situations is closely linked with the Sustainable Development Goal-6, and menstrual hygiene management is linked with SDG-3 of ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being for all.

However, in Bangladesh, there is still a long a way to go to ensure clean water and decent toilets. Even after paying around Tk 2,500-5,000 per month on rent and utilities, people in informal settlements are deprived of most civic utilities.

WHO LOOKS AFTER THIS?

Based on the experience of working on the "WASH4Urban Poor" project -- supported by WaterAid Bangladesh, Morjina Akter, a field officer of Dustha Shasthya Kendra (DSK), said that reproductive health complications are common among women in slums.

"Almost everyone is reluctant to see a doctor for ailments due to social stigma and financial crisis, while some buy medicine from local dispensaries," she added.

"Sometimes, men intentionally open doors when young girls go to the toilets, just to harass them," said Morjina.

"They even abuse women and girls sexually on the way to toilets, but parents usually force girls to ignore the incidents to avoid further chaos. The girls are usually blamed for the whole incident, which is traumatic for them," added Morjina.

Reproductive health rights activist Monjun Nahar, also the advocacy manager of Marie Stopes Bangladesh, said, "Because in our policy and society, reproductive health rights are still considered as "women's issue", it doesn't get enough priority compared to other essentials like electricity or gas connection, in slums."

"But if we want to achieve SDG-3 and 6, there must be enough prioritisation of health and wellbeing of women, along with their safety and security. They must be kept away from reproductive health hazards like UTI, pelvic pain, uterus ailment, rashes, and allergic problems," she added.

Since Morjina's project works on setting up shared community toilets for slum dwellers with a separate chamber for

women's menstrual hygiene management facilities, many women and girls requested her to set up a toilet for them in Duaripara slum during the pandemic.

"I remember a girl was requesting me to install a toilet and asked every person in her locality to manage space for the toilet, as the shared latrine became intolerable for her. Last December, we finally constructed the 30th toilet in the slum, for 80 male and female inhabitants," said Morjina.

Under this project, a total of 99 shared community toilets have been set up in 27 slums of Dhaka North City Corporation (DNCC), while a total of 47 toilets have been established in 30 slums of Dhaka South City Corporation (DSCC).

Although DNCC and DSCC have separate department for development of slums, DNCC CEO Selim Reza said since these slums are established on encroached land, they don't have the authorisation or budget for infrastructure development in slums.

However, the Local Government Division (LGD), under the LGRD ministry, with financial and technical support from United Nations Development Programme, the Bangladesh government and the UK's Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO) has been working on setting up community toilets in 71 slums under the initiative titled Livelihood Improvement of Urban Poor Communities Project (LIUPCP).

Both city corporations have been implementing this project in Dhaka slums.

According to LIUPCP National Director Abdul Mannan, also a joint secretary of LGD, the project has constructed 32 community toilets in 2020 in both DNCC and DSCC. The work of constructing 30 more toilets in both city corporations in 2021 are underway.

But a major challenge in setting up toilets is the availability of land in the slums, while keeping the toilets clean is difficult due to the huge number of people using it.

Akhil Chandra Das, project manager of DSK said the management of fecal sludge is another big issue, as the machines used to extract sludge from septic tanks cannot enter the narrow space of the slums.

**গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার**
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কলেজ এডুকেশন ডেভেলপমেন্ট প্রজেক্ট (সিইডিপি)
সরকারি সৈয়দ হাতেম আলী কলেজ, বরিশাল
কলেজ কোড: ১১১০ (জাঃ বিঃ), ০২৩৪ (মাউশি), ১৮২৫ (বোর্ড) ই.আই.নং ১০০৮৭৬, ফোনঃ ০৪৩১-৬৪৯০৮
Website: www.gshac.gov.bd E-mail: hatemalicollegebarisal@yahoo.com

**মুজিব**

স্মারক নং-জি.এস.এইচ.এ.সি/CEDP/HAC/C-1023/2020-2021/G-11 তারিখঃ ১৬-০৩-২০২১

e-Tender Notice: 03/2020-2021
e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of following package:

Sl. No.	Tender ID No.	Name of works	Last date and time of tender security submission	Tender closing date & time
01	558969	Procurement of TV & DSLR Camera Digital Android Advertisement Kiosk & Sound System for Classrooms.	01-04-2021 Time: 1:00pm	01-04-2021 Time: 2:00pm

This is an online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copy 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 31 March 2021, 16:00.
Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

Prof. Mostofa Kamal
Principal
Govt. Syed Hatem Ali College, Barishal

GD-549

INTERNATIONAL TENDER FOR SUPPLY & DISTRIBUTION OF MALE LATEX CONDOM

Tender Ref. No. icddr,b/SCM/OTM/2021/12 Date: 18 March 2021

Proposals are invited by icddr,b for **Supply and Distribution of Male Latex Condoms under Global Fund financing**. The supplier must be WHO/UNFPA pre-qualified and shall have 5 years experiences as manufacturer and 3 years experiences as distributor in the relevant field. Details terms and conditions of the tender are available in the RFP document and the bid document can be downloaded from <https://www.icddrb.org/work-with-us/tender-notices>.


