

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
- Subpar food, medical facilities
- No health insurance for students
- Non-functional waste management system
- 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.