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Using expats to smuggle gold
40kg gold seized at Dhaka airport in a month



P7

Al-Jazeera journo's killing
Palestinians reject joint probe with Israel



P11

Messi top-earning athlete
The PSG forward earned \$130m in 12 months



B1

Remittance in 2021
Bangladesh 7th highest recipient: WB

EDIBLE OIL CRISIS

Seizures show how hoarding is at play

STAR REPORT

The seizure of hundreds of thousands of litres of hoarded edible oil in the last one week has proved the claim that unscrupulous traders created the crisis to be able to sell cooking oil at higher prices.

As different government agencies raid shops and warehouses, seizing large stockpiles of soybean oil, it becomes clear why soybean oil disappeared from most of the grocery stores across the country in the last week of April. The shortage still persists.

Yesterday, officials seized around 3.5 lakh litres of edible oil in eight districts and fined the hoarders Tk 4.35 lakh. Two thirds of the recoveries were made in three warehouses in Khulna.

In the preceding three days, the Directorate of National Consumer Rights Protection (DNCRP) seized over 2.84 lakh litres of edible oil from warehouses across the country. The seized oil was later sold to the customers at the prices mentioned on the bottles.

The recoveries came over a month after the DNCRP warned that mill owners, dealers and wholesalers were out to manipulate the supply of edible oil, using the pretext of price hike in the international market, Ramadan and Russia-Ukraine war.

Ghulam Rahman, president of Consumers Association of Bangladesh, said the recoveries prove that the oil crisis has been an artificial one, created "in the hope of making more profit after Eid".

Strict measures should be taken so no one dares commit such crimes in the future, he added.

After visiting six oil refineries, the supervisory team of DNCRP in a report to the commerce ministry in late March said the refiners reduced the supply of edible oil to make more profit.

The team recommended legal measures against those involved. But there was hardly any visible action from the government.

The commerce ministry on May 5 approved a price hike of soybean oil in line with the proposals made by importers, refiners and wholesalers. The decision was aimed at ensuring smooth supply of edible oil in the market.

Edible oil supplies suffered hiccups amid the Russia-Ukraine war. To make matters worse, Indonesia, the biggest supplier of palm oil, imposed a ban on its export on April 28.

Cooking oil eventually disappeared from most of the retail shops across the country in the run-up to Eid, when demand usually goes up.

YESTERDAY'S SEIZURE

In Khulna, a mobile court led by Executive Magistrate Devashish Basak yesterday seized around 2.22 lakh litres of edible oil from warehouses of three traders in the Boro Bazar area.

Saha Traders was caught with around 95,000 litres, Ranjit Biswas and Sons 69,000 litres, and Sonali Enterprise 58,580 litres. Owners of the warehouses were fined a total of Tk 1,60,000, Basak said.

DNCRP seized at least 69,120 litres of edible oil in Sirajganj, Jhenidah, Nilphamari, and Chapainawabganj. The hoarders were fined a total of Tk 1.65 lakh.

DNCRP and mobile courts also recovered hoarded edible oil in Khagrachhari and Cumilla yesterday ranging from 3,000 litres to 8,000 litres and slapped fines.

A mobile court in Bogura fined Fakir Oil Mill Tk 50,000 after finding 31,800 litres of soybean oil in its stock.

On Wednesday, DNCRP in Natore fined Baraigram Municipality Mayor Mazedul Bari Nayan Tk 1 lakh after finding 3,000 litres of Soybean at a warehouse owned by him.

"Strict measures should be taken so no one dares commit such crimes in the future."



Two farmers putting harvested paddy on a dinghy in a flooded farm in Govindasi area of Bhupur, Tangail. Rains over the last few days have flooded many farms in low-lying areas of the district, partially damaging the crops and disrupting harvesting work.

PHOTO: STAR

DESTINY-2000 SCAM

Form a committee to reimburse investors

Court orders govt, sentences 46 including Destiny boss Rafiqul Amin, ex-army chief Harun-Ar-Rashid

CHAITANYA CHANDRA HALDER and EMRUL HASAN BAPPI

While sentencing 46 officials of Destiny-2000 to jail for money laundering, a Dhaka court yesterday ordered the government to form a committee to liquidate assets of a co-op of the company and return the money to its investors and shareholders.

The court also said the attached properties and frozen assets of 44 of the convicts would be forfeited in favour of the state and the committee would ensure that this money is given back to the investors and shareholders. Destiny-2000 managing director



Rafiqul Amin



Harun-Ar-Rashid

Mohammad Rafiqul Amin was sentenced to 12 years and fined Tk 200 crore, in default of which he would have to serve three more years.

Company director Lt Gen (retd) M Harun-Ar-Rashid, also former army chief, was sentenced to four years and fined Tk 3.5 crore, in default of which he would have to serve six months more.

The ex army chief was seen weeping in the courtroom yesterday. This is the first instance in Bangladesh of an army chief being convicted in a money laundering case, said Special Public Prosecutor Mir Ahmed Ali Salam.

SEE PAGE 2 COL 5

Crisis-hit Sri Lanka gets new PM

Cabinet likely to be appointed today; court bans ex-PM, allies from leaving the country



AFP, Colombo

Sri Lanka's president swore in a new prime minister yesterday to replace his brother, who was banned from leaving the country after his supporters launched violent attacks on a protest against the nation's dire economic crisis.

The new premier, Ranil Wickremesinghe, has already served in the office five times — but it remains unclear if he will be able to get any legislation through parliament.

The 73-year-old will be tasked with navigating Sri Lanka through its worst downturn in its history as an independent nation, with months of shortages and blackouts inflaming public anger.

"A cabinet is likely to be appointed tomorrow," Sudeva Hettiarachchi, a spokesman for President Gotabaya Rajapaksa, told AFP.

"We want to return the nation to a position where our people will once again have three meals a day," Wickremesinghe said after his appointment.

"Our youth must have a future."

In a televised address to the nation on Wednesday night, Rajapaksa stopped short of yielding to weeks of countrywide protests calling for him to resign.

But in a bid to win over opposition lawmakers demanding he quit, Rajapaksa, 72, pledged to give up most of his executive powers and set up a new cabinet this week.

Mahinda Rajapaksa, the president's brother, resigned as prime minister on Monday after his supporters attacked anti-government demonstrators who had been protesting peacefully for weeks.

This marked a turning point and unleashed several days of chaos and violence in which at least nine people were killed and over 200 injured, with dozens of Rajapaksa loyalist homes set on fire.

Mahinda has since fled the capital Colombo and taken refuge at the Trincomalee naval base on the country's east coast.

Yesterday, a court banned him, his politician son Namal, and more than a dozen allies from leaving the country after ordering an investigation into the violence.

SEE PAGE 2 COL 3

PVT AGENCIES

Hajj fees hiked by Tk 1.09 lakh

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

An aspiring Bangladeshi pilgrim will now have to spend a minimum of Tk 4,63,744 to perform hajj under private agencies — around Tk 1,09,150 higher than that in 2020.

Hajj Agencies Association of Bangladesh (HAAB), a platform of around 1,500 hajj agencies, announced the "general hajj package" yesterday at a press conference in a city hotel.

Announcing the package, HAAB President

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1

"HOLIDAY"

a new fortnightly page catering to your needs for travel and leisure activities will be out on Saturday.

Grab your copy!



Sitting on a pole, a precariously positioned man repairs power lines in Chattogram city's Uttar Kattali area yesterday. He has a waist harness but it seems it is not tethered to anything. He also does not have any helmet.

PHOTO: RAJIB RAIHAN

Impose global arms embargo on Myanmar military

Rights group urges UN Security Council to pass resolution

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Human rights group Fortify Rights has called for the UN Security Council to urgently convene an open session and pass a binding resolution, imposing a global arms embargo on the Myanmar military.

The Security Council should also refer the situation in Myanmar to the International Criminal Court, and impose targeted sanctions, it said.

The call came a day before US President Joe Biden hosts Southeast Asian leaders at the White House Thursday and weeks after the US determined the Myanmar military violence against the Rohingyas as genocide.

“The Security Council has a responsibility to act. The flow of arms and money to the junta must be stopped, and the Security Council is the key international body with a mandate to make that happen,” said Fortify Rights CEO Matthew Smith yesterday.

In April 2021, ASEAN leaders reached a “Five-Point Consensus” with the Myanmar military, aimed at putting the nation back on a path to peace following the February 2021 military coup d’état led by Myanmar Senior General Min Aung Hlaing.

The Myanmar junta has flouted the agreement while committing mass atrocity crimes, Fortify Right said.

The UK is the UN Security Council’s “penholder” on Myanmar and should table a Chapter VII resolution mandating an arms embargo and referral to the ICC, and President Biden should use the occasion of the Special Summit to obtain ASEAN’s support for such a move, Fortify Rights said.

Since launching a coup d’état on February 1, 2021, the Myanmar army and police have reportedly killed more than 1,800 people and detained more than 13,640, said the rights group.



BNP leaders and activists at a rally in front of the Jatiya Press Club demonstrate against the recent attacks on homes of BNP activists in different districts and the rising prices of soybean oil and other essentials.

PHOTO: STAR

No overseas trip for govt officials

Finance ministry issues circular citing current global crisis

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government has ordered to stop overseas trips of government officials in the wake of the post-Covid economic recovery and the current global crisis.

The finance ministry in a circular yesterday said all exposure visits/study tours/travels for APA, innovations, workshops or seminars will remain suspended until further notice.

The order will be applicable for the revenue and development budget and will be effective immediately, said the circular signed by Mohammad Shawkat Ullah, deputy secretary of the ministry.

The government made the decision when it saw that too many officials of different ministries and departments were keen on making trips abroad. Economists and watchdogs say that many of these overseas tours are fruitless, unnecessary and a waste of public money.

Government officials and, in some cases, cabinet members of different ministries and projects make foreign trips

on taxpayers’ money every year to take part in trainings, meetings, and seminars.

At least 100 agriculture ministry officials will participate, in phases, in a six-month international horticulture exhibition in the Netherlands, even though

The finance ministry in a circular yesterday said all exposure visits/study tours/travels for APA, innovations, workshops or seminars will remain suspended until further notice.

the government had asked to abandon all routine tours, except those involving emergencies.

The fair, which kicked off on April 13, will continue until October 9 in the Dutch city of Almere.

A 44-member delegation, including the daughter and son-in-law of Begum Monnujan Sufian, state minister for labour

and employment, and the spouse of BEPZA executive chairman, are set to visit Switzerland for the 110th session of the International Labour Conference.

It will take place between May 27 and June 11.

A government order, however, said that all expenses of the delegates, other than government officials and ministers, will be borne by themselves.

Railways Minister Nurul Islam Sujan led an eight-member delegation, including his and the ministry secretary’s spouses, on to a trip to the UK, Germany, Spain and France between November 23 and December 5.

The spouses bore their own expenses, officials said.

The government in July last year withheld 50 percent of this fiscal year’s allocation for foreign trips and asked officials to cancel the routine tours, as part of safety measures during the pandemic.

From March 2020 to July 2021, Tk 2,500 crore allocated for the foreign tours of government officials was saved.

162 return home from strife-torn Libya

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A group of 162 Bangladeshis returned home from war-torn Libya yesterday under a voluntary repatriation programme coordinated by the Bangladesh government and International Organisation for Migration.

A chartered flight carrying them touched down at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport in the morning, said an IOM official in Dhaka.

Among the returnees could be trafficking victims and migrants who failed to cross the Mediterranean into Europe illegally. Seven of them were physically ill, the official told The Daily Star on condition of anonymity.

On March 3, another group of 114 Bangladeshis returned home from Libya, known as a transit country to Europe for illegal migration.

18 Rohingyas detained

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

Police detained 18 Rohingyas, including 10 children, in Moulvibazar town yesterday after they had entered the country from India illegally.

The Rohingyas were detained from the Dhaka bus stand area around 11:00am, said Yeasinul Haque, officer-in-charge of Moulvibazar Sadar Police Station.

Their identities could not be confirmed till filing of this report last night.

Quoting Rohingyas, the OC said they entered Bangladesh through Kulaura border and were heading towards a Cox’s Bazar Rohingya camp.

Charges pressed against deep tube-well operator over two farmers’ death

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

Police have pressed charges against Sakhawat Hossain, operator of a deep tube-well of the Barind Multipurpose Development Authority, in two cases for provoking two Rajshahi Santal farmers to die by suicide.

The charge sheets were submitted to a local court last month, said Sub-Inspector Mahfuzur Rahman of Godagari Police Station, investigating officer of the cases.

On March 23, Santal farmers Abhinath Mardi and Robi Mardi of Nimghutu village in Godagari upazila drank pesticides, as Sakhawat refused to supply water to their paddy fields.

Abhinath died at his house the following night while Robi breathed his last at the Rajshahi Medical College Hospital on March 25.

Ex-UPDF man shot dead

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangamati

A former activist of the United People’s Democratic Front (UPDF) was shot dead by unidentified criminals at his home in Shilchhori area of Rangamati’s Barkal upazila early yesterday.

The deceased was Lakshmi Chandra Chakma, 45. He quit the UPDF a few years ago, said Joshim Uddin, OC of Barkal Police Station.

Locals said a group of four-five unidentified armed criminals entered Lakshmi Chandra’s home around 2:00am yesterday and shot him dead.

Police recovered the body and sent it to Rangamati General Hospital morgue for an autopsy.

Hajj fees hiked by Tk 1.09 lakh

FROM PAGE 1

M Shahadat Hossain Taslim said the agencies will be able to announce their own separate “special hajj packages”, but the amount of those will not be below the minimum rate of a package.

The religious affairs ministry yesterday proposed Tk 4,56,530 as the minimum rate under private hajj management.

However, the minimum rate declared by the HAAB is around Tk 7,000 higher.

Besides, Taslim said every pilgrim would have to pay an additional Tk 19,683 for a “Qurbani (sacrificing animals) coupon” from the Islamic Development Bank in Saudi Arabia.

According to the bilateral agreement between Bangladesh and Saudi Arabia, 57,585 Bangladeshis will be able to perform this year’s hajj, likely to be held on July 8 depending on sighting of the moon.

Of the pilgrims, 4,000 will perform hajj under government management and the rest under private agencies, he also said.

Hajj is a ritual for able-bodied Muslims, to be performed at least once in their lifetime.

In 2019, around 1.27 lakh Bangladeshis were allowed to perform hajj. However, due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the largest annual Muslim congregation was held on

a limited scale the past two years.

The HAAB president said accommodation will be provided for the hajjis under the general hajj package. It would be around 1.5km from outer courtyard of the Holy Haram Sharif.

He added they have announced the general package after calculating the airfare, house rent in Saudi Arabia, service charges, Muallem fees, Zamzam water, food costs and other expenses.

Asked, the HAAB chief said the reason for the hike was due to the exchange rate of the Saudi Riyal, 15 percent VAT on all services, service charges, and taxes imposed by the Saudi authorities.

Meanwhile, the government on Wednesday announced the minimum rate of hajj package at Tk 4,62,150 under government management, which is around Tk 1 lakh higher than in 2020.

Another package (package-I), also under the government management, had its minimum rate fixed at Tk 5,27,340 – Tk 1,02,340 higher than that in 2020.

According to the Saudi Ministry of Hajj and Umrah, pilgrims must be under the age of 65 and must be fully vaccinated against Covid-19. The negative certificate of PCR test will be required within 72 hours of departure.

JSD man hacked to death in Kushtia

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kushtia

Criminals hacked to death a Jubo Jote leader, the youth wing of Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal, in Kushtia’s Daulatpur upazila on Wednesday night.

Two Jubo Jote activists were also injured.

The deceased was Mahbub Khan Salam, 37, general secretary of Daulatpur unit. Jubo Jote. The injured are Mamun Joarder and Harun.

Quoting one of the injured, Jabid Hasan, officer-in-charge of Daulatpur Police Station, said some 15 to 20 criminals attacked the three with sharp weapons near Salam’s house in Allardorga Bazar around 11:00pm.

Injured Mamun said Salam was sitting near his house with him and Harun. Suddenly, the criminals swooped on them and started hacking them indiscriminately, he added.

Mamun alleged that a group of activists of local Jubo League, youth front of ruling Awami League, launched the attack.

He also alleged that Tokon Choudhury, president of Daulatpur upazila Jubo League, led the group.

This correspondent could not contact Tokon, also the younger brother of former AL lawmaker from Kushtia-1 Rezaul Haque Chowdhury, for comments.

Locals rushed the injured to Daulatpur Upazila Health Complex. They were later shifted to Kushtia General Hospital for better treatment, where Salam died at 12:00pm, said OC Jabid, adding that police visited the spot and collected evidence.

He said there was ongoing tension between the activists of Jatiya Jubo Jote and Jubo League over a murder. It is being investigated whether the killing of Salam was political, the OC added.

Rokonuzzaman, central president of Jatiya Jubo Jote, and its General Secretary Shafiqul Kabir Swapan demanded immediate arrest of the killers.

Crisis-hit Sri Lanka gets new PM

FROM PAGE 1

Security forces patrolling in armoured personnel carriers with orders to shoot looters on sight have largely restored order.

A curfew was lifted yesterday morning – only to be reimposed after a six-hour break allowing Sri Lanka’s 22 million people to stock up on essentials.

Sri Lankans have suffered months of severe shortages

of food, fuel and medicines – as well as long power cuts – after the country burnt through foreign currency reserves needed to pay for vital imports.

The central bank chief warned Wednesday that the economy would “collapse beyond redemption” unless a new government was urgently appointed.

Wickremesinghe, 73, is seen as a pro-West free-

market reformist, potentially making bailout negotiations with the International Monetary Fund and others smoother.

He had already been working closely with Rajapaksa before his appointment, to shake up the finance ministry and the central bank with sweeping policy changes, an official close to their discussions told AFP.

With many from Rajapaksa’s party having defected in recent months, no group in the 225-member assembly has an absolute majority, making parliamentary approval of the unity government’s legislation potentially tricky.

It also remains to be seen whether a new cabinet will be enough to calm public anger if Rajapaksa continues to resist calls for

his resignation.

“What he has done is despicable, he has brought all of us to this state of hunger and poverty,” Abu Nawaz, a small business owner in Colombo, told AFP. “What is the point of keeping him as the president?” he added. “Will this end our miseries?”

The central bank almost doubled key interest rates and announced a default

on Sri Lanka’s \$51-billion external debt as part of the policy shift, officials said.

The main opposition SJB party was initially invited to lead a new government, but its leader Sajith Premadasa insisted the president first step down.

In recent days the party has split, with a dozen SJB lawmakers pledging support to Wickremesinghe.

Form a committee to reimburse investors

FROM PAGE 1

Harun, however, will enjoy first-class division in jail.

Destiny-2000 chairman Mohammad Hossain was sentenced to 10 years and fined Tk 1.5 crore, in default of which he will serve a year more.

Destiny Agro Industries Ltd director Lt Col (retd) Didarul Alam was sentenced to eight years and fined Tk 1.5 crore, in default of which he would serve one year more.

However, the court ordered the release of Didarul as he had served more than nine years in jail.

The court did not order forfeiture of Didarul’s or Harun’s assets.

Destiny-2000 director Farha Diba, wife of Rafiqul Amin, was sentenced to eight years and fined Tk 40 crore, in default of which she would serve two more years.

After the verdict, Rafiqul Amin, Harun-Ar Rashid, Mohammad Hossain, Ziaul Haque Mollah, Saidul Islam Khan, and Jesmin Akter were sent to jail with

conviction warrants.

The remaining 39, including Farha Diba, were convicted in absentia.

Harun’s lawyer M Mainul Islam was dissatisfied with the judgment and said they would appeal to a higher court.

