



## Aatur Rahman passes away

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

Aatur Rahman, a well-known humour writer, diplomat, and former director general of Bangladesh Post Office, died from Covid-19 on Saturday. He was 79.

He is survived by his wife, two sons, and numerous relatives and admirers.

Aatur was kept on life support at a private hospital in Dhaka.

His body was brought home to Nagar village of Dhaka South Union, Golapganj upazila of Sylhet.

His namaz-e-janaza was held on the Dhaka South Madrasa ground after Maghrib prayers.

Aatur Rahman retired in 2002 as the DG of Bangladesh Post Office. Later, he taught at private universities.

In addition to 24 published books, he gained wide popularity for his writeups in newspapers under the headline "Du Dugone Paanch".

He was born in 1942 in Nagar village of Golapganj upazila.

## Media's

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Reserved seat lawmaker Khodeza Nasreen Akhter Hossain, former lawmaker and BPCMD member Selina Jahan Lita, and journalists Rabiul Islam, Mohsinul Karim, Miraz Hossain Gazi and Mustafizur Rahman, among others, spoke at the dialogue.

## BCL, Chhatra Dal

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at Dhaka Medical College Hospital while the rest at other hospitals.

Later they held a press conference at Dhaka University Journalists' Association and demanded punishment of the attackers.

Contacted, Saddam Hossain, general secretary of BCL's DU chapter, said Chhatra League activists are now busy with humanitarian activities during the

pandemic and they have no involvement with the incident.

Asked, DU proctor Prof Dr AKM Golam Rabbani said no one has lodged any complaint over the incident yet.

"I heard that an organistaion came to the campus to hold programmes without our permission amid this closure. I request everyone to be responsible and refrain from any such activity that will create unrest on campus," he added.

## DSCC must take

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DSCC," Mizanur said.

He retold a story of a dengue death in his area. "A person recently came to Jurain to visit his granddaughter from their native village. But once here, he was infected by dengue and passed away within a day."

The father of three said he's also afraid of the costs involved in dengue treatment, as it takes around Tk 5,000 to treat an infected patient.

Responding to a question, Mizanur said he tried to stage a demonstration back in 2019 -- when Sayeed Khokon was DSCC's mayor -- and was detained by a magistrate just before holding the protest rally.

That year, over one lakh people were infected, while 179 people died of the disease.

Mizanur said both the then mayor and the current mayor failed to control the mosquito menace.

Sheikh Md Alamgir, councillor of Dhaka South City Corporation ward-31, was found at the spot. Talking to this correspondent, he said, "This whole thing is a staged drama. The demonstrators are outsiders and [former mayor] Sayeed Khokon is behind it."

The protesters ended up leaving the scene without handing the larvae over to the mayor. As they were leaving, councillor Alamgir took the jar from them and handed it over to an Ansar member of DSCC, who left the jar on the road, this correspondent saw.

Meanwhile, additional Ansar members were deployed at Nagar Bhaban's main gate since morning centering the programme.

## 3 mega projects

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But this time, he did not mention the expressway's deadline.

The Padma Multipurpose Bridge and MRT Line-6 are among the government's fast-track projects.

The bridge project saw major progress on August 23, as authorities finished installing all road slabs linking both sides of the Padma river through the roadway.

The 6.15-km bridge will connect the capital with 21 south-western districts and is expected to boost the country's gross domestic product by 1.2 percent. Following several revisions of cost and deadline, the project cost rose to Tk 30,193 crore and the deadline was extended to June next year.

## BANGABANDHU TUNNEL

The 9.1 km-long tunnel, the first of its kind in South Asia, is being built at a cost of Tk 10,374.42 crore. It will help introduce a modern communication system between Dhaka, Chattogram and Cox's Bazar, and will also be linked to the Asian Highway Network.

The project witnessed 71 percent progress till July this year.

The boring of the tunnel's first tube has already been completed. Quader on December 12 last year inaugurated boring of the second tube.

