





## IT’S MURDER

### Say family members of student killed in Khagrachhari crash

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

With a blank expression, not long after he landed in Chattogram from Qatar, Lokman Hossain sat on a chair at his home and stared into the ambulance where the dead body of his 18-year-old daughter was kept in a coffin.

The 60-year-old expatriate returned to Chattogram around 11:00am yesterday to bid his daughter Nisha Moni a final goodbye after learning that she, along with 16-year-old Mishu Akter, had died when a speeding jeep ran them over in the district’s Fatikchhari upazila on Wednesday.

Police said yesterday that the jeep, known locally as chander gari, did not have valid documents.

“Oh, my daughter please come back. How can we live without you? How do I live with this pain?” Lokman sobbed as Nisha’s mother cried helplessly following her the namaz-e-janaza around 3:30pm.

Nisha and Mishu were both SSC candidates from Haidchakia High School and the accident on the Chattogram-Khagrachhari highway’s Felagazi area left two families bereft, a day after five brothers were killed in a road crash in Chakaria.

“We demand justice ... it is not an accident; it is a murder,” said Md Ayub Ali, Mishu’s uncle.

Md Robiul Islam, officer-in-charge of Fatikchhari Police Station, said Ayub Ali filed a case against jeep driver Mohammad Alauddin and other unnamed accused with the station, but police were yet to make an arrest.

OC Robiul told this newspaper that the jeep was plying the road without valid documents.

According to the case statement, Highway Police Traffic Inspector (TI) Nikhil Chakma, and Traffic Sergeant Alamin had signalled the paddy-laden jeep to stop, and when the driver tried to flee, the vehicle ran over the two students, killing them on the spot.



Holding placards with images of violence unleashed on students on January 16, students of Shahjalal University of Science and Technology bring out a procession on the campus yesterday. They continued their demo demanding resignation of VC Farid Uddin Ahmed. Later in the day, the university’s Proctor Prof Md Alamgir Kabir was relieved from the post.

PHOTO: SHEIKH NASTR

# Introduce death penalty for graft

HC suggests in full verdict on Haji Salim, asks the lawmaker to surrender before the trial court in 30 days

ASHUTOSH SARKAR

Corruption is a mental disease that cannot be cured only by corporal punishment, the High Court said in the full text of a verdict in a graft case recommending introduction of the death penalty for such offences.

Upholding 10 years’ imprisonment of Haji Md Salim, Awami League lawmaker from Dhaka-7, for amassing illegal wealth worth Tk 14.65 crore, the court also directed him to surrender before the trial court concerned within 30 days.

The countdown of the 30 days will start from the day the trial court receives the copy of the HC judgment.

The HC blasted the Anti-Corruption Commission for its failure to take appropriate action against corruption and for its dependence on media coverage.

“We are ashamed of our rank because of some corrupt persons who have managed to set themselves up in every sector in disguise with mental illnesses.

“They are powerful, organised and syndicated, therefore, on the basis of seriousness, arrogant and protracted offenders of corruption, capital punishment could be introduced,” the bench of Justice Md Moinalul Islam Chowdhury and Justice AKM Zahirul Huq observed in the 66-page full text of judgment which was released yesterday.

About the HC’s suggestion for introducing capital punishment for corruption, Law Minister Anisul Huq told The Daily Star that he could not make comments on this issue as he was yet to read the full verdict.

He also declined to comment on whether Salim can hold the office of parliamentary membership following the HC verdict.

But ACC’s lawyer Khurshid Alam Khan said Salim is no more a Jatiya Sangsad member as per article (2) (d) of the constitution from the moment the HC delivered the verdict.

In the full text of the judgment, the HC judges said, “We have cautiously noticed that the commission [ACC] still does not have capacity or courage to form such kind of belief even there are thousands of apparent corrupt persons possessing properties and money, but hardly at its own initiatives, rather, unfortunately still depends upon media coverage to form its belief for taking action under sections 26 and 27 of the Anti-Corruption Commission Ain, 2004.

“We desire to see a commission which must be effective and active in finding out root of all corruption within the holders of constitutional post and non-constitutional ordinary servants of the republic.”

“We know that it will be a difficult and

risky task because an honest person may fall prey to a corrupt person, but we have to start from somewhere to be a civilised and a corruption free nation,” the HC bench observed.

The HC upheld the lower court’s judgment that convicted and sentenced Salim to 10 years in prison in the case filed by the ACC during the military-backed caretaker government in 2007.

ACC lawyer Khurshid said the trial court will send Salim to jail if he surrenders before it.

Salim will have to seek bail from the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court after going to jail in this case, he added.

Salim’s lawyer Sayed Ahmed Raza, however, said his client would move an appeal before the Appellate Division challenging the HC verdict.

Salim is unwell and therefore, he will seek bail from the trial court after surrendering to it, he added.

“Disqualification under the constitution to be a member of parliament will depend on the result of the appeal. Because the conviction will be under challenge before the Appellate Division. When the conviction is under challenge, [conviction] cannot be termed final,” the lawyer said.

On March 9 last year, the HC bench delivered the verdict in the case dismissing an appeal of Salim.

## BBS to make database

FROM PAGE 1  
in mind that the project has to be done perfectly,” the minister added.

The country’s all other databases, including the National Identity (NID) Card database of the Election Commission, will be linked with NPR through application programming interface (API).

Dr Shahadat told The Daily Star that they have already prepared a preliminary development project proposal (DPP) for the NPR project which will be implemented in the next five years.

The DPP will be sent to the planning ministry soon for its approval, he said, adding the project’s implementation will start after the approval.

He also said once the

database is created, it will be operated under the government’s revenue budget and will be updated annually.

According to Shahadat’s presentation, BBS has been working for the project since 2010.

Already, three pilot projects in this regard were held in three upazilas.

State Minister for Planning Shamsul Alam said the project was going to be a good initiative of the government, stressing the need for implementing it on time.

There are various allegations of fraudulence regarding distributions of allowances under the social safety net schemes, he said.

At times, allegation was raised that real beneficiaries

were not included but those who were not eligible got the allowance, he added.

Once the NPR is implemented, such issues will be resolved, he said, adding that it would also help address land-related issues and statistics on foreign nationals living in Bangladesh.

The objective of NPR is to create and regularly updating mechanism of a comprehensive identity-database incorporating all demographic and biometric credentials.

Registering name in NPR will not be mandatory but a must for getting any type of benefits and services.

Once data of a person is recorded it will be preserved permanently even after death of that person.

## 87,600 hours

FROM PAGE 1

He also said they were hardly contacted by those investigating the case. “They tried to do their job in the first one or two years, but what they did later was nothing but an eyewash.

“I doubt if the Rab officials currently probing the case have any clues. They rarely contact us and whenever they do, they ask us silly questions,” he said.

Roman also criticised the role of journalist organisations, alleging that some journalist leaders actually sabotaged their agitation seeking justice.

“People in general, including many journalists, are sympathetic towards Sagar-Runi, but journalist platforms do not do anything apart from holding some yearly programmes,” he said.

NO HEADWAY IN SIGHT

After Sher-e-Bangla Nagar Police Station and the Detective Branch of police failed to solve the case, Rab was tasked with the investigation on April 18, 2012.

In November 2019, the High Court expressed disappointment at the slow pace of the Rab investigation.

At least eight suspects, including Rafiqul Islam, Bakul Miah, Masum Mintu, Kamrul Islam alias Arun, Abu Sayeed, two security guards of the couple’s house Palash Rudra Paul and Enayet Ahmed, and the couple’s “friend” Tanveer Rahman Khan were arrested after the killing.

Tanveer and Palash are now on bail. The others are behind bars.

Rab IO Khandaker Md Shafiqul Alam is the seventh

investigation officer in the case. He was given the job on July 4, 2019.

On October 7, 2020, he submitted a progress report into the double murder. He sought time extensions eight times last year to submit the probe report.

In the progress report, he said evidence seized from the crime scene was sent to the Independent Forensic Service (IFS), USA for DNA tests.

The IFS identified the DNA of two unidentified men. Later, another US DNA lab, Parabon Snapshot, was communicated for identifying the two, according to the report.

On January 24 this year, the Rab official once again failed to submit the probe report and then again filed for time extension. The court then set February 23 for the submission.

Contacted, IO Shafiqul said he would not make any comment for the “sake of investigation”.

Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan did not respond to our phone calls for comment yesterday.

Noted rights activist Nur Khan termed it a “total failure” of the law enforcement agencies.

“From the beginning of this case, the investigation agency tried to convey a wrong message to the people that the investigation is almost done. In reality, it is the complete opposite. They gave false promises,” he said.

“The investigation agency is also not communicating with the victims’ families. A perception has been created among people that some influential people are involved here,” he added.

## Power cost keeps spiralling

FROM PAGE 1

which is receiving capacity payments whilst half the plant stands idle because of insufficient transmission infrastructure.

The Payra plant is the “largest single contributor to the increase”, it said, adding that the cost of each unit of power purchased from the plant increased 36.5 percent year-on-year to Tk 8.6/kWh in fiscal 2020-21.

Only two out of seven towers of the Dhaka-Payra power transmission line have so far been installed in the Padma river, said Golam Kibria, managing director of Power Grid Company of Bangladesh.

Installation of the rest of the five will be completed by June. However, setting up of the transmission cables will not be done before December, he added.

The BPDB is paying Tk 130 crore a month in capacity charges to the Payra power station, the study said.

Thanks to the BPDB’s very large operating loss, the government’s subsidy bill hit a record Tk 11,780 crores in fiscal 2020-21,

up from Tk 7,440 crore the previous year.

And the total capacity payments increased a whopping 76 percent to Tk 13,200 crore in fiscal 2020-21.

The IEEFA projected that with more coal-based IPPs under construction and with large capacity LNG-based IPPs planned, the BPDB’s IPP cost is likely to continue going up significantly.

According to the BPDB, 12,967 megawatts (MW) of new power capacity is under construction and 19,651 MW more is planned to be added by the end of fiscal 2024-25.

Power plants with a total capacity of 3,990MW would be shut down by fiscal 2024-25, according to the BPDB’s annual report for fiscal 2020-21.

Overall power plant utilisation will drop further by fiscal 2024-25 as a result of these large capacity additions, the report said.

The IEEFA said even if power generation grows at a very high rate of 12 percent per annum until fiscal 2024-25, the overall

power capacity utilisation may drop to just 38 percent.

The report said though the power utilisation saw a slight improvement last year, it remains very low at 41.7 percent.

In January, the BPDB proposed a bulk power tariff increase by up to 64 percent to cover its shortfall of Tk 32,500 crore.

Khondaker Golam Moazzem, research director at the Centre for Policy Dialogue, said capacity payments are increasing due to decreasing utilisation of the power plants’.

Despite this, the government is approving new power plants. As a result, capacity charges and subsequent subsidies are swelling which have become a headache for the government, he told The Daily Star.

Such waste of revenue led to the hike in power price, Moazzem said.

“But we think the liability of these ineptness shouldn’t be justified by burdening the consumers with high electricity prices,” he added.

## SUST proctor relieved on personal grounds

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

Professor Md Alamgir Kabir, proctor of Shahjalal University of Science and Technology, was relieved from his position yesterday due to personal grounds, said a circular signed by SUST Registrar Mohd Ishlaquul Hussain.

Associate Professor Md Ishrat Ibne Ismail was appointed as the new proctor, it said.

The anti-VC movement also demanded Alamgir’s termination from the post.

Earlier on Sunday, Professor Zahir Uddin Ahmed, director of Students Counselling and Guidance of the university was relieved from his position.

Meanwhile, Education Minister Dipu Moni will meet the protesting students at the university this afternoon. According to a schedule signed by the minister’s personal secretary Abu Ali Md Sazzad Hossain, the minister will reach at 8:00am.

She will hold meetings with students, teachers and representatives of different organisations of the university.

## Acid attack victim dies, ex-husband jailed

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Manikganj

An acid attack victim died early yesterday after in the capitals Sheikh Hasina Institute of Burn and Plastic Surgery.

Sathi Akhter, 19, a garment’s worker, succumbed to her injuries after she was attacked with acid, allegedly by her ex-husband, in Manikganj’s Satoria upazila on January 28, said Ashraful Alam, OC of Paturia police.

She was first admitted to Manikganj General Hospital and later shifted to Dhaka after her condition deteriorated.

Sathi’s ex-husband Nacem Mollick was arrested and sent to jail by a court.

## BCL beats man for ‘giving info to journos’

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

A shopkeeper was beaten up allegedly by BCL men in Tangail’s Basail upazila yesterday.

Injured Mamun Miah, 28, told reporters Sumon Miah, general secretary of Kanchanpur union BCL, and some others had been lifting sand from Jhenai river for the past one month.

“As this news was published, Sumon and three others beat me and accused me of giving information to journalists.”

Harunur Rashid, OC of Basail police, said action will be taken after a case is filed.

## Bike thief killed by mob

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

A bike thief was killed by a mob in Dinajpur yesterday.

Rabiul Islam, 40, was accused in multiple cases for stealing bikes.

Police said on Wednesday around 8:00pm, villagers of Sadarpur caught Rabiul in the act and beat him. As he fainted at one point, police came and took him to M Abdur Rahim Medical College Hospital for treatment, where he died on Thursday morning.

Rabiul’s body was handed over to his family after an autopsy, said Md Asaduzzaman, inspector (Investigation) of Dinajpur Sadar police.

Full versions of the stories can be found under the same headlines on www.thedailystar.net

## They all long to be in EC

FROM PAGE 1

They said until yesterday, the Awami League did not submit its nominations while the BNP said it would not send any nominations to the search committee.

The deadline for submitting the nominations for political parties is 5:00pm today.

“We have submitted in person 10 names, including those of women, to the search committee today [Thursday],” GM Quader, chairman of Jatiya Party, told The Daily Star.

“We sent the names and requested the search committee that our proposed names be not made public,” Hasanul Haq Inu, president of JSD, told The Daily Star.

The six-member search committee after its first meeting on February 6 asked willing individuals

to submit their CVs to the cabinet division either by email or in person.

Although EC search committees were formed in 2012 and in 2017, those committees never asked individuals to submit their own names.

This search committee was formed on February 5 in accordance with the law styled “Appointments of the Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners Act 2022.”

The cabinet division is giving secretarial support to the search committee and the committee has until February 24 to propose 10 names to the president, who would make the final picks, according to the law.

The tenure of the incumbent EC is going to expire on February 14.

The search committee, led by Justice Obaidul

Hassan, includes HC judge Kuddus Zaman; Comptroller and Auditor General Mohammad Muslim Chowdhury; Public Service Commission Chairman Md Sohorab Hossain; former election commissioner Sohul Hussain; and psychiatrist and writer Anwara Syed Haq.

The search committee also invited around 60 civil society members, election experts and media personalities to the Supreme Court Judges Lounge on Saturday and Sunday to get their suggestions and proposals on the formation of the next EC.

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



HSC results on Sunday

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Results of Higher Secondary Certificate (HSC) and its equivalent exams for 2021 will be published on Sunday, education ministry's public relations officer Abul Khair said yesterday.

He said results will be handed over to Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina through a virtual programme at International Mother Language Institute. The education minister will hold press conference there after the programme.

Last year's exams were held on fewer subjects and a shortened syllabus. It was held eight months later than the usual schedule as the government waited for the coronavirus infections to come under control.

The examinees took tests only in three optional subjects. They did not have to sit for tests in compulsory subjects like Bangla and English. The exams carried fewer marks.

About 11.4 lakh students participated in the exams under nine general boards.



This little red riding hood was seen enjoying the warmth of the mother's embrace on a cold winter day. However, with four members of the family, including the elder kid, riding on the motorbike, this seemingly wholesome scene can lead to a severe accident. The photo was taken yesterday near Shahbagh.

PHOTO: PRABIR DAS



21st death anniversary of Tawfiq Aziz Khan today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Today is the 21st death anniversary of Tawfiq Aziz Khan, former executive editor of The Daily Star, sports writer and commentator.

One of the leading journalists of the country, Tawfiq joined the then Pakistan Observer as a staff reporter in 1958 while he was a student of Dhaka University.

He worked as public relations officer at the erstwhile EPIDC (East Pakistan Industries Development Corporation) and Titas Gas Corporation

SEE PAGE 4 COL 4

Peace essential for development: PM

UNB, Dhaka

Highlighting the role of Ansar and Village Defense Party (VDP) in curbing terrorism and militancy in Bangladesh, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday stressed the need for maintaining a peaceful environment for the development of the country.

"Bangladesh is a peaceful country. We believe in peace. And if the peaceful environment prevails, the country will continue to prosper," she said while addressing the 42nd national rally-2022 of Bangladesh Ansar and VDP.

Hasina virtually joined the function at Bangladesh Ansar and VDP Academy in Shafipur of Gazipur, from her official residence Gono Bhavan. She said the development of Bangladesh means development of every family. "We want every family to lead a decent life. This's why it's essential to maintain a peaceful environment."

Hasina said her government wants to build a terrorism- and militancy-free Bangladesh. "In this case, our Ansar and VDP have been playing a special role," she added.

Noting that the government is going to form Ansar Welfare Trust Fund for wellbeing of its members, the PM said she will manage the seed money for the trust fund.

At the event, Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan, on behalf of the premier, handed over special medals to 162 Ansar and VDP members under eight categories in recognition of their bravery and praiseworthy services.

Hasina urged the Ansar and VDP members to make collective efforts for the continuation of the ongoing development in the country.

She said her government has taken various programmes, including the "My House My Firm" scheme, to ensure the overall development of the country. Since Ansar and VDP members are trained on cooperatives, they were engaged in the programme, she said, adding that now many families have been able to become economically solvent and lead a better life, getting engaged in this cooperatives scheme.



PRAYER  
TIMING  
FEB 11



	Fazr	Juma	Asr	Maghrib	Esha
Azan	5-25	12-30	4-30	5-57	7-15
Jamaat	6-00	1-15	4-45	6-01	7-45

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION



Star photo-journalist wins 'Press Photo Award'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Amran Hossain, The Daily Star's senior staff photographer, won Bangladesh Press Photo Award 2022, in the Picture of the Year 2021 category.

Sourav Lasker of New Age won the award in arts, culture and sports category, Jibon Ahmed of Daily Manabzamin won in the public interest

SEE PAGE 4 COL 4



With yesterday's sudden rain, winter once again tightened its grip on the people of the city, especially those who have to work long hours outside in the adverse weather. Work got more difficult for this rickshaw-puller in the bone-chilling cold, who decided to take a steaming-hot tea break, while having a chat with the seller. The photo was taken in front of Dhaka University's Sir Salimullah Hall.

PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN

Party in power always brushes it off

Say speakers on enforced disappearances, calling for justice for victims

ENFORCED DISAPPEARANCE AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE STATE

- Not just victims' families, all should fight for justice
- Overhauling entire system
- Law enforcers must serve people, not the state



STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Whenever a party is in power, it shrugs off all responsibility of enforced disappearances, said speakers at a virtual discussion yesterday.

At the event, titled "Enforced disappearance and responsibilities of the state", hosted by Centre for Governance Studies (CGS), speakers questioned why such incidents have not been occurring since international pressure turned up. This proves that they were all staged.

"For whatever reason, enforced disappearances are happening; this needs to end. This is a human rights violation," said Ashim Kumar Ukil, a ruling party parliamentarian from Netrakona.

He said victims' family members should not be the only ones fighting for justice, but everyone involved in running the state should as well.

**“Victims’ families cannot file cases, nor can they mention that law enforcers were involved. The victims of these incidents are people in conflict with the law, or people with opposing views, or those tagged as extremists.”**

Nur Khan Liton  
ASK secretary-general

"Let us strengthen democracy. With stronger pillars of democracy, unnatural phenomena like enforced disappearances will stop," said Ukil.

BNP lawmaker Harunur Rashid Harun pointed out that the United Nations Working Group on Enforced Disappearance wants to visit and investigate, but the government has not allowed that.

"It is very heart-breaking when those in charge of running the state, deny the charges," he said. "We will protest incidents like these, even if our party is affiliated with it."

He then narrated an incident of "crossfire" that took place in his constituency in 2020.

"A day-labourer was picked up by law enforcers and killed in a crossfire. The most tragic incident is that his own two brothers were accused of the 'murder'," he said. "Also implicated were two people who were with me in the parliament on the day of the incident. When I sent a written complaint to the home ministry, no steps were taken."

Dr Manjur Ahmed Chowdhury, chairperson of CGS, said not only is a person forcibly disappeared but all evidence gets destroyed as well.

ASK secretary-general Nur Khan Liton reiterated that victims' families cannot file cases, nor can they mention that law enforcers were involved. "The victims of these incidents are people in conflict with the law, or people with opposing views, or those tagged as extremists," he said.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 4



‘We are servants of the state, not bureaucracy’

Engineers protest directive empowering DCs to oversee dev projects

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Engineers yesterday protested the recent directive of public administration ministry -- empowering deputy commissioners (DC) to oversee development projects at district level.

At human chains in all district headquarters and in the capital, engineers said they will not follow the directive and demanded it be withdrawn immediately. Organised by Institute of Engineers, Bangladesh (IEB), around 800 engineers protested in front IEB at Shahbagh.

On January 18, the ministry issued directives asking DCs to open a wing under an additional deputy commissioner for monitoring and evaluating projects, and send reports to IMED under the planning ministry.

Speaking at the human chain, IEB Services and Welfare Committee's Chairman SM Monjurul Haque Monju said the directives are illogical and an obstacle to development projects. "We are servants of the state, not of bureaucracy," he said.

IEB honorary general secretary Shahadat Hossain Shiblu said there is still a process of evaluating and monitoring project-work under the planning ministry, and engineers are accountable to the ministry's IMED.

"Please do your duty properly. One of your main duties is land acquisition. Many projects get delayed as land acquisition is not done in time," he said, referring to DCs. "We have no conflict with you."

‘We don’t want syndication’

Say recruiting agencies of Bangladesh, Malaysia

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Recruiting agencies of both Bangladesh and Malaysia yesterday said they don't want "syndication" in the process of sending Bangladeshi migrant workers to Southeast Asian countries.

During a press conference organised by "Members of Baira" at a city hotel, they urged Malaysia to ensure a process without syndication for Bangladesh, currently applicable for other source countries.

They voiced concern that syndication will again lead to irregularities, corruption and high migration cost, factors leading to market closure in the past.

Malaysia and Bangladesh signed a memorandum of understanding on labour cooperation in December 2021. However, the labour-sending process is yet to be finalised amid concern over not keeping the market open for all Bangladeshi recruiting agencies.

Earlier, a syndicate of 10 recruiting agencies allegedly caused corruption and irregularities in

SEE PAGE 4 COL 4



LAND SALE/BUY

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Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Office of the Executive Engineer

Department of Public Health Engineering

District: Satkhira

শেখ হাসিনার মূলনীতি

গ্রাম শহরের উন্নতি

Memo No. 46.03.8700.061.14.341.21-738

Dated: 09/02/2022

Invitation for e-Tender Notice No. 11/2021-22

01	Ministry/Division	Local Government Division.
02	Implementing agency	Department of Public Health Engineering (DPHE).
03	Project/program name	Project for Safe Water Supply Throughout the Country (PSWSC) Revenue Budget.
04	e-Tender IDs	653024, 654781, 653031, 655614
05	Description of works	Installation & Construction of Piped Water Scheme Construction of Inspection Bangalow Installation of Tube Well.
06	Name, designation & address of official inviting tender	Md. Shahidul Islam, Executive Engineer, DPHE, Satkhira District, Tel. No. 0471-63445
07	This is online tender, where only e-Tenders will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. Interested persons/firms can see details in the website: <a href="http://www.eprocure.gov.bd">www.eprocure.gov.bd</a>	

GD-273

Md. Shahidul Islam

Executive Engineer, DPHE, Satkhira

Tel. No. 0471-63445

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Environmental Science (ES)	Associate Professor (One)	
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Industrial Engineering (IE)	Associate Professor (One)	
Knitwear Manufacturing & Technology (KMT)	Associate Professor (One)	
Fashion Design & Technology (FDT)	Associate Professor (One)	

Application Guideline:

Candidates would be required to fill up an online application form available at Link: <https://buft.edu.bd/job/apply> and also, submit the printed hard copy of the filled in application form with two recent photos, copies of mark sheets, certificates, NID and a pay order of BDT-500/- (Non-Refundable) in favor of BGMEA University of Fashion & Technology. All relevant documents should reach the Registrar Section, BUFT, Nishatnagar (West side of Uttara), Turag, Dhaka-1230 before the deadline. Please mention the position and subject on top of the envelope. Only short-listed candidates will be called for interview. Please visit [buft.edu.bd](http://buft.edu.bd) for details.

N.B. The No of post may be varied

Application deadline : 22/02/2022

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Office of the Principal

Thakurgaon Polytechnic Institute, Thakurgaon

Phone: 0561-61400, Email: [thakurgaonpolytech@gmail.com](mailto:thakurgaonpolytech@gmail.com)

Ref. No. Thak-PI/Tender/2021-22/2022/74

Date: 08.02.2022

e-Tender Notice

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

Sl. No.	Tender ID/Reference No.	Name of tender	Last date and time for tender/ proposal security submission	Publishing date & time Closing date & time
1	657835, 57.03.9400.301.18. 22-70 06.02.22	Procurement of Laptop & Computer Accessories	24-Feb-2022 16:00	10-Feb-2022 12:30:00 27-Feb-2022 12:30:00
2	657759, 57.03.9400.301.18. 22-71 06.02.22	Procurement of Engineering Equipment for Architecture & Interior Design Lab	24-Feb-2022 16:00	10-Feb-2022 12:30:00 27-Feb-2022 12:30:00
3	657670, 57.03.9400.301.18. 22-72	Procurement of Engineering Equipment for Mechatronics Lab	24-Feb-2022 16:00	10-Feb-2022 12:30:00 27-Feb-2022 12:00:00
4	657572, 57.03.9400.301.18. 22-73	Procurement of Engineering Equipment for Refrigeration & Air-Conditioning Lab	24-Feb-2022 16:00	10-Feb-2022 12:30:00 27-Feb-2022 12:00:00

1) This is online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted.

2) To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required.

3) The fees for downloading the e-Tender document from the National e-GP System Portal to be deposited through any registered bank's branch.

4) Further information and guidelines are available in National e-GP System Portal [helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd](mailto:helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd)

08.02.2022

Engr. Md. Maksudur Rahman

Principal

Thakurgaon Polytechnic Institute

Thakurgaon

GD-270

## Contempt of court filed against CEC

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A contempt of court petition was filed with the High Court yesterday against Chief Election Commissioner KM Nurul Huda for not registering Ganasamhati Andolon as a political party in around three years after the HC has directed to do so. Ganasamhati Andolon's Chief Coordinator Zonayed Saki submitted the petition through lawyer Jyotirmoy Barua, saying that CEC Nurul Huda, who is scheduled to retire on February 14, has violated the HC directive.

## Star photo

FROM PAGE 3 journalism category while Md Zakirul Mazed of Weekly Citizen won in the politics category. Amran, who won the grand prize, will receive prize money of Tk 1 lakh, a crest, a certificate and a copy of the yearbook, while the other winners will receive prize money of Tk 50,000 each, with crests, certificates and copies of the yearbook. The winners will be awarded in a ceremony during a photo exhibition showcasing the selected images, which will be held from February 18 to March 3.

## 21st death

FROM PAGE 3 from 1968 to 1975, before joining the Dainik Bangla and the Bichitra as general manager. He joined The Daily Star in 1990 as its founder managing editor. He became executive editor in 1997 and worked in that capacity till his death. The first English sports commentator of the country, Tawfiq Aziz worked in radio, and later in television, since 1958. He was also the resident editor of Cricketer Asia of Hong Kong and Sports Times of Lahore. Tawfiq Aziz was the founder editor of the fortnightly Sports World (Kirira Jagat). He was also involved with the weekly Holiday at the initial stage

## We don't want

FROM PAGE 3 recruitment, leading to a market suspension in September 2018. Former secretary-general of Bangladesh Association of International Recruiting Agencies (Baira) Ali Haider Chowdhury said while sending workers to Malaysia, the issue of syndication only surfaced in the case of Bangladesh. Shameem Ahmed Chowdhury Noman, secretary-general of the previous Baira committee, said as per the new deal, Malaysian employers will choose Bangladeshi recruiting agency, while both authorities will crosscheck the authenticity of the said agency. about a system change so that law enforcers serve the people and not the state," she said. Eminent jurist Shahdeen Malik pointed out that perpetrators of the killings that took place during Operation Clean Heart were given indemnity by the BNP government, driving home the point that anyone in power is complicit in crimes like extra-judicial killing and enforced disappearances.

To Let

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014

## Government to bring back

FROM PAGE 12 individual's] origin that we feel has a basis, then we will make [the arrest] and everything is done according to existing legal procedures," he was quoted as saying by Bernama, a state news agency in Malaysia. Meanwhile, Malaysia's home ministry in a letter to Dhaka said Khairuzzaman was arrested for breaching the immigration law. Shahriar Alam said yesterday. But he could not give any details of the law that has been breached. He was an army major when Syed Nazrul Islam, acting president of Bangladesh government in exile, Tajuddin Ahmed, prime minister, M Mansur Ali, finance minister, and AHM Qamaruzzaman, minister of home affairs, relief and rehabilitation, were assassinated inside Dhaka Central Jail on November 3, 1975. He was an accused in a case filed in connection with the killings. After his retirement from the army, Khairuzzaman was placed in the foreign service. He was the ambassador of Bangladesh to the Philippines in 1996 when the Awami League government recalled him. He came back to Bangladesh and was sent to jail as the trial proceedings of the case went on. In 2004, a lower court

acquitted him in the jail killing case. The High Court and the Appellate Division later upheld the lower court verdict. In 2007, he became the high commissioner of Bangladesh to Malaysia. The Awami League came to power in 2009 and recalled him. As he did not come back, the government cancelled his Bangladeshi passport. Bangladesh is also making efforts to bring back the killers of Bangabandhu, State Minister Shahriar said yesterday. "We knew Khairuzzaman was living in Malaysia. The Western world shelters such accused individuals, but there is no such scope in Malaysia," he said. Asked if the government has asked Malaysia to return Khairuzzaman in relation to the case of Bangabandhu's assassination, he said he would not comment on it. "We will follow the same procedure [to bring Khairuzzaman back] that we follow to bring back Bangladeshi expatriates accused of crimes," he said. Khairuzzaman could have been punished in the jail killing case, but he was acquitted when the BNP came to power, he added. Many others accused in the Bangabandhu and jail

killing cases were given government jobs. After refusing to return home when he was recalled, Khairuzzaman applied for residency under the Malaysia My Second Home programme, sources said. It is not known whether he could avail the opportunity. This correspondent received the image of a card of the UN Refugee Agency bearing the name and photo of Khairuzzaman. The card is valid until May 22, 2024. A source in Malaysia said the UNHCR and Malaysian Human Rights Commission approached the Malaysian home ministry, seeking his release. Besides, Khairuzzaman's lawyer served a legal notice to the Malaysian authorities demanding his immediate release. Soon after Khairuzzaman got arrested, his lawyer said his client was detained without a valid reason and if he was not released in 24 hours, the lawyer would file a habeas corpus in the court. Asked how the government would deal with the fact that Khairuzzaman was residing in Malaysia with a card of the UN Refugee Agency, Shahriar said he was not aware of the matter, adding that the government would check the issue.

## Badiul Alam's death anniv observed

CITY DESK

Yesterday was the 19th death anniversary of Advocate Badiul Alam, a freedom fighter and politician, said a press release. On the occasion, Advocate Badiul Alam Memorial Foundation organised a milad mahfil in Chandanaish upazila, Chattogram. He was born in 1926 at Fatehnagar village in Chandanaish. Badiul got his undergraduate degree from Calcutta University and LLB from Dhaka University. During the 1971 Liberation War, he was a regional president of Awami League and later he became president of the Socialist Party Chattogram south division. After the war, he became vice president of the Lawyers Association and in 1981 he became its president. He helped set up Fatehnagar Sharifunessa Nazir Uddin Girls High School at his native village, a primary school, a madrasa and a library, the press release added.



পলি কার্মা-সাহায্য

ফাউন্ডেশন

Palli Karma-Sahayak Foundation (PKSF)

PKSF Bhaban, Plot: E-4/B, Agargaon Administrative Area, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar Dhaka-1207, Tel: 880-2-8181169; 880-2-8181658-61; 880-2-8181664-69

E-mail: [sep.procure@gmail.com](mailto:sep.procure@gmail.com), Website: [www.pksf-bd.org](http://www.pksf-bd.org)

Memo No: 53.23.0000.13.03.037.22.853

Date: 10 February 2022

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

(CONSULTING SERVICES – FIRM SELECTION)

Country: The People's Republic of Bangladesh

Name of the project: Sustainable Enterprise Project (SEP)

Credit No.: IDA-6209

Assignment Title: Identifying Risk Factors Affecting Sub-sectors' Enterprises and Drawing Matrix to Mitigate Risks to Survive Enterprise

Reference No. PKSF/SEP/S-14.8 (R)

1. The Palli Karma-Sahayak Foundation (PKSF) has received financing from the World Bank toward the cost of the Sustainable Enterprise Project (SEP), and intends to apply part of the proceeds for consulting services.

2. The consulting services ("the Services") include (but not limited to) Planning Risk Management (PRM), Identifying Risks, Perform Qualitative Risk Analysis, Plan Risk Responses, Implement Risk Responses, Monitor Risks etc.

The assignment will require an *estimated of 113 professional staff-days* and also non-key experts as per the requirement mentioned in the Terms of Reference (TOR). The study is scheduled to be completed within a period of six (06) months. The assignment is expected to be started from July 2022.

3. The detailed Terms of Reference (TOR) for the assignment can be obtained from the PKSF website ([tender.pksf-bd.org](http://tender.pksf-bd.org)).

4. The Palli Karma-Sahayak Foundation (PKSF) now invites eligible consulting firms ("Consultants") to indicate their interest in providing the Services. Interested Consultants should provide information demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the Services. The shortlisting criteria are: *General experience, Experience in similar assignments of compatible size, Financial Capability, Organizational capability of the firm and overall team composition & logistics proposed for the assignment.* Experience in conducting studies under multilateral development partner (World Bank/UN agencies etc.) funded projects will be given preference.

Consultants are requested to submit the following supporting documents in support of the above-mentioned criteria:

a. Up-to-date relevant Registration papers of the firm(s);

b. JV agreement/letter of intent (if applicable) along with the proposed JV agreement;

c. Firm's brochure including staffing;

d. Audited financial reports for the last three (03) years (including turnover from consulting services and other activities, profit & loss, current asset & liability and fixed asset & liability);

e. Relevant experience record of Last five (05) years (including name of the assignment, nature, total cost of contract, total input in terms of man-month, employer, location of service etc.)

f. All other items necessary to substantiate satisfaction of the shortlisting criteria listed above and/or included in the TOR; However, Key Experts will not be evaluated at the short-listing stage;

5. The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to Section III, paragraphs, 3.14, 3.16, and 3.17 of the World Bank's "Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers" July 2016 setting forth the World Bank's policy on conflict of interest.

6. Consultants may associate with other firms to enhance their qualifications, but should indicate clearly whether the association is in the form of a joint venture and/or a sub-consultancy.

7. A Consultant will be selected in accordance with the **Quality and Cost Based Selection (QCBS)** method set out in the World Bank Procurement Regulations.

8. Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours: 10:00 to 16:00 hours.

9. Expression of Interest (EOI) must be delivered in a written form (Hard copy along with a soft copy through flash-drive) to the address below (in person, or by courier mail) **by 03 March 2022 on or before 14:00 hours.**

10. The Procuring Entity (PE) reserves the right to accept or reject any or all EOIs without assigning any reason whatsoever.

AQM Golam Mawla

Deputy Managing Director

Palli Karma-Sahayak Foundation (PKSF)

PKSF Bhaban, Plot: E-4/B, Agargaon Administrative Area, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207

Tel: 880-2-8181169; 880-2-8181658-61; 880-2-8181664-69; E-mail: [sep.procure@gmail.com](mailto:sep.procure@gmail.com)






Later, Pabna-1 lawmaker Shamsul Haque Tuku went there and assured the teachers to discuss their issues at a meeting on February 24.

Besides, few other sand traders are continuing illegal sand extraction from the Soshanchhara stream flowing through the garden.

When asked whether privately-owned hills can be cut under the Sand and Land Management Act, he said, "I have the approval of the Ministry of Mineral

"Muddat Ali told us that he was extracting sand from his own lands. We will investigate and take necessary steps regarding the issue," said the garden manager.


**Tofazzal Sohel**, GS of Bapa's Habiganj chapter



**গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ**  
**Government of Bangladesh**

**People's Republic of Bangladesh**

Office of the Additional Chief Engineer, RHD  
Dhaka Zone Office, Allenbari, Dhaka  
Phone: 9136138, 01730782592  
Email: [acedha@rhd.gov.bd](mailto:acedha@rhd.gov.bd), [dhakazone2020@gmail.com](mailto:dhakazone2020@gmail.com)



**মুহূর্ত**  
**Portrait**

Memo No. 35.01.2690.007.07.001.22-615
Date: 08-02-2022

## Corrigendum No. 01 (One)

Ref: Eol Notice Memo No. 35.01.2690.007.07.001.22-378
Date: 25-01-2022

The following amendment (as shown in column-4) is hereby made to the Eol notice for the abovementioned work. The participants are advised to submit their Eol with due consideration to this amendments. This corrigendum is a part of the Eol notice. All other terms and conditions of Eol notice will remain unchanged. The participants must submit this Corrigendum No. 01 (One) along with their Eol document duly sealed and signed.

Sl. No.	Reference	To be replaced	Replace with
1	2	3	4
1.	Subject	Feasibility study of (i) Nayakandi (Sripur)-Chalakhar (Monohardi)-Shakerbazar Road (Z-2122), (ii) Shibpur-Bannerbazar-Palas (Taltali) Road (Z-2036), (iii) Dohar (Bashtala)-Kartikpur-Jhowkanda (Mainut) Road (Z-8207), (iv) Dohar-Kartikpur-Balirtek Road (Z-8209), (v) Kapashia-Pabur-Fuldi-Kaliganj Road (Z-3025), (vi) Lakpur-Kamargaon-Gagutia-Katiadi (Motkhola) Road (Z-2034) and (vii) Keraniganj (Konakhola)-Kholamura-Hazratpur-Iltavara-Mirpur (Hemayetpur) Road (Ch. 7+000 to 23+500) = 07 (Seven) under Roads & Highways Department, Dhaka Zone, Dhaka (Approx. length is 121.47km.)	Feasibility Study work to construct 8 (eight) newly included roads in accordance with RHD standard of important District Highways under Dhaka Zone Upgradation Project (Dhaka Zone) (Phase II)

**Md. Sabuj Uddin Khan**  
ID No. 005032  
Additional Chief Engineer (c.c) RHD  
Dhaka Zone, Dhaka

GD-271



# OSCAR NOMINEES who made history this year

## ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

The much-awaited nominations for Oscars 2022 were announced recently. Many celebrities, including Will Smith, Denzel Washington, and Ariana DeBose, among others, made history for their outstanding performances.

Renowned Hollywood actor Denzel Washington remains the Oscars' most-nominated Black

actor. He earned his tenth nomination for "The Tragedy of Macbeth", breaking his own record.

However, the "Training Day" the actor hasn't won any Academy Award in 20 years. Denzel Washington has only received two Oscars for his movies "Glory," at the 1990 awards, and the second for "Training Day," in 2002.

Jane Campion's "The Power of the Dog" leads this year's Oscar board with 12 nominations. The noted director scored a 'Best Director' nomination this year. Jane Campion is the first woman ever to be nominated twice in the category. Her first nomination was

for the 1993 film "The Piano." That same year, she won an Oscar for best screenplay for the same movie. Will Smith received his third and fourth Oscar nominations for 'Best Actor' and shared the 'Best Picture' nomination with Tim White and Trevor White for the film "King Richard". The noted actor is on the race for an Oscar for the first time in 15 years.

Will Smith is the ninth

created history with their Oscar nominations. The duo are the sixth married couple to be nominated in acting categories in the same year at the Oscars.

Bardem got nominated for best actor for his role as Desi Arnaz in "Being the Ricardos," while Cruz bagged the Best Actress nomination for her role as Janis in "Parallel Mothers."

Filmmaker Kenneth Branagh

## Wedding in Mumbai, reception in Mauritius

### ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Bollywood stud Farhan Akhtar will tie the knot to his sweetheart, Shibani Dandekar, on February 21.

Even though they will file for court marriage in Mumbai, Indian media has reported that they will host a grand wedding reception in Mauritius, after they celebrate their honeymoon there.

"Shibani is a very good girl, I really like her," said eminent Indian lyricist and

Farhan's father, Javed Akhtar.

"The most important thing is, however, the fact that they love each other."

## Mehazabien appears as judge in a singing reality show

### ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

For the first time, Mehazabien Chowdhury has appeared as a guest judge for a singing reality show. The show, titled, "Square Surer Shera" will be aired today at Maasranga Television, at 7 pm.

The episode will be comprised of Valentine's Day songs

The show is usually judged by renowned musicians S I Tutul and Pinto Ghosh.

The contestant of the show are the employees of square group. The programme, hosted by Moushumi Mou, airs on Fridays and Saturdays at 7 pm.



# COUNTRYWIDE

## Muazzin's success in beekeeping

### SHYKH SERAJ

In the last week of December, 2021, I heard an interesting story of a young man, who has built his dream around the bees. His name is Muazzin Hossain. It was a quite cold morning when I left for Manikganj's Singair upazila to see his activities. The nature was covered with thick fog and the villages just started to wake when I was close to Kanchan Nagar village. I noticed many bee boxes along vast mustard fields and Muazzin was already there. The young man, aged just over 30 years, greeted me with a big smile. The crazy youth did his BBA, and MBA from a private university. Usually, men and women of such age dream of government or corporate jobs. But Muazzin was different. "While studying MBA, I saw one of your videos on bee farming on YouTube which attract my interest. Then I started studying on bee farming," Muazzin said.

"My father was shocked when



Shykh Seraj talks to beekeeper Muazzin Hossain at Kanchan Nagar village in Manikganj's Singair upazila.

PHOTO: HRIDOYE MATI O MANUSH

and a half years, this young man has been able to go deeper into the extraordinary life of the bees. In other words, he is a keen observer of the bees' life cycle.

He was sharing his experience, bees mainly collect honey from fresh flowers. For half a kg of honey, 600 bees have to travel around 20 lakh (2 million) flowers and worker bee has to travel a distance of about 14.5 lakh kilometres. Muazzin is not only impressed with the orderly management and honey production, but also with the chain of command among the bees. Every bee box is a colony and each colony has a specific system of governance. There is also change in power when necessary. There is a natural process of protection and care of the most influential queen bee in every colony.

Finally, I saw a queen bee of one of the beehives roaming around hundreds of bees, mostly soldier bees. One don bee was relentlessly protecting the queen while the worker bees were continuously cleaning queen's path. The queen was looking for a place to lay eggs in the beehive and finally laid some eggs in several places. Interestingly when worker bees comprehend that the queen cannot produce quality eggs, they all kill the queen and bring a new queen to their hive.

As far as I know, there are about 25,000 beekeepers in Bangladesh and honey has turned

into an industry now. The country produces 10,000 tonnes of honey against the demand of 30,000 tonnes, which is usually produced from black cumin, coriander, litchi and mustard flowers. Honey is mostly collected from mustard flower, but in the southern part of the country, honey is collected from the Sundarbans.

In the last few years, many educated young entrepreneurs have started commercial beekeeping and honey production. "Although, the wholesale market fluctuates, the retail market is not bad at all," Muazzin said. A total of 64 boxes or colonies costs Muazzin around Tk 4 lakh (USD 4,654) throughout the year and he gets a profit of around Tk 4 lakh.

I have been reporting on various issues, including commercial expansion of bee farming, market opportunities and agricultural credits for beekeepers. As a result, bee farming has been included in the agricultural credit policy of the Bangladesh Bank. The demand and market for our local honey are increasing. Things are turning out to be positive. More positively, educated young entrepreneurs like Muazzin are coming to beekeeping that can bring new opportunities to this industry. I believe, beekeeping industry will go a long way with inquisitive minds, confidence and sincerity of farmers like Muazzin.

## Long-term paracetamol

FROM PAGE 12  
paracetamol, saw a significant increase in their BP.

This rise was similar to that seen with NSAIDs, and might be expected to increase the risk of heart disease or stroke by around 20 percent, experts said.

However, short-term paracetamol usage for headaches does not possess the same risk factor.

"This is not about short-term use of paracetamol for headaches or fever, which is, of course, fine," said the lead investigator

of the study, Dr Iain MacIntyre, consultant in clinical pharmacology and nephrology at NHS Lothian.

Professor James Dear, personal chair of clinical pharmacology at the University of Edinburgh, said "This study clearly shows that paracetamol -- the world's most used drug -- increases blood pressure, one of the most important risk factors for heart attacks and strokes.

"Doctors and patients together should consider the risks versus the benefits of long-term paracetamol

prescription, especially in patients at risk of cardiovascular disease."

The researchers concluded that patients who have a long-term prescription for the painkiller, usually used for the treatment of chronic pain, should opt for the lowest effective dose for the shortest possible time.

The study, however, has limitations as it was conducted only on 110 subjects. Larger studies are needed to further determine paracetamol's effects on patients with high blood pressure.

## Positivity rate on decline

FROM PAGE 12  
health disaster in June and July last year.

Yesterday, the Institute of Epidemiology, Disease Control and Research (IEDCR) and the Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University (BSMMU) in separate reports said that the Omicron variant was the most prevalent variant from January 1 to February 9.

The IEDCR study report revealed some 80 percent of Covid-19 patients were infected with the Omicron variant of novel coronavirus.

The rest 20 percent were infected with the Delta variant, according

to a report published by the IEDCR on its website yesterday.

IEDCR conducted a genome sequence of 148 patients in collaboration with three other research organisations including the International Centre for Diarrheal Disease Research, Bangladesh, the Institute for Developing Science and Health Initiatives and the Child Health Research Foundation.

Of all samples sequenced, 118 were Omicron variant and 30 Delta. Of the Omicron variant, 39 percent were BA.1 sub-variant and 41 percent were BA.2 sub-variant.

On December 9, the first

two cases of Omicron were reported in the country.

Meanwhile, the data analysis of the BSMMU showed that 82 percent of Covid-19 patients -- detected between January 19 and February 9 -- were infected with Omicron and 18 percent with Delta variant.

Prof Md Sharfuiddin Ahmed, the vice-chancellor of the BSMMU, also chief supervisor of the Genome Sequencing Research Project, disclosed the information yesterday in an event on the campus.

With the latest count, the total number of fatalities owing to novel coronavirus infection rose to 28,744.

## Shut Savar

### FROM PAGE 12

Hossain Chowdhury, a ruling AL MP and chief of the parliamentary standing committee, told The Daily Star.

"As they failed to stop the environmental pollution, we have now asked the monitoring and enforcement wing of the environment directorate to take necessary measures to shut down the tannery industry."

He added the directorate will act in line with the law.

Saber further said it was decided in the meeting that Shahab Uddin, minister of environment, forest, and climate change, will meet with the industries minister in this regard.

The meeting also decided that the estate, which has been running without environmental clearance for a decade, will have to apply for a fresh clearance, but will remain shut until then.

In 2003, the government took the initiative to build the BSCIC Tannery Industrial Estate on 200 acres in Hemayetpur after moving all tanneries from the capital's Hazaribagh in order to prevent pollution and protect the Buriganga.

According to statistics placed before the standing committee, the estate has the capacity to treat around 25,000 cubic metres of liquid waste every day, but the tanners generate around 40,000.

That means 15,000 cubic metres of untreated liquid waste are now dumped into the Dhaleshwari.

The estate also does not have the facility to treat solid waste, including heavy metals and chromium, which is also dumped into the Dhaleshwari, Saber Hossain said, adding that around 1.60 lakh cubic metres of solid waste have been dumped in the river over the past three years.

## Walking out of Assembly

FROM PAGE 12  
him, 'look, I am not afraid of prison. And I'm also not afraid of death.'

At about three o'clock in the morning, there was a knock at the door. As soon as I opened the door, a number of policemen rushed into the room. Police

arrested me and Khairat Hossain and took us to the central jail. Arriving there, I offered Fazr prayer.

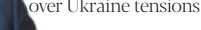
Maulana Abdur Rashid Tarkabagish walked out from the assembly session protesting against the police firing on February 21, 1952, and subsequently

resigned from the Muslim League Parliamentary party.

Source: Bhasha Andolon Prasanga: Katipay Dalil (Ed. Badruddin Umar, Bangla Academy, 1995.)

Translated by Shamsuddoza Sajen





# ON FRIDAY

**16 PAGES PLUS TOGGLE : TK 12.00**



## Proposed water price hike totally unacceptable

Govt should try to ease people’s burden, not increase it

HARD on the heels of the price hikes of diesel and kerosene in last November, and amid continuing rise in edible oil prices, the price of water in the capital is also set to see a sharp rise after Dhaka Wasa proposed a 20 percent hike in tariffs. If the government approves it, it would cause a big dent on the residents’ wallet, not to mention the domino effect it may have on the prices of kitchen market commodities, especially with the month of Ramadan approaching. At a time when people are already at their wit’s end trying to cope with the pandemic-induced economic pain and adjust their budget to erratic market behaviour, the Wasa proposal comes as a big shock indeed.

The proposal for increasing water price by 20 percent is not comprehensible, as technically, Dhaka Wasa can increase the tariff by 5 percent each year as per Section 22 of the Wasa Act, 1996. But in his defence, Dhaka Wasa’s managing director said that a 5 percent hike is not “sufficient” as it cannot match the production cost even with the government’s subsidy of Tk 10 per litre of water. As per the new proposal, the price of each unit (1,000 litres) of water should be Tk 21 for residential use and Tk 55 for commercial use, whereas the current prices are Tk 15.18 and Tk 42 respectively. As well as bringing down subsidies, the other reason cited for the proposed hike is the need to pay back Wasa’s foreign loans with interest.

Unfortunately, while Wasa officials seem keen to enhance water tariff at every opportunity—which they have done twice in the last two years and 15 times in the last 13 years—they have never shown much enthusiasm in fulfilling their pledge of providing clean, safe drinking water to the vast majority of the capital’s over two crore residents. Seldom do they feel the need to answer for their failure to do so, while residents continue to suffer the brunt of their lack of competence, vision and accountability. The proposal for water price hike is especially troubling with all the talk of raising the prices of electricity, gas and fertilisers by March.

The combined effect of all these price hikes coming in quick succession would be unimaginable. The pandemic has already caused immeasurable suffering and hardship to the people, pushing a vast number of them beyond the poverty line. Unemployment has reached an alarming level. People are also struggling with the rising healthcare costs. This is no time to compound their suffering. We urge the government to see the bigger picture here and not entertain the misguided Dhaka Wasa proposal. The government should also find alternative ways to fund or manage its subsidies.

## Check the wave of cybercrimes

Govt should make digital space safe for women and children

WE are quite concerned at the increasing incidents of cybercrimes against women and children in Bangladesh. According to Ain o Salish Kendra (ASK), 70 percent of the victims of cybercrimes are women. The rights organisation has found this after analysing data from a recent police survey. In a separate survey, the ministry of posts, telecommunications and information technology has found that 49 percent of schoolchildren are becoming victims of cyberbullying. The real situation can be worse, as many victims or their families do not report these crimes to the police, fearing social stigma or further victimisation.

Cybercrimes have increased particularly during this pandemic which led to a rise in the number of internet users. From January 2020 to August 2021, the number of internet users has increased by 26.21 million in the country, according to the Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission. A large portion of them are teenagers who are using internet mainly for academic purposes, as schools and colleges have resorted to online classes to contain the spread of the coronavirus.

Unfortunately, most teenagers and young adults have no awareness of the danger internet poses. A survey conducted by the University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh last year found that teenage girls are less aware than boys of the risks of cyberbullying, stalking, harassment, sexual abuse and production or consumption of illegal materials. Although police introduced a helpline to provide support to the victims in 2020, few people used that to report crimes. And those who did and sought help, less than half of them got any legal advice and assistance, ASK found.

Amidst such a grim situation, what needs to be done on a priority basis is raise awareness among young users about the harmful aspects of the internet. ASK has also identified some reasons—such as lack of importance given to children’s mental health, domestic violence, absence of sexual and reproductive health and cyber security education—behind the increase in cybercrimes. Addressing these issues is crucial, and parents and educational institutions have a key role to play here.

Of course, a major part of the responsibility to stop such crimes falls on our police force, especially the cybercrime fighting unit. Since police have a specific unit to work on the issue, they must have the willingness and required manpower and tools to reach out to all the victims who report to them and provide them prompt and necessary support. Also, cases filed in connection with cybercrimes must be disposed of quickly, which will act as a deterrent to prospective criminals.

# Do we take our international partners for fools?

Only that can explain the foreign minister’s inane answers to serious questions



### THE THIRD VIEW

Mahfuz Anam is the editor and publisher of The Daily Star.

MAHFUZ ANAM

SINCE the US sanction on Rab and few of its present and former officials, there have been several comments from our ministers on the topic. On February 5, our venerable foreign minister said, “Some UN body gave us a list of disappeared people. Later, it was found that many of them actually drowned in the Mediterranean. They have prepared the list with the help of a Bangladeshi organisation. They don’t have any research on the matter.” He also said, “We spoke with the police and asked them to hold talks with the families of the disappeared people in the presence of journalists. In that discussion, the families of the disappeared people will say when, how and where their family members were taken to and whether they returned.” On US sanctions, he went on to say, “The real purpose is not human rights. The real purpose is not even disappearances or murders. The real purpose is to try and reap some benefits from these pressures... Bangladesh has become an eyesore for some due to its good position strategically, and many countries are highlighting the issue of enforced disappearances in their own interests.”

He said the above following a conference on “Branding Bangladesh.” What is the brand value he is trying to inculcate—one of glib and unthinking comments on serious issues?

In our view, he has made a mockery of the UN’s multilateral accountability process on human rights, to which Bangladesh is a signatory, trivialised our relationship with the US at a time when it needs delicate handling, and demonstrated a most insensitive attitude towards the recent tragedy that our citizens suffered while searching for a better life abroad.

About those who met their tragic demise in the watery grave of the Mediterranean Ocean, he said “it has been found” that many of them were in the UN-supplied list of the “disappeared.” Does he have a list of those names? When was it made, and by whom? Has he verified its authenticity? And why doesn’t he make it public? (On February 9, our respected foreign secretary made similar comments to the press about finding the whereabouts of eight or nine people in the UN list, but giving no clue as to the sources of his information. He was vague and sounded like he was conveying what he had heard, rather than the facts he had in hand.)

Our foreign minister said, “We have talked to the police and asked them to speak with the families who will say when and how their family members were taken.” It seems that he never saw newspaper reports of these families who, year after year, come to the Press Club and, with tearful eyes and with young children crying their hearts out, recount how they lost their loved ones.

In reference to the UN, our FM said, “Some UN body gave us a list.” Well, the UN body happens to be the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances (WGEID). It was set



ILLUSTRATION: BIPOLOB CHAKROBORTY

**Rab’s activities have been singled out in the WGEID reports for years, especially since 2013. But when the US put the sanctions on them, we were surprised and woke up. If we had taken WGEID reports seriously then, we feel certain that this sanction and the attending bad image could have been avoided.**

up in 1980 and works under the UN Human Rights Council, consisting of five independent experts coming from all over the world. The current experts are from Italy, Lithuania, South Korea, Guinea-Bissau and Argentina—the last being the current chair as well.

According to its latest report (2021), there are 76 “outstanding cases” of enforced disappearances. The report,

concerned authorities in Bangladesh for necessary inquiry and actions.”

So, what “necessary inquiry and actions” have we taken since 2013? The report damningly says “not received replies to any outstanding case” and “only one case has been clarified since 1996.” Only one case in 26 years? Rab’s activities have been singled out in the WGEID reports for years, especially since

in Paragraph 64, states, “The Working Group reiterates its concern regarding the situation of enforced disappearances in Bangladesh, which it has been raising in similar reports for several years with scarce engagement by the government. In this regard, the Working Group notes that it has not received replies to any outstanding cases during the reporting period, and that only one case has been clarified by the government since the Working Group transmitted the first case in 1996. The Working Group hopes to receive information on the outstanding cases as soon as possible. Allegations of enforced disappearances, notably those carried out by the members of the Rapid Action Battalion (Rab), should be promptly investigated and those responsible prosecuted.” In Paragraph 65, it states, “The Working Group reiterates its interest in undertaking a visit to Bangladesh, as expressed in several communications transmitted since 2013.”

As is obvious from the WGEID report, they have been in touch with our government since 1996—in other words, for the last 26 years. Since 2013, the group wanted to visit Bangladesh, but no permission was granted. When the foreign minister accuses WGEID of “no research,” the answer lies in the fact that we didn’t allow them a fact-finding visit since their first request nine years ago. Why? What have we to hide?

We could verify that at least on three occasions—September 2013, November 2013, and October 2015—the Permanent Mission of Bangladesh in Geneva acknowledged the receipt of communication from the Working Group and replied saying, “The Permanent Mission has the honour to assure that the contents of the communication have been duly noted and forwarded to the

2013. But when the US put the sanctions on them, we were surprised and woke up. If we had taken WGEID reports seriously then, we feel certain that this sanction and the attending bad image could have been avoided. I think our foreign ministry owes an explanation to the people and especially to the prime minister as to their inexplicable inaction over more than two decades, and especially since 2013.

The “real reason” for the sanction by the US, the foreign minister said, is neither human rights nor disappearances but “to put pressure on us.” In doing so, he is directly pointing fingers at the US and accusing them of duplicity. How diplomatic is that, especially when you are negotiating for its reversal? Putting pressure is the name of the game in relations between superpowers and the rest—who does not know it? But shouldn’t our minister handle it diplomatically, through secret negotiations, subtle messaging, third parties, meetings under different guise, visits, etc? How does it help if he says publicly that we have become an “eyesore”? Earlier, when the US did not invite Bangladesh to the Democracy Summit, he said it was possibly because the US only invited “weak” democracies. Diplomacy, indeed.

Glib media responses and accusatory comments about countries who have temporary problems with us do not diplomacy make. Matured engagements do. Our pathological aversion to accountability will not take us very far. Our tendency towards overconfidence due to recent economic success may prove to be counterproductive—in some cases, extremely so.

Please do not take our international partners for fools. They deserve our most serious engagement—especially as we now aspire to be a developed country.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send us your letters to [letters@thedailystar.net](mailto:letters@thedailystar.net)

### Beat plastic pollution

Plastic pollution is a major threat to our environment, biodiversity, economy and health. I have come across many newspaper reports recently about the horrific situation of plastic pollution in the country. It seems unbelievable that every day about 3000 tons of plastic waste is produced in Bangladesh. Single-use plastics and other plastic products have already clogged the drains and canals of the city and also ruined many of our rivers. A report published a few years ago stated how the Buriganga River became toxic due to plastic waste, and

how all the living creatures in the river are dying due to plastic pollution. The hazardous elements emitted through plastic pollution can cause various chronic diseases in humans, including cancer. Therefore, it is necessary to limit our use of plastics, increase the production of jute products to be used instead of plastics, raise public awareness about the issue and enforce the laws enacted by the government.

Mahmudul Haq Hasan  
Dhaka College, Dhaka





# The Definitive Story

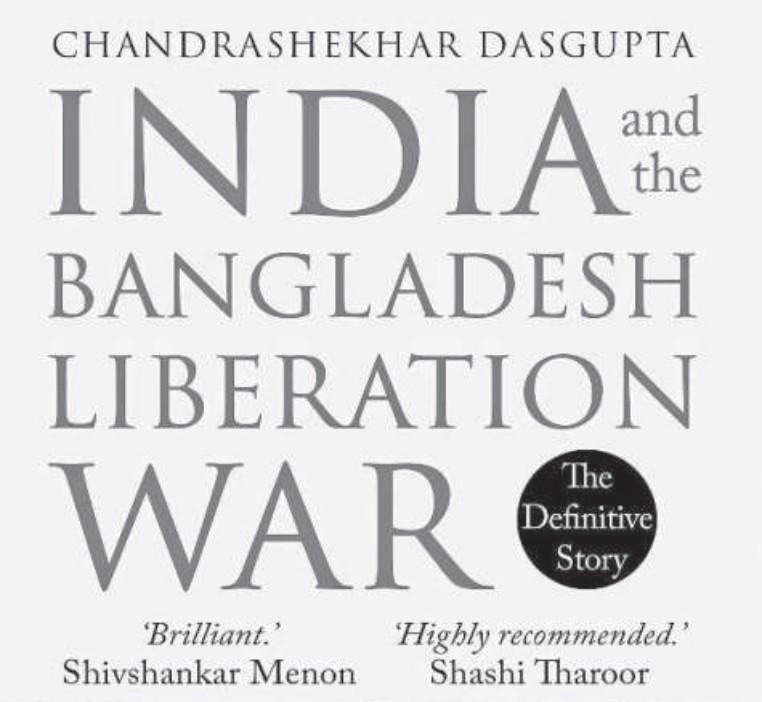
Why Chandrashekhar Dasgupta’s book is the last word on India’s role in 1971



Shamsheer M Chowdhury, BB is the former Foreign Secretary of Bangladesh.

SHAMSHER M CHOWDHURY

RETIRED Indian diplomat Chandrashekhar Dasgupta’s recollection of the events of 1971, centring on the Bangladesh Liberation War as captured in his recently published book, *India and the Bangladesh Liberation War: The Definitive Story* (Juggernaut, 2021), is



indeed what the sub-caption of the book suggests—it is arguably the most definitive story. As the author says in his introduction, the book is not about the military operations of December 1971, nor is it a global history of the war; it is about India’s grand strategy in 1971 and how this was played out comprehensively and in a seamlessly coordinated manner, employing all the resources available to a state—diplomatic, military and economic—to achieve a political objective.

Dasgupta highlights that even the absence of an institutionalised coordination mechanism in the establishment did not stand in the way of its execution. Going through it, any reader would agree that the book is the product of lengthy research by, and sheer perseverance of, the author. This explains the minute details of the events of the period, both inside India and in the international arena. Dasgupta goes to great lengths to talk of the interactions and discourse between and among the major stakeholders—the government of India, the Bangladesh government in exile and the key players in the global arena. Dasgupta’s emotional attachment to the events is perhaps explained partly by his personal experience of being among the first few Indian diplomats to be assigned to the just-opened Indian diplomatic mission in Dhaka—an assignment any Indian diplomat would have coveted and cherished—and partly by his own desire to understand, and record, the entire gamut of what transpired at various stages during the nine months between March and December of 1971.

The book is, at once, illuminating and instructive. It starts off with a potent quote from Bengal’s highly-revered political leader, Abul Mansur Ahmad, on how little there was in common between the two wings of Pakistan. This reflects Chandrashekhar Dasgupta’s deep insight into the political, social and cultural reality of Pakistan. In the opening two chapters, Dasgupta expands on Ahmad’s quote to understand how the fissure that existed at the country’s very birth, tectonically morphed into a gaping fault line and then led to its inevitable disintegration, and how Sheikh Mujibur Rahman was a central figure in this historic passage. An entire chapter is devoted to the Bangladesh Mukti Bahini; its birth, its growth and its critical role leading to the final liberation of the

motherland.

During the nine months of the Liberation War, that Pakistan’s military leadership, and Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, had their heads buried in the sand is all too well-known, that the Nixon administration—especially his principal analyst, Henry Kissinger—got it all wrong from the very beginning is also clear, and that, in the end, China’s posturing for Pakistan would not be matched by any military action also became evident. The book graphically elaborates on all of the above in finer details. What is illuminating in the book is its descriptive revelation of the process of convergence of minds between India and the then Soviet Union. This was not a given, as many erroneously thought it was. Dasgupta writes in great detail about how the process evolved. No denying that the prevailing Cold War played its part in this, but the driving force behind it was India’s well-choreographed diplomacy, anchored by Prime Minister Indira Gandhi herself, aided as she was by a highly-astute team of technocrats in the persons of PN Haksar, DP Dhar, TN Kaul, RN Kao, et al. The passage of the Soviet position—from one of initial circumspection to that of an ally, culminating in the historic Indo-Soviet Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Cooperation in August 1971—was clearly the outcome of deft diplomatic handling by India and an equally mature response from Moscow. Dasgupta carries the reader through the entire process of negotiations step-by-step, with focus on dealing with the tricky Article 9. The Treaty was a game changer in more ways than one. It hardened the Soviet stance towards Islamabad, starting with cutting off arms delivery. Dasgupta amplifies this in Chapter 10 where Andrei Gromyko, the crafty Soviet Foreign Minister, made it known to the visiting Pakistan Foreign Secretary Sultan Mohammad Khan in September that Moscow’s words to the Pakistani leadership to not provoke a war with a treaty partner and to ensure the safety of Sheikh Mujibur Rahman was not a request. The strategically important convergence between India and the Soviet Union also gave the Nixon administration and China enough food for thought. For one, it served India to use this convergence as a countervailing tool against the emerging Sino-US entente. It also enabled Mrs Gandhi to talk with the leaders in Washington, London, and in other Western countries from a

position of confidence. Importantly, it caused Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev to recognise that the Bangladesh freedom struggle was a war for national liberation and also of the crucial role the Bangladesh Mukti Bahini played in this process.

The author quotes a senior Indian diplomat involved in the earlier stages of the negotiations, who aptly commented, “Article 9 has just the right amount of substance and shadow to confound our enemies and hearten our friends.”

In the book, Chandrashekhar Dasgupta explains that the impact of India’s role in the Bangladesh Liberation War, besides changing the geographical and political landscape of South Asia forever, was also felt on the critical issue of Kashmir between India and Pakistan. An important outcome of the 1972 Shimla Summit between the two countries was an agreement to take the issue out of the ambit of any multilateral framework (read: the UN) and confine it to bilateral arrangements. It also led to a rearrangement of the Line of Control in Kashmir.

Chandrashekhar Dasgupta’s book derives its strength from the fact that it is based on indisputable evidence, irrefutable logic and undeniable truth. It is objective, succinct in both its form and content, easily readable and even easier to absorb. The book also reaffirms the point made by current Indian External Affairs Minister Dr S. Jaishankar in his own book, *The India Way*, that India’s role in the Bangladesh Liberation War was the former’s greatest diplomatic and military triumph.

One could be excused for wondering why it took so long for such key details to emerge in their totality. The counterargument would be that the timing of the book’s launch coinciding with the 50th anniversary of the Liberation War of Bangladesh, and India’s decisive role in it, makes the whole exercise more relevant.

Former Indian Foreign Secretary and National Security Advisor, Shiv Shankar Menon—undoubtedly one of the finest minds in India’s foreign policy establishment—describes the book in one word: “Brilliant.” He goes on to add that it is a must-read for scholars of history and geopolitics, diplomats and anybody willing to study the emergence of a different South Asia. Chandrashekhar Dasgupta’s masterful scholarly work is all that, and then some.

Chandra-shekhar Dasgupta’s book derives its strength from the fact that it is based on indisputable evidence, irrefutable logic and undeniable truth. It is objective, succinct in both its form and content, easily readable and even easier to absorb.

# When politics is all about partying



Kamal Ahmed is an independent journalist who writes from London. His Twitter handle is @ahmedkal

KAMAL AHMED

THE one issue dominating British politics for weeks is nothing other than the partying going on at the heart of the government, at 10 Downing Street, the office-cum-residence of the prime minister. This scandalous partying, now dubbed as “Partygate” by the British media, raises serious questions about not only the standards in public life, but whether one of the world’s oldest democracies can cling on to its global standing. Prime minister Boris Johnson’s influence and grip over the nearly 200-years-old party, the Conservatives, has been quite remarkable and unprecedented.

Johnson’s electoral successes, both in the Brexit referendum and in the 2019 general election, almost made him larger than his party. A veteran of British political journalism, Andrew Marr, wrote in *The New York Times*, that the Conservatives are in an agonised, self-flagellating panic. Should they get rid of Boris Johnson, their populist leader whose deceit and flouting of lockdown rules has infuriated a chunk of the country and embarrassed his party? Or should they stick with a man who, so far, has kept them in power?

The Partygate scandal is not about just one party for which Prime Minister Boris Johnson was in attendance, but over a dozen other similar ones that took place at 10 Downing Street, and which are now contributing to the description of the government’s “partying culture.” Twelve of those parties are being investigated by London’s Metropolitan Police. The police investigation, however, has given PM Johnson some time to stave-off mounting pressure for resignation, by requesting the Cabinet office to withhold publication of the report of the other investigation—carried out by a top civil servant Sue Gray. Gray, who served as the director-general for Propriety and Ethics in the Cabinet Office from 2012 to 2018, is known for having forced out three ministers during her tenure.

Despite heavy redactions, Gray’s report

had enough damning elements against the prime minister as it criticised “failures of leadership and judgement” at the heart of the British government. The report said, “At least some of the gatherings in question represent a serious failure to observe not just the high standards expected of those working at the heart of Government but also of the standards expected of the entire British population at the time.” The scandal has engulfed Johnson’s government so much that he had to cancel his prescheduled telephone call to President Putin to talk about the Ukraine crisis and attend parliament instead to table the Sue Gray report and respond to its findings.

Opinion polls show that the Partygate scandal has severely dented the electoral prospects of the Conservatives, giving the Labour party an advantage varying between 10 and 14 points. At least 15 MPs from his own backbench have openly called for Johnson to quit. The actual number of rebelling MPs, however, is speculated to be three times higher. It is hard for many people outside Britain to understand how Johnson is still holding on to his position, despite losing so much support outside and within his party. The main reason is that he holds a majority of more than 80 seats in the Commons, which frustrates any potential move by opposition parties to have a no-confidence vote.

The only option left for his removal is a clear, no-confidence vote within his party. But the Conservatives’ internal rule stipulates that discussing any proposal to replace the leader requires a written submission to the chairman of the backbench committee (known as 1922 committee) by at least 15 percent of its MPs. This means that about 54 MPs have to officially call for a leadership change. But that does not automatically seal the fate of an incumbent leader of the Tory party. The party rules say that if the current leader is able to retain a majority within the parliamentary party, his/her position is secured for at least another year.

Despite such rigid rules of the Tory party, many pundits say there are signs that, despite Johnson’s long history of beating the odds and pulling through rough waters, this Partygate scandal could end his premiership. According to them, if the police investigation results in him being handed a penalty for breaking lockdown rules or if Sue Gray’s final report finds he lied to parliament, then it would be



ILLUSTRATION: COLLECTED/MARIAN KAMENSKY

terminal. Few others say, if the upcoming local elections in May show that Johnson is no longer a vote-winner, as the opinion polls have been indicating consistently,

then a sufficient number of party MPs would rally round his likely challengers.

Amidst the Partygate turmoil that prompted a series of high profile resignations and clearing out at Downing Street, and an attempt to revamp his administration, PM Johnson has come under renewed attack from all sides following an unruly mob confronting the Labour leader Sir Keir Starmer outside parliament on Monday. MPs from all sides angrily accused Boris Johnson of whipping up political poison by falsely accusing Sir Keir of protecting a notorious paedophile, Jimmy Savile. Johnson provoked widespread fury last week when he suggested Sir Keir had protected Savile during his time as director of public prosecutions. This latest incident has now fueled speculation that many more Tory MPs will have pens poised to write to the 1922 committee chief demanding a vote of confidence.

The Partygate scandal is not about just one party for which Prime Minister Boris Johnson was in attendance, but over a dozen other similar ones that took place at 10, Downing Street, and which are now contributing to the description of the government’s “partying culture.” Twelve of those parties are being investigated by London’s Metropolitan Police.

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নং. ১৮৫/এফআরসি/এসএস/২০২২/১২৫

তারিখঃ ৭ ফেব্রুয়ারি, ২০২২

সংবিধিবদ্ধ কর্তৃপক্ষ এবং রাষ্ট্রীয় মালিকানাধীন বাণিজ্যিক প্রতিষ্ঠানসমূহের আর্থিক প্রতিবেদন প্রস্তুতকরণে প্রযোজ্য মানদণ্ড এবং কাঠামো চূড়ান্তকরণে প্রাক-প্রকাশনা বিজ্ঞপ্তি

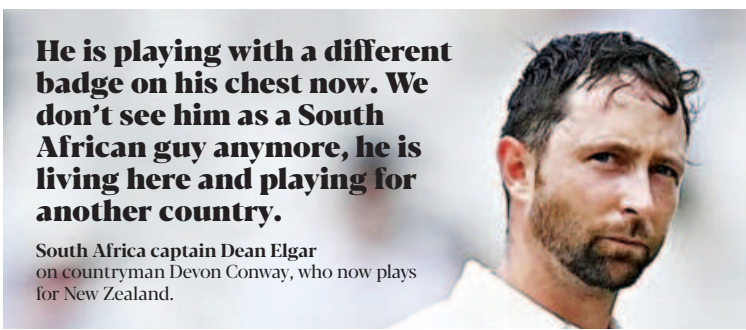
ফাইন্যান্সিয়াল রিপোর্টিং আইন (এফআরএ) ২০১৫ এর ধারা ২(৮)(খ) অনুযায়ী উপরোল্লিখিত প্রতিষ্ঠানসমূহ যারা জনস্বার্থ সংস্থার সংজ্ঞার অন্তর্ভুক্ত যেমন, রাষ্ট্রায়ত্ত্ব বাণিজ্যিক প্রতিষ্ঠান, কর্পোরেশন, রাষ্ট্রায়ত্ত্ব ব্যাংক, কাউন্সিল, বোর্ড, ইনস্টিটিউট, কমিশন, ট্রাস্ট, বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়, কলেজ, ফাউন্ডেশন, কর্তৃপক্ষ, 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 প্রযোজ্য প্রতিষ্ঠানসমূহের তালিকা এবং উক্ত প্রতিষ্ঠানের জন্য প্রযোজ্য মানদণ্ড, কাঠামো এবং স্তর নির্ধারণ করেছে। আর্থিক কাঠামো, মানদণ্ড এবং আনুষঙ্গিক বিষয়াদির খসড়া এক খণ্ডে পিডিএফ আকারে এফআরসি ওয়েবসাইটে ([www.frcbd.org](http://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  
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জিডি-২৪৫





## Siddons set for batting coach role

SPORTS REPORTER

With Ashwell Prince resigning on Wednesday from his role as the batting coach of Bangladesh, former national team head coach Jamie Siddons is the primary choice to take over the role.

Although the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) is yet to give its official announcement on the matter, local media reported on Wednesday that Siddons was confirmed to be the next batting coach of Bangladesh by the board president Nazmul Hassan.

It is understood that Siddons will be handed responsibility with a long-term view.

Siddons arrived in Dhaka last week after being appointed by the BCB as its batting consultant for the next two years but his role was not specified by the board.

It was also learned that Champaka Ramanayake, BCB's fast-bowling consultant for high performance unit, is likely to work with the 'Tigers' pace-bowling unit for the Afghanistan series with BCB also looking at permanent options after Otis Gibson's departure.

## Opening selection looms large ahead of Afghan series

ABDULLAH AL MEHDI

As the Bangladesh Premier League (BPL) heads towards the closing stages, the upcoming Afghanistan series, slated to begin with the ODI series on February 23, starts to come into view.

While Bangladesh find ODIs easier to deal with, their T20I skipper Mahmudullah Riyad would have to resist a strong Afghan T20I outfit in the two-match T20 series, slated to be played between March 3-5 at Dhaka's Mirpur. The focus would be on the top-order form, especially the opening batters such as Mohammad Naim, who is lacking in form in the BPL following Bangladesh's T20 World Cup debacle.

Bangladesh's troubles at the top was further defined when Saif Hassan, initially earmarked as a Test opener, was played in the Pakistan T20Is at home. With Afghanistan's strength in the format is of particular concern, the ongoing BPL gives indications of form and what the selectors might be thinking.

"Naim is our regular opener in the T20s. Last year, Naim was the highest run-getter in T20Is [575 runs in 26 innings] for us. He's having a bad patch but this year, his BPL is not going well. However, not much time left," national selector Habibul Bashar told The Daily Star yesterday.

Naim has come in at number three, number four and number seven so far. In the match against Chattogram, he was pushed back to number eight, almost being shielded during a crucial run-chase with Tamim carrying the side. Then he failed to take advantage of a no-ball against Mritunjay in that last over, only



giving a simple return catch before failing to put away a low full-toss in the final delivery.

"It is unfortunate [that he hasn't been playing at the top for his franchise] that he had to bat deeper, which is not his position. This did not help, and we can't do anything as it is the franchise's decision," Bashar stated.

Is it a negative for Naim? "He's still a

young player. A player can go through a bad season," came Bashar's reply.

When asked whether the selectors would want Naim, being last year's top-scorer, to bat in other positions to increase his power-hitting abilities, Bashar said: "Not at all, he's an opener. When he plays for Bangladesh, he will open."

Liton Das has been amongst the runs since the UAE debacle and has found runs in the BPL with two crafty knocks but consistency is an issue.

"He [Liton] wasn't dropped but rested and that time out worked for him. He's one of our best batsmen and has played well in the other two formats too. He is a bit off-colour in T20s but has the ability. Since Tamim isn't playing, his performance will be crucial at opening slot," Bashar said.

With everything considered, a right-left opening combination would not be mandatory where 'the best two should play', according to Bashar.

Soumya Sarkar, too, has found runs in his last two BPL matches (43 and 82\*). Anamul Haque Bijoy (248 runs in 8 matches) is the fourth-highest run-getter in the tournament. Mahmudul Hasan Joy, looks like he has the head and the shots for the format, have paced himself well with a strike-rate of 132 – the highest among local batters that are among top run-getters. 23-year-old Munim Shahriar appears to have the T20 mindset as well.

"We're thinking of everyone. It's good when top-order batters find runs in domestic cricket since it gives us options."

Head coach Russell Domingo is due to return on 19th of this month. "We will talk over Zoom [with Domingo] when we select the team," Bashar concluded.

## Nafisha lands among stars in Indonesia

SPORTS REPORTER

Shooter Nafisha Tabasum sealed her first-ever international medal with a bronze in the women's 10m Air Rifle event of the International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) Grand Prix in Jakarta yesterday.

Nafisha had stood second in one of the two semi-finals but eventually had to be content with a bronze medal after scoring 37 in 15 shots during the medal-match round. Laura-Georgeta ILIE of Romania ended up winning the gold

while Khairunnisa Salsabela of hosts Indonesia bagged silver.

Nafisha's compatriots Sajida Haque and Atkiya Hasan Disha, however, were eliminated from the semi-

finals and qualification round, respectively, while Shovon Chowdhury and Rabbi Hasan Munna failed to cross the semi-final hurdles in the men's 10m Air Rifle events to finish fifth and seventh, respectively.

Having burst into the scene after acquiring gold medal during the in the 10m Air Rifle event at the Bangladesh Games, Nafisha also went on to grab a bronze in women's 50m Rifle event in the same event.

Prior to that, Nafisha played in the 50m Rifle event in 2015, 2016 and 2017 editions of national shooting championships in which she won five medals, including gold and silver.



## 'Everybody is happy that Romelu scored'

AFP, Abu Dhabi

Romelu Lukaku scored a much-needed goal as Chelsea beat Saudi Arabia's Al Hilal 1-0 on Wednesday to advance to the Club World Cup final against South American champions Palmeiras. The European champions will face Brazilian side Palmeiras on Saturday in the Mohammed bin Zayed Stadium in Abu Dhabi.

Chelsea's club-record signing had failed to score in five games before arriving in Abu Dhabi, and the Blues are looking for the 28-year-old to find his best form in the second half of the season.

"Everybody's very happy that Romelu scored," said Chelsea assistant Zsolt Low, who is helping to fill in for coach Thomas Tuchel after his positive Covid-19 test.

## Mohammedan subdue spirited Swadhinata

SPORTS REPORTER

A second-half strike from Souleymane Diabate was enough for Mohammedan Sporting Club to edge past Swadhinata Krira Sangha in their Bangladesh Premier League encounter at the Birshreshtha Shaheed Flight Lt Matiur Rahman Stadium in Munshiganj yesterday.

The eventual 1-0 score-line might give an impression that the traditional powerhouse had to toil hard against newcomers Swadhinata. However, Mohammedan were arguably the better team on the day despite having squandered several scoring opportunities before sealing the winner from a goal-mouth melee.

Swadhinata, on the other hand, could count themselves unlucky as brave goalkeeping from Mohammedan's Sarwar Jahan in the dying minutes denied the spirited side, who shockingly humbled holders Bashundhara Kings in the league opener.

Midfielder Shahriar Emon, playing freely all over the pitch, rattled the Swadhinata backline time and again, whipping threatening crosses but the Malian striker Diabate wasted a couple of clean chances in the first 25 minutes to disappoint the Black and Whites, who arrived into the match on the back of a 1-1 stalemate against Sheikh Russel KC.

Following resumption, the charges of Sean Lane kept pressing to break the deadlock and eventually Diabate flicked home a back-header assist from the Macedonian Jesmin Mccinnovikj in the 77th minute from close range.

Mohammedan have now gathered four points, after their first victory in two matches, one more than Swadhinata.



Neymar, who has been out of action for more than two months due to an ankle injury, returned to training with Paris Saint-Germain on Thursday but will not be fit for their Ligue 1 match today against Rennes, four days before a Champions League last-16 first leg clash with Real Madrid.

PHOTO: REUTERS

## What to WATCH

T SPORTS & GTV

BPL  
Khulna Tigers vs  
Comilla Victorians  
Live from 01:30 pm  
Fortune Barishal  
vs Minister Group  
Dhaka  
Live from 06:30 pm

T SPORTS

La Liga  
Sevilla vs Elche  
Live from 02:00 am  
(Saturday)

STAR SPORTS 1

India vs West Indies  
3rd ODI  
Live from 02:00 pm

SONY SIX

Australia vs Sri Lanka  
1st T20I  
Live from 02:10 pm





The first thing is to be patient, which is probably the hardest thing. Don't worry if blokes are whacking you out of the park because you still have the opportunity to get him out next ball, even if it's not the same ball.

SHANE WARNE



# ‘It is important to realise the importance of leg-spin’

“You need to realise that there are different types of bowlers for specific formats. India’s Chahal only plays the T20 format because he bowls a bit flatter and quicker.”

MAZHAR UDDIN

The impact of leg spinners in modern-day cricket cannot be understated, with teams around the world tending to focus more on this difficult art of bowling.

From the early days, when the likes of BS Chandrasekhar, Bill O'Reilly, and Abdul Qadir would dominate, the legacy of leg-spin continued. Australian spin legend Shane Warne took the art to the next level alongside flag-bearers like Stuart MacGill, Anil Kumble and Mushtaq Ahmed.

In the modern day, the likes of Rashid Khan, Adam Zampa, Adil Rashid, Shadab Khan, Imran Tahir, Yuzvendra Chahal and others have added excitement and become trump cards given their ability to turn things around single-handedly.

Unfortunately, despite the reputation for producing left-arm spinners since earning Test status in 2000, Bangladesh have failed to produce a single quality leg-spinner.

Alok Kapali registered Bangladesh's maiden hat-trick in Test cricket with his leg-spin, but was hardly considered a specialist leg-spinner in the domestic circuit.

A few names popped up from time to time, like Jubair Hossain Likhon. He showed great promise and even made his Test debut for the Tigers at a very early age, but eventually faded away due to lack of nurturing.

Aminul Islam Biplob, a batsman who turned into a specialist leg-spinner is among the latest casualties. Despite a decent T20I debut in 2019, the 22-year-old, nowadays struggles like Likhon to even make the playing eleven in the domestic circuit.

However, according to prominent coach Wahidul Gani, a former national spinner, there is no shortage of leg-spinners in Bangladesh in age-level cricket. He also believes it is important to put more emphasis into setting up a proper structure.

“We do have leg spinners in age-level but they don't get the opportunity to play. It is important to realise the importance of leg-spin. In club cricket, teams want to win games which is the reason they don't want to risk having a leg-spinner in the side because they can be expensive at times,” Wahidul told The Daily Star.

“But the fact is that leg-spinners can also

give you wickets because they are attacking bowlers. It's important for teams to have a back-up in the bowling unit to accommodate a leg-spinner. If we can have special camps for leg-spinners like we have had for the pace-bowling unit, it will certainly help us find more leg-spinners.”

It is widely suggested that aspiring cricketers in different age-level groups are deterred from taking up leg-spin as a serious option due to the difficulties and lack of assurances associated with the craft.

“You need to realise that there are different types of bowlers for specific formats. India's Chahal only plays the T20 format because he bowls a bit flatter and quicker. In Tests you need someone who gives more air to the ball. So we need to pick those talents and make them fit for the specific role.

“I have seen youngsters interested in becoming leg-spinners because they also know there the country needs leg-spinners. We need someone like Imran Khan, who had fought with selectors to include Abdul Qadir in the team. And we all know what he did after that.”

● Jubair Hossain Likhon is the only specialist leg-spinner who has represented Bangladesh across three formats.

● Mentionable leg-spinning all-rounders include Mohammad Ashraful, Alok Kapali and Sabbir Rahman.

● At the moment, Aminul Islam Biplob is the only specialist leg-spinner in the national set-up.

● There is no leg-spinner among the 24 cricketers with central contracts from the Bangladesh Cricket Board.

● When asked if he felt it was fair to force teams to pick a leg-spinner in the playing eleven, national selector Abdur Razzak, a notable left-arm spinner in his day, responded: “Yes, there were instructions to have leg spinners in the side. But if you don't have a quality leg-spinner, you cannot push the team and that's why we don't see them playing in the BPL. We tried a few leg-spinners in the national team even after average performances. But when it comes to franchise cricket,

teams will not pick a player for the sake of providing opportunities. When we picked Jubair Hossain Likhon, he did well in Tests but suddenly has not performed since then. Consequently, he is out of the team.

Aminul Islam Biplob also did reasonably well in India but since then has been unable to perform in domestic leagues. Obviously, it's good to have leg spinners in the side because it adds variety but the national team is not a platform to provide opportunities. If they are not able to perform in domestic leagues, how can they play international cricket?”



## The sorry tale of a Bangladeshi leggie

Jubair Hossain Likhon was quick to catch attention when he became Bangladesh's first specialist leg-spinner to play a Test in October 2014. But despite initially impressive performances, he disappeared from the scene almost as swiftly as he arrived. **The Daily Star's Sabbir Hossain** caught up with the leg-spinner, who opened up and discussed various issues. The excerpts are below:

**The Daily Star (DS):** Talk us through your journey as a leg-spinner?

**Jubair Hossain Likhon (JHL):** I started as an opening batter but failed to do well. Then I started leg-spin after advice from my older brother. He told me there was no quality leg-spinner in the country so there was a chance for me to play at the top level.

**DS:** When did you realise you could master leg-spin?

**JHL:** Leg-spinners seem to have some natural gifts and I have my fair share. I have strength in my shoulders. I can bowl the googly and generate power from my fingers. When I started, I was getting turn. Then I realised that if I tried, I might do better.

**DS:** You made your international debut in 2014 but haven't had a chance to play since 2015. How does that feel?

**JHL:** All the players want to play for the national team. When I played, life was different, fun. I thought that I would provide my services for a long time. But unfortunately, I could not. However, the main obstacle to my return to the national set-up is that I don't get many chances to play in the domestic league.

**DS:** Can you elaborate?

**JHL:** An out-of-favour player can only return to the national side through good performances in domestic cricket.

But in my case, I do not get chances at the domestic level. Many have said I am not good at all and discarded me. These sorts of words only damage your confidence and demotivate you. The same thing happened with the rest of our leg-spinners. For a leg-spinner, one or two bad performances means the whole tournament is over for him. That is not case for others.

**DS:** Where does the problem lie?

**JHL:** When I was dropped from the national side, the BCB kept me in the A team and HP team. The board has always encouraged leg-spinners,

**The main obstacle to my return to the national set-up is that I don't get many chances to play in the domestic league.**

but our domestic league officials don't have faith in us.

**DS:** What are your thoughts on the future of leg-spinners in the country?

**JHL:** If you look into it, you will find that leg-spinners have not been getting chances to play on a regular basis. We hardly have the opportunities to play two or three games a year. Of course, we need to practice a lot but there is no alternative to playing matches. If we only practice and barely play, it will have no impact. We won't be able to understand match situations. Some might say that I did not do well enough, but what about the rest of the leg-spinners in the country? Is there no one good enough to play regularly? Aminul Islam Biplob is in the national team now, but how many domestic matches has he played so far?

## ‘You need to bowl 15 to 20 overs every day’

While Bangladesh are still searching for leg-spinners, Afghanistan have made producing world-class leg-spinners their forte. Rashid Khan has established himself among the best in world cricket, but the country has many other quality leg-spinners such as Qais Ahmed, who has become a sensation in franchise cricket worldwide. The 21-year-old, currently playing for Minister Dhaka in the ongoing Bangabandhu Bangladesh Premier League spoke to **The Daily Star's Mazhar Uddin** and discussed the subtleties to the art of leg-spin. The excerpts of the interview are below:

**The Daily Star (DS):** How much are you enjoying life as a global T20 cricketer?

**Qais Ahmed (QA):** I enjoy playing worldwide and sharing dressing rooms with great cricketers around the world. It feels really great to perform among those players and they also share their experience with me. I am learning a lot.

**DS:** Leg-spinners are dominating across the globe, especially in the shortest format. Can you describe the challenges a modern-day leg-spinner faces?

**QA:** Obviously leg-spinners have the ability to turn things around. In the shortest formats, batters tend to go after leg-spinners and this gives them an opportunity to outfox the opposition. It's a challenge to bowl a good line and length consistently. But once you adapt to it and bowl consistently, it makes life difficult for batters and then you start getting success.

**DS:** What is the secret to Afghanistan's production of quality spinners?

**QA:** There is no secret to producing quality spinners. To become a good leg-spinner, you need to work really hard. You need to do a lot of spot bowling in the nets and you need to bowl at least 15 to 20 overs every day. That helps you assess yourself as a bowler. Leg-spin is a difficult art that you need to master. Without proper training, it's not possible.

**DS:** How can domestic cricket help leg-spinners grow?

**QA:** We have at least five-six leg-spinners in all the academies in Afghanistan and the competition is very tough. We have talent hunts, where youngsters come in and give trials. Then we gradually step towards grade 1, 2 and 3 level cricket. And then they can reach club level. The competition is very stiff

**DS:** How challenging will it be for Afghanistan to play Bangladesh at home in the coming series?

**QA:** It will be a challenge for Bangladesh at home considering the conditions and wickets. They have got some top-quality batters and bowlers such as Shakib Al Hasan and Mahmudullah Riyad. But we have been working hard. We had a training camp in Qatar and preparation-wise, we are ready.

**DS:** You made your Test debut against Bangladesh in 2019 and that remains the only Test you have played so far. You must want to establish yourself in the longest format as well?

**QA:** Who doesn't want to play Test cricket for their nation? I made my Test debut against Bangladesh and I am definitely willing to play all formats for Afghanistan. But we have got some world-class spinners in the side like Rashid,

Mujeeb and myself so it's a tough competition. But I am waiting for my opportunity and looking forward to giving my best.







## Positivity rate on decline for six days

STAR REPORT

The transmission of novel coronavirus continued to decline for the sixth consecutive day as the health directorate reported a 16.95 percent positivity rate yesterday.

This indicates a steady decline from 24 percent on Saturday.

The number of fatalities, on the other hand, remained high with the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS) reporting 41 Covid-19 patients died yesterday.

Meantime, a total of 7,264 new cases were detected countrywide.

Fueled by the Omicron variant of coronavirus, the country witnessed a skyrocketing case detection every day since the first week of January.

The DGHS reported the highest-ever 33.37 percent positivity rate on January 28.

Earlier, health officials said the Omicron variant started replacing the Delta variant, which caused a

SEE PAGE 6 COL 5



People facing difficulties crossing Chattogram city's Shantibagh area as a box culvert is being constructed without any alternative for people to cross the area smoothly. The culvert is being built for around two years under a project to address waterlogging in the port city. The photo was taken on Wednesday.

PHOTO: RAJIB RAIHAN

## Government to bring back Khairuzzaman

May face probe over 1975 jail killings

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT



Former Bangladesh high commissioner to Malaysia, Mohammed Khairuzzaman, who was arrested by Malaysian police Wednesday morning, will be brought back home and could be investigated for his role in the historic jail killings of 1975.

"Khairuzzaman is at a deportation centre in Malaysia right now. As far as I understand, there is scope to interrogate him again and investigate him," State Minister for Foreign Affairs Shahriar Alam said.

The home and law ministries will check whether the jail killing case can be revived and how Khairuzzaman, aged 70, could be investigated, Shahriar told reporters at the foreign ministry yesterday.

Khairuzzaman, who has been living in Malaysia with a refugee status since 2009, was arrested by the country's immigration police at his home in Ampang.

Following his arrest, Malaysian Home Minister Hamzah Zainudin said the arrest was made after a request from Bangladesh.

"If there is a request from the country of [an

SEE PAGE 4 COL 5



## Long-term paracetamol use risky for those with HIGH BP

STAR HEALTH DESK

Paracetamol is the most popular and most used pain medication in the world. It is available over the counter and usually considered safe when taken in recommended doses.

On the other hand, alternative painkillers like non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs), such as ibuprofen, have long been associated with rise of blood pressure and risk of heart disease.

However, a recent study by the University of Edinburgh has found that long-term use of paracetamol might not be very safe after all.

It may increase the risk of heart disease and stroke in people with high blood pressure, reports The Guardian quoting the new study published in the scientific journal Circulation.

In the latest study, a group of patients with high blood pressure, who were prescribed

SEE PAGE 6 COL 5

## Engines of Biman's Dash-8 'damaged'

Officials claim pilot erroneously used emergency power, failed to report; year-old plane grounded

RASHIDUL HASAN

A relatively new De Havilland Canada Dash-8 aircraft of Biman Bangladesh Airlines has been grounded since February 2 due to "damaged engines caused by pilot error".

The damage allegedly happened when pilot Ali Rubyat Chowdhury deployed the aircraft's emergency power system -- typically used to avoid an impending accident -- in mid-air on the way to Sylhet from Dhaka on February 1, according to Biman officials well-versed on the matter.

This caused damage to the aircraft's two engines, which will now cost the carrier a huge sum to repair, the officials claimed.

As is practice, the pilot is supposed to report the incident to the authorities concerned and make an entry in the logbook such that the aircraft is not used until the repairs are done.

But Chowdhury, who is also the deputy chief of training at Biman, did not report the matter to the proper authorities, the airline's flight crew

members told The Daily Star on condition of anonymity.

As a result, the "unfit aircraft" was used on the return flight to Dhaka with 49 passengers on board.

There was a real possibility of the engines exploding during the flight, they claimed.

Even after landing in Dhaka, the matter was not reported to the engineering department. And the plane was being prepared for use the next day.

At the last minute, the aviation engineering department revoked the flight permit seeing data in the system logs that the emergency power was used.

Since then, the 74-seater aircraft, one of the three purchased from Canada's De Havilland, has remained grounded.

De Havilland Canada and engine manufacturer Pratt & Whitney have been asked to assess the damage.

The plane was brought to Dhaka in February last year, said Abu Saleh Mostafa Kamal, managing director and chief executive officer of Biman.

Biman has formed a probe body to know under what circumstances did the pilot use the emergency power, and whether there was any fault in his handling of the aircraft.

Chowdhury could not be reached for comment.



## Shut Savar tanneries down

JS body asks environment directorate

RASHIDUL HASAN

A parliamentary body yesterday asked the environment directorate to shut down the Savar Tannery Industrial Estate, as the joint management committee (JMC) that runs the estate failed to comply with environmental standards.

The parliamentary standing committee on the environment ministry in a meeting also said the industry will remain shut until it takes steps to treat all the waste generated by tanneries.

The environment directorate in December sent a show-cause notice to the JMC, asking why the industry should not be shut down due to severe environmental pollution.

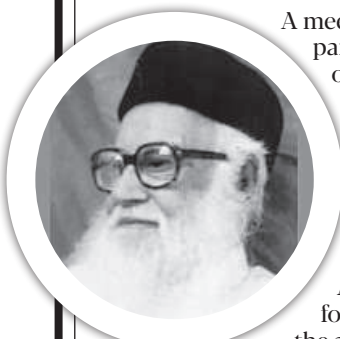
"In response, they [the JMC] have mentioned various plans [to stop pollution], which the committee found unacceptable," Sabar

SEE PAGE 6 COL 8



## Walking out of Assembly

Maulana Abdur Rashid Tarkabagish



A meeting of the [Muslim League] parliamentary party was going on in the assembly hall on February 21, 1952, and I heard the gunshot during that meeting. After that the students started shouting in front of the assembly and addressed us saying 'come out, look' and so on.

At that time the bell rang for the commencement of the assembly session. I also went inside. After the Speaker took his seat,

I got up to speak before any other discussion. I said that the session could not continue today. Nurul Amin said that shots were fired but we should not be driven by emotion. After some heated debate, I walked out of the assembly.

After I came out of the assembly, the students took me into a room. There I gave a speech using a microphone. After that I went to the Medical College Hospital.

On the evening of February 24, Nurul Amin's political secretary Iskander Ali came to the party house and warned me that I could be arrested. He advised me to withdraw the no-confidence motion I brought against Nurul Amin in the assembly. He offered me house and money. I told

SEE PAGE 6 COL 5

## Food delivery man killed as lorry hits his cycle in city

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A food delivery man was killed after his bicycle was hit, allegedly by a lorry near the Palashi intersection in the capital yesterday.

The deceased was identified as Md Yeasin, 30.

The incident occurred around 3:15pm when he was heading towards Palashi from Nilkhet, leaving him critically injured, said Sub-inspector Kawsar Ahmed Bhuiyan of Shahbagh Police Station.

Police said the lorry driver, Manik, along with some passers by took the injured to Dhaka Medical College Hospital where doctors declared him dead around 3:45pm.

Kawsar said they seized the vehicle and detained the driver.

However, Manik told reporters at DMCH that Yeasin fell on the road and was injured after a rickshaw hit his bicycle.

Md Murad, an acquaintance of the victim, said Yeasin, like every other day, left his Jigatola home in the morning on his bicycle to deliver food.

The body was sent to the hospital morgue for autopsy, said SI Kawsar.



A woodpecker pecking a tree in the capital's Suhrawardy Udyan. This bird, which usually nests and roosts in the holes it makes in trees, mostly forages for insects on the trunks and branches.

PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON