

Remembering Shamsur Rahman

UNB, Dhaka

Yesterday marked the 93rd birth anniversary of poet, writer, and journalist Shamsur Rahman, widely regarded as a pivotal figure in Bangla literature in the latter part of the 20th century.

Marking the occasion, Bangla Academy will hold a lecture session today at the Academy's Poet Shamsur Rahman Seminar Room. Prominent researcher and poet Prof Khaled Hossain will present the keynote lecture at the event.

The Ekushey Padak winning litterateur was born on October 23, 1929, in Old Dhaka to Mukhlisar Rahman Chowdhury and Amina Khatun. His ancestral home is in Paratali village of Narsingdi district.

Graduating with an honours in English literature from Dhaka University in 1953, he began his career as a journalist in Daily Morning News in 1956.



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Slogans of solidarity

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the administration and law enforcement who failed to contain the violence.

Among others, Gonoshasthaya Kendra founder and trustee Zafarullah Chowdhury, Gono Forum leader Subrata Chowdhury, Oikya Parishad president

Prof Neem Chandra Bhowmik, Sammilito Sangskritik Jote President Golam Kuddus, and Dhaka University teachers Prof Asim Kumar Sarker and Gobinda Chandra Mandal spoke at the programme.

In another sit-in and hunger strike in the port city, Oikya Parishad General Secretary Rana Das Gupta also put forward the parishad's demands.

He urged the prime minister to take steps against public representatives who did not come forward during the attacks. He also demanded restoration of the constitution of 1972 and enactment of the Minority Protection Act -- as promised before the eleventh parliamentary election -- as well as speedy implementation of a minorities' commission.

Parishad leader Professor Ranjit Dey chaired the programme. Among others, it was addressed by Iskon Chattogram Divisional President Chinmoy Das, Puja Udjapan Parishad Chattogram President Shyamol Palit, and Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal leader Indu Nandan Dutta.

The parishad also held similar demonstrations in Barishal, Lalmonirhat, Manikganj, Munshiganj and several others districts.

Meanwhile, members of Moulik Adhikar Suraksha Committee, a platform for rights activists, in a webinar yesterday said failures of the local administration, police, and intelligence allowed the violence to spread.

Dhaka University Professor Asif Nazrul said communal attacks do not take place for these many days unless the "government shelters" the attackers.

Environmentalist and lawyer Syeda Rizwana Hasan said it's a big question why the head of state, head of government, opposition leader, chief of police and others did not visit the affected people.

"It is unacceptable," she remarked.

Dhaka University Professor Robayet Ferdous said, "Our society has turned communal over the years as Awami League and BNP cultivated communalism here."

Rights activist Sanjeeb Drong demanded the immediate formation of the National Minorities Commission so that minority communities can raise their voices.

Meanwhile, in the capital, Feminist Across Generations, an alliance against gender-based violence, held a torchlight vigil to express solidarity with Hindu communities at Central Shaheed Minar in the evening. Protesters shouted slogans such as "Communalism means destruction", "We shall never tolerate communalism", and "Hindus are our siblings".

Rights activists Shireen Huq, Maimuna Syed Ahmed, and Sudeshna Biswas were among those present during the stand-in protest.

Shireen Huq said, "As feminists, this is our fight. There is no alternative to standing in solidarity and being active in countering the violence inflicted on Hindu communities."

The protesters demanded full compensation and rehabilitation of the victims and eradication of communalism from the country.

In a human chain organised by Shushashoner Jonno Nagorik with National Girl Child Advocacy Forum, Youth Ending Hunger, and Bikoshito Nari Network, speakers said until political parties stop using religion in politics it will be impossible to stop such attacks.

"It's a wake-up call for all of us, no one is safe here in the country," Shujan secretary Badiul Alam Majumder said at the protest held in front of Jatiya Shangshad Bhaban.