Online Pre-tender meeting will be held on **25th March 2021 at 3:00 pm**. Please send your participating request to the email: supplychain@icddrb.org, within **23th March 2021 COB**; mention **'Participation request in Pre-bid Meeting for Supply and Distribution of Male Latex Condom'** in the email subject.


The last date of proposal submission will be **8th April 2021 at 2.30 pm (Dhaka local time, GMT+6)**. icddr,b will accept only signed soft copy of the proposals. Proposal opening will not be conducted as 'Public Opening'.

Special Instruction :
a) All activities in connection with the said procurement of Goods will be guided as per the Global Fund and icddr,b Procurement Policies.
b) icddr,b reserves the right to accept or reject all/part tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever. This tender notice will also form a part of the contract and will be binding upon the tenderer.



Senior Manager, Procurement
Tel: +880 (0)2-2222-77001 to 10, Ext.# 4400/4407

**Eastern Refinery Limited**
(A subsidiary of Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation)
North Patenga, Chittagong
www.erl.com.bd

**মুজিব**

Ref: ER/LP/LT/EP-8810/2021 Date: 16/03/2021


e-Tender Notice
e-Tenders have been invited in the National e-GP System Portal for procurement of the goods as stated below:


Sl #	Tender Reference	Tender ID	Description of goods & related service	Tender doc last selling date & time	Tender closing & opening date & time
1	ER/LT/EP-8/2021	554685	Supply of Activated Carbon & Anthracite	01-04-2021 12:00 hrs	04-04-2021 10:30 hrs
2	ER/LT/EP-10/2021	557496	Supply, Installation and Commissioning of Air conditioner	01-04-2021 12:00 hrs	04-04-2021 10:30 hrs

These are online Tenders, where only e-Tenders will be accepted through National e-GP Portal <http://www.eprocure.gov.bd> and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP System Portal is required. The fees for downloading the e-Tender document from the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through any registered bank's branches.
Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

"সবাই মিলে গড়বো দেশ, দূরীভূতমুক্ত বাংলাদেশ"।

GD-552

**গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার**
বাংলাদেশ বন গবেষণা ইনস্টিটিউট
শেখ হাসিনার নির্দেশ
জলবায়ু সহিষ্ণু বাংলাদেশ

**মুজিব**

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নংঃ ২২.০৪.০০০০.০০৩.০৩.১১০.১৯-৩৪০ তারিখঃ ১৫/০৩/২০২১খ্রিঃ

প্রাতিষ্ঠানিক গণশুনানির বিজ্ঞপ্তি

সংশ্লিষ্ট সকলের অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, জাতীয় শুদ্ধাচার কৌশল ও সেবা প্রদান প্রতিশ্রুতি (সিটিজেনস্ চার্টার) অনুযায়ী অংশীজন, ভোক্তা ও নাগরিকের সেবা প্রদানে স্বচ্ছতা ও জবাবদিহিতা নিশ্চিতকরণে বাধ্যবাধকতা রয়েছে। সেবা প্রদান কার্যক্রম আরও সহজিকরণের লক্ষ্যে সেবা প্রত্যাশীগণের বাংলাদেশ বন গবেষণা ইনস্টিটিউট (বিএফআরআই)-এর সেবা সম্পর্কে সম্ভূত না হলে বা প্রদেয় সেবার সাথে বিধি বহির্ভূত কাজ অথবা নাগরিক/ভোক্তার সেবা প্রদানে অস্বীকৃতির বিষয়ে কোন অভিযোগ থাকলে এবং সেবা আরও উন্নীতকরণে পরামর্শ থাকলে সে সকল বিষয়ে প্রত্যক্ষভাবে শ্রবণের জন্য ইনস্টিটিউট প্রাতিষ্ঠানিক গণশুনানি আয়োজন করছে। আগামী ২২ মার্চ ২০২১ তারিখ রোজ সোমবার বেলা ১১.০০ ঘটিকায় অভিযোগ নিষ্পত্তি কর্মকর্তা (অনিক)-এর উপস্থিতিতে বিএফআরআই মিলনায়তনে আয়োজিত গণশুনানিতে সেবাশ্রীত্যা ও সেবা প্রত্যাশীগণ উপস্থিত থেকে মতামত ব্যক্ত করতে পারবেন। সংশ্লিষ্ট সকলকে স্বাস্থ্যবিধি মেনে উপস্থিত থাকার জন্য অনুরোধ করা হল।

ড. রফিকুল হায়দার
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