



Economy defies andemic
6.94pc GDP growth in FY21



Samira's 2nd innings
A TV star in the making talks to The Daily Star



Plastic threat to oceans
WWF warns of 'ecosystem collapse'



Hope and relief
Chattogram dried fish producers all smiles



Shell-shocked after the death of her five sons in a road crash, Manu Bala Shil grieves as her grandchild looks on at her home in Malumghat of Cox's Bazar's Chakaria upazila yesterday. The siblings were killed after being run over by a pick-up when they were crossing Chattogram-Cox's Bazar highway in Malumghat. Two other siblings were also injured.

PHOTO: MUHAMMAD ALI JINNAT

EC NOMINATIONS

Hasina gets list from top AL leaders

Will send the final names to Cabinet Division tomorrow

PARTHA PRATIM BHATTACHARJEE

Awami League presidium members yesterday gave party chief Sheikh Hasina their recommendations of individuals who would form the next Election Commission.

The individuals recommended include a former chief justice, a former cabinet secretary, a former chief of army staff, a former inspector general of police, a retired brigadier general, a former chairman of Public Service Commission, and a former finance secretary, said a presidium member who attended the meeting with Hasina in the chair yesterday afternoon.

The prime minister said she would shortlist 10 individuals recommended by the presidium members and send it to the Cabinet Division on Thursday.

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1

Truck tears apart family

Runs over and kills 5 brothers, 2 other siblings now in hospital

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Cox's Bazar

Five brothers were killed after a pickup truck ran them over yesterday morning while they were returning from a crematorium after performing the funeral rites for their recently deceased father in Chakaria, Cox's Bazar.

The brothers who died are Anupam Shil, 47, Nirupam Shil, 45, Saran Shil, 43, Dipak Shil, 40, and Champak Shil, 30, said Safayet Hossain, officer-in-charge of Malumghat Highway Police Station in Chakaria.

The tragedy left their mother Manu Bala Shil in shock and their neighbourhood in Sagir Shah Kata village in tears.

The brothers were preparing to observe Shraadh, a ritual in Hindu religion of paying homage to a dead parent performed days after the death.

They had set up a marquee in their front yard and invited the neighbours and relatives to attend the last funeral rite for their father who died 10 days ago.

The incident happened when nine siblings were crossing the Chattogram-Cox's Bazar highway, said the officer.

Seven of them were severely injured and immediately taken to Malumghat Christian Memorial Hospital, he added.

Doctors declared four of them dead and sent Saran and Raktim to Chattogram Medical College Hospital. Saran succumbed to his injuries in the afternoon, he said.

Raktim and his sister Hira Shil are undergoing treatment at different hospitals. A sister and brother were unhurt.

The bodies of the five brothers were laid down in a row under the marquee.

SEE PAGE 2 COL 8

FIVE YEARS OF HUDA-LED EC

Intention in question

MOHIUDDIN ALAMGIR

"Our first challenge is to hold a free and fair election and then to win the confidence of all political parties, including the BNP," Chief Election Commissioner KM Nurul Huda told a news briefing five years ago after taking office.

But a number of political parties, election experts and civil society members on multiple occasions said the CEC and his team failed miserably to do either.

They raised questions over the CEC's intention to hold free and fair elections as things turned worse compared to the tenure of his predecessor, Kazi Rakib Uddin.

In the controversial general election on January 5, 2014, held under Rakib-led commission, a majority of the candidates, 153 to be exact, won uncontested as the BNP and other political parties boycotted the polls.

The Huda-led commission, which completes its five-year tenure on February 14, earned the bad name for failing to check alleged ballot stuffing the night before the 2018 parliamentary polls.

It also faced huge criticisms over the 100 percent vote cast in over 200 polling stations in that election.

Besides, a record number of candidates got elected unopposed in local government elections marred by widespread irregularities like ballot stuffing and capturing of booths. Clashes over Union Parishad polls held in phases left around a hundred people dead.

"The current commission's controversial activities rather heightened people's mistrust in the constitutional body, and caused some irreparable damage to the electoral system," said Shusashoner Jonno Nagorik (Shujan) Secretary Badiul Alam Majumdar.

"This Election Commission has snatched people's voting rights," he added.

The incumbent EC was formed on February 15, 2017, and held the 11th national election on December 30, 2018.

The next day, opposition political parties raised allegations that "ballot stuffing took place on the night before the election day".

Transparency International Bangladesh in a report on January 15, 2019, said electoral irregularities like stamping ballot papers the night before the polls and ballot stuffing by capturing booths on the election day took place in 47 out of the 50 constituencies it surveyed.

Other irregularities include inaction of law enforcers and administrative officials, fake vote casting, barring of voters and polling agents to enter polling stations, and forcing people to cast vote for a specific symbol, the study found.

"Ballot stuffing on the night before the election day is a big example of how people's voting rights have been snatched," Badiul Alam said.

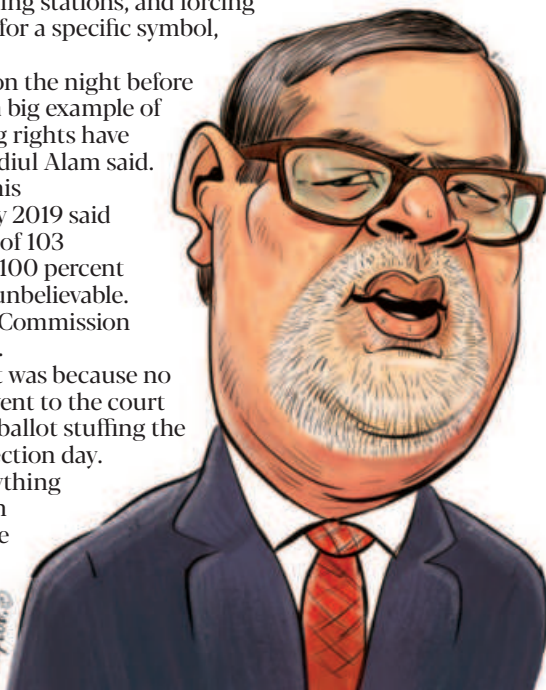
Citing EC data, his organisation in July 2019 said 213 polling centres of 103 constituencies saw 100 percent vote cast, which is unbelievable.

Yet the Election Commission "could do nothing".

CEC Huda said it was because no aggrieved person went to the court to complain about ballot stuffing the night before the election day.

"I cannot say anything conclusive based on allegations. Because I did not see it. You didn't see it either," he told a press meet on

SEE PAGE 2 COL 3



SEARCH COMMITTEE

Letters to reach parties today seeking names

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The search committee tasked with making recommendations for appointments to the next Election Commission will write to registered political parties today seeking names for chief election commissioner and election commissioners.

By noon today, letters will be sent to all registered political parties as well as civil society members, election experts and a cross-section of people for nominations, Cabinet Secretary Khandker Anwarul Islam told journalists yesterday after the search committee's two-hour-long second meeting, where the decision was made.

The parties must send their proposed names either via hardcopy to the Cabinet Division or by email to gfp_second@cabinet.gov.bd by 5:00pm on Friday.

There will be arrangements in the Cabinet Division to enable political parties and any individual to submit the proposals, he said.

The six-member search committee will hold three meetings on Saturday and Sunday -- from 11:00am to 12:30pm, and 12:45pm to 2:15pm on Saturday and from 4:00pm on Sunday -- with cross-sections of people at the Supreme Court Judges Lounge.

SEE PAGE 2 COL 3



Workers without any safety gear mending the hull of a cargo vessel at Khulna Dockyard on the Rupsha. The labourers, who work in a hazardous environment, earn Tk 260-Tk 300 each a day. The photo was taken in Rahimnagar area of Khulna's Rupsha upazila last week.

PHOTO: HABIBUR RAHMAN

Khaleda given 'Mother of Democracy' award: BNP

UNB, Dhaka

Canadian Human Rights' International Organization (CHRIO) has conferred the "Mother of Democracy" award to BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia for her contributions to democracy.

The party's Secretary General Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir presented the crest and certificates given by the Canadian organisation at a press conference held in Khaleda's Gulshan office yesterday.

"We're delighted to inform you that the Canadian Human Rights' International Organization awarded our leader Begum Khaleda Zia as the 'Mother of Democracy' for her significant contributions to democracy and its protection," Fakhrul said.

The Canadian High

SEE PAGE 2 COL 8

43 die of Covid, 8,354 get infected

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

At least 43 Covid-19 patients died in 24 hours preceding 8:30am yesterday, the highest single-day death toll since the third wave of the virus hit the country early last month.

This is also the highest single-day fatality from novel coronavirus since September 19 last year. On that day, the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS) had also reported 43 deaths. At that time, the Delta Covid variant was the most prevalent strain of the virus in the country.

The new Omicron variant spread since January. The daily positivity rate rose to the all-time highest 33.37 percent on January 28, up from only 2.43 percent on January 1.

Yesterday, a total of 8,354 new Covid cases were logged in those 24 hours. The positivity rate was 20.03 percent.

With the latest count, the total number of deaths rose to 28,670 and the total number of confirmed cases went up to 18,79,255.

Of the 43 deceased, 26 were males and 17 females.

Meanwhile, 10,800 Covid patients recovered in the same 24-hour period.

Dozens killed as fighting rages around Yemen city

AFP, Dubai

Dozens of Yemeni pro-government fighters have been killed in a new offensive to take a rebel-held city, loyalist sources said yesterday, following a surge in violence including missile attacks on the United Arab Emirates.

Thirty-two soldiers have died and at least 100 have been wounded in three days of fighting to drive the Iran-backed rebels from Haradh, north of the capital Sanaa and near the Saudi border, the sources said.

Seven Indian soldiers killed in Himalayan avalanche

AFP, New Delhi

Indian army rescuers yesterday recovered the bodies of seven soldiers buried in an avalanche while on patrol along a remote Himalayan frontier contested by China.

The troops were part of a larger deployment in Arunachal Pradesh state and were caught at an altitude of 4,400 metres (14,500 feet) in an area that had seen heavy snowfall in the days before Sunday's avalanche.

Two days of searching in rough weather ended without the rescue team finding any survivors among the missing soldiers.

"Unfortunately, despite the best efforts of everyone involved, all seven have been confirmed deceased," Lieutenant Colonel Harsh Wardhan Pande, an army spokesman, said in a statement.

Hasina gets list

FROM PAGE 1

Sources at the meeting held at the Gono Bhaban, said every presidium member, except Mofazzal Hossain Chowdhury Maya, recommended individuals for the posts of chief election commissioner and four election commissioners.

The meeting took place after a search committee sought names from political parties on Sunday. The search committee is tasked with recommending individuals to the president for appointments to the Election Commission.

The six-member search committee, formed by President Abdul Hamid, will recommend new election commissioners by February 24.

At yesterday's meeting, Hasina asked the presidium members to prepare for the 12th national election to be held between November 2023 and January 2024.

"No need to sit idle. We should not wait for the decisions of the other parties over the national election. We must make

preparations from now on," Hasina was quoted as saying by an AL leader who wished not to be named.

She also asked the AL leaders to hold fully-fledged councils at the grassroot-level after the current Covid restrictions are lifted on February 21.

The PM also termed the US sanctions on Rab illogical and added that similar things happen in America, said the sources.

Referring to the Narayanganj City Corporation election, the AL chief said nobody can beat an AL nominee if the local leaders and activists are united. She added that the AL's selection of the nominee was good and thanked everyone involved in that poll.

She said the AL has remarkably changed the country with its more than one-decade rule, reports UNB.

The PM also said her government has been able to keep the wheel of the country's economy moving amid the pandemic.



Workers painting the Central Shaheed Minar in the capital yesterday as the work on cleaning and beautifying the monument is underway ahead of the International Mother Language Day on February 21. The day is observed to commemorate the sacrifice of language martyrs who laid down their lives for getting Bangla recognised as a state language.

PHOTO: STAR

US-BANGLA PARTNERSHIP TALKS

Not a run-of-the-mill dialogue

Set for March 20 in new reality after sanctions on Rab

PORIMOL PALMA

US Bangladesh Partnership Dialogue is going to be held on March 20 under a new reality when the bilateral relations witness strains following the US sanctions on Rab and not inviting Bangladesh in Biden's Democracy Summit.

Foreign Secretary Masud Bin Momen and US Under-Secretary for Political Affairs Ambassador Victoria Nuland will lead the eighth round of the dialogue, an annual meet that began in 2012. The last meeting was held in 2019.

"The dialogue could not happen in the last two years due to the pandemic. So, we had proposed the dialogue be held soon. The US agreed that the talks be held on March 20," said a foreign ministry official. It will cover overall relationships, including political, security and economic cooperation. As a host, Dhaka will prepare the dialogue agenda, he said.

"As the issue of sanctions on Rab is an important one for us, we will obviously raise it and present a true picture," the official said.

Asked, former foreign secretary Shahidul Haque said it is a big advantage that Dhaka will prepare the agenda. Thus, Dhaka can prioritise its issues.

"However, what remarks Bangladesh officials are making in public are also

being counted in Washington on the sanctions. Our overall approach is very important in dealing with the sanction issue. We also need to do reality check," he told this correspondent.

Diplomatic sources said the US is likely to focus on a free and fair national election next year, improving governance, environment, labour rights, and freedom of speech. Specifically, it will talk about amending certain provisions of the Digital Security Act that has been criticised for stifling dissents and journalists, they added.

Washington will also stress on Bangladesh's cooperation in the US Indo-Pacific Strategy aimed at ensuring free and open Indo-Pacific, they said.

During 2019 dialogue, the US had pledged that it would provide additional security assistance for Bangladesh to increase maritime domain awareness, piracy, and regional security coordination in the Bay of Bengal. Washington also had requested Dhaka to continue the discussion on protection of classified military information shared between the two countries.

In October 2019, Washington also wanted Dhaka to sign two defence agreements -- General Security of Military Information Agreement (GSOMIA) and the Acquisition Cross-Servicing

Agreement (ACSA), which US officials say are "foundational agreements" meant to strengthen defence relationship.

These issues may also come up during the dialogue, diplomatic sources said.

A foreign ministry official said Bangladesh will hold security dialogue with the US on April 6 when they will discuss in detail defence and security issues.

Meanwhile, in a letter to Dhaka on December 1 last year, Washington asked Dhaka to inform in writing the consent to the Leahy Law that governs assistance for security cooperation. But Dhaka sought extension of time twice though it was scheduled to inform Washington by December 31.

Bangladesh has been getting security cooperation from the US pursuant to the Leahy Law, which came into effect in 1998, but the new consent was necessary for the amendments made last year.

Under the law, Dhaka needs to inform Washington about the security agency that will use the US assistance.

Foreign ministry officials said Dhaka and Washington were still discussing the issue.

A diplomatic source said delay in sending the consent by Dhaka means delay and complication in future security assistance.

7-year-old, brother killed in fire

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, CTG

A seven-year-old girl and her 16-year-old brother died in a fire at their house in Saral union of Banshkhali, Chattogram, Monday night.

Firefighters recovered the bodies of Minhaz and Ruhi Moni from the gutted house nearly two hours after the fire broke out around 9:00pm.

Nurul Bashar, in-charge (acting) of Fire Service and Civil Defence in Banshkhali said nobody was injured and the cause of the fire was unknown.

2 more bodies found in Bay

Death toll from Friday's storm now 7

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bagerhat

Coastguards yesterday recovered the bodies of two more men believed to be from any of the fishing boats that sank in the Bay of Bengal on Friday night.

The recovery from near Dublar Char, Bagerhat, takes the confirmed death toll from Friday's storm to seven.

Local fishermen said at least 21 fishing boats sank amid the storm and eight fishermen were still missing.

Coastguards said most of the local fishing boats don't have radio communication.

2 arrested for gang-raping woman

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Lalmonirhat

Police yesterday arrested two men on charges of raping a woman in Aditmari, Lalmonirhat.

Masud Rana, 26, and Mohammad Ali, 23, both residents of Pabnapara area were arrested after a woman accused them in a case of gang-rape, said Moktarul Islam, officer-in-charge of Aditmari Police Station.

The accused gagged her and forced her to go to a bush near her house and raped her, he added.

Fugitive rapist arrested after 10yrs

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Police in Bagerhat arrested a fugitive convict, who was sentenced to life in prison for raping a third-grader in Chattogram in 2012.

Md Arif Sheikh, 29, was arrested in Morrelganj, said Kazi Md Tareq Aziz, assistant commissioner (Port) of Chattogram Metropolitan Police.

"Arif raped a third-grader in the city and had been on the run," said the AC, adding that a Chattogram court on March 18, 2020, convicted him after a police investigation into the rape case.

Full versions of these stories are available under the same heading at www.thedailystar.net

Truck tears

FROM PAGE 1

While peals of mourning hung heavy, the only woman who sat quiet was the one whose loss was the heaviest, the mother, Manu Bala Shil. For the most part, she sat like a stone and spoke to no one.

The bodies were handed over to the family members as per their wish, without postmortem, said Osman Goni, officer-in-charge of Chakria Police Station.

Police found the vehicle that mowed them down in a secluded hilly area in Chakaria and were looking for the driver.

Khaleda given

FROM PAGE 1

Commission in Dhaka has also endorsed the award.

The CHRIO crest says the award was given to Khaleda Zia "in recognition of outstanding contributions and devotion to the protection and advancement of disadvantaged people as well as democracy, human rights, peace and rule of law for Bangladesh and the world beyond".

On February 1, BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia, 76, returned home after an 81-day stay in the capital's Evercare Hospital for treatment.

Former prime minister Khaleda has been suffering from multiple diseases, including liver cirrhosis.

Members of a medical board for Khaleda said she needs to go abroad immediately for better treatment.

Khaleda, convicted in two graft cases, was freed temporarily through an executive order by the government on March 25, 2020.

ministry did not approve the positions for the training programmes, shows a working paper of an EC meeting, held on January 3.

The training sessions were organised by the Electoral Training Institute (ETI) of EC for poll officials.

At the January 27 press briefing, Nurul Huda said the allegations of 42 eminent citizens were "not true" and that audit objections and corruption are two different issues. All audit objections will be settled as per the rules.

On several occasions, Nurul Huda and Election Commissioner Mahbub Talukdar traded barbs in public over electoral and other issues, which many found to be "disgraceful" for a constitutional body like the Election Commission.

Belgium detains 13 suspects in anti-terror operation

AFP, Brussels

More than 100 Belgian police raided multiple addresses around the port city of Antwerp yesterday and detained 13 people suspected of links to a jihadist group.

The operation was launched under the authority of anti-terror magistrates as part of a broader investigation, federal prosecutors said in a statement.

doubts about EVMs as they do not have the voter verifiable paper audit trail mechanism [which allows voters to verify that their votes have been cast]," said Badiul.

"Some developed countries are moving away from the system," he added.

Nurul Huda, however, considers EVM as an advanced system with which voters can cast their vote "accurately". He requested the next EC not to abandon the EVM system.

Over the last two years, 42 eminent citizens urged President Abdul Hamid to constitute the Supreme Judicial Council to probe allegations of corruption and misconduct by the EC.

They wrote twice to the president -- on December 14, 2020, and January 17, 2021, in two letters.

is led by Justice Obaidul Hassan. Its other members are Justice SM Kuddus Zaman, a High Court judge; Comptroller and Auditor GeneralMohammadMuslim Chowdhury; Public Service Commission Chairman Md Sohorab Hossain; former Election Commissioner Sohul Hussain; and psychiatrist and writer Anwara Syed Haq. All were in the meeting yesterday.

The previous search committee in 2017 had sought names from political parties for

appointments to the EC. The parties submitted names, but those were never disclosed.

The president held talks with 25 political parties from December 20 last year to January 17 this year on forming the new EC. Seven other parties, including the BNP, did not participate in the dialogue, terming it "meaningless".

The previous search committee also held talks with civil society members, media personalities and election experts.

society members, the EC used the electronic voting machines (EVMs) in six constituencies in the December 30 national election. It also used EVMs later in some by-polls of parliamentary constituencies, city corporations and local government bodies.

The EC in July-August 2017 held dialogues with different political parties and other stakeholders before the 11th national election. During the dialogue, BNP and its allies and some left political parties opposed the idea of using EVMs.

However, the ruling Awami League and four of its allies supported it.

"The Election Commission created controversies by using EVMs in elections. Someone can manipulate it digitally. There are still

will work after allegations against some of the search committee members, he said: "There is no room for doubt. The committee will work with absolute neutrality."

After holding talks with various stakeholders, the committee will finalise the names and send those to the president.

The president will then appoint the CEC and other commissioners based on the panel's recommendations, according to the law.

The search committee

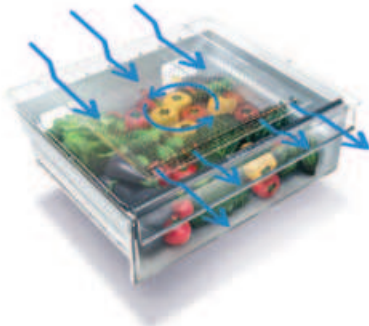


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2 including CMCH staff member sued

Govt medicine worth Tk 3.5 lakh recovered

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Chattogram Medical College Hospital (CMCH) authorities yesterday filed a case against two people, including a staff member of CMCH, with Panchlaish Police Station over stealing government medicine.

Meanwhile, police recovered government medicine worth Tk 3.5 lakh from a house near CMCH, said Arafatur Rahman, additional deputy commissioner of Chattogram Metropolitan Police.

Jahedul Kabir, officer-in-charge of Panchlaish Police Station, said during primary investigation, police came to know that a nexus consisting of CMCH staff members and outsiders used to steal government medicine – worth Tk 15,000 to Tk 20,000 – from different wards of the hospital every day to sell those outside.

“We have identified the group and are trying to arrest the other members,” he added.

On Monday, on-duty Ansar men and police at CMCH detained two people while syphoning government medicine from the hospital.

The detainees are Ashu Chakraborty (32), an office assistant at CMCH, and his accomplice Md Syed (50), according to sources at CMCH Police camp.

CMCH Director Brig Gen Shamim Ahsan said after searching their bag, police found government medicines that were supplied to the hospital for patients. Later, upon their confession, police conducted a drive to a nearby house and recovered more medicine that were stolen from the hospital earlier, he said.

SOS Children’s Villages Bangladesh gets Rotary award

CITY DESK

SOS Children’s Villages Bangladesh has received Rotary Humanitarian Service Award 2021-22 for bringing positive changes to the life of underprivileged community and children without adequate parental care, said a press release.

The award was handed over during the second charter anniversary of the Rotary Club of Dhaka Stars.

District (D3281) governor Barrister Mutasim Billah Faruqui and Rotary Club of Dhaka Stars’s president Zahirul Alam handed over it to Dr Md Enamul Haque, national director of SOS Children’s Villages Bangladesh on February 4, 2022.

District governor elect Engr MA Wahab and past district governor Ishtiaque Zaman were also present. Children, SOS mothers and co-workers were present in the ceremony along with district first lady Rokeya Faruqui and other past presidents of different clubs, rotaractors and interactors. The award giving ceremony was organised by Rotary Club of Dhaka Stars in association with Rotary Club of Dhaka Rising Stars and Rotary Club of Gulshan at SOS Children’s Village Dhaka.

Sultan Ara Khan’s death anniversary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Today is the fourth death anniversary of Sultan Ara Khan. She was wife of Shahul Alam Khan, a retired employee of Karnaphuli Paper Mills Ltd in Chattogram. Sultan Ara died at a Dhaka hospital on February 9, 2018.

A milad mahfil and Qurankhwani will be held today at Khurshid and Associates, chamber of her eldest son Senior Advocate Khurshid Alam Khan, at 204 Bijoynagar in Dhaka.

All words, no action

FROM PAGE 5

statement when asked about any issue, without actually working to resolve them. Problems, by then, become established realities,” said Md Elanur Islam, a law student.

“JU is no different from our country in its arbitrariness. Students don’t trust the authorities anyone for their fake promises made over the years,” said Rakibul Rony, president of Bangladesh Student Union’s JU chapter.

Prof Anu Mohammad, JU faculty member and eminent economist, echoed the same sentiments. “It has become a culture to manage the crisis through commitments. There is absolutely no accountability on the

authorities’ part.”

“The government should show interest to uplift the universities from this crisis and create a culture of accountability,” he added.

Asked, JU acting registrar Rahima Kameez was unable to present any progress on their commitments.

“It’s not like we don’t discuss the issues, but actions require time. This is not a strategy, and our commitments are not fake,” Kameez said.

“We try our best to fulfil our commitments. However, there are complexities that hinder us from presenting the progress,” said JU pro-VC (academic) Prof Md Nurul Alam. Despite attempts, this correspondent could not get in touch with the VC.

Inform the people

FROM PAGE 5

created by the confidentiality of the MoU content will not only violate the mandatory provisions of the open and fair competition process of agency selection, but also limit the scope for accountability and increase the migration costs of Bangladeshi migrant workers and recruitment costs of their Malaysian employers.”

Referring to the ban on recruiting workers from

Bangladesh in 2018 – on allegations of corruption, including syndicate control – they said, “We call on our respective governments to publish the MoU in detail to ensure public access to information and to take specific steps at the national levels of the two countries, so that the influential syndicate can not again take hostage the Bangladeshi migrant recruitment process in Malaysia.”

ডকইয়ার্ড এন্ড ইঞ্জিনিয়ারিং ওয়ার্কস লিমিটেড
বাংলাদেশ নৌবাহিনী
সোনাকান্দা, বন্দর, নারায়ণগঞ্জ
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পুরাতন জেন্স ক্রেন বিক্রয় দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

অত্র প্রতিষ্ঠানের পুরাতন ০১টি জেন্স ক্রেন “যেখানে যে অবস্থায় আছে” সে ভিত্তিতে নিলামে বিক্রয়ের জন্য বাংলাদেশের প্রকৃত নাগরিক, অগ্রাহী ক্ষেত্রে দার/হিকাদারদের নিকট থেকে সীলমোহরকৃত নামে উল্লিখিত তারিখে খোলা দরপত্র আবেদন করা যাবে।

১	স্থান	ডকইয়ার্ড এন্ড ইঞ্জিনিয়ারিং ওয়ার্কস লিমিটেড, সোনাকান্দা, বন্দর, নারায়ণগঞ্জ।
২	বিবরণ	পুরাতন ০১টি জেন্স ক্রেন (৪০ টন ক্ষমতাসম্পন্ন)।
৪	সিডিউলের মূল্য	টাকা ৫০০.০০ (পাঁচশত) মাত্র (অফেরতযোগ্য)।
৫	বিড সিডিউলটির পরিমাপ	মোট দরের উপর ৩% আনুমানিক হিসাবে ব্যাক ড্রাকট/পে-অর্ডার ডকইয়ার্ড এন্ড ইঞ্জিনিয়ারিং লিমিটেড এর নামে দরপত্রের সাথে জমা দিতে হবে। (তালিকাভুক্ত হিকাদার প্রতিষ্ঠানের জন্য প্রযোজ্য নহে)।
৬	সিডিউল বিক্রয়ের স্থান	হিসাব বিভাগ, ডকইয়ার্ড এন্ড ইঞ্জিনিয়ারিং ওয়ার্কস লিমিটেড, সোনাকান্দা, বন্দর, নারায়ণগঞ্জ।
৭	সিডিউল বিক্রয়ের শেষ তারিখ	২২ ফেব্রুয়ারি ২০২২ অফিস চলাকালীন সময় পর্যন্ত।
৮	দরপত্র জমা দেওয়ার শেষ তারিখ ও সময়	২৩ ফেব্রুয়ারি ২০২২ বেলা ১২:১৫ ঘটিকা।
৯	দরপত্র খোলার তারিখ ও সময়	২৩ ফেব্রুয়ারি ২০২২ বেলা ১২:৩০ ঘটিকা।
১০	যোগাযোগের মাধ্যম	মোবাইল: ০১৭৬৯৭১৯৮৮৮ www.dewbn.gov.bd
১১	দরপত্রের সহিত যে সকল কাগজপত্র জমা প্রদান করিতে হইবে	টিকাদারী ট্রিড লাইসেন্স, হালনাগাদ আয়ের সার্টিফিকেট, জাট রেজিস্ট্রেশন সার্টিফিকেট, ব্যাক সলভেন্সি, পাসপোর্ট সাইজের ছবি ০১ কপি। (তালিকাভুক্ত টিকাদারদের ক্ষেত্রে প্রযোজ্য নহে)।

১২। বিশেষ জ্ঞাতব্যঃ
ক। দরপত্র সংক্রান্ত অন্যান্য তথ্যাবলী দরপত্র সংগ্রহকালে বাসিন্দা শাখা হতে জানা যাবে।
খ। দরপত্র খোলার তারিখ হতে ৩০ দিন পর্যন্ত দরপত্র বদল্য থাকবে।
গ। নির্দিষ্ট সময়ের মধ্যে মালমাল ভেলিগারী নিতে হবে।
ঘ। দরপত্র আহবানকারী কর্তৃপক্ষ যে কোন কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতীত দরপত্র সংগ্রহকালে ও বাতিলের ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করেন।
ঙ। অফিস চলাকালীন সময় সকাল ০৮.০০ ঘটিকা হতে বিকাল ০৩.০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত সিডিউল ক্রয়কারী প্রতিষ্ঠানের সর্বোচ্চ ০৩ (তিন) সন্ধ্যা সময় পর্যন্ত প্রতিনিধি অত্র ইয়ার্ডের প্রধান ভাড়া/ডকিং সেকশনের কর্তব্যরত কর্মকর্তা/কর্মচারীদের মাধ্যমে উল্লিখিত জেন্স ক্রেনটি সরেজমিনে পরিদর্শন করতে পারবেন।

জিডি-২৪৪ পক্ষ ব্যবস্থাপনা পরিচালক

বাংলাদেশ শিপিং কর্পোরেশন
চট্টগ্রাম
www.bsc.gov.bd
নং-১৮.১৬.০০০০.৩৫২.১১.০১১.০১১.২২ তারিখ: ০৮-০২-২০২২ খ্রি.

নিয়োগ বিজ্ঞপ্তি

বাংলাদেশ শিপিং কর্পোরেশনের নিম্নলিখিত শূন্য পদে সরাসরি নিয়োগের লক্ষ্যে যোগ্যতা সম্পন্ন বাংলাদেশের স্থায়ী নাগরিকদের নিকট হতে অনলাইনে দরপত্র আহ্বান করা যাচ্ছে। পূরণযোগ্য পদের নাম, শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতা ও অন্যান্য তথ্যের বিবরণ নিম্নরূপ:-

ক্রম নং	পদের নাম (কিএসটির বেকনকেক-২০১৫ অনুযায়ী)	পদ সংখ্যা	বয়সসীমা	শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতা ও অভিজ্ঞতা
১.	অফিস সহায়ক টাকা ৮,৫০০-২০,৫০০/-	২০ (বিশ)	অনুর্ধ্ব ৩০ (ত্রিশ) বৎসর	এইম শ্রেণী পাশ

আবেদন সংক্রান্ত নির্দেশাবলি	বর্ণনা
আবেদন প্রক্রিয়া	এ বিজ্ঞপ্তির অধীনে আগ্রহী প্রার্থীখণ্ডকে কিএসটির নিজস্ব অনলাইন জব পোর্টালের মাধ্যমে আবেদন করতে হবে। সে লক্ষে http://job.bsc.gov.bd/ এ ওয়েবসাইটে বাংলাদেশ শিপিং কর্পোরেশন কর্তৃক নির্ধারিত আবেদনপত্র পূরণ করে অন লাইনে রেজিস্ট্রেশন কার্যক্রম এবং পরীক্ষার ফি জমা প্রদান করতে হবে। আবেদনকারীদের সঙ্গে যোগ্য প্রার্থীদেরকে এসএমএস মোটরিকেশনের মাধ্যমে নিয়োগ সংক্রান্ত পরীক্ষার সময়, স্থান ও সংশ্লিষ্ট অন্যান্য বিষয় খাতিয়মে অবহিত করা হবে।
অনলাইনে আবেদন ও পরীক্ষার ফি জমা দানের শুরুর তারিখ	ফেব্রুয়ারি ০৯, ২০২২খ্রি. সময়ঃ সকাল ৯.০০ ঘটিকা।
অনলাইনে আবেদন ও পরীক্ষার ফি জমা দানের শেষ তারিখ	মার্চ ০২, ২০২২খ্রি. সময়ঃ রাত ১২.০০ ঘটিকা।
আবেদন সংক্রান্ত তথ্যাবলি	বাংলাদেশ শিপিং কর্পোরেশনের নিয়োগ পরীক্ষা ২০২২ এর বিজ্ঞপ্তি, অনলাইনে আবেদনপত্র পূরণের নিয়মাবলি, পরীক্ষার ফি প্রদানের নিয়মাবলি ও অন্যান্য প্রয়োজনীয় তথ্যাদি কিএসটির নিজস্ব ওয়েবসাইট www.bsc.gov.bd এ পাওয়া যাবে।
আবেদন ফি	ক্রমিক ০১ নং (অফিস সহায়ক) পদের জন্য ৫০/- (পঞ্চাশ) টাকা (অফেক্সযোগ্য)।
মৌখিক পরীক্ষা/সাক্ষাৎকারের সময় প্রয়োজনীয় মূল সনদপত্র	(ক) সকল শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতার সনদপত্র; (খ) অভিজ্ঞতার সনদপত্র (প্রযোজ্য ক্ষেত্রে); (গ) প্রথম শ্রেণীর গেজেটেড কর্মকর্তা কর্তৃক প্রদত্ত চারিত্রিক সনদপত্র; (ঘ) স্থায়ী ইউনিয়ন পরিষদ চেয়ারম্যান/পৌরসভার মেয়র/ওয়ার্ড কাউন্সিলর কর্তৃক প্রদত্ত নাগরিকত্ব সনদপত্র; (ঙ) জাতীয় পরিচয়পত্র (এনআইডি);
কোটাভুক্ত প্রার্থীদের জন্য বিশেষ নির্দেশাবলি	প্রার্থী শ্রীবী মুক্তিযোদ্ধার সন্তান/মুক্তিযোদ্ধার পোষ্য হলে মুক্তিযোদ্ধা কোটায় আবেদিত চাকুরি প্রার্থীদেরকে নিম্নলিখিত কাগজপত্র প্রদর্শন করতে হবে :- (১) মুক্তিযোদ্ধার জাতীয় পরিচয়পত্র, জন্ম তারিখ, জন্ম সনদ; (২) মুক্তিযোদ্ধার সনদ নথি, মুক্তিযোদ্ধা নথি ও তারিখ; (৩) গেজেট নম্বর ও তারিখ; (৪) মজলারের সনদ নথি, তারিখ ও স্মারক নম্বর; (৫) বামুস সনদ নথি ও তারিখ; (৬) মুক্তিযোদ্ধার নাতি-নাতনী দাবী করার ক্ষেত্রে প্রার্থীর জাতীয় পরিচয়পত্র, পিতা-মাতার জাতীয় পরিচয়পত্র; (৭) মুক্তিযোদ্ধার উত্তরাধিকারী সনদপত্র পোষ্যদের ক্ষেত্রে উপযুক্ত প্রমাণ হিসেবে ইউনিয়ন পরিষদের চেয়ারম্যান/পৌর মেয়র/সিটি কর্পোরেশনের ওয়ার্ড কাউন্সিলর কর্তৃক প্রার্থীর সঙ্গে মুক্তিযোদ্ধার সম্পর্ক সংক্রান্ত প্রত্যয়ন পত্র; (৮) সম্প্রতি মুক্তিযুদ্ধ বিষয়ক সন্ত্রালয়ের ওয়েবসাইটে প্রকাশিত মুক্তিযোদ্ধার নাম ও অন্যান্য তথ্যাদি সম্বলিত তালিকার কপি। (৯) এটিম ও প্রতিবন্ধী প্রার্থীদের ক্ষেত্রে প্রয়োজনীয় সনদপত্র জমা দিতে হবে। উপজাতীয় প্রার্থীদের ক্ষেত্রে জেলা প্রশাসক কর্তৃক প্রদত্ত সনদ। বিঃ কোটার ক্ষেত্রে সর্বশেষ/হালনাগাদ সরকারি বিধিমালা প্রযোজ্য হবে।
প্রার্থীদের বয়সসীমা	বিজ্ঞপ্তি প্রকাশের তারিখে প্রার্থীর বয়স অনূর্ধ্ব ৩০ বছর হতে হবে। তবে মুক্তিযোদ্ধা/শ্রীবী মুক্তিযোদ্ধার সন্তানদের ক্ষেত্রে, প্রতিবন্ধীদের ক্ষেত্রে বয়স অনূর্ধ্ব ৩২ বছর এবং মুক্তিযোদ্ধা/শ্রীবী মুক্তিযোদ্ধাদের নাতি-নাতনীদের ক্ষেত্রে বয়স অনূর্ধ্ব ৩০ বছর। বয়সের ক্ষেত্রে কোন এফিডেভিট গ্রহণযোগ্য হবে না।
বিধি	➤ নির্বাচনী পরীক্ষার (লিখিত-মৌখিক)/সাক্ষাৎকার-এ অংশগ্রহণের জন্য প্রার্থীদেরকে কোন প্রকার টিএ/ডিএ প্রদান করা হবে না। ➤ কোন তথ্য গোপন করে বা ভুল তথ্য প্রদান করে চাকুরিতে নিয়োগপ্রাপ্ত হলে সংশ্লিষ্ট প্রার্থীর নিয়োগপত্র বাতিল করা হবে এবং তার বিরুদ্ধে কঠোর আইনদণ্ড ব্যবস্থা গ্রহণ করা হবে। ➤ সরকারি/জাভা-সরকারি ও স্বায়ত্বশাসিত প্রতিষ্ঠানে চাকুরিরত প্রার্থীকে অগ্রন্থাই যথাযথ কর্তৃপক্ষের মাধ্যমে আবেদন করতে হবে, কোন অগ্রিম কপি গ্রহণযোগ্য হবে না। ➤ কোটা সম্পর্কিত প্রচলিত সরকারি নিয়ম/নীতিমালা বহাধরভাবে অনুসরণ করা হবে। ➤ বিজ্ঞপ্তিতে উল্লিখিত পদ সংখ্যা হ্রাস-বৃদ্ধি হতে পারে। তাছাড়া, নিয়োগ সংক্রান্ত যে কোন বিষয়ে কর্তৃপক্ষের সিদ্ধান্ত চূড়ান্ত বলে গণ্য হবে। ➤ আবেদনপত্র গ্রহণ, বাছাই এবং নিয়োগের ক্ষেত্রে কোন কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতীতে বাংলাদেশ শিপিং কর্পোরেশন কর্তৃপক্ষের সিদ্ধান্তই চূড়ান্ত বলে গণ্য হবে। এ বিজ্ঞপ্তি আংশিক/সম্পূর্ণ পরিবর্তন/বাতিল করার ক্ষমতা কর্তৃপক্ষ সংরক্ষণ করেন।
বিশেষ দৃষ্টান্ত	
উপরে উল্লেখ করা হয় নি কিন্তু প্রয়োজ্যতা রয়েছে এগুলি ক্ষেত্রে জনপ্রশাসন মন্ত্রণালয় কর্তৃক জারীকৃত বিধি-বিধান প্রযোজ্য হবে।	
সতর্কীকরণ	
নিয়োগ সংক্রান্ত বিষয়ে কোন পক্ষের সাথে কোন প্রকার যোগাযোগ এবং অর্থিক কেনদেনের আলামত পাওয়া গেলে তা প্রার্থীর ভ্রমযোগ্যতা হিসেবে গণ্য করা হবে এবং আংশিক/প্রার্থীর বিরুদ্ধে কঠোর আইনদণ্ড ব্যবস্থা গ্রহণ করা হবে।	
স্বাক্ষরিত/- মোহাম্মদ আশরাফুল আমিন (উপসচিব) মহাব্যবস্থাপক (প্রশাসন) বাংলাদেশ শিপিং কর্পোরেশন	

NORTH SOUTH UNIVERSITY
Center of Excellence in Higher Education

CAREER OPPORTUNITY

North South University (NSU), the first private university in Bangladesh, seeks applications for the following positions:

Please read the full job description carefully to see if you have the skills, knowledge and experience that we are looking for. Only eligible candidates will be considered.

Clinical Pathologist, Pathological Lab, NSU Medical Center : 1 (One) position

Job Description:

- Performing specimen analysis by using laboratory tools and equipment, in order to study samples and perform necessary tests
- Looking for abnormalities in samples that evidence disease and conveying this information to the relevant medical practitioner
- Using checklists, medical software, and retesting to get thorough and precise results
- Writing pathology reports detailing specimens tested, results of tests, and the final diagnosis
- Undertaking research to improve identification and testing methods and finding innovative ways to treat disease
- Staying up to date with developments in the fields of pathology and medical practice

Qualifications:

- MBBS with valid and active medical license from BMDC
- Diploma in Clinical Pathology/MPHil in Pathology
- Experience in using lab testing equipment
- Working knowledge of medical data management software
- Exceptional analytical and research skills
- Strong oral and written communication skills, both in English and Bangla

Job Experience:

- At least 3 (three) years’ work experience in the relevant position.

Age: Ideally 25-35 years

Monthly Salary: Monthly consolidated pay of Tk. 60,000 (Sixty Thousand Only).

Other Benefits: Provident Fund, Gratuity, Festival Bonuses, Group Insurance, in-house free Medical Consultation etc.

Security Officer : 1 (one) position

Academic Qualifications: Master’s degree in any discipline with computer literacy and ability to use computer in a technological platform. Knowledge in operating and monitoring IP based CCTV and modern electronic access and security control devices.

Job Experience: At least 5 (five) years of work experience in a similar position in any large organization. Retired Defence Officers in the rank of Major/Captain or equivalent with good health will be given preference. For an exceptionally deserving candidate, the academic qualification may be relaxed.

Age: Not exceeding 38 years.

Monthly Salary: An attractive salary package, with Festival Bonuses, Group Insurance, Provident Fund, Gratuity and in-house medical services is on offer.

Other Terms and Conditions:

- Proficiency in English and good communication and interpersonal skills.
- Willingness to work in shifts and holidays, if required.
- Third division/class/equivalent GPA of the candidates in any educational level will not be accepted.
- NSU authority reserves the right to accept or reject any application without giving any reason.

Only short-listed candidates will be called for interview.

Candidates should apply from his/her own e-mail address with complete CV, photographs, copies of certificates, transcripts and other credentials by **Thursday, 6th March 2022.**

Department (Administration)
NORTH SOUTH UNIVERSITY
Plot# 15, Block# B, Bashundhara, Dhaka – 1229
Email: nsuhr@northsouth.edu, Website: www.northsouth.edu

RECRUITMENT IN MALAYSIA

‘Inform the people, be transparent’

TIB, TIM call upon govts to reveal content of recently signed MoU to tackle syndicate

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh and Malaysia must release details of the memorandum of understanding (MoU) they signed on December 19, 2021 to recruit Bangladeshis in Malaysia, said Transparency International Bangladesh (TIB) and Transparency International Malaysia (TIM) yesterday.

They issued a press release from Dhaka and Kuala Lumpur and called on respective governments to take preventive measures against all possible forms of corruption, including syndicate control in the recruitment process, to protect interests of Bangladeshi workers and Malaysian employers.

Citing recent media reports from both countries, TIB and TIM expressed deep concern that a section of Bangladeshi recruiting agencies are trying to manipulate the recruitment process with the (unscrupulous) efforts of their Malaysian partners, while the governments have failed to disclose the content and terms of the MoU.

The release mentioned that the confidentiality contradicted both governments’ national and international commitments to control corruption and establish the right to information.

TIB Executive Director Iftekharuzzaman and TIM President Muhammad Mohan said, “The manipulation

We call on our respective governments to publish the MoU in detail to ensure public access to information and to take specific steps at the national levels of the two countries, so that the influential syndicate can not again take hostage the Bangladeshi migrant recruitment process in Malaysia.

Revoke decision to hike LPG prices

Fakhrul urges govt

UNB, Dhaka

BNP yesterday demanded that the government immediately revoke its decision of hiking the prices of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) sold by private companies.

“The prices of essential commodities, including fuel oil, gas, rice, pulses and edible oil are being continuously increased, causing serious misery to low-income people,” said party secretary general Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir.

Speaking at a press conference at BNP chairperson’s Gulshan office, he said their party thinks the prices of fuel oil and other essentials are being increased for creating a scope of corruption by the government and ruling party-backed businessmen.

He urged the government to take steps to lower the prices of essential items. “We demand the cancellation of the decision to increase the LPG prices, and restore its previous prices.”



PRAYER
TIMING
FEB 8



	Fazr	Zohr	Asr	Maghrib	Esha
Azan	5-30	12-45	4-15	5-52	7-15
Jamaat	6-05	1-15	4-30	5-56	7-45

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

SC to hold hearing on Nipun’s petition today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court will hold a hearing today on the petition filed by actress Nipun challenging the High Court order that stayed the appellate board’s decision to cancel the candidacy of Zayed Khan and declaring her as the general secretary of Film Artists’ Association.

Justice Obaidul Hassan fixed the date yesterday.

Nipun filed the petition saying that no petition is acceptable against the election appellate board’s decision, as it is not a government organisation.

Following a petition of Zayed Khan, the HC on Monday stayed for a week the appellate board’s decision that cancelled his candidacy.



He carries a chest full of jewellery. As the city starts to get busy, he packs his chest and sets off for Suhrawardy Udyan. Life was good before the pandemic, as students of Dhaka University gleefully purchased the trinkets to adorn themselves. However, presently, with the university being closed, fewer people visit the park, leading to even fewer sales.

PHOTO: PRABIR DAS



It’s almost ironic. Right outside the premises of Dhaka Medical College, no matter the time of the day, flocks of pedestrians, food vendors gather in close proximity -- seemingly oblivious to the harsh realities of the Covid-19 pandemic. Near the gates, amid the hustle and bustle, a line of people can be seen awaiting to be vaccinated, while others with their masks off (and some without) are enjoying street food. This photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

All words, no action

JU authorities’ promises on resolving several student issues remain unfulfilled

SHEIKH TAJUL ISLAM TAJ

Over the last few years, Jahangirnagar University (JU) authorities have made many promises to its students regarding several unresolved issues. However, not much progress has been made on those fronts.

“We will take immediate steps” or “we will discuss the matter” are common words of reassurance coming from the authorities. However, these words have made little to no effect when it comes to resolving the issues for real.

On June 28, 2019, JU Vice-Chancellor Prof Farzana Islam declared to hold Jahangirnagar University Central Students’ Union (Jucusu) polls by November that year, followed by a senate meeting.

A chief election commissioner was also appointed on July 31, 2019 for that purpose. But Jucusu polls are far from reality, even after two and a half years.

Recently, there were discussions regarding internet facilities, food quality and health insurance for students. On January 3, Rahima Kaneez, JU’s acting registrar, told the media, “We will discuss health insurance for students with the authorities.”

This newspaper, on January 18 published a detailed report on the university’s waste management system, which has been non-functional since 2020. When this correspondent contacted the university’s acting registrar regarding the issue, she again said, “I have come to know of the situation just now. We will

“We will take immediate steps” or “We will discuss the matter” are the common words of reassurance coming from the authorities. However, these words have made little to no effect when it comes to resolving the issues for real.

UNRESOLVED ISSUES, PILED UP PROMISES

➤ No improvement in internet and library facilities	students
➤ Subpar food, medical facilities	➤ Non-functional waste management system
➤ No health insurance for	➤ Uncertainty over Jucusu polls

discuss the matter.”

“No measures regarding the issues are in effect, maybe because these ‘discussions’ never take place,” said Ashfar Rahman Nabin, an international relations major, expressing his dissatisfaction over the authority’s inaction.

“Do they make these commitments to resolve the issues or escape them?” Nabin posed the question.

Similar commitments were made about improving medical and library facilities, holding convocations and solving accommodation crises, but to no effect.

Students, too, have started to adjust to the present situation, having lost faith in the administration’s intervention.

“Representatives of the authorities utter the same

SEE PAGE 4 COL 4

People have trust in search committee

Says Quader

BSS, Dhaka

Awami League General Secretary Obaidul

Quader yesterday said the country’s people have complete trust and confidence in the search committee formed to constitute a new Election Commission.

“The search committee has been formed following constitutional procedure and proper process of law,” he said in a statement.

Quader, also the road transport and bridges minister, said BNP secretary general

Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir has been intentionally making negative and misleading remarks about the search committee.

Towards building a clean city

DNCC, Indore Municipal Corporation discuss waste management practices

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka North City Corporation and Indore Municipal Corporation of Madhya Pradesh in India yesterday shared best practices for solid waste management and collaborating in building clean cities.

At a webinar facilitated by the Indian High Commission in Bangladesh, Indian officials said the city of Indore was ranked cleanest in India in the Annual Cleanliness Survey, carried out by the Indian government in 2021.

The city won this distinction five consecutive times since 2017, owing to its mechanisms for waste management, which includes segregation of waste, door-to-door collection, and home composting. In turn, DNCC officials shared its best practices and held productive discussions on how to improve cooperation in the field of solid waste management and other municipal services.

Death reference of Sinha murder case reaches HC

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The documents of Maj (retd) Sinha Md Rashed Khan murder case have reached as death reference to the High Court for the examination of the trial court verdict.

Officials of the Cox’s Bazar court concerned brought the documents of the case, including the judgment, to the HC yesterday, Supreme Court spokesperson Saifur Rahman told The Daily Star.

On January 31, Cox’s Bazar District and Sessions Judge Mohammad Ismail sentenced police officials Pradeep Kumar Das and Liaqat Ali to death and six others to life term imprisonment for killing Sinha. The six are dismissed Sub-Inspector Nandadulal Rakkhit, constables Sagar Deb and Rubel Sharma and police informants Md Nezamuddin, Nurul Amin and Ayaz Uddin.

Sinha’s sister filed the case on August 5, 2020.

Man dies as ambulance hits him

STAR REPORT

An unidentified person was killed when a Dhaka-bound ambulance hit him on the Dhaka-Chattogram highway in Munshiganj’s Gazaria upazila yesterday.

The private ambulance was not carrying any patient, OC Shah Jalal Babu of Bhabberchar Highway Police Station told our Munshiganj correspondent.

The incident took place in Bhabberchar Bus Stand area around 10:00am when the victim was trying to cross the road. He died on the way to Dhaka Medical College Hospital, the OC said, adding that the around 50-year-old man is yet to be identified.

The ambulance was intercepted by locals and is now in the custody of highway police.




PHOTO: RAJIB RAIHAN


Little to no relief for fire victims at Sitakunda's Jelepara

“Fake allegations have been made against me to take the whole issue to a different direction,” he told this correspondent.

PHOTO: RAJIB RAIHAN



North-West Power Generation Company Ltd.
ISO 9001:2015, ISO 14001:2015 & ISO 45001:2018 Certified
(An Enterprise of Bangladesh Power Development Board)



Office of the Chief Engineer
Sirajganj Power Station, NWPGL
Soydabad, Sirajganj


Ref: 27.28.8878.001.18.002.21.86
Date: 08/02/2022

e-Tender Notice (OTM)

The following e-Tender has been invited in the National e-GP System Portal (www.eprocure.gov.bd):

SL No.	Tender ID	Brief Description of Tender	Publication Date	Last Selling Date & Time	Opening Date
1	656109	Re-construction and Relocation of electric poles and associated 33 kV & 11 kV lines of NWPGL adjacent to BSW Railway Station pertaining to Bangabandhu Skeikh Mujib Railway Bridge construction project of Bangladesh Railway (BR).	07/02/2022	22/02/2022, 03:45 PM	23/02/2022

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 (www.eprocure.gov.bd) is required. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and e-GP Help Desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).


Engr. Md. Harun Rashid
 Chief Engineer
 Sirajganj Power Station
 NWPGL, Soydabad, Sirajganj
 Contact No.: +8801755630001

[illegible]

Won't allow it

Says food minister on
'attempt' to destabilise
rice market

Abdul Hannan, a spokesperson for mill owners, said the price of fine rice cannot be reduced as its demand is high. He also urged the government to take steps in importing rice to stabilise the market.

“শেখ হাসিনার উদ্যোগ, মরে ঘরে বিদ্যুত”

ELECTRICITY GENERATION COMPANY OF BANGLADESH LIMITED
(An Enterprise of Bangladesh Power Development Board)
office of the Chief Engineer
Siddhirganj 335 MW Combined Cycle Power Plant, Siddhirganj, Narayanganj.
PABX: +880-02-55138633-36; E-mail: info@egcb.com.bd; Web: www.egcb.gov.bd

Ref: 27.27.2666.313.46.02.22.0286 Date: 02/02/2022

e-Tender Notice

Sl No	e-Tender ID	Invitation Ref. No.	Tender Description	Publication Date & Time	Closing Date & Time
01	642018	27.27.2666.313.46.02.22.0173, Date: 22/01/2022	Procurement of Hydrogen Gas for Siddhirganj 335 MW CCPP under Framework contract for period of 01 (One) Year	01-Feb-2022 16:00	24-Feb-2022 12:00

For detailed information please visit the following link:
(<https://www.eprocure.gov.bd/resources/common/ViewTender.jsp?id=642018>)
This is an online tender, where only e-tender will be accepted in the National e-GP portal.
Only registered tenderer in the national e-GP sys item (<https://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) can submit the tender.
Further information and guidelines are available in the national e-GP portal helpdesk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).


Mohammad Noor Alam Siddiki
Executive Engineer (Operation)
Siddhirganj 335MW CCPP
EGCB Ltd., Siddhirganj, Narayanganj.

রূপালী ব্যাংক লিমিটেড

আইন বিভাগ

প্রধান কার্যালয়, ঢাকা

তারিখঃ ০৬/০২/২০২২খ্রিঃ

আইনজীবী প্যানেলভুক্তির বিজ্ঞপ্তি

রূপালী ব্যাংক লিমিটেড-এর পক্ষে-বিগকে বিজিটি আসলতে দায়েরকৃত মামলানম্বর পরিচালনার জন্য নিম্নোক্ত যোগ্যতা ও অভিজ্ঞতাসম্পন্ন আইন পেশায় নিয়োজিত বাংলাদেশী (জন্মভূমি) নাগরিকদের নির্দিষ্ট হতে ২ (দুই) বছর মেয়াদে আইনজীবী হিসেবে প্যানেলভুক্তির জন্য সনদ কলমে দলখ্যাত আহ্বান করা হচ্ছে। আইন পেশায় নিয়োজিত অভিজ্ঞ ও মেধাবী আইনজীবীগণকে আগ্রহী করার লক্ষ্যে আইনজীবীগণের মামলা পরিচালনার জন্য করা থাকে সর্বশ্রেষ্ঠযোগ্যতা। বিতর্কসীল নিয়মানুযায়ী আইনজীবী প্যানেলভুক্তির জন্য যোগ্যতা ও অভিজ্ঞতাসমূহঃ

১. এলএলবি সনদ প্রাপ্তদের ক্ষেত্রে ৪ (চার) বছরের বাত্ম অভিজ্ঞতা থাকতে হবে।
২. এলএলএম সনদ প্রাপ্তদের ক্ষেত্রে ৩ (তিন) বছরের বাত্ম অভিজ্ঞতা থাকতে হবে।
৩. বাই-এটা-এ সনদ প্রাপ্তদের ক্ষেত্রে ২ (দুই) বছরের বাত্ম অভিজ্ঞতা থাকতে হবে।
৪. বার কন্সিলনের সক্রিয় সদস্য হিসেবে অঙ্গভুক্তির জারি হতে অভিজ্ঞতা হিসাব করা হয়।
৫. অধিক যোগ্যতা/অভিজ্ঞতাসম্পন্ন প্রার্থীদের অগ্রাধিকার দেয়া হবে।
৬. কোনো জজ/জেনারেল ও ন্যায়াভ জজ/অতিরিক্ত জেনারেল জজ/অতিরিক্ত জেনারেল জজ/জুডিশিয়াল ম্যাজিস্ট্রেট ও ন্যায়াভ জজ ও সমমানের বিচারকের আমলাত, অর্থগত আমলাত, স্টেটসিভি আমলাত, গ্রাম আমলাত ও গ্রাম আশীল আমলাত, পুত্রমকেত (হাইকোর্ট বিভাগ), সুপ্রিমকোর্ট (আপিল বিভাগ) সহ বাংলাদেশের যেকোন আসলতে কাজ করার অভিজ্ঞতা থাকতে হবে।

৭. হাইকোর্ট বিভাগে প্রাকটিসার আইনজীবীদের হাইকোর্ট বাতের সনদ দাখিল করতে হবে।

৮. আদালি বিভাগের ক্ষেত্রে আপিল বিভাগের সনদ দাখিল করতে হবে।

আমরা প্রার্থীর নাম, পিতার নাম, মাতার নাম, স্থায়ী ঠিকানা, বর্তমান ঠিকানা, পূর্ব বাসকৃত যোগাযোগের ঠিকানা, টেলিফোন নম্বর, ই-মেইল আদ্যে, শিক্ষাপত্র যোগ্যতা, জাতীয়তা, ধর্ম, অভিজ্ঞতা, অন্য কোন ব্যাংক, প্রতিষ্ঠান বা কর্পোরেশনে আইন উপদেষ্টা বা প্যানেলভুক্ত আইনজীবী হিসেবে কর্তৃত্ব থাকলে তার বিপরীত ইচ্ছাধীন উদ্ভাবনিক আবেদনপত্র জাকযোগ্য/স্বাক্ষরিত আগামী ২৬/০২/২০২২খ্রিঃ তারিখের মধ্যে পৌঁছাতে হবে। আবেদনপত্রের সাথে ২ (দুই) কপি পাসপোর্ট সাইজের সত্যায়িত ছবি, জাতীয় পরিচয়পত্রের কপি, শিক্ষাপত্র যোগ্যতার সকল সনদপত্রের সত্যায়িত ছবি, বাংলাদেশ বার কন্সিলন সনদের সত্যায়িত ছবি, পাসপোর্ট সাইজের আইনজীবী সমিতি কর্তৃক আসলতে আইন পেশার নিয়োজিত আসলে মর্মে প্রত্যাহারকৃত অংশীদারী সনদেও করতে হবে। জটিলপত্র আবেদনপত্র সত্যায়িত বাতিল করে পণ্য হবে।

প্যানেলভুক্তির শর্তাবলীঃ

- ১) বর্তমান প্যানেলভুক্ত আইনজীবীগণের প্যানেলভুক্তির মেয়াদ নয়মাস/নব্বুনতম তালিকাভুক্তির ক্ষেত্রেঃ
 - ক) ইতোমধ্যে প্যানেলভুক্ত আইনজীবীগণের প্যানেলভুক্তির মেয়াদ নয়মাসের জন্য আবেদনকার দাখিল করতে হবে।
 - খ) আইনজীবী কর্তৃক পরিত্যক্ত নিম্ন আসলতে ও উক্ত আসলতে ব্যাংকের মামলাসমূহের ২০১৬ হতে ২০২০ সন পর্যন্ত বছরেরওয়াই মামলা নিষ্পত্তির পরিসংখ্যান, যাতে পরিচালনাময়ী মামলার সংখ্যা, তার বিপরীতে নিষ্পত্তির সংখ্যা, জটিল টাল (স্লেভিং ক্ষেত্রে) ও মামলা নম্বর উল্লেখ থাকবে।
 - গ) একই সাথে নতুন প্রতিষ্ঠিত Key Performance Indicator (KPI) এর দ্বারাচলিত হিত্তিতে প্যানেলভুক্তির মেয়াদ নয়মাস করা হবে।
 - ঘ) কোন আইনজীবীর প্যানেলভুক্তির মেয়াদ নয়মাস করা না হলে তার দ্বারা পরিচালিত মামলাসমূহ NOC সহ ফেরত প্রেরণ করতে তিনি বাধ্য থাকবেন।
- ২) নতুন আইনজীবী প্যানেলভুক্তির ক্ষেত্রেঃ
 - ক) অন্য কোন ব্যাংক বা প্রতিষ্ঠানে প্রতিনিয়ত নিম্ন আসলতে ও উক্ত আসলতে তাঁর পরিচালনাময়ী মামলা নিষ্পত্তির বিবৃত ও বছরের শেষ তারীখ পরিসংখ্যান (যদি থাকে), যাতে মামলার নম্বর, পরিচালনাময়ী মামলার সংখ্যা ও নিষ্পত্তির সংখ্যা উল্লেখ থাকবে এবং উক্ত বিবরণী স্ট্রেট্ট ব্যাংক শাখা/শাখার নিয়ন্ত্রণকর্তা অফিস/কার্যালয় প্রধান কর্তৃক প্রত্যাহারকৃত হতে হবে।
 - খ) আমরা প্রার্থীরা বাধ্যতামূলক পরিচালক বরগের প্যানেলভুক্তির জন্য লিখিত আবেদনপত্র ২৬/০২/২০২২খ্রিঃ তারিখের মধ্যে প্রাপ্ত কার্যালয়ের আইন বিভাগে (৩৭/এ, সফোব বিআ টাওয়ার (৭ম তলা), লিফটশা বাট, ঢাকা-১০০০) সরাসরি/ভাটকাযোগ্য দাখিল করবেন।
 - গ) নিম্নোক্ত কমিটি কর্তৃক প্রার্থীগণের আবেদনপত্র ও সনদেত কাগজপত্র যাচাই-বছাই পূর্বক আইনজীবীগণকে প্যানেলভুক্তির জন্য মনোনীত করা হবে।
 - ঘ) নিম্নোক্ত কমিটির সুপারিশসহ সকল নির্ধারিত প্রার্থীদের প্যানেলভুক্তির প্রস্তাব আইন বিভাগের মাধ্যমে পূর্বসে উপস্থাপন করা হবে। পূর্বসে অনুমোদনের পর প্রার্থীদের নিম্নোক্ত প্রধান কার্যালয়ের আইন বিভাগের মাধ্যমে ইস্যু করা হবে।
 - ৬) প্যানেলভুক্তির জন্য চুক্তিবদ্ধকৃত মেমোরীভ প্রার্থীগণকে নিম্নোক্ত প্রার্থীর পর পূর্ব কর্তৃক অনুমোদিত আইনজীবী প্যানেলভুক্তির নীতিমালা-২০২২ ও মামলা পরিচালনার নিয়ন্ত্রণকর্তা ২০১৪ এবং উভয়ের সনদ শর্তাবলী পরিপালনে সনদ আসলে মর্মে সনদিত দাখিল করতে হবে। অন্যথায় প্যানেলভুক্তি বাতিল করে পণ্য হবে।
 - ৭) ব্যাংক কর্তৃপক্ষ যেকোন আবেদনপত্র গ্রহণ বা বাতিল করার অধিকার সংরক্ষণ করেন।

কর্তা মোঃ ওয়াদিউল ইসলাম

মহোত্তরাধিকার

আইন বিভাগ

নং-এক/অপবি/প্রশাসন/২০২২/০৪

তারিখঃ-২৪/৬

SAMIRA’S second innings

“To be honest, my fans are my greatest inspiration,” she shared. “Although I was fascinated with acting, I was unsure about making it my focus.”

SHARMIN JOYA

Talented actress Samira Khan Mahi began her journey in the industry through modelling. She was the first runner-up of Rang RTV 20 20 Colours Model Search-2014. Until 2020, she endorsed popular brands and participated in fashion shows, alongside acting in a few television projects.

Now, she is completely focused on television. In the last six months, she has appeared in more than 30 fictions, becoming a popular face on the small screen.

In a candid conversation with The Daily Star, she shared spoke about her upcoming projects for Valentine’s Day and more.

“I was overwhelmed with the warm reception from my fans, and I feel lucky that my path has been quite smooth.” Her appearance in season one of the Bongo original series, “Girls’ Squad” earned her much praise. “Very soon, we will be starting season 2 of the series,” she informs.

Since modelling and acting are completely different from one another, she wanted to prepare herself before becoming an actress. Thus, she took the time during the pandemic to learn more about acting.

“To be honest, my fans are my greatest inspiration,” she shared. “Although I was fascinated with acting, I was unsure about making it my focus.” She also mentions that she is very connected with her fans.

In the second innings of her television career, she began working with renowned directors like Mostofa Kamal Raz, Jakaria Showkhin, and Imraul Rafat among others.

This Valentine’s Day, she will be seen in Shafayet Mansoor Rana’s “Black Box” opposite Yash Rohan.

“I could not shoot all the productions I took up for Valentine’s Day, since I was diagnosed with Covid-19,” she shares. “However, I have worked in five projects for Valentine’s Day, including one with Mosharraf Karim and two with Musfiq R Farhan.” These projects are for television and YouTube.

She will be seen in “Frooto Love Express Season 7”, along with Salman Muqtadir.

The beautiful actress is in talks for a female-centric project, to be produced by OTT platform Chorki. She is also gearing up for a web series with director Imraul Rafat.

“So far, I have been working in many projects, I need to complete them and afterwards, I will be more selective about scripts,” she concludes.



Closeup ‘Kache Ashar Didhahin Golpo’ coming this Valentine’s Day

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Keeping up with Valentine’s Day tradition, Closeup will bring their much anticipated tele-fictions in “Kache Ashar Didhahin Golpo”. Three short films will be aired on 8 pm on Valentine’s day,



spanning 16 private television channels. “Nice to Meet You”, directed by Rasel Sikder, stars Mumtazheena Chowdhury Toya and Tamim Mridha.

Amitabh Reza Chowdhury directorial “Phagun Theke Phagune” will feature Safa Kabir and Sudip Biswas Deep in the lead roles.

Sunerah Binte Kamal and Irfan Sajjad will star in Raka Noshin Nower’s “Ar Thekona Durey”, written by Nadim Mahmud Sotej.

‘SHOSHURBARI ZINDABAD 2’ to premiere in New York

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Bappy Chowdhury and Apu Biswas starrer “Shoshurbari Zindabad 2” will release on February 11. The film will premiere in New York’s Bombay theatre, as confirmed by the actor himself.



“It is a great privilege for me that my work is on display in New York,” says Bappy, who is confident that it will be a big hit.

Apu Biswas is excited for the project as well. “The film will spread love across theatres in Valentine’s week,” she says. “Shoshurbari Zindabad 2”, directed

by Debashish Biswas, is eminent late actor Sadek Bachchu’s final film.

The music for the film has been directed by another late legend, Ahmed Imtiaz Bulbul. Kumar Sanu, Akash Sen, Imran and Liza have given voice for the film’s soundtrack.

COUNTRYWIDE

North Bengal Museum receives ancient statue of mythical Nandi

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Lalmonirhat

Kurigram police has formally handed an ancient stone statue of a bull, recovered from the ruined site of a Shiva temple in Kurigram’s Nageshwari upazila in July last year, to the North Bengal Museum.

Kurigram Superintendent of Police (SP) Syeda Jannat Ara handed over the antique statue, weighing around 20 kilograms, to SM Abraham Lincoln, founding chairman of the museum, at the museum premises in Natuan Shahar area.

According to the police, a local farmer recovered the stone statue, which is 13 inches long and 5.5 inches wide, from the debris at Gonsair Bhita village on July 10 last year.

Following a court order on February 7, the stone statue of a bull was handed to the museum authorities yesterday noon, Sub Inspector (SI) of Nageshwari Police Station Anwarul Islam said.

Locals said farmer Sridhar Chandra recovered the reddish-white statue while he was collecting brick pieces from the ruins of the Shiva temple.

The matter was later reported to the local



police, who recovered the antique from Sridhar’s house the same night, they informed.

Centenarian Madhusudan Sarkar of the village said in his childhood he had seen an ancient temple made of bricks and rubble.

There was a ditch from the temple to the adjacent Kashirdara river that has a brick-built ghat on its bank.

He had heard from his grandfather that the area was once overgrown with bushes, he said, adding that a devotee, whom locals used to call Gonsai, built a temple on the bank of Kashirdara and set up a ‘Shiva Linga’ there.

Later, the temple became known as Gonsair arena and the village is named as Gonsair Bhita.

Development project chokes canal

Boro cultivation uncertain



Boro cultivation on 5,500 hectares of land in Brahmanbaria’s Sarail upazila is uncertain due to filling up of an important canal. The canal has been choked by the contracting firm to facilitate the development work of Ashuganj-Akhaura four-lane national highway.

PHOTO: STAR

MASUK HRIDOY, Brahmanbaria.

Cultivation of Boro on about 5,500 hectares of land in the current season seems uncertain due to the filling up of an important canal for a development project in Sarail upazila of Brahmanbaria.

Due to the up-gradation of 50.58 km-long road from Ashuganj river port to Akhaura land port to four lanes, 11km-long canal from Ashuganj to Sarail Bishwa road intersection has been filled up resulting in complete cessation of water supply to 5,500 hectares of land.

As a result, 20 thousand farmers of 15 villages in the upazila have been spending their days amidst grave uncertainty over Boro cultivation.

Consequently, it was not possible to release water from ‘Ashuganj Sabuj Prokolpo’, one of the largest irrigation projects in the country. The water of the project, which would reach the

farmlands through the canal, used to be released at the beginning of January every year.

Due to lack of water, seedbeds are turning red and paddy saplings are drying up, farmers said.

Farmers incurred losses last year and this year the situation is worse, they said. While visiting the area, it was seen that the trace of the canal was difficult to locate.

The irrigation crisis is hampering their Boro cultivation as water has not come to the canal though the cultivation season is about to over, they said.

They alleged that the contracting farm of the development project – Mumbai-based Afcons Infrastructure

Limited – did not dig an alternative canal although it had been stipulated in the contract.

Devdas Singh Roy, president of Bangladesh Krishak Samity, Sarail upazila unit, said the possibility of Boro production in the upazila this year is thin.

The poor farmers have been worst hit due to the cessation of irrigation, he said, adding that a memorandum was submitted to the deputy commissioner in this regard.

In 2021, water flow was so low that one month into planting paddy cracks appeared in the dried up lands.

Farmers incurred losses last year and this year the situation is worse, they said. While visiting the area, it was seen that the trace of the canal was difficult to locate.

Sudhan Mia, a farmer of Shabbazpur village, said “Time is running fast but still we are not getting water. Thousands

of bighas of land are lying barren due to lack of water.”

Aftab Mia, a resident of Islamabad village in the upazila, said, “There is no water in the canal yet. I am in big trouble as the seedbed is becoming dry.”

Upazila Agriculture officer Ekramul Haque said, “If seedlings cannot be planted within the next 10 days, the seedbeds will be damaged. Farmers can’t install shallow power pumps in such a short period.”

Rubayed Foyosal Al Masum, executive engineer of the Bangladesh Agricultural Development Corporation (BADC) in Brahmanbaria said the contracting firm has choked the canal.

“We are digging the soil with excavators. Farmers may avail water in the next four or five days, but the flow will be low. Next year, an RCC canal having 4.5 meters width and 2.5 meters height will be constructed to keep the water flow normal,” he assured.



গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার
প্রকল্প পরিচালকের দপ্তর
বাংলাদেশ রেলওয়ের ১০০টি মিটারগেজ
যাত্রীবাহী গাড়ী পুনর্বাসন শীর্ষক প্রকল্প (২য় পর্যায়)
পাহাড়তলী, চট্টগ্রাম-৪২০২।
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নথি নং: ৫৪.০১.১৫৪৩.৪৬০.০৭.০০১.২১-১৭ তারিখ: ০৩/০২/২০২২ খ্রিষ্টাব্দ।




ই-জিপি টেন্ডার নোটিশের সংশোধনী
পরিচালক (ইনভেস্টমেন্ট কন্ট্রোল), বাংলাদেশ রেলওয়ে, পাহাড়তলী কর্তৃক বাংলাদেশ রেলওয়ের ১০০টি মিটারগেজ যাত্রীবাহী ক্যারেজ পুনর্বাসন শীর্ষক প্রকল্প (২য় পর্যায়) এর দরপত্র সমূহ National Electronic Government Procurement Portal (<https://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) এ আহ্বান করা হয়েছে। উক্ত ই-জিপি টেন্ডার নোটিশের ক্রমিক-০৪ এর সংশোধনী নিম্নোক্তভাবে জারী করা হল।


Sl No	Reference	For	Read
04	Tender ID and Case No	575279, 54.01.1543.460.07.026.21	631972, 54.01.1543.460.07.080.21

(প্রকৌ: মোঃ আনোয়ারুল ইসলাম)
পরিচালক (ইনভেস্টমেন্ট কন্ট্রোল)
প্রকল্প পরিচালকের পক্ষে
বাংলাদেশ রেলওয়ে, পাহাড়তলী, চট্টগ্রাম।

এস (২২) (৪১)
GD-251



বাংলাদেশ কেমিক্যাল ইন্ডাস্ট্রিজ কর্পোরেশন
Bangladesh Chemical Industries Corporation
BCIC Bhaban, 30-31, Dilkusha CA, Dhaka-1000, Bangladesh
CABLE: "CHEMICORP" TELEX: 632216 BCIC BJ, FAX: 880-2-9564120, PHONE: PABX: 9559281-2, 9562140-1, www.bcic.gov.bd
সূত্র নং-হিসাব/বহিঃনিরীক্ষা/৩৬.০১.০১১.০২.০৮.১০০১.২০২২.০০১৭ তারিখঃ ০৭-০২-২০২২খ্রিঃ



Request for Expressions of Interest (EOI)
বাংলাদেশ কেমিক্যাল ইন্ডাস্ট্রিজ কর্পোরেশন (বিসিআইসি) নিয়ন্ত্রণাধীন ১০(দশ)টি চালু কারখানা/প্রতিষ্ঠান এ যুগ্ম-নিরীক্ষক ও ৮(আট)টি বন্ধ কারখানা/প্রতিষ্ঠানে একক নিরীক্ষক হিসেবে ২০২১-২২, ২০২২-২৩ ও ২০২৩-২৪ এ ও(তিন) অর্থবছরের জন্য এবং বিসিআইসি কর্তৃক আমদানীকৃত সারের হিসাব (Trade Gap) নিরীক্ষার জন্য (২০২২-২৩ অর্থবছরের) একক নিরীক্ষক হিসেবে পিপিআর-২০০৮ অনুসরণে উন্মুক্ত দরপত্র পদ্ধতি (OTM) অবলম্বনে চার্টার্ড এ্যাকাউন্ট্যান্টস ফার্ম নিয়োগ দানের নিমিত্ত নিম্নরূপ শর্তে Request for Expressions of Interest (EOI) আহ্বান করা যাচ্ছেঃ

১.	মন্ত্রণালয়	শিল্প মন্ত্রণালয়।
২.	সেবা গ্রহণকারী প্রতিষ্ঠানের নাম	বিসিআইসি'র নিয়ন্ত্রণাধীন কারখানা।
৩.	প্রস্তাব পদ্ধতি	Quality & Cost Based Selection (QCBS).
৪.	অর্থের উৎস	বিসিআইসি ও কারখানার নিজস্ব তহবিল।
৫.	প্রস্তাবপত্রের সূত্র নং ও তারিখঃ	হিসাব/বহিঃনিরীক্ষা/৩৬.০১.০১১.০২.০৮.১০০১.২০২২.০০১৭ তারিখঃ ০৭-০২-২০২২খ্রিঃ
৬.	প্রস্তাবের বিবরণ	বিসিআইসি'র নিয়ন্ত্রণাধীন ১০(দশ)টি চালু কারখানা/প্রতিষ্ঠান এ যুগ্ম-নিরীক্ষক ও ৮(আট)টি বন্ধ কারখানায় একক নিরীক্ষক হিসেবে ২০২১-২২, ২০২২-২৩ ও ২০২৩-২৪ এ ও(তিন) অর্থবছরের জন্য এবং বিসিআইসি কর্তৃক আমদানীকৃত সারের হিসাব (Trade Gap) নিরীক্ষার জন্য (২০২২-২৩ অর্থবছরের) একক নিরীক্ষক হিসেবে চার্টার্ড এ্যাকাউন্ট্যান্টস ফার্ম নিয়োগ।
৭.	প্রস্তাব দলিল বিক্রি শুরু ও শেষ হওয়ার তারিখ ও সময়	প্রতিকায় বিজ্ঞপ্তি প্রকাশের পর হতে ২৭/০২/২০২২খ্রিঃ অফিস সময় পর্যন্ত।
৮.	প্রস্তাব দাখিলের শেষ তারিখ ও সময়	২৮-০২-২০২২খ্রিঃ সময় সকাল ১১.৩০ ঘটিকা।
৯.	প্রস্তাব দলিল খোলার তারিখ ও সময়	২৮-০২-২০২২খ্রিঃ সময় সকাল ১১.৪৫ ঘটিকা।
১০.	প্রস্তাব দলিল প্রাপ্তির স্থান (প্রধান কার্যালয়)	হিসাব নিয়ন্ত্রক, বিসিআইসি, বিসিআইসি ভবন (৭ম তলা), ৩০-৩১, দিলকুশা বা/এ, ঢাকা-১০০০।
১১.	প্রস্তাবের মেয়াদ	প্রস্তাব দলিল খোলার দিন হতে ১২০ দিন।পিপিআর-২০০৮ বিধি ১৯(১) এবং ১১৭(১০)।
১২.	প্রস্তাব জমা দেওয়ার স্থান ও ঠিকানা	হিসাব নিয়ন্ত্রক, বিসিআইসি, বিসিআইসি ভবন (৭ম তলা), ৩০-৩১, দিলকুশা বা/এ, ঢাকা-১০০০ এ রক্ষিত বস্ত্রে।
১৩.	হিসাব নিয়ন্ত্রক, বিসিআইসি, বিসিআইসি ভবন (৭ম তলা), ৩০-৩১, দিলকুশা বা/এ, ঢাকা-১০০০। প্রস্তাব দাতাদের উপস্থিতিতে (যদি কেহ উপস্থিত থাকেন)।	
১৪.	প্রস্তাব দাতাদের যোগ্যতা	প্রস্তাব দলিলে বর্ণিত প্রয়োজনীয় কাগজপত্রাদি দাখিল করতে হবে।
১৫.	প্রস্তাব দলিলের মূল্য	১,০০০/- (এক হাজার) টাকা মাত্র (নগদ মূল্যে)।
১৬.	প্রস্তাব আহ্বানকারী কর্মকর্তার পদবী	হিসাব নিয়ন্ত্রক, বিসিআইসি, ঢাকা।
১৭.	প্রস্তাব আহ্বানকারী কর্মকর্তার ঠিকানা	হিসাব নিয়ন্ত্রক, বিসিআইসি, বিসিআইসি ভবন (৭ম তলা), ৩০-৩১, দিলকুশা বা/এ, ঢাকা-১০০০।
১৮.	প্রস্তাব আহ্বানকারী কর্মকর্তার যোগাযোগ মাধ্যম	টেলিফোনঃ ০২ ২২ ৩৩ ৫৯ ৯৮৩, ০২ ২২ ৩৩ ৮৪ ৬১২
১৯.	বিশেষ নির্দেশাবলী	বিসিআইসি কর্তৃপক্ষ কোন কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতিরেকেই যে কোন প্রস্তাব গ্রহণ ও বাতিল করার ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করে।

বিসিআইসি-৩৩৯ তাং-৭.২.২২
জিডি-২৩১

এস.এম. সোহেল আহাম্মদ
হিসাব নিয়ন্ত্রক

Independents outdo

FROM PAGE 16
and independents in 1,778.
According to the EC, elections to the chairman posts of 369 were not required as candidates were elected unopposed and of them, 368 were AL ticket holders.
Besides, 994 UP members and 403 candidates for women's reserved seats were also elected uncontested.
In this year's election, a total of 369 chairmen were elected uncontested in the six phases. It was much higher than the 2016 UP poll's 207.
This year's UP polls witnessed violence across the country.
According to media reports, at least 101 people have so far been killed and several hundred injured in violence centring the polls.

Momentous phase

FROM PAGE 16
Maulana Tarkabagish, Khairat Hossain and Anwara Khatoun with all congress members of the assembly walked out. The army was then called out and they started patrolling the streets.
The following day, more people were killed by the army.
The deceased included a Dhaka High Court clerk and a rickshaw-puller. The Central State Language Action Committee was dissolved on the basis of the resolution of the committee adopted earlier. The leadership was taken over by the Youth League and university students, who raised funds, hired microphones and placed them on the roofs of the halls to address others continuously.
Ministers took shelter in the cantonment area and for about a week, police oppression continued both in Dhaka and Narayanganj.
The leaders of the movement in Dhaka went underground, but they were arrested within a week.
With that, the movement entered the second phase. A new action committee was formed with Ataur Rahman Khan as its convener.
Kamruddin Ahmad actively participated in the Language Movement in 1948. In 1952, he was a member of the All-party State Language Action Committee.
This is an abridged version of Kamruddin Ahmad's article published in The Morning News on February 21, 1972.

Taiwan welcomes arms sale from US


AFP, Taipei

Taiwan yesterday thanked the United States for selling up to \$100 million worth of equipment and services to support its air and missile defence systems, as China ramps up incursions of warplanes into the island's air defence zone.
Self-ruled democratic Taiwan lives under constant threat of invasion by authoritarian China, which views the island as part of its territory to be seized one day -- by force if necessary.



'I'm sorry' Australia PM apologises for abuse, bullying in parliament

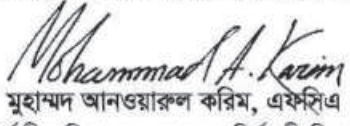
AFP, Sydney

Australia's prime minister apologised for widespread sexual harassment, abuse and bullying of political staff yesterday, a year after a high-profile rape allegation rocked the country's parliament.
Addressing MPs, Scott Morrison apologised directly to former staffer who said she was raped by a male colleague in a minister's office in 2019.
"I'm sorry to Ms Higgins for the terrible things that took place here," Morrison said describing a decades-long culture of abuse in the corridors of power.
"But I am sorry for far more than that, for all of those who came before Higgins, endured the same."



ফাইন্যান্সিয়াল রিপোর্টিং কাউন্সিল (এফআরসি)
অর্থ বিভাগ, অর্থ মন্ত্রণালয়
পর্যটন ভবন-৯ম তলা
প্লট নং- ই-৫, সি/১, পশ্চিম আগারগাঁও
শেরে বাংলা নগর প্রশাসনিক এলাকা, ঢাকা-১২০৭
নং ১৮৫/এফআরসি/এসএস/২০২২/১২৫ তারিখঃ ৭ ফেব্রুয়ারি, ২০২২



সংবিধিবদ্ধ কর্তৃপক্ষ এবং রাষ্ট্রীয় মালিকানাধীন বাণিজ্যিক প্রতিষ্ঠানসমূহের আর্থিক প্রতিবেদন প্রস্তুতকরণে প্রয়োজ্য মানদণ্ড এবং কাঠামো চূড়ান্তকরণে প্রাক-প্রকাশনা বিজ্ঞপ্তি
ফাইন্যান্সিয়াল রিপোর্টিং আইন (এফআরএ ২০১৫) এর ধারা ২(৮)(খ) অনুযায়ী উপরোল্লিখিত প্রতিষ্ঠানসমূহ যারা জনস্বার্থ সংস্থার সংজ্ঞার অন্তর্ভুক্ত যেমন, রাষ্ট্রায়ত্ত্ব বাণিজ্যিক প্রতিষ্ঠান, কর্পোরেশন, রাষ্ট্রায়ত্ত্ব ব্যাংক, কাউন্সিল, বোর্ড, ইনস্টিটিউট, কমিশন, ট্রাস্ট, বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়, কলেজ, ফাউন্ডেশন, কর্তৃপক্ষ, পরিষদ, একাডেমি ইত্যাদি প্রতিষ্ঠানসমূহের প্রতিষ্ঠা সংক্রান্ত আইন এবং এফআরএ ২০১৫ এর ধারা ৪০, ৪০ (৪), ৪৪ অনুযায়ী, "প্রতিষ্ঠানসমূহ সরকার কর্তৃক নির্ধারিত পদ্ধতিতে, যথাযথভাবে উহার হিসাবরক্ষণ এবং হিসাব বিবরণী প্রস্তুত করিবে।"
এই লক্ষ্যে এফআরসি বিভিন্ন সংবিধিবদ্ধ কর্তৃপক্ষ এবং রাষ্ট্রীয় মালিকানাধীন বাণিজ্যিক প্রতিষ্ঠানসমূহের কার্যাবলী এবং আর্থিক বিষয়াদির বিবেচনায় পাঁচ স্তরের খসড়া আর্থিক প্রতিবেদন কাঠামো ও এতদসংক্রান্ত খসড়া মানদণ্ডসমূহ প্রণয়ন করে প্রয়োজ্য প্রতিষ্ঠানসমূহের তালিকা এবং উক্ত প্রতিষ্ঠানের জন্য প্রয়োজ্য মানদণ্ড, কাঠামো এবং স্তর নির্ধারণ করেছে। আর্থিক কাঠামো, মানদণ্ড এবং আনুষঙ্গিক বিষয়াদির খসড়া এক খণ্ডে পিডিএফ আকারে এফআরসি ওয়েবসাইটে (www.frcbd.org) Public Sector Entity Financial Reporting Framework ('PSE FRF') শিরোনামে প্রকাশ করা হয়েছে। সংশ্লিষ্ট মানদণ্ড, আর্থিক কাঠামো, স্তর ইত্যাদি বিষয়ে সম্পূর্ণ এবং অগ্রাহ্য প্রতিষ্ঠান বা ব্যক্তিগণের কোন আপত্তি বা মন্তব্য থাকলে তা এই বিজ্ঞপ্তির তারিখ হতে ৬০ দিনের মধ্যে নিম্নস্বাক্ষরকারীর নিকট প্রেরণের অনুরোধ করা হলো।

মুহাম্মদ আনওয়ারুল করিম, এফসিএ
নির্বাহী পরিচালক - মানদণ্ড নির্ধারণী বিভাগ
টেলিফোনঃ +৮৮০২-৪১০২৪৬৮৫
ই-মেইলঃ ed.ss@frcbd.org
admin@frcbd.org
জিডি-২৪৫



Janata Bank Limited
Head Office
Information & Communications Technology Department-System
110, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka-1000
Tel: +02223356514, Fax: 88-02-9564644, Telex: 675840 JBD BJ
Website: www.jb.com.bd
Invitation for Re-Tender
Re-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<https://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of following goods below:

Tender ID	Invitation Reference No.	Tender Description	Tender Publish Date & Time	Tender Closing Date & Time
657329	JBL/ICTD-S/ Proc-242/Retender/ OTM-01/Com-Item/2022	Procurement of 80 (Eighty) Pieces of Computer Workstation, 15 (Fifteen) Pieces of Laptop, 20 (Twenty) Pieces of Scanner and 45 (Forty Five) Pieces of Laser Printer (Supply, Installation & Commissioning) for Janata Bank Limited on turn-key basis following Open Tendering Method.	09/02/2022 12:00 PM	20/02/2022

This is an online tender, where only e-Tenders 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 (<https://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required. Further information and guidelines are available in the national e-GP portal and from e-GP Help Desk (Email: helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

Md. Abdul Alim Khan
Deputy General Manager






Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Local Government Engineering Department
Office of the Executive Engineer
Upazila: Keshabpur, District: Jashore
www.lged.gov.bd
Memo No. 46.02.4138.000.07.001.18.58
e-Tender Notice: 02/2021-22
e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for

SL No.	Package No.	e-TID No.	Tender method	Last date & time of selling document	Last date & time of submission document
1.	2	3	4	5	6
1.	e-Tender/ADP/KES/2021-2022/W.01	653484	LTM	06-03-2022 (2.00pm)	07-03-2022 (4.00pm)
2.	e-Tender/ADP/KES/2021-2022/W.02	653486	LTM	06-03-2022 (2.00pm)	07-03-2022 (4.00pm)
3.	e-Tender/ADP/KES/2021-2022/W.03	653487	LTM	06-03-2022 (2.00pm)	07-03-2022 (4.00pm)
4.	e-Tender/ADP/KES/2021-2022/W.04	653488	LTM	06-03-2022 (2.00pm)	07-03-2022 (4.00pm)
5.	e-Tender/ADP/KES/2021-2022/W.05	653489	LTM	06-03-2022 (2.00pm)	07-03-2022 (4.00pm)
6.	e-Tender/ADP/KES/2021-2022/W.06	653490	LTM	06-03-2022 (2.00pm)	07-03-2022 (4.00pm)
7.	e-Tender/ADP/KES/2021-2022/W.07	653491	LTM	06-03-2022 (2.00pm)	07-03-2022 (4.00pm)
8.	e-Tender/ADP/KES/2021-2022/W.08	653493	LTM	06-03-2022 (2.00pm)	07-03-2022 (4.00pm)
9.	e-Tender/ADP/KES/2021-2022/W.09	653495	LTM	06-03-2022 (2.00pm)	07-03-2022 (4.00pm)
10.	e-Tender/ADP/KES/2021-2022/W.10	653494	LTM	06-03-2022 (2.00pm)	07-03-2022 (4.00pm)
11.	e-Tender/ADP/KES/2021-2022/W.11	653496	LTM	06-03-2022 (2.00pm)	07-03-2022 (4.00pm)
12.	e-Tender/ADP/KES/2021-2022/W.12	653497	LTM	06-03-2022 (2.00pm)	07-03-2022 (4.00pm)


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 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 up to **06-03-2022 at 2.00pm**.
Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and also from E-mail: ue.keshabpur@lged.gov.bd or call to **04226-56236**. For any queries interested tenderer are requested to communicate with the undersigned during office hours.

Md. Shaiful Islam Molla
Upazila Engineer
Keshabpur, Jashore
Phone: 04226-56236
Email: ue.keshabpur@lged.gov.bd





Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Director (CMSD)
Department of Health Services, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Dhaka
Tender for Goods (Multiple Lots)
Ref. No. CMSD/HSM-2115/ICT/2021-22/ICT/Proc-1/21
Dated: 08/02/2022



KEY INFORMATION					
1	Procurement method/document				
ICT Open					
FUNDING INFORMATION					
2	Source of funds				
3	Development partner				
Development Budget (Aid Grant/Credit)					
PARTICULAR INFORMATION					
4	Project/programme code				
5	Project/programme name				
6	Tender Package No.				
7	Tender package name				
8	Tender publication date				
9	Tender last selling date				
10	Tender closing date and time				
11	Tender opening date and time				
12	Name and address of the office(s)				
- Selling tender document (principal)					
Central Medical Stores Depot, 30, Shahid Taj Uddin Ahmed Swarani, Tejgaon, Dhaka. Tender documents will be delivered from the counter of CMSD to the tenderers or their local agent.					
- Selling tender document (others)					
CMSD					
- Receiving tender document					
Do					
- Opening tender document					
Do					
13	Place/date/time for pre-tender meeting				
Central Medical Stores Depot, 20/02/2022, 11:30am.					
INFORMATION FOR TENDERER					
14	Eligibility of tenderer				
15	Brief description of goods or works				
16	Brief description of related services				
17	Tender document price				
As mentioned in the tender document. Procurement of "Radiology Equipment" As per technical specification. BDT 4,000/- or US\$ 50.00 only in the form of a Pay Order from any schedule bank in Bangladesh.					
17	Lot No.	Identification	Location	Tender security amount in Taka	Completion time in weeks/months
	Lot-1	Procurement of "Radiology Equipment"	CMSD	BDT 10,00,000 or USD 11,750 or equivalent amount in freely convertible currency.	12 weeks following the date of contract signature, or the date of opening L/C, or the date of confirmation of the L/C.
	Lot-2	Procurement of "Radiology Equipment."	CMSD	BDT 13,00,000 or USD 15,300 or equivalent amount in freely convertible currency.	"Do"
	Lot-3	Procurement of "Radiology Equipment"	CMSD	BDT 40,000 or USD 470 or equivalent amount in freely convertible currency.	"Do"
PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS					
18	Name of official inviting tender	Mohammad Mukhlesur Rahman Sarker.			
19	Designation of official inviting tender	(Joint Secretary) Director, CMSD.			
20	Address of official inviting tender	30, Shaheed Tajuddin Ahmed Sharani, Tejgaon, Dhaka.			
21	Contact details of official inviting tender	Tel. No. 88-2-48115486 E-mail: cmsdstore@dhaka.net			
The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all tenders.					
GD-253					



Palestinians carry the body of a man, one of three killed by Israeli forces in the occupied West Bank city of Nablus, yesterday. Three Palestinians were killed by Israeli forces in the occupied West Bank city of Nablus today during what Israel described as an operation against a “terrorist cell”.

PHOTO: AFP

2008 ATTACKS
49 convicted
in India

AFP, Ahmedabad

India convicted 49 people yesterday over a 2008 attack in the western city of Ahmedabad that left dozens dead, in what perpetrators said was retaliation for earlier deadly communal violence.

The string of bombings killed 56 and wounded more than 200 others as shrapnel ripped through markets, buses and other public places in Gujarat state's commercial hub.

A group calling itself the Indian Mujahideen claimed responsibility, and said the act was revenge for 2002 religious riots in the area that left scores dead.

Nearly 80 people were charged but 28 were acquitted, prosecutor Amit Patel told reporters.

The remaining 49 defendants were all found guilty of murder and criminal conspiracy with sentencing to be issued on Wednesday, he added.

The marathon trial has lasted nearly a decade, with more than 1,100 witnesses called to testify. Proceedings were dragged out by procedural delays, including a legal battle by four of the accused to retract their confessions.

‘Talent first casualty
of dynastic politics’

Modi, in parliament, blames Congress for India’s woes

NDTV ONLINE

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi, blasting the Congress and the Gandhis in parliament yesterday, said “talent is the first casualty of dynastic politics” and listed how the country would have been different “if there were no Congress”.

The Congress walked out in the middle of the speech.

“The Congress’s problem is it has never thought beyond its dynasty. The biggest threats to democracy are dynastic parties. And when a family becomes paramount then the first casualty is talent,” Modi said in Rajya Sabha, replying to a debate on government policies.

He said Mahatma Gandhi wanted the Congress to be scrapped. “This was Mahatma Gandhi’s wish - he knew what would happen if they remained and said destroy this. If Gandhi’s wishes had been followed, India would have been free from nepotism,” he remarked.

“If, going by Gandhi’s wish, there were no Congress, there would be no stain of Emergency. Corruption would not have been institutionalised for decades. There would have been no casteism or regionalism. Sikhs would not have been massacred. There would not have been an exodus from Kashmir,” he added.

Hitting back at the Congress for accusing him of destroying federalism, Modi said the party had

a history of dismissing state governments. “They believed in discredit, destabilise, dismiss.”

He also commented that Congress “is trapped in the ideology of urban naxals”.

“That’s why their mentality is destructive. Urban naxals took advantage of the Congress and took over their minds.”

India, he said, is known as the “mother of democracy”, and democracy and debate was a tradition of centuries.

Congress thinks the country was born only in 1947. This mindset is harmful for the country as its policies have affected the country’s progress in the last 75 years. We will never learn lessons in democracy from those who trampled over democracy in 1975,” PM Modi said.

The Indian PM in his speech also accused the Congress of submitting to the Gandhi family. “Whenever anyone in the Congress has spoken against a particular family, the results have been there for all to see,” he said, referring to Sitaram Kesri, who was removed as party chief.

This is Modi’s second attack on opposition parties in two days. Speaking in the Lok Sabha on Monday, PM Modi didn’t pull any punches and blamed the Congress for not doing enough to help the poor or keep its promises. He also repeatedly invoked India’s civilizational unity and alleged that the Opposition was attempting to harm the country by pursuing the colonial goal of “divide and rule”.



At UN, Russia,
China call out
‘unilateral’
sanctions

AFP, United Nations

Russia, facing the threat of Western penalties over Ukraine, and China on Monday spoke out against what they called “unilateral” sanctions imposed by countries without the backing of the United Nations Security Council.

“Only Security Council sanctions are legal,” said Russia’s Deputy Ambassador to the UN Dmitry Polyanskiy.

But Polyanskiy denounced “unilateral” measures that hurt peace efforts and interfere with the sovereignty of nations, such as in Syria, Belarus, Cuba, Venezuela, Iran, Afghanistan, Burma.

For his part, China’s ambassador to the UN Zhang Jun said that “coercive unilateral sanctions were a major source of concern.”

UN sanctions are currently in place against 14 regimes around the world, affecting countries such as Libya, Yemen, Sudan and militant groups such as al-Qaeda and the Islamic State.

Covid test in 4 mins!

AFP, Beijing

Chinese scientists say they have developed a new coronavirus test that is accurate as a PCR lab test but gives results within four minutes. Polymerase chain reaction (PCR) tests are widely considered the most accurate and sensitive for the virus that causes Covid-19, but they usually take several hours. Researchers from Fudan University in Shanghai say they have a solution. In a peer-reviewed article published Monday in the journal Nature Biomedical Engineering, the team said their sensor -- which uses microelectronics to analyse genetic material from swabs -- can reduce the need for time-consuming Covid lab tests. The researchers said their method offers speed, ease of operation, high sensitivity and portability.

HORN OF AFRICA DROUGHT
13m face hunger

AFP, Nairobi

An estimated 13 million people in Kenya, Somalia and Ethiopia are facing severe hunger as the Horn of Africa experiences its worst drought in decades, the World Food Programme (WFP) said yesterday. Three consecutive rainy seasons have failed as the region has recorded its driest conditions since 1981, the UN agency said. The drought has destroyed crops and inflicted “abnormally” high livestock deaths, forcing rural families who rely on herding and farming to abandon their homes. Water and grazing land is in short supply and forecasts of below-average rainfall in coming months only threaten more misery, said Michael Dunford, WFP’s regional director in East Africa. WFP said \$327 million was required to respond to immediate needs over the next six months and support pastoral communities to become more resilient against recurring climate shocks.

‘Biden, Trump
harmed US’

REUTERS, Dubai

Iran’s Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali accused Joe Biden and Donald Trump of damaging the reputation of the United States in rare direct criticism of US presidents, Iran’s official IRNA news agency reported yesterday.

“These days, the US is being hit in ways it never computed. The two American presidents - the current and former heads of state - have joined hands to tarnish the image of the United States,” Khamenei said without elaborating. Iran and the United States resumed indirect talks in Vienna yesterday to revive a 2015 nuclear deal that former US Trump left in 2018. While the US State Department says such negotiations are entering their “final stretch”, Iranian officials have declared that part of their demands on sanctions removal have so far been left unaddressed in the Vienna talks.



\$10m for IS-K head

AFP, Washington

The United States on Monday offered a \$10-million reward for information leading to the “identification or location” of the leader of the Afghanistan regional chapter of the Islamic State group. According to Washington, Sanaullah Ghafari -- also known as Shahab al-Muhajir -- was appointed head of IS-K in June 2020 by the Islamic State group. IS-K is the Afghan offshoot of IS, which originated in Iraq and Syria.

PLASTIC POLLUTION IN OCEANS
WWF rings alarm
Calls for treaty to curb menace

AFP, Paris

Plastic has infiltrated all parts of the ocean and is now found “in the smallest plankton up to the largest whale” wildlife group WWF said yesterday, calling for urgent efforts to create an international treaty on plastics.

Tiny fragments of plastic have reached even the most remote and seemingly-pristine regions of the planet: it peppers Arctic sea ice and has been found inside fish in the deepest recesses of the ocean, the Mariana Trench.

There is no international agreement in place to address the problem, although delegates meeting in Nairobi for a UN environment meeting this month are expected to launch talks on a worldwide plastics treaty.

According to some estimates, between 19 and 23 million tonnes of plastic waste is washed into the world’s waterways every year, the WWF report said.

“In many places (we are) reaching some kind of saturation point for marine ecosystems, where we’re approaching levels that pose a significant threat,” said Eirik Lindebjerg, Global Plastics Policy Manager at WWF.

In some places there is a risk of “ecosystem collapse”, he said.

Many people have seen images of seabirds choking on plastic straws or turtles wrapped in discarded fishing nets, but he said the danger is across the entire marine food web. It “will affect not only the whale and the seal and the turtle, but huge fish stocks and the animals that depend on those”, he added.



People are tested at a mobile specimen collection station for Covid-19 in Hong Kong’s Prince Edward district yesterday, as authorities scrambled to ramp up testing capacity following a record high of new infections.

PHOTO: STAR

Government of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh

Local Government Engineering Department

Office of the Executive Engineer

Barisal

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শেখ হাসিনার মুদ্রা

গাম শহরের উদ্ভূতি

Memo No. 46.02.0600.000.07.068.17.594

Dated: 07.02.2022

e-Tender Notice-271-273/2021-2022

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

e-Tender No.	Package No.	Name of work	Last receiving date & time
271/ 2021-22	BJP/BAR/AGA/ DW-242	Improvement of BC road from Baluhar Abu Thaher Sarif’s Mosque to Barohazar Lutfor Member’s Bari road from Ch. 00m-1095m including 01 No. 0.600m x 0.625m U-drain Culvert at Ch. 700m under Agailjhara Upazila, District: Barishal. [Road ID No. 506025110] [Salvage Materials Cost: Tk. 2,08,153.00]. e-ID No. 656294	28-02-2022 Time: 12:00
272/ 2021-22	LGED/Bari/VRP/ Re-hab/21-22/ W-1945	Rehabilitation of Golla Monosha Mondir Connecting Road from Ch. 00m-530m under Agailjhara Upazila, District: Barishal. [Road ID 506025054]-e-ID No. 656569	28-02-2022 Time: 12:00
273/ 2021-22	LGED/Bari/VRP/ Re-hab/21-22/ W-1946	Rehabilitation of Golla Bazar-Rothkhola Bazar-Nonapukurpar-Bhadrapara (Taler Bazar-UZR) Road from Ch. 00m-1718m under Agailjhara Upazila, District: Barishal. [Road ID 506024008]. e-ID No. 656570	28-02-2022 Time: 12:00

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 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 17.00 on previous day of receiving tender.