The deadline of the China-funded project is December next year.

## Man held over rape of two women

OUR CORRESPONDENT, N'ganj

A man was arrested yesterday in Narayanganj sadar upazila on charge of raping two women.

The alleged rapist Delwar Hossain (28) was arrested from Chattogram. Before that, one of the victims filed a case with Narayanganj Model Police Station, said OC Rakiuzzaman. Delwar lived at a rented room and the two women, both RMG workers, lived in a room next to his.

On Friday, Delwar prepared meal for the two after they returned from work. He mixed sedatives with the food. As they lost consciousness, he raped them.

## 'Nutrition of nursing mother main concern'

Speakers tell seminar  
CITY DESK

Speakers at a seminar yesterday called on families to share the responsibility of nursing mothers by creating a supportive environment to ensure the well-being of both mother and baby.

Unilever and "Horlicks Mother's Plus" brand organised the event at The Daily Star Centre. Titled "The importance of Breastfeeding, Lactating Mother's Health and Father's Responsibility", the session marked the "World Breastfeeding Week 2021", said a press release.

Nutritionist Naila Bari said, "Breastfeeding promotes better health for mothers and children alike. It is crucial for new mothers to ensure regular consumption of a healthy, balanced diet."

Family members, especially the husband, must be cautious to not ignore the well-being of nursing mothers, she said.

The speakers also mentioned Bangladesh's progress in promoting breastfeeding in the past couple of decades.

However, some indifference can still be seen regarding lactating mothers' health and nutrition. As a result, a large number of mothers are still suffering from malnutrition, they said.

After the seminar, health check-ups for nursing mothers were arranged at The Daily Star Centre.

## Another dies

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during the current month, while total infections stand at 9,857. Of the total, 771 are from outside the capital.

At least 2,286 patients were hospitalised in July, 272 in June, while 43 were infected in May, according to DGHS.

Though most patients who were hospitalised have been released, 1,123 are still undergoing treatment at hospitals in Dhaka, and 143 outside the capital, DGHS data shows.

## Income of AL fell by 51pc in 2020

Says its report submitted to EC

STAR REPORT

The income of ruling Awami League in 2020 was about Tk 10.33 crore, 51 percent down from that of 2019, according to its audited financial statement submitted to the Election Commission yesterday.

However, AL's expenditures increased by Tk 1.73 crore last year, compared to that of the previous year, reports UNB.

The party's total income was Tk 10,33,43,33 in 2020, which was over Tk 21 crore in 2019.

An AL team, led by its publicity and publication secretary Dr Abdus Sobhan Golap, MP, handed over the financial statement of the 2020 calendar year to EC Secretary Md Humayun Kabir Khandaker at Nirbachan Bhaban in the city.

Later, Golap told reporters that their party's income largely came from the subscriptions of its members, sale of nomination forms and donations from various individuals and organisations. In 2020, the income declined as it earned less from the sale of nomination forms, and there was no income from the triennial council of the party in 2019.

AL spent Tk 9,94,49,931 in the calendar year, Tk 1,73,48,356 more than it spent in 2019. The expenditures went up for conducting relief activities amid the Covid-19 pandemic, providing donations to party-nominated candidates in different elections and the rise in the expenses against different publications.

On Thursday, BNP submitted its 2020 financial statement before the EC. The party's income was Tk 1.23 crore and expenditure was Tk 1.75 crore in 2020. The additional expenditure was met from its previous fund.

As per the law, each registered political party is obliged to submit its financial statement of the previous calendar year by July 31. But this time, EC has extended the time till August 31 due to Covid-19.

## Pori Moni's bail hearing tomorrow

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday set tomorrow for hearing the bail petition in the narcotics case filed against Pori Moni.

Judge KM Emrul Kayesh of the Metropolitan Sessions Judge's Court fixed the fresh date after receiving an order of the High Court Division, said additional public prosecutor Tapash Kumar Pal.

On August 22, the judge fixed September 13 for the hearing after her lawyer filed it [petition] challenging a lower court's rejection order. On August 26, an HC bench refused to grant her bail in the case, but issued a rule questioning the Dhaka Metropolitan Sessions Judge's Court's order of setting September 13 to hear her bail application.

The HC issued the rule following a criminal revision petition filed by Pori Moni, challenging the lower court's order. It also fixed September 1 for hearing on the rule.

## ASK SEEKS SUO MOTO RULE

Ain O Salish Kendra (ASK) yesterday sought a suo moto (voluntary) rule from the HC questioning the legality of placing Pori Moni on remand in phases.

ASK's Chairperson and Supreme Court lawyer ZI Khan Panna moved a prayer before the HC bench of Justice Mustafa Zaman Islam and Justice KM Zahid Sarwar Kajol for issuing the rule.



## LA Quadery no more

STAR REPORT

Eminent neurosurgeon Prof Dr LA Quadery passed away at a private hospital in Chattogram city yesterday morning. He was 80.

He was a pioneer in establishing Neurosurgery Department at Chattogram Medical College and was the head of the department, said Prof Dr Shahena Akter, principal of CMC.

Dr Quadery breathed his last around 11:30am at Centre for Specialised Care and Research Hospital in the port city.

He had been suffering from cancer, said Dr Faisal Iqbal Chowdhury, general secretary of Bangladesh Medical Association, Chattogram.

Dr Quadery was also a former president of BMA, Chattogram, said Dr Faisal. He was also a former student of the CMC. His only daughter lives in the US.

## A continuation

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Bela Chief Executive Syeda Rizwana Hasan also criticised the forest department, saying that the body runs under antiquated laws, which were formed during the British rule.

"How dare they think about social forestry while damaging the life and livelihood of so many families," she said.

Sharif Jamil, general secretary of Bapa, presented the keynote, while Sanjeeb Drong, general secretary of Bangladesh Adivasi Forum; rights activist Khushi Kabir, coordinator of Nijera Kori; Shamsul Huda, executive director of Association of Land Reforms Development; and Nizamul Haque Nasim, former justice of Appellate Division, also spoke at the conference.

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## Homage paid

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premises, he was buried at Mirpur Martyred Intellectuals Graveyard.

Meanwhile, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina expressed deep shock and sorrow at the death of the writer.

In a condolence message yesterday, the premier prayed for his eternal peace and conveyed deep sympathy to the bereaved family.

Bulbul Chowdhury was born on August 16, 1948, at Dakshinbag in Gazipur.

Along with the Ekushey Padak for his contribution to Bangla literature, he also received the Bangla Academy Literary Award, Humayun Qadir Smriti Purashkar, and Jasimuddin Smriti Purashkar, to name a few.

Tuka Kahini, Machher Raat, Aparup Bil Jhil Nodi, Tiyaser Lekhon, Jibaner Ankibunki, Atoler Kathakatha, Prachin Gitaker Golpo are some of his popular fictional works.

Bulbul Chowdhury is survived by his wife and three sons.

### Call for Application/Expression of Interest Recruitment of Voluntary Representatives for the National Steering Committee of the GEF Small Grants Programme implemented by UNDP

The GEF Small Grants Programme (GEF SGP), implemented by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), provides financial and technical support to communities, Community-based Organizations (CBO), NGOs, Civil Society Organizations (CSO) and academic/research organizations to meet the overall objective of "Global environmental benefits secured through community-based initiatives and actions". This programme has been launched in Bangladesh this year.

The programme provides financial grants of up to \$50,000 directly to the CBOs/CSOs for projects in Biodiversity, Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation, Land Degradation, Sustainable Forest Management, International Waters and Chemicals.

A **National Steering Committee (NSC)**-composed of voluntary representatives from NGOs, government agencies, the private sector and the UNDP office - approves projects and guides the implementation of the Programme, managed by a National Coordinator. The NSC is not only responsible for selecting and approving projects, but they are also encouraged to participate in project monitoring and evaluation of the projects on a voluntary basis.

For the nomination of membership, NGOs, CSOs, CBOs, academic/research institutions, women entrepreneurs, and private sectors, are hereby invited to submit the names of qualified representatives to be the members of the National Steering Committee (NSC) of the GEF-SGP for a period of 3 years initially.

**The proposed representative would have the following profile:**

1. Have an abiding interest and commitment to working with communities.
2. Have experience in participatory approaches and methodologies.
3. Expertise in, or good knowledge of, at least one of the following GEF focal areas of biodiversity, climate change, international waters, forest management, land degradation, chemicals and wastes.
4. Be well respected in his/her field.

**Important Note:**

1. NSC members are appointed by the UNDP Resident Representative upon ratification by the SGP Global Manager.
2. In recruiting members for the NSC, due consideration will be given to both the expertise and qualifications of the individual candidates, and the overall composition and balance of the committee.
3. Strong, experienced, and technically competent civil society representation on the NSC is crucial as a means of keeping the GEF-SGP responsive to its mandate to work with NGOs and CBOs.
4. Emphasis is laid on the fact that the work of the NSC is voluntary and without compensation.
5. A sitting NSC member's NGO cannot receive a grant from the GEF Small Grants Programme.
6. The selection of the best representative according to the transparent criteria set forth in this call for application will be done by the National Coordinator in consultation with the SGP focal point and UNDP as per the GEF SGP Operational Guidelines.

**Kindly send the full CV of the person you will have chosen from your organization by 15 September 2021 to the attention of:**

Mohammed Muzammel Hoque, National Coordinator GEF Small Grants Programme: [muzammel.hoque@undp.org](mailto:muzammel.hoque@undp.org)  
Cell: 01707073236 With copy to Mr. Arif M. Faisal, Programme Specialist, UNDP: [arif.faisal@undp.org](mailto:arif.faisal@undp.org)

এসেনসিয়াল ড্রাগস কোম্পানী লিমিটেড  
৩৯৫-৩৯৭, ভেজগাঁও শিল্প এলাকা  
ঢাকা-১২০৮।

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দরপত্র খোলার দিনে কোন দরপত্র শিডিউল বিক্রয় করা হইবে না।

(4"x4) মহা-ব্যবস্থাপক, প্রকিউরমেন্ট  
পক্ষেঃ ব্যবস্থাপনা পরিচালক।

### United Nations Development Programme GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY SMALL GRANTS PROGRAMME Invitation of Proposals from NGOs/CSOs/Academic Institutions for preparing Country Programme Strategy

The Global Environment Facility Small Grants Programme (GEF/SGP) of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Bangladesh invites civil society organizations (CSOs) or non-government organizations (NGOs) or Academic Institutions to submit a Proposal for preparing Country Programme Strategy (CPS) for the Operational Phase 7 (OP7) 2019-2023 of the GEF/SGP.

The GEF SGP, implemented by the UNDP, provides financial and technical support to communities, CBOs, NGOs, CSOs and academic/research organizations to meet the overall objective of "Global environmental benefits secured through community-based initiatives and actions". This programme has been launched in Bangladesh this year.

The programme provides financial grants of up to \$50,000 directly to the CBOs/CSOs for projects in Biodiversity, Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation, Land Degradation, Sustainable Forest Management, International Waters, Chemicals, and wastes.

Terms of reference (TOR), Project Proposal Form, and Country Programme Strategy (Template) can be obtained from GEF/SGP National Coordinator with an email to [muzammel.hoque@undp.org](mailto:muzammel.hoque@undp.org) The proposal should be delivered before 5 pm Thursday 14 October 2021.

The National Steering Committee (NSC) is responsible for reviewing and approving the proposals. The NSC reserves the right to accept or reject without any reason whatsoever. Only the proponents of the selected proposals will be informed before end of October 2021.

For further information please contact:  
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