



B1 AC top-selling home appliance this Eid



P5 Disaster in the making, yet again



P8 If justice had a face, it'd be of a helpless victim



P11 Run-machine Anamul makes a compelling case

OFFSHORE SMART CITY A self-serving, dubious initiative

TUHIN SHUBHRA ADHIKARY, RASHIDUL HASAN and ZINA TASREEN

Can a parliamentary standing committee recommend a project directly to the prime minister without any due diligence? The law explicitly does not permit it.

But that is what the parliamentary standing committee on housing and public works ministry has done recently -- in an instance not witnessed in the recent history of the parliament, according to parliament secretariat officials.

The committee recommended the proposal of a smart city on the Bay of Bengal from a consortium of two local and two Chinese companies to the prime minister without consulting with the law ministry, the foreign ministry or any of the national security agencies. There was no environmental impact assessment (EIA), either.

Coincidentally, the chief of the parliamentary body, who is the Chattogram-1 Awami League MP Mosharraf Hossain, and his family own about 42 percent stakes in one of the companies of the consortium: The

has learnt from people involved with the project.

It is not known what would be the share of the four companies in the joint venture company.

CCECC is working on several development projects in Bangladesh, including the expansion of Cox's Bazar Airport and the construction of Chattogram-Cox's Bazar rail link.

The company last year had expressed an interest to implement the Bangladesh Railway's proposed high-speed rail line project on the Dhaka-Chattogram corridor.

But it was CRDC along with Mazumder Enterprise that ended up carrying out the feasibility study and detail designing for the project, which has now gone on the back burner.

Established in 1998, Mazumder Enterprise is an integrated consulting, engineering and contracting services firm. Its Chief Executive Officer Mohammed Jashim Uddin Chowdhury is a member of AL's sub-committee on relief and social welfare since 2014, according to his Facebook page.



Children playing football in Tentultala playground in the capital's Kalabagan hours after Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday ordered the authorities not to construct a police station there. Locals demonstrating against the construction thanked the prime minister for her decision.

PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

NAHID MURDER

5 Dhaka College students arrested

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Detectives arrested five students of Dhaka College in different areas of the capital on charges of killing the delivery person of a courier service during a recent clash between students and shopkeepers of New Market.

A Dhaka court yesterday placed each of them on a two-day remand.

The arrestees are final-year students of Dhaka College Abdul Kaiyum, 24, of accounting; Palash Mia, 24, and Mahmud Irfan, 24, of social sciences; Faisal Islam, 24, of Bangla; and first-year student Zunaid Bugdadi, 19, of Islamic history.

"The five students took part in the clashes wearing helmets. All of them had local weapons," said AKM Hafiz Akhter, additional commissioner of the Detective Branch of Dhaka Metropolitan Police, at a press briefing.

Detectives recovered the helmets and the clothes they wore on April 19 when they attacked Nahid Mia, 19, the delivery person.

About the suspects' reported affiliation to Chhatra League, Hafiz said, "We saw many students involved in the incident. We can't accuse a specific party."

"We often hear about Helmet Bahini. We interrogated the arrested students about the helmets. They tell us that many students of Dhaka College use motorcycles. They took part in the

SEE PAGE 7 COL 6

TENTULTALA PLAYGROUND

Freed at last, as PM steps in

Rights activists thank Hasina

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday ordered keeping the Tentultala field in the capital's Kalabagan area as a playground, bringing a happy end to environmentalists and locals' protests of the construction of a police station on the ground.

Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan Kamal announced the PM's instruction at a press conference at his office. He said the playground would be open to everyone, but would be under the jurisdiction of police.

He said since there was no playground, open space or recreation facility in the area the prime minister instructed that the place be kept open.

Asked about the construction of a wall in the field for the police station, Asaduzzaman said not much of the wall was constructed.

Locals, rights activists and environmentalists have been

demonstrating to save the playground for several days. On April 24, Kalabagan police picked up Syeda Ratna, who was leading the protests, along with her son. Police released the mother and son around 13 hours later, with an undertaking that she would not get involved in any protests to protect the playground.

Yesterday, news of the PM's announcement came at a time when leaders of different organisations were about to start a press conference on Tentultala playground.

After getting the news, there was happiness and relief among the leaders, who stood up and showed their gratitude to the prime minister, saying the announcement was an Eid-ul-Fitr gift to children of the area.

Syeda Ratna said she had faith that if their demands reached the prime minister, she would definitely save the playground.

SEE PAGE 7 COL 4



Peninsula Chittagong.

His son Mahboob-Ur-Rahman is the chairman of the company incorporated in 2002.

Also on the board are Hossain's wife, Ayesha Sultana, and her brothers Mustafa Tahir Arshad and Mustafa Tahseen Arshad, who is the managing director of the company; his wife Bilkis Arshad is a director, too.

The other companies in the consortium are China Civil Engineering Construction Corporation (CCECC), China Railway Design Corporation (CRDC) -- both big beneficiaries of construction projects financed with Chinese development loans abroad -- and Mazumder Enterprise, The Daily Star

The consortium of four is lobbying for reclaiming about 60 square kilometres of land from the sea and developing a smart city, according to a document presented at the parliamentary standing committee's meeting on February 22.

The Daily Star has a copy of the document, which does not contain enough details to warrant recommending the proposal straight to the prime minister.

Starting from the Sagarika Point of the Patenga Beach, the smart city will stretch up to Bangabandhu Shilpa Nagar in Mirsarai -- redrawing the map of Bangladesh.

It was not part of any long-term plan of the government until January 9,

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1



Farmers take home their harvest of paddy on buffalo carts through a field in Bishwambarpur, Sunamganj. Many in the region are counting losses as flash floods ruined paddy fields. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

EDIBLE OIL Supply crunch worsens crisis

Prices rise by up to Tk 15 a litre soon after Indonesian export ban takes effect

MOHAMMAD SUMAN and SHAHEEN MOLLA

The retail prices of non-bottled and bottled soybean and palm oil have gone up by Tk 10-15 per litre overnight due to a supply crunch in the aftermath of Indonesia's export ban on crude and refined palm oil imposed on Wednesday.

Indonesia is the world's biggest supplier of vegetable oil. About 53 percent of the cooking oil used in Bangladesh is palm oil and 80 percent of it comes from Indonesia.

Wholesalers and retailers in Chattogram city yesterday said the prices of both palm and soybean oil were going up due to a supply dearth.

The scenario was almost similar all over the country, including the capital, according to traders.

The Daily Star visited the wholesale and retail hubs in Dhaka, Chattogram and Bagerhat and found most of the shops had no edible oil for sale.

Taking advantage of the situation, some shops were selling one-litre bottled soybean oil for Tk180-190 and two-litre for Tk 355-360.

Three-litre and five-litre bottled oil was not available in the markets.

Non-bottled soybean oil was sold for Tk 180-182 per litre in wholesale markets and Tk 190-200 in retail markets yesterday.

SEE PAGE 7 COL 1

BARAPUKURIA Coal miners stage demo for arrears

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

Miners of Barapukuria Coal Mining Company Limited and their family members staged a protest in Dinajpur's Parbatipur upazila yesterday demanding arrears and reinstatement.

Around 700 miners who remained unemployed for the last two years took part in the protest.

BCMCL Miners and Workers Union President Rabiul Islam said the workers became unemployed amid the coronavirus pandemic.

Besides, arrears of eight months of some of the miners are still owed.

"We, the miners, extracted coal for BCMCL risking our lives for the last 15 years. Now we are starving with our families," he said.

The miners vowed to continue their protest until their two-point demand is not met, he said.

BCMCL sources said the miners were employed by CMC-XMC Consortium, a Chinese company contracted for coal production and maintenance.

On March 26, 2020, the Chinese company sent the miners on mandatory leave after the government imposed a lockdown, but never called them back.

The unemployed miners were protesting for the last 10 days and holding different programmes demanding their jobs be given back.

They even submitted copies of a memorandum to BCMCL, CMC-XMC Consortium and the energy ministry on April 24.

"We are expecting a solution, but nobody contacted us," said Rabiul.

BCMCL Managing Director Mohammad Kamruzzaman said no arrears were due to the miners.

BCMCL Miners and Workers Union General Secretary Abu Sufiyan said, "We will be on the streets even on the Eid day with our family members."



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in a meeting with Indian Minister of External Affairs Subrahmanyam Jaishankar at the Gono Bhaban yesterday.

PHOTO: PID

Don't test our patience

Warns Russia as Biden proposes \$33b package for Ukraine; UN chief condemns 'absurdity' of war

AGENCIES

Russia yesterday warned the West that there would be a tough military response to any further attack on Russian territory, accusing the United States and its key European allies of openly inciting Ukraine to assault Russia.

Russia's February 24 invasion of Ukraine has killed thousands of people, displaced millions more and raised fears of the most serious confrontation between Russia and the United States since the 1962 Cuban Missile Crisis.

US President Joe Biden yesterday was to propose a huge \$33 billion package for arming and supporting Ukraine in its war against Russia, as well as using luxury assets stripped from Russian oligarchs to compensate the battered pro-Western country.

The bulk of the proposed \$33 billion package will be "\$20 billion in military and other security assistance. This means weapons and ammunition flowing to the Ukrainian people," a senior US official said.

A further \$8.5 billion in economic aid will "help the government of Ukraine respond to the immediate crisis," while some \$3 billion is proposed to fund humanitarian assistance and address the global food supply price shock resulting from Russia's onslaught against Ukraine, a

major wheat exporter.

Two months since Russia invaded Ukraine, Russia has in recent days reported what it says are a series of attacks by Ukrainian forces on Russian regions which border Ukraine, and has warned that such attacks risk a significant escalation.

Ukraine has not directly accepted responsibility but says the incidents are payback, while Russia has taken umbrage at statements from Nato-member Britain that it is legitimate for Ukraine to target Russian logistics.

"In the West, they are openly calling on Kyiv to attack Russia including with the use of weapons received from Nato countries," Russian foreign ministry spokeswoman Maria Zakharova told reporters in Moscow. "I don't advise you to test our patience further."

Russia's defence ministry said on Tuesday that if such attacks continued then Moscow would target decision-making centres in Ukraine, including those where it said Western advisers were helping Kyiv.

Zakharova cast Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy as a puppet of the West, who was being used by the United States to threaten Russia.

The United States has ruled out sending its own or Nato forces to Ukraine but Washington and its European allies have

supplied weapons to Kyiv such as drones, Howitzer heavy artillery, anti-aircraft Stinger and anti-tank Javelin missiles.

Russian President Vladimir Putin casts such large arms shipments as part of a broader plan by the United States and its allies to destroy Russia - and has promised that it will never succeed, according to a Reuters report.

Ukraine says it is fighting an imperial-style land grab and that Putin's claims of genocide are nonsense.

Meanwhile, UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres yesterday visited sites of alleged Russian war crimes in Ukraine, decrying war as "an absurdity in the 21st century" and urging Russia to cooperate with an international investigation into atrocities.

Germany's Bundestag lower house of parliament overwhelmingly approved a petition on support for Ukraine backing the delivery of weapons including heavy arms to the country to help it fend off Russian attacks.

Nearly 5.4 million Ukrainians have fled their country so far, the United Nations said yesterday, with more than 55,000 leaving in the past 24 hours.

Women and children account for 90 percent of those who have fled abroad, with men aged 18 to 60 eligible for military call-up unable to leave.

Schoolteacher dies in kitchen fire

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

A school head teacher died and her husband was injured in a fire caused by a leaking gas cylinder at their home in Moulvibazar's Barlekha upazila early yesterday.

The deceased is Rubia Begum, 42, headmaster of Surikandi Government Primary School in the same upazila.

Barlekha fire service officials said gas accumulated in the kitchen of Rubia's home after a cylinder leaked. As she tried to light a gas stove around 3:00am, a fire spread in the kitchen, leaving her burnt.

The schoolteacher died on the spot. Her husband Abdul Karim, acting headmaster of Kandigram Mihari Government Primary School, suffered burns as he tried to save her. He was admitted to a private hospital in Sylhet.

Man held for keeping Quran inside temple

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Patuakhali

Police arrested a man for keeping a copy of the holy Quran at Uttar Palpara Kali Mandir in Patuakhali's Bauphal upazila early yesterday.

The arrestee is Idris, 55, of Nalua village in Barishal's Bakerganj upazila.

Quoting locals, police said a young man named Sanjay Paul saw Idris coming out of the temple around 3:30am.

Enquired why he entered the temple, Idris said he went there to offer prayers.

Asked why he would offer prayers at the temple despite being a Muslim, he tried to run away. Some locals, however, managed to catch him.

Locals later found an abandoned shopping bag with a Quran inside it in the temple. At one stage, Idris admitted that he made a mistake by keeping the Quran there, said police.

Law enforcers arrested Idris from there around 4:00am and took him to Bauphal Police Station. A case was filed with the police station in this regard.

1 killed, 20 hurt in Faridpur clash

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Faridpur

An elderly man was killed and at least 20 other people, including eight cops, were injured in a clash between two rival groups in Jadunandi village of Faridpur's Saltha upazila on Wednesday night over establishing supremacy.

The deceased was identified as Nannu Fakir, 65, of Jadunandi village.

Locals said there was a longstanding rivalry between Mizanur Rahman, chairman of Rupapat Union Parishad in Boalmari, and Kamruzzaman Mollah alias Kayum Mollah, a resident of Jadunandi village and also the president of Rupapat Baman Chandra High School managing committee, over establishing dominance.

Followers of Mizanur beat up one Mehedi, 14, of Jadunandi village, on Wednesday evening when he went to Rupapat bazar. Later at night, supporters of both the groups clashed, leaving 21 people, including Nannu, wounded.

The injured were taken to Maksudpur Upazila Health Complex in Gopalganj, where an on-duty doctor declared Nannu dead.

This newspaper could not reach Mizanur and Kayum for comments as their phones were found switched off.

A self-serving, dubious initiative

FROM PAGE 1

2019, when the proposal was made to the Chattogram Development Authority (CDA).

In exchange for a share of the proceeds from the sales of the structures in the islet, the consortium would build a 20.5 kilometre metro rail line connecting the port city's train station and the airport costing \$2.2 billion for free - a rare offer that indeed sounds too good to be true and raises a plethora of questions.

The document does not specify which would come first: the metro rail or the smart city.

CDA - whose jurisdiction is on 1,152 square kilometres of the Chittagong Metropolitan Area, with its boundary on the west ending at the Bay of Bengal - is fully on board with the unusual plan.

Section 6 of the Chattogram Development Authority Act 2018 outlines the power and function of CDA and it does not mention anything about the sea but about the existing land mass of the country.

This raises the question of whether the CDA went beyond its limits when it sent the proposal to the ministry of housing and public works for placing before the parliamentary standing committee.

That was done at the meeting on February 22, where the committee endorsed it, in a move that walks a tight rope on the parliamentary body's mandate.

As per article 76 (1) of the constitution, a parliamentary standing committee is supposed to

examine draft bills and other legislative proposals, review the enforcement of laws and propose measures for such enforcement.

The committee will also investigate or inquire into the activities or administration of the ministry under its jurisdiction and perform any other function assigned to it by the parliament.

But the section 248 of the rules of procedure of the parliament states the committee can "examine, if it deems fit, any such other matter as may fall within its jurisdiction and to make recommendations".

It is this grey area that the committee appears to have leveraged to recommend the proposal, which, according to Hossain, was not vetted by the law ministry, the foreign ministry or any of the security agencies and did not have an EIA.

The consortium's offer to build the metro has thrown a curveball to the road transport and bridges ministry, which is in advanced talks with the Korea International Cooperation Agency for conducting a feasibility study for establishing a mass rapid transit network in the port city, according to ministry officials.

Besides, the building of metro rail or public transport facilities falls under the jurisdiction of the road transport and highway division, which raises the question of the CDA's involvement of any kind in the port city's mass rapid transit network plan.

"It's a very good proposal and Bangladesh will surely benefit - I will write to the prime minister requesting

her to accept it," Hossain told The Daily Star recently.

When prodded on his family's involvement in the project, he said: "It's not my family but The Peninsula Chittagong, a public limited company, that came on board as a partner."

Hossain, who previously helmed the ministries of civil aviation and tourism and housing and public works in two separate terms, said his holdings in the company, which was listed with both the bourses in 2014, are less than 5 percent.

The shareholding position report submitted by the company to the Dhaka Stock Exchange - and is available on the company's website - indicates otherwise: he had 7.44 percent stakes in The Peninsula Chittagong at the end of March.

Not just that, most of the shares of the company, which operates an upscale hotel in the port city since 2006, belong to Hossain and his family.

As on March 31, Hossain and his family members' holdings in the company were 42.8 percent: Rahman (3.1 percent), his wife Mirka (2.57 percent), Sultana (5.05 percent), Mustafa Tahseen Arshad (12.32 percent), his wife Bilkis (7.7 percent) and his brother (4.62 percent).

"Most of the shares belong to the general public. Several lakh shareholders of this public limited company are involved with this project," he added.

As on March 31, the general public held 34.01 percent stakes in the company, institutional investors - including the state-owned Investment

Corporation of Bangladesh - 15.96 percent and foreign investors 0.2 percent, according to the DSE.

Discussion on a project in a parliamentary body whose chief has involvement in it is tantamount to conflict of interest, said Nizam Ahmed, an expert on parliamentary affairs.

"Although it is not unlawful from the legal side, it is unethical from the point of ethics," said Ahmed, a former professor of the University of Chittagong's department of public administration.

Hossain though remained defiant.

"Those who are finding a conflict of interest are misinterpreting the situation. We are a land-hungry country. We will not get land from either India or Myanmar. We will have to manage by reclaiming land from the sea. Why should I not accept this when I don't have money and when I am getting an MRT for free?"

His son Rahman though was circumspect about the proposal.

"We have forged a partnership with two Chinese companies mainly to see whether the project is feasible or not. We are working as a sales, marketing and promotion partner," he told The Daily Star recently.

The Peninsula Chittagong would invest in the project if it is found to be viable.

"We are assessing the market. It is a strategic partnership for us as we already operate hotels in this part of the country," said Rahman, who is also the managing director of Sayaman Beach Resort in

Cox's Bazar.

The feasibility study for the project is "almost done", he said.

Asked about the Chinese companies' role in the project, he said: "They will work as a developer - they will get proceeds from the sales of structures and services."

The area selected for development is a dead end of the sea and it is not the main channel, according to Kazi Hasan Bin Shams, the chief engineer of CDA.

"The width would be 2 to 2.5 km and the length around 50 km. The depth of the sea in this area is not that much."

The reclaimed land would belong to the land ministry but it would be handed over to the CDA, which would then develop it with the consortium.

The consortium will build the metro rail as it is imperative to make the smart city viable, Shams said.

"China will provide the money but we will be the owner of the smart city," he said, adding that the reclamation was not part of the CDA's master plan.

The CDA's master plan is now being reworked to accommodate the smart city, which would be close to the Bay Terminal.

When quizzed whether the sea falls under the jurisdiction of the CDA or whether it has any mandate for projects offshore, he was elusive.

"Any project in the Chattogram area - be it public or private - requires the CDA's permission. This is why they have sent the proposal to us."

The document presented to the parliamentary standing committee mentions a memorandum of understanding has been signed between the CDA and the consortium on January 3.

But Shams denies any such agreement. "That will be done once the government gives the go-ahead."

He also denies that the feasibility study for the project has begun. "For that, they will need the government's permission."

Once the consortium gets the permission for a detailed feasibility study, the CDA will negotiate the share of the sales proceeds, Shams added.

Asked whether the opinion from the law ministry was taken before forwarding the proposal to the ministry of housing and public works, a CDA official involved with the proceedings responded in the negative.

"We will take legal opinion, if needed, once the project gets the go-ahead," he said wishing not to be named.

Artificial islands or extensions are allowed under international law as they do not create additional territorial jurisdiction over the seas, according to a Supreme Court lawyer consulted by The Daily Star.

"There is no geopolitical issue here - we will reclaim lands from our sea," Hossain said, adding that India and Myanmar should have no objection as the proposed development would not be in the vicinity of the two countries.

He is also certain that the smart city will have no adverse effect on the ecosystem.

"Cities and big structures are being built through reclaiming lands from the sea everywhere in the world. There has been no damage to the environment," said the 79-year-old presidium member of the AI, adding that the EIA will be conducted once the final agreement is signed.

The prime minister is yet to take a call on the proposal, Shams told The Daily Star last week.

The government should carry out two types of comprehensive studies before taking on such a big project, said Sharif Jamil, general secretary of Bangladesh Poribesh Andolon, an environmental platform.

One is the EIA itself and the other is a strategic environmental assessment, which is imperative.

Pointing to the spree of ongoing development activities in Matarbari and Cox's Bazar, he said: "There was no study on cumulative impact assessment before carrying out those development activities. Now we see the erosion of the Cox's Bazar beach."

If t e k h a r u z z a m a n, executive director of Transparency International Bangladesh, called for greater scrutiny of the proposal due to the conflict of interest and for ensuring an equal footing if there is any deal.

The Daily Star contacted the Chinese embassy in Dhaka and an embassy staff replied saying: "Sorry I don't know too much about this

project. I checked but I don't have too much information."

Mazumder Enterprise declined to comment for the report. The Daily Star could not reach CCECC and CRDC.

Amend draft

FROM PAGE 12
Amnesty in its feedback sent on Tuesday.

The watchdog said article 43 of Bangladesh's constitution stipulates that every person "shall have the right to privacy of his correspondence and other means of communication", subject to reasonable restrictions imposed by law.

Furthermore, the provisions would violate the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights to which Bangladesh is a party. "The proposed law grants full immunity to the authorities in case an individual is harmed or is likely to be harmed due to any action taken in 'good faith'," Amnesty said.

ASK recommended that the vague terminologies in the draft be defined to ensure that the rights of citizens remain intact. "The lack of specific definitions of certain terms can provoke the misuse of the law, which may violate one's right to personal data protection."

Both organisations recommended open and participatory discussions with all stakeholders to ensure the law truly serves its purpose and upholds the right to personal data protection. "Ensure public ownership, participation, transparency and accountability in the law, before it is approved by the cabinet or passed at the parliament," said Amnesty.

Procurement of paddy begins countrywide

UNB, Dhaka

The government has started procurement of paddy directly from farmers at Tk 27 per kg, said Food Minister Sadhan Chandra Majumder yesterday.

Besides, the government will start rice procurement from May 7, and it will continue till August 31, he said. The food minister inaugurated the programme through a video conference held at the conference room of the Food Department in the capital.

Issuing a note of warning, Sadhan said the ministry will ensure vigilance to stop hoarding of paddy.

He urged mill owners to complete their deal with the Food Department by May 7-16 to procure rice, as the duration of the procurement will not be extended.

Public representatives of Tangail, Naogaon, Dinajpur, Sunamganj, Mymensingh, Brahmanbaria, Barishal, Jhenidah districts; high official concerned of local administration; officials of Food Department; mill owners and farmers' representatives joined the event virtually.

On February 24, the government set a target to procure 6.50 lakh tonnes of Boro paddy, 11 lakh tonnes of boiled rice and 0.50 lakh tonnes of non-boiled rice in the upcoming season in 2022.

The procurement price of Boro paddy has been fixed at Tk 27 per kg, boiled rice at Tk 40 per kg, and Atap rice (non-boiled) at Tk 39.

The decision was taken at a virtual meeting of the Food Planning and Monitoring Committee, with the food minister in the chair.



The swelter seemed to have gotten to Dhaka's resident animals as well. These crows quenching their thirst at the lake of Suhrawardy Udyan can be an apt example of everyone's efforts to get some respite from the heat. This photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

Saida Muna 'Diplomat of the Year'

UK magazine honours her for 'contribution to climate diplomacy'

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh High Commissioner to the UK Saida Muna Tasneem has received the prestigious Diplomat of the Year 2022 Award by the Diplomat Magazine, UK.

The award for "Outstanding Contribution to Climate Diplomacy" was handed over to her by Venetia de Blocq van Kuffeler, editor of the magazine, on April 25 at an annual event at London's Biltmore Mayfair in the presence of over 250 diplomats, according to Bangladesh High Commission in London yesterday.

It is an annual award given out by the magazine based on nominations and votes cast by UK-based envoys of more than 165



SEE PAGE 4 COL 7

Leak in water supply lines to blame

Says cabinet secretary on diarrhoea outbreak; PM urges residents to clean household reservoirs to prevent cholera

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has requested city dwellers to clean their household reservoirs regularly to prevent the spread of bacteria responsible for cholera and diarrhoea.

She made the request at a cabinet meeting, where the recent outbreak of cholera was discussed at length, said Cabinet Secretary Khandker Anwarul Islam at a press briefing after the meeting.

The PM chaired the regular cabinet meeting at her office yesterday.

The secretary said leaks in water supply lines, caused by haphazard household connections, are the main reason for the outbreak of diarrhoeal diseases in the capital.

The government will begin a cholera vaccine campaign tentatively from May 10.

Saying that measures have been taken, Anwarul said, "The WHO is giving us 7.5

There are leaks in many places, and some people connect their household line with Wasa's main line and pump out water. These connections create leaks, and bacteria enter through them.

KHANDKER ANWARUL ISLAM
Cabinet secretary

million cholera vaccines. Two doses of vaccine will give safety against cholera for about three years."

"We haven't seen such an outbreak of diarrhoea in the last 20 to 25 years," said the secretary, adding that he has been tracking the situation for the last 10 days and talked to icddr, b, IEDCR, Directorate

General of Health Services and Wasa.

No bacteria have been found in Wasa's water source.

"There are leaks in many places, and some people connect their household line with Wasa's main line and pump out water. These connections create leaks, and bacteria enter through them," said Anwarul.

Experts found a shortage of chlorine in the water of some areas, which saw a rise of such disease. "After pointing it out, Wasa increased the amount of chlorine in the respective areas," he said.

Germ of waterborne diseases are also found in migrant workers who stay at hotels near the airport before departure.

"We have been informed by Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Qatar that germs of waterborne disease are found among migrants. There is no existence of bacteria in tube-well water in the villages. They are

SEE PAGE 4 COL 4

ROHINGYA CAMPS Support community learning

Rights orgs urge govt

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

At least 25 national and international rights bodies and civil society organisations have made an urgent call for the government to support the community-led learning facilities in Cox's Bazar's Rohingya refugee camps.

They demanded that the authorities strengthen their resources in line with the country's international commitment to protect children's right to education, they said in a joint statement yesterday.

Among the 3,000 informal learning centres, about 30 community-led schools have been shut down or dismantled by the authorities since December 2021, on the grounds that they don't maintain the standards of education and hamper the activities of authorised schools.

The statement said the existing learning centres authorised by the government and operated by Unicef and other humanitarian partners offer education to children from four to 14 years of age but leave out the older age

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PRAYER TIMING

APRIL 29

Fazr	Juma	Asr	Maghrib	Esha
AZAN 4:06	12:30	4:45	6:30	8:00
JAMAAT 4:16	1:15	5:00	6:40	8:30

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

SEHRI, IFTAR TIMING

RAMADAN	APRIL	SEHRI	IFTAR
27	29		6:30
28	31	4:00	6:30
29	01	3:59	6:31



With a demand to declare Covid-19 vaccine a common good and increase people's accessibility to it, a group of people under the banner of "People's Vaccine Alliance-Bangladesh" formed a human chain in front of National Museum in the capital yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

Advertorial

৩৯ তম বার্ষিক সাধারণ সভা
উত্তরা ব্যাংক লিমিটেড

Uttara Bank Ltd. conducted its 39th Annual General Meeting on Thursday presided by The Executive Chairman of Aftab Group & Chairman of Uttara Bank Limited Mr. Azharul Islam. The Managing Director of Aftab Group & Vice-Chairman of Uttara Bank Mr. Iftekharul Islam was also present. The Managing Director & CEO of Uttara Bank Mr. Mohammed Rabiul Hossain and other Directors also attended the meeting.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Project Director
Establishment of Computer and Language Labs
In 509 Govt. Primary Schools in Bangladesh
Directorate of Primary Education
Mirpur-2, Dhaka-1216

Memo No. ECLLB/DPE/school furniture and repairs/34/2022/113 Date: 28/04/2022

e-Tender Notice

e-Tender is invited in e-GP System Portal (<https://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) by Project Director Establishment of Computer and Language Labs in 509 Govt. Primary Schools in Bangladesh (ECLLB), Mirpur-2, Dhaka-1216, Bangladesh for the procurement of: Procurement of Furniture (Computer Table, Computer Chair, Table, Armed Chair, Bookshelf, Whiteboard) for 509 Government Primary Schools through e-GP process and Tender for repair of 509 Computer Labs.

Sl No.	Tender ID	Name of goods	Quantity	Last selling date & time	Closing date & time
1	690171	Procurement of Furniture (Computer Table, Computer Chair, Table, Armed Chair, Bookshelf, Whiteboard) for 509 Government Primary Schools through e-GP process and Tender for repair of 509 Computer Labs.	Computer Table 2545, Computer Chair 2545, Table 509, Armed Chair 509, Bookshelf 509, Whiteboard 509 and Repair Maintenance & Refurbishing of 509 Computer Language Labs.	30/05/2022 17:00	31/05/2022 14:00

This is an online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, please register on e-GP System Portal (<https://www.eprocure.gov.bd>).

Md. Badiar Rahman
Project Director
ECLLB Project
Phone: 0255074903
Email: pdecllb@gmail.com

GD-892

Dhaka air remains 'unhealthy'

UNB, Dhaka

Dhaka's air quality continues to be "unhealthy", though it is no longer the world's most polluted city.

Yesterday, the densely populated capital occupied the fifth position in the latest list of world cities with the worst air quality.

The capital's air quality index (AQI) was recorded at 153 at 9:04am.

India's Delhi, Pakistan's Lahore, Nepal's Kathmandu and China's Shenyang occupied the first four spots, with AQI scores of 242, 224, 180 and 160, respectively.

An AQI between 101 and 200 is considered 'unhealthy', particularly for sensitive groups.

Similarly, an AQI between 201 and 300 is said to be "poor", while a reading of 301 to 400 is considered "hazardous", posing serious health risks to residents.

AQI, an index for reporting daily air quality, is used by government agencies to inform people how

SEE PAGE 4 COL 1

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Executive Engineer, RHD
Road Division, Lalmonirhat
+Tel: 0591-61770
Email: eerhdal@yahoo.com, eelal@rhd.gov.bd

e-Tender Notice

This is an online tender, where only e-Tenders will accept in e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, please register on e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>).

e-Tenders are invited in e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) by Executive Engineer (PE), RHD, Road Division, Lalmonirhat for: Road Marking Thermoplastic Material (By Spray) work at different road under Road Division, Lalmonirhat during the FY 2021-2022.

Sl No.	Tender ID No.	Tender Ref. No.	Tender last selling	Tender closing date	Tender opening date	Tendering method
1.	693889	eGP-44/EE/LRD/2021-2022	16-May-2022 17:00	17-May-2022 13:00	17-May-2022 13:00	OTM

Khalid Saifullah Sardar
ID No. 602287
Executive Engineer (C.C), RHD
Road Division, Lalmonirhat

Reference No. 363
Date: 27-04-2022
GD-879

Dhaka air remains

FROM PAGE 3
clean or polluted the air of a certain city is, and what associated health effects might be a concern for them. In Bangladesh, the AQI is based on five criteria pollutants - Particulate Matter (PM10 and PM2.5), NO2, CO, SO2 and Ozone.

Dhaka has long been grappling with air pollution issues. Its air quality usually turns unhealthy in winter and improves during monsoon. A report by the DoE and World Bank in March 2019 pointed out that three main sources of air pollution are "brick kilns, vehicle fumes and dust from construction sites". With the advent of winter, the city's air quality starts deteriorating sharply due to massive discharge of pollutant particles from construction work, rundown roads, brick kilns and other sources.

Ex-Gazipur mayor Mannan passes away

UNB, Dhaka

MA Mannan, the first mayor of Gazipur City Corporation and a BNP vice-chairman, died at a city hospital yesterday. He was 72.

Mannan, also a former state minister for religious affairs, breathed his last at United Hospital around 4:30pm, his son Monjurul Karim Rony told the news agency.

The former Gazipur mayor was put on life support after being admitted to the hospital in a critical condition on Wednesday night, said BNP chairperson's media wing member Sayrul Kabir Khan.

He said Mannan had been suffering from various diseases, including high blood pressure and diabetes, since he was sent to jail in 2015.

On February 11, 2015, police arrested Mannan from his Baridhara residence in a case filed for allegedly hurling petrol bombs on a passenger bus in Gazipur. He was released on bail on January 6, 2017. He later became inactive politically due to various ailments.

Mannan was elected mayor in the first-ever election to Gazipur City Corporation in July, 2013.



Support community

FROM PAGE 3
groups, some of whom were about to take their matriculation examination at the time of the exodus in 2017.

In January 2020, the government made a promise to introduce the Myanmar curriculum to about 10,000 children from grades sixth to ninth. The closure of community learning facilities is detrimental to the community's development and a gross violation of children's right to education, read the statement.

It also mentioned that there are nearly half a million Rohingya children in Bangladesh, who are deprived of education in an accredited curriculum

since their refuge in August 2017.

"Access to education and other human rights of the Rohingya refugees are as critical as the battle for justice and accountability for the crimes committed against the Rohingya people," it said.

ActionAid, Amnesty International, Arakan Rohingya National Organisation, Asia Pacific Refugee Rights Network, Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust, Human Rights Watch, Manusher Jonno Foundation, European Rohingya Council, Fortify Rights, Robert F Kennedy

Human Rights and Burma Campaign UK signed the statement among other organisations.

Saida Muna

FROM PAGE 3

This is the first time that a Bangladeshi diplomat has received such recognition in the UK. The high commissioner dedicated the award to the millions of climate migrants and victims of climate catastrophes in Bangladesh and the rest of the world.

In 2022, ten diplomats were awarded from seven regions of the world.

BNP major barrier to democracy

Says Quader

BSS, Dhaka

Awami League General Secretary Obaidul Quader yesterday said BNP is the key impediment to democracy and progress.

He made the remark while talking to reporters after paying homage to Sheikh Jamal on the occasion of his (Jamal's) 69th birthday.

He placed wreaths on the grave of Sheikh Jamal at Banani graveyard on behalf of the PM and AL.

Advanced Chemical Industries Limited
ACI Centre, 245 Tejgaon Industrial Area, Dhaka-1208

Price Sensitive Information (PSI)

This is for the information of all concern that ACI Healthcare Limited, one of the subsidiaries of Advanced Chemical Industries Limited (ACI) obtained the U.S. Food & Drug Administration (FDA) approval for its Healthcare establishment at Tripordi, Sonargaon, Narayanganj vide the memo no. ANDA 206943/S-009 dated 27 April 2022 for the manufacturing of Gabapentin capsules which will be exported to US market. It is to be mentioned here that the Healthcare site is primarily dedicated for export. This will positively impact pharmaceutical export.

By Order of the Board

Mohammad Mostafizur Rahman
Company Secretary

28 April 2022, Dhaka

Save the Children

Date: April 29, 2022

Save the Children is the world's leading, independent organisation for children

Invitation for Tender

Save the Children International (SCI) is hereby inviting the tender from interested, experienced and bona fide vendors for Printing EPI Child Vaccination Card with Card Cover for MaMoni Program, Save the Children in Bangladesh. For details please see the IFT schedules, which is available on <http://procurement.scibd.info/> under tender notification. Downloaded copy is acceptable for tender participation.

Description, Submission Time & Date:			
SL	Name of IFT	Reference No.	Last date of Tender Submission
1	Framework Agreement of Printing EPI Child Vaccination Card with Card Cover	IFT/SCI/BDCO/FY-22/(manual)08	May 16, 2022, by 03.00PM

Special Instruction: a) All activities in connection with the said procurement of Goods/Services will be guided as per the SCI's Procurement Policies. b) If it is not possible to receive & open the tender on the scheduled date for any unavoidable circumstances, the same will be received and opened on the following working date at same time and same place.

Senior Manager, Procurement & Supply Chain

Save the Children

Date: April 29, 2022

Save the Children is the world's leading, independent organisation for children

Invitation for Tender

Save the Children International (SCI) is hereby inviting the tender from interested, experienced and bona fide vendors for Oxygen Manifold and Hospital Oxygen Connectivity.

For details please see the IFT schedule, which is available on <http://procurement.scibd.info/> under tender notification. Downloaded copy is acceptable for tender participation.

Description, submission time & date:				
SL	Name of IFT	Reference No.	Pre-Tender Meeting Schedule and Place	Last date of Tender Submission
1	Construction Works for Oxygen Manifold Establishment and Hospital Oxygen Connectivity	IFT/SCI/BDCO/FY-22/(Manual)/05	09/05/2022 at 3:00 PM https://zoom.us/j/93984119703?pwd=S0V4dm0zcFFMaHdwWTBZN09XSmdSZz09	May 18, 2022 at 3:00PM

Special Instruction: (a) All activities in connection with the said procurement of Goods/Services will be guided as per the SCI's Procurement Policies. (b) If it is not possible to receive & open the tender on the scheduled date for any unavoidable circumstances, the same will be received and opened on the following working date at same time and same place.

Senior Manager, Procurement & Supply Chain

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Office of the Executive Engineer, RHD
Road Division, Cumilla
Telephone No. 081-64725
E-mail: eeecom@rhd.gov.bd

Memo No. 35.01.1933.410.2110 Date: 27-04-2022

e-Tender Notice

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

Sl. No.	Package No. & Tender ID	Description of work	Tender last selling (date & time)	Tender closing (date & time)	Tender opening (date & time)
1.	e-GP/48/CRD/2021-2022 (Tender ID: 693699)	Construction of Steel Foot Over Bridge (Bara Gobindapur) at Ch. 72+800 of Dhaka (Jatrabari)-Cumilla (Mainamoti)-Chattogram-Cox's Bazar-Teknaf National Highway (N-1) under Road Division, Cumilla during the year 2021-2022.	29-May-2022 17.00	30-May-2022 12.00	30-May-2022 12.00

This is an online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required. The fees for downloading the e-Tender documents from the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through and registered banks' branches up to 117.00pm at dated 29-May-2022 (Tender ID: 693699). Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

Executive Engineer, RHD
Road Division, Cumilla
GD-880

Waste

FROM PAGE 5

The HC bench of Justice JBM Hassan and Justice Razik-Al-Jalil came up with the order and rule following a petition filed by Bangladesh Environmental Lawyers Association (BELA). BELA filed the writ petition following an article published in The Daily Star on May 30 of 2021 regarding the issue.

Leak in water

FROM PAGE 3

infected while staying at hotels near the airport," he said. Instructions have been given to Wasa to run campaigns and drives at hotels near the airport area.

The number of diarrhoea patients surpassed the 1,000-mark in a 24-hour period on March 16, for the first time in icddr's 60-year journey.

Meanwhile, the cabinet, in principle, approved the drafts of Sheikh Hasina Rural Development Academy, Jamalpur Act, 2022 and Rural Development Academy, Rangpur Act, 2022.

The government will establish two more rural development academies in Jamalpur and Rangpur districts, aiming to make the private sector, especially small and medium enterprises, Anwarul said. The cabinet also approved the draft of National Voluntary Policy-2022.

The secretary said the policy has been brought in line with sections 16 and 59 of the constitution, perspective plan, sustainable development goals, five-year plans and the directives of tackling Covid-19.

Disaster

FROM PAGE 5

Azim Uddin Sardar, executive engineer of LGED Moulvibazar office, confirmed Martin's claim.

Abdul Karim Kim, general secretary of Bangladesh Paribesh Andolon's Sylhet chapter, said, "Roads are being built inside the protected forest under the orders of the environment minister. This will endanger the Lathitila forest, its ecology and biodiversity." Despite repeated attempts, this correspondent could not contact Environment Minister Md Shahab Uddin.

We Mourn



Mrs. Pari Banu Begum, our beloved mother and retired Deputy Director of Bangladesh Secondary School Education, passed away on April 10th 2022 and laid to rest in Virginia, USA at age 92. She has worked in numerous schools and the public education sector at various capacities in her long career from 1947 to 1986. We sincerely request prayers for her departed soul. Per her wish, we also humbly request all concerned to forgive her if she ever hurt anyone through word or action. Sincerely: The deceased's family

Social Islami Bank Limited
Head Office: City Center, 90/1 Motijheel C/A, Dhaka

PRICE SENSITIVE INFORMATION

This is for information of all concerned that the Board of Directors of the Bank in its 480th Meeting held on April 28, 2022 at 2:15 p.m. decided to issue SIBL 4th Mudaraba Subordinated Bond of Tk. 600 (Six hundred) crore for 07 years (redeemable) subject to approval of Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) and Bangladesh Bank.

The core features of 4th Mudaraba Subordinated Bond of Social Islami Bank Limited are given below:

Instrument Name	SIBL 4th Mudaraba Subordinated Bond
Fund Size	Tk. 600.00 Crore
Value per unit	Tk. 1,00,00,000/- (Taka one crore only)
Minimum Application	Tk. 1,00,00,000/- (Taka one crore only)
Bond duration	7(seven) Years
Fund Placement Structure	Private Placement
Listing status	Un-Listed
Mandated Lead Arranger	Standard Chartered Bank.

Detailed features related to the issuance of the said bond shall be incorporated in the Information Memorandum.

By order of the Board

(Md. Nazmul Ahsan, FCS)
Company Secretary (CC)

Dated: April 28, 2022

Palli Karma-Sahayak Foundation (PKSF)
PKSF Bhaban, Plot: E-4/B, Agargaon Administrative Area, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207
Phone: 8181658-61, Fax: 8181678, Website: <http://www.pksf-bd.org>

Memo No. 53.23.0000.001.03.013.22.2679 Date: 27-04-2022

Request for Expression of Interest for Selection of Individual Consultant

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh has received financing from the World Bank and Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) for implementing the Bangladesh Rural Water, Sanitation & Hygiene for Human Capital Development Project and intends to apply part of the proceeds for the 'Individual Consultant' services.

The Palli Karma-Sahayak Foundation (PKSF), now invites eligible applicant ("Consultant") to indicate their interest in providing the Services as 'Individual Consultant'. Interested individual consultants should provide information demonstrating that they have the required qualification and relevant experience to perform the Services as below:

Contract Package Number	Name of the Position	No.	Required Minimum (a) Qualification & Experience and (b) Job Responsibilities
Package No: RWSSP-SD-15.1	Gender Consultant	01	a) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Post-graduate in Sociology, Gender Studies, Human Resources, Anthropology or equivalent. • Minimum 5 (Five) years of working experience of which 3 (Three) years working with a development organization in the field of Gender/Gender related issues. • Familiar with World Bank Environmental and Social Framework and Standard (ESF, ESS) as well as Environment, Health and Safety Guidelines (EHSG). • Knowledge and understanding of GoB Laws, Acts and Regulations regarding Gender, GBV/SEA/SH, GBV service provisions. • Familiarity with One Stop Crisis Center/Cell operations. • Practical experience in handling Gender and GBV/SEA/SH related issues. • Experience in communicating and interactions with GBV Service Providers • High level of proficiency in written and spoken English and report writing, presentation and documentation b) Detailed job responsibilities are given in the ToR.

The Applicants are invited to provide information in details indicating their qualification to perform the services (complete CV along with description of similar assignments, experience in similar conditions, education & general qualifications and all supporting documents).

The Consultants will be hired and contracted as per the "Selection of Individual Consultants (SIC)" method of the World Bank's "Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers", Fourth Edition, November 2020 ("Procurement Regulations"). Duration of the consultancy services under package no RWSSP-SD-15.1for 48 months or till project closing date, whichever is earlier.

The detailed Terms of Reference (ToR)for the assignments can be found at the following link:tender.pksf-bd.org.

Expressions of interest must be submitted in a written form with consultant's original signature to the PKSF office (in person, or by postal mail) in a sealed envelope along with softcopy (CD/DVD/Pen-drive) by 26-05-2022 within 3:00 PM and clearly marked i) 'Expression of Interest', ii) contract package number, iii) name of the position applied for and iv) name and address of the individual consultant.

Women are highly encouraged to apply.

The authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all of the EoIs or cancel the EoI process at any stage without assigning any reason whatsoever and without incurring any liability to the affected applicant(s).

For Further information and clarification, intending applicant may contact the PKSF office during 9:30 am to 4:30 pm (Except holidays) or through email to rwashpksf.proc@gmail.com

AQM Golam Mawla, Deputy Managing Director & PE

Disaster in the making, yet again

Road construction resumes in Lathitila protected forest

MINTU DESHWARA

Although road construction inside the Lathitila protected forest was halted due to the forest officials' intervention, works have resumed ignoring their concerns, allegedly following the environment minister's order.

A report titled "Disaster averted, for now" on the issue was published in The Daily Star on April 22.

According to LGED and Forest Department sources, around two months ago, LGED floated a tender to construct a one-kilometre road from Lathichhara to Rupachhara through the forest.

It was after the bricks were laid on the pathway to demarcate the road when the matter came to the forest officials' notice.

Salah Uddin, a forester of Lathitila, wrote a letter to the engineer of LGED's upazila office mentioning that no advice or permission was sought from the forest department in this regard and asked to stop the construction immediately.

Alauddin, Juri upazila range officer, told this correspondent that a meeting was held on January 22, 2018, at the Prime Minister's Office regarding the adoption of various development projects

in the forest. At that meeting, it was decided that any such development project would require permission from the environment and forests ministry through the forest department.

This correspondent visited the spot on Sunday morning and saw that the road was being dug with excavators. Almost 225 metres of the road were already done, with piles of bricks laid at one point of the road.

Saidul Islam, owner of Paradise Construction – who got the work tender – said the official approval from the ministry concerned is currently under process.

Range Officer Alauddin said they have not yet received any written instructions regarding clearance for the construction.

Abdul Matin, an engineer at LGED upazila office, said they had initiated the project following a demand order (DO) letter from the environment ministry.

"I called the minister after the work was halted due to the forest department's intervention. I will talk to Sylhet's divisional forest officer so that the construction is not disrupted again," he added.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 4



After a few days of suspension due to the forest department's intervention, road construction through Lathitila protected forest has resumed, bringing with it a fresh set of risks that may very well harm the region's ecosystem. Almost 225 metres of the road are already done, with piles of bricks laid at one point of the road.

PHOTO: STAR

2 killed, 1 hurt in road accidents

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Faridpur

Two people were killed and another was injured in road accidents in Faridpur yesterday.

In Nagarkanda, Yunus Matubbar (68), a freedom fighter from Shreerampur village, died as a microbus hit a rickshaw on Dhaka-Khulna Highway in Kailermor area around 9:00am, said OC Hamiduddin Ahmad of Bhanga Highway Police Station.

Meanwhile, Sofiqul Islam (52) was killed and another injured when his motorbike hit a roadside shop in Alfadanga upazila.

BRIBERY CASE

Suspended ACC director Basir denied bail

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday refused to grant bail to suspended ACC director Khandaker Enamul Basir in a Tk 40-lakh bribery case in which he was jailed for eight years.

The bench of Justice Md Mostafizur Rahman passed the order, said Anti-Corruption Commission lawyer Khurshid Alam Khan.

A Dhaka court on February 23 sentenced Basir and suspended deputy inspector general of police Md Mizanur Rahman to eight and three years in jail, respectively, in the case filed by ACC on July 16, 2019.

Basir was given three years for taking Tk 40 lakh from Mizan and five years for laundering it. Basir was also fined Tk 80 lakh, in default of which he will have to serve six more months in jail.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Executive Engineer
DPHE, Narshingdi District
E-mail: ee.narshingdi@dphe.gov.bd

Invitation for e-Tender Notice

Memo No. 46.03.6800.061.07.001.21-585 Date: 28/04/2022

1	Ministry/Division	Local Government Division
2	Implementing agency	Department of Public Health Engineering (DPHE)
3	e-Tender IDs	693154, 693155, 693156 & 693157
4	Description of works	Installation of Water Points of Different Technology for Houses Constructed for Homeless People in Mujib Birth Centenary at Different Places of Narshingdi District under Revenue Budget of Department of Public Health Engineering (DPHE) for the FY: 2021-2022.
5	Name, designation & address of official inviting tender	Mr Sardar Shamsul Islam, Executive Engineer DPHE, Narshingdi District Tel. No. 02-9462185
6	Information	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: www.eprocure.gov.bd .

Sardar Shamsul Islam
Executive Engineer

GD-890

Waste dumping in eco park halted



OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

The High Court yesterday imposed an injunction on dumping waste in Borshijora Eco Park of Moulvibazar for the next six months.

The court also issued a rule asking the authorities concerned to explain in four weeks why their failure and inaction to protect and preserve the park from tree and hill cuttings, construction of roads and dumping hazardous waste should not be declared illegal.

In the rule, the HC asked the respondents to show causes why they should not be directed to take appropriate legal action against the local municipal mayor responsible for dumping hazardous waste in the eco park and to protect it from damages.

Secretary to the ministry of forest, environment and climate change, director general of department of environment, deputy commissioner and superintendent of police of Moulvibazar, chief forest conservator and other officials concerned and Moulvibazar municipality mayor have been made respondents to the rule.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 4

Arrest those who set jhum garden on fire: speakers

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Sammilita Samajik Andolon, a citizens' platform, yesterday demanded the arrest of those who were involved in burning local Mru's jhum garden at Bandarban's Lama upazila's Lankam.

Locals alleged that a rubber company intentionally torched their field on Tuesday in a bid to grab their land. About 100 acres of jhum crops, including paddy, mango, banana and pineapple, were destroyed, according to the locals.

They accused Lama Rubber Industries Limited officials in the incident. However, the officials denied the claim, saying that they only cleaned their own land.

The citizen platform's statement, issued by general secretary Saleh Ahmed, demanded proper investigation into the incident, ensuring security of Mru and providing them with compensation.



Bangladesh Land Port Authority
T.C.B Bhaban (5th Floor)
Kawran Bazar, Dhaka-1215
www.bsbk.gov.bd

Memo No. 18.15.0000.023.14.066.21-442 Dated: 28/04/2022

e-Tender Notice

This is an online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required. The fees for downloading the e-Tender documents of following package from the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through and registered bank's branches.

Sl. No.	Name of work	Tender ID	Last date & time of submission documents	Tender/proposal opening date & time
1.	Construction of Warehouse, Transshipment Shed, Watch Tower at Balla Land Port Habiganj.	676305	30/05/2022 14:15pm	30/05/2022 14:30pm
2.	External Electrification of Balla Land Port, Habiganj.	684670	19/05/2022 14:30pm	19/05/2022 16:30pm
3.	Construction of Office Building Dormitory Building, Barrack & Power House at Balla Land Port, Habiganj.	683227	30/05/2022 11:30pm	30/05/2022 12:30pm

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

Md. Aminul Islam
Project Director
Development of Balla Land Port Project
Phone: 02-55013757

GD-888

Bangladesh Rural Development Board
Rural Livelihood Project-3rd Phase
5, Kawran Bazar, Dhaka-1215
www.rlp.brdb.org.com

Request for Expression of Interest (EOI)

1.	Ministry/Division	Rural Development and Cooperatives Division
2.	Agency	Rural Livelihood Project-3 rd Phase, BRDB
3.	Name of Procuring Entity	Project Director, Rural Livelihood Project-3 rd Phase, BRDB
4.	Procuring Entity Code	41133
5.	Expression of Interest for Selection of	Consulting IT Firm
6.	EOI Ref. No. & Date	47.62.0000.911.07.057.22.422 Date:26.04.2022
7.	Procurement Method	Open Tender Method (OTM)
8.	Budget & Source of Fund	GOB
9.	EOI Closing Date & Time	18.05.2022 at 2.30 pm.
10.	Brief Description of the Assignment:	Main activities of Rural Livelihood Project-3 rd Phase is to organize rural women and men into informal groups, provide training, microcredit, micro enterprise loan (SME), One product one village based livelihood village, thrift deposit to ensure proper use of local resources & livelihood of the rural people. Project urges to develop & install web enabled microfinance software with necessary features for Rural Livelihood Project-3 rd Phase which are functioning 48 District 220 Upazilas of Bangladesh. System comprises (i) Member management system (ii) Group management system (iii) Beneficiaries savings & credit management system (iv) Beneficiaries training management system (v) Online banking system (vi) Socio-economic impact management system (vii) Accounting management system
11.	Experience, Resource and Delivery Capacity Required-	Intending Firms have to submit the following documents along with EOI: 1. Bidder must have minimum 10 years experience in ICT business as a registered company entity in Bangladesh. 2. Must submit upto date trade license, income tax and vat certificate. 3. Must have at least 07 years practical experience of developing web-based enterprise solution. 4. Companies having experience of 10 years regarding developing core banking software, public service delivery and international installation will added advantage. 5. Must have experience of providing online payment gateway integration. 6. Must have ability to provide 24/7 support services (Proven experience of providing software support must be submitted). 7. Having experience of at least 3 core banking solution and 1 web based ERP solution with minimum contract value of 3 core under a single contract within last 5 year. 8. Must have proven experience of developing group management, training management, group finance & micro finance management solution in any government/semi government organization. 9. Logistic information of the office must be provided. 10. Must have to submit upto date BASIS membership certificate. 11. The bidder must certified by ISO and CMMI L-3. 12. Annual turnover of the company must be 15 crore. Last 3 years of audit report should be submitted. 13. Bidder must provide financial solvency of minimum 5 crore.
12.	Association with foreign firms	Not mandatory
13.	Name of the official inviting EOI	Md. Alomgir Hossain Al Nawaj
14.	Designation	Project Director
15.	Address of official inviting EOI	RLP-3rd Phase, BRDB, 6th floor, Palli Bhaban, 5, Kawran Bazar, Dhaka-1215
16.	Contact Details	RLP-3rd Phase, BRDB, 6th floor, Palli Bhaban, 5, Kawran Bazar, Dhaka-1215 Tel. 02-8180037, E-mail: pdrlp3brdb@gmail.com
17.	Other Details	• A Firm/Company will be selected in accordance with the public procurement regulations 2008 and public procurement Act 2006. • Envelope containing application/proposal (EOI) along with relevant supporting documents to be marked "Expression of interest (EOI)" for providing services for development and installation of customized web enabled micro finance management system with necessary features for Rural Livelihood Project-3 rd Phase, BRDB.
18.	The authority reserves all right to accept or reject any/all EOI's without assigning any reason thereof.	

Md. Alomgir Hossain Al Nawaj
Project Director

370-862

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Dhaka South City Corporation
Office of the Project Director
Dhaka City Neighborhood Upgrading Project (DCNUP)
Level 10, West Block, Room-919
Nagar Bhaban, Fulbaria, Dhaka-1000

e-Tender Notice

e-Tender are invited in e-GP Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) by Project Director, DCNUP, Dhaka South City Corporation for the procurement of:

Sl.	Tender ID, Ref No.	Description of items	Start date and time	Last selling date and time	Tender closing date & time
1	Tender ID: 689464 Ref. No. 46.207.014.09.10.104.2022 Date: 28-02-2022	Works: Construction of 3 (three) Nos. Secondary Transfer Stations (ST) at (1) Kalunagar adjacent to Sluice Gate, Kamrangir Char (Ward No. 55), (2) Kamrangir Char-Chata Mosque (Beside Steel Bridge) (Ward No. 57) and (3) Siddique Bazar Road (Ward No. 34) under DCNUP Project, DSCC, Dhaka (Package No. DCNUP/W22A)	28-Apr-2022 17:00	26-May-2022 17:00	29-May-2022 12:00

This is an online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in e-GP Portal and offline/hard copy(s) will not be accepted. To submit e-Tender, please register on e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>).

Mohammad Sirajul Islam
Project Director, PIU
Dhaka City Neighborhood Upgrading Project (DCNUP)
Dhaka South City Corporation
Nagar Bhaban (Level-10), Room 919, West Block
Fulbaria, Dhaka-1000, Bangladesh
Tel: 880-2223350461

370-863

Celebrating the spirit of dance

Rethinking the conventional norms of dance on World Dance Day



SUDESHNA SWAYAMPRAKHA TATHOI

As dancers, we believe that the flapping of our wings gives hope to the hearts of those who love the art of dance and gives them the courage to overcome this pandemic.

Every year, International Dance Day is celebrated on the 29th of April, showcasing the amazing diversity and spirit of dancers all over the world.

The IITI Dance Committee puts forward a message from a celebrated dancer every year to remind us all to appreciate this amazing art form. This year's message was given by multiple award-winning dancer and artistic director of Korean National Ballet, Kang Sue jin.

In her message this year, the South Korean ballerina highlighted how the pandemic has impelled us to "rethink" the meaning of dance and dancers.

when "dance and dancers sparkled like jewels, conveying human anguish and anxiety, will and hope for life, and illuminated the world".

"As dancers, we believe that the flapping of our wings gives hope to the hearts of those who love the art of dance and gives them the courage to overcome this pandemic. My heart is already starting to pound," her message ends.

While the world struggled under the shroud of gloom and isolation, artistes from various fields came together to bring relief and joy through their activities. Dance was one of the major ways through which people found a semblance of normalcy in their otherwise unnatural confined states.

Dance, being the most effective way

effects of the pandemic, many danced and filmed themselves to share with the world through social media and other mediums. The performances were all done in confined spaces of balconies, terraces, living rooms, or gardens, making the experience more real, personal, and relatable.

The community of dancers around the world danced selflessly and shared their performances with throughout the pandemic to keep everyone motivated and engaged. Innumerable past and current performances, live streams, dance films, online collaborations and festivals, fundraising raising concerts, practice, rehearsal, and improvisation videos for everyone were posted online to view and enjoy.

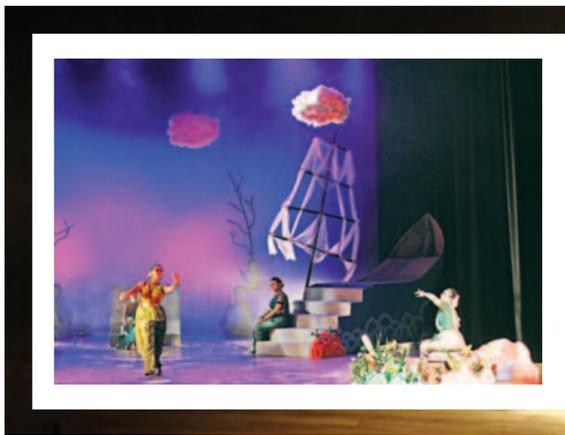
Several international dance companies offered online dance classes at almost no or minimal fees. Many enthusiasts, who had stopped dancing several years ago, found inspiration to start afresh. The situation formed great connections between dancers as they got to know each other and their works through the internet and brought the community closer.

While the pandemic steered us in a direction to view dance in another light, it was also a time of great crisis for many who earn their bread and butter through this art form. With the shutting down of theatres and stage shows, dance schools and companies, many dancers were out of job for months on end and had faced severe financial crisis to continue to survive in the pandemic.

In addition, performing continuously before a camera or a laptop in confined places alone took away the thrill and excitement of performing in an auditorium before a live audience. However, the virtual world of dance still managed to find innovative ways.

On International Dance Day 2022 as the world still struggles with the pandemic, let us take time to think of all those who have suffered, but also let us move forward with the best of the realisations. Let us all take time to celebrate ourselves, our dreams, hopes, and togetherness by connecting our minds and bodies through the eternal spirit of motion of dance.

The author is a dancer and choreographer.



PHOTOS: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

"It is a momentary art that is difficult to restore to its original form once completed because it's created with the entire body and soul. Dance is made of ephemeral moments, which destines dancers to be on the move forever. Yet, Covid-19 has restricted and even blocked the art of dance in its original form," reads part of her message.

The dancer also talks about how this setting has forced them to look back in time

of communicating and expressing the innermost feelings of the human soul, became one of the most widely used mediums for many to fight boredom, find new interests, connect with the wider world as well as provide entertainment to others.

Be it classical, contemporary, modern, folk, or freestyle, professional and non-professional, dancers all came together. While some danced to fight the depressing



James to release new song after 12 years

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

After 12 years, fans of rock icon James will be able to hear a new song from him. He made the announcement on his official Facebook page.

He is set to release a song on the night before Eid-Ul-Fitr. It will be out on the Bashundhara Digital YouTube channel. The track is presented by Radhuni.

Recently, James performed together with Euphoria and Strings at Dubai Expo 2020.

Lady Gaga teases new single in 'Top Gun: Maverick'



Grammy award winning singer Lady Gaga has revealed that her latest song "Hold My Hand" will be featured in Tom Cruise's "Top Gun: Maverick."

She announced the news on her official Instagram account. The "Poker Face" singer stated that the song is a "love letter to the world" and that she has been working on it for years.

"Hold My Hand" is written by Lady Gaga and produced by BloodPop. The song is slated to be released on May 3.

COUNTRYWIDE

The fertilizer story

SHYKH SERAJ

Boro season is going on in Bangladesh and the harvest will start in full swing within a few days. Meanwhile, farmers in the haor areas of Sunamganj, Netrokona and Kishoreganj have been going through a difficult situation as standing paddy in vast tracts of land have been submerged by the recent flash floods. State Minister for Water Resources Zahed Farooque at a press conference said paddy on 5,000 hectares of land have already been damaged by the flash floods. Many farmers were compelled to harvest their green paddies in fear of getting completely damaged. The haor areas is called the paddy reserve of the country, but farmers have to count huge losses due to such disaster every year.

Two years of the COVID-19 pandemic have utterly devastated the world economy. On the other hand, the Russia-Ukraine war started when the world was trying to return to normalcy. The impacts of the pandemic and the ongoing war spread worldwide. At present, the whole world is hit hard by three Cs: Climate, COVID-19 and Conflict. The fourth C, which is the rise of fuel and fertilizer cost in the international market, is also quite alarming. Especially, the price of fertilizer went up threefold while the prices of various daily essentials have also gone up. One of the reasons of our agricultural development is the uninterrupted subsidy provided by the government. Although Bangladesh is an agricultural country, the entire demand for fertilizers is almost met through import. However, whatever the import price is, the government sells fertilizers to the farmers at nominal prices by adding subsidies. If the government did not provide fertilizers and subsidies as per the regular demand, the cost of production would have multiplied. Fertilizer prices in the world have not only increased, but its production is also expected to decline due to the ongoing Russia-Ukraine war.

According to the Department of Agricultural Extension (DAE), in 2022-2023 fiscal years, the demand for urea fertilizer is 34.02 lakh tonnes (3.4 million), DAP 24.14 lakh tonnes (2.4 million), TSP 10.24 lakh tonnes (1.04 million) and MOP 14.18 lakh tonnes (1.4 million). In addition to these vital fertilizers, there is a demand for other fertilizers, as well. As far as I know, we have the required fertilizer in stock for the current financial year. In other words, whatever fertilizer stock we have, will continue till August 2022.

Shykh Seraj is Bangladesh's pioneer development journalist. He received country's two highest civilian honours, Swadhinata Puroshkar and Ekushey Padak. At Channel i, he is the founder director. He is also director and host of Channel i's popular agro-documentary, Hridoye Mati O Manush.



According to Bangladesh Fertilizer Association, Bangladesh produces about 10 lakh tonnes of urea. The rest of the demand has to be imported from the UAE, Saudi Arabia and Qatar. TSP fertilizer production is about one lakh tonnes while the rest is imported from Morocco and Tunisia. Meanwhile, the DAP fertilizer production is almost the same and the rest is mainly imported from China and Jordan. Most of the MOP fertilizers is imported from Belarus, Russia and Canada. Agriculture Minister Dr Abdur Razzak said due to increase in the subsidy by additional Tk 9,000 crore (USD 90 billion), now the government will have to pay a subsidy of Tk 30,000 crore (USD 300 billion). This is a big challenge for the government. Although urea is bought at Tk 96 per kg (USD 1.1), farmers get it at Tk 16 (USD 0.18). They are getting TSP of Tk 70 (USD 0.8) at Tk 22 (USD 0.25), MOP of Tk 54 (USD 0.62) at Tk 15 (USD 0.17) and DAP of Tk 93 (USD 1.1) at Tk 16

(USD 0.18) per kg.

I talked to Faizur Rahman Bakul, head of one of the leading fertilizer importers in the country, and he said sustainable development is not possible in any sector without becoming self-reliant. He also added that we can't increase the local production overnight to reduce the import reliance and stressed on government's support for the development of the private fertilizer production industry. However, the issue of wastage of natural gas in fertilizer production is also an 'open secret.' It is said that it is possible to meet one day of the electricity demand of the whole country with the amount of gas wasted by four state-owned fertilizer factories in nine days. The four factories require 43.72 million cubic feet (MCF) of gas to produce an average of around one tonne of urea. In other countries of the world, 25 MCF gas is used to produce the same amount of fertilizer. According to Bakul, the main reason for this wastage is the old machinery used at the factories.

In the developed world, the practice of organic farming is increasing day by day by reducing the use of chemical fertilizers. Our farmers are also becoming enthusiastic about using organic fertilizers. Organic fertilizers are food for the soil and chemical fertilizers for crops. However, the use of organic fertilizers reduces the need for chemical fertilizers. When it comes to food security, we have to keep in mind that production can never be reduced, no matter what happens.

I believe that the government has a well-thought plan to resolve all the crises of the farmers. Certainly, the world market is planning for the future, keeping the fertilizer crisis in mind. If we can reduce wastage and get our farmers used to with limited use of fertilizers, only then, we will be far ahead. In this case, every stakeholder must remain aware. We must think of our motherland, the farmers and the farming sector, above everything else.

India to step up co-op with neighbours

FROM PAGE 12

The visiting Indian external affairs minister was talking to reporters after a meeting with his Bangladesh counterpart AK Abdul Momen before attending an Iftar at the Foreign Service Academy yesterday.

Jaishankar arrived in Dhaka around 2:00pm by a special flight on a one-day visit. He called on Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and conveyed Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi's message and invitation to visit India. He will leave for Bhutan this morning.

"We discussed a number of issues. We reviewed bilateral ties as well as regional and global issues," said the Indian minister whose visit is aimed at deepening bilateral engagement.

At the meeting, Hasina said India's northeastern states like Assam and Tripura can use Chittagong seaport by strengthening the connectivity between the two neighbouring countries, reports UNB,

quoting PM's Press Secretary Ihsanul Karim as saying.

"If the connectivity is increased, Indian northeastern states like Assam and Tripura can have access to the seaport in Chattogram," she said when Jaishankar met her at her official residence Gono Bhaban.

Both of them expressed happiness at the state of the existing bilateral relations between the two countries. Hasina said high-level visits give impetus to carry forward the relations between the two nations.

Various issues, including defence cooperation, water sharing of Kushiara and Feni Rivers, the current Covid situation and impacts of Russia-Ukraine war on the global economy came up for the discussion.

At the Foreign Service Academy, Momen said it's unique the way the two countries celebrated the golden

jubilee of Bangladesh's independence and worked together last year.

"From that perspective, whatever small problems we have, we will solve. You know we have solved many major problems," he said.

Jaishankar said the connectivity between the two countries is back to pre-Covid level now, and they are looking at resuming cross border bus and railway services soon.

"It is also a matter of satisfaction for us that trade, disbursement of loan on bilateral projects, travel services, and investments are at new heights, and that they have recovered momentum, which was lost during the Covid."

He said Covid has taught how important it is to have regional supply chains and value chains for essential commodities, including oxygen, medicine and food.

Jaishankar said he hopes to see early commissioning of many projects, including in power and energy sector

as well as connectivity. He is also looking forward to Joint Consultative Commission (JCC) meeting in New Delhi likely in late May.

He avoided replying to a question on Momen's recent statement that Dhaka sought India's help for withdrawal of US sanctions on Rab.

"I think that is a question that you need to ask Dr Momen, not me," he said.

At that, Momen said, "We are working on it."

Our New Delhi Correspondent reports: at a regular briefing in New Delhi, spokesperson for India's external affairs ministry Arindam Bagchi avoided a similar question from journalists.

"I am not going to say anything at this point on what the discussions have been or have received it in advance... Let the visit happen and then we will see if we are in a position to share with you any further details on this," he said.

Agri ministry defends its decision

FROM PAGE 12

This is the first time Bangladesh will be participating in this fair.

The ministry yesterday organised a press briefing to share their targets and the achievements they are expecting from participating in the fair.

At the briefing, Abdur Razzak, agriculture minister, said, they are trying to send some Bangladeshi students to the Bangladeshi pavilion, along with one or two mid-level ministry officials.

According to The Daily Star's report, those who will be travelling to Europe for other project-related study tours will also stopover in

the fair.

At the briefing, journalists questioned the huge number of participants from different ministries.

Wahida Akter, additional secretary of the ministry, said such foreign trips were halted during the pandemic but they picked up again now as many proposals were placed before the higher authorities.

"However, all ministries were given a circular with directives of cutting the number of participants. We are taking that into consideration."

The official said the number of participants will

not exceed 40.

A total of 16 teams were prepared with two members in each team. Most of the members will be junior officers.

Only during the "Bangladesh Day", likely to be held in the first week of July, high-level officials, including the agriculture minister are likely to attend the fair.

Razzak said as Bangladesh is graduating to the status of developed country, participating in the fair could help the country present the "wonderful achievements" of agriculture sector to the world and help find export opportunities.

He added this participation has given Bangladesh the scope to become a member of the International Association of Horticultural Producers.

According to the briefing notes, the 1,000 square meter Bangladesh pavilion, with the theme of "Back to jute, back to nature", will be showcasing the country's jute products, processed foods and horticulture items.

Mehedi Masood, project director of the ministry's "Year-round fruit production for nutrition improvement" initiative, said jute products are popular in Europe.

South Asia wilts in early heatwave

AFP, New Delhi

Millions sweltered in an early summer heatwave across India and Pakistan yesterday, leading to power and water shortages as annual furnace-like temperatures hit South Asia.

In New Delhi, a burning rubbish dump choked residents for a third day with temperatures crossing 45 Celsius (113 Fahrenheit) in parts of South Asia yesterday—several degrees higher than normal—and forecasters warning that it will get even hotter this weekend.

Heatwaves have killed over 6,500 people in India since 2010, and scientists say climate change is making them harsher and more frequent across the region.

The Indian states of Rajasthan, Gujarat and Andhra Pradesh imposed power cuts on factories as consumption for air conditioning and fans skyrocketed. Many regions also reported falling water supplies that will only worsen until the annual monsoon rains in June and July.

Water shortages will hit farmers hardest, including those growing wheat as India aims to boost exports to help ease a global shortage due to the war in Ukraine.

Temperatures are expected to be up to eight degrees higher than usual in parts of Pakistan, with the mercury peaking at 48 degrees in parts of rural Sindh on Wednesday, Pakistan's Meteorological Society warned.

'Whole of Ukraine' must be liberated

Says UK, tells China its rise depends on playing by the rules

AGENCIES

Britain yesterday denied it was over-reaching against Russia after Foreign Secretary Liz Truss said "the whole of Ukraine" must be liberated, indicating that Crimea must also be regained.

Defence Secretary Ben Wallace said Truss's remark, made in a high-profile speech, complied with the West's longstanding stance since Russia seized the Crimean peninsula in 2014.

"We've constantly said that Russia should leave Ukraine sovereign territory, so that hasn't changed," Wallace told Sky News.

But when asked whether Britain would support Ukraine militarily for any offensive to recapture the peninsula, he said: "There's a long way to go before Ukraine pushes into Crimea."



"I think what I would certainly say is, we are supporting Ukraine's sovereign integrity. We've done that all along. That of course includes Crimea."

Addressing diplomats and business leaders in London late Wednesday, Truss said Britain was "doubling down" on its military support.

"We cannot be complacent—the fate of Ukraine remains in the balance," she told diplomats and business leaders in London,

deploring the "failure" of global security structures that should have prevented the war.

A victory for Russian President Vladimir Putin would have "terrible consequences across the globe", and more, heavier, weapons should be sent to Ukraine despite the risk of escalating the conflict.

"We must be prepared for the long haul and double down on our support for Ukraine."

Liz Truss also warned that China must play by international rules or be punished.

"China is not impervious," she said. "Their rise is not inevitable."

"They will not continue to rise if they do not play by the rules (and) we have shown with Russia the kind of choices that we're prepared to make when international rules are violated."

253,000 sq kms of forest lost in 2021

REUTERS, Sao Paulo

The world lost an area of forest the size of the US state of Wyoming last year, as wildfires in Russia set all-time records and Brazilian deforestation of the Amazon remains high, a global forest monitoring project report said yesterday. Global Forest Watch, which is backed by the non-profit World Resources Institute (WRI) and draws on forest data collected by the University of Maryland, said in a report that roughly 253,000 square kilometers (97,683 square miles) of forest were lost in 2021. Forests provide a buffer against climate change because of the vast amounts of carbon dioxide that they absorb and their rapid destruction is putting global climate targets at risk, WRI analysts said in a briefing. The high level of 2021 forest loss, while roughly flat with 2020, does not match up with the commitment announced



by more than 100 world leaders at a United Nations climate summit last November to halt deforestation by 2030, the analysts said.

Supply crunch worsens crisis

FROM PAGE 1

Palm oil, on the other hand, was sold for Tk 165-168 per litre at the wholesale markets and for Tk 170-175 at the retail markets in Chattogram and Bagerhat.

Traders said retail prices of edible oil have gone up by Tk 10-15 per litre overnight.

"Most of the shops in Kazir Dewri do not have edible oil. I was lucky to buy a two-litre soybean oil bottle for Tk 350 today [yesterday], up by Tk 30 from two days ago," said Abul Hossain, a resident of Kazir Dewri bazar area of the port city.

In the capital, this newspaper could not find soybean oil at the Shewrapara bus stop kitchen market, Kazipara bus stop kitchen market and Mirpur-1 kitchen market yesterday.

Mohammad Gofran, owner of Comilla General Store at Karwan Bazar kitchen market, said, "I have been doing businesses in this market for 20 years, but have never seen an edible

oil crisis like this one ahead of Eid."

In Bagerhat, consumers were paying an additional Tk 10-15 for each litre of non-bottled soybean oil.

Visiting several shops, including those at the main market in the district town, The Daily Star found that most of them did not have bottled soybean oil.

Those having bottled soybean oil were charging customers Tk 185 per litre against the retail price of Tk 170.

Besides, consumers were forced to buy loose soybean oil for Tk 190 to Tk 200 a litre.

Earlier, commerce ministry Additional Secretary AHM Safiquzzaman had termed the edible oil crisis in the local market artificial.

Speaking to The Daily Star on Tuesday, he said the country still has edible oil reserves to meet the demand for at least the next one and a half months.

According to the National Board of Revenue (NBR),

about 8.5 lakh tonnes of palm oil and 4.06 lakh tonnes of soybean oil have been imported in the first three and a half months of this year.

Traders alleged that the refiner companies and dealers manipulated the supply of the essential product.

However, Biswajit Saha, director for corporate and regulatory affairs at City Group, denied the allegation. "The supply of goods from the mills is normal, but it is not reaching the market properly."

He said the prices of the product were going up in the international market and the supply would also be less than before.

"Traders know that if they can reduce oil sales for a few days, they will get at least Tk 10-15 more per litre as the government has announced that the price will be re-fixed after Eid," said Saha.

Our Bagerhat correspondent also contributed to this report.

Freed at last

FROM PAGE 1

"We love you Bubu [the prime minister]," she said.

"We are very happy. We sought an Eid gift from the prime minister and she has given it to us," said Subha Safayet Saida, a student of class three, who was present at the programme.

She said the number of playgrounds in the city had reduced but a playground is very important for children's physical and mental health.

Speaking at the press conference, Mubashar Hussain, president of Institute of Architects Bangladesh, pledged his support to prepare a modern design for the playground and sought funds to make Tentultala a beautiful playground.

He hoped that Dhaka South City Corporation would take charge of the playground from now and do everything for its development.

"We are grateful to the prime minister. With the decision she proved that she is the daughter of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman," said Rasheda K Chowdhury, former adviser to the caretaker government and vice president of Bangladesh Paribesh Andolon. Thanking the PM, Dr

Zafrullah Chowdhury, founder of Gonoshasthaya Kendra, said even from behind the scenes the prime minister can see what many politicians cannot.

"We are beside you, prime minister. Do not have any fear," he said.

The construction work of the boundary wall for the police station went on under the supervision of police until midnight Wednesday.

A day after the detentions of Ratna and her son, green organisations, rights bodies and eminent citizens demanded that the government keep the Tentultala playground open to all and stop the construction of a police station there.

On January 31, Dhaka Deputy Commissioner's Office handed over the playground to Dhaka Metropolitan Police for constructing a building for Kalabagan Police Station. At present, a rented place on 30 North Road is being used as the police station.

Over the years, Tetultala playground, which covers one bigha of land, has been in use for multiple purposes. It has been used as a playground, Eidgah and a place for namaz-e-jaanaza.

Toll likely to be 1.5 times

FROM PAGE 12
the original TK 10,161 crore.

Hasina earlier this month told parliament that the bridge would be open to public by the year-end.

PROSED TOLL RATE OF PADMA BRIDGE		
VEHICLES	FERRY TOLL (in taka)	PADMA BRIDGE TOLL (in taka)
Bike	70	100
Car, Jeep	500	750
Pick-up, luxury Jeep, Prado	800	1,200
Microbus	860	1,300
Minibus	950	1,400
Medium Bus	1,350	2,000
Bus	1,580	2,400
Truck (up to 5 tonnes)	1,080	1,600
Truck (5 to 8 tonnes)	1,400	2,100
Truck (8 to 11 tonnes)	1,850	2,800
Truck (three axle)	3,940	5,500

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Executive Engineer, (RHD)
Sherpur Road Division, Sherpur
Phone/Fax: 0931-61821
E-mail: eeshed@rhd.gov.bd

Memo No. 35.01.8900.470.07-1025 Date: 28/04/2022

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 works:

Sl. No.	Tender/Proposal ID, Reference No.	Name of works	Publishing date, closing date
01	693460, 24/OTM/egp/Rev/SheRD/2021-2022	Repair work of J.M Roller No-257 under Sherpur Road Division during the year 2020-2022.	28-Apr-2022 15:00:00, 17-May-2022 12:25:00
02	693471, 25/OTM/egp/Rev/SheRD/2021-2022	Repair work Truck No. of Jamalpur-M-07-0001 under Sherpur Road Division during the year 2020-2022.	28-Apr-2022 15:00:00, 17-May-2022 12:30:00
03	693476, 26/OTM/egp/Rev/SheRD/2021-2022	Repair work of Inspection Vehicle No-Dhaka Metro-Gha-11-2656 under Sherpur Road Division during the year 2020-2022.	28-Apr-2022 15:00:00, 17-May-2022 12:40:00
04	693316, 27/OTM/egp/Rev/SheRD/2021-2022	Repair work of Truck No. Dhaka Metro-E-11-0715 under Sherpur Road Division during the year 2020-2022.	28-Apr-2022 14:00:00, 17-May-2022 12:00:00
05	693377, 28/OTM/egp/Rev/SheRD/2021-2022	Repair work of Inspection Vehicle No-Dhaka Metro-Gha-11-7396 under Sherpur Road Division during the year 2020-2022.	28-Apr-2022 15:00:00, 17-May-2022 12:15:00
06	693458, 29/OTM/egp/Rev/SheRD/2021-2022	Repair work of Inspection Vehicle No-Dhaka Metro-Tha-11-3889 under Sherpur Road Division during the year 2020-2022.	28-Apr-2022 15:00:00, 17-May-2022 12:15:00

This is an online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

Md. Moniruzzaman
ID No. 602274
Executive Engineer (C.C), RHD
Sherpur Road Division, Sherpur

GD-887

Bangladesh Fisheries Research Institute
Mymensingh-2201

Memo No. 33.04.0000.109.01.09.JFT.22/248 Date: 28-04-2022
e-Tender invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<https://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the below works.

Tender/Proposal ID No.	Name of works & package description	Last selling date & time	Opening date & time
W-02 693752	Repair & Renovation work of Dormitory Building under BFRI Mymensingh.	11-May-2022 17:00pm	12-May-2022 16:50pm

This is online tender where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP System Portal, further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and e-GP help desk (<https://www.eprocure.gov.bd>).

Dr. Yahia Mahmud
Director General
BFRI, Mymensingh-2201

GD-882

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

Memo No. 46.02.4100.000.07.001.21-1397 Dated: 27-04-2022

e-Tender Notice: 36/2021-22

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for The Procurement of Following Tender ID & Schemes. (For LTM, only enlisted constructors of The Jashore Region (Jashore, Jhenaidaha & Magura District), LGED are eligible. In that case, tender must be submitted updated tenders enlistment book of LGED).

Sl. No.	Package No. Name of Scheme & Tender ID No.	Tender method	Last date & time of selling document	Last date & time of submission document
1	JRRIDP/21/JSRW-142 Construction of 50M RCC Girder Bridge on Hazrail-Nolghona Road at Ch. 1000m over Mukteshori River Road ID-241615099 under Monirampur Upazila, District-Jashore. (TID No-691225)	OTM	23-May-2022 14:00	24-May-2022 14:00
2	IRIDP-3/JSR/DW-55 (a) Improvement of Boaliapara-Uttarpara Road, (Ch. 1959-2625m) Road ID-241615187 under Monirampur Upazila District-Jashore. (b) Construction of 4 Nos. 0.625mx0.600m dia U-Drain culvert at Ch. 2047m, 2092m, 2312m & 2466m on the same road. (TID No-691453)	LTM	16-May-2022 14:00	17-May-2022 14:00
3	IRIDP-3/JSR/DW-56 (a) Improvement of Kondobpur more-Suri more Road, (Ch. 00-1300m) Road ID-241615095 Under Monirampur Upazila District-Jashore. (b) Construction of 07 Nos. 0.625mx0.600m dia U-Drain culvert at Ch. 7m, 225m, 480m, 555m, 717m, 950m & 1159m on the same road. (TID No-691454)	LTM	16-May-2022 14:00	17-May-2022 14:00
4	IRIDP-3/JSR/DW-57 (a) Improvement of Hakoba-Bakospol via Debidaspur Road, (Ch.00-2610m) Road ID-241614061 under Monirampur Upazila District-Jashore. (b) Construction of 05 Nos. 0.625mx0.600m dia U-Drain culvert at Ch. 125m, 572m, 652m, 850m & 1350m on the same road. (TID No-691455)	OTM	23-May-2022 14:00	24-May-2022 14:00
5	IRIDP-3/JSR/DW-58 (a) Improvement of Monogolkot School-Golaghat School Road, (Ch. 1000-2504m) Road ID-241385173 under Keshabpur Upazila District-Jashore. (b) Construction of 06 Nos. 1.00mx1.00m RCC Box culvert at Ch. 1140m, 1375m, 1405, 1494m, 2115m & 2400m on the same road. (TID No-691456)	LTM	16-May-2022 14:00	17-May-2022 14:00
6	IRIDP-3/JSR/DW-59 (a) Improvement of Keshabpur-Katakhal road at Pall Para More - Gazibari Ghat via Arua Mohataber Mill Road, (Ch. 00-1600m) Road ID-241385200 Under Keshabpur Upazila District-Jashore. (b) Construction of 03 Nos. 1.00mx1.00m RCC Box culvert at Ch. 455m, 740m & 1360m on the same road. (TID No-691457)	LTM	16-May-2022 14:00	17-May-2022 14:00

This is an online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required. The fees for downloading the e-Tender documents from the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through any registered banks branches. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and also from E-mail: zen.jashore@lged.gov.bd Or Call to 024777-61422. For any queries interested Tendered are requested communicate with the undersigned during office hours.

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GD-881

Rab crisis betrays lack of inter-ministerial contact

Why the lack of coordination on an issue of national interest?

The US sanctions on the Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) have brought out a rather familiar scene to the fore: frictions among different ministries and stakeholders. We're used to seeing public offices trading metaphorical blows in attempts to ward off blame for any domestic crisis or failure. But the US sanctions have internationalised Rab's image crisis, and thus needed to be handled with care, which did not happen. A report on how the home and foreign ministries were lambasted at a meeting of the parliamentary standing committee on foreign affairs for their failure to tackle the debacle was quite illuminating. At the meeting, the foreign ministry's top brass blamed the home office for their failure to help them respond to accusations of extrajudicial killings and forced disappearances, leading to the sanctions. The parliamentary watchdog, on the other hand, blasted the former for "being oblivious to the impending US sanctions on Rab." What's obvious from these narratives is that lack of coordination and inter-ministerial wrangling were partly responsible for creating and prolonging this crisis. This is totally unfortunate. Why was there so much bureaucratic foot dragging on the part of our ministries when our national interest was at stake?

In our view, the home ministry does share the blame for failing to undertake post-sanction reforms in how Rab operates, as does the foreign ministry for appearing clueless even to this day. Unfortunately, from the very start of this crisis, the government's policy has been reactive rather than constructive, underpinned by a desire to come out of the crisis looking good. It has adopted a PR approach to it and lobbied, unsuccessfully, to lift the sanctions. The foreign minister's admission on Tuesday that he sought India's assistance in lifting the sanctions and even engaged representatives of the Indian diaspora in the US is demeaning to our country, not to mention a diplomatic overreach inconsistent with our national interests. It makes us look weak and leaves room for unwarranted meddling.

The US ambassador in Dhaka has already made it clear that without concrete actions and accountability on Bangladesh's part, the US will not lift its sanctions on Rab. Any illusion that the government may have had about whitewashing its elite force should be gone after that. The government should realise that, instead of seeking a backdoor exit out of the crisis or challenging the allegations against Rab, it should focus on establishing durable mechanisms of accountability within our law enforcement agencies. It should also ensure greater coordination and collaboration among different departments and ministries so that any such disaster can be pre-empted. In the end, however, the only outcome that the public really cares about is how respectful our law enforcers are of our laws and individual rights and dignity.

Why is there no progress with the vaccine plant?

It should be built on a priority basis considering future needs

It is unfortunate that the government has not been able to make any progress in building a vaccine plant and research institute in Bangladesh to start producing its own Covid-19 vaccines. While the government announced that it would set up the plant in July last year, according to a report by this daily, the six-acre land in Gopalganj designated for the project has not been acquired yet. And while the development project proposal (DPP) is yet to be finalised, no headway has been made to get a foreign biotechnology firm to sign for the technology transfer and production of vaccines.

While the government's Covid vaccination programme has been a success—as of April 6, 2022, it has administered one dose of the vaccine to 75.25 percent and two doses to 67.37 percent of the population—it should not create any room for complacency, leading to delays in implementing this project. Immediately after the decision was made to build the plant, a technical committee on vaccine production was formed, which gave some initial recommendations. But the committee has reportedly not held any meetings since then, and the members hardly have any idea about the latest development in the project. What's the point of even having such committees if they sit idle for eight long months? And we can't agree with the coordinator of the project, who said that the authorities were working to build a state-of-the-art vaccine production and research facility, which is a massive task and so the delay is normal. Given the importance of the project, we believe it should be expedited.

Just because the intensity of the pandemic is waning does not mean that we should lose our focus on building the plant. Since the world has already suffered three waves of the pandemic and is bracing for a fourth one, we should be prepared in every possible way. Since vaccination is one of the most effective ways to fight the virus, producing our own vaccines will safeguard us in the future without being dependent on the outside world.

Additionally, the vaccination plant will not only produce Covid vaccines, but can also be used for making other vaccines that we regularly import. Therefore, we urge the government to not waste any more time and start implementing the plan to set up this plant without further delay.

If justice had a face now, it'd be of helpless victims



OF MAGIC & MADNESS

Badiuzzaman Bay is an assistant editor at The Daily Star.

BADIUZZAMAN BAY

THE idea of a justice system hinges on people's faith in its ability to offer fair solutions. So justice, as the saying goes, should not only be done, but be seen to be done as well, so that people's faith in it is kept intact. But what happens when the system is broken and people can no longer trust it to guide them to a just solution? Can they still be expected to show unquestioning allegiance?

Questions such as these are getting louder in Bangladesh as people increasingly lose their faith in the justice system. You see its manifestations in frequent denunciations of how the system is failing to protect the helpless, growing support for extrajudicial executions of rapists and thugs, growing acceptance of mob justice, victims' preference for out-of-court settlements, or their unwillingness to report crimes or file cases—all signs of discontent with a crumbling justice system. But when the families of victims surrender to their fate and say, "We don't want justice," it means the system has really hit rock bottom.

We've heard variations of this expression by frustrated citizens on a number of occasions, most recently after last week's clashes between shopkeepers and Dhaka College students in the New Market area. The clashes, which we're still struggling to make sense of, took the lives of two ordinary individuals. One of them was Nahid Mia, a 19-year-old who was involved with neither of the feuding parties. Yet, armed political thugs masquerading as students mercilessly hacked him to death. The other victim was Mohammad Morsalin, a 24-year-old shop staffer, who was hit by a brick during the clashes and died at Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH). In comments later carried by the media, both their families refused to seek justice, because "what's the point of seeking justice? Whom shall we seek it from?"

This is not the first time that we've had families of victims saying they don't want justice. Last month, when Samia Afran Prity, a college student, was fatally injured by misdirected shots fired during an attack on a political leader in Shahjahanpur, Dhaka, her father, too, had the same thing to say. "Where would I seek justice? There is no justice here, nor do I have the ability to pursue it," he said, as he waited for his daughter's body in front of the DMC morgue.

Victims or their families refusing to pursue their cases in a court of law, out of a sheer sense of helplessness, is perhaps the brightest of all red lines for any justice system. We've had the warning signs for quite some time, though. Remember



ILLUSTRATION: SALMAN SAKIB SHAHRYAR

the reaction of the professor-writer Abul Quasem Fazlul Huq, whose son, secular publisher Faisal Arefin Dipan, was hacked to death by Islamic extremists in October 2015? He famously said that he didn't want justice, because "even if I want it, there will be none," pointing to the futility of long drawn-out legal battles. Even though eight extremists were sentenced

numbers, one can safely assume, will have swollen after the Covid-induced closures and disruptions.

We hear boastful claims of giving no quarter to criminals. We hear talks of appointing more judges and other court officials to dispose of pending cases, as if not having enough of them is the only problem. Rarely, however, are there talks

to death in this connection in 2021, Fazlul Huq, in a recent interview with *The Daily Star*, repeated his belief that long delays defeat the purpose of a justice system.

In case it's not still clear, when people say they don't want justice, what they actually mean is that they don't want to go through the motions of seeking it through a process that not only does not guarantee success, but may very well leave them exposed to further trouble. A combination of factors is responsible for this disinterest, including long delays in trials (of which there are too many instances to recount), inadequate and often costly legal services, risks of harassment for giving testimonies, lack of security for victims and witnesses, etc. Even those fortunate enough to see a verdict, and its execution, must go through a series of obstacles, starting from the filing of a case and its investigation until the very end of the road.

Ultimately, the question that looms large is not if you're on the right side of the law, but if you're on the right side of power. For only the powerful, or the able, or the lucky can survive this process. The staggering number of cases pending with different courts will attest to that. Imagine: as of December 31, 2020, over 3.9 million cases were pending with courts across Bangladesh. Between January 1 and December 31 in 2020, only 739,000 cases could be disposed of. At the High Court, around 450,000 cases were pending as of December 31, 2020. About 200,000 cases are being added to the national backlog each year. These

of reforming the system by modernising it and removing the roadblocks—systemic, political and social—to swift, unobstructed legal pursuits.

For the ordinary justice-seekers, two of these barriers have a particularly deterring effect: lack of protection for witnesses and complainants, and lack of financial means to ride out lengthy legal procedures. Protection can be extended through legislation and as part of regular police activities. Neither is guaranteed in Bangladesh, as there is currently no witness/victim protection act, nor are police in the habit of proactively defending ordinary victims and witnesses, making the latter vulnerable to threats, intimidation and duress. And despite there being a National Legal Aid Services Organisation, and the Legal Aid Services Act, 2000, governmental legal aid continues to be elusive to most people.

Should they cede their right to justice, then? Should they suffer silently, while their rights and dignity are being trampled on with carefree abandon? Unfortunately, as more people grow disillusioned with the justice system, the risks of crimes, chaos and divisions in society will grow as well. If people continue to be deprived of timely and adequate legal services, they will look for extrajudicial solutions and even take the law into their own hands.

This cannot be a desirable outcome for anyone. The authorities must treat people's rejection of the justice system as the ticking time bomb that it is. They must do everything to restore their faith.

In case it's not still clear, when people say they don't want justice, what they actually mean is that they don't want to go through the motions of seeking it through a process that not only does not guarantee success, but may very well leave them exposed to further trouble.

Let's not pay lip service to climate change



Dr Haseeb Md Irfanullah is an independent consultant working on environment, climate change, and research systems. His Twitter handle is @hmirfanullah

HASEEB MD IRFANULLAH

IN the last couple of months, we have been listening to discussions on how to build on the outcomes of the COP26—the 26th Conference of the Parties for climate change held in Glasgow, UK last year. These discussions are often accompanied by another flow of conversations: how to get prepared for COP27, scheduled to be held in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt this November.

These conversations put me in a dilemma. As a conservationist, I am quite excited to see repeated mentions of nature and biodiversity conservation as a means of climate change adaptation and mitigation in the Glasgow Climate Pact, the core document out of COP26. But, as a person who has seen repeated failures of the COPs in making major, meaningful decisions, or the failure of major actors to comply with major decisions between the COPs, I feel frustrated.

As a Bangladeshi, I am proud of seeing Bangladesh creating examples of climate actions over the last 12 years—be it formulating the Bangladesh Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan (BCCSAP) or funding it with the Bangladesh Climate Change Trust Fund (BCCTF), or leading the least developed countries (LDC) bloc at the COPs. In recent years, our proud moments included preparing climate budgets, formulating Bangladesh Delta Plan 2100, our second-term presidency of the Climate Vulnerable

Forum (CVF) representing 1.2 billion people, and drafting the Mujib Climate Prosperity Plan, for example. But being proud doesn't mean anything when our fellow country people have to spend USD 2 billion every year to adapt to the dire impacts of climate change.

I see the forthcoming COP27 as the opportunity for Bangladesh to prioritise climate action in three interconnected areas. First, we need to harness our leadership beyond the current CVF presidency, which formally ends in June this year. At COP26, we showed the world a new development philosophy—moving from "resilience" to "prosperity"—through the Mujib Plan. Can't we now collaborate with the CVF countries, and provide them with technical, intellectual, and philosophical support to move towards prosperity as well? Can't we now show how we can speed up funding for the Mujib Plan's implementation and create yet another outstanding example, as we did back in 2010 by implementing the BCCSAP with BCCTF?

Second, as we are now preparing our national budget for FY2022–23, I urge the government to establish a Biodiversity Conservation Fund. The provision for this fund already exists in Article 36 of Bangladesh Biodiversity Act, 2017. This new national funding mechanism will be yet another milestone of Bangladesh's leadership in implementing the COP26 decision. Why? Because, at COP26, nature-based solutions (Nbs) have been appreciated as one of the effective ways to take ambitious, long-term actions against climate change. The Biodiversity Conservation Fund, therefore, can help us tackle two crises simultaneously: climate crisis and biodiversity loss. The parliament also acknowledged this by unanimously adopting a motion in November 2019, just before the Covid-19 pandemic hit the

world. Third, while thinking of climate change, I am not forgetting our post-pandemic challenges. Our poverty level doubled within the first nine months of the pandemic. We are now expecting to push our poverty level down to the pre-Covid level by June 2022. Nbs can help our economic recovery after a crisis or a disaster—we saw that after many natural calamities, or getting prepared for the next one. The mangrove plantations established since 2014, for example, to protect Gabura, Satkhira tell us that story. Globally, IUCN, ILO, the University of Oxford, and others are also advocating for nature-based solutions' economic recovery aspects. I would urge the government to incorporate "economic recovery potentials" of Nbs in their post-disaster rebuilding initiatives, as well as post-pandemic recovery efforts.

Covid has delayed our graduation out of the LDC status by a couple of years. We should use this additional time to change our mindset as well as our climate action culture. It is indeed fascinating to see that Bangladesh is spending 4.16 percent of its annual budget or 0.73 percent of its GDP in 2021–2022 to tackle climate change, despite passing through a pandemic. But how long should we be receiving external funds just to prepare a National Adaptation Plan (NAP) or update the old BCCSAP? We can't have the luxury anymore of preparing a plan in a celebratory manner and then just leave it unfunded.

We need to move forward from being called the "adaptation capital," "adaptation teacher" or "adaptation leader" of the world. We must be more vocal globally and unprecedentedly aggressive to fund our prosperity and other development plans. What is stopping us from starting it before COP27?

We need to move forward from being called the "adaptation capital," "adaptation teacher" or "adaptation leader" of the world. We must be more vocal globally and unprecedentedly aggressive to fund our prosperity and other development plans.

Time to conduct the next household survey

Latest data on income, expenditure needed to get the real picture of our socioeconomic situation



NAWSHAD AHMED

Dr Nawshad Ahmed, a former UN official, is an economist and urban planner.

THE Household Income and Expenditure Survey (HIES), last conducted in 2016, is a comprehensive national survey in Bangladesh. The data is used to calculate the incidence of poverty in the country. Previously called the Household Expenditure Survey (HES), it has been carried out on a regular basis by Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS) since 1973-74. The HIES series was first launched in 2000, and subsequent surveys were conducted in 2005, 2010, and last in 2016. Therefore, the next round of HIES is overdue, needed to fill in the critical data gaps in the country.

The HIES is well known for its quality and coverage, and is capable of estimating poverty in both rural and urban areas, divisional and the district levels. It is a core survey of the government, not only for its ability to measure poverty, but also for having a wide range of socioeconomic data crucial for policymaking and research. It gives detailed data on household income, expenditure and consumption, standard of living, and nutritional status of the population, among other things, and the data is also used to determine the weights of Consumer Price Indices (CPI). In addition, the data gathered from this wide-scale survey provides a proper picture of household-level consumption across the country, which helps with compiling national account estimates, and gives detailed information on health and educational status of the population. It

also provides data on different social safety net programmes as well as on disability, housing conditions, employment, agriculture, water and sanitation, migration, remittances, microcredit and disaster management. It provides some demographic data that are considered important to fill in intercensal data gaps.

The HIES data is utilised to monitor Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and to get an idea about the outcomes of the government's Five-Year Plans (FYPs) and different sectoral plan achievements. The data is very critical in preparing periodic SDG progress reports, including Goal 1: "End poverty in all its forms everywhere."

The field data collection during each HIES is carried out under strong supervision and quality control, which is why the data is reliable and acceptable to both national and international organisations, including the development partners and UN agencies. The data is collected by well-trained enumerators and processed using appropriate computer software. It reflects seasonal variations of income and expenditure patterns, and thus are vital for giving policy prescriptions in a wide range of social and economic areas.

Poverty is one of the greatest challenges faced by Bangladesh, and it assumed an even greater prominence as a socioeconomic issue since the Covid-19 pandemic broke out. Several surveys conducted during the last two years have shown the consequences of the pandemic on household income and expenditure. A new HIES will help us determine the current socioeconomic status of our population and will show where Bangladesh has experienced a setback due to the pandemic, since it made a headway in its fight to end poverty in recent decades. The pandemic, as we know, has affected other dimensions of

well-being in addition to poverty, such as education, health, nutrition, access to clean water, sanitation, etc. It is critical to have information on all these aspects that the HIES collects data on, especially as the country is getting back on track for economic growth, in order to formulate appropriate policy measures to ride out of the pandemic fallout.

as a result of the pandemic. Therefore, a fresh set of data is required to better understand the changed dynamics now, and take more targeted measures to deal with the situation.

We didn't finish the job of ending poverty, and there is no room for complacency. As per 2016 HIES data, about half of all poor people in the country lived in extreme poverty and were unable to afford a minimum food basket for their families. In addition, there are others who are not under the poverty threshold, but are vulnerable to different types of shocks—one just experienced globally, affecting our country over the last two years. But fresh evidence is lacking to properly understand the poverty situation now, and how different marginalised and vulnerable groups like the elderly, widows, orphans, people with disabilities, female-headed households and others are doing. The amount of social transfers that are made under a number of government programmes are bound to be also affected by recent inflationary trends, and thus need to be reviewed and revised upward in order to maintain the same level of consumption by the beneficiary families.

Long overdue, a new HIES has become even more urgent now, owing to the socioeconomic fallout from Covid and the latest development in the international arena caused partly by the Russia-Ukraine war and the global rise in energy and construction material prices as well as prices of consumer items. The global and national scenarios have both changed too fast in recent times, and using the outdated data from HIES 2016 is no longer plausible. Therefore, the government needs to undertake a fresh HIES as soon as possible, to frame evidence-based realistic policies, for which accurate, reliable and updated data are required.

ILLUSTRATION:
AFIA JAHIN



A new HIES will help us determine the current socioeconomic status of our population and show where Bangladesh has experienced a setback due to the pandemic.

In the pre-Covid era, one in four people were living under the poverty bracket in Bangladesh, and the government had set up a number of social protection programmes. During the pandemic, several other measures have been undertaken, such as cash support and open market sales (OMS) of essential food items for the poor. These programmes are still continuing, having been renewed last month under the recent inflationary pressure affecting the poor families the most. These programmes are being implemented under the assumption that the poverty map created from 2016 HIES remains valid. However, in reality, a significant change has surely taken place in terms of geographical concentration of poverty and occupational shifts occurring

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Memo No. 12.21.0000.010.41.468.20.523 Date: 28.04.2022

e-Tender Notice

Tender is invited through National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for procurement of following works:

SI No.	Tender ID No.	Tendering method	Description of works	Online (e-GP System) tender publication date & time	Online (e-GP System) tender closing date & time
1.	677058	OTM	LAND DEVELOPMENT UNDER ESTABLISHMENT OF AGRICULTURE RESEARCH STATION, BARI, GOPALGANJ & ECO-FRIENDLY AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECT IN SOUTH WESTERN PART THROUGH STRENGTHENING OF RESEARCH AT OFRD, BARI, KHULNA.	28-Apr-2022 10:30	11-May-2022 14:00

This is online tender, only e-Tender will be accepted in National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copy will be accepted. Registration is essential to submit e-Tender.
Fees have to be deposited for downloading the tender documents from e-GP Portal through any registered bank. For further information please contact e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).
Project Name: Establishment of Agriculture Research Station BARI Gopalganj and eco-friendly agricultural development project in south-western part through strengthening of research.

Engr. Md. Ferozur Rahman
Superintending Engineer (In-charge)

GD-885

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২৭ এপ্রিল ২০২২

গণবিজ্ঞপ্তি

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সংরক্ষিত ওয়ার্ড	সাধারণ ওয়ার্ড	অধিক্ষেত্রীয় উপজেলা	অধিভুক্ত ইউনিয়ন পরিষদ/পৌরসভা/উপজেলা পরিষদ
১	১	নাজিরপুর	নাজিরপুর উপজেলার সকল ইউনিয়ন (মাটিভাংগা, মালিখালী, দেউলবাড়ি-দোবড়া, দীর্ঘা, শাখারিকাঠি, নাজিরপুর সদর, সেখমাটিয়া, শ্রীরামকাঠী ও কলারদোয়ানিয়া) এবং নাজিরপুর উপজেলা পরিষদ।
	২	নেছারাবাদ	নেছারাবাদ উপজেলার সকল ইউনিয়ন (বলদিয়া, সোহাগদল, স্বরূপকাঠি, আটঘর-কুড়িয়ানা, জলাবাড়ি, সুটিয়াকাঠি, সারেংকাঠি, দৈহারী, গুয়ারেখা ও সমুদয়কাঠি), স্বরূপকাঠি পৌরসভা এবং নেছারাবাদ উপজেলা পরিষদ।
	৩	পিরোজপুর সদর	পিরোজপুর সদর উপজেলার সকল ইউনিয়ন (শিকদার মল্লিক, কদমতলা, দুর্গাপুর, কলাখালী, টোনা, শারিকতলা-ডুমুরিতলা ও শংকরপাশা), পিরোজপুর পৌরসভা এবং পিরোজপুর সদর উপজেলা পরিষদ।
	৪	ইন্দুরকানী	ইন্দুরকানী উপজেলার সকল ইউনিয়ন (পাডেরহাট, ইন্দুরকানী সদর, পতাশি, চন্ডিপুর ও বালিপাড়া) এবং ইন্দুরকানী উপজেলা পরিষদ।
	৫	কাউখালী	কাউখালী উপজেলার সকল ইউনিয়ন (সয়না-রঘুনাথপুর, আমড়াগুড়ি, কাউখালী, চিরাপাড়া, শিয়ালকাঠী), কাউখালী উপজেলা পরিষদ।
	৬	ভান্ডারিয়া	ভান্ডারিয়া উপজেলার সকল ইউনিয়ন (তেলিখালী, ইকরি, ধাওয়া, গৌরীপুর, ভিটাবাড়িয়া ও নদমুলা-শিয়ালকাঠী), ভান্ডারিয়া পৌরসভা এবং ভান্ডারিয়া উপজেলা পরিষদ।
	৭	মঠবাড়িয়া	মঠবাড়িয়া উপজেলার সকল ইউনিয়ন (মঠবাড়িয়া সদর, টিকিকাটা, বেতমোড়-রাজপাড়া, আমড়াগাছিয়া, সাপলেজা, হলতা-গুলিশাখালী, তুষখালী, ধানীসাফা, মিরুখালী ও দাউদখালী ও বড়মাছুয়া), মঠবাড়িয়া পৌরসভা এবং মঠবাড়িয়া উপজেলা পরিষদ।

প্রাথমিক সীমা নির্ধারণের বিষয়ে কারও কোনো আপত্তি বা পরামর্শ থাকলে আগামী ১৫ (পনের) কার্যদিবসের মধ্যে নিম্নস্বাক্ষরকারী বরাবর লিখিতভাবে দাখিল করার জন্য সংশ্লিষ্ট সকলকে অনুরোধ করা হলো।

মোহাম্মদ জাহেদুর রহমান
সীমা নির্ধারণ কর্মকর্তা
ও
ডেপুটি কমিশনার
পিরোজপুর
ফোনঃ ০৪৬১-৬২৪০০
E-mail: dcpirojpur@mopa.gov.bd

জিডি-৮৮৪

Rangamati Government College
Sadar, Rangamati Hill District
www.rangamaticollege.gov.bd

No. RGC/RGCEDP/2022/280 Date: 27/04/2022

e-Tender Notice

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

SI. No.	Tender ID No.	Name of goods	Last date and time of tender security submission	Tender closing date & time
1.	682059	Supply of Instruments of Physics, Botany and Zoology Labs and Related Services for Rangamati Government College, Rangamati.	19/05/2022; 1:00pm	19/05/2022; 2:00pm
2.	691759	Supply of Sound System and Related Services at Rangamati Government College, Rangamati.	19/05/2022; 1:00pm	19/05/2022; 2:00pm

These are online tenders, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copy will be accepted.
To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required.
The fees for downloading the e-Tender documents from the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through any registered banks' branches up to 18/05/2022, 04:00pm.
Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

Principal
Rangamati Government College
Phone: 02333372063
E-mail: rgcctbtd@yahoo.com

GD-883

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Executive Engineer
Dhaka PWD Division-IV, 15 Abdul Gani Road, Dhaka
Phone No. (02)-223388778 Fax: (02)-223388778

3rd e-Tender Corrigendum Notice (OTM)

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP Portal (<https://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of the following works:

SI No.	Tender ID	Invitation Reference Number (IFT No.)	New last selling date & time	New closing and opening date & time	Correction
1	672689	157/Dpp/D-IV/V of 2021-2022	25-May-2022 14:00	26-May-2022 15:00	Old Criteria: Successful completion of 01 (one) number of 8-storied RCC Building with 2 basement. New Criteria: Successful completion of 01 (one) number of 7-storied RCC Building with 1 Basement (7 story+1 basement)

This is an online tender, where e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit tender registration in the e-GP System Portal (<https://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required. This notice is also available in www.pwd.gov.bd.

The fees for downloading the e-Tender documents from the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through any e-GP registered bank's branches up to date & time mentioned in respective tender. Further information and guideline are available in the National e-GP Portal and from e-GP helpdesk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

Md. Mahabubur Rahman
Executive Engineer
Dhaka PWD Division-IV, Dhaka

GD-891

বঙ্গবন্ধু শেখ মুজিবুর রহমান অ্যাভিয়েশন অ্যান্ড অ্যারোস্পেস বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়
অধ্যক্ষ কার্যালয়: পুরাতন বিমান বন্দর, তেজগাঁও, ঢাকা-১২১৫।
ওয়েব: www.bsmraau.edu.bd, ই-মেইল: estb@bsmraau.edu.bd

তারিখ: ২৮ এপ্রিল ২০২২

নিয়োগ বিজ্ঞপ্তি

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকারের ২০১৯ সনের ০৫ নং আইন দ্বারা প্রতিষ্ঠিত বঙ্গবন্ধু শেখ মুজিবুর রহমান অ্যাভিয়েশন অ্যান্ড অ্যারোস্পেস বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়, বাংলাদেশ এর জন্য নিম্নবর্ণিত পদসমূহে নিয়োগের লক্ষ্যে প্রকৃত বাংলাদেশী নাগরিকদের নিকট হতে আবেদনপত্র আহ্বান করা যাচ্ছে।

শিক্ষক

ক্রঃ	পদের নাম ও গ্রেড	বেতন স্কেল (টাকা)	পদ সংখ্যা	মন্তব্য
১।	অধ্যাপক (গ্রেড-৩)	৫৬,৫০০-৭৪,৪০০/-	ইঞ্জিনিয়ারিং/পদার্থবিজ্ঞান/পরিষ্কার-০৪ যাফায়র এপালন-০১	১। শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতা এবং অভিজ্ঞতা সংক্রান্ত বিস্তারিত তথ্য বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের ওয়েবসাইটে (www.bsmraau.edu.bd) পাওয়া যাবে। ২। আবেদনপত্র জমাদানের শেষ তারিখ ২৩ মে ২০২২।
২।	সহকারী অধ্যাপক (গ্রেড-৬)	৩৫,৫০০-৬৭,০১০/-	ইঞ্জিনিয়ারিং-০২ পদার্থবিজ্ঞান/সময়-০১ আইন/ইংরেজি-০১	
৩।	প্রভাষক (গ্রেড-৯)	২২,০০০-৫৩,০৬০/-	ইঞ্জিনিয়ারিং-০১	

কর্মকর্তা/কর্মচারী

ক্রঃ	পদের নাম ও পদসংখ্যা	বেতন স্কেল ও গ্রেড	সর্বোচ্চ বয়স	শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতা	মন্তব্য
১।	মেডিক্যাল অফিসার-০১	২২,০০০-৫৩,০৬০ (গ্রেড-৯)	৩০ বছর	এমবিবিএস	১। শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতা এবং অভিজ্ঞতা সংক্রান্ত বিস্তারিত তথ্য বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের ওয়েবসাইটে (www.bsmraau.edu.bd) দেখুন। ২। সমযোজ্যতা সম্পন্ন অভিজ্ঞ সামরিক বাহিনীর (অবঃ) কর্মকর্তা/পদসমূহ/সমসাময়িক আবেদন করতে পারবেন এবং তাদের ক্ষেত্রে বাসসীমা শিথিলযোগ্য। ৩। আবেদনপত্র জমাদানের শেষ তারিখ ২৩ মে ২০২২।
২।	অফিস সহায়ক-০১	৮,২৫০-২০,০১০ (গ্রেড-২০)	৩০ বছর	এসএসসি পাস	
৩।	পরিচ্ছন্নকারী-০১	৮,২৫০-২০,০১০ (গ্রেড-২০)	৩০ বছর	৮ম শ্রেণি পাস	

শেখ মুজিবুর রহমান
রেজিস্ট্রার
বিএসএমআরএইউ

শর্তাবলী

- ১। আগ্রহী প্রার্থীদের আবেদনপত্র ২৩ মে ২০২২ তারিখের মধ্যে রেজিস্ট্রার, বঙ্গবন্ধু শেখ মুজিবুর রহমান অ্যাভিয়েশন অ্যান্ড অ্যারোস্পেস বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়, পুরাতন বিমানবন্দর, তেজগাঁও, ঢাকা-১২১৫ ঠিকানায় ডাকযোগে / সরাসরি রেজিস্ট্রার অফিসে অথবা estb@bsmraau.edu.bd ই-মেইল ঠিকানায় পৌঁছাতে হবে। আবেদন ফরমসমূহ ভ্রম বিধিবিদ্যালয়ের ওয়েবসাইট www.bsmraau.edu.bd বা রেজিস্ট্রার অফিস হতে সংগ্রহ করা যাবে। প্রার্থীর পদের নাম খামের উপর / ই-মেইল ঠিকানায় স্পষ্টভাবে উল্লেখ করতে হবে। ডাকযোগে পাঠানো আবেদনপত্রের সাথে প্রার্থীর যোগাযোগের ঠিকানা সং ১০ টাকার ডাকটিকিট সংলগ্ন করে তথ্য সংযুক্ত করতে হবে।
- ২। বঙ্গবন্ধু শেখ মুজিবুর রহমান অ্যাভিয়েশন অ্যান্ড অ্যারোস্পেস বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় (বিএসএমআরএইউ) এর অনুলিপি যে কোনো তফসিলী বাৎসরিক হতে ৩০ ও ৬৩ গ্রেডের জন্য ১,৫০০.০০ (এক হাজার পাঁচশত), ১ম গ্রেডের জন্য ১,০০০.০০ (এক হাজার) এবং ২০তম গ্রেডের জন্য ৫০০.০০ (পাঁচশত) টাকা মূল্যের পে-অর্ডার / বাৎসরিক ডাকটিকিট (স্বাক্ষরযোগ্য) আবেদনপত্রের সাথে সংযুক্ত করতে হবে। আবেদনপত্রে বাৎসরিক ডাকটিকিট / পে-অর্ডার নম্বর, বাৎসরিক নাম, পিআই, টাকার পরিমাণ ও তারিখ উল্লেখ করতে হবে। ই-মেইল ঠিকানায় প্রেরিত আবেদনপত্রের সাথে পে-অর্ডার / বাৎসরিক ডাকটিকিট এর স্ক্যানকপি সংযুক্ত করতে হবে এবং পে-অর্ডার / বাৎসরিক ডাকটিকিট এর মূলকপি আবেদনপত্রের ফটোকপি সমেত সরাসরি / ডাকযোগে প্রেরণ করতে হবে।
- ৩। প্রার্থীর আবেদনপত্রের সাথে সত্যতা দেওয়া গেল, মি. X এ সে. মি. সাইজের ০৩ (তিন) কপি রঙিন সত্যায়িত ছবি, সকল শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতার সনদপত্র ও নথরপত্রের সত্যায়িত অনুলিপি, প্রকাশনার অনুলিপি (প্রয়োজ্য ক্ষেত্রে), অভিজ্ঞতার সনদের সত্যায়িত অনুলিপি, জাতীয় পরিচয়পত্রের সত্যায়িত অনুলিপি এবং বিদেশী বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় হতে অর্জিত ডিগ্রীর ক্ষেত্রে বাংলাদেশ বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় মঞ্জুরী কমিশন হতে ইস্যুকৃত সমমান সনদের সত্যায়িত অনুলিপি জমাদান করতে হবে। ই-মেইল ঠিকানায় প্রেরিত আবেদনপত্রের সাথে উল্লিখিত সনদসমূহের স্ক্যানকপি সংযুক্ত করতে হবে। মৌখিক পরীক্ষার সময় সকল কাগজপত্রের মূলকপি জমাদান করতে হবে।
- ৪। মুক্তিযোদ্ধা, শহীদ মুক্তিযোদ্ধার পুত্র / কন্যা কোটার প্রার্থীদের ক্ষেত্রে সুকৃত সুবিধার ক্ষমতায় সনদের সত্যায়িত সনদের সত্যায়িত কপি ও অন্যান্য কোটার ক্ষেত্রে সংশ্লিষ্ট কর্তৃপক্ষ কর্তৃক প্রদত্ত সনদের সত্যায়িত কপি জমাদান করতে হবে। কোটা সম্পর্কিত প্রাপ্তি সনদের সত্যায়িত কপি জমাদান করা হবে।
- ৫। বিজ্ঞপ্তি প্রকাশের তারিখে প্রার্থীর বয়সসীমা (প্রয়োজ্য ক্ষেত্রে) সর্বোচ্চ সীমার মধ্যে থাকতে হবে। সরকারী চাকুরীতে প্রার্থীদের ক্ষেত্রে উচ্চতর পদে আবেদন করা বারসীমা শিথিলযোগ্য।
- ৬। চাকুরীতে প্রার্থীদের তাদের নিজ নিজ নিয়োগকারী কর্তৃপক্ষের মাধ্যমে নির্ধারিত সময়সীমার মধ্যে আবেদন করতে হবে।
- ৭। বঙ্গবন্ধু শেখ মুজিবুর রহমান অ্যাভিয়েশন অ্যান্ড অ্যারোস্পেস বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের অধ্যক্ষের মাধ্যম ইংরেজি ভাষায় ১ম গ্রেড ও তদুর্ধ্ব গ্রেডের প্রার্থীদের ক্ষেত্রে ইংরেজিতে পরীক্ষা হবে।
- ৮। লিখিত / মৌখিক পরীক্ষার তারিখ অত্র বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের ওয়েবসাইটে www.bsmraau.edu.bd এর মাধ্যমে জানানো হবে।
- ৯। নিয়োগের ক্ষেত্রে কর্তৃপক্ষের সিদ্ধান্তই চূড়ান্ত বলে গণ্য হবে। অসম্পূর্ণ, ত্রুটিপূর্ণ, ভুল তথ্য সংলগ্ন অথবা বিলম্বিত আবেদনপত্র বাতিল বলে গণ্য হবে। আবেদনপত্রের উপর কোনো ধরনের সুপারিশ প্রার্থীর জমাযোগ্য হিসাবে গণ্য হবে। আবেদনপত্র গ্রহণ অথবা বাতিল করার ক্ষেত্রে কর্তৃপক্ষের সিদ্ধান্তই চূড়ান্ত বলে গণ্য হবে।

GD-895

ইনস্টিটিউট অব টেকনোলজি ট্রান্সফার এন্ড ইনোভেশন (আইটিটিআই)
বাংলাদেশ বিজ্ঞান ও শিল্প গবেষণা পরিষদ (বিসিএসআইআর)
BANGLADESH COUNCIL OF SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH

Ref No. 39. 02.0000.084.07.01.22/01 **তারিখ: ২৮.০৪.২০২২**

Tender Notice (OTM)

e-Tender are invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<https://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of following Tender ID.

e-Tender ID	Name of Supply	Tender Closing & Opening Date and Time
693412	Supply of Research items and Chemicals	16-May-2022 14:00:00

This is online tender where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP system Portal (<https://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) and no offline/ hard copies will be accepted.

Md. Rezaul Karim
Officer-in-Charge
ITTI, BCSIR

GD-889

বঙ্গবন্ধু শেখ মুজিবুর রহমান অ্যাভিয়েশন অ্যান্ড অ্যারোস্পেস বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়
(বিএসএমআরএইউ)
পুরাতন বিমান বন্দর, তেজগাঁও, ঢাকা-১২১৫
একচেঞ্জ: ৫৫০৬০০০০, স্পঞ্জ: ৫০৯৯, মোবাইল নং: ০১৭৬৯৯৯৫০৯৯
Website for Online Application: www.bsmraau.edu.bd

স্নাতকোত্তর শ্রেণীতে ভর্তির বিজ্ঞপ্তি
শিক্ষাবর্ষ: ২০২১-২০২২

বঙ্গবন্ধু শেখ মুজিবুর রহমান অ্যাভিয়েশন অ্যান্ড অ্যারোস্পেস বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ে ২০২১-২০২২ শিক্ষাবর্ষে দুই বছর মেয়াদী স্নাতকোত্তর কমিউনিকেশন ইঞ্জিনিয়ারিং বিভাগে (Master of Science in Satellite Communication Engineering, (M.Sc Engg)/ Master of Satellite Communication Engineering, (M.Sc Engg) এবং স্পেস সিস্টেমস ইঞ্জিনিয়ারিং বিভাগে (Master of Science in Space Systems Engineering, (M.Sc Engg)/Master of Space Systems Engineering, (M.Sc Engg) প্রোগ্রামসমূহে প্রতিটি বিষয়ে ১৫টি আসনে ছাত্র/ছাত্রী ভর্তি করা হবে। সুনির্দিষ্ট শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতা অনুযায়ী আগ্রহী প্রার্থীগণ বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের ওয়েবসাইটে প্রদত্ত লিংকের মাধ্যমে অনলাইন ফরম পূরণপূর্বক আবেদন করতে পারবেন। স্নাতকোত্তর কোর্সসমূহের শিক্ষা কার্যক্রম অত্র বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের ঢাকা ক্যাম্পাস, পুরাতন বিমান বন্দর, তেজগাঁও, ঢাকা-১২১৫ (পুরাতন পিএসসি বিল্ডিং, বিমান বাহিনীর তথ্য ও নির্বাচনী কেন্দ্রের পাশে অবস্থিত) হতে পরিচালনা করা হবে। বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের ভর্তি নীতিমালা অনুযায়ী আগ্রহী প্রার্থীদের মধ্য হতে শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতা, ভর্তি পরীক্ষায় প্রাপ্ত নম্বর এবং সাক্ষাৎকারের ফলাফলের ভিত্তিতে যোগ্য ছাত্র/ছাত্রীদের ভর্তি করা হবে। কোভিড-১৯ সংক্রান্ত বৈশ্বিক মহামারীর কারণে বঙ্গবন্ধু শেখ মুজিবুর রহমান অ্যাভিয়েশন অ্যান্ড অ্যারোস্পেস বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের ভর্তি পরীক্ষাসমূহ আবিশ্যকভাবে স্বাভাবিক সংক্রান্ত সরকারী বিধি-বিধান, স্বাস্থ্য মন্ত্রণালয়, শিক্ষা মন্ত্রণালয় ও ইউজিসি'র নির্দেশনা মেনে অনুষ্ঠিত হবে। ভর্তি সংক্রান্ত নির্দেশিকা এবং অনলাইনে আবেদনের লিংক বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের ওয়েবসাইটে <https://www.bsmraau.edu.bd>-এর Admission-এ পাওয়া যাবে। ওয়েবসাইটে প্রদত্ত নির্দেশনা মোতাবেক আবেদন ফরম নির্ভুলভাবে পূরণ করে তা অনলাইনে যথাযথভাবে জমা দিয়ে নির্দিষ্ট এসএমএস ফরমেট অনুযায়ী ফি পরিশোধ করতে হবে। অনলাইনে আবেদন ফরম পূরণ সংক্রান্ত যে কোন বিষয়ে সহায়তার জন্য ই-মেইলে admission@bsmraau.edu.bd এবং মোবাইল নং +৮৮০১৭৬৯৯৯৫০৯৯ এ যোগাযোগ করা যেতে পারে।

ভর্তি পরীক্ষা সংক্রান্ত সময়সূচী:

ক্রমিক নং	ভর্তি কার্যক্রমের বিবরণ	তারিখ ও সময়
১।	অনলাইন আবেদনপত্র পূরণ ও জমা প্রদান আরম্ভ	০৯ মে ২০২২, সোমবার দুপুর ১২:০০ ঘটিকা
২।	অনলাইন আবেদনপত্র পূরণ ও জমা প্রদান সমাপ্ত	২৩ মে ২০২২, সোমবার রাত ১২:০০ ঘটিকা
৩।	টেলিটিক মোবাইল ব্যাংকিং এর মাধ্যমে ভর্তি ফি সার্ভিস চার্জ সহ ১০০০/- টাকা (এসএমএস চার্জ ব্যতীত) প্রদানের শেষ তারিখ ও সময়	২৫ মে ২০২২, বুধবার দুপুর ১২:০০ ঘটিকা
৪।	বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের ওয়েবসাইট https://www.bsmraau.edu.bd এ প্রাথমিকভাবে যোগ্য প্রার্থীদের নামের তালিকা প্রকাশ	২৯ মে ২০২২, রবিবার
৫।	ভর্তি পরীক্ষার তারিখ	১০ জুন ২০২২, শুক্রবার। (সকাল ১০০০ ঘটিকা থেকে ১২০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত)।
৬।	ভর্তি পরীক্ষার স্থান	বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের এর ঢাকা ক্যাম্পাস, পুরাতন বিমান বন্দর, তেজগাঁও, ঢাকা-১২১৫ (পুরাতন পিএসসি বিল্ডিং, বিমান বাহিনীর তথ্য ও নির্বাচনী কেন্দ্রের পাশে অবস্থিত)।
৭।	ভর্তি পরীক্ষার ফলাফল প্রকাশ এবং সাক্ষাৎকারের জন্য যোগ্য প্রার্থীদের নামের তালিকা বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের ওয়েবসাইটে https://www.bsmraau.edu.bd এ প্রকাশ	১৬ জুন ২০২২, বৃহস্পতিবার
৮।	ভর্তি প্রক্রিয়া সম্পন্নকরণ সাক্ষাৎকারের তারিখ এবং স্থান	১৯ জুন ২০২২, রবিবার থেকে ২০ জুন ২০২২, সোমবার পর্যন্ত। বিএসএমআরএইউ এর ঢাকা ক্যাম্পাস, পুরাতন বিমানবন্দর, তেজগাঁও, ঢাকা-১২১৫ (পুরাতন পিএসসি বিল্ডিং, বিমানবাহিনীর তথ্য ও নির্বাচনী কেন্দ্রের পাশে অবস্থিত)।
৯।	ক্লাস শুরু করার তারিখ	২৬ জুন ২০২২, রবিবার

* বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় কর্তৃপক্ষ এই বিজ্ঞপ্তির যেকোন নির্দেশনা/তথ্য/শর্ত কোন প্রকার কারণ দর্শানো ছাড়াই বাতিল/পরিবর্তন করার ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করেন।

রেজিস্ট্রার
(বিএসএমআরএইউ)

জিডি-৮৮৬

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার
ধর্ম বিষয়ক মন্ত্রণালয়
হজ -১ শাখা
বাংলাদেশ সচিবালয়, ঢাকা।
www.hajj.gov.bd

স্মারক নম্বর- ১৬.০০.০০০০.০০৩.৮০.০০১.২১-৩৩৭ **তারিখ: ১৫ বৈশাখ, ১৪২৯**
২৮ এপ্রিল, ২০২২

হজ ১৪৪৩ হিজরি/ ২০২২ খ্রিষ্টাব্দে হজে গমনেচ্ছু ব্যক্তিগণ এবং হজ-সংশ্লিষ্ট সকলের অবগতির জন্য বিশেষ বিজ্ঞপ্তি:

১৪৪৩ হিজরি/২০২২ খ্রিষ্টাব্দে অনুষ্ঠিত হজে গমনেচ্ছু এবং সংশ্লিষ্ট সকলের অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, কোভিড পরিস্থিতি বিশ্বের সকল দেশে এখনো সম্পূর্ণ স্বাভাবিক না হওয়ায় এ বছর বিশেষ পরিস্থিতিতে এবং স্বল্পতম সময়ের প্রস্তুতিতে হজ অনুষ্ঠিত হতে যাচ্ছে। সুতরাং হজ অনুষ্ঠানের লক্ষ্যে ধর্ম বিষয়ক মন্ত্রণালয়ের পক্ষ থেকে হজে গমনেচ্ছু ব্যক্তি এবং হজ কার্যক্রমে সংশ্লিষ্ট সকলের অবগতি এবং প্রস্তুতি গ্রহণের লক্ষ্যে নিম্নোক্ত বিষয়ে দৃষ্টি আকর্ষণ করা হচ্ছে:

- (ক) ১৪৪৩ হিজরি/ ২০২২ সনের হজে ৬৫ বছর (পাসপোর্ট অনুযায়ী) যীদের জন্ম তারিখ ১ জুলাই ১৯৫৭ খ্রিষ্টাব্দ এবং পরবর্তী) এর কম বয়সী ব্যক্তিই কেবল হজ পালনের জন্য যোগ্য বলে বিবেচিত হবেন;
- (খ) ১৪৪১ হিজরি/ ২০২০ খ্রিষ্টাব্দে সকল সরকারি ও বেসরকারি ব্যবস্থাপনার নিবন্ধিত (Registered) হজযাত্রী ১৪৪৩ হিজরি সনে হজে যাবার সুযোগ পাবেন;
- (গ) ১৪৪১ হিজরি/ ২০২০ খ্রিষ্টাব্দে ৬৫ বছরের উর্ধ্বে (পাসপোর্ট অনুযায়ী) যীদের জন্ম তারিখ ৩০ জুন ১৯৫৭ সনে বা পূর্বে নিবন্ধিত (Registered) বয়স্ক হজযাত্রী/ইতোমধ্যে মুক্তাবরণকারী ব্যক্তির পরিবারের সদস্যদের মধ্যে কেউ হজে যেতে আগ্রহী হলে তিনি উক্ত শূন্য কোটায় অগ্রাধিকার পাবেন। সরকারি ব্যবস্থাপনার ক্ষেত্রে পরিচালক, হজ অফিস, ঢাকার নিকট অনতিবিলম্বে বদলি হজযাত্রীর পাসপোর্টসহ আবেদন করবেন। বেসরকারি ব্যবস্থাপনার ক্ষেত্রে আগ্রহীগণ যোগ্য স্ব স্ব হজ এজেন্সির সঙ্গে যোগাযোগ করবেন। উভয় ক্ষেত্রেই, প্রস্তাবিত ব্যক্তির প্রাক-নিবন্ধন সম্পন্ন করতে হবে; স্বল্পতম সময়ের মধ্যে ২০২২ সনের হজের জন্য নতুনভাবে নিবন্ধন কার্যক্রম সম্পন্ন করে ভিসা আবেদন করার লক্ষ্যে নিম্নোক্ত বিষয়ে প্রস্তুতি সম্পন্ন করার জন্য অনুরোধ করা হলো;
- (২) ২০২০ সনের নিবন্ধিত সরকারি ব্যবস্থাপনার হজযাত্রীগণ ২০২২ সনের হজ প্যাকেজ ঘোষণার ও কার্যদিবসের মধ্যে যেকোনো নিবন্ধন কেন্দ্র হতে প্যাকেজ স্থানান্তর সম্পন্ন করবেন। এজন্য, ২০২০ সনে পরিশোধিত প্যাকেজ মূল্য সমন্বয় করে ২০২২ সনের যে কোনো একটি প্যাকেজের অবশিষ্ট অর্থ ভাউচারের মাধ্যমে সোনালী ব্যাংকে জমা করতে হবে। প্যাকেজ স্থানান্তর/নিবন্ধনের ৩ দিনের মধ্যে সরকারি ব্যবস্থাপনার হজযাত্রীদের স্ব স্ব পাসপোর্ট নিজ দায়িত্বে বিনা ব্যর্থতায় হজ অফিস ঢাকায় জমা দিতে হবে;
- (২) বেসরকারি ব্যবস্থাপনার ২০২০ সনের নিবন্ধিত হজযাত্রীগণ নিজ নিজ এজেন্সি ঘোষিত প্যাকেজ (সরকারি ব্যবস্থাপনার সর্বনিম্ন প্যাকেজের নিম্নে নয়) দ্রুত নির্ধারণ ও অবশিষ্ট অর্থ পরিশোধ করে এজেন্সির সহায়তায় হজে গমনের কার্যক্রম গ্রহণ করবেন;
- (৩) নিবন্ধন নিশ্চিত করার জন্য সরকারি ও বেসরকারি উভয় ব্যবস্থাপনায় হজে গমনেচ্ছুগণ পাসপোর্ট এর মেয়াদ যাচাই করে কমপক্ষে ৪ জুন ২০২২ সন পর্যন্ত মেয়াদযুক্ত পাসপোর্ট প্রস্তুত রাখবেন। যীদের পাসপোর্টের মেয়াদ শেষ হয়ে গেছে বা নতুন করে পাসপোর্ট করতে হবে, তাঁরা অতীত জরুরী ভিত্তিতে পাসপোর্ট করবেন;
- (৪) হজের সময়ে সৌদি কর্তৃপক্ষের নিয়ম মোতাবেক প্রতিটি স্থানে স্থূলভিত্তিক চলাচল করতে হবে;
- (৫) হজের সফরের প্রতিটি ক্ষেত্রে রাজকীয় সৌদি সরকারের প্রবর্তিত নিয়ম অনুসারে স্বাস্থ্যবিধি মেনে চলতে হবে;
- (৬) কোভিড ভ্যাকসিন এবং ভ্যাকসিনের বুস্টার ডোজ গ্রহণ করে টিকা গ্রহণের সার্টিফিকেট হজের পুরো সফরে ব্যবহারের লক্ষ্যে একাধিক কপি/ আইডি কার্ড আকারে লেমিনেট কপি প্রস্তুত রাখবেন;
- (৭) নিবন্ধন ব্যক্তি কোভিড ভ্যাকসিন নিয়ে থাকলে অথবা "সুরক্ষা" এ্যাপস-এ টিকা নেয়ার তথ্য আপডেট নেই এমন হজযাত্রীকে টিকা গ্রহণের তথ্য "সুরক্ষা" এ্যাপস-এ অন্তর্ভুক্তি করে টিকার সার্টিফিকেট গ্রহণ করতে হবে অর্থাৎ টিকা গ্রহণ করলেই চলবে না টিকা গ্রহণের সার্টিফিকেট অবশ্যই সঙ্গে নিতে হবে;
- (৮) হজে গমনের ৭২ ঘণ্টার মধ্যে কোভিড পরীক্ষার নেগেটিভ রিপোর্ট সঙ্গে নিতে হবে;
- (৯) হজযাত্রীগণ নিয়মিত সেবন করেন এরূপ কোন ঔষধ সৌদি আরবে নেওয়ার প্রয়োজন থাকলে তা অবশ্যই রেজিস্টার্ড চিকিৎসকের/হাসপাতালের ব্যবস্থাপক সার্জন কর্তৃক লিখিতভাবে বহন করবেন। কোন প্রকার ব্যবস্থাপক বিধি ঔষধ সঙ্গে নেয়া যাবে না;
- (১০) হজযাত্রী, গাইড বা সংশ্লিষ্ট কোন ব্যক্তি জর্দা, পূর্বসহ নেশাজাতীয় দ্রব্য সঙ্গে নিতে পারবেন না;
- (১১) সৌদি সরকারের নিয়ম অনুযায়ী সৌদি আরব হতে প্রত্যাপনের সময় ৬০,০০০ (ষাট হাজার) সৌদি রিয়ালের অধিক নগদ অর্থ বা সমমূল্যের স্বর্ণালংকার বা মূল্যবান কোন দ্রব্যাদি বহন করলে উক্ত যাত্রীকে সৌদি স্থানীয় কাস্টমস কর্তৃপক্ষকে লিখিতভাবে অবহিত করতে হবে এবং মূল্যবান দ্রব্যাদি ক্রয়ের ইলেক্ট্রনিক্যাল ভাউচার প্রদর্শন করতে হবে;
- (১২) হজের বিষয়ে কোন তথ্য জানার জন্য হজ অফিস, ঢাকার কলসেন্টার ০৯৬০২৬৬৭০৭ নম্বরে যোগাযোগ করার জন্য অনুরোধ করা হলো।

হজের বিষয়ে এরপরও কোন তথ্য জানার প্রয়োজন হলে হজ অনুবিভাগের ফোকাল পয়েন্ট উপসচিব (হজ-১) জনাব আবুল কাশেম মুহাম্মদ শাহীন মোবাইল নম্বর: ০১৭২০-২০৯৫৯৯, ই-মেইল: akm.shaheen@gmail.com এ যোগাযোগ করতে পারবেন।

আবুল কাশেম মুহাম্মদ শাহীন
উপসচিব
ফোন: ৫৫১০১১১৮
ই-মেইল: akm.shaheen@gmail.com

GD-896

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(বিএসএমআরএইউ)
পুরাতন বিমান বন্দর, তেজগাঁও, ঢাকা-১২১৫
একচেঞ্জ: ৫৫০৬০০০০, স্পঞ্জ: ৫০৯৯, মোবাইল নং: ০১৭৬৯৯৯৫০৯৯
Website for Online Application: www.bsmraau.edu.bd

স্নাতকোত্তর শ্রেণীতে ভর্তির বিজ্ঞপ্তি
শিক্ষাবর্ষ: ২০২১-২০২২

বঙ্গবন্ধু শেখ মুজিবুর রহমান অ্যাভিয়েশন অ্যান্ড অ্যারোস্পেস বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ে ২০২১-২০২২ শিক্ষাবর্ষে দুই বছর মেয়াদী স্নাতকোত্তর কমিউনিকেশন ইঞ্জিনিয়ারিং বিভাগে (Master of Science in Satellite Communication Engineering, (M.Sc Engg)/ Master of Satellite Communication Engineering, (M.Sc Engg) এবং স্পেস সিস্টেমস ইঞ্জিনিয়ারিং বিভাগে (Master of Science in Space Systems Engineering, (M.Sc Engg)/Master of Space Systems Engineering, (M.Sc Engg) প্রোগ্রামসমূহে প্রতিটি বিষয়ে ১৫টি আসনে ছাত্র/ছাত্রী ভর্তি করা হবে। সুনির্দিষ্ট শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতা অনুযায়ী আগ্রহী প্রার্থীগণ বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের ওয়েবসাইটে প্রদত্ত লিংকের মাধ্যমে অনলাইন ফরম পূরণপূর্বক আবেদন করতে পারবেন। স্নাতকোত্তর কোর্সসমূহের শিক্ষা কার্যক্রম অত্র বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের ঢাকা ক্যাম্পাস, পুরাতন বিমান বন্দর, তেজগাঁও, ঢাকা-১২১৫ (পুরাতন পিএসসি বিল্ডিং, বিমান বাহিনীর তথ্য ও নির্বাচনী কেন্দ্রের পাশে অবস্থিত) হতে পরিচালনা করা হবে। বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের ভর্তি নীতিমালা অনুযায়ী আগ্রহী প্রার্থীদের মধ্য হতে শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতা, ভর্তি পরীক্ষায় প্রাপ্ত নম্বর এবং সাক্ষাৎকারের ফলাফলের ভিত্তিতে যোগ্য ছাত্র/ছাত্রীদের ভর্তি করা হবে। কোভিড-১৯ সংক্রান্ত বৈশ্বিক মহামারীর কারণে বঙ্গবন্ধু শেখ মুজিবুর রহমান অ্যাভিয়েশন অ্যান্ড অ্যারোস্পেস বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের ভর্তি পরীক্ষাসমূহ আবিশ্যকভাবে স্বাভাবিক সংক্রান্ত সরকারী বিধি-বিধান, স্বাস্থ্য মন্ত্রণালয়, শিক্ষা মন্ত্রণালয় ও ইউজিসি'র নির্দেশনা মেনে অনুষ্ঠিত হবে। ভর্তি সংক্রান্ত নির্দেশিকা এবং অনলাইনে আবেদনের লিংক বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের ওয়েবসাইটে <https://www.bsmraau.edu.bd>-এর Admission-এ পাওয়া যাবে। ওয়েবসাইটে প্রদত্ত নির্দেশনা মোতাবেক আবেদন ফরম নির্ভুলভাবে পূরণ করে তা অনলাইনে যথাযথভাবে জমা দিয়ে নির্দিষ্ট এসএমএস ফরমেট অনুযায়ী ফি পরিশোধ করতে হবে। অনলাইনে আবেদন ফরম পূরণ সংক্রান্ত যে কোন বিষয়ে সহায়তার জন্য ই-মেইলে admission@bsmraau.edu.bd এবং মোবাইল নং +৮৮০১৭৬৯৯৯৫০৯৯ এ যোগাযোগ করা যেতে পারে।

ভর্তি পরীক্ষা সংক্রান্ত সময়সূচী:

ক্রমিক নং	ভর্তি কার্যক্রমের বিবরণ	তারিখ ও সময়
১।	অনলাইন আবেদনপত্র পূরণ ও জমা প্রদান আরম্ভ	০৯ মে ২০২২, সোমবার দুপুর ১২:০০ ঘটিকা
২।	অনলাইন আবেদনপত্র পূরণ ও জমা প্রদান সমাপ্ত	২৩ মে ২০২২, সোমবার রাত ১২:০০ ঘটিকা
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৫।	ভর্তি পরীক্ষার তারিখ	১০ জুন ২০২২, শুক্রবার। (সকাল ১০০০ ঘটিকা থেকে ১২০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত)।
৬।	ভর্তি পরীক্ষার স্থান	বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের এর ঢাকা ক্যাম্পাস, পুরাতন বিমান বন্দর, তেজগাঁও, ঢাকা-১২১৫ (পুরাতন পিএসসি বিল্ডিং, বিমান বাহিনীর তথ্য ও নির্বাচনী কেন্দ্রের পাশে অবস্থিত)।
৭।	ভর্তি পরীক্ষার ফলাফল প্রকাশ এবং সাক্ষাৎকারের জন্য যোগ্য প্রার্থীদের নামের তালিকা বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের ওয়েবসাইটে https://www.bsmraau.edu.bd এ প্রকাশ	১৬ জুন ২০২২, বৃহস্পতিবার
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৯।	ক্লাস শুরু করার তারিখ	২৬ জুন ২০২২, রবিবার

* বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় কর্তৃপক্ষ এই বিজ্ঞপ্তির যেকোন নির্দেশনা/তথ্য/শর্ত কোন প্রকার কারণ দর্শানো ছাড়াই বাতিল/পরিবর্তন করার ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করেন।

রেজিস্ট্রার
(বিএসএমআরএইউ)

জিডি-৮৮৬

Booters begin camp from May 16

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh national football team will play a warm-up match against hosts Indonesia on June 1 before starting their Asian Cup qualifying campaign in Malaysia from June 8.

The booters will start their preparation camp from May 16 before flying to Indonesia on May 27 to play the lone practice match in Bandung.

"The national camp will start on May 16 at Sarah Resort [in Gazipur]. We will then move the camp to the Bashundhara Kings arena [on May 21]," BFF vice president and national teams committee chairman Kazi Nabil Ahmed told the reporters yesterday.

Bangladesh will also have a two-day practice camp in Indonesia before the game. After the practice match, the players will leave for Malaysia on June 4 for the Asian Cup qualifiers.



Tamim Iqbal and Anamul Haque, Prime Bank's dashing opening duo, were in festive mood during their 215-run stand against Gazi Group Cricketers in Dhaka Premier League at BKSP yesterday. Tamim would be pleased to have scored 137 runs, making the most of his outings ahead of the home Tests against Sri Lanka, while Anamul's smile should not fade away anytime soon as the wicketkeeper-batter capped his 1k-plus run-fest in style despite falling four runs short of what would have been his fourth century of the campaign.

PHOTO: STAR

Run-machine Anamul makes a compelling case

SPORTS REPORTER

As the Dhaka Premier League 2021-2022 came to an end yesterday, Anamul Haque Bijoy was standing on a massive 1138 runs. And even in his final innings of the season, he struck 96, missing out on what would have been another convincing ton.

Anamul's dreamlike season saw him turn into a run-machine. His 1138 runs made him a world-record holder too as he beat Tom Moody's record of scoring 917 runs, set in 1991 for Worcestershire. His 184-run knock in the match against Shineptukur Cricket Club is the third-highest individual score in Bangladesh's List A cricket.

A national team call up should be on the cards, but Bijoy finds himself in a competitive scenario with some of the best names in Bangladesh cricket.

The 29-year-old has knocked on the national team door before and had appeared in 38 ODIs since his debut in 2012 but when focus turns sharply to why he should not be in the national setup, his past misfortunes in not being able to hold his place also come up.

Having started on a high note in his debut series back in 2012, Bijoy last appeared in the national team colours during Bangladesh's tour of Sri Lanka in 2019 when he played the last match in a three-match ODI series. A year prior to that series, he relinquished opportunities after getting good starts in the tour of West Indies in 2018. There was something there to his shot selection and application which did not impress selectors for long.

However, after such a magnanimous season, there are valid reasons for a national call up. His patience in building an innings, his current form and application - all point to a cricketer who has been able to re-motivate and reinvent himself but when it comes to the national setup, balance and continuity, these factors will be in the selectors' mind too. Which format will favour Bijoy's return?

The national team have their most stable opening setup in years with Tamim Iqbal and Liton Das, thus that balance does not

make Bijoy's return any easier. Tamim is there in the Test side too and Mahmudul Hasan Joy has shown promise behind his years in the last two away Test series. The T20 format where Munim Shahriar and Mohammad Naim have recently appeared as openers, may be the most floating amongst all the formats and that is where Bijoy could make his mark.

Former Bangladesh captain Mashrafe Bin Mortaza made a case for Bijoy's return to the national side yesterday after his side Legends of Ruppangji's match against champions Sheikh Jamal ended.

Asked which players caught his attention in the league, Mashrafe said: "You can bring 10-12 players from the league but in terms of national team focus, you can target maybe

one or two. In that regard, I think it's Bijoy. I said it before that he batted exceptionally and dominated. I think this is the time to consider Bijoy.

"If a person scores 1100 runs and doesn't get a chance, he doesn't have any more places to prove himself. So, I think he should get the opportunity."

For Mashrafe, the T20I is the most plausible format but he also reminded that Bijoy can act as the 'third opener' who can come in due to injuries or lack of form. "This is their age to perform," he added and suggested that form should be taken advantage of and it remains to be seen whether selectors feel the same way after Bijoy followed up good BPL performances with a tremendous DPL.

TOP SCORERS

Player	Matches	Runs	HS	Avg	100	50
Anamul Haque (Prime Bank)	15	1138	184	81.28	3	9
Naeem Islam (Legends of Ruppangji)	15	859	124	66.07	2	5
Mosaddek Hossain (Abahani)	15	658	88	47.00	0	7
Zakir Hasan (Ruppangji Tigers)	15	636	124	42.40	2	3
CS Jani (Legends of Ruppangji)	15	597	122	49.75	1	4

HIGHEST WICKET TAKERS

Player	Matches	Wkts	BBI	Econ
Rakibul Hasan (Prime Bank)	15	29	4/40	4.26
Parvez Rasool (Sheikh Jamal)	15	28	5/29	3.15
CS Jani (Legends of Ruppangji)	15	27	5/15	4.80
Mohammad Saifuddin (Abahani)	14	22	4/38	5.19
Tanvir Islam (Abahani)	15	22	3/35	4.58

"If a person scores 1100 runs and doesn't get a chance, he doesn't have any more places to prove himself. So, I think he should get the opportunity."

Mashrafe Bin Mortaza

Liverpool expose limitations of Villarreal

AGENCIES

Liverpool manager Juergen Klopp hailed Sadio Mane's versatility after the Senegal forward scored to help his side secure a 2-0 win over Villarreal in the first leg of their Champions League semi-final on Wednesday.

Mane, again playing in a more central role like he did in Premier League wins over Manchester United and Everton, scored in the 55th minute, shortly after an own goal had given Liverpool a second-half lead. Read full story

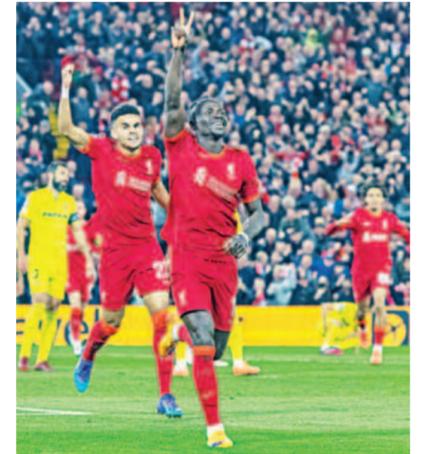
The 30-year-old has scored 20 goals in 44 appearances for Liverpool this season, including six in his last seven, as the club seek to secure an unprecedented quadruple.

"He can play left, he can play central, both positions world class," said Klopp. He also added that Mane could be in line to win the Ballon d'Or if Liverpool win the Champions League.

"If you are not (Lionel) Messi or (Cristiano) Ronaldo you have to win probably the Champions League, which we didn't do yet so give us a few more weeks and then we will see where we end up," he said.

There is no dispute that Villarreal deserve their place in the semi-final of the Champions League but Wednesday's defeat exposed their limitations and limited options when faced with key injuries.

Spanish coach Unai Emery has rightly won plaudits for the way he has turned a collection of



relatively modest and low-cost players into a last-four team in Europe's top club competition.

By knocking out Juventus and Bayern Munich in the previous rounds, Emery showed that his side's smart defending and effective counter-attacking could cause problems for clubs with far more illustrious histories.

The Villarreal coach was described by Liverpool manager Juergen Klopp before this tie as the 'King of the Cups' and he does indeed have a remarkable record in knockout competition.

Emery won the Europa League three times with Sevilla and triumphed in the same competition with Villarreal last season, beating Manchester United in the final. He won four domestic cups with Paris St Germain.

While the Spaniard's time in charge at Arsenal was a disappointment, he still managed to take the London club to the Europa League final in 2019.

Plenty of teams in Spain and Europe can attest to how frustrating it can be to play against a defence so expertly marshalled by Pau Torres with a deep three-man midfield providing a line of protection to the back four.

For the opening 45 minutes at Anfield, there were indications that the approach might work but what was missing was the counter-attacking threat that is such a vital part of the gameplan.

Without key striker Gerard Moreno to partner him, Dutch forward Arnaut Danjuma was less of a danger than he has shown with his six goals in the competition this season.

Moreno's influence is such that Villarreal are unbeaten in this year's Champions League when he is on the field. He was missing for both defeats against Manchester United in the group stage.



'He's a strong leader'

AFP, London

Star all-rounder Ben Stokes was named as England's new Test captain on Thursday, replacing Joe Root, who stood down earlier this month after a string of painful defeats.

The 30-year-old, who served as Root's deputy, was the overwhelming favourite to take charge of a struggling team that have won just one of their past 17 matches.

Stokes, whose career is peppered with staggering performances with bat and ball, has been a loyal lieutenant to Root and made a point of praising his friend and predecessor in a short statement.

"I am honoured to be given the chance to lead the England Test team," he said. "This is a real privilege and I'm excited about getting started this summer."

New managing director of England men's cricket Rob Key told Sky Sports that Stokes was the "obvious choice".

"He's a strong leader, he's got a good cricketer's brain. Everything he's done has got him to this point."

"He's got a hell of a lot of empathy as well... All of those traits, as well as an outstanding cricketer's brain, make him the obvious choice."



Sheikh Jamal Dhanmondi Club players celebrate winning their maiden Dhaka Premier League (DPL) title with the trophy after their final game of the campaign at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur yesterday. Sheikh Jamal, who had ensured the title on Tuesday with a game in hand, ended the campaign with an eight-wicket defeat against Legends of Ruppangji.

PHOTO: FIROZ AHMED

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ENERGY SECTOR

India to step up co-op with neighbours

Says Jaishankar, conveys Modi's invitation for Hasina to visit India

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Indian External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar has said India will take lead in structuring partnership for production, transmission and trade of energy, especially hydropower, between Bangladesh, Bhutan, India and Nepal.



"India looks forward to a stronger sub-regional cooperation on connectivity and energy sector and other areas. Particularly, the hydropower domain offers opportunity for mutually beneficial cooperation between our countries in the region," he said.

Dhaka has been pushing for regional hydropower initiative as it aims to get more renewable energy to achieve climate mitigation target.

"India is a large producer and consumer of energy and we are very glad to work with our neighbours in that regard, including in the BBIN [a sub-regional grouping among Bangladesh, Bhutan, India and Nepal] framework."

SEE PAGE 6 COL 4



Home-goers boarding speedboats at Munshiganj's Shimulia ferry terminal to cross the Padma. The pressure of passengers there started increasing after 4:00pm as Dhaka city dwellers left the capital in droves yesterday, the last working day before Eid. Despite it being a riskier mode of transport, people opted to journey by speedboat as it can cross the river quicker than ferries and launches.

PHOTO: SAJJAD HOSSAIN

PADMA BRIDGE

Toll likely to be 1.5 times that of ferry

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The toll of the under-construction Padma bridge may be at least 1.5 times higher than the average toll paid on ferries plying the Padma.

The Road Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader yesterday approved Bangladesh Bridge Authority's proposal in this regard.

The summary of the proposal was sent to the Prime Minister's Office for her approval yesterday, Quazi Muhammad Ferdous, chief engineer of BBA, told The Daily Star yesterday.

If the PM gives go-ahead, a private car will have to pay Tk 750 as toll, while the ferry toll is Tk 500.

A bike on the bridge would have to pay Tk 100, while on ferry it would pay Tk 70. A minibus on the bridge would pay Tk 1,400, while on the ferry Tk 950.

The construction work of the Padma Bridge, which is being built to establish direct connection between the capital and the southern region, is now at its final stage.

Once operational, the 6.15km bridge will connect the capital with 21 southwestern districts by road and rail, providing relief to tens of thousands, who often struggle at the only two ferry terminals.

Both these terminals struggle with the amount of ferry passengers ahead of major festivals like Eid.

The bridge – a dual carriageway with a single rail line on a separate level – is expected to boost the country's gross domestic product by 1.2 percent.

After several revisions, the deadline of the project was set at June 2023, including a one-year defect liability period, for which the cost rose to Tk 30,193 crore from

SEE PAGE 7 COL 4

EID HOME RUSH

Traffic snarl-ups at city's exit points

STAR REPORT

A huge number of city dwellers left the capital yesterday as it was their last working day before Eid-ul-Fitr.

The city's bus terminals, railway stations and the Sadarghat launch terminal, throughout the day, saw a mad rush of holidaymakers leaving Dhaka to celebrate the festival with their families.

Although no major tailback on highways was reported, passengers witnessed traffic gridlock at exit points.

Vehicular movement was slow on the Dhaka-Nabinagar highway in Savar. But traffic was smooth on all other highways across the country, said road transport and bridges ministry officials.

Meanwhile, many home-goers alleged that bus operators charged them higher than normal fares.

"Normally, I travel to Bonpara of Natore from Dhaka at Tk 500. But today [yesterday], I had to pay Tk 900," said Shihabuddin

while talking to The Daily Star at the Gabtoli bus terminal.

Faruk Hossain, an official of Bangladesh Bus-Truck Owners Association, said, "Usually, 700-800 buses leave the Gabtoli terminal daily. But we hope that over 1,300 buses will leave today [yesterday]."

A large number of holidaymakers started thronging the Kamalapur Railway Station after yesterday afternoon.

At least four trains were delayed for around half an hour to two hours due to the pressure of passengers, said railway officials.

Around 100 launches were scheduled to leave the Sadarghat terminal yesterday, while 70-75 ply daily normally, said Alamgir Kabir, joint director of Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority. On the Paturia-Daulatdia and Aircha-Kazirhat ferry routes, the pressure of vehicles increased yesterday, though no long tailback was noticed there.

"I did not face much traffic at

the terminal today [yesterday]. I could board a ferry within an hour," said Abul Kashem, who was travelling to Faridpur.

The authorities concerned have made separate lanes for small and large vehicles near the terminals to ensure smooth vehicular movement.

Some 200 vehicles were seen waiting at the Paturia terminal around 2:00pm yesterday.

Currently, 20 ferries are operating on the Paturia-Daulatdia route and four on the Aricha-Kazirhat route, said BIWTC officials.

At the Shimulia ferry terminal in Munshiganj, the pressure of vehicles was high in the morning, which resulted in a long tailback. Vehicles had to wait for around five to six hours to get to the ferries. But the situation improved later.

However, launches and speedboats faced high pressure of passengers the whole day.

[Our Munshiganj and Manikganj correspondents contributed to this report.]

DATA PROTECTION ACT

Amend draft to ensure rights of citizens

Amnesty International, ASK urge government

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The draft data protection act should be amended to ensure that citizen's rights to privacy are not violated, Amnesty International and Ain o Salish Kendra (ASK) said in separate statements.

While both organisations appreciated the steps taken to acknowledge the right to personal data protection, they both expressed concerns that certain vague provisions of the draft law will violate constitutional rights.

Amnesty International, which sent a statement as feedback to the ICT division, commented, "The provisions in their current forms may empower law enforcement agencies, prosecutors and other authorities of the state to access personal data of an individual on the basis of facilitating an investigation or court procedure without judicial oversight."

They said that these exemptions give authorities the legitimacy to violate an individual's right to privacy solely on the basis of preventing law and order deterioration.

Vague terminologies, such as "sovereignty", "integrity", and "friendly relations with foreign state" can be used to legitimise these actions, said

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DUTCH EXHIBIT

Agri ministry defends its decision to send officials

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The agricultural ministry defended the participation of officials', in phases, in a six-month-long exhibition in the Netherlands, without mentioning the exact number of delegates.

The day before, The Daily Star reported that at least 100 ministry officials will participate at the international horticulture exhibition.

The fair, which began on April 13, will continue till October 9 in the Dutch city of Almere.

It is held once every decade. This year, the theme is "Growing Green Cities". Thirty-three other countries apart from Bangladesh will be participating.

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Two black-crowned night herons are fighting somewhere in Rangpur city. Although this bird is seen across the country, its population declined largely over the last few decades. The bird mostly lives on frog, fish, water insect and clam. The photo was taken recently.

PHOTO COURTESY: TUHIN WADUD

Giant ancient reptile tooth found in Alps

AFP, Washington



The fossils of three ichthyosaurs – giant marine reptiles that patrolled primordial oceans – have been discovered high up in the Swiss Alps, and include the largest ever tooth found for the species, a study said yesterday.

With elongated bodies and small heads, the prehistoric leviathans weighed up to 80 metric tonnes (88 US tons) and grew to 20 metres (yards), making them among the largest animals to have ever lived.

They first appeared 250 million years ago in the early Triassic, and a smaller, dolphin-like subtype survived until 90 million years ago. But the gigantic ichthyosaurs, which comprised most of the species, died out 200 million years ago.

Unlike dinosaurs, ichthyosaurs barely left a trace of fossil remains, and "why that is remains a great mystery to this day," said Martin Sander of the University of Bonn, lead author of the paper in the Journal of Vertebrate Paleontology.