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

GD-241

Executive Engineer
LGED, Barisal

Habitual revision of projects must stop

Govt should rethink how projects are planned and executed

We are alarmed to learn of the enormous cost citizens are having to pay for the habitual revision of ill-planned and ill-executed government projects. There is a real image now to be attached to this revising spree. According to a report by *The Daily Star*, if we put together all the additional allocations approved for revised projects in this fiscal year so far, it would be enough to fund the construction of two Padma Bridges (the bridge cost Tk 30,192 crore). That’s until February 8, when the Executive Committee of the National Economic Council (Ecneec) approved four project revisions, in addition to the 28 approved before, bringing the combined total of additional costs to nearly Tk 60,000 crore. That’s how much money being thrown down the drain simply because the government couldn’t ensure timely and smooth implementation of its development projects. Let that sink in.

We have repeatedly expressed concerns about this habitual revision of projects, particularly the implementation procedures of the ministries involved that lead to frequent time and cost overruns. Even Ecneec Chairperson and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina also expressed her dissatisfaction on several occasions, and gave clear directives to check this vicious cycle—including one that a project cannot be revised more than three times. But all warnings seem to be falling on deaf ears.

While the reasons for revisions may vary from one project to another, there are some common factors like absence of proper feasibility studies, complexities in land acquisition, and lengthy procurement process, according to experts and officials. The presence of these bottlenecks and others causes problems at every stage of the implementation, sometimes even before a project gets underway. For example, it takes at least two years to pass the development project proposal (DPP). Add to that delays in the bidding process. Due to the time taken to get the projects approved and started, the estimates based on which the proposals are prepared often become dated, necessitating additional funds. There can be unforeseeable challenges (like the outbreak of the pandemic) too, but most of the challenges faced are procedural. Throw corruption into the mix, and you have a problem that is not a problem for those profiting off it.

We think without fixing how the public authorities go about planning and implementing their projects, and without ensuring greater accountability every step of the way, we cannot get rid of this revision culture. As well as the extra money that citizens have to pay for this every year, there is another cost that is often ignored—prolonged public suffering. Considering all this, the government must take this problem without the seriousness it deserves and take prudent measures to enhance the implementation capabilities of the ministries involved and punish those responsible for the costly delays.

Watch out for ATM fraud

Police, banks must be vigilant against transnational scammers

IT’S disquieting to learn that a transnational syndicate is involved in stealing money from the ATMs of local banks. The Dhaka Metropolitan Police’s Counter Terrorism and Transnational Crime (CTTC) unit recently arrested some members of this syndicate, including its alleged mastermind Hakan Zamburkan, a Turkish citizen. Reportedly, he along with some Indian and Bangladeshi nationals have long been carrying out their fraudulent activities in the country. Hakan visited Bangladesh at least six times over the last five years. Last month, he went to several ATM booths of Eastern Bank Limited and tried to withdraw money about 84 times using cloned cards of at least 40 countries. However, his attempts were foiled by the anti-skimming technology installed by the bank.

In a confessional statement given by Hakan, the detailed procedure of how the gang operated was revealed. It was known that the gang had members in India, Pakistan, Mexico, Bulgaria, Bangladesh and Turkey. The CTTC investigation also found that Hakan, along with another Turkish national and two Bangladeshis, were arrested in India’s Assam in 2019 for stealing around Tk 10 lakh rupees through such fraudulence.

Since the first incident of ATM card fraud was reported in the country in 2016, several such incidents have come to light. In all the cases, the involvement of foreign nationals was found. They used not only cloned cards but also other advanced technologies to steal people’s money without leaving any trace. Reportedly, some Bangladeshi nationals also took training on cloning credit cards in foreign countries such as Russia.

We appreciate the efforts of the CTTC unit so far and hope that all other members of the gang will soon be apprehended. Since Hakan is one of the masterminds of this international ATM card skimming gang, police should immediately request other countries as well as the Interpol to provide them necessary information on their operations, which will help prevent such incidents in the future.

Meanwhile, all our banks must have the modern technologies needed to foil any such attempts of ATM fraud. The latest attempt to steal money from the ATMs of Eastern Bank Limited failed only because it had a robust security system in place. All our banks should learn from this incident and protect themselves by installing anti-malware and anti-skimming systems and by addressing any existing system vulnerabilities.

Schools should remain open—then what?



Dr Manzoor Ahmed is professor emeritus at Brac University, chair of Bangladesh ECD Network and vice chair of CAMPE Council.

MANZOOR AHMED

SCHOOLS re-opened on September 12 last year on a limited basis after 542 days of closure. The wave of the new Omicron variant prompted another shut-down on January 21 this year, which has now been extended to February 21. Educationists, most health experts and UNICEF have argued that the risks of keeping schools closed are far greater than the benefits of protecting students by keeping them away from school. But not much is being said about what should happen in schools if they are kept open. It is not clear what will be done to help children overcome the serious learning loss that places most of them in what has been called a “generational catastrophe.”

Is it hyperbolic to say the new generation—students currently at different levels of education—is facing an educational disaster that will affect them and the nation for a generation? Indermit Gill, senior fellow at Brookings Institution, and Jaime Saavedra, senior director at World Bank, wrote recently that learning poverty, defined as 10-year-olds not acquiring basic reading skills, is likely to increase dramatically due to the educational impact of the pandemic. The average low- or middle-income country’s learning poverty level is likely to increase from the pre-Covid level of 53 percent to 70 percent, “unless swift and bold action is taken.” (Brookings, “We are losing a generation,” January 28, 2022.)

From a typical Bangladeshi student’s perspective, an 8-year-old who was in Class Three at the beginning of the pandemic in March 2020 attended Class Four when schools re-opened on September 12, 2021 and was promoted to Class Five at age 10 in January this year. The child barely received any classroom instruction during this whole period. It is well-recognised that the efforts to engage students in learning through a distanced mode, by assigning homework or through teachers’ contact, though commendable as initiatives, were not of much help for the large majority of students. The typical student is now expected to receive lessons from their Class Five syllabus, for which they are not ready. The exam system—based essentially on memorising notebooks and guidebooks, and being encouraged by class teachers



▲ Is it hyperbolic to say the new generation is facing an educational disaster that will affect them and the nation for a generation?

PHOTO: STAR

Unfortunately, the authorities paid no heed to these ideas and insisted on sticking to their plan of going back to the pre-Covid normal routine, with not much success so far.

and private tutors—will probably let students continue to be promoted to higher classes. Their learning deficits will continue to accumulate and widen. They will become school graduates with certificates but without the expected basic competencies for life, further education and work—an unwanted outcome for children and the nation.

Anticipating the problem, concerned educationists made four-point recommendations for learning recovery when schools reopened in September. These included: a) rapid assessment of grade-level readiness of students in Bangla and math at the primary school level and Bangla, English, math and science at the secondary level; b) helping schools and teachers to implement an intensive and accelerated remedial programme for these core subjects and foregoing the public exams at the end of Classes Five and Eight; c) guiding and assisting teachers to conduct the remedial lessons with online and in-person support; and d) extending the 2021 school year till June 2022 and changing the school calendar permanently as part of a two-to-three-year recovery plan.

Unfortunately, the authorities paid no heed to these ideas and insisted on sticking to their plan of going back to the pre-Covid normal routine, with not much success so far. The proposed learning recovery strategy remains relevant and necessary. The profound impact of the pandemic—which is not yet over—cannot just be ignored.

The difficulties are compounded by a pandemic of indecision and inefficiency. The decision to bring students of 12 to 17 years under the vaccine coverage came late. The bureaucratic hurdles of registration, documentation requirements, and the inadequate logistics of the inoculation being available in an accessible way in each institution still leave most students without vaccines.

This should have been a priority when schools opened in September. The schools are not better prepared today than a year ago with a systematic plan to apply a blended approach of combining digital and in-person learning. The inefficiency and indecision perhaps also have led to decision-makers ignoring the recovery recommendations.

For the sake of efficient, timely, and crisis-solving response to this unprecedented situation, it has to be first admitted that a real crisis exists that requires imaginative action. Three points warrant attention in a crisis-response mode.

First, in the crisis-response mode, some regular normal activities will have to be put on the back-burner to give priority to the learning recovery plan consisting of the key elements noted above. The curriculum revision and rolling out of the new curriculum, for instance, should be put on hold. The curriculum board instead needs to concentrate on the recovery plan, such as the tools for rapid assessment of core competencies, designing a remedial plan and assisting schools and teachers to implement it. At the same time, as much as possible, urgent actions should be formulated keeping in view the longer-term goals. The board should work with academia and education-focused NGOs in this effort.

Secondly, the recovery plan has to be customised for different levels of education—early childhood and preschool, primary, secondary, colleges and university. There are also specific needs for technical and vocational education, non-formal education, madrasa education and private universities. Needs and prospects for the blended approach should be different for each of these levels and types.

Thirdly, the crisis responses, to be designed in a coordinated and holistic manner and with an eye for longer-term goals, are better done through a transparent and participatory mechanism. Main stakeholders—NGOs, academia, teachers’ organisations, parents—should be involved in the mechanism at national and local levels. A communicative approach should help keep the public informed of the goals and strategies, and the process of decision-making.

The critical question is how the students’ presence in schools—at some risk to their health, and to the health of their teachers and families—can be made worthwhile for students from the point-of-view of learning recovery and students’ social and emotional wellbeing.

Rules for Renaming

Saul Levmore is a professor and former dean at the University of Chicago Law School.

Carolyn Baker Ringel is an attorney with The Second Step, a domestic violence organisation.

SAUL LEVMORE and CAROLYN BAKER RINGEL

WHEN Shakespeare wrote, “What’s in a name? That which we call a rose by any other name would smell as sweet,” he meant that the essence of something is not determined by its label. Calling a plum a pear does not make it taste any different.

Names do have some meaning, of course. The names of Civil War generals, ex-presidents, the Sacklers (of opioid fame), and the Washington, DC, football team have been removed, refused, challenged, or changed. No reasonable person today would take on the name Hider, or even Adolf for that matter.

Renaming controversies are everywhere nowadays. Battles over the names of teams and schools are especially intense. There have been many renamings of college and professional sports teams in the United States, in addition to disputes over the names attached to public buildings, streets, and other spaces. In many cases, people were attached to (or simply accustomed to) an old name—usually a Native American reference—that younger generations found upsetting.

In 2017, Yale University renamed Calhoun College because Senator John C. Calhoun’s support of states’ rights, slavery, and the nullification of federal law in the 1800s was found to be too offensive to be attached to such an important place. The college now carries the name of a pathbreaking computer scientist: Grace Murray Hopper.

Similarly, in 2020, Princeton University’s Woodrow Wilson School became the Princeton School of Public and International Affairs.

By contrast, the name of the US capital seems secure, even though George



▲ A “Rosa Parks Street” sign is seen on Wilson Street, in Minneapolis, Glasgow, on June 8, 2020 in the aftermath of protests against the death of George Floyd.

PHOTO: REUTERS

Washington was a slave owner. Indeed, many street and city names continue to memorialise people who can be associated with slavery.

The long-term question is whether any name is truly safe in the face of evolving norms and later objections. Virtually every name could eventually be associated with behaviour or beliefs that have become objectionable or deeply offensive, even if they were apparently admired or

rewarded in an earlier era. None of us can be certain that every position held now will stand the test of time.

Three solutions to renaming conundrums are worth considering. The first idea is associated with statutes of limitation in law. Names could be subject by convention to objection for a limited period, such as 50 years.

Under this approach, the State of Washington’s name is safe, even though Washington the man owned slaves. The country’s name is also safe, even though it is possible that a future generation will

recognise that America is a derivative of Amerigo (Vespucci), a fifteenth-century explorer who refused to hire women as sailors.

For better or worse, it often takes a long time for social values to change. The renamed Washington Commanders football team had its previous name, the Redskins, for more than 80 years. But for this proposed solution to be effective, the social convention needs to be so strong that, after the agreed interval has passed, it will seem wrong to object to a name, however offensive it becomes.

A second idea is to borrow from the concept of term limits. Names would have a shelf life, with an understanding that the controlling organisation could choose to extend the name for another period.

Consider a name that had been assigned because of a donation, as in the case of the Sackler Institute at New York University. Here, the understanding, perhaps embodied in new laws, would be that the university is free to sell the name to a bidder. Again, nothing stops a for-profit company, like a football team, from hanging on to its name. It is market pressure that brings about changes.

Finally, there is the idea of buyouts. If the original name was not “purchased,” a renaming in honor of a donor or public figure is easily accomplished. Nothing stopped Princeton from accepting a gift—from an individual or group—that was conditioned on removing Wilson’s name. This idea is not entirely novel. Theater venues and sports stadiums are often renamed for advertising purposes, and the corporate names attached to them usually come with term limits of a kind, by dint of the name being for sale.

As for sports teams, they presumably gain something from the long histories attached to their names. But if an old name is found to be offensive, a team and its critics can benefit by auctioning off a name change.

The virtue of these three approaches (which could be combined) is that each requires us to recognise that times change, that names can also change, and that some prescribed limits to renaming are possible.

The inevitability of the ‘new normal’



Shahnoor Wahid is a senior journalist.

SHAHNOOR WAHID

THE new normal is now normal! Four years back, seeing us sitting at the coffee table with our masks, disposable gloves and sanitiser bottles, people would have chuckled and called us abnormal. But today they won't. How the world has gone topsy-turvy with millions of deaths – and our sense of normalcy has taken a 360-degree turn!

Imagine being forced to fight a “not so normal” adversary, and after failing to win the war, forced to accept the enemy's terms of surrender—discard beautiful old habits like going out to dance and dinner or cooing and cuddling in the park, and so on. Instead, stay indoors, watch stale programmes on TV and die of mediocrity. If we are still alive, we have to wear masks, sanitise our hands, and order food online. Losers have no choice!

Life has been a continued process of adjustment. Since taking the first gasp after birth, humans have been engaged in the constant struggle to adjust to a new environment. From the safety of the mother's womb, the baby comes to live in the bacteria-infested world. The infant has to survive, so instinctively, it turns towards its mother for sustenance. It learns to cry out loud when hurt or when hungry.

In the prehistoric era, cave dwellers survived the attack of predators and escaped the crushing jaws of crocodiles by learning some survival tactics. Elders told them to stay close together and carry a sharp weapon. Here again, adjustment is the key word.

Throughout life's journey—from



childhood to adulthood and to old age—a person must learn to adjust and adapt to a new normal every day and every hour, or else life will not wait for them.

As history tells us, humans have had to adjust to the changed social and political circumstances after every war. Those who conquered wrote the history; the defeated had to read them. Great wars changed great kingdoms. A new pharaoh came after Ramses II perished in the Red Sea. From the Sumerian clay tablets, Gilgamesh appeared on the Amazon paperbacks.

As always, new rulers imposed new rules and conditions. Defiance would result in your insolent head not staying where it should be. Mary Antoinette had to pay with her head and Napoleon Bonaparte had to rot at St Helena. So, if you want to live, better accept the new normal.

Terrible epidemics throughout human history took the lives of millions of men, women and children. Since the pre-

▲
The ‘new normal’ requires reminding ourselves that there's more to life than going through the motions.

ILLUSTRATION: STOCK

Justinian era, people across Europe and the Middle East have been facing the dreaded disease called plague. Since there was no knowledge of germ or bacteria, the disease was defined as the wrath of God. The Bubonic Plague was named the Black Death in the mediaeval period in Europe, and after the pitiable deaths of millions, people eventually learned how to protect themselves: they killed the fleas, pests and rodents, and kept their premises clean. Plague became a thing of the past by the 19th century. This infamous scourge inspired poets and writers to write strange poems and stories spiced with the supernatural. One such epic story is *“The Pied Piper of Hamelin.”*

Since plague, the world has seen, in the last 200 years, the sporadic outbreak of killer diseases like smallpox, cholera, leprosy, tuberculosis, malaria, dengue, measles, pneumonia, diarrhoea, bird flu, and so on. Every incidence of such an outbreak taught people new lessons,

so they could adjust to the changed circumstances and adapt to the new normal.

We are facing at the moment the terrifying scourge caused by the Covid-19 pandemic. According to health experts, the virus that causes Covid-19 is mutating faster than expected, and healthcare systems across the world find themselves under-equipped in their fight against this invisible enemy.

It is during the present pandemic that we have come across the phrase “new normal,” and Google tells us that new normal has been the most searched phrase in the last two years. We know by now what it means and how to adapt to the new lifestyle, food habits, social isolation, health and hygiene practices, online education, interpersonal relations, and so on.

Many of us are trying to cope with loneliness over isolation, anxiety over our future, anger over the loss of a job, and deterioration in interpersonal relations. Mental health experts tell us to accept the reality and learn to adjust to the new circumstances to lower the stress level.

It is, however, true that adjusting to a new normal or a new lifestyle for an adult person is not as easy as it may sound. One cannot simply forget or forego old habits overnight, and accept new ones with wide open arms. It is also not possible to forget the memory of many of our near and dear ones who did not get a second chance at life. Those who have witnessed the suffering and deaths from close proximity shudder to think about them even today.

The potency and magnitude of the infection appeared like a Biblical curse to many, and they prayed to the Divinity for help. In our lifetime, it is the worst health cataclysm we have witnessed so far. Yes, in our frantic bid for survival, we are learning to adjust every day and accept the new normal.

How to fix the failures of climate finance



Saleemul Huq is director of the International Centre for Climate Change and Development at the Independent University Bangladesh.

POLITICS OF CLIMATE CHANGE

SALEEMUL HUQ

ONE of the positive outcomes of the COP26 held in Glasgow, Scotland in November 2021 was a universal acknowledgement of the failure of developed countries to deliver climate finance to developing countries, and even of developing countries themselves to actually deliver to the most vulnerable communities within their own territories.

While it is good that countries acknowledged their failure and promised to do better going forward, the devil is in the details. I will take this opportunity to provide proposals on what needs to be done and who needs to do it to make sure that promises made at COP26 are actually delivered by COP27 this November in Sharm Al Shaikh, Egypt.

The first and biggest failure was the abysmal inability of the developed countries to deliver the USD 100 billion a year they had promised at the time of the Paris Agreement in 2015. One common misconception is in thinking that the environment ministers who attend the COP are responsible, when they are not the ones with the money. In fact, it is the finance ministers of the G7 countries who have to keep their promise. Back in June 2021, they met in Cornwall in the UK and decided to renege on their commitment. They then sent their environment ministers to the COP in November to apologise on their countries' behalf.

Now, we need to see what the G7 Finance Ministers meeting in June 2022 in

Germany will decide, rather than wait for November. The question is: Will they keep their promise this year, or renege as they did last year?

The second associated failure that developed countries' finance ministers must overcome is agreeing on which country should contribute how much to reach the iconic USD 100 billion amount each year. At the moment, it is left to each country to decide what their share should be and, not surprisingly, they could only agree on less than USD 80 billion so far. The finance ministers of developed countries have to agree on what the contribution of each country will be towards meeting the agreed goal of USD 500 billion over the next five years. They also need to agree on a neutral body, such as the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Secretariat or the UN Statistics Bureau, to collect and collate the data, rather than self-certifying their own contributions, as has happened so far.

A third, more forgivable failure was that the proportion of global funds that were provided counted 80 percent towards loans to support mitigation measures while only 20 percent counted for grants to support adaptation in the most vulnerable developing countries, when the expectation was for a 50:50 split between support for mitigation and adaptation. To the credit of the developed countries, they acknowledged this failure and promised to double their grant funding to support adaptation in the most vulnerable developing countries, and several countries such as the United Kingdom, Germany and the US actually announced more funds for adaptation while they were in Glasgow. However, it is not just the amount allocated that is the problem but also how it is delivered and who receives it.



▲
A person wears a mask depicting Britain's Prime Minister Boris Johnson during a protest at the UN Climate Change Conference (COP26) in Glasgow, Scotland in November 2021.

PHOTO: REUTERS

This has also been a major collective failure of the contributing developed countries and agencies such as the Green Climate Fund (GCF), UNDP, World Bank and Asian Development Bank (ADB), who acted as conduits to channel the funds to the developing countries to support adaptation. The two big failures were in making the funds far too difficult to access for the most vulnerable developing countries, so much so that it took years to get the first penny out of the funds. Only 10 percent of the adaptation funds actually reached the intended most vulnerable communities.

The fund-providing developed countries, the fund management agencies and the recipient developing countries' national governments all have to raise their game to make sure that the funds are allocated at scale and disbursed speedily so that the ultimate beneficiaries, who are

the front line adapters, actually get the help they so desperately need. This will require much better coordination, better accessibility to funds and monitoring of the actual delivery—all of which are sorely lacking at present. The good news is that this collective failure has been recognised and accepted, and reforms such as the eight principles of locally-led adaptation have been adopted. But making it happen at the requisite speed is now the challenge for all concerned.

The second annual Gobeshona Global Conference at the end of March 2022 on Locally-Led Adaptation and Resilience will be an opportunity for all the relevant players to take stock and report on their progress while correcting their failures of the past.

Acknowledging failure is a positive development only if it leads to reforms to avoid making the same mistakes again.

QUOTABLE Quote

ALDOUS HUXLEY

(1894 - 1963)
English writer

What is absurd and monstrous about war is that men who have no personal quarrel should be trained to murder one another in cold blood.

CROSSWORD BY THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Lugged

6 Eat from the pasture

11 Emanations

12 Man of many words

13 Road reversal

14 Without help

15 Involve

17 Lobbying org.

19 Suffering

20 Bit of paint

23 Not active

25 Niagara's source

26 Drink garnish

28 Scots' caps

29 Bronze beater

30 Hot blood

31 Not strict

32 Mag. workers

33 Trio doubled

35 Godzilla's

home

38 City on the Mohawk River

41 Plant pest

42 Composer

Kurt

44 Rival

DOWN

1 Letter after sigma

2 Ump's call

3 "Ripped from the headlines" genre

4 Bring home

5 Crown repairer

6 Knight's quest

7 Dice turn

8 In the past

9 Buddhism branch

10 Season on the Seine

16 Art Pepper's

instrument

17 Singer LaBelle

18 Fighting

20 Rush

hour, to radio programmers

21 Prepared to fire

22 Saloon orders

24 Snaky shape

25 Building wing

27 Permanent part

31 McEnroe rival

33 Enter the regatta

34 School near Windsor

35 Mouth part

36 Clumsy guy

37 Letter after upslon

39 Turning part

40 One or more

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MONDAY'S ANSWERS

S	C	A	R	F	S	P	O	T
C	A	N	O	E	S	E	I	Z
A	B	I	D	E	T	A	L	O
R	A	M	S	S	A	L	O	N
E	R	A	S	A	G	T	E	E
D	E	T	E	C	T	E	D	
T	O	N	I	S	O	A	P	
	D	E	J	E	C	T	E	D
P	A	W	N	A	T		T	A
I	D	I	O	C	Y	W	I	S
V	A	L	V	E	L	A	M	A
G	L	E	S		E	V	E	N
T	E	A	R		T	E	S	T

BEETLE BAILEY BY MORT WALKER

BABY BLUES BY KIRKMAN & SCOTT




CAGING the symbol of freedom


BIRDS flying the limitless open sky is an enduring symbol of the freedom of spirit and mind. These very symbols are however caged for profit, even as the ethics of buying and selling animals have increasingly come under question in modern times. In Chattogram city's Dewanhat area, traders set up a market every Monday and Wednesday selling animals. Birds like parrots and various species of pigeons are most commonly found in such markets, while traders also sell other animals such as various breeds of dogs. Birds are kept in cages and have been domesticated to such an extent that those allowed out do not fly away. Not far away from the market in the port city's Sadarghat area, hundreds of birds of various species are free to flock together to eat the scraps discarded from ships. Also near the Sadarghat area, the example of a kinder human-avian relationship can be seen in the form of birds visiting a birdhouse to enjoy the feed put out for them.

PHOTO:
RAJIB RAIHAN





Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Local Government Engineering Department
Office of the Executive Engineer
District: Pabna
www.lged.gov.bd



"শেখ হাসিনার মূলনীতি
হাম শংকের উন্নতি"

Memo No. 46.02.7600.000.07.309.21-445

Date: 06/02/2022

Invitation for Tender (Works)
e-Tender Notice: 22/2021-22 (OTM)

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

Sl. No.	Name of work	Tender ID No.	Tender security (Tk.)	Closing, opening date & time
1	2	4	5	6
1	Package No. SupRB/Pabna/Replace/21-22/W-176 Construction of 48.06m long RCC Girder Bridge on Ataikula GC-Demra GC road at Chainage 46m under Replacement category (Road ID: 176722004) Upazila-Santhia, Dist: Pabna.	655825	1100000.00	07/03/2022 14:00pm

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 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 and purchase e-Tender documents up to dated: 06/03/2022 Time: 17:00pm. The Tender Security have to be deposited online through any registered bank branches up to 07/03/2022 Time: 13:00pm.** Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

Md. Anisur Rahman Mondal
Executive Engineer
LGED, Pabna
Tel: 0731-66133, Fax: 0731-66088
E-mail: xen.pabna@lged.gov.bd

GD-233



Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Govt. Shah Sultan College, Bogura
Sherpur Road, Banani, Bogura
Website: www.govssc.edu.bd



Date: 08/02/2022

Memo No. gssc/bog/idgsp/cedp/2022/16

e-Tender Notice 06/2021-2022


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
1.	656164	Procurement of Laboratory Equipment and Instruments	01 Mar 2022, 11.30	01 Mar 2022, 14.00


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 banks' branches up to 01 Mar 2022, 11.30am. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).


Professor Md. Shahidul Alam-8424
Principal
Govt. Shah Sultan College, Bogura
Phone: 051-65249
E-mail: cedpspogovtshahsultancollege@gmail.com

GD-243



Jalalabad Gas Transmission and Distribution System Ltd.
(A Company of Petrobangla)
Gas Bhaban, Mendibagh, Sylhet



প্যাস ব্যবহারে সাক্ষ্য হোন এবং
সময়মত প্যাস বিল পরিশোধ করান

উদ্ধাচার চর্চা করি
সমৃদ্ধ সোনার বাংলা গড়ি

বিনা কারণে প্যাসের চুলা জ্বালিয়ে রাখা
আর বিপদকে ডাকা একই বিষয়

Re-Invitation for Internatioanl Tender (Re-Tender)

01.	Ministry/Division	:	Ministry of Power, Energy & Mineral Resources/Energy & Mineral Resources Division.
02.	Agency	:	Bangladesh Oil, Gas and Mineral Corporation (Petrobangla).
03.	Procuring entity name	:	Jalalabad Gas Transmission & Distribution System Ltd. (JGTDSL).
04.	Procuring entity code	:	Not applicable.
05.	Procuring entity district	:	Sylhet, Bangladesh.
06.	Invitation for	:	"Design, Manufacture, Procurement & Supply, Installation, Construction, Testing and Commissioning of 50,000 Prepaid Gas Meter, Web System (Data Centre and Data Recovery Centre) including all associated Equipment and Related Services on Turn-Key basis in JGTDSL Franchise Area".
07.	Invitation Ref No.	:	ICT No. 28.16.9100.045.38.001.22/EPC (Re-Tender).
08.	Date	:	08-02-2022

KEY INFORMATION

09.	Procurement method	:	ICT, Open Tendering Method (Single Stage Two Envelope).
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FUNDING INFORMATION

10.	Budget and source of funds	:	JGTDSL's own fund.
11.	Development partners	:	Not applicable.

PARTICULAR INFORMATION

12.	Project/program code	:	942000031
13.	Project/program name	:	Installation of 50,000 Pre-paid Gas Meter in JGTDSL Franchise Area.
14.	Tender package name	:	"Design, Manufacture, Procurement & Supply, Installation, Construction, Testing and Commissioning of 50,000 Prepaid Gas Meter, Web System (Data Centre and Data Recovery Centre) including all associated Equipment and Related Services on Turn-Key basis in JGTDSL Franchise Area".
15.	Tender publication date	:	09-02-2022
16.	Tender last selling date	:	09-03-2022, during office hours.
17.	Tender closing date & time	:	10-03-2022, BST 12:30pm.
18.	Tender opening date and time	:	10-03-2022, BST 12:45pm.
19.	Name & address of the offices	:	
	-Selling tender document (principal)	:	Cash Counter, Accounts Department, Finance Division, 1st Floor, Jalalabad Gas T & D System Ltd., Gas Bhaban, Mendibagh, Sylhet-3100, Bangladesh.
	-Selling tender document (others)	:	Dhaka Liaison Office, Jalalabad Gas T & D System Ltd., Petrocenter (13th Floor), 3, Kawan Bazar, Dhaka 1215.
	-Receiving tenders	:	Jalalabad Gas T & D System Ltd., Committee Room, 4th Floor, Gas Bhaban, Mendibagh, Sylhet, Bangladesh.
	-Opening tenders	:	Jalalabad Gas T & D System Ltd., Committee Room, 4th Floor, Gas Bhaban, Mendibagh, Sylhet, Bangladesh.
20.	Place/date /time of pre-tender meeting (optional)	:	Jalalabad Gas T & D System Ltd., Committee Room, 4th Floor, Gas Bhaban, Mendibagh, Sylhet, Bangladesh. Date: 22-02-2022; Time: 12:00 Noon BST.

INFORMATION FOR TENDERER

21.	Eligibility of tenderer	:	<div>a) The tenderer (as single entity) shall have a minimum 05 (five) years of overall experience in the supply of goods and related services related to gas sector. In case of JVCA, the Lead Partner/Lead Firm/Partner-in-Charge shall have a minimum 05 (five) years of overall experience in the supply of goods and related services in gas sector. But the other JVCA partner(s) shall have a minimum 05 (five) years of overall experience in the supply of goods and related services in gas or electricity or water or any utility sector. N.B. Years shall be counting backward from the date of closing the tender.</div> <div>b) i) The minimum specific experience as a Contractor in similar to the proposed plant and services in at least 02 (two) contract(s) of similar nature, complexity and methods/construction technology i.e. Engineering, Design, Supply, Installation, Construction, Testing and Commissioning of online (web-based) pre-paid gas metering system including min. 20,000 Nos. prepaid gas meter successfully & substantially completed on EPC or Turn-key basis within the last 05 years, each with a value of at least Taka (BDT) 400 million (four hundred million) only [considering 1 USD= BDT 85 for conversion of currency] or equivalent USD 4,705,882 (four million seven hundred and five thousand eight hundred eighty-two only); out of which 01 (one) such contract shall be in other than the Tender's home country or in the case of Bangladeshi tenderer, in Bangladesh or elsewhere. ii) The minimum specific experience of the Tenderer/Manufacturer or their sub-contractor in network building, database oriented software, Hardware & Software integrated and interfaced software making of which is in operation or in supply and installation of web based pre-payment metering system in Gas/Electricity company within last 05 (five) years. N.B. Years shall be counting backward from the date of closing the tender.</div> <div>c) The required average annual turnover shall be greater than Bangladesh Taka (BDT) 950 million (nine hundred fifty million) or equivalent USD 11,176,470 (eleven million one hundred seventy-six thousand four hundred seventy) only [considering 1 USD = BDT 85 for conversion of currency] over the best three (3) years in the last five (5) years.</div> <div>d) The minimum amount of liquid assets or working capital or credit facilities of the Tenderer shall be Bangladesh Taka (BDT) 500 million (five hundred million) or equivalent USD 5,882,350 (five million eight hundred eighty-two thousand three hundred fifty) only [considering 1 USD = BDT 85 for conversion of currency].</div> <div>e) All other terms and conditions as mention in the Tender Document.</div>
22.	Brief description of plant & equipment	:	A brief description of services under the contract, but not limited to, is as follows: Procurement & Supply of 50,000 Prepaid Gas Meter (Diaphragm type; G-1.6), Hardware and Software for Web System (Data Centre & Data Recovery Centre, Tech. Support Centre, POS, Smart communication module etc), Meter Calibration System (test bench), Supply of Different Equipment, Fittings, Regulators, Spare Parts, Tools and associated goods on Turn-Key basis in JGTDSL Franchise Area as specified in the Tender document for uninterrupted, safe, efficient and effective operation of the online (web-based) Pre-paid Gas Metering (PGM) system.
23.	Brief description of services	:	A brief description of services under the contract, but not limited to, is as follows: Detailed Engineering, Design, Manufacturing, Procurement & Supply, Inspection & Testing, QA/QC documents, Insurance, Packing & freight to JGTDSL's project site, Transportation up to site, Storage of materials, Installation of Meter Calibration System, Prepaid Gas Meter at customer premises, Installation of Web System (Data Centre & Data Recovery Centre, Tech. Support Centre, POS etc.) at designated location, Development of Smart Phone/Mobile phone application software, Capacity building/Technology Know-how Transfer, Site Training, Testing & Commissioning of complete online (web-based) Pre-paid Gas Meter (PGM) System and handing over it (gas meters, systems including necessary hardware, APIs and Software including Source code etc.) to the JGTDSL, Providing Contract Management Services for the project, Associated Civil, Electrical, Instrumentation, Mechanical works and related services, Services during Defect Liability Period as specified in the Tender Document for uninterrupted, safe, efficient and effective operation of the online (web-based) Pre-paid Gas Metering (PGM) system.
24.	Price of tender documents	:	BDT 10,000.00 (Bangladesh Taka ten thousand only) in cash; non-refundable.
25.	Lot	:	Identification of lot
	Single	:	ICT No. 28.16.9100.045.38.001.22/EPC (Re-Tender)
		:	Sylhet City Corporation & Sylhet Sadar Upazila, Sylhet, Bangladesh
		:	Bangladesh Taka (BDT) 27 million (twenty-seven million) OR USD 317,650 (US Dollar three hundred seventeen thousand six hundred fifty) only.
		:	Completion time
		:	360 (three hundred sixty) days from the effective date of contract.

PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS

26.	Name of official inviting tender	:	Engr. Liton Nandi.
27.	Designation of official inviting tender	:	Project Director, Installation of 50,000 Pre-paid Gas Meter in JGTDSL Franchise Area.
28.	Address of official inviting tender	:	Jalalabad Gas Transmission & Distribution System Ltd., 9th Floor, Gas Bhaban, Mendibagh, Sylhet-3100, Bangladesh.
29.	Contact details of official inviting tender	:	Telephone: + 8802996633125, Mobile: +880-1712641244, E-mail address: pdig50kpgm@gmail.com
30.	SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:	:	
	a)	:	The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason.
	b)	:	If it is not possible to receive/open the tender on the schedule date due to any unavoidable circumstances or holiday, the same will be receive/open at the same time and same place on the subsequent/next working day.

Project Director
Installation of 50,000 Pre-paid Gas Meter in JGTDSL Franchise Area

GD-247



ESSENTIAL DRUGS COMPANY LIMITED
395-397, Tejgaon Industrial Area
Dhaka- 1208



LOCAL TENDER NOTICE

Well reputed authorized Vehicle dealers/importers/Sole distributors are invited for submission of best competitive price offer for supply of following vehicle on urgent basis:

SL No	Tender No. & Date	Description	Earnest Money	Cost of Tender Schedule	Last Date of Closing & Opening
01.	EDCL/PUR/Ambulance/ LT/2022/47 Date: 08/02/2022	Ambulance (Re-Conditioned) Qty: 01 No.	@ 2.5% of total quoted value	TK. 1250.00/set (Non-refundable)	Closing : 22/02/2022 At 12.00PM Opening : 22/02/2022 At 12.30PM

Tender schedule will be sold from the Accounts Department of Essential Drugs Company Limited (EDCL), Dhaka on payment as stated above during office hours on all working days (except Friday, Saturday and Govt. Holidays). No tender schedule will be sold on the opening date of the tender.


The Tender will be accompanied by a amount of Earnest Money mentioned above in the form of Bank Draft/Pay Order from any Schedule Bank of Bangladesh in favour of "Essential Drugs Copany Ltd." without which the tender will be considered as non-responsive.

Essential Drugs Company Limited authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.

General Manager
Procurement Deptt.
For: Managing Director

Size:-(5" x 4)

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GAZIPUR.**



Web site : www.spcbl.org.bd

LOCAL/INTERNATIONAL e-TENDER/RE-e-TENDER.

Electronic tenders (e-tenders) are hereby invited from the competent local/international manufacturers/suppliers for supply of the following items for SPCBL as per under noted schedule. e-Tender/Re-e-tender documents showing terms and conditions with specifications will be available at web: <https://spcbletender.bb.org.bd> It is to mention here that this is online tender where only e-Tender/Re-e-tender will be accepted and no hard copy will be accepted except price of e-tender/Re-e-tender schedule and earnest money. To submit e-Tender/Re-e-tender bidders need to register on e-Tender <https://spcbletender.bb.org.bd> For more details please contact cell: 880-1534002183 & 880-1534002184. Necessary information is given below:

Sl. No.	Name of the items	Nature of e-Tenders	Date of publishing e-Tenders	Last date and time for submission of e-Tender	Date & time for opening of e-Tender	Value/set of e-Tender Schedule (non-refundable)
1.	Supply of 7,800 Kgs P.P (Polypropylene) Strap.	Local/International e-tender	09.02.2022	16.03.2022 upto 11.00 A.M	16.03.2022 at 11.15 A.M	Tk. 1000.00
2.	Supply of 6,000 Kgs Castor oil.	Local/International Re-e-tender	09.02.2022	16.03.2022 upto 11.00 A.M	16.03.2022 at 11.15 A.M	Tk. 400.00

Bidder may collect e-tender/Re-e-tender schedule from the aforementioned website. Earnest money @ 3 % (three percent) of the total quoted price shall have to be submitted in the form of Bank Draft/Pay Order/Irrevocable Bank Guarantee from any scheduled bank in Bangladesh in favour of The Managing Director, The Security Printing Corporation (Bangladesh) Ltd., Gazipur alongwith the price of e-Tender/Re-e-tender schedule in the form of a separate Pay-Order/DD in the tender box kept at Corporation's office in Gazipur on or before the scheduled deadline for submission of e-Tender/Re-e-tender. In the case of international tender, Irrevocable Bank Guarantee may also be given as earnest money from any international commercial bank abroad with a counter guarantee from any scheduled bank in Bangladesh. e-Tender(s) without earnest money and price for procurement of e-tender/Re-e-tender schedule shall not be acceptable. The e-Tender/Re-e-tender shall have to be submitted as per e-Tender/Re-e-tender guidelines mentioned at the above website. Offer(s) will be opened as per schedule mentioned above in presence of the tenderer(s) if any. 01 (one) e-Tender/Re-e-tender schedule is applicable only for one supplier/manufacturer for submitting one offer against each item alongwith earnest money and price of e-Tender/Re-e-tender schedule. The authority reserves the right to reject or accept any e-Tender(s) without assigning any reason whatsoever. Submission of e-tender/Re-e-tender after the specified time shall not be acceptable under any circumstances.

(Rashid Ahmed)
General Manager (Foreign Purchase)
Phone: 88-02-9205103.

GD-240



PHOTO: RAJIB RAIHAN

Hope and relief for dried fish producers

A good quantity of dried fish got decomposed last year due to unfavourable weather in the peak season. The market rate fell as well, yielding me a loss of Tk 5 lakh.

ARUN BIKASH DEY

The peak season for dried fish has kept producers in Chattogram busy at work, with collection, sorting, drying, piling, warming, packing and storing going on in full swing. Due to favourable weather and high demand in the market, they are expecting a good share of profit this year. According to the producers, the period between late Ashwin (October) and early Falgun (March) is considered as peak season for dried fish. Take Bastuhara Khetchar. Located on the banks of the Karnaphuli, it is one of the major hubs for dried fish production. Visiting the area recently, this correspondent saw some makeshift structures erected in its fields to facilitate activity during these busy months. Around 20 species of fish, including Ribbon (Chhuri), Bombay duck (Loitta), Faissa, Poa and prawns were being dried in the area.

The area is buzzing with not only workers busy with the daily grind but also with children's laughter. In between playing, they also lend a hand to their parents' work. Meanwhile, toddlers rest in their mothers' lap while they continue to sort dried fish. Md Jasim, a worker, said a kg of dried fish can be produced after drying around four kgs of raw fish. According to the workers, the entire process requires seven to 10 days to be completed. Once the fishes are completely dried, producers send them to warehouses, mostly located in Asadganj, from where wholesalers buy them.



This correspondent found over a 100 karbari (producers) busy with work in their fields. Around 20 workers, both male and female, work under a karbari. However, there's a discrimination in wages between male and female workers.

For example, one Fatema Akter said she works for eight hours a day and receives Tk 350 for her work, while male worker Mainuddin said he works for 10 to 12 hours and gets Tk 600 a day.

Asked about this, Abdus Shukkur, president of Bastuhara Tower Dried Fish Producers and Marketers' Cooperative Association, claimed since male workers do the more labour-intensive work, they are paid more.

Meanwhile, workers said a good production mostly depends on the weather. "A good quantity of dried fish got

decomposed last year due to unfavourable weather in the peak season. The market rate fell as well, yielding me a loss of Tk 5 lakh," said Nurul Absar, a producer.

"But the rate is far better this year and so is the weather. I expect to make a good profit," he added.

Another producer Abdur Rahim informed that he incurred a loss of Tk 7 lakh last year due to the lower prices. "This year, I'm making a profit on every trip," he said.