Even on Friday night and yesterday, two idols of Hindu Goddess Kali were vandalised at a temple in Lakhai upazila of Habiganj, while unidentified miscreants allegedly set fire to a firewood stack adjacent to a Hindu house at Basiadebi Senpara village in Thakurgaon Sadar upazila.



Death toll 86

17 died in Oct so far

23 in Sept, 34 in Aug, 12 in July

189 more hospitalised yesterday

Total infected 22,319

Dengue claims two more lives

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

At least two dengue patients died and 189 were hospitalised in the last 24 hours till 8am yesterday. Of them, 34 are from outside Dhaka, according to the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS).

With the new cases, a total of 4,122 patients were diagnosed during the current month, out of a total 22,319 infected this year. Of the total, 3,155 are from outside Dhaka.

At least 7,841 patients were diagnosed in September, 7,698 in August, 2,286 in July, 272 in June and 43 in May. The rest are from January to April, according to the DGHS.

Abused there

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Oman as a domestic help for about five years, said after returning home in 2016, she had to face unwanted remarks from society regarding her stay abroad. She said some "bad people" would indicate that female migrant workers get involved in "unethical activities" abroad.

But this was far from her reality. "My employer was a woman. She was kind to me, used to take good care of me, and cleared my wages regularly," she added.

The research was conducted across four upazilas each of Jashore, Faridpur, and Chattogram districts between July-December last year. Most respondents were returnees from Saudi Arabia, Lebanon, the United Arab Emirates, Oman, and Jordan.

Manirul Islam, lead researcher of the report, said female migrant workers are usually considered "empowered" in low-income communities, granting them higher decision-making powers than most women. However, upon returning, they lose most of this power.

"They are no longer respected, they cannot raise their voice, and in many cases, they do not come out of home despite having no such restriction," said Manirul, also deputy director (research) of BILS.

Another female returnee (37), from Jashore's Jhikargachha upazila, recounted her psychological abuse in the hands of fellow villagers, made worse by the fact that she was a divorcee. She found this especially unfair to her.

"I had to struggle a lot to raise my daughter alone, with little support from people," she said.

With her income she built a small house in her village and sent her only daughter, aged about 21, to a local college.

After her return, she now earns a living by working as a labourer at local factories in Jashore, occasionally stitching clothes as well, which makes it all the more difficult to stomach the wanton vitriol from the villagers. The report said 55 percent of the respondents had to return home either unexpectedly or forcefully.

It also said 38 percent respondents alleged they were abused physically in the destination countries, while 52 percent were victims of forced labour, and 61 percent often suffered from lack of food and water while abroad.

Mostly aged between 18-49 years, about a fourth of the returnees are either divorced, widowed, or abandoned by their husbands. More than half of the returnees have no institutional education.

BILS official Manirul said to overcome social stigma towards female returnees, community-level awareness is required.

He said in their research they found that about 90 percent of female returnees think a social protection system should be created for them.

Such a system can include a minimum wage structure for the returnees and a separate protection cell for them, he added.

PUBLICATION OF 'MUJIBPEDIA' City Bank, HCCBL sign MoU



CITY DESK

A memorandum of understanding (MoU) has been signed between City Bank, and History and Culture Circle Bangladesh Limited (HCCBL) recently to publish the encyclopedia of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman under the title "Mujibpedia".

MD and CEO of City Bank Mashrur Arefin and Managing Director of HCCBL and Editor of Mujibpedia Farid Kabir signed the agreement at a programme at City Bank Center, in the presence of top officials, said a press release.

The 1000-page encyclopedia, with about 700 entries, will be published in December, before the Victory Day. Financed by City Bank, HCCBL will publish it in different versions and formats.

Poet and researcher Kamal Chowdhury is the book's chief editor, while Farid Kabir, also a poet and journalist, is the editor. Dr Abu Mohammad Delwar Hossain of Dhaka University's history department is executive editor of the encyclopedia.

বসুন্ধরা আবাসিক এলাকায় পুট বিক্রয়

বসুন্ধরা বারিধারা আবাসিক এলাকায় পুরাতন আই-ব্লকে ৪ কাঠা, এম-ব্লকে ১৩ কাঠা +, এন-ব্লকে ১০ কাঠা, পি-ব্লকে ৮ কাঠার পুট বিক্রয় হইবে। যোগাযোগ: মোবাইল: ০১৭১ ৫৪৬৬৮৭, ই-মেইল: mdfariduddin6687@gmail.com

Dhaka world's 2nd

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During winter, the city's air quality starts deteriorating sharply due to massive discharge of pollutant particles from construction sites, rundown roads, brick kilns and other sources, they say.

Ainun Nishat, professor emeritus at Brac University, said dust particles from construction sites, earth filling, black smoke from overloaded motor vehicles and traditional brick kilns located on the outskirts of Dhaka are largely responsible for making the city's air quality worse in winter.

"So, all traditional brick kilns should be modernised as soon as possible," he said.

BNP infected

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Holy Quran at a Cumilla puja mandap, the incident that sparked communal tension and saw numerous attacks on the Hindu community across the country, Quader said, "BNP is infected with the virus of suspicion. It has become their habit to question or tarnish any success or achievement by others."

"When everyone is having a sigh of relief over Iqbal's arrest after he was identified from CCTV footage, the BNP secretary general now raises question regarding his whereabouts prior to arrest," Quader said.

"Why don't you (Mirza Fakhrul) come up with the information on where Iqbal was in the last few days before his arrest?" Quader also said.

BNP, which has always considered the Hindu community a political opposition, is now shedding crocodile tears over attacks on the Hindus while blaming the government for the violence, the minister said. "People are well aware of BNP's double standards," he added.

Hidden force

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among them, to "restore democracy and people's rights" through a united movement.

Oli Ahad Smriti Sangsad arranged the programme at Jatiya Press Club, marking the 9th death anniversary of language veteran Oli Ahad.

Earlier, speaking at a human-chain programme at press club, Fakhrul criticised the government for its "failure" to control unbridled price hike of daily essentials.

Pabna University of Science and Technology
Office of the University Engineer

Memo No : PUST/Engg Office/e-GP/Electrical/2021-22/ 01 Date: 23/10/2021

e-Tender Notice (FY/2021-22)

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP system portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the Procurement of following works of under "Pabna University of Science & Technology", PUST, Pabna.

Sl No	Tender ID	APP ID	Package No & Invitation Ref. No	Name of Works	Tender Publication Date & Time	Tender Closing Date & Time	Method
1	621167	173160	PUST/Engg Office/e-GP/OTM/LE/2021-22	Supply - Installation and Commissioning Of Spectrum Analyzer & Vacuum Spin Coating Machine For The ICE & EECE Department Of Pabna University Of Science And Technology. FY 2021-2022	24-Oct-2021 11:00	15-Nov-2021 11:00	OTM

This is an online Tender where only e-tender 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. Further information and guideline are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

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GD- 1901

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Superintending Engineer (RHD)
Social and Environment Circle
Sarak Bhaban, Tejgaon, Dhaka.
Mobile: 01730782581
E-mail: sese@rhd.gov.bd

Memo No: 35.01.0000.168.18.40.21-202 Date: 21.10.2021

Request for Expressions of Interest
GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH

1	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Road Transport and Bridges, Road Transport and Highways Division				
2	Agency	Roads and Highways Department				
3	Procuring Entity Name	Mohammad Jahed Hossain, (SE), RHD, Social and Environment Circle, Sarak Bhaban, Tejgaon, Dhaka.				
4	Procuring District	Dhaka.				
5	Expression of Interest for Selection of	Consultancy Firm (National) (Time Based)				
6	EOI Ref No	EOI-01/2021-2022				
7	Date	21-10-2021				
KEY INFORMATION						
8	Procurement sub-Method	Fixed Budget System (FBS)				
FUNDING INFORMATION						
9	Source of Funds	GOB				
10	Development Partners	None				
PARTICULAR INFORMATION						
11	Project / Programme Name	Consultancy Services for Technical Support to the Social and Environment Circle, RHD				
12	EOI Closing Date and Time	22 November 2021, 2.01PM (Local time)				
INFORMATION FOR APPLICANT						
13	Brief Description of Assignment	The main objectives of this consultancy services are: 1) Providing technical advice to Social and Environment Circle on issues related to Environmental and Social Impact Assessments and subsequent Management Plan, Resettlement plan and budget preparation. 2) Providing detail documentation framework for IEE/ESIA/EMP. 3) To prepare, modify, review, and update the RHD specific guidelines related to land acquisition, resettlement, rehabilitation (resettlement portion) and environmental impact mitigation applicable for the projects implemented by RHD.				
14	Qualification and Experience	Sl No	Title	Relevant Experience and Qualification	Persn	Months
Environmental Engineering Team						
	01	Senior Consultant	• Master's degree in Environmental Engineering/ Environmental Science or related discipline. PhD in relevant field is preferred • 15 (Fifteen) years general experience • Minimum 12 (Twelve) years of experience in environment impact assessment for road/infrastructure projects. • Knowledge of World Bank/ADB or any other MDBs guidelines regarding Environmental and Social Issues.	01	12	
	02	Junior Engineer	• B.Sc. in Civil Engineering. • Minimum 02 (Two) years of experience in relevant field	02	12	Months each
Resettlement Advisory Team						
	01	Senior Consultant	• Master's degree in Social welfare studies or related discipline. PhD in relevant field is preferred • 15 (fifteen) years general experience • Minimum 12 (Twelve) years of experience in resettlement related activities for road/infrastructure projects. • Knowledge of world Bank/ADB or any other foreign aided projects regarding Social issues.	01	12	
	02	Junior Engineer	• B.Sc. in Civil Engineering. • Minimum 02 (Two) years of experience in relevant field	02	12	Months each
The EOI should specially include (along with certified English Translation if not in English). a) The firm's registration certificate. b) Company profile: including management, personnel, firm's speciality, performance. c) List of rendered services in last 5 years for: i. Experience in Environmental impact study, EMP, IEE for road construction ii. Experience in preparing resettlement plan and budget. d) Summary of relevant professional employees with key qualifications.						
Association with foreign firm is		Not allowed				
15	Other Details (if applicable)	Further information can be obtained from the Office of the Superintending Engineer, Social and Environment circle from 10:00 AM to 4:30 PM in any working day before the closing date. With all supporting documents, the EOI must be delivered at or before 2.00 pm on November 22, 2021 in sealed envelopes marked with "Consultancy Services for Technical Support to the Social and Environment Circle, RHD" to the signatory address. The Request for Proposal (RFP) is expected to be issued to the short-listed Firms by December 6, 2021. The Client will not be responsible for any costs or expenses incurred by the Firm(s) in connection with the preparation or delivery of the EOI.				
PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS						
16	EOI Ref No	Phasing of Services	Location	Indicative Start Date	Indicative Completion Date	
	EOI-01/2021-2022	As per SL No. 13, shown in the EOI notice.	Office of the SE, Social and Environment Circle, SarakBhaban, Tejgaon, Dhaka.	January 2022	December 2022	
17	Name of Official Inviting EOI	Mohammad Jahed Hossain				
18	Designation of Official Inviting EOI	Superintending Engineer, RHD, Social and Environment Circle				
19	Address of Official Inviting EOI	Block# A, Level# 3, Room# 304, Sarak Bhaban, Tejgaon, Dhaka				
20	Contact details of Official Inviting EOI	01730782581; E-mail: sese@rhd.gov.bd				
21	The Procuring Entity reserves the right to accept or reject any/all proposal without assigning any reason.					

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