The irregularities of Destiny-2000, believed to be the worst multi-level marketing scam in the country, came under the spotlight in early 2012 after the central bank found that it had been involved in illegal transactions.

Several newspapers, including The Daily Star, ran reports on massive irregularities in Destiny-2000’s cooperative, tree plantation, and multilevel marketing wings.

On July 31, 2012, the Anti-Corruption Commission filed the case against 22 Destiny officials. On March 30, 2014, it pressed charges against 46 in connection with laundering Tk 1,861.45 crore of investors’ money.

THE COURT’S OBSERVATIONS

In the verdict, Judge Shaikh Nazmul Alam of the Special Judge’s Court-4 observed that the assets of Destiny Multi-Purpose Co-operative Society Limited (DMCSL), the Destiny-2000 co-op, belong to its shareholders and investors.

The properties and money forfeited in favour of the state shall be deemed as compensations for DMCSL shareholders and investors, he said.

All sorts of fine and forfeiture of properties or money in connection with this case should be disbursed by a “committee” constituted by the government, he observed.

The judge ordered the government to form a six-member committee, led by a retired judge of the Supreme Court, which would disburse the money amongst the affected shareholders and investors.

The committee would have the authority to sell the forfeited movable and immovable properties

and the money would be deposited to a bank account of the committee, he said.

According to the verdict, the registrar of the Department of Co-operatives, under the Ministry of Local Government, Rural Development and Co-operatives, would take all necessary steps for the liquidation and winding up DMCSL.

The liquidation and winding up should take place under the guideline of the committee, it said.

The committee shall accumulate all funds begotten and make payments to the shareholders and investors in a fair and equitable manner applying prudence and sagacious decisions, the judge added.

The police commissioner of Dhaka, who had received some of the immovable or movable properties, vehicles, and income generated from those, was directed to hand those over to the committee.



Rain coupled with construction work has made a part of the road in front of Government Science College in Tejgaon virtually unusable. If anyone even dares to use the path, they have to brave through inches of mud just to reach their destination.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

‘We see more opportunity, less challenge’
South Korean envoy on bilateral collaboration

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

The current global geopolitical situation is creating more opportunities rather than challenges for South Korea and Bangladesh for closer collaboration due to their deep relationship, said Ambassador Lee Jang-keun yesterday.

“The companies have realised the risks from geopolitical confrontations and the necessity of diversifying their investment and partners. Bangladesh is becoming an increasingly attractive partner for Korean companies,” he said while addressing a seminar on 50 years of Bangladesh-South Korea relations at the Foreign Service Academy.

The foreign affairs ministry, South Korean Embassy in Dhaka and the Dhaka University’s East Asia Study Centre organised the event.

Foreign Minister AK Abdul Momen was present as chief guest, while Lee Jang-keun and Bangladesh Ambassador to Korea Delwar Hossain were special guests. Dhaka University International Relations Prof Dr Delwar Hossain chaired the event.

Lee Jang-keun said Bangladesh and Korea produced many successful

SEE PAGE 4 COL 8

‘Introduce new app before Eid’

Railway directs vendor handling online-ticketing

The new vendor took charge of BR’s ticketing service in March, but the app that was previously used remained non-functional, as it was operated by the previous vendor.

MEETING DIRECTIVES

- Improving ticketing system
- Preparing for next Eid
- Introducing more counters at Kamalapur

TUHIN SHUBHRA ADHIKARY

Railway authorities have directed its vendor that handles online-ticketing services to deploy a new app before Eid-ul-Azha to improve the service.

They also asked the Shohoz-led joint venture firm to further improve their system to provide smooth services during huge rush, especially ahead of Eid. Officials of Bangladesh Railway (BR) were also asked to start preparing for the next Eid, to be celebrated in early July.

All these directives were given at a meeting held yesterday to evaluate BR and its vendor’s performance centring Eid. Railways Minister Nurul Islam Sujon presided over the lengthy meeting held at Rail Bhaban. It was participated by top officials of the ministry, BR and the vendor firm.

The Daily Star came to know about the development after talking to at least three meeting participants.

The journey home and return via train went quite smoothly this Eid. However, like previous years, hundreds of people thronged Kamalapur and other stations to buy train tickets in advance ahead of Eid. Many spent sleepless nights to buy tickets, while others complained about the online service.

The new vendor took charge of BR’s ticketing service in March, but the app that was previously used remained non-functional, as it was operated by the previous vendor.

Currently, 50 percent of the total tickets are

being sold through a website, while rest from counters, where the vendor has a role to play.

In this situation, the minister asked Shohoz to deploy the app as soon as possible.

Officials of the vendor said they are developing the app and taking time to avoid any problem once it comes into action.

In reply, the minister asked them to place the app before authorities within the middle of next month to check different aspects.

The incident of an employee of the vendor being arrested ahead of Eid for selling train tickets in black market was also raised at the meeting.

When it was mentioned that the arrestee also worked for previous vendor, the current vendor was asked why it is hiring employees of previous vendor. The previous one did not hand over documents and data properly, and that’s why it was forced to hire them, said an official of the new vendor.

Some other problems regarding online-ticketing services were also discussed at the meeting, and authorities asked the new vendor to update its service further.

The issue of huge crowds at Kamalapur station was also discussed, and it was decided that more spots and counters are to be introduced ahead of Eid. Some officials said as they have to take standing passengers in many trains despite a ban, it is better to re-introduce the system on some scale.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 6

‘Ensure timely interview’

Students urge govt regarding US visa

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Over 300 students who obtained scholarships and got admitted to different universities in the US urged the government to take necessary steps to ensure their visa interview slots on time.

A six-member student delegation yesterday submitted a memorandum to the foreign minister at his office.

A member of the delegation told this correspondent that they met Foreign Minister AK Abdul Momen at noon. The minister assured them that he would write to the authorities concerned soon.

Another delegate said a large number of applicants got interview slots in late 2022 and early 2023 while they have to join their programmes by this July.

“We are not able to reschedule the slots due to a recent policy change by the US embassy,” he said.

The delay has pushed around 2,000 students of the Fall 2022 session into uncertainty regarding joining their programmes on time.

The memorandum read that a significant portion of the students have received financial aid from the universities in the form of merit scholarships, research, and teaching assistantships and they are fearful that they will have to forfeit such hard-earned awards.

NATIONAL BUDGET

Allocate 8pc for health sector

Say speakers

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

At least 8 percent of the national budget in 2022-23 fiscal should be allocated for the health sector, putting primary healthcare in the heart, speakers at a pre-budget webinar recommended yesterday.

Bangladesh Health Watch, Brac James P Grant School of Public Health of Brac University, and Unnayan Somonnoy organised the dialogue.

Dr Atiur Rahman, former governor of Bangladesh Bank and president of Unnayan Somonnoy, presented the keynote at the event.

“Majority of healthcare seekers go to healthcare centres for primary health care. So, allocation for this segment should be as much as 30 percent of the total health budget,” he said.

Currently, around 25 percent of health budget is spent for primary health care, while 39 percent for secondary health care and 36 percent for tertiary health care.

He said the budget size of 2022-23 fiscal is forecasted to be Tk 6,78,000 crore, which is 15.4 percent of the GDP, while it is 17.5 percent of the GDP in current fiscal.

He opined that if the government allocation for medicine is increased by three-fold, the health expenditures borne by patients can be decreased to 58 percent from 68.5 percent currently.

Dr Zafrullah Chowdhury, founder of Gonosasthaya Kendra, said investing Tk 10 crore in each union health sub-centre can bring a

SEE PAGE 4 COL 6

Provide them with language skills training
Say speakers on female migrant workers

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Female migrant workers should be provided with sufficient skills training, including learning the host country’s language for their empowerment and safety in receiving countries, said speakers at a workshop yesterday.

They said strong network among civil society groups in Bangladesh and the receiving end can also play a vital role in ensuring their safety.

International Food Policy Research Institute organised the workshop on “Strengthening Institutions for Empowering Female Migrants in Bangladesh” at a city hotel.

Nomita Halder, managing director of PKSF, said to provide language training to aspirant migrants, returnee migrants who have good knowledge on host countries’ language could be employed as trainers.

Nomita, a former secretary of the expatriates’ ministry, said such issues should be addressed in government policy intervention.

Disseminating findings of a study report, Nazmun N Ratna of Lincoln University, New Zealand, said female migrant workers are vulnerable to job loss, reduced pay and health issues. Besides, abuse of female migrant workers may be under-reported, she said.

They should also be provided with accurate information regarding their jobs and environment in host countries, said Prof Sadeka Halim, a sociologist and teacher at Dhaka University’s sociology department.

Sumaiya Islam, executive director of Nari Sramik Kendra, said female migrant workers in Saudi Arabia could be provided with hostel facility for safety. She stressed for recognising middlemen in migration channel to hold them accountable for fraudulence.

PRAYER TIMING
MAY 13

	Fazr	Juma	Asr	Maghrib	Esha
Azan	4:10	12:30	5:00	6:36	8:00
Jamaat	4:45	1:15	5:15	6:40	8:30

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

Using expats to smuggle gold

At least 40kg gold seized, 7 held at Dhaka airport in one month

MOHAMMAD JAMIL KHAN

In the name of sending gifts to dear ones, several syndicates have been using expatriates to smuggle gold into Bangladesh.

The criminals pack gold bars inside electronics like charger fans, cameras or phones, and then ask the expatriates to carry them to Bangladesh, telling them that the packages are for relatives.

These consignments are coming to the country mostly from Saudi Arabia, Dubai and Qatar.

Expatriates mostly take the packages out of Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport (HSIA) by themselves, but in a couple of cases, airport and airline staffers were found to be involved.

Analysing data on gold smuggling



Criminals pack gold inside electronics, ask expatriates to carry them

Consignments coming mostly from Saudi Arabia, Dubai, Qatar

In some cases, airport, airline staffers involved

Sometimes, expatriates knowingly smuggle gold to earn easy money

of the last month, investigators claimed to have come up with the findings.

In the last month, around seven people were arrested and at least 40 kg of gold were seized from HSIA, according to officials of airport customs.

On Wednesday night, officials of Dhaka Customs House arrested an expatriate -- Md Shafiqul Islam -- with 20 gold bars weighing over 2.5 kg and worth around Tk 2 crore. Shafiqul had come to Bangladesh from Saudi Arabia.

Md Riiazul Islam, deputy commissioner of Dhaka Customs House, confirmed the development to The Daily Star yesterday.

He said Shafiqul had brought a charger fan with him, and after

SEE PAGE 4 COL 4



Police bar a procession of Communist Party of Bangladesh at the capital’s Gulistan from going towards the commerce ministry yesterday. CPB held the programme demanding that the commerce minister be removed over price hike of edible oil, and the number of TCB shops and vehicles be increased to ease public sufferings.

PHOTO: COLLECTED



PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

The solo panoramic photography exhibition of Bashir Ahmed Sujan will begin today at Alliance Française de Dhaka, Dhanmondi. “Stand Up Dhaka” is the country’s first-ever vertical panoramic exhibition, which showcases the living chaos of the city life, said organisers. The event will run till May 21.

Fake agency

FROM PAGE 5
Market police stations, along with three other old cases. Officials said they are now looking for his close associate Jahangir, who used to get him clients. They mentioned that Mahbub used to change his office locations whenever any victim filed complaints against him. In 2015, two trafficking cases were filed against him after he embezzled money by promising some individuals of sending them to Canada under his old agency name “Planet Oversee”. In last seven years, Mahbub took different offices in Lalmatia, Karwan Bazar, Elephant Road and Bashundhara, said police.

Using expats

FROM PAGE 3
scrutinising the object, gold bars were found inside the battery chamber, he said. During interrogation, Shafiqul claimed that he was unaware about the gold and his uncle requested him to take it to Bangladesh. He was supposed to hand the fan over to his uncle’s family. Sometimes, expatriates knowingly smuggled gold just to earn some easy money, claimed investigators. On April 30, customs officials seized gold from three passengers’ bodies at HSLA. They had come to Bangladesh from Dubai. The estimated market value of the gold is Tk 2.54 crore. Officials claimed that sometimes, passengers handed over gold to airport officials to carry the consignment out. On March 24, customs officials detained a Qatar Airways employee and seized 56 gold bars, weighing a total of 6.5 kg, at HSLA. The detainee was identified as Tajul Islam, an airport service agent of the airline. Tajul was detained in the boarding bridge area of the airport with the bars, wrapped with scotch tape. A passenger handed the gold bars over to Tajul, said customs officials. Earlier on February 25, Customs detained a cleaner of Civil Aviation Authority of Bangladesh (CAAB) with 36 gold bars weighing over 4 kg at HSLA. Md Suruzzaman was detained, as he was trying to take the bars out of the airport inside his pocket. An inbound passenger might have smuggled gold to the country and handed it to the cleaner, suspected officials. The Daily Star tried to contact the CAAB chairperson, but he did not pick up the phone. Contacted yesterday, a high official of CAAB said the organisation cannot be held responsible for the misdeeds of its staff. “In case of involvement of any CAAB staffer in such wrongdoings, we urge law enforcers to take action,” said the official, requesting anonymity. Customs House DC Riazul said they have increased vigilance regarding gold smuggling and are taking action. “Steps have also been taken to increase our workforce in the airport to watch the smuggling activities more effectively,” he added.

Introduce new app

FROM PAGE 3
The meeting didn’t give any concrete decision about the percentage of such tickets, a participant said. BR Director General Dharendra Nath Mazumder could not be reached for comments over phone, even after sending messages. Contacted, Maliha M Quadir, managing director of Shohoz, said in absence of a proper handover of previous software, they had no choice but to deploy their own solution within 21 business days. “With this software, we gave a mobile responsive website, and railway has been using this software

successfully since then.” The website is also being used by millions to purchase tickets using both phones and desktop, she added. “We had been working on an app in parallel and will be launching it before next Eid,” she told The Daily Star last night.

Allocate 8pc

FROM PAGE 3
revolutionary change in health care. “We can easily engage medical students for this,” he said, in addition to focusing on ensuring medicine at a cheaper cost. Lawmaker Dr Pran Gopal Dutta stressed on strengthening capacity of drug administration. Lawmaker and former health minister Dr AFM Ruhul Haque stressed on introducing patient referral system. Lawmaker Dr Habib-E-Millat said, “We need five lakh physicians. But we have only one lakh. It is not possible to ensure proper health care with this manpower.” Health experts Dr Julfikar Ali and Dr Mushtuq Hussain stressed on the expansion of health insurance coverage. Dr Syed Abdul Hamid, professor of health economics at DU, said, “There are lackings in proper and effective health

procurement, which should be addressed properly.”

We see more

FROM PAGE 3
collaboration stories during the past five decades, like RMG. Korea has become one of the most popular destinations for expatriate workers. The remittance earned from there has increased from \$80 million in 2016-17 to \$209 million in 2020-21.

DISTANCE LEARNING PROGRAM (DLP)
Diabetic Association of Bangladesh (BADAS)

ADMISSION NOTICE
CERTIFICATE COURSE ON DIABETOLOGY (CCD) (35th Batch)

Applications are invited from doctors (MBBS or equivalent, with permanent BMDC registration) for admission into Online Certificate Course on Diabetology (CCD) for the session July to December - 2022.

The course design has been adopted to suite more with online platform. The modular course is now in a Lesson and End Lesson Practice based format through cloud based software. So a student can do self study practice according to his/her suitable time and place prior to attend a tutorial for each module as per academic calendar from own station.

Student’s registration for batch-35 will be open from 13th May 2022 (for details visit: <http://www.dlpbadas-bd.org>). Doctors willing to get admitted into the course are requested to do online registration through the website. The selected candidates will be instructed to complete the admission formalities online through the same platform.

National Prof A K Azad Khan
President, BADAS & Chairman, DLP
Diabetic Association of Bangladesh

FLAT SALE

An Exclusive apartment (South Facing) of 1545 sft. with excellent finishing and high quality fitting and fixtures will be sold at Bashandhara R/A in Block-F, Dhaka.

Please Contact: 01730495868, 01711536285

SINGLE BED ROOM APARTMENT RENT

Weekly, Monthly and Yearly basis, similarly decorated like a 5-Star hotels bedroom & washroom with dining, living & cooking facilities. Including electricity bills Everyday cleaning & complimentary breakfast in Banani residential area. The montly rent is taka 60,000. Contact: **01732-691731**

INVITATION OF EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI)

Eurotel Business System invites EOI from competent marketing company/individual for marketing IP-PABX and Data equipment/ solutions of Alcatel-Lucent Enterprise (ALE) and IP-PABX of MITEL.

Contact info@eurotelbd.com./01885550466.

FLAT TOLET

8500 sft. Triplex in Gulshan with 5 bed, 6 bath, specious foyr, drawing, dinning, family living with marble floor, 3 parking, driver room, fully/ partly furnished is ready for rent. **Pls Contact: 01711527419, 01714320584**

ENLISTMENT NOTICE

Applications are invited from the genuine Vendors for enlistment with **Caritas Bangladesh (Central Office) and Caritas Bangladesh Cox’s Bazar Office separately** for the period of July 2022 to June 2024 for the mentioned group as per Enlistment Notice.

Application forms and general terms and conditions of enlistment will be available at Caritas Central Office, 2, Outer Circular Road, Shantibagh, Dhaka-1217, Phone 48315406-9 (Ext. 304) from **May 16, 2022 to May 24, 2022 between 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.** on all working days or download from our website at <https://caritasbd.org/notice/tender/>. All completed application will be received by the Reception Desk (Ground Floor), Caritas Bangladesh **up to 4:00 pm on May 25, 2022.**

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Superintending Engineer, RHD
Barishal Road Circle, Barishal
E-mail: sebarisalrhd@gmail.com

Notice

Memo No. 35.01.0651.171.99.37.2022-1812 Date: 12/05/2022

This is to notify that all concerned for this invitation Ref. No. 35.01.0651.171.99.37.2022-657 date: 16/02/2022, Tender Package No. 01/Tender/PSN/BCFB Tol/BRC/2021-22 is hereby cancelled due to unavoidable circumstances.

Mintu Ranjan Debnath
ID No. 601920
Superintending Engineer (C.C.), RHD
Barishal Road Circle, Barishal

GD-960

TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL BANGLADESH
Social movement against corruption

ANTI-CORRUPTION
Investigative Journalism Awards 2022

Transparency International Bangladesh (TIB) is inviting submissions of both print (including online) and electronic media reports for its Anti-Corruption Investigative Journalism Awards 2022. TIB will award the best investigative reports on corruption of all types in four categories selected by an independent committee of judges. Reports published or broadcast between 01 January to 31 December 2021 in print, online and electronic media, owned and operated from Bangladesh will be considered for the awards. Before submitting reports for consideration, please visit for more information: www.ti-bangladesh.org/ija2022

Last date for submission: 31 July 2022

পুট ক্রয়ে ইচ্ছুক
রাজউক প্রাচল যেকোন সেক্টরে ৩ ও ৫ কাঠার পুট কিনতে চাই। প্রকৃত মালিকগন যোগাযোগ করুন।
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অষ্ট্রেলিয়া প্রবাসী, কম্পিউটার ইঞ্জিনিয়ারিং এ স্নাতক, এডুকেশন কাউন্সিলর অস্ট্রেলিয়ান হিসেবে কর্মরত, পি.আর. হাউস ICSE- 2010 (INDIA) বর্ষা পত্রীর জন্য উচ্চ শিক্ষিত হিন্দু পাত্র চাই। অসবর্ষ আপত্তি নাই।
Email: abirjkip@gmail.com

IUB

INDEPENDENT UNIVERSITY, BANGLADESH (IUB)

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Director, International Programs and Relations

Application deadline: **June 2, 2022**

To apply, please visit: <http://www.iub.edu.bd/jobs> or scan the QR code

Palli Karma-Sahayak Foundation (PKSF)
PKSF Bhaban, E-4/B, Agargaon Administrative Area, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207
Phone: 8181658-61, 8181169, 8181664-69; Website: <http://www.pksf-bd.org>

Vacancy Announcement

PKSF has been implementing a project titled ‘**Rural Microenterprise Transformation Project (RMTP)**’ jointly financed by PKSF and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA) since January 2020. The Project will be implemented throughout the country till December 2025. The development objective of the project is to achieve sustainable growth of the selected rural commodity value chains with comparative advantages, market demand, growth potential and backward linkages to the small farmers and micro-entrepreneurs.

PKSF hereby invites online applications from the suitable candidates for the following position under RMTP Project:

S. N.	Name of the Position with Number	Consolidated Monthly Salary (BDT)
1	Deputy Project Coordinator (Financial Services)- 01	2,25,000/-

The employee will be recruited initially for one year with an opportunity for annual performance-based renewal during the project period. Interested candidates who fulfill the requirements may submit online application by 29 May 2022. Please visit PKSF Website (www.pksf-bd.org) for detailed job descriptions and instructions to apply.

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted. PKSF is an equal opportunity employer. Any kind of persuasion will be treated as disqualification of the candidate. PKSF reserves the right to cancel this recruitment process without assigning any reason whatsoever.

*****Women are highly encouraged to apply.*****

Senior General Manager (HR)

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Department of Telecommunications (DoT)
Office of the Director General
423-428, Tejgaon Industrial Area, Dhaka-1208
www.telecomdept.gov.bd

e-Tender Notice (OTM)

Memo No. 14.30.0000.334.07.010.22.15 Date:12-05-2022

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP Portal (www.eprocure.gov.bd) for the Procurement of Official Furniture for Department of Telecommunications (DoT).

Sl. No.	Package No.	Package description	Tender ID	Last selling date & time	Closing date & time
1	DoT/2021-22/FUR01	Procurement of Official Furniture for Department of Telecommunications (DoT)	698530	26-05-2022 17:00	29-05-2022 16:00

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 the tender, registration in the e-GP System Portal (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 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 help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

Subal Chandra Kundu
Director (ICT)
Email: dir.ict@telecomdept.gov.bd
Telephone: 9830700

GD-959

Barishal Govt. Women's College
College Education Development Project (Sub project-1111)
Agarpur Road, Barishal-8200
Website: <https://bwc.gov.bd>

Memo No. 794/2021-22 Date: 12/05/2022

e-Tender Notice: 02/2021-2022

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

Sl. No.	Tender ID No.	Name of supply	Last date and time of tender security submission	Tender closing date & time
1.	697084 (Re-Tender)	Supply of Furniture and Fixtures for Science Laboratory, Laboratory and Classroom at Barishal Govt. Women's College, Barishal.	30-May-2022 13:00	30-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 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 29-May-2022 16:00. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

Principal & IDGM
Barishal Govt. Women's College
Agarpur Road, Barishal
Barishal-8200
Phone: 0431-64992
E-mail: bwinfo@yahoo.com

GD-950

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Superintending Engineer, RHD
Road Circle, Noakhali
Phone No. 0321-61092
E-mail: senoa@rhd.gov.bd

Memo No. 35.01.7587.190.17.017.21-4566 Date: 12/05/2022

e-Tender Notice

e-Tenders are invited in National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) by Superintending Engineer, RHD, Noakhali Circle, Noakhali for the procurement of following works:

Sl. No.	Tender ID No.	Package No.	Description of works	Tender last selling (Date & time)	Tender closing (Date & time)	Tender opening (Date & time)
01.	697308	SE/Noakhali/ NRD/PMP- Road/2021-2022/08	PMP Works of Widening & Strengthening of Existing Road including DBS Wearing Course with Protective work from Ch. 15+000 to 17+500-2.50 KM of Majidee-Islamia-Oderhat-Dasherhat-New Tearigonj-Bhabanigonj Road (Shahid Munir Road) (Z-1429) under Noakhali Road Division during the year 2021-2022.	12/06/2022 at 17:00	13/06/2022 at 12:00	13/06/2022 at 12:00

This is an online tender, where only e-Tenders will be accepted in National 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>). Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP helpdesk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

sd/-
Ranapriya Barua
ID No. 005155
Superintending Engineer (C.C.), RHD
Road Circle, Noakhali

GD-957

Putul excited for new journey

Putul Sajia Sultana rose to prominence with the singing reality show, "Close-Up One". For the last 16 years, she has proved her prowess as one of the most prolific singers in the industry. She is also a passionate writer, lively anchor and soon-to-be mother. We talk to her about her exciting new projects, upcoming journey, and more.

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

What are you currently busy with?
I have been working on new music at my studio. I collaborated with Rongon Music for a new track this Eid. It was written and composed by Syed Reza Ali. On the other hand, I have been releasing a new song every month from my official YouTube channel, PutulGaan. I released a new song during Eid as well.

What inspires you to release a new song monthly?

I want to keep making music as regularly as possible, and stay connected with my listeners. I have been able to do so as I have my own studio, and my life partner is also associated with music. I am dedicated to honing my craft. My fans are my inspiration. They have certain expectations from me, and I hope to live up to them.

You have been in the industry for 16 years. How do you look back on your journey?

I did not just want to be known as a singing reality show contestant. My biggest accomplishment has been carving a space for myself in the industry, on my own. I am lucky that people have given me so much love over the years, and I still have a long way

to go.

Have you been writing any novels lately?
I have been writing a novel. I hope it will be available for readers in the upcoming Ekushey Boi Mela. I truly enjoy writing, and I hope to keep it up regularly.

You are also about to be a mother. Yes. I am excited for this new journey in my life. Hopefully, we will welcome our baby by the second week of July. Please keep us in your prayers.



PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

'No Land's Man', 'Anyadin' selected for Sydney Film Festival

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

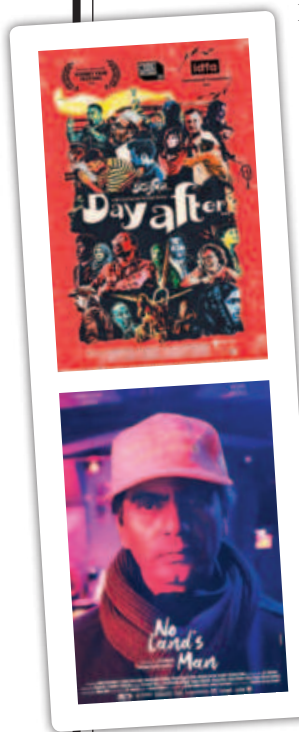
Mostofa Sarwar Farooki's "No Land's Man" and Kamar Ahmad Simon's "Anyadin" (Day After...) have been selected for this year's Sydney Film Festival.

While "No Land's Man" will be screened during the event on June 16 and 19, "Anyadin" will be screened on June 14 and 18.

"Anyadin" is the second instalment of Simon's Water trilogy. Earlier, the film was selected for the 2021 international competition at the International Documentary Film Festival Amsterdam.

"No Man's Land" premiered at the Busan International Film Festival, and was also nominated for the Kim Jiseok Award. The predominantly English film stars Nawazuddin Siddiqui, along with Tahsan Khan and Australian actress Megan Mitchell, among others.

The Sydney Film Festival will run from June 8 to 19.



Raveena Tandon recalls being fat-shamed after childbirth



Noted actress Raveena Tandon revisited the time when she and Aishwarya Rai Bachchan were trolled for putting on weight after welcoming a child.

In a recent interview, she recalled, "I had put on a lot of weight, and I had just delivered my son, and I had already started working again. Journalists were fat-shaming me, they were fat-shaming Aishwarya Rai. I said we've just had a baby. I want to nurse my baby, I don't want to go on a diet."

Her sassy response to a reporter was, "I can reduce my weight. But what will you do about your face?"

COUNTRYWIDE

Mushroom in the hills

SHYKH SERAJ

For Nipu Tripura life was full of uncertainty like the other women in the hills. During the bad days of COVID-19 she couldn't even run her grocery store. But overcoming all obstacles she has now become an agricultural entrepreneur. Before telling her remarkable story, I would like to say that television, particularly media, has played a big role in her agricultural development. She has not only written her success story, but made employment opportunities for many others. Nipu, a resident of Thakurchhara Notun Bazaar area in Khagrachhari, watched one of my episodes on mushroom cultivation of Magura's Babul Akhter on my YouTube channel and felt she could also start mushroom cultivation like Babul.



Nipu Tripura is seen working at her mushroom farm in Khagrachhari's Thakurchhara Notun Bazaar area.

PHOTO: HRIDOYE MATI O MANUSH

entrepreneurs across the country, many women are also doing it at their homes. By reading news and watching TV and social media contents many mushroom farmers have emerged with diversified farming ideas and products now.

In the first year, Nipu earned Tk 9 lakh (USD 10,387) by selling commercial mushroom spawns. Now, she is developing and producing 10 to 12 thousand spawns every month, but she dreams of producing 25,000 spawns per month. She has employed eight women at her mushroom farm and established herself as a woman entrepreneur within a short time. She has also formed a cooperative society with 20 women members and giving them free training. Nipu is now dreaming of mother culture of mushrooms and expecting government's assistance in this regard as well.

In the context of Bangladesh, mushroom is a promising crop and has a great importance as it is nutritious, tasty and a major medicinal food. In densely populated and rapidly growing Bangladesh, the demand for food is increasing, but the supply is facing the imbalance. Besides,

huge quantities of mushrooms can be produced in a small fallow land. Moreover, the climate of the country is favourable for the cultivation throughout the year. Mushroom farming is environment friendly and tolerant to natural disasters. According to Mushroom Development Institute, the opportunity of mushroom production is increasing rapidly. At present, about 40,000 tonnes of mushrooms, valued around Tk 800 crore (USD 92.3 million), are being produced every year. About 1.5 lakh people are involved in the production and marketing of the food items. There are opportunities to export mushrooms to different countries as almost all the economically developed countries of the world import mushroom.

Mushrooms can add a significant contribution to our agriculture sector and courageous woman entrepreneur like Nipu has shown us the way. We can ensure employment of many unemployed as well. Nipu is one of those who are showing us the light of hope. I hope that the country will move forward towards extensive mushroom cultivation and the government will take necessary measures for its betterment.

A cautionary tale for Bangladesh

FROM PAGE 12
fails to make up the deficit with remittance, Bangladesh's foreign exchange reserves will also start to deplete very soon, he said.

"We kept on taking one project after another, without any proper

economic feasibility studies. This kind of random decision-making has motivated discussions such as building a new airport, a second Padma bridge, launching another satellite, shifting Dhaka city elsewhere and starting bullet train service between

Dhaka to Cox's Bazar. All of these are unnecessary projects. If implemented, all would require additional debt. Our loan instalments will surpass \$4 billion by 2025.

"We also have a huge amount of internal debt. If we add these two, our debt

to GDP ratio will surpass the 50 percent mark. It is a very risky situation. We are going towards it fast. If we cannot restrain ourselves from taking local and foreign loans and random projects, we too will reach Sri Lanka's situation within 4-5 years."

Motorbike accidents drove up death toll

FROM PAGE 12
easy bikes (battery-run three-wheelers), monitoring by police and steps taken by different government agencies.

But the operation of a large number of motorbikes caused a sharp rise in road crashes, he pointed out.

Mozammel said people chose small vehicles due to absence of adequate public transport, high fare and traffic congestions on roads, but this trend led to an increase in road accidents, he added.

He demanded that the government ban import of motorbikes and easy bikes.

The Road Safety Foundation in its report said at least 376 people were killed and over 1,500 injured in 283 accidents in 14 days from April 25, meaning around 27 people died every day.

The accidents and deaths were 18.41 percent and 19.74 percent higher respectively than the last year's Eid, the organisation said in a press release.

At least 156 people (41.48 percent of the total deaths) were killed in accidents involving motorcycles while 78 (20.74 percent) were killed in crashes involving three-wheelers, the report said.

Last year, at least 134 people were killed in 121 accidents involving motorbikes, meaning accidents saw 5.74 percent rise and deaths rose by 16.41 percent.

The platform said the number of motorbikes running during the Eid rush this year was unprecedented although long journey by two-wheelers is very risky.

At least 51.42 percent victims of the motorcycle accidents were aged between 14 and 20, it said.

EXPERT'S VIEWS
Speaking at the Jatri Kalyan Samity's programme, Prof Hadiuzzaman, director

of the Buet's Accident Research Institute, said the rise in the number of motorbikes and crashes are directly linked.

The government's wrong policy led to the sharp rise in the number of motorbikes and this has now appeared like a cancer, the expert said.

He said the country would be in a dire situation if the number of bikes were not controlled or if the government allowed motorbikes with higher engine capacities to operate. Currently, motorcycles with an engine capacity of up to 165cc are allowed to operate in the country.

Cops should be more careful

FROM PAGE 12
their profession as well as protecting human rights of the citizens along with other rights enshrined in the constitution," the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court said in the verdict.

The 10-page full text of the verdict was released on Wednesday.

A three-member bench of the Appellate Division, headed by Justice Md Nuruzzaman, delivered a short verdict on April 6 this year following an appeal filed in 2004 by two then cops of the Tejgaon Police Station, including OC Abdul Gaffar, challenging a High Court verdict.

The HC on June 25, 2001 announced the verdict following a writ petition filed by one Mohammad Ali challenging the legality of the action of the police personnel who harassed the petitioner's family members.

In the verdict, the HC directed the police personnel to give Tk5,000 as token compensation to the writ petitioner, Ali's lawyer Shah Monjurul Hoque told The Daily Star.

The Appellate Division in the full text of its verdict exonerated the police personnel from paying the compensation money, but made the observation about the police's duty.

According to the full

text of the SC verdict, one Md Ashfaq Hussain and his niece Mina Mallik came to Bangladesh from India on November 14, 1994 to attend the wedding reception of the petitioner's daughter in Dhaka.

Ashfaq stayed in the house of his brother-in-law Dr Muhammad Yunus of Grameen Bank and Mina became the house guest of the petitioner.

On November 17, 1994, Mina along with Ashfaq went out to see the city taking some apples with a fruit knife in her bag.

The writ petitioner's wife and his family came to know that Ashfaq and Mina were arrested when

the police personnel, including some constables, forcibly entered the petitioner's house at 10:00pm on November 17 and conducted a search without any warrant. They found nothing incriminating.

Still police members entered and searched the petitioner's house on November 18, 19 and 20 in 2004 during odd hours after midnight. On November 19 that year, cops took away Mina's bag without giving any receipt or preparing any seizure list, but left her suitcase locked and also harassed them at different times, according to the full text of the verdict.

Later, Nipu, who had no formal training in mushroom farming, went to Khagrachhari but couldn't obtain any training from there. But that couldn't stop her. She then decided to meet Babul in Magura. Last year, she took a short training from Babul and started mushroom cultivation by taking Tk 3 lakh (USD 3462) from her husband. During the early 90s, I did a documentary on renowned mushroom farmer Jahangir on Bangladesh Television's Mati O Manush (Soil & People) programme. Back then, Jahangir was also very young and enthusiastic, like Nipu. Among numerous mushroom

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.



Russia ‘most direct threat to world order’: EU

AFP, Tokyo

Top European officials yesterday warned that Russia poses the “most direct threat” to world order and urged China to play a more constructive role on the international stage as they held talks in Tokyo.

European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen and European Council President Charles Michel are in Japan for talks that have touched on Russia’s invasion of Ukraine but also growing concerns about China’s role in Asia and beyond.

Russia “is today the most direct threat to the world order with the barbaric war against Ukraine, and its worrying pact with China,” von der Leyen said after talks with Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida.

The annual summit comes with much of the international community rallying to pressure Moscow over Ukraine.

Palestinians honour slain Al Jazeera journo
Reject joint probe with Israel

AGENCIES

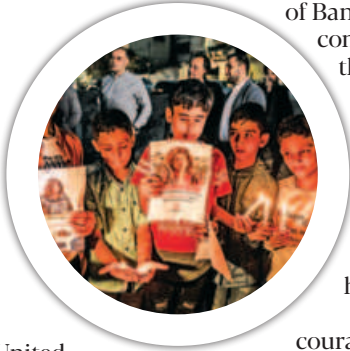
Thousands of Palestinians yesterday honoured Al Jazeera journalist Shireen Abu Akleh at a memorial service in the occupied West Bank, a day after she was shot dead during an Israeli army raid.

Israel and the Palestinians have traded blame over the killing of Palestinian-American Abu Akleh, 51, a veteran of the Qatar-based network’s Arabic service, during clashes in the Jenin refugee camp.

The United States, European Union and United Nations have backed calls for a full investigation into what Al Jazeera labelled a deliberate killing “in cold blood”, but the Palestinian Authority has rejected holding a joint probe with Israel.

Arab countries at the United Nations on Wednesday called for an independent, international probe.

In a sign of Shireen’s stature among Palestinians, she received what was described as a full state memorial at the Ramallah compound of president Mahmud



Abbas, attended by foreign diplomats and prominent Arab Israeli politicians.

PALESTINIAN EMBASSY IN DHAKA CONDEMNS KILLING

The embassy of the State of Palestine to the People’s Republic of Bangladesh yesterday condemned the killing of the veteran journalist in the strongest terms.

In a press release, the embassy said Israeli occupying forces deliberately shot Shireen in the head.

For decades, Shireen courageously and persistently exposed Israel’s crimes against the Palestinian people with her fearless reporting, it said.

The press release added that the assassination of Shireen is part of a well-documented and widely acknowledged war and a clear attempt to intimidate Palestinian journalists and a flagrant attack on the freedom of expression.

Yousef Ramadan, ambassador of Palestine to Bangladesh, condemned the killing, calling Shireen a symbol of courage and an icon of sacrifice.



A man queue up to buy kerosine for domestic use at a supply station after authorities relaxed the ongoing curfew for a few hours in Colombo, Sri Lanka, yesterday.

PHOTO: AFP

Give us a grandchild or pay \$650,000

AFP, Dehradun

An Indian couple are taking their son to court demanding that he and his wife produce either a grandchild within a year or cough up almost \$650,000. Sanjeev and Sadhana Prasad say that they exhausted their savings raising and educating their pilot son and paying for a lavish wedding. Now they want payback. “My son has been married for six years but they are still not planning a baby. At least if we have a grandchild to spend time with, our pain will become bearable,” the couple said in their petition filed with a court in Haridwar last week. The compensation they are demanding – 50 million rupees – includes the cost of a wedding reception in a five-star hotel, a luxury car worth \$80,000 and paying for the couple’s honeymoon abroad, the Times of India reported Thursday. The parents also forked out \$65,000 to get their son trained as a pilot in the United States only for him to return to India unemployed, the paper said.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

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Memo No. 35.01.2690.175.002.000.22-1204

Dated: 12/05/2022

e-Tender Notice

This is to notify all concern that the following tender have published through e-GP Portal.

Tender ID, Package No. & date of publishing	Name of work	Last selling and closing date & time
Tender ID: 696745 Package No.: 02/e-GP(Dev)/SE/DRC/2021-2022 Publishing: 12th May 2022	Surfacing by DBS Wearing Course and DBST work on Existing Pavement with other ancillary works at different portion of ch: 28+320 to ch: 70+211 (Except the area of 4 lane/Dedicated Service Lane and Bus Bay) of Dhaka (Mirpur)-Utholi-Natakhola-Kashinathpur-Bogra-Rangpur-Beldanga-Banglabandha (N-5) under Manikganj Road Division during the year 2021-2022 (WP-12).	12-June 2022; 17:00:00 13-June 2022; 12:00:00

The interested persons/firms may visit the website: www.eprocure.gov.bd to get the details of the tender. 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 Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required. Further information and guideline are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

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GD-954

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার

স্থানীয় সরকার প্রকৌশল অধিদপ্তর
নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলীর কার্যালয়
ফরিদপুর
www.lged.gov.bd

Memo No. 46.02.2900.000.07.001.21.1698

Date: 11-05-2022

e-Tender Notice No. 61/2021-22 (OTM)

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

Sl. No.	Tender ID No.	Package No.	Name of work
01.	694659	CW-07/RCIP/FRD	1. Improvement of Chandpur GC-Kalinagar GC Road via Chittar Bazar & Dadpur UP, Moyendia Bazar up to Vatiapara-Maoua R&H. (Boalmari portion) at ch. 00-6000m & 16500-20500m=9669.00 under Boalmari Upazila, Faridpur. (ID-329182002) 2. Improvement of Kanaipur R&H to Chandpur GC Vaikoshagopalpur road. (Sadar part) at ch. 00-2250m under Sadar Upazila, Faridpur. (ID-329472003) 3. Improvement of Maligram (R&H)-Kalamirdha GC Road from at ch. 00-9670m under Bhanga Upazila, Faridpur. (ID-329102001) 4. Improvement of Krishnapur GC-Sadarpur HQ-Piazkhali GC-Dhewkhali-Baliahati GC-Kawlibera-Tarail road (Sadarpur part) from at ch. 11000-24525m under Sadarpur Upazila, Faridpur. (ID-329842002) 5. Improvement of Boalmari GC-Nagarkanda GC via GC via Moyendia bazar ch. 00-2850m & 3550-6934m= 6966.60m under Boalmari Upazila, Faridpur. (ID-329182001) 6. Improvement of Bakunda R&H to Kanaipur GC via Tambulkhana Road at ch. 00+9025m Under Sadar Upazila, Faridpur. (ID-329472014) 7. Improvement of Madhukhali RHD-Nimtola GC Road Starting from Madhu. Bus Stand at ch.00m-8100m under Madhukhali Upazila, Faridpur. (ID-329562002) (Salvage Cost-10,47,548.00 tk).

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

To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required. The fees for downloading the e-Tender documents from the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through any registered banks branches up to 4.00pm on 19-06-2022, last submission time up to 12.30pm on 20-06-2022. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

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GD-953

বাংলাদেশ কেমিক্যাল ইন্ডাস্ট্রিজ কর্পোরেশন

BANGLADESH CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES CORPORATION

BCIC BHABAN, 30-31, DILKUSHA C/A, DHAKA-1000, BANGLADESH

PHONE-PABX: 9562140-4, FAX: 880-2-9564120; Web: www.bcic.gov.bd

সূত্র নং-৩৬.০১.০০০০.১২৬.১১.৪০১.২২/১৪৮

নিয়োগ বিজ্ঞপ্তি

শিল্প মন্ত্রণালয়ের অধীনস্থ বাংলাদেশ কেমিক্যাল ইন্ডাস্ট্রিজ কর্পোরেশন-এর নিয়ন্ত্রণাধীন কারখানাসমূহে নিয়োগের জন্য বাংলাদেশের স্থায়ী নাগরিকদের নিকট হতে নিম্নোক্ত শূন্যপদ সমূহে উপযুক্ত প্রার্থীদেরকে অনলাইনে আবেদন ফরম পূরণ করার আহ্বান করা হচ্ছেঃ

ক্রম নং	পদের নাম	পদ সংখ্যা	গ্রেড	বেতন স্কেল	বয়সসীমা (বছর)	আবেদনের শিক্ষাপত্র যোগ্যতা ও অভিজ্ঞতা
১	২	৩	৪	৫	৬	৭
০১।	মহাব্যবস্থাপক (অপারেশন)	০৩	৩য়	৫৬৫০০-৭৪৪০০/-	৪৫ বৎসর (বিশেষ অভিজ্ঞতা সম্পন্ন প্রার্থীদের ক্ষেত্রে ৫০ বৎসর পর্যন্ত শিথিলযোগ্য)	১৫ বৎসরের অভিজ্ঞতাসহ কেমিক্যাল বিষয়ে বিএসসি ইঞ্জিনিয়ারিং অথবা ২০ বৎসরের অভিজ্ঞতাসহ কেমিক্যাল বিষয়ে ডিপ্লোমা ইঞ্জিনিয়ারিং। অথবা ১৫ বৎসরের অভিজ্ঞতাসহ রসায়নে স্নাতকোত্তর অথবা ২০ বছরের অভিজ্ঞতাসহ বিজ্ঞানে স্নাতক ডিগ্রী।
০২।	অতিরিক্ত প্রধান রসায়নবিদ	০৮	৪র্থ	৫০০০০-৭১২০০/-	৪০ বৎসর (বিশেষ অভিজ্ঞতা সম্পন্ন প্রার্থীদের ক্ষেত্রে ৪৫ বৎসর পর্যন্ত শিথিলযোগ্য)	১২ বৎসরের অভিজ্ঞতাসহ রসায়নে স্নাতকোত্তর অথবা ১৭ বছরের অভিজ্ঞতাসহ বিজ্ঞানে স্নাতক ডিগ্রী।
০৩।	অতিরিক্ত প্রধান প্রকৌশলী (রসায়ন)	০৮	৪র্থ	৫০০০০-৭১২০০/-	এ	১২ বৎসরের অভিজ্ঞতাসহ কেমিক্যাল বিষয়ে বিএসসি ইঞ্জিনিয়ারিং অথবা ১৭ বৎসরের অভিজ্ঞতাসহ কেমিক্যাল বিষয়ে ডিপ্লোমা ইঞ্জিনিয়ারিং।
০৪।	উপ-প্রধান প্রকৌশলী (রসায়ন)	০৪	৫ম	৪৩০০০-৬৯৮৫০/-	৩৭ বৎসর (বিশেষ অভিজ্ঞতা সম্পন্ন প্রার্থীদের ক্ষেত্রে ৪২ বৎসর পর্যন্ত শিথিলযোগ্য)	০৮ বৎসরের অভিজ্ঞতাসহ রসায়নে স্নাতকোত্তর অথবা ১২ বছরের অভিজ্ঞতাসহ বিএসসি ডিগ্রী।
০৫।	উপ-প্রধান প্রকৌশলী (রসায়ন)	০৪	৫ম	৪৩০০০-৬৯৮৫০/-	এ	০৮ বৎসরের অভিজ্ঞতাসহ কেমিক্যাল বিষয়ে বিএসসি ইঞ্জিনিয়ারিং অথবা ১০ বৎসরের অভিজ্ঞতাসহ কেমিক্যাল বিষয়ে ডিপ্লোমা ইঞ্জিনিয়ারিং।
০৬।	রসায়নবিদ	১৫	৬ষ্ঠ	৩৫৫০০-৬৭০১০/-	৩২ বৎসর (বিশেষ অভিজ্ঞতা সম্পন্ন প্রার্থীদের ক্ষেত্রে ৩৭ বৎসর পর্যন্ত শিথিলযোগ্য)	০৫ বৎসরের অভিজ্ঞতাসহ রসায়নে স্নাতকোত্তর অথবা ১০ বছরের অভিজ্ঞতাসহ বিএসসি ডিগ্রী।
০৭।	নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলী (রসায়ন)	১৫	৬ষ্ঠ	৩৫৫০০-৬৭০১০/-	এ	০৫ বৎসরের অভিজ্ঞতাসহ কেমিক্যাল বিষয়ে বিএসসি ইঞ্জিনিয়ারিং অথবা ১০ বৎসরের অভিজ্ঞতাসহ কেমিক্যাল বিষয়ে ডিপ্লোমা ইঞ্জিনিয়ারিং।

বিশেষ দৃষ্টব্যঃ বর্ণিত পদগুলোতে আবেদনের ক্ষেত্রে শিক্ষা জীবনের কোন ক্ষরে ৩য় বিভাগ/শ্রেণী গ্রহণযোগ্য নয়।

শিক্ষাপত্র যোগ্যতা নির্ধারণঃ

শিক্ষা মন্ত্রণালয়ের ০২/০৩/২০১০খ্রিঃ তারিখের প্রজ্ঞাপন নং শিম/শাঃ১১/১৯-১/২০০৭/১৭৪ অনুযায়ী এসএসসি বা সমমান এবং এইচএসসি বা সমমান পরীক্ষার ফলাফলের ক্ষেত্রে বর্তমানে প্রচলিত জিপিএ বা সিজিপিএ এর বিপরীতে পূর্বের ১ম, ২য় ও ৩য় বিভাগ/শ্রেণী নির্ধারিত হবে নিম্নরূপভাবেঃ

৫.০০ পয়েন্ট স্কেলে	সমতুল্য শ্রেণি/বিভাগ
৩.০০ বা তদুর্ধ্ব	প্রথম শ্রেণি/ বিভাগ
২.০০ বা তদুর্ধ্ব কিন্তু ৩.০০ এর কম	দ্বিতীয় শ্রেণি/ বিভাগ
১.০০ বা তদুর্ধ্ব কিন্তু ২.০০ এর কম	তৃতীয় শ্রেণি/ বিভাগ

শিক্ষা মন্ত্রণালয়ের ০২/০৩/২০০৯খ্রিঃ তারিখের প্রজ্ঞাপন নং শিম/শাঃ১১/১৫-১(অংশ)/৫৮২ অনুযায়ী অনুমোদিত বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় কর্তৃক প্রদত্ত সিজিপিএ এর ক্ষেত্রে বর্তমানে প্রচলিত জিপিএ বা সিজিপিএ এর বিপরীতে পূর্বের ১ম, ২য় ও ৩য় বিভাগ/শ্রেণী নির্ধারিত হবে নিম্নরূপভাবেঃ

অর্জিত সিজিপিএ		
৪.০০ পয়েন্ট স্কেলে	৫.০০ পয়েন্ট স্কেলে	সমতুল্য শ্রেণি/বিভাগ
৩.০০ বা তদুর্ধ্ব	৩.৭৫ বা তদুর্ধ্ব	প্রথম শ্রেণি/ বিভাগ
২.২৫ বা তদুর্ধ্ব কিন্তু ৩.০০ এর কম	২.৮১৩ বা তদুর্ধ্ব কিন্তু ৩.৭৫ এর কম	দ্বিতীয় শ্রেণি/ বিভাগ
১.৬৫ বা তদুর্ধ্ব কিন্তু ২.২৫ এর কম	২.০৬৩ বা তদুর্ধ্ব কিন্তু ২.৮১৩ এর কম	তৃতীয় শ্রেণি/ বিভাগ

অনলাইনে আবেদন ফরম পূরণের ক্ষেত্রে এবং পরীক্ষার অংশগ্রহণের ক্ষেত্রে নিম্নবর্ণিত শর্তগুলি অব্যাহত রাখতে অনুরোধ করা হয়ঃ

- আগামী ১৯ মে, ২০২২খ্রিঃ তারিখ বেলা ১২.০০ ঘটিকা থেকে অনলাইনে নিয়মাবলী অনুসরণ করে আবেদন ফরম পূরণ করা যাবে। নিয়মাবলী অনুসরণ করে পরীক্ষার ফি বাবদ ১০০০ (এক হাজার) টাকা SMS এর মাধ্যমে পাঠাতে হবে। আবেদনপত্র পূরণ সংক্রান্ত শর্তাবলি ও নিয়মাবলী বিসিআইসি'র নিজস্ব ওয়েবসাইট www.bcic.gov.bd এবং <http://bcic.teletalk.com.bd> এ পাওয়া যাবে। অনলাইনে আবেদনপত্র পূরণের শেষ তারিখ ০৭ জুন, ২০২২খ্রিঃ তারিখ রাত ১২:০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত।
- ১৯ মে, ২০২২খ্রিঃ তারিখে ১ হতে ৭নং ক্রমিকের পদের জন্য ৬ নং কলামে উল্লেখিত বয়সসীমা প্রযোজ্য হবে। বয়স প্রমাণের জন্য এসএসসি/সমমান সনদের জন্য তারিখ গণ্য করা হবে। বয়সের ক্ষেত্রে কোন প্রকার একিভেটিট গ্রহণযোগ্য হবে না।
- লিখিত, মৌখিক পরীক্ষার অংশগ্রহণ এবং চূড়ান্ত নির্বাচিত প্রার্থীদের চাকুরীতে প্রথম যোগদান পর্যন্ত কোন প্রকার টিএ/ডিএ প্রদান করা হবে না।
- নিয়োগের ক্ষেত্রে বিসিআইসি প্রবিধানমালা এবং সরকারের বিদ্যমান ও পরিবর্তিত ক্ষেত্রে প্রযোজ্য বিধি বিধান অনুসরণ করা হবে।
- যদি কোন প্রার্থী বিদেশী নাগরিক বিবাহ করে থাকেন অথবা বিবাহ করার জন্য অস্বীকারবদ্ধ হয়ে থাকেন, সেক্ষেত্রে তার আবেদন করার প্রয়োজন নেই।
- এই নিয়োগ ও নিয়োগ বিজ্ঞপ্তি সম্পর্কিত যে কোন সংশোধন, সংযোজন (যদি থাকে) বিসিআইসি'র নিজস্ব ওয়েবসাইট www.bcic.gov.bd এ পাওয়া যাবে। আবেদনের সময় হ্রাস/বৃদ্ধি সংক্রান্ত বিজ্ঞপ্তি, লিখিত পরীক্ষার ফলাফল, মৌখিক পরীক্ষার সিডিড, চূড়ান্ত ফলাফল, নিয়োগপত্র সহ সকল তথ্য www.bcic.gov.bd এ প্রকাশ করা হবে।

লিখিত পরীক্ষার উত্তীর্ণ প্রার্থীদের মৌখিক পরীক্ষার জন্য করণীয়ঃ

- লিখিত পরীক্ষার উত্তীর্ণ ও মৌখিক পরীক্ষার জন্য নির্বাচিত প্রার্থীদের লিখিত পরীক্ষার ফলাফল প্রকাশের পর ১০ কর্মদিবসের মধ্যে নিয়োগ ও প্রশিক্ষণ উপ-বিভাগ, বিসিআইসি, বিসিআইসি ভবন (৬ষ্ঠ তলা), ৩০-৩১, দিলকুশা বা এলাকা, ঢাকা-১০০০ ব্যবহারে সরাসরি/ রেজিস্টার্ড ডাকযোগে নিম্নোক্ত কাগজপত্র ও সনদসমূহ ২ (দুই) সেট জমা দিতে হবে।
১. বামের উপরে ও আবেদনপত্রে পদের নাম স্পষ্টভাবে উল্লেখ করতে হবে। সরকার কর্তৃক নির্ধারিত চাকুরীর আবেদন ফরম এর অনুরূপ তথ্য ফরম পূরণ করে এর সাথে (ক) অনলাইনে পূরণকৃত আবেদনপত্রের Applicant Copy এর প্রিন্ট কপি (খ) প্রবেশপত্র (গ) আবেদনে উল্লিখিত সকল সনদ/কাগজাদি (ঘ) সদ্যতোলা চার কপি পাসপোর্ট সাইজের ছবি (ঙ) নিজ জেলার পৌর মেয়র/ইউনিয়ন পরিষদ চেয়ারম্যান কর্তৃক প্রদত্ত নাগরিকত্ব সনদপত্র অথবা জাতীয় পরিচয়পত্রের ফটোকপি (চ) চারিত্রিক সনদপত্র ও (ছ) অভিজ্ঞতার সনদ জমা দিতে হবে। ছবিসহ সকল ডকুমেন্ট প্রথম শ্রেণির গেজেটেড কর্মকর্তা কর্তৃক সত্যায়িত হতে হবে।
- যে সকল প্রার্থী বিদেশ হতে ইঞ্জিনিয়ারিং/স্নাতক/স্নাতকোত্তর ডিগ্রি অথবা প্রযোজ্য ক্ষেত্রে যে কোন ডিগ্রি অর্জন করেছেন তাদের বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় মঞ্জুরী কমিশন/শিক্ষা মন্ত্রণালয় হতে ইকুইভ্যালেন্স সংক্রান্ত যথাযথ প্রত্যয়নপত্র অবশ্যই দাখিল করতে হবে।
- সরকারি, আধা-সরকারি ও স্বায়ত্তশাসিত প্রতিষ্ঠানে চাকুরীর প্রার্থীগণকে যথাযথ কর্তৃপক্ষের মাধ্যমে আবেদন গ্রহণ করতে হবে এবং মৌখিক পরীক্ষার সময় অবশ্যই যথাযথ কর্তৃপক্ষের নো অবজেকশন সার্টিফিকেট(এনওসি)/অনাপত্তিকর দাখিল করতে হবে। এতদ্বিধা পূর্বের চাকুরীস্থলের আপত্তি পাওয়া গেলে প্রার্থীর নিয়োগ সরাসরি বাতিল বলে গণ্য হবে।
- চূড়ান্তভাবে নির্বাচিত এবং নিয়োগপ্রাপ্ত কর্মকর্তাদের পোস্টিংকৃত কর্মস্থলে ন্যূনতম ০৩ (তিন) বছর চাকুরী করতে হবে।
- চূড়ান্ত মনোনীত প্রার্থীদের ক্ষেত্রে পরবর্তীকালে কোন সময়ে কোন যোগ্যতার বা কাগজপত্রাদির ঘাটতি ধরা পড়লে, দুর্নীতি, সনদ জালিয়াতির প্রমাণ পাওয়া গেলে, পুলিশ ভেরিফিকেশন-এ বিরূপ কোন মন্তব্য পাওয়া গেলে, স্বাস্থ্যগত অযোগ্যতার প্রমাণ পাওয়া গেলে, অপত্য তথ্য প্রদান করলে বা যে কোন গুরুতর জুলুমটি পরিলক্ষিত হলে উক্ত প্রার্থীর নিয়োগ সরাসরি বাতিল বলে গণ্য হবে। এছাড়া ক্ষেত্র বিশেষে সংশ্লিষ্ট প্রার্থীকে ফৌজদারি আইনে মোপার্দ করা যাবে। চাকুরিতে নিয়োগের পর এরূপ কোন তথ্য প্রকাশ বা প্রমাণিত হলে তাকে চাকুরি হতে বিসিআইসি প্রবিধানমালা ৫৪ (২) অনুযায়ী বরখাস্ত করা হাড়াও তার বিকল্পে যে কোন উপযুক্ত আইনানুগ ব্যবস্থা গ্রহণ করা যাবে।
- যে কোন প্রকার সুপারিশ প্রার্থীর অযোগ্যতা হিসেবে বিবেচিত হবে এবং এরূপ ক্ষেত্রে নিয়োগ প্রক্রিয়া চলাকালীন যে কোন পর্যায়ে চাকুরীতে আবেদনকারীর প্রার্থীতা সরাসরি বাতিল বলে গণ্য হবে।
- কর্তৃপক্ষ নিয়োগের যেকোন পর্যায়ে পদের সংখ্যা হ্রাস/বৃদ্ধি/বাতিল করার অধিকার সংরক্ষণ করেন। নিয়োগ পরীক্ষা ও নিয়োগ সংক্রান্ত যে কোন বিষয়ে নিয়োগকারী কর্তৃপক্ষের সিদ্ধান্ত চূড়ান্ত বলে গণ্য হবে।

৩১.৫.২০২২

করিমুদ্দিন

বিসিআইসি-৪৪৮, তাং-১১.৫.২২ (১৫'০'x৪)
জিডি-৯৪৯

উপ-মহাব্যবস্থাপক (প্রশাসন)
চিফ অব পার্সোনেল এর পক্ষে

When power plants power up corruption

Graft involving land acquisition must be investigated

WE'RE disturbed by the carte blanche being offered to those involved with power plants—who, on Thursday, again made headlines in connection with massive corruption involving land acquisition for three coal-fired power plants. The Transparency International Bangladesh (TIB) made the disclosure while unveiling the findings of a study it conducted between February and April this year. As per the anti-graft watchdog, a total of Tk 390 crore was embezzled while acquiring land for these projects—namely the 1,320MW Banshkhali Power Plant in Chattogram, the 600MW Matarbari Power Plant in Cox's Bazar, and the 350MW Barishal Power Plant. And all the usual suspects were there to profit off of it: unscrupulous public representatives, state officials, and the middlemen.

This may be just another case of corruption, but there are important insights to be drawn from here: that corruption continues to be the last word in our notoriously ill-managed energy sector. You see its all-encompassing effects in how environmentally harmful coal power continues to be embraced, despite pledges of renewable energy by the government; in how the corrupt individuals are never held accountable; and in how the same broken system is put to use without question again and again.

The TIB made several other revelations about how the alleged corruption occurred. It said that the money was embezzled in various ways, such as by collecting “commission” from compensations, payment for purchases, grants, and by grabbing land without paying the owners. Also, fake title deeds of government land were made so as to sell the land back to the government. There were instances of excess land acquisition, too. Whereas neighbouring countries reportedly require an average 0.23 acres for every megawatt generated by burning coal—and 0.053 acres in case of LNG—a total of 942 acres of additional land has been purchased or acquired for the three projects surveyed by the TIB. For example, the plant in Barishal should have needed 81 acres, but 310 acres were acquired. In Banshkhali, 660 acres were acquired against a requirement of 304 acres, and in Matarbari, 1,358 acres were acquired against a need of 418 acres. The price of the power produced in these plants was also higher than that of plants in India, China, Pakistan, and Australia.

All this is a sign of a dysfunctional sector that continues to undertake poorly planned and executed projects that hardly benefit the public but grossly and unfairly reward those behind them, making them so hard to dispense with. We urge the government to investigate the allegations brought by the TIB and punish those involved with the three projects, and also formulate a master plan to put the sector on a renewable trajectory for the nation's greater interests.

Is there no end to Israel's impunity?

Deliberate shooting of journalist is deeply disturbing

WE are outraged by the murder of Al Jazeera journalist Shireen Abu Akleh by Israeli forces in the occupied West Bank on May 11. Abu Akleh was covering an Israeli raid in the city of Jenin early in the morning, wearing a press vest and helmet, when she was shot in the face. Though, initially, the Israeli army did not miss a beat before claiming it was Palestinian gunmen who had killed the veteran reporter, the military chief has now backtracked to say that it is “unclear who fired the shot.” Our outrage and condemnation towards this event are on two counts: For the deliberate execution of a fellow journalist, and for Israel's continued occupation and violence in Palestine.

Journalists present when Abu Akleh was shot have reportedly confirmed that it was indeed Israeli forces who were responsible for her death. This is despite Abu Akleh and her team donning flak vests clearly marked “Press” and also making themselves known to Israeli forces in the area. While the cruel and indiscriminate violence against Palestinians is perpetual, the nature of this particular killing—that is, to shoot in the face of a journalist on the job who was wearing a press vest and helmet—truly encapsulates the extent of Israel's determination to block any news that attempts to tell the Palestinian side of the story.

The recent Russia-Ukraine war has also shed new light on the Israeli occupation of Palestine. The global outpouring of support and sympathy for Ukrainian refugees and victims of war is commendable and well-deserved. But we must wonder, for the umpteenth time, why even a fraction of the same has not been offered to the Palestinian people, who have been going through hell at the hands of Israeli forces for over five decades? Where are the open arms and supportive coverage for them? That race and religion play crucial roles in this discrimination, specifically by the West, is undeniable. Yet, Israeli violence in Palestine continues, as does the US military aid to the occupying state.

All we can now hope for is that Shireen Abu Akleh's death does not get lost in the crowd of the thousands of Palestinian killings before hers. An independent and unbiased investigation must be conducted to find out the exact circumstances of the murder. The fact that the Israeli forces can shoot dead a working journalist in broad daylight gives us an inkling of just how strongly backed the state is by the West. We continue to demand for the international community and human rights bodies to take off their blindfolds and rise to action in order to put an end to Israel's aggression towards the Palestinian people.

Don't normalise living in fear



Zillur Rahman is the executive director of the Centre for Governance Studies (CGS) and a television talk show host. His Twitter handle is @zillur

ZILLUR RAHMAN

BANGLADESH is a nation that is being carried almost entirely by the labour of its underprivileged and uneducated people, who slave away at garment factories and toil abroad to send back remittances. However, due to fundamental flaws in democracy and the rule of law, and corruption, all the power in Bangladesh rests in the hands of the top one percent. Furthermore, the government has failed to protect the average citizen's rights as enshrined in the constitution. In fact, it seems to have set out to actively undermine the freedoms of expression and the press. As the next general election draws closer, we are seeing the authorities step up their attempts to ascertain dominance over public discourse.

It is important to understand that while online expression is recognised under the constitution, it is mostly unprotected in reality. Article 39 (1) of Chapter 2 of the constitution recognises the freedoms of thought, conscience and expression as basic rights, and online expression has historically been deemed within the scope of this article. However, some existing and pending pieces of legislation undercut these rights, and internet users now regularly risk criminal consequences for exercising their right to express freely, as guaranteed by international human rights standards. These laws include the Digital Security Act, 2018 (DSA) as well as the proposed laws such as the BTRC Regulation for Digital, Social Media and OTT Platforms, 2021, the Data Protection Act, 2022, and the Mass Media Employees (Conditions of Services) Bill, 2022.

The way the government is utilising these laws to curb expression is straightforward. The DSA's wording is remarkably vague and open to interpretation. And under the proposed laws, any content or anything that undermines the spirit of the Liberation War, offends religious sensibilities, jeopardises communal harmony, or is against national culture and social values have been prohibited. But there is no definition of what the spirit of the Liberation War means. And who decides the national culture and social values?

The implementation of punitive measures under these laws is also absurdly wide-ranging. No arrest warrant is required, and any person can claim DSA violation against any other person, who will subsequently be detained without trial. The system has been designed to facilitate an Orwellian dystopia where

citizens turn against citizens and keep themselves in line, as a Big Brother government watches everything from above.

Given the information we have about these laws and the government's use of them, the prognosis is bleak. Looking at all major worldwide indices that track people's freedom of expression in democracies, we will find Bangladesh

Dr Ali Riaz, a distinguished professor at Illinois State University and the lead investigator in the DSA tracker project, presented some key figures from CGS's research in a recent webinar. The study's most shocking finding was that members of the ruling party were using the DSA to target journalists and political opponents. According to the research, 30.98 percent of those charged are politicians, and more



VISUAL: ANWAR SOHEL

Given the information we have about these laws and the government's use of them, the prognosis is bleak. Looking at all major worldwide indices that track people's freedom of expression in democracies, we will find Bangladesh consistently falling well behind.

consistently falling well behind. All due to the propagation of these laws.

In 2021's Reporters Without Borders (RSF) World Press Freedom Index, Bangladesh has dropped ten places. According to the research, Bangladesh's status is now worse than that of Pakistan and Sri Lanka. Bangladesh is ranked 162nd out of 180 nations, from 152nd last year. The report also stated that the country was one of 28 globally that witnessed “extremely serious” press freedom breaches in 2021.

According to the Net Freedom index 2021, provided by Freedom House, internet freedom in Bangladesh hit an all-time low as the authorities continued to arrest users under the DSA. Self-censorship remains in the face of accusations of torture, brief abductions, and death/torture in custody.

Bangladesh's own Centre for Governance Studies (CGS) has been conducting extensive research on the country's media and press freedom situation under the DSA. According to different media reports, more than 1,500 cases have been filed under the DSA from January 1, 2020 to March 2021. Meanwhile, 925 cases were filed in 2018, 1,189 cases in 2019, and 1,128 cases in 2020. CGS has been able to track 890 cases with detailed information from January 2020 to February 2022, and conducted research where it analysed the cases. All findings under the DSA tracker project are available for people to see at our website freedominfo.net.

than a quarter are journalists. According to the figures, 207 journalists have been charged in the last 26 months.

Prof Ali Riaz determined from the data that such laws were increasingly being used to muzzle journalists and opposition politicians. If this approach continues, a culture of fear and self-censorship will emerge, in which individuals will cease expressing their views and opinions online as well as in books and news articles. Instead of civil discourse, there will only be state propaganda.

Given all this, an unbiased observer could never say that Bangladesh is a nation run by the people, for the people. If we look at the wording of the law, we see clearly that the will of the nation-state supersedes the will of the individuals. Some people may think that these sacrifices in civil liberties and fundamental rights are par for the course on the road to national development. Perhaps they go to bed at night with the naive notion that civil liberties and democratic values will be restored after some arbitrary point of development has been reached. However, if we were to ponder the topic seriously, we must ask ourselves: Why would any government ever give away such power? Power, once given, is almost impossible to take back. If the people and civil society remain dormant while the government takes all power in controlling public discourse, no election promises will ever return the power to the people.

Time for a fresh look at the UN



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ABU WAHEEDUZZAMAN

ON April 24, US Secretary of State Antony Blinken and Defence Secretary Lloyd Austin visited Ukraine to discuss military aid with President Volodymyr Zelenskyy. So far, the US has committed USD 3.7 billion in civilian and military aid. On April 28, US President Joe Biden called on Congress to provide USD 33 billion (one-fifth of Ukraine's GDP) in additional security, economic and humanitarian assistance for Ukraine.

In Ukraine, eight million people (about one-sixth of the population) have been displaced, of whom 5.7 million are refugees. World food production is declining, fuel and food prices are increasing, and the inflationary pressure is high. The Russia-Ukraine war has put pressure on an already stressed supply chain. Both the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) project lower global economic growth due to the war.

The superpower contest in Ukraine is overtly visible. Russian President Vladimir Putin is not backing down, and Secretary Blinken stated that the US wanted to see Russia “weakened” in this war. On May 3, Pope Francis said that the “barking of Nato at the door of Russia” might have led to the invasion of Ukraine, and that he did not know whether other countries should supply Ukraine with more arms. UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres' plea to stop the war has not worked. The United

At 77, the UN remains a “superpower and friends” club. It has fallen behind in inclusivity, participation, and power-sharing. Its hegemonic arrangement with veto power is not compatible with the current economic and political realities of the world.

Nations is helplessly doing the body count and taking care of the displaced population.

During the Korean War (1950-53) and the Cuban Missile Crisis (1962), we saw similar confrontations between superpowers. The UN could not stop the war in Vietnam. It could do little for the two Afghan wars; wars in Chechnya and Georgia; wars in the Gulf, Iraq, Syria, Libya, and Yemen; and most proxy wars. The superpowers contested or ignored these wars as per their national interest.

The League of Nations lasted only 13 years. Established in 1920, it lost its impetus when Japan and Germany, both superpowers at that time, left in 1933. Soviet Union's joining in 1934 could not save it. The US supported the establishment of the League, but never joined the organisation because of its isolationist policy.

Today's United Nations (UN) is an outcome of the conferences that took place among the Big Three (US, UK, and the Soviet Union) in Tehran (November 1943) and Yalta/Crimea (February 1945), and Potsdam (July 1945). The big powers established a system of global governance for peace and stability under the auspices of the UN and its umbrella organisations, including the IMF, the World Trade Organization (WTO), and the World Bank.

By and large, national interests of most member countries are served by the current UN system. Consistently, the UN has received favourable ratings in Pew Research polls. But at 77, the organisation remains a “superpower and friends” club. It has fallen behind in inclusivity, participation, and power-sharing. Its hegemonic arrangement with veto power is not compatible with the current economic and political realities.

Both Germany and Japan exert more economic power than France and the UK.

Brazil, India, Indonesia, and South Africa can contest the superpowers in terms of GDP and population. Various proposals have been considered to change the veto power status, but so far, no agreement has been reached.

The IMF quota system and voting rights give more importance to the richer nations. The sanctions have brought the dollar-based monetary system to the limelight. Russia's insistence on selling gas/oil in ruble has challenged the dominance of the dollar. Increasingly, the Chinese renminbi is becoming a part of international reserves. The emerging trade and currency war is likely to complicate the situation.

About 7.9 billion people live on this planet with different economic, social, cultural, ethnolinguistic, and religious interests. Conflicts and wars are plausible. The moral purpose of the UN is defeated when the superpowers, as sponsors and guardians of the system, directly get involved in the conflicts.

It is time to take a fresh look at the UN. The organisation has its drawbacks, but it's not broken. The existing system of global governance needs reform. The economic, social, cultural, and military realities have changed significantly over the years. Empowering the UN is essential for lasting peace. The member states should be able to bring changes through honest deliberations.

European conflicts have given us two world wars. We cannot afford a third one. Demarketing the current war is urgently necessary for peace. During the Korean War and the Cuban Missile Crisis, the nonaligned nations played an active role. Peace efforts can come from them and various trade blocks. The Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) and religious organisations across the world should also come forward. We need reform for peace.

Being a non-VIP at Dhaka airport is no fun



Aasha Mehreen Amin
is joint editor at The
Daily Star.

NO STRINGS
ATTACHED

AASHA MEHREEN AMIN

THE adviser to the prime minister on private industry and investment, Salman F Rahman, recently expressed his dissatisfaction about the way our airport in Dhaka has been handling passengers, referring to allegations of staff members taking bribes and harassing them. This is music to the ears of non-VIP travellers. FINALLY, someone from the high echelons of the government has taken notice of the woes of us little people.

It may be of interest for some to want to know why, after all these years of innumerable news reports and complaints by passengers about the utter chaos that is Dhaka airport, suddenly the government has taken notice—that, too, not the civil aviation minister—and only after the prime minister instructed her adviser to pay a “surprise visit.” But let’s leave that conundrum for the time being. Instead, let’s look at a single instance of what goes on inside this airport.

At the cost of making my readers roll their eyes at another airport rant, I shall rehash a recent experience. The passengers of Singapore Airlines SQ 446 on May 8 were greeted by the usual hullabaloo after entering the immigration area. It is like a song you hate, on repeat. It is a free-for-all show with some passengers rushing to the immigration queue and others being a little hesitant as a staff member shouts, “Shobar health form fill up korte hobe (Everyone must fill up the health form).” Health form? The only form given on the plane was the Customs Declaration Form. You see some passengers feverishly filling up forms at a counter; when you go there, you find no spare forms. You ask a staff member where you can get this precious form, and he lackadaisically pulls one out from his back pocket. Whether it is out of pity or in the hope of a little tea money, you can never tell, but are nonetheless thankful when he offers to help fill up the form. He writes down all the details of your passport, but for some reason does not even bother to ask for your Covid vaccination certificate to write down when you took your first and second doses or enquire whether you have any symptoms. Interesting. So why are we filling a health form, exactly?

Nobody knows.

You then get to the counter to submit the form in exchange for a little slip that you must present to the immigration officer. Apparently, all this could have been avoided if you had done this online. Of course, nobody will ever tell you that—not the travel agent, not the airline crew on the plane. After finally

been a change in shift of the Biman staff handling luggage, and you were part of the unlucky crowd to have arrived during the lapse between the two shifts. I feel embarrassed on behalf of my country when I look at the Korean woman looking expectantly at the carousel and feel obliged to tell her that it will be a while. During our brief encounter, she says,

this is not how we are—we are better than this; things were better before; things will get better.

Of course, I can’t, because I am no longer sure. I don’t, for instance, understand why, before the flight to Singapore on April 28, we had to wait over two hours at the gate because the Danish Crown Princess, who had been on a three-day visit, was leaving Dhaka and the security protocol required all flights to be suspended until she left—at least this is what an airport staffer told us. There were old people, people with serious medical conditions who were going to Singapore for treatment, little babies screaming in exhaustion—all waiting until the flight would be announced. I wonder if any other international airport would suspend flights and cause such delays for a foreign dignitary. I am quite sure the princess would be horrified to know such misery was caused to so many passengers on her account.

I also don’t understand why the cleaners just peripherally sweep the middle of the fairly clean floors and refuse to clean the grime plastered on the seats at the boarding gates and in the bathrooms. They are, after all, paid to do this job, right? And I don’t understand why the microphone inside the gate area is broken and not fixed, which is why the staff couldn’t tell us that we had to wait for two hours. Most importantly, I don’t understand why it feels like a battle zone every time we try to enter the airport, with no staff to bring some order to the traffic jam of vehicles trying to get into the entrance or the crowd of people waiting outside.

Mr Salman F Rahman has sternly said that if, after his visits, complaints regarding the airport continue, severe actions will be taken. If such strictness is indeed imposed on the airport staff and officials who supervise them, there may be some hope for us minions, and foreign visitors will not be resigned to just accepting poor quality service at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport.




ILLUSTRATION:
BIPLOB
CHAKROBORTY

“There is so much mismanagement!” and I tell her she should complain with no clue as to whom she can complain to. “No use complaining; we just stay silent and wait—this is how it is all the time here,” she remarks. I feel defeated and wonder what foreigners think of us when they go through this horrendous experience every time they travel. I feel like telling them:

reaching the immigration line with that precious parchment, you must wait for the immigration officer to take his sweet time to go through each passenger. On this particular day, a couple reached the counter only to be told that they could not go through until they filled out—guess what?—the health form! Being a woman with aggressive PR skills, the wife managed to convince the unsmiling immigration officer to let them go. That’s Bangalee tenacity for you!

If you thought the worst was over, think again. Another shock awaits when you sit for almost an hour with no sign of your suitcases with the characteristic yellow and green ribbons doing the rounds on the conveyer belt. You look at all the foreigners watching the carousel with resigned faces as the minutes tick by. A little bird (obviously a staff member) informs us that the reason for the more-than-usual delay is because there has

Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission			
Securities Commission Bhaban			
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Administrative Area, Dhaka-1207, Bangladesh			
বিএসসি/প্রশাসন/১৩:০৪/২০২২-৫৫৩			তারিখঃ ১২ মে, ২০২২
আউটসোর্সিং সেবা সংক্রান্ত দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি			
০১	মন্ত্রণালয়/বিভাগ	:	অর্থ মন্ত্রণালয়।
০২	সংস্থা	:	আর্থিক প্রতিষ্ঠান বিভাগ।
০৩	ক্রয়কারীর নাম	:	বাংলাদেশ সিকিউরিটিজ অ্যান্ড এক্সচেঞ্জ কমিশন, সিকিউরিটিজ কমিশন ভবন, ই-৬/সি, শেরে বাংলানগর, আগারগাঁও, ঢাকা-১২০৭, বাংলাদেশ।
০৪	বিজ্ঞপ্তির সূত্র ও তারিখ	:	বিএসসি/প্রশাসন/১৩:০৪/২০২২-৫৫৩ তারিখঃ ১২ মে, ২০২২।
০৫	দরপত্রের পদ্ধতি	:	উন্মুক্ত দরপত্র পদ্ধতি [পিপিআর-২০০৮(সর্বশেষ সংশোধনসহ)] অনুসারে পরিচালিত হবে।
০৬	অর্থের উৎস	:	নিজস্ব অর্থায়ন (বাংলাদেশ সিকিউরিটিজ অ্যান্ড এক্সচেঞ্জ কমিশন)।
০৭	দরপত্র প্যাকেজ নং	:	বিএসসি/২০২১-২২/পিএনসিএস-০০২।
০৮	দরপত্র প্যাকেজের নাম	:	“বাংলাদেশ সিকিউরিটিজ অ্যান্ড এক্সচেঞ্জ কমিশন (বিএসসি) এর জন্য আউটসোর্সিং সেবা (নিরাপত্তা গ্রহণী, মেসেজার, পরিচ্ছন্নতা কর্মী ও মালী) সরবরাহ”।
০৯	দরপত্রদাতার যোগ্যতা ও অভিজ্ঞতা	:	ক) দরপত্রদাতা প্রতিষ্ঠানের সরকারি/স্বায়ত্বশাসিত/ব্যক্তি মালিকানাধীন প্রতিষ্ঠানে আউটসোর্সিং সেবা সরবরাহে কমপক্ষে ১০ (দশ) বছরের সাধারণ অভিজ্ঞতা থাকতে হবে। খ) দরপত্রদাতা প্রতিষ্ঠানের বিগত ০৫ (পাঁচ) বছরে কোন সরকারি/স্বায়ত্বশাসিত/ব্যক্তি মালিকানাধীন প্রতিষ্ঠানে আউটসোর্সিং সেবা সরবরাহের কমপক্ষে একটি চুক্তির অভিজ্ঞতা থাকতে হবে। গ) দরপত্রদাতার Liquid Asset (working Capital) এর পরিমাণ কমপক্ষে ০৫ (পাঁচ) লক্ষ টাকা থাকতে হবে। ঘ) দরপত্রদাতার টিআইএন নম্বরসহ আয়কর পরিশোধের সনদপত্র (২০২০-২০২১), ভ্যাট রেজিস্ট্রেশন সনদ ও হালনাগাদ ট্রেড লাইসেন্স (২০২১-২০২২) থাকতে হবে। ঙ) দরপত্রদাতা প্রতিষ্ঠানের ISO কর্তৃক প্রদত্ত ISO 9001:2015 Certificate থাকতে হবে।
১০	আউটসোর্সিং সেবার বিস্তারিত বিবরণ	:	দরপত্র সিডিউল বর্ণনা অনুযায়ী।
১১	কার্য সম্পাদনের সময়	:	চুক্তি সম্পাদনের ০৭ (সাত) দিনের মধ্যে চাহিদা অনুযায়ী আউটসোর্সিং সেবা সরবরাহ করতে হবে।
১২	দরপত্র সিডিউলের মূল্য	:	২০০০/- (দুই হাজার টাকা মাত্র) (অফেরতযোগ্য)।
১৩	দরপত্রের জামানতের পরিমাণ	:	দরপত্র জামানত হিসেবে ৮,০০,০০০/- (আট লক্ষ টাকা) (অফেরতযোগ্য) যে কোনো তফসিল ব্যাংক থেকে পে-অর্ডার এর মাধ্যমে বাংলাদেশ সিকিউরিটিজ অ্যান্ড এক্সচেঞ্জ কমিশন, সিকিউরিটিজ কমিশন ভবন, ই-৬/সি, শেরে বাংলা নগর, আগারগাঁও, ঢাকা-১২০৭, বাংলাদেশ এর অনুকূলে দরপত্রের সাথে জমা দিতে হবে।
১৪	দরপত্র সিডিউল বিরতের স্থান ও ঠিকানা	:	উপ-পরিচালক (প্রশাসন), বাংলাদেশ সিকিউরিটিজ অ্যান্ড এক্সচেঞ্জ কমিশন, সিকিউরিটিজ কমিশন ভবন, ই-৬/সি, শেরে বাংলা নগর, আগারগাঁও, ঢাকা-১২০৭, বাংলাদেশ।
১৫	দরপত্র সিডিউল বিরতের শেষ তারিখ ও সময়	:	০৬/০৬/২০২২, বেলাঃ ০৪.০০ ঘটিকায়।
১৬	দরপত্র দাখিলের শেষ তারিখ ও সময়	:	০৬/০৬/২০২২, বেলাঃ ০৩.০০ ঘটিকায়।
১৭	দরপত্র খোলার তারিখ ও সময়	:	০৬/০৬/২০২২, বেলাঃ ০৩.৩০ ঘটিকায়।
১৮	দরপত্র খোলার স্থান	:	সিকিউরিটিজ কমিশন ভবন, ই-৬/সি, শেরে বাংলা নগর, আগারগাঁও, ঢাকা-১২০৭, বাংলাদেশ।
১৯	দরপত্র আহ্বানকারীর নাম ও ঠিকানা	:	উপ-পরিচালক (প্রশাসন), সিকিউরিটিজ কমিশন ভবন, ই-৬/সি, শেরে বাংলা নগর, আগারগাঁও, ঢাকা-১২০৭, বাংলাদেশ।
২০	বিশেষ নির্দেশনাবলী	:	ক) Liquid Asset (Working Capital) প্রমাণের জন্য সফটওয়্যার ব্যাংকের ব্যাংক স্টেটমেন্ট ও সলভেন্সি সার্টিফিকেট এবং দরপত্র সিডিউলের অন্যান্য শর্তাবলী অনুযায়ী চাহিত কাগজপত্রের সহিত অবশ্য দাখিল করতে হবে। খ) সকল ডকুমেন্টস যথাযথ কর্তৃপক্ষের মাধ্যমে সত্যায়িত হতে হবে। গ) দরপত্র সিডিউলের কোন বিষয়ে অস্পষ্টতা থাকলে তা বুঝার জন্য কর্তৃপক্ষের সাথে আলোচনা করা যাবে। ঘ) আউটসোর্সিং সেবা সরবরাহের অভিজ্ঞতার ক্ষেত্রে অবশ্যই এতদসংক্রান্ত কার্যাদেশ/মূল্যায়ন সনদ/কার্য সমাপ্তি সনদের কপি প্রদান করতে হবে। ঙ) কমিশনের দপ্তরে সাক্ষরিক ছটির দিনসহ প্রতিদিন সার্বক্ষণিক ডিউটির নিশ্চয়তা প্রদান করতে হবে। চ) দরপত্র খোলার তারিখ সরকারি ছুটি থাকলে পরবর্তী কর্মদিবসে একই সময়ে খোলা হবে। ছ) কোনো প্রকার কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতিরেকে কর্তৃপক্ষ যে কোনো অথবা সকল দরপত্র গ্রহণ বা ব্যতিলের অধিকার সংরক্ষণ করে। জ) দরপত্রদাতাকে একটি সিদ্ধান্ত গ্রহণ করে খামের উপর অংশে সুস্পষ্টভাবে “বাংলাদেশ সিকিউরিটিজ অ্যান্ড এক্সচেঞ্জ কমিশন (বিএসসি), এর জন্য আউটসোর্সিং সেবা (নিরাপত্তা গ্রহণী, মেসেজার, পরিচ্ছন্নতা কর্মী ও মালী) সরবরাহ” শব্দটি দৃশ্যবদ্ধ করে দরপত্র দাখিল করতে হবে।
“মুক্তিবর্ধের অঙ্গীকার উন্নয়ন-অর্থায়নের উদ্দেশ্যে হতে পুঁজিবাজার”			
			জিয়াউর রহমান উপ পরিচালক (প্রশাসন) বাংলাদেশ সিকিউরিটিজ অ্যান্ড এক্সচেঞ্জ কমিশন
জিডি-৯৫১			

**Rupali Bank Ltd.**
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Tender No : HO/ICT/2022/20	Ref No: HO/Procurement/ICT/2022/630	Dated: 12.05.2022		
Name of work	Tender Selling Last Date and Time	Tender Price (Non Refundable)	Last Date & Time for Tender & Security Submission (Refundable)	Tender/Proposal Opening Time
Supply, Installation, Testing & Commissioning of 101 sets PC, 77 sets UPS (Offline, 650VA), 48 sets UPS (Offline, 1200VA), 10 sets Laser Printer (Tray-1), 10 sets Network Printer (Tray-2), 03 Sets Scanner (A4), and 07 Sets Monitor (18.5”) for Different Divisions of Head Office and Different branches, Zonal offices of Dhaka North Divisional Office and Dhaka South Divisional Office, Rupali Bank Ltd.	30/05/2022 Up to Time : 05:00 PM	Tk. 3,500/- (Three Thousand Five Hundred Only)	31/05/2022 Time : 03:00 PM TK- 2,00,000 /- (Two Lac Only)	31/05/2022 Time : 03:30 PM

Note: Details in Rupali Bank Limited Web Site: <https://www.rupalibank.com.bd>

(Signed)
Kazi Md. Wahidul Islam
General Manager
Rupali Bank Ltd.
Procurement Division.
Head Office, 5th Floor
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GD- 962

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8 PhD Scholarships Available under Work Package 1, 2, 3 & 4 (WP1, WP2, WP3 & WP4)



The Faculty of Fisheries and Faculty of Business Administration of the Patuakhali Science and Technology University, Bangladesh in collaboration with the Faculty of Fisheries and Faculty of Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology of Bangladesh Agricultural University and Department of Food and Resource Economics, University of Copenhagen, Denmark hereby invite interested and qualified citizens of Bangladesh (holding MS/ MSc degree or equivalent) to submit applications for 8 PhD scholarships related to the DANIDA financed project “*Climate-friendly and climate-resilient prawn farming in Bangladesh (ECOPRAWN)*”. Students will get a possibility of attaining a double degree from Bangladesh and Denmark.

Details procedures of application will be available at www.pstu.ac.bd and www.bau.edu.bd. For further query, please contact with 01716287109 (Professor Badiuzzaman), 01712006293 (Professor Dr. Mohammad Mahfujul Haque), 01734128911 (Dr. Md. Akhtaruzzaman Khan) and 01792171772 (Professor Dr. Mohammad Lokman Ali).

Deadline for application: 15 June, 2022

Professor Badiuzzaman
Patuakhali Science and Technology University
and
Country Coordinator, *ECOPRAWN* Project

GD- 956

GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH
Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
Medical Education & Family Welfare Division
Directorate General of Family Planning
Clinical Contraception Services Delivery Program
6, Kawran Bazar, Dhaka-1215.



Memo No. DGFP/CCSDP/Tender/SP/567/2021-2022/1787

Date: 10/05/2022

Request for Expression of Interest (EOI) for Selection of A Non-Government Organization/Firm for Procurement of LARC & PM Services in Hard to Reach and low performing Area by Roving Team through outsourcing. (NCT/SFB)

1.	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Medical Education & Family Welfare Division.
2.	Agency	Directorate General of Family Planning (DGFP).
3.	Name of Procuring Entity	Line Director, Clinical Contraception Services Delivery Program.
4.	Procurement Entity Code	1620401-224108500
5.	Procuring Entity District	Dhaka
6.	Expression of Interest for Selection of	A Non-Government Organization/Firm for Procurement of LARC & PM Services in Hard to Reach and low performing Areas by Roving Team through outsourcing-Time Based
7.	EOI Ref. No.	DGFP/CCSDP/Tender/SP/567/2021-2022/1787
8.	Date	10/05/2022

KEY INFORMATION

9. Procurement Method Fixed Budget Selection (FBS/SFB)

FUNDING INFORMATION

10. Budget and source of funds GoB (Development)

PARTICULAR INFORMATION

11.	Program Name	Clinical Contraception Services Delivery Program, Directorate General of Family Planning under 4 th Health, Population and Nutrition Sector Program (4 th HPNSP).
12.	EOI Closing (submission) Date and Time	Closing Date 23 May, 2022 Time 12:30 pm

INFORMATION FOR APPLICANT

13.	Brief Description of the Assignment	Hiring A Non-Government Organization/Firm for Procurement of LARC & PM Services in Hard to Reach and low performing Area by Roving Team through outsourcing in 13 Hard-to-Reach districts namely Sunamganj, Sirajgonj, Chattogram, Bandarban, Noakhali, Bhola, Patuakhali, Netrokona, Jamalpur, Habiganj, Brahmanbaria, Khagrachari and Rangamati. The project duration is 13 months. A term of references (TOR) can be collected from the undersigned office during office hour.
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14.	Experience, Resources & Delivery Capacity Required	Required experiences of the firm/organization At least 10 years proven experience of LARC&PM services both in national and global scale; (b) At least 7 years of similar experience to operate roving teams for LARC&PM services in Hard-to-Reach and lagging areas; (c) Capability of providing training to roving team, e.g., basic and refresher training as per need. The trainings for examples are LARC&PM, infection prevention, counseling, pain management, vocal local, medical emergency management etc.; (d) Having 7 years of experience of providing LARC&PM within government delivery mechanism to complement national targets; (e) At least 7 years of experience to enhance demand side for LARC&PM in collaboration with district family planning authorities and Family Welfare Assistants; (f) The organization must have independent clinical quality assurance team in place, capable of providing clinical audits and competency assessment of providers for LARC&PM aligned with national guideline and checklist; (g) Strong team management in place to serve monitoring, target achievement, liaison with DGFP and report generation; (h) The organization must have NGOAB registration and internal and external financial audit mechanism; (i) The organizational last five years average annual performance for LARC&PM is at least 0.20 million. The Clinical Contraception Service Delivery Program (CCSDP), Directorate General of Family Planning (DGFP) under Medical Education & Family Welfare Division of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare now invites eligible firms/organizations to indicate the interest in providing the services. Interested firms/organizations are invited to provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the services. This shall require substantiation through submission of documents describing similar assignments, experience availability of appropriate professional qualification and experience among applicant's staff, resources, logistic capability etc. to carry out the assignment. Short-Listed firms/organizations will be selected upon evaluation of Submitted EOIs of the eligible applicants and The Request for Proposal (RFP) document will be issued in their favor. The Firm will be selected using Fixed Budget Selection (FBS) method in accordance with the PPA-2006 and PPR-2008. The firm also requested to submit below documents along with their EOIs:
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- Concept paper (max. two pages)
- Budget breakdown
- Annual organizational report
- NGOAB registration certificate
- Annual audit report (min. 3 yrs.)

15.	Other Details (if applicable)	Submission of EOI (a) Application for Expression of Interest (EOI); (b) Up-to-date trade/business license; (c) Constitutional documents of the firm(s)/organizations; (d) Up-to-date Audited financial Reports of the firm(s)/organizations; (e) up-to-date VAT & AIT Certificate (f) Others Related Documents, (g) The expression of interest must be submitted hard copy in pdf format and also submitted soft copy in pen-drive.
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16.	Affiliation with International service delivery organization	Encouraged
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EOI Detail Information:

Ref No	Phasing of Services	Location of Activities	Indicative Start Date	Indicative Completion Date
18.	Contract Package No. SP/02	Hard-to-Reach 13 districts/ Rural areas, i.e. Sunamganj, Sirajgonj, Chattogram, Bandarban, Noakhali, Bhola, Patuakhali, Netrokona, Jamalpur, Habiganj, Brahmanbaria, Khagrachari and Rangamati	June, 2022	June, 2023

PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS

19.	Name of the Official Inviting EOI	Dr. Nurun Nahar Begum
20.	Designation of the Official Inviting EOI	Line Director, Clinical Contraception Services Delivery Program
21.	Address of the Official Inviting EOI	Directorate General of Family Planning (DGFP) (11 th floor), 6, Kawran Bazar, Dhaka-1215
22.	Contact Details of the Official Inviting EOI	Tel. No. 88-02-58152311 E-mail: ccspdpgfp@gmail.com
23.	a) The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all EOI's b) Late submitted EOI shall be returned unopened.	

Dr. Nurun Nahar Begum
Line Director

Clinical Contraception Services Delivery Program
Directorate General of Family Planning
6, Kawran Bazar, Dhaka-1215.

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার

ধর্ম বিষয়ক মন্ত্রণালয়

হজ -১ শাখা

বাংলাদেশ সচিবালয়, ঢাকা

www.haji.gov.bd

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তারিখ: ২৮ বৈশাখ ১৪২৯

১১ মে ২০২২

২০২২ সালের হজযাত্রী নিবন্ধন বিজ্ঞপ্তি

এতদ্বারা ২০২২ সালে হজে গমনের জন্য সম্মানিত হজযাত্রী এবং সংশ্লিষ্ট সকলের অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, ধর্ম বিষয়ক মন্ত্রণালয় কর্তৃক হজযাত্রী নিবন্ধনের জন্য নিম্নবর্ণিত সময়সূচি নির্ধারণ করা হয়েছে:

ব্যবস্থাপনা	নিবন্ধনের অর্থ পরিশোধ শুরুর তারিখ	নিবন্ধনের অর্থ পরিশোধের শেষ তারিখ	নিবন্ধনের জন্য সর্বশেষ প্রাক-নিবন্ধনের ক্রমিক নম্বর
সরকারি ব্যবস্থাপনা	১৬ মে ২০২২	১৮ মে ২০২২	২০২০ সালের নিবন্ধিত সকল হজযাত্রী এবং প্রাক-নিবন্ধনের সর্বশেষ ক্রমিক ২৫,৯২৪ পর্যন্ত
বেসরকারি ব্যবস্থাপনা	১৬ মে ২০২২	১৮ মে ২০২২	২০২০ সালের সকল নিবন্ধিত ব্যক্তি

০২। সরকারি ব্যবস্থাপনার হজযাত্রীদের জন্য :

- (ক) হজযাত্রী নিবন্ধনের জন্য আবশ্যিকভাবে Passport থাকতে হবে। পাসপোর্ট স্ক্যান করে নিবন্ধন তথ্য পূরণ করতে হবে। হজযাত্রীর পাসপোর্টের মেয়াদ হজের দিন থেকে পরবর্তী ৬ মাস অর্থাৎ ২০২৩ সালের ০৪ জানুয়ারি পর্যন্ত থাকতে হবে। হজযাত্রীর দাখিলকৃত পাসপোর্টের সঠিকতা অনলাইনে যাচাই করা হবে। পাসপোর্ট সংক্রান্ত যে কোন সমস্যা সমাধানের জন্য আঞ্চলিক পাসপোর্ট অফিসে স্থাপিত নির্ধারিত হজ হেল্পডেস্ক অথবা পাসপোর্ট ও ইমিগ্রেশন অধিদপ্তর, আগারগাঁও, ঢাকায় যোগাযোগ করতে হবে।
- (খ) নিবন্ধনের পর কোন হজযাত্রী কোন কারণে হজে যেতে না পারলে শুধু বিমান ভাড়া এবং খাবার বাবদ গৃহীত টাকা ফেরৎ পাবেন। তবে বিমানের টিকিট নিশ্চিত হওয়ার পর হজযাত্রী বাতিল করলে বিমানের টিকিটের টাকা ফেরৎ পাবেন না।
- (গ) নিবন্ধনের পর রাজকীয় সৌদি সরকার কর্তৃক হজ সংক্রান্ত বিষয়ে কোন চার্জ আরোপিত হলে বা অন্য কোন মাতে ব্যয় বৃদ্ধি পেলে তা যথাসময়ে হজযাত্রীকে অবহিত করা হবে এবং তা প্যাকেজ মূল্যের সঙ্গে যোগ হবে। পরবর্তী নির্দেশনানুযায়ী অতিরিক্ত অর্থ পরিশোধ করতে হবে।
- (ঘ) প্রয়োজ্যক্ষেত্রে হজযাত্রীগণ মাহরামসহ একই সঙ্গে হজে যাওয়ার জন্য নিবন্ধন কর্ম পূরণ করে ইউনিয়ন ডিজিটাল সেন্টার (ইউডিসি), স্থানীয় ইসলামিক ফাউন্ডেশন কার্যালয়, জেলা প্রশাসকের কার্যালয়, হজ অফিস, আশকোনা বিমানবন্দর, ঢাকার মাধ্যমে নিবন্ধন ভাউচার তৈরি করতে পারবেন। যদি কেউ আলাদা ফাইটে সফর করতে চান তাহলে অবশ্যই আলাদাভাবে নিবন্ধন করতে হবে।
- (ঙ) হজযাত্রীকে হজ প্যাকেজের অতিরিক্ত কুরবানী বাবদ ৮১০ (আটশত দশ) সৌদি রিয়াল সঙ্গে নিতে হবে।
- (চ) সরকারি হজযাত্রীদের ভিসা প্রাপ্তির জন্য প্যাকেজ স্থানান্তর নিবন্ধনের ৩ দিনের মধ্যে সরকারি ব্যবস্থাপনার হজযাত্রীদের খ খ পাসপোর্ট ও কোডিত ভাকসিন সার্টিফিকেট নিজ দায়িত্বে বিনা ব্যরতায় হজ অফিস ঢাকায় জমা দিতে হবে।
- (ছ) সরকারি হজযাত্রীদের হজ ফাইট: সরকারি ব্যবস্থাপনার হজযাত্রীদের জন্য ঢাকা-জেদ্দা- মদিনা-মক্কা-জেদ্দা-ঢাকা রুটের জন্য ফ্লাইটভিত্তিক ট্রাভেল প্যাকেজ (যারা একই হজ ফ্লাইটে যাবেন এবং একইসঙ্গে এক মোয়াজ্জেমের অধীনে মক্কার বাড়ি হতে মুভমেন্ট করবেন) তৈরী করা হবে। হজযাত্রীর তারিখ ও সময় নির্ধারণপূর্বক সৌদি ই-হজ সিস্টেমে সকল তথ্য অগ্রিম প্রদান করে ভিসা করা হয় বিধায় পরিচালক, হজ অফিস, ঢাকার সিদ্ধান্ত মোতাবেক সরকারি ব্যবস্থাপনার সকল হজযাত্রীকে নির্ধারিত ট্রাভেল প্যাকেজে হজে গমন ও প্রত্যাপন করত হবে।
- (জ) শূন্য কোটা পূরণের জন্য সরকারি ব্যবস্থাপনায় প্রাক-নিবন্ধিতদের মধ্য হতে প্রাক-নিবন্ধনের ক্রম অনুসারে পাসপোর্টসহ পরিচালক হজ অফিস ঢাকার নিকট আবেদন করা হলে তার অনুমোদনক্রমে নির্ধারিত সময়ের মধ্যে নিবন্ধন করতে পারবেন। এরূপ কোটা হজযাত্রীদের প্যাকেজ-২ এ যেতে হবে।
- (ঝ) বাস্তব প্রয়োজনে নিবন্ধন সংক্রান্ত কোন নিয়মের পরিবর্তন হলে সেটি যথাসময়ে বিজ্ঞপ্তি/SMS-এর মাধ্যমে অবহিত করা হবে।

(ক) ২০২০ সালে নিবন্ধিত হজযাত্রীগণের জন্য অনুরণীয় বিষয়াদি:

- (ক) ২০২০ সনের ৩টি প্যাকেজের যে কোনটিতে নিবন্ধিত হজযাত্রীকে ২০২২ সনের জন্য যোষিত প্যাকেজ-১ অথবা প্যাকেজ-২ এর যে কোন একটি প্যাকেজ নির্বাচন করে ২০২২ সনের জন্য নতুন করে নিবন্ধন সম্পন্ন করতে হবে। এক্ষেত্রে, বর্তমানে নির্বাচিত প্যাকেজের মূল্য হতে ইতিমধ্যে ২০২০ সনে প্রদান করা নিবন্ধনের অর্থ সমন্বয় করে অবশিষ্ট অর্থ সোনালী ব্যাংক লি., স্থানীয় কার্যালয় শাখা, মতিঝিল, ঢাকার হিসাব নং ০০০২৬৩০০০০৯০৮ (Sale Proceeds of Haji Deposit) এ প্যাকেজ স্থানান্তর ভাউচারের মাধ্যমে জমা প্রদান করে প্যাকেজ স্থানান্তর সনদ গ্রহণ করতে হবে। নগদ অথবা ক্রসড চেক/পে-অর্ডার/ব্যাংক ড্রাফটের মাধ্যমে টাকা জমা দেওয়া যাবে। এ ক্ষেত্রে ব্যাংক হজযাত্রীকে কোন ফি ছাড়া প্যাকেজ স্থানান্তর সনদ প্রদান করবে। নির্ধারিত তারিখে ক্রসড চেক/পে-অর্ডার/ব্যাংক ড্রাফট নশাদান না হলে ব্যাংক প্যাকেজ স্থানান্তর বাতিল করে ধর্ম বিষয়ক মন্ত্রণালয়ে অবহিত করবে।
- (খ) ২০২০ সনে যে সকল নিবন্ধিত হজযাত্রী প্যাকেজ স্থানান্তরের মাধ্যমে ২০২২ সনে নিবন্ধন চূড়ান্ত করবেন না অথবা হজে যেতে পারবেন না, তাঁদের হজ নিবন্ধন বাতিল বলে গণ্য হবে এবং তাঁরা বিধি মোতাবেক নিবন্ধন বাবদ প্রদত্ত অর্থ ফেরত পাবেন।
- (গ) **২০২২ সনে নির্বাচিত প্রাক-নিবন্ধিত হজযাত্রীগণের জন্য অনুরণীয় বিষয়াদি:**
- (ক) প্রাক-নিবন্ধনের সময় গৃহীত ৩০,০০০.০০ (ত্রিশ হাজার) টাকার মধ্যে জমাকৃত ২৮,০০০.০০ (আটশত হাজার) টাকা সমন্বয় করে ২০২২ সালের হজ প্যাকেজ-১ এর হজযাত্রীকে (৫,২৭,৩৪০-২৮,০০০)=৪,৯৯,৩৪০ (চার লক্ষ নব্বান্বই হাজার ত্রিশত চতুষ্টি) টাকা এবং হজ প্যাকেজ-২ এর হজযাত্রীকে (৪,৬২,১৫০-২৮,০০০)=৪,৬২,১৫০ (চার লক্ষ চৌত্রিশ হাজার একশত পঞ্চাশ) টাকা সোনালী ব্যাংক লি., স্থানীয় কার্যালয় শাখা, মতিঝিল, ঢাকার হিসাব নং ০০০২৬৩০০০০৯০৮ (Sale Proceeds of Haji Deposit) এ নিবন্ধন ভাউচারের মাধ্যমে নির্ধারিত তারিখের মধ্যে জমা প্রদান করে নিবন্ধন সনদ গ্রহণ করতে হবে। নগদ অথবা ক্রসড চেক/পে-অর্ডার/ব্যাংক ড্রাফটের মাধ্যমে টাকা জমা দেওয়া যাবে। এ ক্ষেত্রে ব্যাংক হজযাত্রীকে কোন ফি ছাড়া নিবন্ধন সনদ প্রদান করবে। নির্ধারিত তারিখে ক্রসড চেক/পে-অর্ডার/ব্যাংক ড্রাফট নশাদান না হলে ব্যাংক কর্তৃক হজযাত্রীর নিবন্ধন বাতিল করে ধর্ম বিষয়ক মন্ত্রণালয়ে অবহিত করবে।
- (খ) সরকারি ব্যবস্থাপনায় প্রাক-নিবন্ধিত ব্যক্তি যদি প্রাক-নিবন্ধন বাতিল করতে চান, বিদ্যমান পদ্ধতিতে অন-লাইনে (হজ পোর্টাল) আবেদন করতে হবে। এক্ষেত্রে, প্রাক-নিবন্ধনের জন্য জমাকৃত ৩০,০০০.০০ (ত্রিশ হাজার) টাকার মধ্য হতে প্রাক-নিবন্ধন ফি ২,০০০/- (দুই হাজার) টাকা এবং প্রসেসিং ফি ৩,০০০.০০ (তিন হাজার) টাকা কর্তন করে অবশিষ্ট ২৫,০০০.০০ (পঁচিশ হাজার) টাকা ফেরত প্রদান করা হবে।
- (গ) প্রাথমিকভাবে প্রাক-নিবন্ধনের নির্ধারিত ক্রমিকের মধ্যে যারা নিবন্ধন করবেন না তাঁরা ২০২২ খ্রি. সনের হজে গমনে অগ্রহী নন মর্মে পরিগণিত হবেন। প্রাক-নিবন্ধিত যে সব ব্যক্তি ২০১৯ সালে হজে গমনের জন্য আরাহন পেয়েছিলেন কিন্তু হজে যাননি সে সব ব্যক্তি যদি এ বছর নিবন্ধন না করেন তাহলে হজ আইন ও বিধি অনুযায়ী তাদের প্রাক-নিবন্ধন স্বয়ংক্রিয়ভাবে বাতিল হয়ে যাবে।

০৩। বেসরকারি ব্যবস্থাপনার হজযাত্রীদের জন্য নিবন্ধন স্থানান্তরের নিমিত্ত অনুরণীয় বিষয়াদি:

- (ক) বেসরকারি ব্যবস্থাপনার হজযাত্রী নিবন্ধন স্থানান্তর জন্য আবশ্যিকভাবে Passport থাকতে হবে। পাসপোর্ট স্ক্যান করে নিবন্ধন তথ্য পূরণ করতে হবে। হজযাত্রীর পাসপোর্টের মেয়াদ হজের দিন থেকে পরবর্তী ৬ মাস অর্থাৎ ২০২৩ সালের ০৪ জানুয়ারি পর্যন্ত থাকতে হবে। হজযাত্রীর দাখিলকৃত পাসপোর্টের সঠিকতা অনলাইনে যাচাই করা হবে। পাসপোর্ট সংক্রান্ত যে কোন সমস্যা সমাধানের জন্য আঞ্চলিক পাসপোর্ট অফিসে স্থাপিত নির্ধারিত হজ হেল্পডেস্ক অথবা পাসপোর্ট ও ইমিগ্রেশন অধিদপ্তর, আগারগাঁও, ঢাকায় যোগাযোগ করতে হবে।
- (খ) বেসরকারি ব্যবস্থাপনার হজযাত্রীদের নিবন্ধনের জন্য প্রকাশিত প্রাক-নিবন্ধিত ব্যক্তিদের প্রাক-নিবন্ধনকালীন গৃহীত ৩০,৭৫২.০০ টাকার মধ্যে প্রাক-নিবন্ধন ফি বাবদ ২,০০০.০০ (দুই হাজার) টাকা (অফসেটযোগ্য) সমন্বয়পূর্বক অবশিষ্ট (৩০,৭৫২.০০-২,০০০)=২৮,৭৫২ (আটশত হাজার সাতশত বায়ান্ন) টাকা ন্যূনতম প্যাকেজ মূল্যের সঙ্গে সমন্বয় করে হজযাত্রীর নিকট থেকে গ্রহণ করা হবে।
- (গ) বেসরকারি ব্যবস্থাপনায় ২০২২ খ্রি. সনে নিবন্ধনের জন্য প্রাক-নিবন্ধনের সময় জমাকৃত ৩০,৭৫২.০০ (ত্রিশ হাজার সাতশত বায়ান্ন) টাকার মধ্য হতে জমজম পানি বাবদ (১২,০০০ সৌ.রি.)=২৯১.৬০ (দুইশত একান্বই টাকা ষাট পয়সা) টাকা, ১% অতিরিক্ত বাড়ি ভাড়া বাবদ=(৪২,০০০ সৌ.রি.+১২৫% ভ্যাট)=১১৭৩.৬৯ (এক হাজার একশত ত্রিশত ষাট) টাকা, স্থানীয় সার্ভিস চার্জ বাবদ-১,০০০.০০ (এক হাজার) টাকা, হজযাত্রীদের কল্যাণ তহবিল (অপৎকালীন ফান্ড) বাবদ ২০০.০০ (দুইশত) টাকা, প্রশিক্ষণ ফি বাবদ ৩০০.০০ (তিনশত) টাকা এবং প্রাক-নিবন্ধন ফি বাবদ ২,০০০.০০ (দুই হাজার) টাকাসহ সর্বমোট (২৯১.৬০+১১৭৩.৬৯+১,০০০.০০+২০০.০০+ ৩০০.০০+২,০০০.০০)=৪৯৯৬.২৯ (চার হাজার নয়শত পঁয়ষট্টি টাকা উনত্রিশ পয়সা) টাকা কর্তন করে অবশিষ্ট (৩০,৭৫২.০০-৪৯৯৬.২৯)=২৫,৭৫৫.৭১ (পঁচিশ হাজার সাতশত ত্রিশটি টাকা একাত্তর পয়সা) টাকা (জনপ্রতি) নিবন্ধন স্থানান্তরের সাথে সাথে নিবন্ধনকারী হজ এজেন্সির মোট হজযাত্রী সংখ্যার বিপরীতে সৌদি আরবে প্রদেয় বিভিন্ন সার্ভিস চার্জ ও পরিবহন ফি IBAN এর মাধ্যমে পরিষেবার নিমিত্ত সৌদি আরবে হজযাত্রী প্রেরণকারী এজেন্সির অনুকূলে উজ হজ এজেন্সির অনুকূলে একাউন্টে পেমী চেকের মাধ্যমে ফেরৎ প্রদান করা হবে।
- (ঘ) বেসরকারি ব্যবস্থাপনার ক্ষেত্রে এজেন্সির সাথে হজযাত্রীর চুক্তি অনুযায়ী ২০২০ সনে নিবন্ধনের অর্থ সমন্বয় করে ২০২২ সনের প্যাকেজ যোষিত অবশিষ্ট অর্থ নিবন্ধনকারী সংশ্লিষ্ট হজ এজেন্সির নির্ধারিত ব্যাংক একাউন্টে আগামী ১৮ মে, ২০২২ খ্রি. তারিখের মধ্যে জমা প্রদান করতে হবে। হজযাত্রীর কাছ হতে প্যাকেজ যোষিত অর্থ প্রাপ্তির পরেই সংশ্লিষ্ট এজেন্সির ইউজার হজ ব্যবস্থাপনা সিস্টেমে (HMS) ত্রি পিলগ্রিম আইডি (PID) প্রদান করবেন। যে সব নিবন্ধিত হজযাত্রীর বিপরীতে প্যাকেজ মূল্যের অবশিষ্ট অর্থ নিবন্ধনকারী সংশ্লিষ্ট হজ এজেন্সির নির্ধারিত ব্যাংক কর্তৃক নিশ্চিত হবে না, সে সব নিবন্ধিত হজযাত্রী হজে গমনে ইচ্ছুক নয় বলে গণ্য হবে। উল্লেখ্য, সংশ্লিষ্ট এজেন্সি বিমান ভাড়া বাবদ অর্থ সংশ্লিষ্ট এয়ারলাইন্স বরার টিকিটের জন্য পে-অর্ডার ব্যতীত উত্তোলন করতে পারবেন না।
- (চ) বেসরকারি হজ ব্যবস্থাপনার হজযাত্রীদের জন্য সরকার ৪,৫৬,৫৩০.০০ (চার লক্ষ ছায়ায় হাজার পাঁচশত ত্রিশ) টাকার প্যাকেজ ঘোষণা করেছে। এজেন্সিসমূহ তা অনুরণন করবে; অথবা সরকারি ব্যবস্থাপনার প্যাকেজ-১ (৫,২৭,৩৪০.৮৮), প্যাকেজ-২ (৪,৬২,১৫০.০০) এর সঙ্গে সামঞ্জস্য রেখে হজ প্যাকেজ ঘোষণা করতে পারবে। তবে সরকারি ব্যবস্থাপনার প্যাকেজ-২ এর মূল্যের কম নয়। এ ক্ষেত্রে হজযাত্রীকে সরকারি ব্যবস্থাপনার হজযাত্রীদের ন্যায় সুবিধা প্রদান করতে হবে। এজেন্সি কর্তৃক যোষিত হজ প্যাকেজ হজ ব্যবস্থাপনা পোর্টাল, ধর্ম বিষয়ক মন্ত্রণালয়: HAAB ও সংশ্লিষ্ট এজেন্সির নিজস্ব ওয়েবসাইট এ upload করতে হবে।
- (জ) হজযাত্রীকে হজপ্যাকেজের অতিরিক্ত কুরবানী বাবদ ৮১০ (আটশত দশ) সৌদি রিয়াল পৃথকভাবে সঙ্গে নিতে হবে।
- (ঝ) রাজকীয় সৌদি সরকারের সাথে সম্পাদিত বি-পাস্টিক চুক্তি অনুযায়ী যে কোন হজ এজেন্সির নতুন ৯৭ জনের নিবন্ধিত থাকতে হবে। যদি কোন হজ এজেন্সির ন্যূনতম ৯৭ জন নিবন্ধিত হজযাত্রী না থাকে, হজ আইন ও বিধি অনুসরণ করে গ্লিড এজেন্সি নির্ধারণ করতে হবে। অতঃপর সমরোত্থাকারী এজেন্সিকে নিবন্ধিতদের অনলাইনে লিড এজেন্সির অনুকূলে বিদ্যমান পদ্ধতিতে স্থানান্তর সংক্রান্ত যাবতীয় কাজ সম্পন্ন করতে হবে। স্থানান্তরিত হজযাত্রীদের যাবতীয় দায়-দায়িত্ব গ্লিড এজেন্সি (নিবন্ধনকারী) গ্রহণ করবে। মোমাজ্জেম অবশ্যই লিড এজেন্সির হতে হবে। এ জন্য হজ ও ওমরাহ ব্যবস্থাপনা আইন, ২০১১ এবং এর অধীনে প্রণীত হজ ও ওমরাহ ব্যবস্থাপনা বিধিমালা, ২০১২ (খসড়া) মোমাজ্জেম বিষয়ে বর্ণিত নির্দেশনা ও ০৯.০৫.২০২২ তারিখ ৪০০ নম্বর স্মারকে জারীকৃত বিজ্ঞপ্তি অনুসরণ করতে হবে। সংশ্লিষ্ট এজেন্সিকে এ তথ্য আবশ্যিকভাবে আন্তঃএজেন্সি স্থানান্তর অথবা সঞ্চয়ের পূর্বে হজযাত্রীকে জানাতে হবে।
- (ঞ) নিবন্ধন স্থানান্তর কার্যক্রম চলাকালে বিদ্যমান পদ্ধতিতে প্রাক-নিবন্ধিত ব্যক্তিদের এজেন্সি স্থানান্তর (Transfer) কার্যক্রম চলমান থাকবে। ২০২২ সালে যোষিত হজ প্যাকেজের ৩.৪ অনুচ্ছেদ অনুযায়ী কোন হজযাত্রীর লিখিত আবেদনের প্রেক্ষিতে এজেন্সি স্থানান্তর করা হলে হজযাত্রীকে প্রাক-নিবন্ধিত এজেন্সি বরার ২,০০০.০০ (দুই হাজার) টাকা স্থানান্তর/সার্ভিস চার্জ প্রদান করতে হবে। তবে এজেন্সির কোটা পূরণ, সমন্বয় কিংবা অভিযোগের কারণে এজেন্সি হজযাত্রী প্রেরণের জন্য মনোনীত না হলে সে ক্ষেত্রে হজযাত্রীর সম্মতিক্রমে এজেন্সি স্থানান্তর করা হলে কোন সার্ভিস চার্জ আদায় করা যাবে না।
- (ট) বেসরকারি ব্যবস্থাপনায় প্রাক-নিবন্ধিত ব্যক্তি যদি প্রাক-নিবন্ধন বাতিল করতে চান, তাঁকে ব্যাংকের মাধ্যমে অন-লাইনে আবেদন করতে হবে। এক্ষেত্রে, প্রাক-নিবন্ধনের জন্য জমাকৃত ৩০,৭৫২.০০ (ত্রিশ হাজার সাতশত বায়ান্ন) টাকার মধ্য হতে ৫,০০০.০০ (পাঁচ হাজার) টাকা কর্তন করে অবশিষ্ট ২৫,৭৫২.০০ (পঁচিশ হাজার সাতশত বায়ান্ন) টাকা ফেরত প্রদান করা হবে।
- (ঠ) নিবন্ধনের পর কোন হজযাত্রী কোন কারণে হজে যেতে না পারলে শুধু বিমান ভাড়া এবং খাবার বাবদ গৃহীত টাকা ফেরৎ পাবেন। তবে বিমানের টিকিট নিশ্চিত হওয়ার পর হজযাত্রী বাতিল করলে বিমানের টিকিটের টাকা ফেরৎ পাবেন না।
- (ড) নিবন্ধনের পর রাজকীয় সৌদি সরকার কর্তৃক হজ সংক্রান্ত বিষয়ে কোন চার্জ আরোপিত হলে বা অন্য কোন মাতে ব্যয় বৃদ্ধি পেলে তা যথাসময়ে হজযাত্রীকে অবহিত করা হবে এবং তা প্যাকেজ মূল্যের সঙ্গে যোগ হবে। পরবর্তী নির্দেশনানুযায়ী অতিরিক্ত অর্থ পরিশোধ করতে হবে।
- (ঢ) হজ ও ওমরাহ ব্যবস্থাপনা আইন,২০১১ ও হজ ও ওমরাহ বিধিমালা, ২০১২ (খসড়া) বিধির ৪.৪ অনুচ্ছেদ অনুযায়ী প্রত্যেক হজ এজেন্সির স্বত্বাধিকারী/ব্যবস্থাপনা পরিচালক/ব্যবস্থাপনা অংশীদার/কমতাপ্রাধ অংশীদার/পরিচালক এবং হজযাত্রীকে পরপর চুক্তি সম্পাদন করবেন। চুক্তিপত্রে হজযাত্রীকে প্রদত্ত সুবিধার কথা উল্লেখ করতে হবে। হজযাত্রী প্রাপ্ত সকল সুবিধা সম্পর্কে জেনে চুক্তিতে স্বাক্ষর করবেন ও চুক্তির মূলকপি সংরক্ষণ করবেন এবং অপর দুই কপি যথাক্রমে সংশ্লিষ্ট হজ এজেন্সি ও হজ অফিস, ঢাকা বরার প্রেরণ করবেন।
- (ণ) হজযাত্রীকে সরাসরি এজেন্সির সঙ্গে পরিচিত হয়ে চুক্তিবদ্ধপূর্বক এজেন্সির সংশ্লিষ্ট ব্যাংক Account এর মাধ্যমে আর্থিক লেনদেন করতে হবে। কোন মধ্যস্থতাকাণী/তথাকথিত মোমাজ্জেম বা গুপলিডার/পাইডের মাধ্যমে টাকা জমা প্রদান করা যাবে না। অন্যথা প্রভাবিত হলে এর দায়দায়িত্ব সংশ্লিষ্ট হজযাত্রীকেই বহন করতে হবে। আর্থিক লেনদেন করার পূর্বে হজ এজেন্সি ২০২২ সালে হজযাত্রী প্রেরণের জন্য ধর্ম বিষয়ক মন্ত্রণালয়ের অনুমোদিত কি না তা www.haji.gov.bd ওয়েব সাইট থেকে জেনে নিতে হবে।
- (ত) হজযাত্রী কোন পচনশীল খাদ্যদ্রব্য/তামাক/পান-সুপারি/ জর্দা অর্থাৎ নেশা জাতীয় দ্রব্য এবং চিকিৎসকের ব্যবস্থাপত্র বাতিল অননুমোদিত ঔষধ এবং অবৈধ মালামালা বহন করতে পারবেন না। এ ধরনের কোন কিছু বহনের জন্য হজযাত্রী রাজকীয় সৌদি সরকারের কঠোর আইনের সম্মুখীন হবেন।
- (থ) হজযাত্রীকে সরাসরি তাঁর এজেন্সি থেকে বিমানের টিকিট সংগ্রহ করতে হবে। বিমানের টিকিট বাবদ প্যাকেজে উল্লিখিত মূল্যের অতিরিক্ত মূল্য গ্রহণ করা হলে তাক্ষণিকভাবে ধর্ম বিষয়ক মন্ত্রণালয় এবং বেসামরিক বিমান পরিবহন ও পর্যটন মন্ত্রণালয়ে অবহিত হতে হবে।
- (দ) ২০২২ সালের জন্য প্রকাশিত বৈধ হজ এজেন্সির তালিকাভুক্ত হজ এজেন্সিসমূহ নিবন্ধন কার্য সম্পন্ন করতে এবং সৌদি আরবে হজযাত্রী প্রেরণ করতে পারবে।
- (ধ) সৌদি আরবে এজেন্সিভিত্তিক হজযাত্রীর তথ্য প্রেরণের পর সকল ধরনের প্রতিস্থাপন (Replacement) এর কার্যক্রম শুরু হবে।
- ০৪। যথাযথ কর্তৃপক্ষের অনুমোদনক্রমে এ বিজ্ঞপ্তি জারি করা হলে।

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Head coach Russell Domingo and pace bowling coach Allan Donald keep an eagle eye as Najmul Hossain Shanto ducks under a bouncer from Shoriful Islam during a practice session of the Bangladesh team at the Zahur Ahmed Chowdhury Stadium in Chattogram, where the first Test against Sri Lanka will begin on Sunday. (Bottom) The Lankans, meanwhile, arrived in the port city yesterday evening.

PHOTO: FIROZ AHMED

Donald puts faith in ‘testing step-by-step process’

SPORTS REPORTER

Pace bowling coach Allan Donald was in a positive and altogether buoyant mood about the state of his fast-bowling battery while speaking to reporters yesterday. Despite missing Taskin Ahmed for the Sri Lanka series through injury, Donald saw promise after observing their willingness to learn the trade and the technicalities of bowling in the international area. He talked about getting the steps right while focusing on the new ball and then coming up with tricks for the old ball. Pacer Khaled Ahmed posted an image on his Facebook page of Donald pointing something out to him. Donald’s biggest challenge will be to create pathways to the thinking parts of the brain of the fast bowling unit. In that regard, what Khaled wrote was a precursor to getting into the right track. “Tactics require observation,” Khaled wrote. Test cricket is all about using the tools available to get the most desired outcome, which is wickets. And Donald was happy with what he has seen so far. “I was really impressed with Shoriful [Islam], especially in the one-dayers. I saw him in the U-19 World Cup in South Africa. He was very impressive. He was already rated highly and then Bangladesh



won the World Cup.” Bangladesh played with four bowlers but only two pacers in South Africa and while that decision surprised Donald, he was more surprised by the heart Ebadot Hossain and Khaled showed while bearing the burden of being the only seamers and keeping the attack going. “I think the bigger surprise for me was Ebadot and Khaled. I was surprised by their engine. Fast bowling is about huge guts and determination. I have never seen two spinners and two seamers in a Test match before, but the way they conducted themselves... especially in Durban, where they were magnificent. Apart from one mad half-hour that knocked us back, I thought bowling South Africa out in both Tests was a fantastic effort. I am delighted with

what I have seen. I think the discussions that we have in every single training session, and the lessons we get out from them, is substantial. I am pleased with where we are going,” the South African said. Donald has been working on the idea of how to use the new ball and then prepare for the old ball. Bangladesh have not started well with the new ball in the last couple of Tests and Donald focused on the right channels that the bowlers need to target. The art of reverse swing is almost entirely new to the fast bowlers in the country but for Donald it was an optimal tool in home conditions. “I think on pitches like this, from my experience of playing in Pakistan, India and Sri Lanka, [the focus] was much straighter lines. Your new ball is

absolutely crucial. Just the emphasis for the last couple of days of training was how important that new ball is, where we need to find the hot zone and invest in it a lot longer. Not to look for glory balls, in-swing, out-swing. We have to stick to the process. “The biggest thing here is old ball bowling. Today was all about the old ball. Every training session, I put an emphasis on getting the ball to reverse and to be really patient and creative with the old ball. I don’t have to tell these lads about bowling in their conditions. They know what to expect. But the overall patience, persistence and creativity that we bring is going to be tested. “I realised this week that your length needs to be a bit fuller with the new ball. We have to get the best out of it in the first 30 overs, like when we had Sri Lanka to 40 for three. The other thing is ball conditioning. It is very sweaty and humid. Typical sub-continental conditions. After 30 overs, [it is crucial] how much patience and discipline we can show by building that pressure. When the ball gets old, the reverse swing issue needs to come in. So it is a step-by-step process. It is going to be testing. Discipline, mentality and creativity is going to be huge,” he concluded.

Messi beats Ronaldo, James

REUTERS

Lionel Messi was the world’s highest-paid athlete over the last year, according to the annual Forbes list released on Wednesday that had the Paris Saint-Germain forward ahead of the NBA’s LeBron James and Manchester United’s Cristiano Ronaldo. Messi earned \$130 million, a figure which includes \$55 million of endorsements, during the 12-month period ended May 1, 2022, to sit atop the list of the 10 highest-paid athletes a year after finishing second to Irish MMA fighter Conor McGregor. Los Angeles Lakers forward James was next on the list after bringing home a combined \$121 million, shattering the \$96.5 million record for an NBA player that he set last year, while Portugal captain Ronaldo earned \$115 million to sit third. Brazilian footballer Neymar (\$95 million) and three-time NBA champion Stephen Curry (\$92.8 million) rounded out the top five. NBA player Kevin Durant (\$92 million) was sixth while Swiss tennis great Roger Federer was third with total earnings of \$90.7 million. The final three spots on the list went to Mexican boxer Canelo Alvarez (\$90 million), seven-time Super Bowl champion Tom Brady (\$83.9 million) and reigning NBA Finals Most Valuable Player Giannis Antetokounmpo (\$80.9 million).



De Bruyne ‘beyond perfect’

REUTERS

Manchester City manager Pep Guardiola praised Kevin De Bruyne for his goal-scoring form and said the midfielder was enjoying finding the back of the net after he smashed four past Wolverhampton Wanderers in a 5-1 win on Wednesday. “What can I say? In the second part of the season, he has been beyond perfect,” Guardiola told reporters. “He has always been a guy who is so generous and has the sense to make an assist, but I think this season he has the sense to be prolific and score goals. “He won the game against Chelsea, he scored a goal against Madrid and has been scoring decisive goals... I have the feeling he thinks: ‘I like when my teammates come to hug me because I scored a goal’. It’s good.” The Belgium international has scored 19 goals in all competitions this season, his best tally in a City shirt. He has also provided 13 assists.

Abahani stumble allows Kings to go six clear

SPORTS REPORTER

Holders Bashundhara Kings extended their lead in Bangladesh Premier League with a 2-1 win away to Bangladesh Police FC at the Shaheed Smriti Stadium in Rajshahi while title contenders Abahani dropped points again after a 1-1 draw against visiting Sheikh Russel KC at the Sylhet Stadium yesterday. The results moved Kings six points clear of their nearest rivals Abahani, having moved to 38 points from 15 matches, inching ever closer to a hat-trick of titles in the professional league with only seven matches left. On the other hand, it was another missed opportunity for Abahani, who recorded their fifth draw in 15 matches and are now on 32 points. The Sky Blues will now try to pocket all the points from their remaining seven matches while praying that the Kings drop a few. Oscar Bruzon’s charges displayed some crisp passing and controlled the game against Police before taking the lead in the 12th minute. A nice build-up from the left led to Robson Robinho eventually finding his way into the box and squaring for Matin Mia. But it was new Brazilian signing Miguel Ferreira who drove home after Matin failed to connect with the ball inside the box. With Police attempting to hit them on the counter, Miguel hammered another goal home, doubling the lead



with a smooth drive after another cutback from Robson on the half-hour mark. Kings played cautiously after resumption to avoid any injuries ahead of their AFC Cup campaign in India next week, but appeared to be in control before a fumble in midfield led to a Police counter and gave them a lifeline. Ivorian forward Christian Kouakou was brought down inside the box by Kings defender Bishwanth Ghosh, allowing Brazilian defender Danilo Quipapa to reduce the margin from the spot in the 82nd minute. Meanwhile, six-time champions Abahani struggled against a rejuvenated Sheikh Russel on a rain-soaked pitch in Sylhet, but struck first in the 34th minute through Mehedi Hasan Royal after Daniel Colindres and Raphael Augusto built up the attack from the left. However, with the clock ticking into the final seconds of stoppage time in the second half, 10-man Sheikh Russel won two successive corners and cashed in on the latter, with former Abahani forward Dipok Roy heading home a corner from Khalekuzzaman. At the Shaheed Dharendraanath Datta Stadium in Cumilla, hosts Mohammedan suffered a 3-1 defeat against Saif SC while Sheikh Jamal defeated Rahmatganj 1-0 at the Shaheed Flight Lt Matiur Rahman Stadium in Munshiganj.



Inter Milan players celebrate Ivan Perisic’s (2nd from R) second goal which led Inter Milan to a 4-2 victory over Juventus after extra time in the Italian Cup final at the Stadio Olimpico in Rome on Wednesday. This was the eighth overall Italian Cup title for the Nerazzurri and their first in 11 years while the defeat for Juventus means the Old Lady from Turin will end the season trophyless for the first time since 2011.



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WAR IN UKRAINE

Finland moves to join Nato

Russia warns of ‘military’ retaliation measures; Sweden likely to follow Helsinki’s suit

AGENCIES

Finland must apply to join the Nato military alliance “without delay”, its president and prime minister said yesterday, in a historic policy shift triggered by Russia’s invasion of Ukraine.

Moscow said the move was a threat to it and warned it was ready to respond. But Finland’s neighbour Sweden is also close to a decision on asking to join Nato after decades of following a neutral path.

Russia has partly tried to justify its invasion of Ukraine as a means to protect itself from Nato’s eastwards expansion.

However, Finnish President Sauli Niinisto said Russian President Vladimir Putin was responsible for Helsinki’s decision. “You caused this. Look at the mirror,” he said prior to yesterday’s announcement.

“Nato membership would strengthen Finland’s security. As a member of Nato, Finland would strengthen the entire defence alliance,” said a joint statement by Niinisto and Prime Minister Sanna Marin.

After the announcement, Niinisto spoke with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky, who lauded Finland’s readiness to apply for Nato membership.

The Finnish parliament will debate the announcement on Monday. A majority of lawmakers have already signalled their support for membership.

Nato Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg said any accession process would be “smooth and swift” and that

“Nato membership would strengthen Finland’s security. As a member of Nato, Finland would strengthen the entire defence alliance.”

Finland “would be warmly welcomed”.

Neighbouring Sweden, which like Finland has been military non-aligned for decades, is also expected to announce its decision in the coming days, very likely at a meeting on Sunday of Prime Minister Magdalena Andersson’s Social Democratic Party.

Russia, which had repeatedly warned both countries against joining the alliance, said yesterday a Finnish entry into Nato was “definitely” a threat to it.

Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov told reporters: “Nato expansion does not make our continent more stable and secure.”

Everyone wanted to avoid a direct clash between Nato and Russia but Moscow was prepared to make a “decisive response” to any side that tried to hinder Russia’s operation in Ukraine, he said.

Russia’s foreign ministry said Moscow would be “forced to take reciprocal steps, military-technical and other, to address the resulting threats to its national security”.

Poland and the Baltics welcomed Finland’s announcement. Pentagon said it would not be difficult to integrate Finland into Nato, reports Reuters.

Russian forces continued to pound areas in Ukraine’s northern region. Three people were killed and 12 others wounded in the early hours of yesterday in a Russian strike on a school in Chernigiv.

The UN Human Rights Council yesterday passed a resolution to set up an inquiry into the allegations of abuses by Russian troops in Ukraine.

Pressure on Europe to secure alternative gas supplies increased yesterday after Moscow imposed sanctions on European subsidiaries of state-owned Gazprom and Ukraine stopped a gas transit route, pushing prices higher.



Large vessels are tied to the pillars of a bridge at Trimohony, Khilgaon, in the capital. Civil engineers say this practice can damage the bridge because the pillars are not designed to withstand the pull of such vessels.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

ROAD CRASHES DURING EID RUSH

Motorbike accidents drove up death toll

Say two road safety platforms, advise govt to discourage use of bikes, improve public transport

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Road crashes and deaths during the Eid rush saw a sharp rise this year compared to last year mainly due to an increase in motorbike accidents, two road safety organisations said yesterday.

Though the Eid journey was relatively smooth this year, the number of deaths in road crashes went up by around 20 percent than that of previous year, they said.

The platforms suggested that the government takes action to discourage use of motorcycles and improve the public transport system to reduce road accidents.

They blamed the use of motorbikes for Eid journeys, faulty vehicles, reckless driving, operation of slow-moving

vehicles on highways and disregard for traffic rules for the rise in road accidents and deaths.

Bangladesh Jatri Kalyan Samity and Road Safety Foundation yesterday published their reports on road crashes during Eid rush. They collected information from media reports.

The two platforms, however, said the actual figures would be much higher as many accidents go unreported.

The journeys to and from home were quite smooth this time as there was not much hassle, except the return trips in the last couple of days. But the sharp rise in road crashes and deaths has dampened the positive development.

According to the Jatri Kalyan Samity, at least 416 people were killed and 844 injured in 372

road accidents in 15 days from April 26, meaning around 28 people died every day.

The organisation said road crashes and deaths were 14.51 percent and 22.35 percent higher respectively compared to the figures of the last year’s Eid-ul-Fitr.

At least 145 people were killed in 164 accidents involving motorbikes, meaning motorcycles were involved in 44.08 percent of the crashes and 34.85 percent of the deaths.

Samity Secretary General Mozammel Hoque Chowdhury made the information public at a press conference at the Dhaka Reporters Unity yesterday.

He said Eid journey this time was relatively smooth due to operations of some 25 lakh motorbikes and 40 lakh

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SRI LANKAN CRISIS

A cautionary tale for Bangladesh

Eminent economist Muinul Islam tells Star

GOLAM MORTOZA

Sri Lanka is going through a period of political unrest amid its ongoing economic crisis.

Initiating largescale mega projects based on foreign loans, reduction of remittance through legal channels, the negative impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on tourism and a plethora of other factors contributed to this ill fate.

In terms of economic indicators, Bangladesh is in a much more comfortable position than Sri Lanka.

However, economic experts are asking whether the current state will persist for another four-five years.

In an interview with The Daily Star, Professor Muinul Islam, Ekushey Padak-winning economist and former teacher of Chittagong University, said Bangladesh is in no imminent danger but the country has started a lot of unnecessary projects.

Besides, if the current trend of greater imports against exports continues and if the country

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FULL INTERVIEW ON WWW.THEDAILYSTAR.NET



A capped langur spotted on a tree branch in Anandapara village of Tangail’s Ghatail upazila. Locals said the animal reached the village on a truck carrying bananas. The village is around 30km away from the Madhupur forest. The photo was taken recently.

PHOTO: SK ENAMUL HAQ

Cops should be more careful

SC says about protection of human rights

ASHUTOSH SARKAR

The Supreme Court in the full text of a verdict has observed that the police personnel should be more cautious about maintaining dignity of their profession and protecting people’s human rights.

“The police personnel should keep in mind that the police force being specially trained as a disciplined force enjoys extra benefits and protection. It is maintained by the government with the people’s tax money for the purpose of serving them. So, the police personnel should be more cautious about maintaining dignity of

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MILKY WAY’S CENTRE

Astronomers reveal first image of black hole

AFP, Paris

An international team of astronomers yesterday unveiled the first image of a supermassive black hole at the centre of our own Milky Way galaxy – a cosmic body known as Sagittarius A*.

The image – produced by a global team of scientists known as the Event Horizon Telescope (EHT) Collaboration – is the first, direct visual confirmation of the presence of this invisible object, and comes three years after the very first image of a black hole from a distant galaxy.

“It’s very exciting to show you today this best-ever image” of Sagittarius A*, EHT project director Huib van Langevelde told a press conference in Garching, Germany.

Black holes are regions of space where the pull of gravity is so intense that nothing can escape, including light.