Currently, a kg of chhuri is priced between Tk 700 and Tk 1,600 in the wholesale market, while a kg of loitta is sold between Tk 400 and Tk 650, a kg of faissa between Tk 450 and Tk 600 and a kg of prawn between Tk 700 and Tk 1,200.

"I have made a profit worth Tk 2 lakh so far this year, and expect to cover the previous year's losses with this," hoped Rahim.

CCC's expensive puddle

SANJOY KUMAR BARUA

When Chattogram City Corporation (CCC) constructed two swimming pools in 2015, it was hailed by the residents. They were constructed at a portion of the city's Jatisangha Park area.

But after laying abandoned for seven years, the authorities have now taken a puzzling initiative to demolish the pools, reportedly built at a cost of almost Tk 4 crore.

"In 2012, CCC took the initiative to build the two swimming pools, along with a gymnasium. The construction of the park was completed in June 2015," said architect Abdullah Al Omar, city planner of CCC.

"We're going to demolish the pools soon. They were constructed without planning, with many technical faults," said Omar.

"The pools are 120ft long and 50ft wide. One is eight feet deep while the other is eight and a half feet," he added.

Asked how much CCC spent to construct them, architect Omar refused to answer and suggested contacting CCC Chief Engineer Rafiqul Islam in this regard, saying he'd know better about the matter.

When contacted, the chief engineer reluctantly said he didn't know how much money was spent for the pools either.

However, reports from different media outlets found that CCC spent around Tk four crores during construction.



Rahul Guha, executive engineer of Public Works Department (PWD), Chattogram (Div-1), said, "Once the swimming pools are demolished, we'll start our development work there within 4-5 months."

Meanwhile, this is some kind of a double-whammy for the Jatisangha Park. Ziaul Haque, a local of the area, informed this correspondent that the park had been shrunk to facilitate the swimming pools and gymnasium inside it. However, they were supposed to be added attractions for the park, but if they're demolished, even that hope is gone.

Delwar Mazumder, former chairperson of the Chattogram Center of the Institution of Engineers, Bangladesh, said, "It will be a punishable offense if the hard earned money of citizens is wasted



just because of someone's ignorance." "If there's any technical fault in the construction process, the authorities should prioritise solving the problem as opposed to demolishing the swimming pools," he said.

Rangamati's AMPHIBIOUS MARKET!

NAIMUR RAHMAN

Rangamati's Samata Ghat is more than just a ghat. Situated right beside the Banarupa Bazar, it is a go-to place for people of the hill tracts, who use it to trade and transport their daily essentials.

Traders from around 100 villages under six unions come here on small boats or trawlers to sell their products. But they don't just offload their items at the ghat, rather, they sell from their boats too, which turns the ghat area into a floating market of sorts.

While some traders get down to the ground and sell their items at the market, some choose to sell directly from their boats. The latter type is preferred by those who buy in bulk and then re-sell the goods themselves.

The floating part of the market says a lot of about the locals and their lives. Although it's far from a conventional in the context of Bangladesh, its popularity among locals indicate how normal such a system is for them.

Available at the market are everything, from vegetable and herbs, to fruits, to even clothes.

Traders sling bamboo baskets on their backs to carry their products around the market. These traditional baskets are called "Kalang" by the Chakmas, "Pargin" by the Marmas and "Kabang" by the Tipras.

Prices here are cheaper than the regular market. Traders say they don't just do business for profit, but also look out for people's best interests. They said another reason they can afford to sell at lower rates is that they sell

produce directly here, rather than going through middlemen or other intermediaries.

Traders said their fruit and vegetables are of the highest quality and are grown without pesticides.

The narrow roads of Banarupa Bazar hosts the history and culture of the area's people. This spills over to the floating market as well, which serves as an attraction for tourists or those who

come from other areas.

Whether you're looking for fresh produce, a new piece of jewellery, a unique gift, or just something different to spice up your dishes, Samata Ghat is the place to go in Rangamati.



PHOTO: NAIMUR RAHMAN

No captaincy, please!

BISHWAJIT ROY

Who would not love to captain his side? It is something that a lot of players dream of. We often hear players say, “It’s a dream come true to captain the side.”

But we can’t expect any such usual practice when it comes to the Bangladesh Premier League (BPL).

The ongoing BPL probably made headlines mostly for captaincy changes, especially for teams to replace skippers just before the start of a match. And more interestingly, most players have refused to take the role. Let’s begin with the controversy surrounding Mehedi Hasan Miraz during the Chattogram leg of the competition.

The Miraz drama, which was initiated after the player was stripped of captaincy just hours before their game against Sylhet Sunrisers, eventually ended after reaching an understanding with the franchise, but the player made it clear that he would not captain the side if asked again.

Once again sudden captaincy changes took centre stage in the Sylhet leg of the tournament. After Sylhet Sunrisers surprised with a captaincy change on Monday, Chattogram Challengers yesterday had Afif Hossain replace Naeem Islam, who had in fact replaced Miraz as captain earlier.

When Chattogram had Miraz stripped off captaincy, they did not cite any issue regarding the player’s performance. However, in Naeem’s case, the team mentioned that the player had to be dropped due to his poor performance.

On Monday, after Sylhet replaced Mosaddek Hossain with Ravi Bopara as their captain, Sylhet team manager Kazi Al Mashuk Bari disclosed that players like Anamul Haque and Mohammad Mithun refused to take the responsibility.

It is, however, not sure if Chattogram had asked anyone else to replace Naeem before approaching Afif. But one thing is certain that the captaincy circus has reached such a stage that no one can be sure as to who will be coming in to flip the coin in BPL anymore.



Opener Munim Shahriar played a blazing knock of 51 off 28 deliveries as table-toppers Fortune Barishal posted 199 for four before restricting Sylhet Sunrisers to 187 for 6, ensuring the elimination of the latter from the race for the last four in the BPL at the Sylhet International Cricket Stadium yesterday. (Bottom) Earlier, Mrityunjay Chowdhury’s excellent last over handed Chattogram Challengers a much-needed three-run win over Minister Group Dhaka.

PHOTO: FIROZ AHMED

Mrityunjay: Chattogram’s beacon in the dark

ABDULLAH AL MEHDI from Sylhet

There was joy and jubilation on one side, a clutter of youthful energy converging and coming through. At the other side of things, wearing a dreary look was the experienced Tamim Iqbal, stranded at the non-striker’s in the last delivery after what should have been a match-winning knock of 73. Tamim would have hoped that Mohammad Naim would do something special, only his partner could not find what was required. The one who got it right was 20-year-old Mrityunjay Chowdhury, holding his nerve against the odds in a crucial death over against experienced batters.

Young guns Afif, Nasum Ahmed, Shoriful Islam converging towards Mrityunjay signified a young side answering for themselves amidst the circus. Most of those names have done their bit in this ongoing BPL but things have remained clumsy for the franchise.

“We’re a young side. Our sense of joy in a win or disappointments in defeats is a bit more than others. We were very cheerful at the beginning [of BPL]. It was a matter of proving ourselves as youngsters. There was a lot of planning for today’s game and when it won, it was difficult to contain that joy,” Mrityunjay told The Daily Star in an interview yesterday.

Tamim was set for glory, his side needing just nine runs in that last over. “Nine runs is too little to defend,” the pacer remarked.

There was a quiet confidence about him and he knew how to shift his plans. From picking up Mashrafe Bin Mortaza and Qais



Ahmed’s wicket with slowers in previous spell, he went to his yorkers with five deliveries remaining.

“I planned according to the batters and then tried to execute. Panic doesn’t do you good. I would have tried slowers if Tamim bhai was new to the crease, but at that moment I felt he might get under it and yorkers were the better option. The change in pace was confusing them,” he said, landing one of his yorkers under Tamim.

“I went very wide of the crease, I wanted to land it right [a tad outside off stump] where his bat would come down from natural stance.

“I like the challenge of death over bowling. I feel less pressure than normal and competing with batters gives me confidence. I feel I have an idea of how batters think. When I have bad days, I feel I have enough experience of bad days

struggling two years with injury.”

The lad has 10 wickets in five games now, including a hat-trick in one and a three-wicket over in another. A beacon for Chattogram in the dark.

“I wanted to do well this BPL for my family, my coaches, my support structure.” Biggest facet of this win is that it keeps Chattogram’s hopes alive.

Meanwhile, in the night game that followed, Sylhet Sunrisers’ hopes of progressing to the next round faded completely despite a 49-ball 90 from Colin Ingram as they fell short by 12 runs against Fortune Barishal, who amassed 199 while batting first, the second-highest total of this BPL edition, riding on quick-fire knocks from opener Munim Shahriar (51 off 28), Shakib Al Hasan (38 off 19) and Dwayne Bravo (34 off 13) while Chris Gayle (51 off 45) anchored the innings from the top.

Peng Shuai makes Games appearance

REUTERS, Beijing

Chinese tennis player Peng Shuai was on hand on Tuesday to watch China’s Eileen Gu as she won gold in the Big Air competition in Beijing to put the host nation at the top of the medals table.

Peng, who could be seen in the stands wearing a black knit hat with the Olympic rings on them and a black coat with the Chinese flag, acknowledged a greeting from a journalist but declined to answer questions as she left the venue.

Peng’s well-being became a matter of global concern when she appeared to allege on social media in November that a former Chinese vice premier, Zhang Gaoli, had sexually assaulted her in the past.

After that post, which was quickly removed, she disappeared from public view for nearly three weeks.

International Olympic Committee President Thomas Bach visited with members of the group including Peng during the competition.

“I just met her, she was here sitting in the stadium,” Bach told Reuters.

“She was among the athletes, and I had the opportunity to meet with a number of athletes from Switzerland and from Germany and the U.S.,” he said.

Zouma apologises for abusing cat

AFP, London

West Ham and France defender Kurt Zouma has apologised after a disturbing video surfaced of him kicking and slapping a cat, with the Premier League club publicly condemning the footage.

Zouma is seen in the clip dropping, kicking and slapping the animal, while laughter can be heard in the background.

The 27-year-old then chases the cat, before throwing a pair of shoes at it and slapping its head. West Ham condemned Zouma’s actions in a strongly worded statement following publication of the clip online.

“West Ham United unreservedly condemns the actions of our player, Kurt Zouma, in the video that has circulated,” the club said in a statement.

“We have spoken to Kurt and will be dealing with the matter internally, but we would like to make it clear that we in no way condone cruelty towards animals.”

The France international, who joined West Ham from Chelsea in August 2021, has also released a statement expressing his regret. “I want to apologise for my actions,” he said. “There are no excuses for my behaviour, which I sincerely regret.

“I also want to say how deeply sorry I am to anyone who was upset by the video. I would like to assure everyone that our two cats are perfectly fine and healthy.”

Sheikh Jamal go top

Last-gasp equaliser spares Abahani’s blushes

SPORTS REPORTER

Title aspirants Abahani salvaged a point in the Bangladesh Premier League as the Sky Blues came from a goal down to play out a 1-1 draw against Bangladesh Police FC at the Birshreshtha Shaheed FL Lt. Matiur Rahman Stadium in Munshiganj yesterday.

Meanwhile, Sheikh Jamal DC, another contender, sailed through their second game with an emphatic 3-0 win over Mukijoddha Sangsad KC at the Shaheed Ahsan Ullah Master Stadium in Tongi to claim top spot in the 12-team table with six points from two games. Solomon King gave Sheikh Jamal a 20th-minute lead before Chinedu Mathew struck twice in 37th and 55th minutes respectively.

Away at Munshiganj, Independence Cup and Federation Cup champions Abahani appeared a shell of their double-winning selves, squandering a plethora of chances, including a penalty, before sharing honours with a resilient Bangladesh Police.

Bangladesh Police again gave a superior side a run for their money and found themselves on the verge of upsetting six-times champions Abahani, but could not keep out a stoppage-time equaliser eerily

reminiscent to the stoppage-time goal they conceded in a 1-0 loss to Saif SC in their opening game.

On the back of a narrow 1-0 win over Muktijoddha Sangsad in their previous match, Abahani looked a bit of nervous, misplacing passes and squandering some easy scoring chances. Bangladesh Police goalkeeper Mohammad Nehal made some brilliant saves while Abahani’s Brazilian forward Dorielton Gomes wasted two easy chances, including a penalty.

Abahani also saw a strike from Jewel Rana ruled out due to offside in the 73rd minute before their luck seemingly ran out and they conceded four minutes later from a counter.

Tutul Hossain Badsha’s poor attempt to clear Isanur Rahman’s cross saw the ball fall to Brazilian forward Denilson Rodrigues, who made no mistake angling the ball to the far post.

Bangladesh Police’s attempt to kill time thereafter was far from subtle, prompting referee Symoon Hasan to add on eight minutes of stoppage time but Abahani needed only three to find the equaliser. Colindres whipped in a nice cross from the left for Dorielton, who glanced a header past Nehal and spare Abahani the blues.



Chelsea striker Romelu Lukaku and teammates train at the Mohammed Bin Zayed Stadium in Abu Dhabi on Tuesday. The European champions will take on Saudi Arabian side Al Hilal in the semifinal of the Club World Cup at this venue tonight.

PHOTO: REUTERS



A footbridge built by the Dhaka South City Corporation on Buet campus has remained blocked for more than a year now. The footbridge connects the Buet administration building and a students' dormitory. The photo was taken recently.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

LANGUAGE MOVEMENT: IN THEIR OWN WORDS

Momentous phase

Kamruddin Ahmad

Around 9:00am on February 21, 1952, members of the State Language Action Committee were informed that Dhaka University students were not in agreement with the decisions taken by it and they had decided to break the law if necessary.

The students decided to have processions in batches towards Jagannath Hall, where the assembly session was going on. The committee in this circumstance decided to depute some representatives to convince the university students not to clash with the police who, however, failed to persuade them.

At 9:30am, some boys were arrested from Nawabpur Road for picketing.

Around 10:00am, in accordance with the decisions taken by the students, the first batch of the students marched in procession and reached the Medical College gate, where they were arrested and taken away by police in a van. The next batch faced the same fate.

At 2:00pm, police took position and the East Pakistan Rifles were also brought to assist them. They fired at a large crowd of students near the Medical College gate. Three bodies were brought to the college and then sent to the morgue.

By 3:00pm, members of the assembly, which was in session and insisted that Nurul Amin, the then chief minister, should go to the spot. He, however, refused to do so.



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More projects revised, costs increased

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

As many as four projects were revised yesterday with their costs swelling by Tk 34,483 crore.

This takes the total number of revised projects in the first eight months of the fiscal year to 32 and the additional costs to Tk 59,919 crore.

Of the four projects that were revised at yesterday's meeting of the Executive Committee of the National Economic Council, the "Fourth Health, Population and Nutrition Sector Programme" saw its cost shoot up the most: by Tk 30,448 crore to Tk 145,934 crore.

The project, which began in 2017, has 29 components including setting up primary health complexes at the upazila level and community clinics at the union level and providing health services for mothers and newborn babies.

Two new components were included in the programme -- vaccination for Rohingya people and infrastructural development of upazila health complexes' infrastructural development -- that necessitated the revision, an official of the Prime Minister's office told The Daily Star.

The project also got a year's

extension.

"It is not a slow-implementing project," said Nasima Begum, a member of the National Planning Commission.

The project is 63 percent complete.

"It's on track now and one year will be enough to complete it," she added.

As a result, the cost of the project, implemented with the Indian line of credit, would increase by a staggering 62.3 percent to Tk 5,791.6 crore and its implementation period by three years to June 2025

The upgradation of the link of Ashuganj river port-Sarail-Dharkhar-Akhaura land port was tabled for revision yesterday as well.

The project got a new highway package, said Md. Mamun-Al-Rashid, another member of the Planning Commission said

The 50.56-kilometre highway project has included new work components such as land acquisition, construction

of flexible pavements, rapid pavements, drains, bridges, railway overpass, foot overbridges, culverts and others.

As a result, the cost of the project, implemented with the Indian line of credit, would increase by a staggering 62.3 percent to Tk 5,791.6 crore and its implementation period by three years to June 2025, according to the meeting minutes.

The improvement of Dhaka's water supply network also got the nod for revision yesterday.

The project, which started in 2016, had ended in December last year. So far, only 27 percent of the money has been spent, indicating very poor progress. Subsequently, its tenure was extended to December 2023.

About the slow progress, Rashad said Wasa had to compensate two city corporations for road excavation, which was a lengthy process.

"The project design had some errors too," he said.

The other revised project is for the improvement of the Gopalganj district's rural infrastructure.

Also at the meeting, seven fresh projects were approved.

Independents outdo AL picks

Take 60pc of the chairman posts in 7th phase UP polls

MOHIUDDIN ALAMGIR

The ruling Awami League suffered an election debacle in the seventh phase of union parishad polls as independent chairman candidates outdid them.

In the elections held on Monday, independents won 64 percent of the chairman posts while the Awami League won only 30 percent, according to the Election Commission data unveiled last evening.

For the AL this was the lowest winning parentage in the seven phases in the staggered Union Parishad election that began in June last year.

Yesterday, the EC announced unofficial results of 134 union parishads. It shows that independent candidates won in 86 UPs and AL nominees in 40.

Three nominees from the Jatiya Party and one from Jatiya Party (JP) also won in the polls.

Ruling party insiders said many of the winning independents were disgruntled AL leaders who ran as independents after failing to get the party's nomination.

The AL nominees' performance is in a gradual decline in the staggered UP polls, according to the unofficial results announced by the EC.

The EC has so far announced unofficial results of 4,027 UPs in seven phases.

The AL chairman nominees won in 2,172 UPs
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BARAPUKURIA COAL SCAM HC clears the way for trial

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday cleared the way for the lower court concerned to try a corruption case filed over the "theft" of over 1.43 lakh tonnes of coal from Barapukuria Coal Mining Company Ltd (BCMCL) in Dinajpur.

The coal is worth Tk 243 crore.

The HC rejected three separate petitions filed by six former BCMCL officials, who are accused in the case, challenging the trial court order that on November 25 last year framed charges against them.

The accused in the petitions sought exemption from the charges of the case.

The accused petitioners include former BCMCL managing directors Md Abdul Aziz Khan, SM Nurul Aurangzeb, Khurshidul Hasan, Md Kamaruzzaman, and Md Aminuzzaman, and its former official Abu Taher Md Nur-uz-Zaman Chowdhury, Anti-Corruption Commission lawyer Khurshid Alam Khan told The Daily Star.

Yesterday, the HC bench of Justice SM Kuddus Zaman and Justice Md Riaz Uddin Khan rejected all three revision petitions considering that those were not presented properly.

Lawyers Rakanuddin Mahmud and Mustafizur Rahman Khan appeared for the petitioners.

Md Anisur Rahman, manager (admin) of the coal mining company, filed the case accusing 19 people with Parbatipur Police Station in Dinajpur on July 24, 2018 in connection with the coal going missing.

According to the case statement, the accused officials were behind the coal going missing.

‘Now possible’ to move forward

Says Macron after talks with Putin, Zelensky on Russia-Ukraine tensions

AFP, Kyiv

French President Emmanuel Macron said yesterday that after talks with the Russian and Ukrainian leaders he saw a path toward easing tensions.

Speaking at a joint press conference after talks with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky in Kyiv, Macron said he believed it would be possible to make progress on two fronts.

Both Zelensky and Russian President Vladimir Putin, who Macron saw on Monday, said they remained committed to the 2015 Minsk peace agreements on the country's separatist conflicts, the French leader said.

"We now have the possibility to make these negotiations move forward," Macron said.

And on tensions between Russia and the West over Moscow's military build-up on Ukraine's borders, Macron said: "I believe for my part that

there are concrete, practical solutions that will allow us to move forward."

As Macron sought a diplomatic solution with Kyiv, US President Joe Biden ramped up the pressure on Moscow Monday by warning he would "end" the controversial new Nord Stream 2 gas pipeline from Russia to Europe if tanks rolled into Ukraine.

After talks with Zelensky yesterday, Macron said nobody was "naïve" enough to believe that the tensions were not linked to the Russian deployments, calling them "unprecedented".

"In adopting this threatening posture, Russia decided to put pressure on the international community," Macron said.

"We cannot underestimate the moment of tension that we are living through," Macron said.

"We cannot resolve this crisis in a few hours of talks," he said. "It will be the day and the weeks and the months to come that will allow us to progress."



It looks like a foggy day but it is actually dust in the air at the capital's Gabtoli yesterday. Heavy vehicles that carry construction materials improperly often drop dirt and sand on the road, contributing to air pollution which becomes worse during the dry season.

PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON