



Plumes of smoke rising from the fire-ravaged BM Container Depot in Sitakunda, Chattogram, as goods inside the stacks of shipping containers kept burning until yesterday evening. Firefighters have yet to ascertain the exact cause of Saturday night's fire that claimed 49 lives and critically injured many others.

PHOTO: NAIMUR RAHMAN

# 49 deaths and counting

Blaze at Ctg depot yet to be doused; containers with hazardous chemicals kept near RMG products in breach of guidelines; toll may rise; 3 firefighters still missing; toxic gas spreads through localities

**STAR REPORT**

Flouting the guidelines, hazardous chemicals were kept close to containers stuffed with garment items that fed the blaze at the BM Container Depot in Chattogram's Sitakunda on Saturday, leaving at least 49 dead and over 200 wounded.

Workers of the private depot and firefighters account for the majority of the dead. Of them, 13 have been identified so far.

The number of fatalities is likely to go up as some of the injured are in critical condition and at least three firefighters remain missing.

"At the BM Container Depot, it was primarily found that containers with hazardous chemicals were kept with those full of RMG items, without maintaining enough distance," Bangladesh Freight Forwarders Association (BAFFA) Vice President Khairul Alam Sujan said after visiting the spot.

Containers carrying hazardous chemicals must be stored in a designated place at a depot with proper safety measures in place, maintaining enough distance from the other containers, he told The Daily Star yesterday.

Mentioning that containers with hazardous chemicals have to be marked properly for identification, Sujan said it needs to be investigated whether the depot authorities took such measures or not.

Talking to the media yesterday, State Minister for Shipping Khalid

Mahmud Chowdhury said there has been negligence on the part of those who run the depot.

"... It needs to be checked whether such a private container depot has the preparations and manpower required for storing hazardous chemicals. If so, why didn't they work?" he asked.

Faruk Hossain Sikder, assistant director of Fire Service and Civil Defence (Chattogram division), said the source of the explosions could not be known immediately but many plastic gallons

**"... It needs to be checked whether such a private container depot has the preparations and manpower required for storing hazardous chemicals. If so, why didn't they work?"**

State Minister for Shipping  
**Khalid Mahmud Chowdhury**

containing hydrogen peroxide were found strewn across the depot after a massive explosion.

Mentioning that water should not be used in extinguishing fire in case of some chemicals, another official said that if they had been informed that there was hydrogen peroxide in some containers, they would have taken other precautionary measures and methods to douse the blaze.

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## Of valour and selflessness

At least 9 firefighters lay down their lives

SHAHEEN MOLLAH and MUNTAKIM SAAD

They are the ones who run towards danger when others run from it. Be it a fire, explosion, road accident, landslide, launch capsizing or other natural or manmade calamities, these first responders rush to the spot selflessly.

On some occasions, the firefighters risk their lives climbing to high spots to douse fires in multi-storey buildings; on other, they dive deep into rivers to retrieve swollen bodies.

On Saturday night, when a fire triggered a massive explosion at BM Container Depot in Chattogram's Sitakunda the firefighters were among the first ones to die.

Nine were killed and 15 others were injured. Three firefighters have been missing since the massive blasts.

The loss of so many lives in a single incident is unprecedented in the history of Bangladesh Fire Service and Civil Defence.

As videos and photos of the aftermath of the explosion did the rounds on social media, people of all walks mourned the demise of the heroic firefighters.

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## A frantic search for loved ones

SANJOY KUMAR BARUA and MOSTAFA YOUSUF

Abdul Majid was scurrying from place to place to find his son since late last night.

From Chattogram Medical College Hospital, he went to the gate of the BM Depot, where a massive explosion, followed by a blaze, so far took 49 lives and injured hundreds.

He then came back to CMCH, desperate to see his child.

Among the piles of charred bodies left on the floor, it was hard for Majid to recognise his son. At least 12 hours later, he was finally able to identify his son Robiul Alam, 18, from his ragged, burnt clothing.

"My son, a labourer at the depot for the last seven months, called me around 10:06pm saying fire. I had

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## HANDLING CHEMICALS The depot didn't follow rules

MOHAMMAD SUMAN, Ctg

Mandatory safety measures like storing chemicals on a separate part of the premises with caution signs were not followed at BM Container Depot.

According to the Dangerous Cargo Act-1953, shipping companies, ports and container depots should store and ship chemicals like hydrogen peroxide separate from other goods. Besides, there should be multiple caution signs.

But firefighters, who have been working at the site since the fire broke out on Saturday night, said they saw no such safety measures there.

According to customs record, there were around 240 tonnes of hydrogen peroxide in 16 containers, waiting to be shipped to Pakistan. These belonged to Al Razi Chemical Complex Limited, which is owned by Mojibur Rahman, the same businessman who owns the depot.



Debasish Palit, a chemistry professor at University of Chattogram, told The Daily Star that if the hydrogen peroxide concentration is 3-10 percent, it is not dangerous. But it could act like an explosive if the concentration is over 30 percent.

The concentration of hydrogen peroxide stored at BM Depot was 50 percent, according to customs document.

Shahidul Islam, senior station officer at Agrabad Fire Service and Civil Defence, said, "Foam should have been used to extinguish the fire on chemicals. But water was being sprayed as there was no indication that there were chemicals in those containers. There was no warning sticker on any of the containers."

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## Scenes from the burn institute

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**

Masum Miah, assistant manager at BM Container Depot, willingly left the safety of his home on Saturday night to help guide the firefighters to battle the inferno.

He is now battling 15 percent burns at the Sheikh Hasina National Institute of Burn and Plastic Surgery.

On Saturday night, Masud was safe in his bed at the rented house not far from the depot, talking on the phone with his wife who lives in Narsingdi and is seven months pregnant.

He told her that he was tired and was almost dozing off while talking. It was then that he received a phone call from his office, asking him to go to work. He told his wife that there was an accident and that he must go to office immediately.

He was soon at the depot to guide the firefighters through the alleyways as they fought the blaze.

A container exploded and a large ball

of fire engulfed him, leaving his entire body peppered with burn injuries.

His younger brother Imran Nazir described these horrible events at the burn institute yesterday.

Masum was one of 14 injured brought to Dhaka Medical College Hospital from Sitakunda yesterday. Seven of them were air-lifted to Dhaka while the rest arrived by road.

Twenty-two-year-old firefighter Gausul Azam lay in a bed inside the intensive care unit with 80 percent burns. The doctors performed a complicated surgery to save his life.

Azam rushed to the spot when the Sitakunda Fire Station was called after the fire broke out.

When a container exploded, Azam was directly in the line of fire, and his life hangs by a thread, doctors said.

Azam joined the fire service in August 2018, said Abdul Halim, an assistant

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Firefighters looking at the torn clothes of their fellow, who died trying to douse the flames at the BM Container Depot on Saturday night. The photo was taken yesterday.

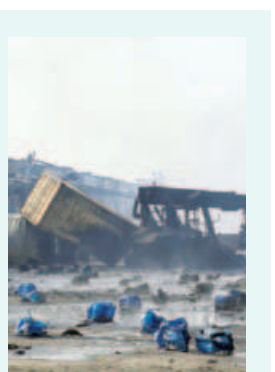
PHOTO: RAJIB RAIHAN

Worst of nightmares

Together in crisis

The screen went dark

SEE PAGE 3



## Khaleda first laid Padma Bridge foundation stone

Says Mirza Fakhrul

OUR CORRESPONDENT,  
Thakurgaon

The Padma Bridge is not someone's ancestral property. It has been built with the state's initiative, and Khaleda Zia laid its first foundation stone, BNP Secretary General Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir said yesterday.

But no one utters the name of Khaleda, he lamented.

There was the same situation when the Jamuna bridge was built. Its name was changed, the BNP leader said, adding that in other words, whoever comes to power in this country thinks everything is possessed by them.

In a views-exchange meeting with journalists at Thakurgaon Press Club, Fakhrul made the comments in reply to a question whether the BNP would join the inaugural event of Padma Bridge if invited.

The BNP leader said attempts were being made to divert the people's attention. The crisis was not centring the bridge, the crisis was to establish people's voting rights, the crisis is filing false cases under the Digital Security Act and the crisis is not getting justice.

The government is fully responsible for the Sitakunda fire as they did not take proper safety measures, said Fakhrul.

The next national election has to be held under a neutral government. If the polls are held under the neutral government, people would exercise their voting rights and could form a government by their choice, he added.

Thakurgaon BNP President Toimur Rahman, General Secretary Mirza Faisal Amin and Treasure Shariful Islam, among others, were present.



Left, the charred loading bay of BM Container Depot in Sitakunda, Chattogram, top right, firefighters spraying water at a stack of shipping containers still on fire yesterday evening, and anxious family members at Chittagong Medical College Hospital holding photos of individuals they are looking for. Many of the bodies found at the depot were burnt beyond recognition.

PHOTO: RAJIB RAIHAN, COLLECTED

## MPs slam healthcare services in constituencies

Say they have shortages of doctors, nurses

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

At least 14 lawmakers of ruling Awami League and opposition parties yesterday expressed dissatisfaction over their constituents not getting proper healthcare services from upazila health complexes and district hospitals.

Speaking during the question-answer session in parliament, they also said there were shortages of doctors, nurses and other healthcare staffers in their constituencies.

The treasury and opposition MPs also said many doctors and nurses who were posted to upazila health complexes did not stay there.

In their speeches, AL lawmakers Dharendra Debnath and Zillul Hakim said people in their areas were not getting healthcare services for lack of physicians and healthcare staffers.

Another senior MP of AL, Shahjahan Khan, said a 50-bed hospital in his area was increased to a 250-bed one. But people did not reap the benefit as the healthcare facility did not have the required number of doctors and nurses.

"Earlier in parliament, I raised the same issue before the health minister and

he assured me of providing the hospital with additional doctors and healthcare staffers. But no measures have been taken yet."

AL lawmaker SM Shahzada said he was in a big trouble as the condition of the lone health complex in Golachipa upazila in his constituency -- Patuakhali-3 -- was very bad.

The health complex was established a long time ago. Several buildings inside this health complex have been declared abandoned due to their dilapidated condition. People of Rangabali and Golachipa upazilas get treatment from this healthcare facility, he added.

The lawmaker said, "I wrote to the [health] minister two and a half years ago for a new health complex. But I haven't got it yet."

Moshiur Rahman Ranga, Jatiya Party MP and opposition chief whip, said costly equipment used in kidney dialysis and cancer treatment remains unused in a hospital in his area for years due to shortage of operators.

BNP MP Rumeen Farhana said due to the government inefficiency, the health ministry failed to spend a major portion of the money allocated in the

development budget.

AL MPs Shahiduzzaman Sarker, Moazzem Hossain Ratan, Shahiduzzaman, Bikolpodhara Bangladesh MP Abdul Mannan, Gonoforum MP Mokabbir Khan and Jatiya Party MP Kazi Firoz Rashid also criticised the health minister.

Health Minister Zahid Maleque admitted that there was a lack of doctors and healthcare staffers in different hospitals and health complexes.

He, however, said many doctors and nurses were recruited during the pandemic, and more would be appointed soon.

QUESTION-ANSWER

During the question-answer session, Maleque told the House that the government has a plan to vaccinate 80 percent people, and all nationals aged above 5 would come under the Covid inoculation coverage.

Bangladesh has so far received 29 crore doses of Covid-19 vaccines. Of them, the government purchased 18 crore shots and got 11 crore doses under the Covax facilities for free, he said while replying to a query from Jatiya Party lawmaker Mujibul Haque Chunnun.

## The depot didn't follow rules 49 deaths and counting

FROM PAGE 1

"The flames kept spreading and there was an explosion while we were trying put out the fire with water," he told The Daily Star, adding that the containers with chemicals were kept with containers of other goods.

"We did not find any fire extinguishing equipment at the depot."

According to the data of National Board of Revenue (NBR), Al Razi Chemical, located at Hathazari in Chattogram, exported around 9,635 tonnes of hydrogen peroxide to 12 countries in recent months using the BN Container

Depot.

Most of the consignments were shipped to Pakistan, the United Arab Emirates, Myanmar, Venezuela, and Singapore.

Mojibur, the owner of the depot, refused to comment on the lack of safety measures when contacted by The Daily Star.

He gave the number of an official of the company, saying that the individual would know better. But that number was found switched off yesterday.

Customs Commissioner M Fokhrul Alam told The Daily Star that a two-

member committee was formed to investigate the matter. "If any irregularity is found during the investigation, legal action will be taken."

According to Chattogram Custom House and Bangladesh Inland Container Depots Association (BICDA), the depot had 1,360 tonnes of goods in 810 containers waiting to be shipped out and 7,500 tonnes of goods in around 500 containers that had been imported.

Between 80 and 90 percent of the goods were damaged, said BICDA Secretary Ruhul Amin Sikder.

FROM PAGE 1

"At least nine firefighters were among the dead. Eight of them have been identified..." said Shahjahan Shikder, deputy assistant director of Fire Service and Civil Defence.

According to witnesses, after the fire broke out around 9:30pm, firefighters, depot workers and locals tried to put out the blaze with water from close proximity.

Around 10:45pm, there was a huge explosion that jolted buildings even several kilometres away. The bang could be heard eight to 10 kilometres from the scene.

Since early yesterday, firefighters and members of Gaosia Committee Bangladesh, a voluntary organisation, carried on their efforts to recover bodies from the depot amid frequent small blasts.

Faruk Hossain said fumes of toxic gas and extreme heat made it very difficult for firefighters to reach some parts of the depot.

Residents within one kilometre radius of the depot complained of the presence of toxic gas in the air.

"We could smell toxic gas in my house around half a kilometre from the scene," said Ali Akbar, a resident of adjoining Shitalpur, who went to the spot around 8:00am.

Water shortages and the spread of toxic fumes all over the depot frustrated the firefighters' efforts to put out the blaze that was still raging as of 1:00am today.

Bangladesh Inland Container Depot Association (BICDA) Secretary Md

Ruhul Amin Sikder said 16 to 18 containers carrying hydrogen peroxide were kept at the depot for export, but it is not possible to identify the source of explosions without investigation.

He further said the chemicals exported to at least 12 countries through private depots, and currently some other depots are storing the item in designated places.

Ruhul further said some depot officials were also injured. They include its Deputy General Manager Nurul Akhter, who was involved in the efforts to extinguish the fire.

Around 11:00am, a 200-member team of Bangladesh Army entered the depot to help the fire service put out the blaze and check leakage of chemicals to the Bay of Bengal through two canals.

While visiting the spot, Chattogram Division Commissioner Md Ashraf Uddin told this newspaper that the army was deployed to help the firefighters and prevent the leakage as the depot is linked to two canals connected to the Bay.

The fire damaged most of the 4,300 containers -- of which 3,000 were empty -- at the depot.

Chattogram Port Authority (CPA) Director (traffic) Enamul Karim said that in case of a fire at a depot in the port yard, they try to separate the intact containers from the affected ones and remove those fast.

But in this case, the BM Container Depot authorities could not do so till yesterday morning as most of the equipment operators of the

depot were not available, he pointed out.

CPA Chairman Rear Admiral M Shahjahan, who visited the spot around 10:30am, directed the BICDA to engage equipment operators from other container depots to remove the intact containers from the BM Container Depot.

BICDA Secretary Sikder said they started removing some containers from the depot's yard since noon but most had already been damaged by then.

He said products worth more than Tk 1,000 crore may have been damaged by the fire as most of the 1,300 goods-laden containers got damaged.

[Dwaipayana Barua, Arun Bikash Dey, FM Mizanur Rahman and Shariful Islam contributed to this report]

## UP chairman

FROM PAGE 5

Harun said the duo were attacked by criminals backed by Hafizur while on their way home from Santhia Bazar on Saturday night. Motin died on the spot, he said.

Harun said rebel candidate Hafizur defeated the him in the last UP polls. Supporters of Hafizur have since been harassing AL men in the area, Harun alleged.

"Primarily we have come to know that the enmity between the current chairman and former chairman might be behind the killing. We are investigating the incident," said Inspector Komol.

Before he was arrested, Hafizur denied the allegation while speaking to this newspaper.

## Scenes

FROM PAGE 1

director at Dhaka's fire service.

Firefighter Robin Miah, the same age as Azam, was also inside the ICU with 60 percent burns. His chest, neck, and back were completely scalded in the blaze.

Robin had gotten married only a year ago. In his village home in Manikganj's Chaturia, his wife kept fainting as she tried to come to terms with the shock of her husband's fate.

"He could not even talk. He simply looked at me and nodded when I asked if he recognised me," said Hossain Ali, Robin's father.

Mohammed Amin Sheikh, 19, had gotten a job at the depot so that he

could pay for his university admission fees, said his mother Parul Begum.

"He had gotten the job just last week for Tk 13,000 a month."

His lower abdomen is completely burned.

"Amin and six others share a room inside the depot. They heard the clamour and came out to see what was happening. He was standing in front of a shop when there was a loud explosion," said Parul.

Samanta Lal Sen, chief coordinator of the burn institute, said, "None of them are out of danger. The patients have between 12 percent to 80 percent burns. The main concern is that the inhalation of smoke has damaged their respiratory systems."

## Letters show

FROM PAGE 12

Richard J Evans, a specialist in German history, vouched for the authenticity of the unpublished letters, the newspaper said.

The letters show Hitler's fear of serious illness, it said. "If there is something bad, I absolutely have to know," Hitler told the doctor after their first consultation in May 1935, according to the letters.

The newspaper said the letters also showed the importance Hitler attached to his voice, which he used in speeches to whip up support for his regime.

One operation to remove a polyp was postponed

until after a speech, the letters say, as von Eicken advised Hitler he needed to rest his voice after the procedure.

In his letters von Eicken never questioned that he treated a man whose actions led to millions of people being killed in the Holocaust and World War Two, the newspaper said.

The paper said that when asked by Russian interrogators after the war why he didn't kill Hitler, von Eicken said: "I was his doctor, not his murderer."

Hitler died by suicide in a bunker in Berlin in 1945, shortly before the end of the war.

## A frantic search

FROM PAGE 1

asked him to get out of the situation as soon as and in any way possible. I know he tried, but he could not make it.

"The pain my son must have gone through while dying in that fire!" Majid wailed.

A day labourer from Chattogram's Banshkhal upazila, Majid had sent his son to the depot to help with family expenses in the face of price hikes.

While he was at least able to find his son's body, many were still seen frantically searching for their loved ones at the CMCH.

Md Rasel from Sitakunda could not locate his elder brother till the filing of this report at

9:20pm last night.

"My brother had been working at the depot as a covered-van driver for the last 15 years. He last called his wife on around 9:00pm on Saturday [the day the fire occurred]. We have had no trace of him since then."

He was seen at the entrance to CMCH's emergency unit pleading volunteers to let him see his brother, dead or alive, for one last time.

Kamal Uddin was looking for his younger brother -- Salauddin Sabuj, a firefighter who was one of the first responders to the fire and is believed to have died in the explosion.

"If I could just identify my brother, I would at least be able to bury him.

"My brother was so brave... I always asked him to leave this profession as it, more often than not, risked his life. Not only did he not listen to me, he was one of the first ones to rush to douse the fire and try to save the lives of others."

Meanwhile, Shahjahan, from Sitakunda's Kumira area, found his brother-in-law, a driver for the depot, writhing in pain at the hospital. He, however, could not trace his 18-year-old nephew, an office assistant in the same place.

"All the bodies are unrecognisable [from burns]. How will I identify my nephew? How will I console my sister about her son's death?"



RMG workers took to the streets for a second consecutive day yesterday, demanding pay hike amid rising prices of daily essentials. Inset, protesters try to stop a police vehicle in Mirpur-10 intersection.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

## Demand for pay hike rings louder

RMG workers take to streets again

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

RMG workers blocked Mirpur and its surrounding areas for the second consecutive day yesterday, demanding a hike in wages.

They took to the streets around 8:00am.

Vehicular movement was completely suspended from 10:00am at Mirpur-10 intersection, Kazipara, Shewrapara, Mirpur-11, 14 and 6, creating gridlock throughout the city.

Witnesses said workers didn't even allow motorbikes to pass the areas. Many were seen going to their offices on foot.

Md Jewel, a private job holder, said he started for work from Mirpur-10 intersection around 8:45am but did not find any bus. He then walked for a kilometre and finally got a rickshaw to reach his destination.

The workers left the road around 1:30pm after police charged baton and lobbed teargas shells, said witnesses.

Ariful Islam, additional deputy commissioner of Mirpur division of DMP, said the workers vandalised shops, vehicles and establishments during the protest.

Police managed to bring the situation



under control around 3:30pm as the workers withdrew, he said.

"We have detained eight workers for their involvement in the vandalism," he added.

Hafizur Rahman, officer-in-charge of Mirpur Police Station, said, "The situation's under control now and additional police force have been deployed in the area to avert any untoward situation."

The clash between the police and garment workers of several factories started the day before yesterday after workers blocked different roads in Mirpur, demanding a pay hike as the prices of daily essentials have shot up.

"Living like this is nearly impossible,

SEE PAGE 4 COL 1

## The worst of nightmares

CMCH struggling to cope with increasing number of Sitakunda blast patients

SIFAYET ULLAH

Patients with burn marks all over their bodies, screaming in pain, wrapped in bandages.

Then there were patients with severed limbs. Staring with blank eyes into the abyss that they find themselves faced with. No words in their mouths.

Many were going around – with pictures of their loved ones who went missing – asking everyone they came across for information.

Such was the scene at Chattogram Medical College Hospital's (CMCH) Burn and Plastic Surgery unit yesterday, after the explosion that occurred in Sitakunda's BM Depot.

As doctors and nurses were struggling to accommodate and treat so many patients, the cries of the injured and the families of the deceased made the environment unbearably painful to endure for any humane heart.

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Due to the space crisis for increasing number of injured people at CMCH, patients occupying the available beds left their spots and took to the floors to accommodate them.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

## Together in crisis

People in Chattogram extend helping hands after Sitakunda blast



PHOTO: RAJIB RAIHAN

At the wake of the deadly explosion at Sitakunda BM Depot, 200 students of Chattogram University along with youth bodies of different voluntary organisations rushed to CMCH to offer their help. Top, volunteers carry body of a victim to CMCH. Bottom, a pharmacy staffer holds a placard, offering free medicines to the injured.

MD NAZRUL ISLAM and ARUN BIKASH DEY

Right after the news of the deadly explosion at Sitakunda BM Depot broke, around 200 students of Chattogram University head out in two buses, in the middle of the night.

Their destination: Chattogram Medical College Hospital, 25km away from CU campus, where severely injured firefighters and depot workers were being taken for treatment.

Their purpose: blood donation and any other possible help they can offer.

Not only students, but youth bodies of different social, political and voluntary organisations also rushed to CMCH to offer their help.

Members and volunteers of Red Crescent Society were active at the hospital the whole night, receiving patients who came at regular intervals, taking them to emergency rooms and shifting them to different wards.

Sujit Rudra, a member of the organisation, said as soon as they heard about the incident, they were asked by their leaders to rush to the hospital.

"Over 200 of our members have been volunteering in the hospital, carrying the patients to different wards and collecting blood and medicines for them," he said.

Md Ismail, a member of Gausia Committee Bangladesh, said, "Hundreds from our organisation have been working here on CMCH premises and the explosion spot. They have been carrying the injured and collecting blood and medicine. We are also carrying the dead to complete the last rites."

Mosaheb Uddin Bokhtair, member secretary of the committee, said their volunteers rushed to the spot and hospitals immediately after hearing the news. "We also supplied food to the attendants of the patients in the hospital," he said.

Meanwhile, pharmacies in front of CMCH delivered free medicine for injured patients, while ambulance services came forward to work the entire night for free, carrying injured patients and dead bodies.

A staffer from Hasan Pharmacy in front of CMCH was seen holding a placard, urging the attendants of injured

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## 'And the screen went dark'

First to cover blast, Nayan goes silent forever while on Facebook live

FM MIZANUR RAHAMAN and MINTU DESHWARA

"The last time I talked to my son was around 2:00pm on Saturday," said Hasina Begum.

Hasina's son, Oliur Rahman Nayan, was a 20-year-old working at Sitakunda BM Depot. Nayan was the first to inform the entire country about the fire at the depot, followed by the deadly explosion, through a Facebook live.

Minutes after he went live on Facebook, streaming the fire at the depot, the explosion took his life.

"We were inside the depot when the fire broke out around 9:00pm. We were thinking about our course of action. Around after 17 minutes, Nayan went live on Facebook to spread the

word," said Ariful Islam, who works at the depot as a covered-van driver, and is a close friend of Nayan's.

"When we saw the severity of the fire, we asked Nayan to come out of the depot with us. But he continued with the live."

"After about 40 minutes, we heard a deafening noise, and everything went dark in the live stream. We tried calling him [Nayan] but found his phone switched off," Ariful said.

Ariful and his coworkers tried to enter the depot after the explosion but failed due to the heavy smoke and blazing fire. After a few hours, they went to CMCH to search for Nayan.

They finally found Nayan around noon yesterday. But it was all too late. Nayan had already perished in the explosion, said Ariful while sharing about the loss of his friend.

Nayan hailed from Fatiguli village of

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PRAYER TIMING JUNE 6



	Fazr	Zohr	Asr	Maghrib	Esha
Azan	4-05	12-45	5-00	6-45	8-15
Jamaat	4-40	1-15	5-15	6-50	8-45

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

## 'Save green, be seen'

UNDP, Star award mobile photography contest winners

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Commemorating World Environment Day, UNDP Bangladesh and The Daily Star jointly awarded the winners of "Save Green & Be Seen" mobile photography contest at The Daily Star Centre yesterday.

The campaign invited people to capture eco-friendly activities around them and to showcase them to the rest of the world. The call for submission began on May 23, and ended on June 1.

Within the span of a week, the campaign received nearly 900 entries, out of which 30 were displayed during an exhibition at The Daily Star Centre.

The best eight exhibited photographs were awarded. The winners are Abdullah Al Junaid, Md Mehedi Hasan Patowary, Saqeeb Niloy, Sohel Rana, Tariqul Islam, Maisha Hoque, Mahmuda Hoque and Nasrifa Tun Naim.

The winning pictures featured various attempts towards conserving nature. The photographs featured unique concepts of plantation, cleanliness drives in the port city, reusing plastic bottles, and the specks of green present with a grey city landscape.

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UNDP Bangladesh and The Daily Star jointly awarded the winners of "Save Green & Be Seen" mobile photography contest at The Daily Star Centre yesterday. Among 900 entries, 30 photographs were exhibited and the best eight were awarded. The event was attended by Sudipto Mukherjee, country director, UNDP Bangladesh, and Mahfuz Anam, editor and publisher, The Daily Star.

PHOTO: STAR

## Nature-based solutions for sustainable dev

Emphasises PM

BSS, Dhaka



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday directed the authorities concerned to go for nature-based solutions to achieve sustainable development keeping the environment protected.

"The development would never be sustainable unless we do it coordinating with environment. So, we have to go for nature-based solution keeping it in

mind," she said.

The premier said this while addressing an event at Bangabandhu International Conference Centre (BICC) on World Environment Day and Environment Fair-2022 coinciding with "National Tree Plantation Campaign" and "Tree Fair 2022". The premier joined the "National Tree Plantation Campaign" and "Tree Fair 2022" virtually from her official residence Gono Bhaban.

Hasina said the country should go for development but, it will have to be done following nature-based

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### Demand for pay hike

FROM PAGE 3  
so we took to the streets to demand a wage increase," said Koli Begum, a garment worker, who was part of the demonstration at Mirpur-10 yesterday.

garment worker, gets Tk 15,000.  
"The salary was quite enough just a couple of years back. But now, with two kids, it's getting difficult to survive," added Koli.  
RMG workers are demanding a minimum monthly salary of Tk 20,000 for a swing

machine operator and Tk 15,000 for helpers.  
Contacted, Shahidullah Azim, senior vice president of BGMEA, said he is aware about the protest and demands, but it will not be possible to increase wages, due to the ongoing global crisis. He alleged that the incident was instigated by an influential quarter.

### Save green, be seen

FROM PAGE 3  
The event was attended by Sudipto Mukherjee, country director, UNDP Bangladesh, and Mahfuz Anam, editor and publisher, The Daily Star.  
During his speech, Mukherjee looked back at

the history of Environment Day and said, "This year, we are celebrating the 50th World Environment Day, an observance where a group of people discussed how poverty is related to the environment. Currently, our concern has shifted to

the impact of affluence on the environment."  
"This is something that we constantly have to tell the people near us in order to protect and preserve the nature we have," concluded Mahfuz Anam.

### Journalist Mahbubul Alam's death anniv today

CITY DESK

Today is the 8th death anniversary of Mahbubul Alam, a senior journalist, said a press release.  
On this day in 2014, he died at the age of 78.

Alam worked for national daily, The Independent, as its editor for 18 years.

He started his journalism career during the mid 50s and was associated in this profession till his death. Besides, he worked as minister (press), Bangladesh mission in Washington DC and London. He also served as Bangladesh ambassador in Bhutan.

Alam also worked as MD and chief editor of BSS. During 2006, he became an adviser to the caretaker government. He also served as president of Newspaper Owners Association of Bangladesh.

His family members requested all to pray for the departed soul.

### And the screen

FROM PAGE 3  
Moulvibazar's Kulaura upazila and was the eldest among six siblings. He had started working in the depot only four months ago to help his poverty-afflicted family.

"Our entire family depends on Nayan's income. Now my son is gone forever," said Hasina Begum.

Nayan's entire village was engulfed in deep shock. His father Ashik Miah, a day-labourer, along with a few other relatives, reached Chattogram yesterday to claim his body for burial.

**LOST**  
This is to let all concerned know that I, NOWROSE RAHMAN ANTOR, have lost my passport. The passport number is EE 0614299. In this regard, a general diary number 249 was filed with the Hatirjheel Thana, Dhaka, on June 05, 2022. Contact No. 01960699123

**LUXURIOUS READY FLAT SALE**  
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(BESIDE ITALIAN EMBASSY) BOTH NORTH & SOUTH FACING  
SIZE: 5009 SFT (INCLUDING TWO CAR PARK)  
WITH ALL MODERN FACILITIES.  
PLEASE CALL: 01810009333 01949111999

### Nature-based

FROM PAGE 3  
solution policy. "This is urgently needed," she added.

She said the government has clear instruction that if any tree is needed to be cut for any development project, then five times more trees have to be planted.

Hasina reiterated her call not to spare single inch of arable land uncultivated as the world is under threat of scarcity of food grains due to the Covid-19 pandemic and Russia-Ukraine war.

"Our land is fertile and we have manpower. We have to produce our own crops. We produce whatever we need. We will have to shun our dependency on others."

Hasina also underscored the need for tree plantation and afforestation to keep the nature, environment and ecology of the country protected as well as ensuring improved and beautiful life of the future generations in the deltaic Bangladesh.

She also called upon all to plant tree saplings.

Later, the prime minister planted three saplings -- "Jam", "Palash" and "Neem" -- on the Gono Bhaban premises.

A video documentary on the government activities to protect the environment was also screened.

The prime minister also unveiled the cover of a publication of Bangladesh Forest Research Institute (BFRI) titled "Research Achievement of BFRI".

### Together in crisis

FROM PAGE 3  
patients to inform him whether they needed any medicine. Despite the utmost conviction with which the doctors at CMCH were treating the injured, lack of human resources remains a challenge greater than ever.

CMCH Director Brig Gen Shamim Ahsan said they were trying their best to deliver the best

### Fifth death anniversary of Justice Latifur Rahman

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Today is the fifth death anniversary of former Chief Justice Latifur Rahman, who led the 2001 caretaker government.

To mark the day, doa and milad mahlis and distribution of food at different places including orphanage at Jashore will be held.

Latifur passed away on June 6, 2017.  
Born in Jashore in 1936, he completed his LLB in Law from Dhaka University in 1956, before getting membership at the Dhaka High Court in 1960.

He took oath as a permanent judge in 1981 and later became an Appellate Division judge on January 15, 1991. He went on to become the chief justice on January 1, 2001, before going on retirement on February 28 of the same year.

In July 2001, he took oath as chief of the caretaker government and carried out the duty till October.

An author by the side, he wrote a book titled "Tottabadhyak Sarkar (Dingulo O Amar Katha)" (The Days of Caretaker Government and My Words).

treatment to the injured, with all the doctors on duty and the medicine store open all night. That is where Bangladesh Medical Association came to the aid. "All the doctors in Chattogram, including the interns, have been asked to come to the hospital to help treat the injured," said Faisal Iqbal Chowdhury, general secretary of BMA's Chattogram chapter.

### The worst of

FROM PAGE 3  
The unit was already full by the time this correspondent went to the hospital. According to Liton Kumar Palit, CMCH burn unit's assistant registrar, 48 people were admitted to the burn unit till then, sustaining injuries ranging from 10 to 60 percent.

Most of the injured are workers at the depot.  
Salauddin is one such worker, fighting for his life at the unit. "We have only been married for six months. I'm expecting our first child," said Parveen Akhtar, Salauddin's wife. "We have been pushed into uncertainty within the blink of an eye."

Many patients were sent to private hospitals and Dhaka due to lack of space

and appropriate treatment at CMCH. Following the rush of patients, the hospital administration converted its Gynae Ward into a make-shift burn unit, informed Liton.

Due to space crisis, patients occupying available beds left their spots and took to the floors to accommodate the injured.

"We have 60 bags of negative and 200 bags of positive blood. Many donors have come to the hospital to donate blood. After collecting their information, we have sent them back as no blood is needed at the moment," said Dr Tanzila Tabib Chowdhury, head of the Blood Transfusion Department of CMCH.

**World Health Organization Bangladesh**  
**VACANCY NOTICE**  
World Health Organization (WHO) invites applications from the interested and eligible candidates for the following positions under following contractual modalities:  
- Infectious Hazard Management (IHM) Officer / TNP  
- Executive Assistant (Programme) / FT  
For further details on submission of applications including detailed post description please visit our websites:  
<https://www.who.int/bangladesh/about-us/employment>  
<https://careers.who.int/careersection/ex/jobsearch.ftl>  
Qualified female candidates are highly encouraged to apply.  
WHO has a smoke-free environment and does not recruit smokers or other tobacco users.

**Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh**  
Office of the Superintending Engineer, RHD  
Chattogram Road Circle, Rahamatgonj, Chattogram  
Phone No. 031-611163, Mobile No. 01730-782678  
E-mail: [sechic@rhd.gov.bd](mailto:sechic@rhd.gov.bd)  
Memo No. 35.01.1541.173.01.078.22-1128 Date: 05-06-2022  
**e-Tender Corrigendum Notice**  
This is to notify for all concerned that e-Tenders are invited the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for procurement of works for the following tenders. Interested persons/firms can see details by visiting the website [www.eprocure.gov.bd](http://www.eprocure.gov.bd).  
This is to notify all concern that the following tender have published through e-GP Portal.  
1. Rehabilitation of existing pavement by strengthening and DBS Wearing Course at 1st to 17th km. Ch: 00+00m (Patiya) to Ch: 16+732m (Chandanaish Yunus Market) of Patiya Chandanaish (Boiltoli) Road (Z-1039) under Dohazari Road Division during the year 2021-2022.  
Tender ID. 702027, Tender Reference No. e-GP/SE/CTG/DRD/PMP Road/02/2021-2022 (Re-Tender). Publishing: 23.05.2022.  
**Corrigendum Details**  

Sl No.	Field name	Old date & time	New date & time
1.	Tender/proposal document last selling/downloading date and time	06.06.2022, up to 16.00	12.06.2022, up to 16.00
2.	Tender/proposal opening date and time	07.06.2022 up to 13.00	13.06.2022 up to 12.00

  
All other terms and conditions will remain unchanged this addendum will be considered as the part of the tender documents.  
Ranjan Kumar Biswas ID No. 700419  
Md. Quraishin ID No. 602059  
Mohammad Jahed Hossain ID No. 601962  
Sub-Assistant Engineer, RHD Chattogram Road Circle, Chattogram  
Assistant Engineer (C.C.), RHD Chattogram Road Circle, Chattogram  
Superintending Engineer (C.C.), RHD Chattogram Road Circle, Chattogram  
GD-1163

**Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh**  
Office of the Executive Engineer  
Jamalpur Public Works Division  
Jamalpur  
Phone: 0981-63666  
E-mail: [ee\\_jmpr@pwd.gov.bd](mailto:ee_jmpr@pwd.gov.bd)  
Memo No. 25.36.3900.164.07.001.22/1884 Date: 05-06-2022  
It is hereby notified to all concern that the tender ID NO and Description: 701483; Establishment of 560 Modle Mosque and Islamic Culture Centre in Zilla & Upazilla of Bangladesh, Head: External Electrification, Sub-Head: 150 KVA Sub-station, 30 KVA Generator, Air Cooler, 3 HP Centrifugal Pump, 5.5 HP Submersible Pump, Fire Extinguisher, Sound & PA System, Compound & Security Light, Solar Panel, CCTV System, Lightening Arrestor for Islamic Foundation, Bangladesh. One at Sarishbari Upazilla of Jamalpur District (Type-B) FY-2021-2022. Invited Vide this office Memo No. 25.36.3900.164.07.001.22/1784, dated 19-05-2022. The following Corrigendum has been made:  
**CORRIGENDUM NOTICE**  

Tender Notice Head	Description	As published in tender notice (newspaper)	As per amendments
Particular Information	Tender/Proposal Document last selling/downloading date and time	05-Jun-2022 17:00:00	12-Jun-2022 17:00:00
	Tender/proposal closing date and time	06-Jun-2022 13:00:00	13-Jun-2022 13:00:00

  
All other terms and conditions will remain unchanged. This corrigendum is a part and parcel of the tender.  
Md. Mubarak Hossain  
Executive Engineer  
Jamalpur PWD Division  
Jamalpur  
GD-1158

**গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার**  
জেলা সুপারের কার্যালয়  
জেলা কারাগার, সুনামগঞ্জ  
[jaisunamgonj@yahoo.com](mailto:jaisunamgonj@yahoo.com)  
**দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি**  
পর নং-০৮.০৪.৯০০০.১৫৯.০১.০০১.২০২২-১৩০৪(৪) তারিখ: ০৫-০৬-২০২২খ্রিঃ  

ক্র.সং.	বিষয়	বিবরণ
১	মন্ত্রণালয়/বিভাগ	স্বরাষ্ট্র মন্ত্রণালয়।
২	এজেন্সি/সংস্থা	জেলা সুপার, সুনামগঞ্জ।
৩	সরকারী সত্তা	জেলা সুপার, সুনামগঞ্জ।
৪	দরপত্রের নাম	১। বাসদ্রব্য (৪৪ বার) সরবরাহ।
৫	মেয়াদকাল	১। ০১-০১-২০২২ হতে ৩১-১২-২০২২খ্রিঃ সমস্তের বিভিন্ন প্রকার বাসদ্রব্য (৪৪ বার) সরবরাহ।
৬	দরপত্রের প্যাকেজ নম্বর	১১/২০২২
৭	দরপত্রের প্রকৃতি	বাসদ্রব্য সীমিত দরপত্র।
৮	বায়নার জমানবের পরিমাণ	প্রস্তাবিত মূল্যের উপর ০৪%।
৯	দরপত্র দলিল গ্রহণের স্থান	জেলা সুপারের কার্যালয়, জেলা কারাগার, সুনামগঞ্জ।
১০	দরপত্র দলিলের মূল্য	বাসদ্রব্য = ১০০০/- (এক হাজার টাকা)।
১১	সরকারীকৃত হোদাদ	দরপত্র দলিলে সংযুক্ত/বর্ণিতমতে।
১২	দরপত্র দলিলের স্থান	সুনামগঞ্জ জেলা কারাগারের প্রধান ফটক, জেলা প্রশাসকের কার্যালয়, সুনামগঞ্জ ও সদর বাসা, সুনামগঞ্জ।
১৩	দরপত্র দলিল বিক্রয়ের সর্বশেষ তারিখ ও সময়	২১-০৬-২০২২খ্রিঃ অফিস চলাকালীন ২-৩০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত।
১৪	ব্রাং-যোগাযোগ (Pre Tender Meeting)	১৪-০৬-২০২২খ্রিঃ ১২ ঘটিকা।
১৫	দরপত্র দাখিলের তারিখ ও সময়	২২-০৬-২০২২খ্রিঃ সকাল ৯.০০ ঘটিকা হতে ১২.০০ ঘটিকা।
১৬	দরপত্র খোলার তারিখ ও সময়	২২-০৬-২০২২খ্রিঃ বেলা ১২-৩০ ঘটিকা।
১৭	স্বাক্ষর ও সীল প্রদানের উদ্দেশ্যে	জাতীয় রাজস্ব বোর্ডে।
১৮	দরপত্র সজ্ঞক অন্যান্য তথ্যাদী জানার জন্য	সংশ্লিষ্ট করা কর্তৃপক্ষের সাথে (অফিস চলাকালীন সময়ে) যোগাযোগ করা যেতে পারে।
১৯	কর্তৃপক্ষ কোন কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতীত	কোন/সকল টেন্ডার বাতিল/গ্রহণ করার অধিকার সংরক্ষণ করেন।

  
সুনামগঞ্জ জেলা সুপার  
বিক্রে-০২৬৬৯০০০০৪  
সুনামগঞ্জ জেলা কারাগার  
০৮-৯১-৬১১৯৩ (ফক্স)  
[jaisunamgonj@yahoo.com](mailto:jaisunamgonj@yahoo.com)  
GD-1157

**Trading Corporation of Bangladesh (TCB)**  
TCB Bhaban, Kawran Bazar, Dhaka-1215  
[www.tcb.gov.bd](http://www.tcb.gov.bd)  
**Commercial Section**  
Invitation For Re Tender (International) of  
a) 25,00,000 (±5%) Liter Refined Soyabean Oil,  
b) 4,000 (±5%) M. Ton Whole Husked (Without Husk) Red Lentil  

Sl	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Commerce.
2	Agency	Trading Corporation of Bangladesh (TCB)
3	Procuring Entity Name	Chief Officer (Commercial), TCB, Dhaka
4	Procuring Entity Code	Not applicable
5	Procuring Entity District	Dhaka
6	Invitation for	Refined Soyabean Oil b) Whole Husked (Without Husk) Red Lentil
7	Invitation Ref. No.	26.05.0000.016.08.054.22.1741. b) 26.05.0000.016.08.054.22.1742
8	Date	05-06-2022

  
**KEY INFORMATION**  
9 Procurement Method: Open Tendering Method (OTM) (International)  
**FUNDING INFORMATION**  
10 Budget and Source of Funds: TCB's Own Fund.  
**PARTICULAR INFORMATION**  
11 Package No.: TCB/Imp-63/Soyabean Oil/2021-22. b) TCB/Imp-63/Red Lentil/2021-22  
12 Package Name: Refined Soyabean Oil, b) Whole Husked (Without Husk) Red Lentil  
13 Tender Publication Date: 06-06-2022  

Date	Time
14 Tender Documents Last Selling Date and Time	03-07-2022 17:00 P.M
15 Tender Closing Date and Time	04-07-2022 12:00 P.M
16 Tender Opening Date and Time	04-07-2022 12:15 P.M
17 Name & Address of the office(s)	Address (1) Sonali Bank Ltd. Kawran Bazar Branch, TCB Bhaban, Dhaka. (2) Trust Bank Ltd. Kawran Bazar Branch, and (3) Accounts & Finance Division, TCB's Principal Office at Dhaka.

  
-Receiving Tender Document: In front of TCB's reception (2<sup>nd</sup> floor), TCB Bhaban, 1, Kawran Bazar, Dhaka  
-Opening Tender Document: Board Room, TCB.  
**INFORMATION FOR TENDERER**  
18 Eligibility of Tender: Bonafide Suppliers. Details conditions will be mentioned in the Tender documents.  
19 Brief Description of goods: Import of 2,500,000 (±5%) (Two Million Five Hundred Thousand Plus Minus Five Percent) Liter Refined Soyabean Oil Packed in 01/02 (One/Two) Liter Food Grade PET Bottle. 4,000 (±5%) (Four Thousand Plus Minus Five Percent) M.Tons Whole Husked (Without Husk) Red Lentil packed in 01/02 (One/Two) kg.  
20 Price of Tender Document: Price of (a) Refined Soyabean Oil tender document is Taka 5,000 (Five Thousand), (b) Whole Husked (Without Husk) Red Lentil tender document is Taka 5,000 (Five Thousand).  

Lot No	Identification of Lot	Location	Tender Security Amount (USD/BDT)	Shipment Schedule
21	1. a) Refined Soyabean Oil b) Whole Husked (Without Husk) Red Lentil.	Offers are to be made on CFR (C) Chattogram (Previous name Chittagong) by Sea or Benapole/Bangla Hili/ Darshana/Sonamasjid/ Bhomra/ Teknaf or any land port of Bangladesh by rail/ truck.	Tender is to be submitted along with Tender Security amounting to: USD 1,07,814 (US Dollar One Lac Seven Thousand Eight Hundred Fourteen) or BDT 95,75,000 (BDT Ninety Five Lac Seventy Five Thousand) Only USD 1,02,240 (US Dollar One Lac Two Thousand Two Hundred Forty) or BDT 90,80,000 (BDT Ninety Lac Eighty Thousand) Only in the form of Pay-Order/Bank Draft/Bank Guarantee. The Successful Tenderer is to submit 5% (Five Percent) Performance Security in the form of Pay-Order/Bank Draft/Bank Guarantee.	Entire quantity of Goods is to be shipped within 06-10-2022 06-10-2022 (Including L/C correction & grace period)

  
**PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS**  
22 Name of Official Inviting Tender: Md. Shekhabur Rahaman  
23 Designation of Official Inviting Tender: Chief Officer (Commercial), TCB Kawran Bazar, Dhaka.  
24 Address of Official Inviting Tender: Principal Office: Trading Corporation of Bangladesh (TCB) 1, Kawran Bazar, Dhaka  
25 Contact details of Official Inviting Tender: Telephone No. 02-8180074 Fax No. 880-2-8180057 E-mail: [tcb@tcb.gov.bd](mailto:tcb@tcb.gov.bd), [tcimp@tcb.gov.bd](mailto:tcimp@tcb.gov.bd)  
26 Special Instructions: Incomplete, conditional Tender and alternative offer shall not be considered. The procuring entity reserves the right to accept any or reject any/all Tenders partly or wholly without assigning any reason. Tenderer who was awarded the Notification of Awarded (NOA) earlier but could not submit Performance Security (PS) in due time, will not be eligible for the Tender. Tenderer who's Performance Security (PS) was partially or totally forfeited earlier will not be eligible to participate in the Tender.  
(Md. Shekhabur Rahaman)  
Chief Officer (Commercial)  
GD-1161

# No JSC exams this year

Dipu Moni announces

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Education Minister Dipu Moni yesterday announced that there will be no Junior School Certificate and equivalent Junior Dakhil Certificate exams this year.

She also said during a press conference that she saw no reason to hold the exams in 2023 as well, as the exams for class-8 students were not part of the new curriculum, which does not propose public exams before class 10.

JSC and JDC exams were not held in 2020 and 2021 due to Covid restrictions. The government decided to scrap this year's JSC and JDC exams as education boards would not get enough time to conduct the exams due to the delayed holding of SSC and HSC exams, officials said.

SSC and HSC exams are set to take place after a four-month delay due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

"We don't have enough time to conduct JSC exams this year," Dipu Moni said at the press conference held at her Secretariat office.

Since no JSC and JDC exams will be held, students will get certificates based on evaluations by their educational institutions, she added.

The new curriculum, which is set to be implemented in phases from January 2023, will be fully implemented by 2025.

Dhaka education board acting chairman Tapan Kumar Sarkar, said this year, SSC exams will begin on June 19 and HSC exams are likely to begin in late August and conclude in October. "So, it will not be possible to complete all preparations by November to conduct JSC and JDC exams," he said.

Since introduction in 2010, JSC and JDC exams usually take place in November.

Many educationists have criticised the exams, calling them unnecessary and a source of stress for students.

Dipu Moni at the press conference also said the government will announce inclusion of more non-government educational institutions in the government's Monthly Pay Order (MPO) scheme within this week.

She said roughly the same number of new schools will be brought under the scheme as in 2019, when 2,730 non-government schools were included.

Dipu Moni also said the government is considering appointing principals, head teachers and assistant head teachers, through the Non-Government Teachers' Registration and Certification Authority (NTRCA).

Now assistant teachers of non-government schools are being appointed through the central examination under NTRCA.



Pilgrims offer prayers before they depart for Saudi Arabia to perform hajj. The photo was yesterday taken inside a Biman aircraft, the first hajj flight of this year.

PHOTO: PID

# UP chairman held over murder of AL activist

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

Police yesterday arrested Nagdemra Union Parishad Chairman Hafizur Rahman in a case filed over the hacking to death of an Awami League activist in Santhia upazila.

The victim is Abdul Motin, 42, a relative of former Nagdemra UP chairman Harunur Rashid, also the union AL secretary.

Harun's younger brother Jewel Rana was injured in the incident and is currently undergoing treatment at Pabna General Hospital, the former chairman told The Daily Star yesterday.

Harun filed a case accusing Hafizur and 18 others with Santhia Police Station yesterday.

Komol Kumar Debnath, inspector (investigation) of Santhia Police Station, said police arrested Hafizur and one Abu Sayeed after the case was lodged.

SEE PAGE 2 COL 6

# Australia accuses China of dangerous interception

AFP, SYDNEY

Australia yesterday accused the Chinese military of putting an Australian Defence Force flight crew at risk when their plane was intercepted late last month over the South China Sea.

Defence Minister Richard Marles revealed a Chinese strike fighter on May 26 intercepted an Australian P-8 surveillance craft, flying close and releasing flares.

# Inflation creating

FROM PAGE 12

households were surveyed, the fifth such survey since the onset of the pandemic.

The per capita daily income among the surveyed households was Tk 117 during the pre-pandemic period. It dropped to Tk 83 during the second shutdown in August last year.

Although the per capita income increased to Tk 105 in January this year, it came down to Tk 99 in May for the inflation.

The income of non-poor and vulnerable non-poor has fallen much sharply compared to their poorer counterparts and has recovered more slowly, particularly for the vulnerable non-poor, the survey found.

In April, inflation hit an 18-month high of 6.29 percent.

Due to the price hike, most of the surveyed households have drastically reduced or stopped consumption of major food items such as fish, meat, milk and fruit since February.

As of May, one in five urban slum households had to skip at least one meal in the last month due to lack of money.

The survey found that 38

percent of the households needed to borrow money but could not, mostly because of their inability to repay existing large debt burdens.

Since February, two-thirds of the households cut back on their non-food expenditure, including medical and children's education. Besides, they were buying less and lower quality goods to cope with the price hike.

Since February, 38 percent of the households were buying essentials from the Trading Corporation of Bangladesh's food trucks.

More than half of the households viewed the price hike as a governance issue and want the government to punish the syndicates and corrupt businesses.

There should be targeted scaling up of social protection programmes and governance reforms focused on market management to contain price rise, Rahman said.

The government's actions for the informal sector and the poor will be critical at this time, and this needs to protect both their consumption and production capabilities, said Imran Matin, executive director of BIGD.

# Govt hikes gas tariff by 22.8pc

FROM PAGE 12

the transport sectors cash in on it. We want to keep this sector stable now as the people are already suffering."

For captive power plants, the hike in tariff will be 15.5 percent, which is higher than the rate recommended by BERC's technical evaluation committee.

Earlier, in March, the committee recommended an 11.9 percent hike for the sector.

Probed, Faruque said: "The committee didn't count some expenditure in their calculation but we found those logical."

The gas tariff for power plants has been increased by 12.8 percent, for large-scale industries by 11.96 percent, for medium-scale industries by 10.09 percent, for tea estates by 11.5 percent and commercial users like hotels and restaurants by

15.83 percent. In his immediate reaction, Jashim Uddin, the president of the Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industries, thanked Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina for keeping the gas prices "rational" amid the global turmoil caused by the Ukraine-Russia War and the rising trend of LNG price.

Consumers' rights activists and some political parties had given alternatives to raising the price.

"BERC didn't accept any of our recommendations," said Shamsul Alam, vice-president of the Consumers Association of Bangladesh.

The country is already in an unstable situation due to the price hike of commodities, inflation and devaluation of the exchange rate.

"People are gasping. At this time, the government

could increase their subsidy in the energy sector instead of increasing the price."

The new tariff will have a far-reaching effect: gas is a strategic product, so every sector will be affected, he added.

Earlier in January, all six gas distribution companies — Titas, Bakhrabad, Jalalabad, Pashchimanchal, Karnaphuli, and Sundarban — had asked the BERC for an average of 117 percent hike in tariffs.

The state-owned Bangladesh Oil, Gas, and Mineral Corporation (Petrobangla) also placed a separate proposal asking to increase the bulk price of natural gas.

BERC held a public hearing on the proposals from March 21 to 24, where its technical evaluation committee had recommended a 20 percent price hike on average.

# Putin threatens

FROM PAGE 12

blown-out windows near one of the sites that was targeted.

Leonid, a 63-year-old local resident who used to work at the facility, said he heard three or four explosions. "There is nothing military there but they are bombing everything," he said.

Vasyl, 43, said he heard five blasts. "People are afraid now," he said, walking back to his damaged home with two loaves of bread.

"The Kremlin resorts to new insidious attacks. Today's missile strikes at Kyiv have only one goal — kill as many as possible," Ukrainian presidential adviser Mikhailo Podolyak wrote in a tweet.

Meanwhile, in the east of the country, the battle for control of Severodonetsk raged on.

The city is the largest still in Ukrainian hands in the Lugansk region of the Donbas, where Russian forces have been advancing gradually after retreating or being beaten back from other parts of the country, including Kyiv.

Lugansk regional governor Sergiy Gaiday said

that Russian forces had lost ground in the city and it was now "divided in two".

"The Russians were in control of about 70 percent of the city, but have been forced back over the past two days," he said on Telegram. "They are afraid to move freely around the city."

Tens of thousands of people have been killed, millions forced to flee and towns turned into rubble since Putin ordered an all-out assault on his pro-Western neighbour on February 24.

Apart from the human toll, the conflict has caused widespread damage to Ukraine's cultural heritage.

On Saturday, Ukrainian officials reported a large Orthodox wooden monastery, a popular pilgrim site, had burnt down and blamed Russia shelling.

Moscow continues to prove "its inability to be part of the civilised world," Culture Minister Oleksandr Tkachenko said in a statement.

Russia's defence ministry blamed "Ukrainian nationalists" for the blaze.

# Of valour and selflessness

FROM PAGE 1

So badly were their bodies burnt in the explosions that they were hard to recognise. Parts of the uniform they held so dear and wore with such pride lay strewn about the spot along with their body parts.

Eight of the heroes were identified as Rana Mia, Moniruzzaman, Alauddin, Shakil Tarafdar, Mithu Dewan, Nipon Chakma, Ramjanul Islam and Salauddin Kader Chowdhury. It was not possible to identify the other uniform-clad body, according to the media cell of the fire service.

Just over a month ago, Moniruzzaman had become the father of a precious girl. In April, he joined Kumira Station, leaving his wife and daughter in the capital. He left with a promise to his wife that he would be back to visit them shortly.

That hope was shattered on Saturday night by the blast at the BM Container Depot.

Moniruzzaman was killed in the chemical explosion while on duty along with other firefighters at the depot.

"It's not death; it's patriotism, self-sacrifice..." wrote Shahidul Sumon,

a station officer at Bangladesh Fire Service and Civil Defence, on his Facebook page.

"A few days ago, when I had a high fever, Moniruzzaman put his hand on my head and said, 'Sir, nothing will happen to you, you will get well soon'. Although I recovered quickly, Moniruzzaman did not come back... How many memories, how many times we extinguished fires together! May God bless the families of all the victims."

Mashroof Hossain, an additional superintendent of police, wrote on his Facebook page: "If there are any unsung hero among the emergency services in Bangladesh, they are our firefighters. In my 12 years of service, I have seen how they work with the utmost dedication, courage and self-sacrifice."

Hailing their valiant efforts, many on Facebook wrote that the firefighters are the real heroes, and that heroes never die.

A total of 25 units of the fire service were working to control the deadly fire as of last night.

A fire service official said 22 firefighters were sent to the spot as part of the first response team. One of the reasons behind the huge

casualties is that the fire service was not informed about the chemicals in the containers, he said.

Shariful Hasan, a columnist, wrote in a Facebook post: "Salute to the firefighters. They went to control the fire and got injured. But they were not informed about the huge amount of chemicals there. I don't know if the fire service has ever lost so many people in one incident. I pay tribute to these people."

Talking to The Daily Star, Fire Service and Civil Defence Director General Brig Gen Md Main Uddin said there have never been so many deaths of firefighters in one incident.

"I've been working with the fire service for almost 25 years. In all these years, I have never seen so many deaths in a fire incident."

Since 1981, at least 17 firefighters have died while on duty, with at most one firefighter perishing in a single incident, according to the media cell of the fire service.

But Saturday's explosion produced a grim new record, claiming the lives of nine courageous men who did not think twice before laying it all on the line for the safety of others.

# No legal bar

FROM PAGE 12

Sheikh Hasina's government does not take action against anybody out of vengeance.

The investigations into the corruption cases filed against Khaleda and her sons, during the caretaker government regime in 2007, were completed by the Anti-Corruption Commission and the trial

proceedings were finished in line with the law, he said, adding that blaming the AL for the cases and trial proceedings is baseless.

Justice Nazmun Ara Sultana, director general of JATI, presided over the meeting where Md Golam Sarwar, secretary of the law and justice division, also spoke.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh  
Office of the Project Director (SE), RHD  
Panguchi Bridge Construction Project  
Sarak Bhaban, Tejgaon, Dhaka  
Mob: 01321-168574  
E-mail: pdpanguchi@gmail.com

**Request for Expression of Interest**

1	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Road Transport and Bridges Road Transport and Highways Division
2	Agency	Roads and Highways Department
3	Procuring Entity Name	Project Director (SE), RHD Construction of Panguchi Bridge Project
4	Procuring Entity Code	N/A
5	Procuring Entity District	Dhaka
6	Expression of Interest (EOI) for Selection of	NGO Services for implementing 'Resettlement Plan' for Construction of Panguchi Bridge at Morrelganj over the river Panguchi at 17th km of Signboard-Morrelganj-Rayenda-Sharankhola-Bogi Road (R-773).
7	EOI Reference No.	
8	Date	06 June 2022
<b>KEY INFORMATION</b>		
9	Procurement Sub-Method	QCBS
<b>FUNDING INFORMATION:</b>		
10	Budget and Source of Funds	GOB
11	Development Partner (if applicable)	N/A
<b>PARTICULAR INFORMATION</b>		
12	Project/Program Code (if applicable)	N/A
13	Project/Program Name (if applicable)	Construction of Panguchi Bridge at Morrelganj over the river Panguchi at 17th km of Signboard-Morrelganj-Rayenda-Sharankhola-Bogi Road (R-773).
14	EOI Closing Date and Time	05 July 2022, 12:00 BST
<b>INFORMATION FOR APPLICANT</b>		
15	Brief Description of the Assignment	The Non-Government Organization (NGO) shall primarily assist the PIU of Roads and Highways Department (RHD) in resettlement and land acquisition, particularly for assisting affected and entitled persons claiming their compensation from Deputy Commissioner (DC) offices, as per Resettlement Action Plan (RAP). The general scope of work and key tasks of the NGO shall include but not limited to: 1. Review, Update and Finalization of Resettlement Action Plan; 2. Implementation of Resettlement Action Plan; 3. Assist in collecting Cash Compensation under Law (CCL) from DC offices; 4. Assist in land acquisition and utility shifting activities as well as provide logistic support during the survey/field verification conducted by DC office and other relevant government organizations; 5. The NGO will carry out, where needed, additional census and Inventory of Losses (IOL), if required for verification; 6. Prepare supplementary LAP during implementation for any "left out" land/plots or disputed area required for project implementation; 7. Assist in computerization and copy of DC office data (calculation sheet, DC Award, share determination etc); 8. Identification of entitled persons (EPs) and render assistance to EPs to participate in grievance redress committee (GRC), preparation of EP file, preparation and issuance of entitlement card, preparation of payment statement etc; 9. Disbursement of resettlement benefits; 10. Provide any resettlement-related technical services required by the Executing Agency (EA); 11. Preparation of monitoring and supervision reports to EA as agreed in the contract; 12. Submission of Project Completion Report (PCR) and detailed statement of expenditure against payment to the affected persons (APs) and EPs; 13. Dissemination of information on the project and resettlement policy to the Project Affected Persons (PAPs) and others (community groups, local administration, etc.)
16	Experience, Resources & Delivery Capacity Required*	The NGO must have experience in land related survey, land acquisition and implementation of resettlement action plan in large-scale completed development project(s). The NGO must be registered in Bangladesh under the NGO Affairs Bureau or the Department of Social Welfare. The NGO must have experience in implementation of at least 3 (Three) Resettlement Programs in Highway Bridge/Road development Project in the last 7 (seven) years in Bangladesh. Experience of working in resettlement program under Roads and Highways Department or in any other government agency will get preference.
17	Other Details	<b>The EOI shall include:</b> 1. Profile of the NGO (e.g. representatives, address, number of staff, history and other information to introduce itself). 2. General experience of the NGO in brief. 3. Copy of updated/renewed registration certificate with NGO Affairs Bureau or Department of Social Welfare. 4. Copy of audited financial reports of NGO for last three years. 5. Provide information on each assignment completed for which your firm and each associate (JV member only) for this assignment, was legally contracted either individually as a corporate entity or as one of the major companies within an association for carrying out consulting services (i.e. land survey, land acquisition, resettlement plan and monitoring) similar to the ones requested under this assignment. The firm will provide the similar experience information in the format. 6. The EOI will include such similar experience information which has been completed within in the last 10 (ten) years. The information will be supported by the copy of experience certificate and contract document (with salient feature for identification only). The NGO will not provide information of other assignments which are not similar to this assignment. 7. Nature, size, employer location and type of input for contracts in hand (in tabular form); 8. Summary of permanent professional and technical employees (no consultant or temporary staff) with key qualifications (in tabular form). 9. Interested NGO may obtain additional information from the office of the undersigned. EOI with all supporting documents must be submitted at or before 12:00 BST by 05 July, 2022 in sealed envelope, marked with "NGO" Services for implementing "Resettlement Plan" for Construction of Panguchi Bridge at Morrelganj over the river Panguchi at 17th km of Signboard-Morrelganj-Rayenda-Sharankhola-Bogi Road (R-773). and delivered to the address of the undersigned. 10. The EOI shall be submitted in one (1) original, two (2) copies, and one soft copy in USB in a sealed envelope. 11. The final selection of NGO shall follow Quality and Cost-Based Selection (QCBS) procedure in accordance with the Public Procurement Rules 2008. procurement process of NGO selection. 12. N/A
18	Association with foreign firm is)	N/A
<b>PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS</b>		
19	Name of the Official Inviting EOI	Md. Shaiful Islam
20	Designation of the Official Inviting EOI	Project Director (SE), RHD Construction of Panguchi Bridge Project, Sarak Bhaban, Tejgaon, Dhaka.
21	Address of the Official Inviting EOI	Room-402, Level-04, Part-01, Sarak Bhaban, Tejgaon, Dhaka-1208
22	Contact Details of the Official Inviting EOI	Project Director (SE), RHD Construction of Panguchi Bridge Project, Sarak Bhaban, Tejgaon, Dhaka Room-402, Level-04, Part-01, Sarak Bhaban, Tejgaon, Dhaka-1208. E-mail: pdpanguchi@gmail.com
23	The PE reserves the right to shortlist or not to shortlist any or all of the applicant(s) without mentioning any reason whatsoever.	

GD-1162

Shaiful Islam  
05/06/22  
Project Director (SE), RHD  
Panguchi Bridge Construction Project  
Sarak Bhaban, Tejgaon, Dhaka.



# Glorious 50 years of Bangladesh College of Physicians and Surgeons (BCPS) GOLDEN JUBILEE

Monday, 06 June 2022

## BCPS - PIONEER OF POST-GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION

### Introduction:

Health is an internationally recognized human right. It is the wealth of a nation and health-care is a basic right of all citizens. The importance of the medical community in ensuring the people's right to proper health-care is immense & that is why a standard medical education plays a pivotal role in building up doctors and shaping up the overall health-care system. The greatest Bengali of all time, Father of the Nation, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, recognized in the constitution of the People's Republic of Bangladesh in clause 15 (ka) that ensuring the basic components of living is the state's primary duty and in clause 18 (1) that it is one of the primary responsibilities of the state to improve the nutrition quality of the general populous and to improve the general state of public health. It was through the hands of Bangabandhu that the revolutionary change of the improvement of the health-care sector and medical sciences had begun. He undertook many critical and multifaceted steps such as: Including health-care as a main component of the basic rights in the constitution, making health-care a priority in the first 5-year plan, establishing rural health-care centers, giving doctors the status of first-class officers, forming the Bangladesh National Nutrition Council etc. To ensure that health-care reaches all strata of the general populous, he expanded health-care services to districts, erstwhile Thanas and to union level as well.

Over the past three decades, the combined participation of the State, Doctors, Researchers and the General People have seen a major development of our health-care system. Along with infrastructural development, technological advancement, and expansion of the service sector, improvement in medical excellence has been one of the sectors that has most progressed in Bangladesh. This post graduate education in the health-care system first started through the BCPS.

In 1947, after the division of the Indian subcontinent, the East Pakistan was largely neglected and deprived in all sectors when compared to its Western counterpart. Sometime in 1965, during the regime of Pakistan, a small branch of Pakistan College of Physicians and Surgeons was opened in Dhaka. Although, there was such an office on pen and paper, in reality, its activities were very limited and conventional. After a long torturous history, Bangladesh gained liberation under the leadership of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman in 1971 through a 9-month long war where the blood of 30 lakh martyrs were shed and at the expense of the dignity of 2 lakh of our mothers and sisters. In this newly liberated country, just like other service providing sectors, the health-care sector also faced a scarcity in infrastructure and skilled labor. This nation was hit with an acute vacuum of expert physicians in the health-care sector. Even amidst the difficult task of rebuilding the infrastructure and economy of a war-torn nation, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman ensured opportunities for higher studies in medical science by taking a very apt and timely initiative by establishing the BCPS, the fruits of which the nation is still enjoying.

### Establishment of BCPS:

The independence war of 1971 left behind a nation both shattered and wounded as well as an impoverished population on the brink of an outright health-care crisis. Lack of specialist doctors meant a health-care system that was inadequate and unable to provide quality service to the mass population, most of whom were malnourished & extremely poor. In order to meet the demand of specialist doctors as well as developing the health sector overall, our Father of the Nation, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, by the power of a Presidential Ordinance, established the Bangladesh College of Physicians & Surgeons (BCPS) on 6th June, 1972; a ground-breaking and momentous decision that highlights the great wisdom and foresightedness Bangabandhu possessed. The establishment of BCPS paved the way for aspiring doctors to pursue their dreams of becoming a specialist physician in this country in a timely and affordable manner.

The journey of this College started in 1972 with 53 Fellows, most of them having acquired their MRCP/FRCS/FCPS from UK and Pakistan. Today, around 7756 doctors have received their FCPS and 3345 have received their MCPS from this College. In 1972, the college started its journey with a fellowship program in four subjects. Due to the emergence of complex diseases and the addition of new dimensions in modern medicine, new subjects were introduced. At present, the college offers fellowship in 59 subjects and membership in 16 subjects.

In January 2018, the 'Bangladesh College of Physicians & Surgeons Act/Law 2018' was formally passed in National Parliament and in January 28th 2018, it was published in the form of a gazette, a momentous decision that stands to enhance the image of BCPS even further.

### Degree and Certificate:

The college, as a part of higher studies and training, provides fellowships and memberships. Memberships are always provided through examinations. But fellowships are provided through in two ways: 1) Throw an examination system and 2) Honorary fellowships. Previously, a few exceptional individuals have been given fellowships without any examinations because of their activities of human welfare. This was halted after the implementation of the BCPS law of 2018. Till now, 103 doctors have been provided the fellowships without exams and 275 doctors have been provided honorary fellowships.

### Constitution and Management of BCPS:

According to the by-laws of the BCPS, its activities are governed by a member council. Out of which, 16 members are elected for every 4 years through elections held by the election commission. The remaining 4 members are appointed by the government. The council members elect one president, one senior vice-president, one vice president, one treasurer and two general members to form the executive committee.

### College campus:

The college started its journey at that time in a small scale in a room in IPGMR. Later, the office of the college was in a rented apartment in Dhanmondi. The college started official activities from January 1982 in a 3-acre space land in Mohakhali in the capital. Currently, the activities of the college are held in two separate buildings inside the campus. As the administrative, academic, examination related and research activities of the college has increased, in a bid to bring in infrastructural improvement the government of Bangladesh with the kind support of the honorable Prime Minister and the continued efforts from the health minister, the 'BCPS modernization and expansion' centric 215 crore taka project was approved by the government. As part of this project, a 1500 seating capacity auditorium, a 12 storied multipurpose building with 3 basements will be built, renovation of the existing rooms of the college premises is planned, renovation of the RTM department along with structural repair and building new furniture, improving the structure of the OSPE, IOE and clinical examination will be completed.

### ACTIVITIES OF BCPS:

#### Medical Education:

BCPS is such an educational institute that it does not require any significant expense from the government's end to train up medical professionals. The BCPS, with the help of renowned physicians/medical professionals, conducts courses on the different subjects with regards to preparation for the FCPS Part I & II. As a mandatory part of the fellowship program, it conducts non-stop classes for the candidates in different fields such as: Research Methodology, Information and Communication Technology, Basic Surgical Skills, Essential Obstetrics care and Neonatal Care. Structured academic courses are organized for the students for a period of 1 year in the government medical colleges which fall under the scope of the fellowship program of the college.

#### Training:

Training systems in the BCPS are comparable to those which are held across many developed nations as well, namely: the US, UK, Ireland, Canada, Pakistan, Hong Kong, and Australia etc. Keeping in line with similar global institutes, BCPS has introduced fellowship and membership programs in 122 government and non-government. Specialized hospitals and medical institutes and 64 district Sadar hospitals. These trainings are under strict observation by the BCPS in order to ensure that the highest quality is being upheld. BCPS also reviews the quality of trainings in different medical colleges and hospitals. To maintain the quality of facilitators, the BCPS regularly holds workshops and seminars for them. Currently, in the recognized institutes, training case based discussions are held with the trainees every 6 months, clinical evaluations done by using the Mini-CEX system, presentations regarding the progress of each training, submitting progress reports every 6 months are conducted with extreme importance. As a result of which, the quality of the trainings is gradually improving.

#### Research:

Conducting a research or completing a thesis is mandatory for all trainees aspiring to be Fellows of the College. Every student must go through a structured module course on research methodology where they learn how to conduct research, how to write a thesis and protocol which is conducted under the supervision of the RTM department. There is no better alternative than to increase focus on research activities in order to take the stature of the BCPS to newer heights on the national and international scale. After the establishment of the college, to preserve and uphold the research completed by fellows and members in national and international forums, the college has been publishing journals. Currently, the college publishes 4 journals every year. All relevant information regarding the journal is published in the website.

#### Continuing Professional Development:

To inform the fellows and members of the different activities and new additions, Continuing Professional Development programs are held in the various Medical Colleges and Hospitals of the country. To create awareness amongst doctors regarding the developments of advanced technology and new discoveries in medical sciences, the College holds these CPD programs all throughout the year.

#### Examination:

Since being established, the college has remained steadfast in maintaining the quality of its examinations. The examinations held by this college is not only the best in medical education in the country but also the most regular, unbiased and of international standard. This college is determined to use its healthcare education, testing system and research to create standardized expert doctors. Even in case of the evaluation of the examinees, the college follows other similar organizations and does a fair, transparent, and objective evaluation process. To ensure that the international quality and recognition of the examination is preserved and recognized, it is customary to invite examiners from around the world from countries like Ireland, US, UK, Australia, Malaysia, Singapore, Saudi Arabia, Oman, Sri Lanka, Pakistan and Nepal besides local examiners as well.

The college's exams are held regularly in January and July of every year and the results are published same day within one hour of the practical exams being completed. This is the only institution till date in Bangladesh where this rule is yet to be broken. This difficult task has been possible only because of the active participation and tireless efforts of the fellow of this institute.

#### Higher Education:

BCPS ensures that the post-graduate trainees are appropriately trained in their respective fields so that they can be a competent specialist. Furthermore, the Skill Development Lab of BCPS allows doctors to get hands on training about topics such as: Basic & Advanced Surgical Skills, Basic Laparoscopic Skills, Basic Microsurgical Skills, Temporal Bone Dissection, Emergency Obstetric Care & Neonatal Care, Essential Gynaecological Skills Course, Advanced Cardiac Life Support & Advanced Trauma Life Support. Previously, a postgraduate had to spend a lot his own hard earned money to go abroad for such trainings. Now it is possible in BCPS' very own Skill Lab. Even then, BCPS takes initiatives to send it's Fellows abroad in various countries in prestigious training programs. All of this ensures development of doctors equipped to meet the demands of our great country and its people.

#### The contribution of College at the national level:

Since its commencement, BCPS has been proactive in providing quality medical services and specialist medical services to the people of this country. About 85% of the specialists who have graduated from this college are making significant contribution in teaching and providing specialist medical services to the people of the country in the district hospitals and upazila health complexes of various government hospitals as well as in private medical colleges and hospitals. Fellows and members of the college are also working abroad with great reputation beyond the borders of the country. BCPS is working successfully to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals by using its acquired technology and knowledge to ensure specialized medical care and healthy living to the people of the country.

#### International recognition:

Certificate Degrees awarded by the College are recognized for professional registration, higher education, training and employment in many countries of the world. The college has established its affiliation with the American College of Surgeons, American Heart Association, Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine of UK, the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh, the Royal College of Obstetrics and Gynecology, UK, King Fahad Medical city Saudi Arabia, Ethicon Institute of surgical Education, India, All India Institute of Medical science etc.

#### Continuing the Tradition of BCPS:

BCPS, the first traditional institution of postgraduate medical education in the country, is about to enter its 50th year. Dedicated to the advancement of postgraduate medical education in the overall welfare of the country and the nation, the college stands today with its glorious unique heritage as it has a long way to go before it commits itself to conducting research activities in every fields of science. Today's BCPS is the result of the responsible leadership and relentless work of many eminent physicians of Bangladesh. Due to the infinite glory of Almighty and the deep wisdom and hard work of the Fellows and Councilors of the College, the College has been able to build a unique tradition of education and services with great philosophy.

It is the tradition of this college to conduct the examinations on the date fixed before hand for maintaining standard of education and examinations and to publish the results as soon as the examinations are over. Today, there is no remote area of the country where college fellows and members are not engaged in humanitarian service. They are also playing an important role in providing medical services in different countries of the world.

It is hoped that in the near future this tradition will be further expanded and enriched. BCPS is a unique organization that is magnificent in its own tradition with a rare instance.



বাংলাদেশ কলেজ অব ফিজিশিয়ানস এন্ড সার্জান্স (বিপিএস)-এর প্রতিষ্ঠার ৫০ বছর পূর্তি উপলক্ষে অর্থনৈতিক কর্মসূচী, মেসো, মেসার এবং সনসহায় বিশেষজ্ঞ চিকিৎসকসহ সন্ত্রিস্ট সকলকে আশ্রয়িত করছে।

সর্বকালের সর্বশ্রেষ্ঠ বাঙালি জাতির পিতা বঙ্গবন্ধু শেখ মুজিবুর রহমান, স্বাধীনতার পূর্ববর্তী দেশের চিকিৎসা ব্যবস্থার উন্নয়নে হাসপাতাল প্রতিষ্ঠাসহ বিভিন্ন কার্যক্রম গ্রহণ করেছেন। স্বল্পবয়স্ক দেশের জনগণের স্বাস্থ্য এবং চিকিৎসাসেবার সার্বিক উন্নয়নের লক্ষ্যে উচ্চতর ডিমিয়ারী বিশেষজ্ঞ চিকিৎসক ও চিকিৎসা শিক্ষার শূন্যতা পূরণ করতে জাতির পিতা মুক্তাঙ্গনের রসূল কলেজগুলোর আদর্শ ১৯৭২ সালের ৬ই জুন বাংলাদেশ কলেজ অব ফিজিশিয়ানস এন্ড সার্জান্স প্রতিষ্ঠা করেন। এর ফলে দেশে স্বল্প বয়সে ও সময়ে আন্তর্জাতিক মানের উচ্চতর ডিমিয়ারী বিশেষজ্ঞ চিকিৎসক তৈরি পথ উন্মোচিত হয়। বঙ্গবন্ধু শেখ মুজিবুর হায়েই বাংলাদেশের স্বাস্থ্যসেবার উন্নয়ন ও চিকিৎসা বিজ্ঞানের গবেষণার প্রেক্ষিত পরিবর্তন করত। তিনি স্বাস্থ্যকে সর্বাঙ্গিক মূল অধিকারের অংশ হিসেবে সংজ্ঞায়িত, প্রথম পল্লবাহিনী পরিচালনা স্বাস্থ্যকে গুরুত্বপূর্ণ, গ্রামীণ স্বাস্থ্যকেন্দ্র প্রতিষ্ঠা, চিকিৎসকদের চাকুরির প্রথম শ্রেণির মর্যাদা প্রদান, বাংলাদেশ জাতীয় পুষ্টি পরিষদ গঠনসহ বহুমুখী পদক্ষেপ গ্রহণ করেন। জাতির পিতা চিকিৎসাসেবাকে সর্বোচ্চের জনগণের নিমিত্ত পৌঁছে দেয়ার জন্য জেলা, থানা এবং ইউনিয়ন পর্যায়ে স্বাস্থ্যসেবা সম্প্রসারণের ম্যাক্সিমাম চেষ্টা করে।

আওয়ামী লীগ সরকার জাতির পিতার পদা অনুসরণ করে জনগণের সেরা স্বাস্থ্যসেবা পৌঁছে দিতে গত ১৩ বছরে স্বাস্থ্যসেবা ব্যাপক উন্নয়ন কর্মক্রম গ্রহণ ও বাস্তবায়ন করেছেন। পান্ডুরী স্বাস্থ্যনির্মাণ প্রকল্প করে যুগোপযোগী স্বাস্থ্যসেবা নিশ্চিত করার লক্ষ্যে নতুন নতুন হাসপাতাল, নার্সিং ইনস্টিটিউট প্রতিষ্ঠাসহ নানা পদক্ষেপ নেওয়া হয়েছে, যার ফলে বাংলাদেশের স্বাস্থ্যসেবা উন্নয়নযোগ্য অঙ্গাঙ্গি সার্বিক হয়েছে। সার্বসংস্থ হাসপাতালগুলোর শাখা বৃদ্ধির চিকিৎসক, নার্স, সাপোর্ট স্টাফের সংখ্যা বৃদ্ধি পড়েছে। সার্বসংস্থ শিক্ষার প্রসারের লক্ষ্যে নতুন নতুন মেডিকেল কলেজ ও অন্যান্য শিক্ষা প্রতিষ্ঠান গড়ে তোলা হয়েছে। আমাদের সরকার 'বাংলাদেশ কলেজ অব ফিজিশিয়ানস এন্ড সার্জান্স আইন-২০১৮' প্রণয়ন করেছেন। প্রথম পর্যায়ে জনগণের সেরা স্বাস্থ্যসেবা পৌঁছে দিতে সার্বসংস্থ প্রায় ১৩ বছরে দেশে কনিষ্ঠতম চিকিৎসক ও ইউনিয়ন পর্যায়ে হাসপাতাল স্থাপন করা হয়েছে। কনিষ্ঠতম চিকিৎসক ও ইউনিয়ন স্বাস্থ্যকেন্দ্রের মাধ্যমে গ্রাউন্ড জন্মস্ট্র্যাটেজি তৈরি স্বাস্থ্য পরিচর কল্যাণ ও পুষ্টি সেবা প্রদান করা হচ্ছে। জেলা ও উপজেলা পর্যায়ে হাসপাতাল থেকে মেডিকেল সেন্টার ও অন্যান্য প্রাথমিক পর্যায়ে চিকিৎসাসেবা চালা করা হয়েছে। গ্রামীণ দরিদ্র ও গ্রাউন্ড মানুষের প্রাথমিক চিকিৎসা সেবা ও সর্বাঙ্গিক জনগণের জন্য বিশেষজ্ঞ চিকিৎসাসেবা প্রদান, স্বাস্থ্যসেবা তথা গৃহীত ব্যয়বাহারের মাধ্যমে শিশু ও মাতৃ মৃত্যু হ্রাস, মাতৃ পর্দায় মৃত্যু ও শিশুর স্বাস্থ্য সুরক্ষার পরিচর পরিকল্পনা প্রদান, প্রাথমিক লক্ষ্যমাত্রা অর্জন এবং সর্বসংস্থ স্বাস্থ্যসেবার উন্নয়ন নিশ্চিতকরণের আরা বহুতরপূর্ণ সাফল্য অর্জন করেছেন। করোনাইউসের সক্রিয় সনাক্তকরণ এবং এর চিকিৎসা ব্যবস্থাপনা ও টিকা কার্যক্রম বাস্তবায়নে যুগোপযোগী পদক্ষেপের মাধ্যমে সার্বসংস্থ স্বাস্থ্যসেবা পৌঁছে দিতে উৎসাহিত।

আমি আশা করি, দেশের সর্বসংস্থ সরকারি ও বেসরকারি মেডিকেল প্রতিষ্ঠানসমূহে নিরলস চিকিৎসা শিক্ষা ও সেবা প্রদান এবং গবেষণা কার্যক্রমের মাধ্যমে বাংলাদেশ কলেজ অব ফিজিশিয়ানস এন্ড সার্জান্স (বিপিএস)-এর মেসো, মেসার এবং সনসহায় বিশেষজ্ঞ চিকিৎসকসহ দেশের স্বাস্থ্যসেবার সার্বিক উন্নয়নকে এবং জাতির পিতার স্বপ্নে স্মৃতি-স্মরণীয় সনসহায় বিশেষজ্ঞ চিকিৎসক গড়ে তুলতে আরও অবদান রাখবেন।

আমি বাংলাদেশ কলেজ অব ফিজিশিয়ানস এন্ড সার্জান্স-এর সর্বসংস্থ উপলক্ষে গৃহীত সর্বসংস্থ কর্মসূচির সার্বিক সাফল্য কামনা করি।

জয় বাংলা, জয় বঙ্গবন্ধু  
বাংলাদেশ চিরজীবী হোক।  
শেখ হাসিনা



বিপিএস প্রতিষ্ঠার ৫০ বছর পূর্তি উপলক্ষে অর্থনৈতিক কর্মসূচী প্রকাশিত করে আর্থনৈতিক কর্মসূচী ও পরিচর।

জাতির পিতা বঙ্গবন্ধু শেখ মুজিবুর রহমান মহামান্য রাষ্ট্রপতির এক আদেশ বলে ১৯৭২ সালের ০৬ই জুন তারিখে এ কলেজ প্রতিষ্ঠা করেন। বাংলাদেশের স্বাস্থ্যসেবার উন্নয়ন ও চিকিৎসা বিজ্ঞানের গবেষণার উন্নয়নের লক্ষ্যে উচ্চতর ডিমিয়ারী বিশেষজ্ঞ চিকিৎসক ও বেসরকারি মেডিকেল কলেজ, স্ট্রীট-প্রায়োগিক মেডিকেল ইনস্টিটিউট ও বিশেষজ্ঞ হাসপাতালগুলোতে সন্ত্রিস্ট সেবা ও শিক্ষাক্রম নিয়োজিত করেন তাঁর এই কলেজইে ডিমিয়ারী গড়ে তুলে মেসার।

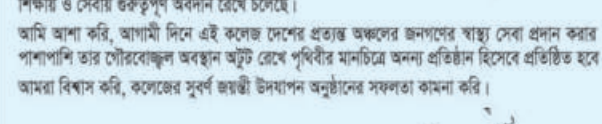
কলেজের সর্বসংস্থ জরুরী অর্থনৈতিক কর্মসূচী প্রকাশিত করে আর্থনৈতিক কর্মসূচী প্রকাশিত করে আর্থনৈতিক কর্মসূচী ও পরিচর।

আমি কলেজের উন্নয়নের সক্রিয় সনাক্তকরণ এবং এর চিকিৎসা ব্যবস্থাপনা ও টিকা কার্যক্রম বাস্তবায়নে যুগোপযোগী পদক্ষেপের মাধ্যমে সার্বসংস্থ স্বাস্থ্যসেবা পৌঁছে দিতে উৎসাহিত।

আমি আশা করি, দেশের সর্বসংস্থ সরকারি ও বেসরকারি মেডিকেল প্রতিষ্ঠানসমূহে নিরলস চিকিৎসা শিক্ষা ও সেবা প্রদান এবং গবেষণা কার্যক্রমের মাধ্যমে বাংলাদেশ কলেজ অব ফিজিশিয়ানস এন্ড সার্জান্স (বিপিএস)-এর মেসো, মেসার এবং সনসহায় বিশেষজ্ঞ চিকিৎসকসহ দেশের স্বাস্থ্যসেবার সার্বিক উন্নয়নকে এবং জাতির পিতার স্বপ্নে স্মৃতি-স্মরণীয় সনসহায় বিশেষজ্ঞ চিকিৎসক গড়ে তুলতে আরও অবদান রাখবেন।

আমি বাংলাদেশ কলেজ অব ফিজিশিয়ানস এন্ড সার্জান্স-এর সর্বসংস্থ উপলক্ষে গৃহীত সর্বসংস্থ কর্মসূচির সার্বিক সাফল্য কামনা করি।

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শেখ হাসিনা



বিপিএস প্রতিষ্ঠার ৫০ বছর পূর্তি উপলক্ষে অর্থনৈতিক কর্মসূচী প্রকাশিত করে আর্থনৈতিক কর্মসূচী ও পরিচর।

জাতির পিতা বঙ্গবন্ধু শেখ মুজিবুর রহমান মহামান্য রাষ্ট্রপতির এক আদেশ বলে ১৯৭২ সালের ০৬ই জুন তারিখে এ কলেজ প্রতিষ্ঠা করেন। বাংলাদেশের স্বাস্থ্যসেবার উন্নয়ন ও চিকিৎসা বিজ্ঞানের গবেষণার উন্নয়নের লক্ষ্যে উচ্চতর ডিমিয়ারী বিশেষজ্ঞ চিকিৎসক ও বেসরকারি মেডিকেল কলেজ, স্ট্রীট-প্রায়োগিক মেডিকেল ইনস্টিটিউট ও বিশেষজ্ঞ হাসপাতালগুলোতে সন্ত্রিস্ট সেবা ও শিক্ষাক্রম নিয়োজিত করেন তাঁর এই কলেজইে ডিমিয়ারী গড়ে তুলে মেসার।

কলেজের সর্বসংস্থ জরুরী অর্থনৈতিক কর্মসূচী প্রকাশিত করে আর্থনৈতিক কর্মসূচী প্রকাশিত করে আর্থনৈতিক কর্মসূচী ও পরিচর।

আমি কলেজের উন্নয়নের সক্রিয় সনাক্তকরণ এবং এর চিকিৎসা ব্যবস্থাপনা ও টিকা কার্যক্রম বাস্তবায়নে যুগোপযোগী পদক্ষেপের মাধ্যমে সার্বসংস্থ স্বাস্থ্যসেবা পৌঁছে দিতে উৎসাহিত।

আমি আশা করি, দেশের সর্বসংস্থ সরকারি ও বেসরকারি মেডিকেল প্রতিষ্ঠানসমূহে নিরলস চিকিৎসা শিক্ষা ও সেবা প্রদান এবং গবেষণা কার্যক্রমের মাধ্যমে বাংলাদেশ কলেজ অব ফিজিশিয়ানস এন্ড সার্জান্স (বিপিএস)-এর মেসো, মেসার এবং সনসহায় বিশেষজ্ঞ চিকিৎসকসহ দেশের স্বাস্থ্যসেবার সার্বিক উন্নয়নকে এবং জাতির পিতার স্বপ্নে স্মৃতি-স্মরণীয় সনসহায় বিশেষজ্ঞ চিকিৎসক গড়ে তুলতে আরও অবদান রাখবেন।

আমি বাংলাদেশ কলেজ অব ফিজিশিয়ানস এন্ড সার্জান্স-এর সর্বসংস্থ উপলক্ষে গৃহীত সর্বসংস্থ কর্মসূচির সার্বিক সাফল্য কামনা করি।

জয় বাংলা, জয় বঙ্গবন্ধু  
বাংলাদেশ চিরজীবী হোক।  
শেখ হাসিনা



বাংলাদেশ কলেজ অব ফিজিশিয়ানস এন্ড সার্জান্স (বিপিএস)-এর প্রতিষ্ঠার ৫০ বছর পূর্তি উপলক্ষে অর্থনৈতিক কর্মসূচী প্রকাশিত করে আর্থনৈতিক কর্মসূচী ও পরিচর।

সর্বকালের সর্বশ্রেষ্ঠ বাঙালি জাতির পিতা বঙ্গবন্ধু শেখ মুজিবুর রহমান স্বাস্থ্যসেবাকে অন্যতম মৌলিক অধিকার হিসেবে স্বীকৃতি দিয়ে সর্বাঙ্গিক সনসহায় উন্নয়ন করেছেন। তিনি দেশের সর্বসংস্থ জনগণকে বিশেষজ্ঞ চিকিৎসাসেবার আওতার আনার লক্ষ্যে ১৯৭২ সালের ৬ই জুন রাষ্ট্রপতির এক আদেশবলে বিশেষজ্ঞ চিকিৎসক তৈরিতে গুরুত্বপূর্ণ ভূমিকা রেখে আসছেন। এই কলেজের মেসারাই দেশে বিশেষজ্ঞ চিকিৎসকের সূচনা এবং প্রসারের অমূল্য ভূমিকা পালন করেছেন।

বিপিএস উচ্চশিক্ষার দেশের একটি ঐতিহ্যবাহী প্রতিষ্ঠান। প্রতিষ্ঠানটি বিগত ৫০ বছর ধরে জাতির প্রাণী স্তরে দেশের আশ্রয় জনগণের জন্য বিশেষজ্ঞ স্বাস্থ্যসেবা প্রদানের পথ সুগম করেছে। দীর্ঘ পঞ্চাশের ঐতিহ্যবাহী অতীত ও অনাস্থ্যবাহী ঐতিহ্য নিয়ে প্রতিষ্ঠানটি আজ বাংলাদেশের চিকিৎসা শিক্ষাক্ষেত্রে স্বল্প বয়সের মধ্যে উচ্চতর ডিমিয়ারী গড়ে তুলেছে। বর্তমানে বিশেষজ্ঞ নতুন নতুন রোগের অধিকারকর্মী হওয়ায় উচ্চতর ডিমিয়ারী গড়ে তুলেছে। প্রতিষ্ঠানটি পরিচর পরিচর। তাই চিকিৎসকদের ও চিকিৎসা কেন্দ্রের সর্বসংস্থ জ্ঞান ও গৃহীত সনসহায় অধিকারকর্মী বাস্তবায়ন। আমি আশা করি, বিপিএস উন্নত বিদ্যে সাহায্য করে পঠিতকর্ম প্রদান ও চিকিৎসা গবেষণার ক্ষেত্রে আরও সনসহায়দের মাধ্যমে বিশেষজ্ঞ চিকিৎসা সেবার নতুন দিকের সূচনা করবে।

আমি বিপিএস-এর উন্নয়নের সক্রিয় সনাক্তকরণ এবং এর চিকিৎসা ব্যবস্থাপনা ও টিকা কার্যক্রম বাস্তবায়নে যুগোপযোগী পদক্ষেপের মাধ্যমে সার্বসংস্থ স্বাস্থ্যসেবা পৌঁছে দিতে উৎসাহিত।

জয় বাংলা।  
খোদা হাফেজ, বাংলাদেশ চিরজীবী হোক।



বাংলাদেশ কলেজ অব ফিজিশিয়ানস এন্ড সার্জান্স (বিপিএস)-এর প্রতিষ্ঠার ৫০ বছর পূর্তি উপলক্ষে অর্থনৈতিক কর্মসূচী প্রকাশিত করে আর্থনৈতিক কর্মসূচী ও পরিচর।

সর্বকালের সর্বশ্রেষ্ঠ বাঙালি জাতির পিতা বঙ্গবন্ধু শেখ মুজিবুর রহমান জনগণের অন্ন, স্বাস্থ্য, বাসস্থান, শিক্ষা ও চিকিৎসা এই পাঁচটি মৌলিক অধিকার নিশ্চিত করার লক্ষ্যে সর্বাঙ্গিক সনসহায় উন্নয়ন করেছেন। জাতির পিতা দেশে মানসম্মত চিকিৎসা শিক্ষা ও বিশেষজ্ঞ চিকিৎসকদের চাহিদা মেটাতে ১৯৭২ সালে এই কলেজ অব ফিজিশিয়ানস এন্ড সার্জান্স প্রতিষ্ঠা করেছিলেন, যা আজ একটি আন্তর্জাতিক খ্যাতিসম্পন্ন প্রতিষ্ঠানে পরিণত হয়েছে।

দেশের স্বাস্থ্যশিক্ষা, সেবা ও গবেষণার উন্নয়নে দক্ষ ও মানসম্মত চিকিৎসক তৈরির লক্ষ্যে চিকিৎসা শিক্ষা, কার্যক্রম ও যুগোপযোগী কারিকুলাম, মানসম্মত প্রশিক্ষণ, গবেষণা, কনসাল্টাশন, সেমিনার ও সর্বাঙ্গিক পরিচর পরিচর। জাতির পিতা দেশে মানসম্মত চিকিৎসা শিক্ষা ও বিশেষজ্ঞ চিকিৎসকদের চাহিদা মেটাতে ১৯৭২ সালে এই কলেজ অব ফিজিশিয়ানস এন্ড সার্জান্স প্রতিষ্ঠা করেছিলেন, যা আজ একটি আন্তর্জাতিক খ্যাতিসম্পন্ন প্রতিষ্ঠানে পরিণত হয়েছে।

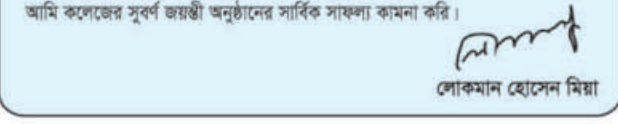
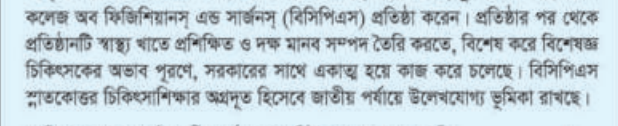
জাতির পিতার স্বপ্নে ও স্মরণীয় বাংলাদেশ পরিসরে স্বপ্নে স্বপ্নে মানসম্মত চিকিৎসা শিক্ষা পৌঁছে দেয়ার লক্ষ্যে নিরলস চেষ্টা করে আসছেন। দেশের মানুষের জন্য উন্নততর স্বাস্থ্য সেবা নিশ্চিতকরণের লক্ষ্যে জাতির পিতা ১৯৭২ সালের ০৬ই জুন তারিখে বাংলাদেশ কলেজ অব ফিজিশিয়ানস এন্ড সার্জান্স (বিপিএস)-এর প্রতিষ্ঠা করেন। বাংলাদেশের স্বাস্থ্যসেবার উন্নয়ন ও চিকিৎসা বিজ্ঞানের গবেষণার উন্নয়নের লক্ষ্যে উচ্চতর ডিমিয়ারী বিশেষজ্ঞ চিকিৎসক ও বেসরকারি মেডিকেল কলেজ, স্ট্রীট-প্রায়োগিক মেডিকেল ইনস্টিটিউট ও বিশেষজ্ঞ হাসপাতালগুলোতে সন্ত্রিস্ট সেবা ও শিক্ষাক্রম নিয়োজিত করেন তাঁর এই কলেজইে ডিমিয়ারী গড়ে তুলে মেসার।

আমি কলেজের উন্নয়নের সক্রিয় সনাক্তকরণ এবং এর চিকিৎসা ব্যবস্থাপনা ও টিকা কার্যক্রম বাস্তবায়নে যুগোপযোগী পদক্ষেপের মাধ্যমে সার্বসংস্থ স্বাস্থ্যসেবা পৌঁছে দিতে উৎসাহিত।

আমি আশা করি, দেশের সর্বসংস্থ সরকারি ও বেসরকারি মেডিকেল প্রতিষ্ঠানসমূহে নিরলস চিকিৎসা শিক্ষা ও সেবা প্রদান এবং গবেষণা কার্যক্রমের মাধ্যমে বাংলাদেশ কলেজ অব ফিজিশিয়ানস এন্ড সার্জান্স (বিপিএস)-এর মেসো, মেসার এবং সনসহায় বিশেষজ্ঞ চিকিৎসকসহ দেশের স্বাস্থ্যসেবার সার্বিক উন্নয়নকে এবং জাতির পিতার স্বপ্নে স্মৃতি-স্মরণীয় সনসহায় বিশেষজ্ঞ চিকিৎসক গড়ে তুলতে আরও অবদান রাখবেন।

আমি বাংলাদেশ কলেজ অব ফিজিশিয়ানস এন্ড সার্জান্স-এর সর্বসংস্থ উপলক্ষে গৃহীত সর্বসংস্থ কর্মসূচির সার্বিক সাফল্য কামনা করি।

জয় বাংলা, জয় বঙ্গবন্ধু  
বাংলাদেশ চিরজীবী হোক।



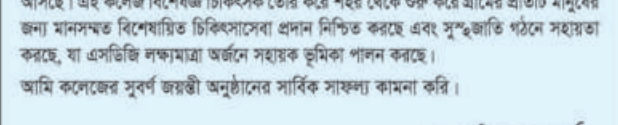
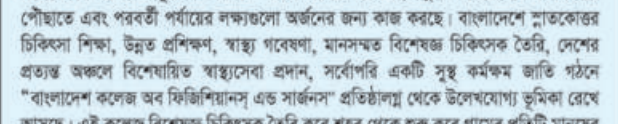
বাংলাদেশ কলেজ অব ফিজিশিয়ানস এন্ড সার্জান্স (বিপিএস)-এর প্রতিষ্ঠার ৫০ বছর পূর্তি উপলক্ষে অর্থনৈতিক কর্মসূচী প্রকাশিত করে আর্থনৈতিক কর্মসূচী ও পরিচর।

মাংসের মৌলিক চাহিদার অনাহত হওয়া স্বাস্থ্য। জাতির পিতা বঙ্গবন্ধু শেখ মুজিবুর রহমান উন্নত জাতি গঠনে স্বাধীনতার পর আমাদের মহান সর্বাঙ্গিক সনসহায় উন্নয়ন করেছেন। তিনি দেশের সর্বসংস্থ জনগণকে বিশেষজ্ঞ চিকিৎসাসেবার আওতার আনার লক্ষ্যে ১৯৭২ সালের ৬ই জুন রাষ্ট্রপতির এক আদেশবলে বিশেষজ্ঞ চিকিৎসক তৈরিতে গুরুত্বপূর্ণ ভূমিকা রেখে আসছেন। এই কলেজের মেসারাই দেশে বিশেষজ্ঞ চিকিৎসকের সূচনা এবং প্রসারের অমূল্য ভূমিকা পালন করেছেন।

বিপিএস উচ্চশিক্ষার দেশের একটি ঐতিহ্যবাহী প্রতিষ্ঠান। প্রতিষ্ঠানটি বিগত ৫০ বছর ধরে জাতির প্রাণী স্তরে দেশের আশ্রয় জনগণের জন্য বিশেষজ্ঞ স্বাস্থ্যসেবা প্রদানের পথ সুগম করেছে। দীর্ঘ পঞ্চাশের ঐতিহ্যবাহী অতীত ও অনাস্থ্যবাহী ঐতিহ্য নিয়ে প্রতিষ্ঠানটি আজ বাংলাদেশের চিকিৎসা শিক্ষাক্ষেত্রে স্বল্প বয়সের মধ্যে উচ্চতর ডিমিয়ারী গড়ে তুলেছে। বর্তমানে বিশেষজ্ঞ নতুন নতুন রোগের অধিকারকর্মী হওয়ায় উচ্চতর ডিমিয়ারী গড়ে তুলেছে। প্রতিষ্ঠানটি পরিচর পরিচর। তাই চিকিৎসকদের ও চিকিৎসা কেন্দ্রের সর্বসংস্থ জ্ঞান ও গৃহীত সনসহায় অধিকারকর্মী বাস্তবায়ন। আমি আশা করি, বিপিএস উন্নত বিদ্যে সাহায্য করে পঠিতকর্ম প্রদান ও চিকিৎসা গবেষণার ক্ষেত্রে আরও সনসহায়দের মাধ্যমে বিশেষজ্ঞ চিকিৎসা সেবার নতুন দিকের সূচনা করবে।

আমি বিপিএস-এর উন্নয়নের সক্রিয় সনাক্তকরণ এবং এর চিকিৎসা ব্যবস্থাপনা ও টিকা কার্যক্রম বাস্তবায়নে যুগোপযোগী পদক্ষেপের মাধ্যমে সার্বসংস্থ স্বাস্থ্যসেবা পৌঁছে দিতে উৎসাহিত।

জয় বাংলা।  
খোদা হাফেজ, বাংলাদেশ চিরজীবী হোক।



বাংলাদেশ কলেজ অব ফিজিশিয়ানস এন্ড সার্জান্স (বিপিএস)-এর প্রতিষ্ঠার ৫০ বছর পূর্তি উপলক্ষে অর্থনৈতিক কর্মসূচী প্রকাশিত করে আর্থনৈতিক কর্মসূচী ও পরিচর।

সর্বকালের সর্বশ্রেষ্ঠ বাঙালি জাতির পিতা বঙ্গবন্ধু শেখ মুজিবুর রহমান স্বাস্থ্যসেবাকে অন্যতম মৌলিক অধিকার হিসেবে স্বীকৃতি দিয়ে সর্বাঙ্গিক সনসহায় উন্নয়ন করেছেন। তিনি দেশের সর্বসংস্থ জনগণকে বিশেষজ্ঞ চিকিৎসাসেবার আওতার আনার লক্ষ্যে ১৯৭২ সালের ৬ই জুন রাষ্ট্রপতির এক আদেশবলে বিশেষজ্ঞ চিকিৎসক তৈরিতে গুরুত্বপূর্ণ ভূমিকা রেখে আসছেন। এই কলেজের মেসারাই দেশে বিশেষজ্ঞ চিকিৎসকের সূচনা এবং প্রসারের অমূল্য ভূমিকা পালন করেছেন।

## 59 Rohingyas found abandoned on Thai island

AFP, Bangkok

Fifty-nine Rohingya people have been discovered on a Thai island, saying they were abandoned by traffickers en route to Malaysia, a police officer said yesterday.

The group -- among them five children -- were found on Koh Dong island in the Satun province on Saturday.

Police said they had been charged with illegal entry and could face deportation to Myanmar following a court case.

The group appeared "starving and was likely to have had no food for three to five days", a police statement said.

Group members told officers their boat was among three vessels carrying 178 people that had left Myanmar and Bangladesh, having paid an agent around 5,000 ringgit (\$1,300) for the journey.

The first two boats carrying 119 people were stopped and arrested by Malaysian authorities, according to the Thai police.

## North Korea fires '8 ballistic missiles'

AFP, Seoul

North Korea launched eight ballistic missiles from multiple locations yesterday, South Korea's military said, a day after Seoul and Washington completed their first joint drills involving a US aircraft carrier in more than four years.

Pyongyang has doubled down on upgrading its weapons programme this year, despite facing crippling economic sanctions, with officials and analysts warning that the regime is preparing to carry out a fresh nuclear test.

"Our military detected eight short-range ballistic missiles fired by North Korea," Seoul's Joint Chiefs of Staff said.

The missiles were launched from multiple locations over a 30-minute period,

including Sunan in capital Pyongyang, Tongchang-ri in North Pyongan province, and Hamhung in South Hamgyong province, they said.

They travelled different distances -- from 110 kilometres (68 miles) to 670 kilometres -- and flew at different altitudes of up to 90 kilometres, it added.

Analysts say the volley of missile launches yesterday -- one of nearly 20 weapons tests by Pyongyang so far this year -- is a pointed message for Seoul and Washington.

"It shows North Korea's intention to neutralise the missile defence system of South Korea and the United States with multiple simultaneous attacks during emergency," said Cheong Seong-jang, a researcher at the Sejong Institute.



**You pledged to serve your whole life -- you continue to deliver. That is why we are here. That is what we celebrate tonight... You continue to make history.**

Prince Charles pays tribute to his mother Queen Elizabeth

## LATEST US MASS SHOOTING 3 killed, 11 hurt in Philadelphia

AFP, Washington

Three people were killed and 11 others wounded late Saturday in the US city of Philadelphia after multiple shooters opened fire into a crowd on a busy street, police said.

Numerous officers patrolling the popular nightlife area were already on the scene when the first shots were heard. A responding officer fired at one of the shooters, who dropped his gun and fled, though it was unclear whether the man was hit, reports said. No arrests had been made. Police has recovered two semi-automatic handguns from the scene.

No motive was given for the shooting. During warmer months, gun violence tends to spike in the United States, where there were an estimated 393 million guns in circulation in 2020, more than the number of people. Gun violence in the United States has killed 18,564 so far in 2022.



 <p><b>Sonali Bank Limited</b> Head Office Information Technology Division (IT Procurement &amp; Maintenance) Motijheel C/A, Dhaka Tel: 02223381108 Website: <a href="http://www.sonalibank.com.bd">www.sonalibank.com.bd</a></p>		<p>iv. Collection and Maintenance of Security Metrics on a half-yearly basis. v. Conduct internal audits (as per the ISO 27001:2013 (ISMS) on a Yearly basis before surveillance audit. vi. Coordination and assistance during surveillance audits of ISO 27001:2013 (ISMS) for (a) Information Security, IT Risk Management &amp; Fraud Control Division, and (b) Information Technology Division (Infrastructure IT). vii. Any other policies, procedures and guidelines developments as per the ISO 27001:2013 (ISMS)</p>																			
<p>EOI No. SBL/Proc/EOI/2022/27</p> <p><b>Request for Expression of Interest (EOI)</b></p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>1</td><td>Ministry/division/institution</td><td>Sonali Bank Limited.</td></tr> <tr><td>2</td><td>Procuring entity</td><td>Information Technology Division (IT Procurement &amp; Maintenance).</td></tr> <tr><td>3</td><td>Procuring entity district</td><td>Dhaka.</td></tr> <tr><td>4</td><td>EOI for selection of</td><td>Consulting Firm (National).</td></tr> <tr><td>5</td><td>EOI Ref. No.</td><td>2022/27.</td></tr> <tr><td>6</td><td>Date</td><td>02/06/2022.</td></tr> </table>		1	Ministry/division/institution	Sonali Bank Limited.	2	Procuring entity	Information Technology Division (IT Procurement & Maintenance).	3	Procuring entity district	Dhaka.	4	EOI for selection of	Consulting Firm (National).	5	EOI Ref. No.	2022/27.	6	Date	02/06/2022.	<p><b>1.1 Deliverables</b></p> <p>i. Gap assessment report - Current state assessment of Information Security posture ii. Risk Assessment report - Risk Assessment Report, Risk Treatment Plan, SOA iii. Complete implementation strategy/plan with timeline for ISO 27001:2013 (ISMS) certification for (a) Information Security, IT Risk Management &amp; Fraud Control Division, and (b) Information Technology Division (Infrastructure IT). iv. Updated ISMS Framework - Update Security policies, procedures and templates v. ISMS Implementation Plan - Implementation, Certification and Training vi. Training material, documents for ISMS (ISO 27001:2013) vii. Pre-Assessment Check Report viii. Any other deliverables required for obtaining ISMS certifications at 1<sup>st</sup> year and maintenance of certification for another 2 years.</p>	
1	Ministry/division/institution	Sonali Bank Limited.																			
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6	Date	02/06/2022.																			
<p><b>KEY INFORMATION</b></p> <p>7 Procurement sub method Quality &amp; Cost Based Selection (QCBS) Method.</p> <p><b>FUNDING INFORMATION</b></p> <p>8 Budget and source of funds Own fund. 9 Development partner (if applicable) Not applicable.</p> <p><b>PARTICULAR INFORMATION</b></p> <p>10 Project name ISMS Implementation &amp; ISO 27001-2013 of Sonali Bank Limited. 11 EOI closing date and time 20/06/2022 up to 12.00pm. 12 Brief description of the assignment</p>		<p><b>1.2 Training</b> Required training, which will include classroom training and on the job training, in all the phases would need to be provided by the selected Bidder to Bank's personnel at various levels to obtain a proper understanding of ISO27001:2013 standard, their compliance and IT Risk Assessment to enable the Bank personnel to carry out such assignments independently. This training will also include ISO/IEC 27001 Lead Implementer and ISO/IEC 27001 Lead Auditor Certification for the related 20 (Twenty) employees.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bidder shall impart necessary classroom training for the Bank employee in the following manner: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>End-User training(xx trainees in xx sessions)</li> <li>Management Level Training (xx trainees in xx sessions)</li> <li>Technical training for a core team (20 persons) who will maintain and improve ISMS within Bank <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ISO/IEC 27001 Lead Implementer (with Certification)</li> <li>ISO/IEC 27001 Lead Auditor (with Certification)</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>Further, training material in training manuals, presentations, slides, and videos will be provided as necessary for Bank's staff at various levels.</li> </ul>																			
<p>The detailed scope of work for ISO 27001/2:2013 (ISMS) Certification consultancy includes: The project's scope is to develop and implement a comprehensive risk-based program based on the ISO 27001:2013 (ISMS) Certification framework for the following divisions of the Bank.</p> <p>(i) Information Security, IT Risk Management &amp; Fraud Control Division (ii) Information Technology Division (Infrastructure IT)</p> <p>It shall include but not be limited to the following:</p> <p>(i) Evaluate existing systems and processes for information security management. (ii) Evaluate and assist in updating asset register, risk identification, treatment, and related process in line with ISO 27001:2013. (iii) Perform Information Security Risk Assessment (RA) of critical applications/processes and Develop SOA aligning with ISO 27001:2013 requirements. (iv) Assist Bank in updating ISMS framework in line with ICT guidelines issued by Bangladesh Bank, business best practices &amp; ISO27001 standards. (v) Perform a gap analysis on the current certification compliance in order to assess and evaluate the controls to be implemented to achieve ISO 27001:2013 certification and accreditation. (vi) Define &amp; implement ISMS as per ISO 27001:2013 standards. (vii) Update/Create policies along with implementation recommendations in alignment with ISO 27001:2013. Also prepare a Risk Management Framework in line with ISO 27001:2013 (viii) Assist Bank in creating a tracker of a list of activities/actions to be performed by each in-scope division/site to close the gaps (ix) Assist the Bank in collating all requirements to apply for ISO 27001 certification. (x) Perform a pre-assessment check and support/coordination during external certification audit for ISO 27001:2013. (xi) Assist Bank during the Audit by certifying agency from UK/USA/EU for achieving ISO 27001:2013 certificate. (xii) The Bidder will help the Bank select the certifying agency from UK/USA/EU; however, the Bank will bear the certification cost. (xiii) The bidder/consultancy service provider has to submit a separate all-inclusive proposal including 2nd year and 3rd-year renewal fees (excluding the cost of certifying agency). Bank may change the certification bodies before the start of the internal audit process. (xiv) Coordinate with bank and Certification bodies during Stage -I and Stage -II certification audits &amp; surveillance audits. (xv) Impart Training to Bank for developing an internal ISMS audit team for conducting the internal ISMS audit. (xvi) Assist Bank in taking corrective and preventive actions based on the results of the internal ISMS audit and management review or other relevant information to achieve continual improvement of the ISMS (xvii) Any other guidance and help which may be required by Bank for ISO 27001:2013 certification. (xviii) The vendor has to submit a weekly progress report during the project. (xix) Changes in the system as part of gap closure, populating asset list, etc. shall be done by the Bank</p> <p>Further, the Bank will provide full cooperation for timely access to resources, facilities, documents and coordination with various external agencies such as software vendors, network providers, etc. The work can be performed smoothly by the vendor. The Bank expects that vendor will perform work in a mutually respectful and professional manner. Besides assisting the ISMS implementation and successful certification, the scope also involves the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Arranging/co-ordinate with the Certification Body of the Bank's choice for the following assignments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>First Year Stage-I and Stage-II audits</li> <li>Second Year Surveillance audit</li> <li>Third Year Surveillance audit</li> </ul> </li> <li>Assist the Bank in External/Internal security audits for IT department and services and developing the Corrective Action Preventive Action (CAPA) formats.</li> <li>The vendor shall also dedicate 2-man days for review and check the surveillance audit's readiness, one month before the external Audit by the Certification Body.</li> <li>Develop all the policies and procedures related to the ISO 27001:2013 certification.</li> </ul> <p>The vendor should employ a robust and proven framework for ISMS implementation to ensure successful completion of the project and leading to ISO 27001 (ISMS) certification. The vendor will assist in maintaining ISMS for additional two years in addition to the 1st year.</p> <p>i. Internal review of documentation and implementation of ISO documents on a half-yearly basis. ii. Review of Asset &amp; Risk Registers on a half-yearly basis iii. Conduct Risk Assessment and Risk Treatment on a half-yearly basis.</p>		<p><b>1.3 Certification Assistance</b></p> <p>(i) The selected Bidder performs the pre-certification Audit on completing the Gap remediation to ensure compliance as per ISO27001:2013 standards. The coverage needs to be comprehensive during this exercise as per the ISO27001:2013 requirement (ii) Prepare all the documentation required (like SOA) and enable the Bank to apply for ISO27001:2013 (iii) Provide onsite consultancy support during the ISO27001:2013 Certification audit.</p> <p><b>1.4 Post Certification</b> The selected Bidder has to review six (6) months post ISO27001:2013 certification to ensure ongoing compliance by the Bank for another two years.</p>																			
<p>13 Pre proposal meeting N/A.</p>		<p><b>INFORMATION FOR APPLICANT</b></p> <p>14 Eligibility of consultancy firm</p> <p>a. The Bidder or Consortium Partner should not be blacklisted by any government institution in Bangladesh or abroad. (Self-Declaration to be provided) b. The Bidder or Consortium Partner should have a minimum of five (05) years overall business experience of the Consulting Firm. c. The Bidder or Consortium Partner should have at least two (02) completed service contract of ISO-27001 Project Assignment within the last five (05) years in local Banks/NBFs/Government Entities. (Work Order &amp; Completion of Certificate must be submitted) d. The Project Manager should be a CISA/ISO 27001:2013 Lead Auditor Certified Professional with a minimum of five (05) years of experience. e. The Bidder or Consortium Partner should have a minimum of five (05) qualified resources (CEH, CISA, ISO 27001 Lead Auditor, Lead Implementer) on its payroll and minimum 2 nos. of resources having more than 2 years' experience in ISO 27001 implementation. (HR Declaration and resource profiles are to be attached as evidence) f. The Bidder or Consortium Partner should be an ISO 9001:2015 and/or ISO 27001:2013 certified organization ( valid Certificate copies are to be attached as evidence) g. Registration of firm must include the documents as described: i. Valid TIN Certificate ii. VAT Registration Certificate iii. Income Tax Clearance Certificate (Latest) iv. Valid Trade Licence v. Certificate of Incorporation h. Special Instruction: i. Incomplete/Partial EOI's will be rejected j. If the applicant fails to submit any of the required documentary evidences, their tender/application/proposal would be treated as non responsive.</p> <p>IF THE APPLICANT FAILS TO SUBMIT ANY OF THE ABOVE REQUIRED DOCUMENTS/PIECES OF EVIDENCE THEIR APPLICATION/PROPOSAL WOULD BE EVALUATE AS NON-RESPONSIVE.</p> <p>The application in sealed Envelope is to be submitted to Deputy General Manager, Sonali Bank Limited, Information Technology Division (IT Procurement &amp; Maintenance), 6th Floor, Head Office, 35-42,44, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka-1000 by 12.00pm on date: 20-06-2022 and be clearly marked on the top of the Envelope EOI for ISMS Implementation &amp; ISO 27001-2013.</p>																			
<p><b>PROCUREMENT ENTITY DETAILS</b></p> <p>15 Name of official inviting EOI Abdullah Foysal. 16 Designation of official inviting EOI Deputy General Manager. 17 Address of official inviting EOI Sonali Bank Limited, Information Technology Division (IT Procurement &amp; Maintenance), 6th Floor, Head Office, Dhaka. 18 Contract details of official inviting EOI Telephone Number: 02223384167, Cell: 01755594100, E-mail address: <a href="mailto:dgmpmit@sonalibank.com.bd">dgmpmit@sonalibank.com.bd</a> 19 Procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the EOI's.</p>		<p><b>Abdullah Foysal</b> Deputy General Manager</p>																			
<p>GD-1160</p>																					

# The Daily Star

FOUNDER EDITOR: LATE S. M. ALI

## A nightmare comes true

### Deadly depot blast exposes poor state of industrial safety

WE'RE outraged by the news of a deadly blast that occurred at the BM Inland Container Depot in Sitakunda, Chattogram, killing at least 49 people (as of writing this editorial) and injuring hundreds. The sheer ferocity of the fire and subsequent explosions that swept through the facility since Saturday night can only be rivalled by the sheer meaninglessness of the tragedy that followed. The fire, which couldn't be fully doused even after 18 hours, is the latest in an ever-growing list of tragedies that puts Bangladesh's appalling industrial safety record once again under the spotlight.

The death toll will no doubt rise as many of the injured are said to be in a critical condition. Horrifying scenes of panic and devastation have been reported both on the spot and at the hospitals. Some of the explosions - there were many - were so large that their sound was heard several kilometres away. One eyewitness described seeing "fireballs falling like rain". The challenge for the firefighters and military rescuers, who joined them later, has thus been quite daunting as they tried to bring the fire under control and pull charred bodies of survivors and the dead from the debris. At the hospitals, the air is still thick with grief and anxiety.

What caused the blaze? We don't know yet. But there were reportedly containers with chemicals in the depot, including a huge quantity of hydrogen peroxide - an oxidising chemical - which can intensify fire and is a major fire hazard when combined with other chemicals and substances. Apparently, the fire service wasn't informed of the unauthorised storage of chemicals (leading to nine firefighters being killed). This - in a depot containing millions of dollars of garments - will likely be a central focus of the investigation. Whatever caused the fire, we hope that investigators will find out soon and those responsible will be held accountable.

The Sitakunda blaze is the biggest disaster in the 24-year history of the container depot industry in Chattogram, and the first caused by chemicals. Unfortunately, such disasters are becoming quite common in Bangladesh. The poor infrastructure and institutional preparedness for industrial safety - which the ILO called "nascent" earlier this year - makes such fire incidents almost inevitable. Ultimately, it is the workers employed in these hazardous places that have to pay a high price for that.

We urge the government to properly investigate this tragedy and undertake necessary reforms to prevent its recurrence - in the depots or all such industrial settings. It must ensure that all survivors are accounted for and properly treated and rehabilitated, and that the bodies of the dead are quickly handed over to the grieving families. The loss they suffered is irreparable. The government must do everything to ensure it is not for nothing.

## We dig our own grave when we kill a river

### Without this realisation, particularly by the govt, nothing can save them

ON the World Environment Day, speakers at a roundtable discussion highlighted the grave danger we are inviting by destroying our rivers. Saber Hossain Chowdhury, chairman of the parliamentary committee on the environment ministry, rightly pointed out that our rivers wouldn't have faced mindless grabbing and encroachment had everyone recognised them as an integral part of our development and wellbeing. This failure, unfortunately, is most glaring on part of the government.

Another speaker, Muzibur Rahman Chowdhury, a former chairman of the National River Conservation Commission (NRCC), described how he, after visiting 30 districts, had prepared a list of grabbers in which the names of powerful individuals came up. Disappointingly, nothing could be done about it as top bureaucrats were reluctant to take action. It is because of such willful neglect that lower-level officials often feel reluctant to take action against powerful grabbers, fearing consequences, or because their hands are tied.

There are 310 rivers in the country, according to an estimate by Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority (BIWTA). Of them, 175 are in miserable condition, and 65 are almost dead. Moreover, 80 percent of the rivers lack proper depth. It is a shame that a country that has been blessed with so many rivers - forming the very foundation on which so many lives and livelihoods depend - has treated them so poorly. Our rivers and the many resources they provide are among the most valuable possessions we have. Unfortunately, our failure to recognise that is leading to their fast destruction, the price of which we're already having to pay.

It's not like we haven't realised this at all. Otherwise, the High Court would never have declared rivers as a living entity, and we would perhaps never have a river commission. We do have legal and structural frameworks in place. But due to the greed and short-sightedness of influential people and the inaction or apathy of government officials, those are not being put to proper use to protect the rivers.

Ultimately, it is the government that must take responsibility for this failure and it must address the challenges facing rivers. It needs to actively hold river grabbers, encroachers and their abettors in government offices accountable, and urgently empower the river commission to do its job. The government also needs to come up with a holistic plan, including negotiations with foreign governments, to address the issue of siltation and thus protect the lifeblood of this nation.

# Issues that should be in focus in budget 2022-23



## MACRO MIRROR

Dr Fahmida Khatun is executive director at the Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD). Views expressed in this article are the author's own.

FAHMIDA KHATUN

THE finance minister of Bangladesh is scheduled to place the national budget for 2022-23 fiscal year at parliament on June 9. This budget is probably the most challenging in the recent history of economic policymaking in Bangladesh. The world has not yet recovered from the pandemic fallout. On top of that is the Russia-Ukraine war. Due to multidimensional challenges, international organisations have downgraded their economic growth projections for 2022. For example, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) moderated its estimation for global economic growth to 3.6 percent for 2022 against its earlier projection of 6.1 percent. Prior to the Russia-Ukraine war, as the global economy was on the recovery path, demand for goods and services started to increase, but the supply could not cope up with it. The pandemic disrupted the supply system globally. The Ukraine war worsened it. In April 2022, fuel prices went up by almost 70 percent compared to April 2021. Prices of essentials such as rice, wheat, maize, edible oil, lentils, and sugar also skyrocketed. Two important sources of these products have traditionally been Russia and Ukraine.

In such global and domestic contexts, the FY2022-23 budget in Bangladesh will need to have measures addressing the immediate challenges as well as those tackling the medium-term issues. The global economic downturn and inflationary pressure will stay for some time as there is no sign of cessation in the war. Therefore, the government needs to make all-out efforts to face the crisis. In making its efforts, it must ensure coordination between fiscal and monetary policy measures.

First, to give some respite to common consumers, there should be removal of various taxes, such as advance income tax, advance tax, and regulatory duty on all imported essential items. Besides, social protection in terms of direct cash support to the poor should be scaled up. Sales of essential items in the open market at reduced prices should be made available in abundance to meet the demand of the poor and low-income groups. Though it is a burden for the government, subsidies for energy and agriculture should be continued, given the criticality of the situation. Moreover, in the case of agriculture, fair prices to farmers should be ensured so that they are encouraged to produce more to have more supplies in the market. Market monitoring mechanisms by the government should be strengthened, and the market

distorting players who hoard and create artificial crises should be punished. The government should also immediately make agreements with global suppliers to import essential items in the coming days to avoid future crises in the domestic market.

Second, increased and affordable supply in the market will need finance. So, the policymakers will have to create adequate fiscal space through domestic resource

account deficit, the government will have to put more efforts towards attracting remittances through the official channel. At the same time, rationalisation of the incentive for remitters is needed, and gradually it should be withdrawn so that the amount paid for incentives can be utilised for other purposes.

Fourth, while trying to put a strain on the expenditure, the government must be



▲ VISUAL: STAR

mobilisation. Clearly, reduction and elimination of various taxes on essential items will reduce import tax. One way to offset that loss is to tax luxury items more. The government has indicated it will do so in the upcoming budget. However, while this could be an immediate way to collect more revenues in order to accommodate the increased financial need, the goal should be to increase revenue through increased income tax collection. This depends on the reform of the revenue collection system itself. An independent and fully automated tax system backed by adequate and efficient human resources is much needed now.

Third, in the case of the external sector, the import cost pressure and relatively lower export income have led to a trade deficit of about USD 27.5 billion during July 2021-April 2022. Additionally, negative growth of remittances has resulted in a current account deficit equivalent to USD 15.3 billion in the same period. The government has recently announced some measures, such as cutting down imports of non-essential items and freezing foreign travels of government officials. This will help reduce the pressure on our foreign exchange reserves. Bangladeshi exports have been facing competition since many countries already devalued their domestic currencies against the US dollar. The recent decision of the central bank in allowing foreign currency market to take its own course is a positive move. To reduce the current

careful so that its spending does not fall drastically, domestic demand does not shrink, and investment is not affected. High inflation with weak growth can lead to stagflation, which many advanced countries are experiencing now. In some of the advanced countries, inflation has risen to a record level while growth has contracted. Bangladesh must increase spending on healthcare, education and social protection. Due to low revenue mobilisation effort and competing priorities, particularly for physical infrastructure, the social sector has been perennially ignored. Hence, these sectors receive insignificant allocation in the budget as a percentage of GDP. However, if economic growth is not accompanied by commensurate resource allocation for the social sector, the sustainability of growth will be under threat since poor allocation of public resources in these sectors will create further inequality in society.

Finally, though the national budget has limited scope for addressing medium- and long-term issues, it can make decisions on both resource allocation and generation for each financial year. Budget may be incremental in nature, but it can make choices and decisions within the broader national policy frameworks, which are formulated with medium- to long-term objectives. The annual budget is, thus, expected to devise not only short-term fiscal measures, but to also continue to allocate resources for medium-term objectives.

**The government needs to make all-out efforts to face the crisis. It must ensure coordination between fiscal and monetary policy measures.**

# Break the trend, invest more in children



Sheldon Yett is the Unicef representative to Bangladesh.

SHELDON YETT

THE Government of Bangladesh is about to present the national budget for the upcoming fiscal year. Parliamentarians will debate the budget in the shadow of many competing demands as the country looks to build on the success of vaccinating almost 70 percent of its population against Covid-19.

To continue to prosper and travel on its remarkable road of progress, it is critical that Bangladesh allocates greater resources in the national budget on its most valuable asset: The 57 million children who constitute a third of the country's population.

In the past three years, the pandemic has affected every aspect of children's lives in Bangladesh, as it has around the world. Their education was disrupted in one of the world's longest pandemic-related school closures, causing significant learning loss and clouding their future prospects. The pandemic has taken a toll on children's physical and mental health. Children who were already vulnerable are at even greater risk of being forced into child marriage and hazardous child labour. The pandemic has deepened already existing inequities and chipped away at the progress made toward ensuring the rights of every child. Without urgent public investment to recover from the pandemic's impacts, we risk the future of an entire generation.

But the need to invest more in children goes beyond immediate recovery. Bangladesh is a testament to what can

be achieved when investing in children. The country has made great strides in preventing child deaths, reducing malnutrition, protecting children against preventable diseases through routine immunisation, and making sure both boys and girls are enrolled in primary education. This has been possible because of political commitment matched by policies, expertise and financial resources. And this has ultimately benefitted all of society.

Despite this progress, investments in social sectors such as education, health, nutrition and protection are still low. As one of the fastest growing economies in the world, Bangladesh can break that trend by investing more to ensure the rights and well-being of all its children while at the same time capitalising on the fast-closing demographic window of opportunity.

It is undeniable that investment in quality education for all is essential to equipping children with the skills and critical thinking they need to thrive to their fullest potential, and to contribute to the betterment of their communities. Yet last year's national budget allocated around two percent of the GDP to education. This is low not only by global standards, but also compared to other South Asian countries.

Similarly, Bangladesh currently spends less than one percent of the GDP on public health, far below the global average. This means that households must spend a large portion of their income on healthcare, causing financial hardship. Greater investment in health not only improves individual lives, it also supports overall and inclusive social and economic development. It is especially important that the budget helps accelerate progress towards Universal Health Coverage, ensuring that every child and adult in the country has access to quality and affordable health. Otherwise, Bangladesh

risks deepening existing inequalities, with millions of people left in poverty as others rise above.

Investing more in children today is a rational decision: history teaches us that investment in children brings economic growth, reduces poverty, and promotes social stability.

But most importantly, it is a moral imperative to invest in children, for their well-being today and to prepare them for a future that is not of their own making.

Too many children in Bangladesh miss out on a childhood and live precarious lives as they are forced to drop out of school, take up hazardous work, or enter into child marriage. Millions of children are regularly subjected to harm and abuse. And when they grow up, they will face new challenges, inheriting a world where Bangladesh is at the frontline of the climate crisis.

Bangladesh, as one of the first countries in Asia to ratify the Convention of the Rights of the Child, has shown time and again that it is prepared to do all it can for its children. The political commitment is there. The country has adopted the 2030 Agenda for the Sustainable Development and its global benchmark to allocate at least four to six percent of the GDP to education, while the Government of Bangladesh's 8th Five-Year Plan targets to increase expenditure on health to at least two percent of the GDP.

In the coming days, as members of parliament deliberate on the budget, Unicef asks them to remember that the challenge today is not only to recover from the pandemic, but to build back stronger, and to lay the foundations for tomorrow. These investments matter. They are about the future of the country and the children who will inherit it. Investing in children is not just the right thing to do, it is the smart investment to make too.

**Bangladesh currently spends less than one percent of the GDP on public health, far below the global average. This means that households must spend a large portion of their income on healthcare, causing financial hardship.**

CTG DEPOT FIRE

# Lives engulfed by apathy



A CLOSER  
LOOK

TASNEEM TAYEB

Tasneem Tayeb is a columnist for The Daily Star. Her Twitter handle is @tasneem\_tayeb

As dawn broke on the morning of June 5, 2022, the areas surrounding BM Container Depot Ltd resembled nothing short of a war zone. Charred human bodies strewn randomly, the burned gagging in pain, fire all around, sporadic explosions erupting in multiple places, everything turned into ash.

At least 49 people including nine firefighters (as of 7pm Sunday) have perished, and hundreds injured, in the fire that has been ravaging the container depot in Sitakunda upazila, Chattogram since 10pm on June 4. Reverberations from the explosion shook around four kilometres of the area surrounding the depot. Windows of the nearby houses were shattered by the force of the blast.

It is suspected that the fire originated from one of the containers stored there. According to media reports, the depot houses more than 50,000 containers, many of them containing chemicals.

One of the major blasts took place at a 500-metre corrugated sheet shade, which housed a huge quantity of hydrogen peroxide – an oxidising chemical – which can intensify fire and is a major fire hazard when combined with other chemicals and substances.

According to media reports, the firefighters who died had been working near a container, which exploded, killing them instantly. On Sunday morning, the media cell of the Fire Service and Civil Defence said they had not been informed of chemical storage in the depot containers beforehand. Had they been aware, perhaps they could have taken safety measures to protect the lives of the people and firefighters there.

As of 7pm Sunday, the fire is still burning and explosions are still taking place. Firefighters are not able to go near the fire sites because of the explosions. Army personnel have been sent to the site to help contain the fire. A specialised firefighting unit has also been sent to the spot. According to media reports, since the depot authorities cannot be located, it has become even more difficult to identify which containers contain inflammable materials.

This incident does not fail to remind one of the 2020 Beirut explosion, in which more than 200 people were killed and the port was razed to the ground. That, too, happened due to unsafe storage of a hazardous chemical: ammonium nitrate. While the scale of Chattogram depot fire is smaller compared to the Beirut blast, the causes seem to be the same: irresponsible storage of hazardous materials and chemicals, which unfortunately seems to have become a norm in Bangladesh.

Why were the firefighters not informed that the containers stored hazardous chemicals and materials? Was BM Container Depot Ltd even cleared to store inflammable chemicals? No. This daily, citing officials from the Department of Explosives, reported that the depot authorities did not even secure any licence to store hydrogen peroxide. Now, the question is: Without such a licence, how can a depot house such a large amount of a hazardous chemical? What is even the point of rules and guidelines if they are not properly enforced?

After every fire incident, politicians and authorities engage in hyperbole – or so it seems – regarding reforms in and reinforcement of relevant laws and guidelines. But the reforms and

enforcement never see the light of day.

Handling and storage of hazardous materials and chemicals are some of the least-talked-about issues, despite causing some of the major fire incidents engulfing the image of the country. And these fire incidents not only claim lives; they take a toll on the environment as well. It has been reported that in

accountable the officials responsible for the supervision of the container depots in the Sitakunda area, and investigate why they did not do the due diligence on their part, which resulted in such a huge amount of hydrogen peroxide being illegally stored in a depot. Also the NBR, which is usually responsible for keeping track of import and export declarations,

should be penalised heavily so others are discouraged from violating them.

The parameters for inspection of such container depots – especially the private ones – should include factors such as fire management systems, if there are sufficient fire extinguishers in place, whether there are enough trained and well-equipped manpower to handle



the aftermath of Sitakunda fire, the hazardous chemicals are contaminating the local water sources and spreading in the nearby areas. Locals are saying the contaminated water is trailing to the Bay of Bengal, putting the marine lives there and the entire water body at risk. Such an incident on World Environment Day only exposes our total apathy towards proper handling of materials that puts our environment at risk.

Chattogram Divisional Commissioner Mohammad Ashraf Uddin has said that they are taking measures to stop the water from contaminating the Bay of Bengal, but what those measures are, they are yet to disclose.

In the wake of the Sitakunda fire, it has been declared that Tk 50,000 will be provided to the families of those who have died, while Tk 20,000 will be provided to the injured. In addition, Tk 1 crore has been allocated to provide food and assistance to the affected people. But is this compensation enough? How is an insignificant sum of Tk 50,000 going to help the family of a breadwinner who perished in the fire? How long would this amount sustain the victims? Are the families even going to get the amount on time – given that we have a history of such compensations not reaching the victims? What about the environment? How are the authorities going to compensate the environment for the damage it is sustaining now, even as we read this column?

It is high time the authorities took the issue of handling and storage of hazardous materials and chemicals seriously. Had inspection teams visited the BM Container Depot as per a routine practice, this fire incident might have not taken place at all. All these lives could have been spared.

The government and the authorities should thoroughly review the existing laws, policies and guidelines related to fire safety and amend them if needed in order to make them watertight. They should also scrutinise the enforcement and application processes and procedures to close any loopholes in the regulations, so that unscrupulous businesses can no longer exploit them to illegally store such chemicals and materials. At the same time, the government should hold

▲ **Firefighters struggled to bring the fire at BM Container Depot under control, not knowing what kind of chemicals were stored in the containers.**

PHOTO: RAJIB RAIHAN

should be asked if they were aware of the chemicals stored in the depot. If yes, why did they not inform the authorities concerned to ensure safe storage through inspection? If not, why were they not doing their job properly?

We need to set a precedent of holding government officials accountable for their actions (or lack thereof) or else their hibernation and gross apathy towards their responsibilities will never end. All the container depots across Bangladesh should be inspected on a regular basis to ensure that they are storing goods and chemicals as per set protocols. If businesses are found guilty of not following the protocols, they

such fire incidents, the safety protocols for such incidents, if containers are labelled properly, if they are kept in the designated and marked spaces, and so on. Without these operational and logistical efficiencies, the risk cannot be minimised.

Fire incidents due to mishandling of hazardous materials is becoming a serious problem for Bangladesh. It cannot be allowed to continue. The authorities must pull up their socks before another fire incident occurs – perhaps bigger, more ferocious – claiming more lives, and razing the economy and the environment to the ground.

**গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার**  
**বাংলাদেশ পুলিশ**  
**এ্যাডিশনাল ইন্সপেক্টর জেনারেলের কার্যালয়**  
**স্পেশাল ব্রাঞ্চ, রাজারবাগ, ঢাকা।**

তারিখ- ০২/০৬/২০২২ খ্রিঃ।

স্মারক নং- ৪৪.০১.০০০০.০০০.৯৯.০০৬.২২- ৪৮৬

**টিকাদার তালিকাভুক্তি বিজ্ঞপ্তি**  
**(Invitation for Enlistment)**

২০২১-২০২২ অর্থ বছরে “পাবলিক প্রকিউরমেন্ট আইন-২০০৬”, “পাবলিক প্রকিউরমেন্ট (সংশোধন) আইন-২০০৯” এর বিধি ৫২ এবং পাবলিক প্রকিউরমেন্ট (সংশোধন) আইন-২০১৬ মোতাবেক স্পেশাল ব্রাঞ্চ, বাংলাদেশ পুলিশ, রাজারবাগ, ঢাকা কর্তৃক বিভিন্ন পূর্ত মেরামত/সংস্কার ও সংরক্ষণ এবং আবাসিক ও অনাবাসিক ভবন ও অবকাঠামো নির্মাণ প্রকল্প বাস্তবায়নের নিমিত্ত টিকাদার তালিকাভুক্তি/নবায়নকরণের জন্য আগ্রহী ও অভিজ্ঞতা সম্পন্ন টিকাদারী প্রতিষ্ঠানের নিকট হতে নিম্নে প্রদত্ত ছকে বর্ণিত শর্ত সাপেক্ষে দরখাস্ত আহ্বান করা যাচ্ছে :

১।	মন্ত্রণালয়/বিভাগ	ঃ	স্বরাষ্ট্র মন্ত্রণালয়।
২।	সংস্থা	ঃ	স্পেশাল ব্রাঞ্চ, বাংলাদেশ পুলিশ, রাজারবাগ, ঢাকা।
৩।	আবেদনপত্র সংগ্রহকারী সংস্থা প্রধান	ঃ	এ্যাডিশনাল আইজিপি, স্পেশাল ব্রাঞ্চ, বাংলাদেশ পুলিশ, ঢাকা।
৪।	সংগ্রহকারী সংস্থার জেলা	ঃ	ঢাকা।
৫।	দরপত্র আহবানের উদ্দেশ্য	ঃ	টিকাদার তালিকাভুক্তি/নবায়নকরণ।
৬।	দরপত্র পদ্ধতি	ঃ	সীমিত দরপত্র পদ্ধতি (LTM)।
৭।	বাজেট একে অর্ধের উৎস	ঃ	জিওবি ও রাজস্ব বাজেটের আওতায় পূর্ত মেরামত/সংস্কার ও সংরক্ষণ এবং বিভিন্ন আবাসিক/অনাবাসিক ভবন ও অবকাঠামো নির্মাণ খাত।
৮।	বিজ্ঞপ্তি প্রকাশের তারিখ	ঃ	০৬/০৬/২০২২ খ্রিঃ।
৯।	আবেদনপত্র বিক্রয়ের তারিখ	ঃ	০৬/০৬/২০২২ খ্রিঃ হতে ১৫/০৬/২০২২ খ্রিঃ পর্যন্ত (অফিস চলাকালীন সময়)।
১০।	আবেদনপত্র জমা প্রদানের শেষ তারিখ ও সময়	ঃ	১৬/০৬/২০২২ খ্রিঃ তারিখ বেলা ১২.০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত।
১১।	আবেদন পত্র খোলার তারিখ, সময় ও স্থান	ঃ	১৬/০৬/২০২২ খ্রিঃ তারিখ বেলা ১২.৩০ ঘটিকা। বিশেষ পুলিশ সুপার (ইএওডি) এসবি, ঢাকা এর কার্যালয় (রুম নং-১২০৬ নতুন ভবন, ১২ তম তলা) ঢাকা। (আবেদনকারীদের সম্মুখে, যদি কেউ উপস্থিত থাকেন)।
১২।	দরপত্র প্রাপ্তি ও দাখিলের টিকানা	ঃ	বিশেষ পুলিশ সুপার (ইএওডি), স্পেশাল ব্রাঞ্চ, বাংলাদেশ পুলিশ, মালিবাগ, ঢাকার কার্যালয় (রুম নং-১২০৬ নতুন ভবন, ১২ তম তলা)।
১৩।	আবেদনকারীর যোগ্যতা (সকল কাগজপত্র প্রথম শ্রেণীর গেজেটেড কর্মকর্তা কর্তৃক সত্যায়িত করে আবেদনপত্রের সাথে সংযুক্ত করতে হবে)।	ঃ	ক) হালনাগাদ ট্রেড লাইসেন্স, খ) হালনাগাদ আয়কর সার্টিফিকেট, গ) ড্যাট রেজিস্ট্রেশন সার্টিফিকেট, ঘ) হালনাগাদ ব্যাংক সলভেন্সি সার্টিফিকেট (ব্যাংক স্টেটমেন্টসহ), ঙ) ০২ (দুই) কপি রঙিন ছবি, চ) জাতীয় পরিচয় পত্র, ছ) সরকারি যে কোন প্রতিষ্ঠানে পূর্ত, নির্মাণ ও মেরামত (সিভিল, স্যানিটারী ও বৈদ্যুতিক ইত্যাদি) সর্বমোট ন্যূনতম ১০,০০,০০০/- (দশ লক্ষ) টাকার কার্য সম্পাদন ও ০৩ বছরের অভিজ্ঞতা সনদ (কেসরকারি কাজের অভিজ্ঞতা গ্রহণযোগ্য হবে না)। স্বশ্রিষ্ট কাগজপত্র ১ম শ্রেণীর গেজেটেড কর্মকর্তা কর্তৃক সত্যায়ন পূর্বক নামসহ সীল ব্যবহার করতে হবে নতুবা আবেদনপত্র বাতিল বলে গণ্য হবে। উপরে, ২০২১-২০২২ অর্থ সালের কাগজপত্র সংযুক্ত করা যাবে, তবে ২০২২-২০২৩ অর্থ সালের কাগজপত্র সমূহ দ্রুত হালনাগাদ করে অত্র কার্যালয়ে জমা প্রদান করতে হবে।
১৪।	কাজের সংক্ষিপ্ত বিবরণ	ঃ	ক. পূর্ত মেরামত/সংস্কার ও সংরক্ষণ খ. পূর্ত নির্মাণ।
১৫।	আবেদন ফরমের মূল্য	ঃ	৫০০/- (পাঁচশত) টাকা (অফেরতযোগ্য)।
১৬।	টিকাদার তালিকাভুক্তি ফি	ঃ	৫,০০০/- (পাঁচ হাজার) টাকা এবং এর ১৫% ড্যাট (অফেরতযোগ্য)।
১৭।	তালিকাভুক্ত টিকাদার নবায়ন ফি	ঃ	২,০০০/- (দুই হাজার) টাকা এবং এর ১৫% ড্যাট (অফেরতযোগ্য)।

বিঃ দ্রঃ ক. প্রতিটি আবেদনকারী টিকাদারী প্রতিষ্ঠানের তালিকাভুক্তি/নবায়নকরণের জন্য নির্ধারিত ফি এর সাথে ১৫% ড্যাট জমা প্রদান করতে হবে।  
খ. কর্তৃপক্ষ কোন কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতিরেকে যে কোন আবেদন গ্রহণ বা বাতিল করার ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করেন।

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ড. ফেরদৌস জামান  
সচিব

GD- 1156

**বাংলাদেশ বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় মঞ্জুরী কমিশন**  
University Grants Commission of Bangladesh  
আগারগাঁও, শেরে বাংলা নগর, ঢাকা-১২০৭  
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২২ জ্যৈষ্ঠ ১৪২৯  
তারিখঃ ০৫ জুন ২০২২

**বিজ্ঞপ্তি**

বাংলাদেশ বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় মঞ্জুরী কমিশনে সহকারী সচিব (লিগ্যাল), সহকারী পরিচালক (অর্থ ও হিসাব), সহকারী পরিচালক (পরিচালনা ও উন্নয়ন), সহকারী পরিচালক (পাবলিক বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় ম্যানেজমেন্ট), সহকারী পরিচালক (বেসরকারি বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়), পাবলিকেশন অফিসার, ডকুমেন্টেশন/লাইব্রেরি অফিসার, স্টোর অফিসার (পাবলিকেশন), রিসার্চ অফিসার, সহকারী পরিচালক/সহকারী ডাটাবেইজ এডমিনিস্ট্রেটর এবং টেকনিক্যাল অফিসার (নেটওয়ার্ক এন্ড আইসিটি) পদে নিয়োগ প্রার্থীদের লিখিত পরীক্ষা আগামী ১৮-০৬-২০২২ তারিখ শনিবার সকাল ১০.০০টা থেকে ১১.৩০ পর্যন্ত উন্নয়ন উচ্চ মাধ্যমিক বিদ্যালয়, ৩/৩, ফুলার রোড, ঢাকা বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় ক্যাম্পাস, ঢাকা-এ অনুষ্ঠিত হবে। প্রার্থীদের তালিকা কমিশনের ওয়েবসাইটে (Web: [www.ugc.gov.bd](http://www.ugc.gov.bd)) সাইটে প্রকাশ করা হয়েছে।

০৫-০৬-২০২২  
ড. ফেরদৌস জামান  
সচিব

জিডি-১১৫৯

# Mughal painting in its sequel

ABM HABIBULLAH



ABM Habibullah  
(Nov 30, 1911 – June 3, 1984)

PHOTO:  
NASIR ALI MAMUN

The largeness of mind and the bold, creative energy of which Akbar was the embodiment, is, for example, the central impulse which one finds translated in the architectural and the visual arts of his age.

Note: To commemorate the 38<sup>th</sup> death anniversary of renowned historian ABM Habibullah we are reprinting one of his articles on Mughal painting. The article was first published in Pakistan Quarterly in Spring, 1959.

It is perhaps possible to formulate the classical qualities of Mughal painting, but it is less easy to point to a given work or a group of works and to say "Here is a definite example wherein everyone of those characteristics is fully and exclusively manifested," and which, thereby, completely isolate the work from other groups or styles of painting. For, Mughal painting was highly eclectic. While three broad streams – Persian, Indian and European – have long been recognized to have mingled in its formative course, historical research has not yet fully established the manner and the medium through which the indigenous tradition reached the imperial court.

Was it the Gujrati secular style of palm-leaf manuscript illustration which recognizably bridged the gap between the mural tradition of Bagh and Ajanta and the pseudo-miniature technique of the Hamza-Namah paintings? Or is it of no significance that in treatment, theme, colour and costume the Indian elements in this earliest Mughal painting as also the 17th century Rajasthani paintings have more striking resemblance with the central or west Indian book illustration (the 'Bundela Primitives') like those on the *Baramasa* or *Chaurapanchasika* manuscripts, written in a mixed Gujrati-Marwari script and ascribed to a date somewhere in the middle of the 16th century?

It is only of late that the existence and fruitful contribution of a Deccani school of painting has been admitted, a school centred largely in Bijapur and Ahmadnagar. The Persian or Islamic qualities of this school, evident in the decorative elements of colour, costume, and foliage, and in examples attributable to a date earlier than or at least contemporary with the earliest examples of Mughal paintings, were received through

thematic and artistic autonomy of the age. This process has often been overlooked.

Coomaraswamy's nomenclature has come to be modified now: even his 'Pahari' sub-division of the Rajput school – distinguishing the productions of the Punjab Hill states – is now being given up for more exact territorial specifications. Kangra and Basohli, the two hill states whose names were popularly used till a decade ago to differentiate the two major stylistic variations in the paintings of these Hill states, are no longer favoured by exact scholars. This Basohli school, again, was a few years ago, held to be a derivative from Rajputana which, in its turn, assimilated the refinements of line and colour and much else, from the Mughal miniature tradition. On the other hand,

complementary.

In the pictorial arts like portrait and genre pictures this elegant and contemplative living is the keynote; life became spacious, refined and ornamental. The pietra dura of the elegant marble pavilions with slender pilasters and kiosks of the 17th century Mughal buildings are of a piece with the delicate, sensitive drawing and colour of the paintings. The Arts became romantic in purpose and dainty and fastidious in execution, designers, craftsmen and artists all writing poetry in their own medium. The heavy repetitiveness of this mood is balanced only by the ever-increasing technical perfection achieved through meticulous finish of the minutest detail.

MUGHAL INFLUENCE

As this language began to absorb the Mughal artistic temper its rhythm and exuberant vitality only assumed a new purpose. Its repertoire was enriched by subjects of poetry, romance and genre scenes, its architectural designs became more pretty and sensuous, even its colour scheme took on softer shades of green, blue and brown and learnt to use the neutral "body-colour". But it was long before its intellectualism or accented linearism and rhythmic conception of form gave way to a formalized statement in delicate drawing and modelled colour. And yet, at least in the earlier phase of this contact as will be seen from a miniature by Mir Kalan Khan, a late 17th century Deccani artist, there is an obvious case



Major works of ABM Habibullah



'Attendant killing a snake' by Mir Kalan Khan, late 17th century, Johnson Collection.

The designs of carpets, shawls, textiles and silks or in the jade and crystal wares of Shahjahan's period are architectonic to an extent which can only be understood by recalling the part which architecture occupied at this period and to which all the other crafts were more less complementary.

the contacts which the Deccani Muslim states had with the Timurid and Safavid Iran. In the growing maturity of the Imperial Mughal style as also in its local variety the Rajasthani or the primitive Rajput painting, the pictorial tradition of the south, thus played a demonstrably important part. Attention has also been drawn to another possible stream of tradition from Kashmir which supplied a number of artists to the Mughal atelier.

DISINTEGRATION

As with its rise and development, so with the process of the disintegration, research is finding ever new material of high significance. Coomaraswamy coined the term 'Rajput' to distinguish what, in fact, has since generally come to be regarded as an evolution of Mughal style using local Hindu themes. Even if it is considered a separate school, its ancestry can hardly be traced to beyond the 16th century, for its blood-relations are many and we have not yet come to a point when a definitive list of these can be made.

As the intellectual and material control of the Imperial Mughal court loosened, from the 18th century, regional diversities set the pattern. Even Delhi, the heart of the imperial style, when no longer able to unify, tried to reinforce it with feeble attempts under Muhammad Shah and Shah Alam, to rediscover and adapt its tradition to the

scholars assessed the Kangra school, even if it was an expansion of the early 18th century Guler painting, as "the glorious combination of the Hindu spirit and Mughal line and technique," whose draughtsmanship and spaciousness of landscape transformed the bookish intellectualism of the Hindu pictorial tradition.

MUGHAL ART AT ZENITH

Underlying all these changing opinions about the origin and sequel of Mughal Art is the implied admission that the term should really be applied not so much to a fully matured, sharply distinguishable style as to a process and growth of an artistic tradition, albeit centred on the royal court, whose working can be observed in Architecture as in Fine and Applied Arts. Mughal Art is thus best viewed horizontally rather than vertically. The largeness of mind and the bold, creative energy of which Akbar was the embodiment, is, for example, the central impulse which one finds translated in the architectural and the visual arts of his age. After him this energy tended to be suffused, and for the most part of the 17th century the prevailing temper was one of repose, of contemplation of the environment, an eager cultivation of the graces of living in its monumental and spiritual aspects. Artistic creations of this period respond to this note. Architecture and objects d'art embody an approach which is naturalesque rather than naturalistic.

A sincere delight in the form and colour of the world of man in its most decorative aspects is a striking feature of the visual and functional arts of the period of Jehangir and Shahjahan. This produced idealized and abstract versions of the form, colour and situations perceived by the senses which, through a circumstantial disorder consequent on growing indifference to the Arts, soon tended to be merely pretty and conventional. The designs of carpets, shawls, textiles and silks or in the jade and

DISSOLUTION AND ASSIMILATION

It is at this point that Mughal art came nearest to shedding its courtly aloofness and to absorbing, in visibly large doses, the poetry of India's life and traditions. Politics of course provided the mechanics of this situation, although beginnings can be traced to the Akbari forms of architecture and the pictorialization of the Indian musical modes (Ragas) whose earliest known examples cannot be anterior to the middle of the 16th century.

Extension of this poetical element in Mughal art, expressed in languages familiar to the artists and craftsmen, set the pattern in the 18th century. Local versions enriched this pattern but rarely departed from the general scheme. In Rajputana and in the Punjab Hills romantically conceived buildings continued to be erected with the feminine charm of dainty columns, low balustraded terrace, graceful kiosks, foliated archways, and pavilions, false niches and sensuously formed domes, but each speaking in its own dialect. In the Hindu areas, unlike Awadh or the Deccan, the dialect consisted of an approximation of the folk tradition perceptible for example, in the use of the semi-circular cornice of the kiosks, derived from the accentuated curve of the Hindu *chatri*, covering the *howdah*, or in the more uninhibited use of figural ornamentation in relief or in colour.

MUSLIM KINGDOMS OF DECCAN

In the Deccan where it arrived late, the Mughal psyche found an idiom of great expressive power. It was derived from the vigour and exuberant sculptural quality of the pictorial art of the South. An emphatic statement of form in its most rhythmic rather than in its rounded plastic aspect – an element absorbed from the southern Art of the post Ajanta period – is noticeable in several buildings of the Adil Shahis of Bijapur and also in a few Baridshahi monuments at Bidar. In a more pronounced manner, the 16th century Bijapur and Ahmadnagar paintings display the same qualities, but here they are achieved through the technical refinements of colour and line-drawing which resulted from two centuries of close cultural contact with the Timurid and Safavid Persia, and her miniature. This Art, aiming to produce decorative effect through a sophisticated combination of flowing line and brilliant, vivid colour, and so indifferent to volume and depth, suited the growing two dimensionalism of Deccani painting.

A heightened linear accent, an emphasis on the flowing rhythm of curves with sharp, crisp contour drawing and an almost total absence of highlighting or modulation of colour – result of what has been called the mediaeval factor of Indian Art – and worked on a schematically ornamented background, gave the productions of the Deccani Muslim courts a recognizable identity. Judging from the surviving examples treatment of the elements assimilated from local life and thought is not in the lucid, narrative manner of the 17th century Mughal artists but with a broad touch of intellectuality which pervades but never obscures the visual fact. In detached portraiture or in manuscript illustration there is also a trace of symbolism in iconography and in figural attitude – this forming almost a conventional language.



'A Hindu Princess worshipping' by Fatehchand, 18th century.

crystal wares of Shahjahan's period are architectonic to an extent which can only be understood by recalling the part which architecture occupied at this period and to which all the other crafts were more less

with which the charm and elegant feminine grace of the Mughal genre pictures have been assimilated in the Deccani idiom.

This miniature, with the one other reproduced here, belongs to the Johnson collection, now in the India Office Library and found late in the 18th century mostly in the Deccan. The artist's signature Mir Kalan Khan appears only with [the work titled] *Attendant killing a snake*, which, judging from the existence of another copy now in the Leningrad Museum, would seem to illustrate an incident of some popular tale like the *Sukaspati* (Persian version known as *Tutinama*). There is much in it that belongs to the growing north-Indian Mughal tradition the recently absorbed European elements for example, in the naturalistic rendering of the tasselled curtain, the attempt to indicate depth by a graduated obscuring of the background or the conventionalized rendering of the evening sky against a gathering dusk.

But these do not yet obscure the essentially Deccani vision. The stressed rhythm of the sinuous body and the exuberant, complicated curves of the richly patterned costume and jewellery of the ladies recall the 16th century Ahmadnagar-Bijapur paintings whose conventional traces can be observed even in the late 18th century Kurnool and Haiderabad portraits. Even more obvious is the presentation of the principal female figures, in terms of supple, sharply drawn two-dimensional lines almost in a classic *tribhanga* pose whose certain sculptural grace is rarely to be found in contemporary Mughal figure drawings. The flying birds used as decorative space-fillers recall a 15th century Timurid archaism which Mughal painting hardly ever used. Excitement and animation of the scene is, however, in sharp contrast with the restful, languid mood of the whole composition, the reptile writhing in death as the maid triumphantly turns to her mistress whose expression is one of amazement than fright; the soft but excited approach of the inquisitive cat, portrayed with great understanding and accuracy, is matched by the gentle receding light on the walls and the motionless swans.

In a genre picture treating of nearly the same theme in a background of midnight solitude, painted by Fatehchand, an 18th century north-Indian artist – 'A Hindu Princess worshipping' – the point of divergence with the Deccani *qalam* is obvious in the formalized composition and sentimental description of the accessory details: symmetrical arrangement of the figures, the haloed head, the suggestive moon on a deep blue sky treated like a cloth ceiling, the fully illuminated details, and complete absence of shadows, the balustraded terrace, the soft, clean features of the youthful females drawn in full profile and diversified only by the modulated tints of red, green, pink, blue and yellow, and the whole scene enclosed within an avoid frame enlivened by abstract floral devices. This sophisticated presentation of lyrical themes in terms of conventionalized elements of poetry absorbed from the people's experience formed the spiritual basis of 18th century Mughal Art, which in its final phases, spent its force in a vain attempt to express itself in a wholly different language received from the West.

# Star

DHAKA MONDAY JUNE 6, 2022, JAISHTHA 23, 1429 BS

# SPORT

What to WATCH

## T SPORTS

Zimbabwe vs Afghanistan  
2nd ODI  
Live from 01:00 pm

## TEN 1 & TEN 2

UEFA Nations League  
Live from 12:45 am  
(Tuesday)

## 'I hope to keep going'

REUTERS, Paris

Spain's Rafael Nadal will look to continue his remarkable career after crushing Norway's Casper Ruud 6-3, 6-3, 6-0 on Sunday to lift a record-extending 14th French Open, saying despite injury concerns he would battle on.

The Spaniard, the world's best ever claycourt player, won 11 games in a row to cruise through the second and third sets to take his tally to an all-time best 22 men's Grand Slam titles, two more than rivals Swiss Roger Federer and world number one Novak Djokovic of Serbia.

"I don't know what can happen in the future. I will keep fighting to try to keep going," he told the crowd at Court Philippe-Chatrier.

"For me it is incredible to play here with an amazing support from you to me." Nadal found little resistance as Ruud, the world number eight, was too busy battling to hang on for dear life.

Thundering groundstrokes moved the Norwegian across the baseline as the Spaniard gave his opponent no chance. "For me personally it is very difficult to describe the feelings that I have," Nadal said.

"It's something that I for sure never believed, to be here at 36, being competitive again, playing in the most important court of my career one more final."

At the final in January's Australian Open, Nadal, who turned 36 on Friday, came from two sets down to beat Daniil Medvedev and bag a second title there.

A couple of months earlier he was even considering retiring after a foot problem that has troubled him throughout his career resurfaced, forcing him to miss much of the 2021 season including Wimbledon, the Olympics and the U.S. Open.

He arrived in Paris with his own doctor to get through the tournament despite the injury.

"Especially in the very tough moments we went through in terms of injuries, if you don't have great support from the team nothing of this would happen because I would have retired much before," Nadal added.



Spain's Rafael Nadal poses with the French Open trophy after beating Norway's Casper Ruud in straight sets in the men's singles final at the Court Philippe-Chatrier in Paris on Sunday.

PHOTO: AFP

## 'It's not easy to fill the shoes of Mushy bhai'

**Yasir Ali Chowdhury has shown great potential in his fledgling Test career and the right-hander is expected to play a big role in Bangladesh's middle-order on the tour of the West Indies as he fills a vacancy left by the absence of the experienced Mushfiqur Rahim. The 26-year-old, who will travel to the Caribbean today, spoke to The Daily Star's Mazhar Uddin before boarding a flight, discussing his plans and some other topics during an exclusive interview. The excerpts are below:**

**The Daily Star (TDS):** The upcoming Test series in the West Indies is surely going to be a crucial tour for you.

**Yasir Ali (YA):** It will not only be important for me, but for the entire team. We are desperate to perform well in the longest format of the game and we know it will be challenging for us as a unit. But I am confident of giving my best and contributing to the team's success.

**DS:** In the absence of the experienced Mushfiqur Rahim, head coach Russell Domingo sees you as a bright prospect in the middle-order. What are your thoughts on your batting order?

**YA:** It is a big change in the Test side because I will be playing in place of Mushfiqur. It's not easy to fill the shoes of someone like Mushy bhai because there are high expectations from everyone. I also have my own expectations, which I want to fulfil. At the moment, I am not in a position to bat wherever I want. I have to play according to the demands of the team management. But I may get a chance to bat up the order and it would be great if I could utilise the opportunity. Coach [Russell Domingo] told me to prepare mentally.



**DS:** You had some good starts in your young career, showing good technique and temperament. Do you think you are one big knock away from that kick-start in international cricket?

**YA:** Everyone wants to kick-start their international cricket and I am looking forward to it and I will be trying to prove my worth in the tough Windies conditions. It will be a big boost for me as a batter because a big knock always gives you confidence moving forward. I just want to adapt and adjust initially and try to play according to the merits of the situation.

**DS:** Caribbean conditions and the seam-friendly tracks have always been challenging for Bangladesh, especially in

the Test format. Are there any specific areas you are working on as a batter?

**YA:** I had a chat with Jamie Siddons and he gave me a brief idea about the venue for our games in Antigua. He said that it is expected to be a slow and low surface. What he said is that the old ball can prove to be tricky for us compared to the new ball. So I worked accordingly. The old ball swings a lot and normally in the West Indies they use Duke balls, not Kookaburra balls. These are small things that could prove crucial in the Caribbean.

**DS:** What is the first thing that comes to mind when you think about West Indies?

**YA:** The first thing that came to my mind is that I had to carry drinks for six games in West Indies during my Under-19 days back in 2013. The difference is that I am expected to play game this time around. I am keen to perform and give my best. I have the determination that I will try to make it count whenever I play in the West Indies. Another thing that comes to my mind when I think about West Indies is Brian Lara. I used to be a huge Lara fan since my childhood and I am excited to play a Test match in the West Indies.

## Tamim wants show of patience and trust

SPORTS REPORTER

England's Joe Root came off a match-winning innings yesterday, having scaled the 10,000-run mark in his Test career during an incredible unbeaten 115 in the fourth innings against New Zealand.

England have won only one of their last 17 Tests under Root's captaincy and he had said that captaincy had taken a toll on him. Even for someone with Root's mental resilience, bad results took a toll and, having stepped down from his role, he appeared to be more relaxed individual. But the English team has the skill and mental sharpness needed for Tests ingrained. What toll does it take on a captain of a Bangladesh Test team?

Frankly, that is up for debate. But in terms of the mental resilience that England have forged over many, many years, Bangladesh's Test culture is still in its infancy. Thus the pressure on Mominul Haque, who stepped down to focus on his batting, must have been difficult, even if you count out the pressure put on him.

Former England captain Nasser Hussain remarked on some of the things he heard regarding Root's tenure, especially difficulties both personal and team-oriented, that Root had to face during the pandemic. Mominul too faced all those difficulties, but his story has not yet been told.

Shakib was handed the captaincy following Mominul's decision but questions remain how he



will handle his own availability, having skipped quite a few series in recent times.

While speaking at an event yesterday at the Robi Corporate Office, Bangladesh ODI captain Tamim Iqbal too saw the challenges of captaining the Test side as 'difficult.'

"I played under him twice, when he was captain in early 2011 and then again the last time he was captain. It's not rocket science. We all know that Shakib has a very good cricketing brain and I am sure captaining the Test team is not easy since few result come in our favour in this format," Tamim, who has joined the leading digital service provider, Robi, as its brand ambassadors for the next two years..

"But as I always said when I was the captain: 'you need to give me a lot of time'. The same goes for Shakib. You need to give him lot of time. You cannot be impatient because this is one format that we are not very strong in," he said.

"With his leadership, planning and everything else alongside support from all of us, maybe we will become a good Test team in two years three years," he added.

Shakib garners attention and praise and it will likely mean the board will have more patience with him but there has already been talk about his unavailability for the tour of Zimbabwe which comes after the West Indies series.

"There are no Tests in Zimbabwe, as far as I know, only ODIs and T20s," Tamim said, thus implying Shakib's unavailability will not be an issue.

## Stokes hails 'Mr Dependable' Root

AFP, LONDON

Joe Root was hailed as England's "Mr Dependable" by new captain Ben Stokes after his predecessor's unbeaten century helped launch the all-rounder's reign with a five-wicket win over New Zealand in the first Test at Lord's on Sunday.

Root made 115 not out as England chased down a target of 277 with wicketkeeper Ben Foakes (32 not out) providing excellent support in an unbroken partnership of 120.

Victory, achieved with more than a day to spare, saw England to just their second win in 18 Tests.

When Root completed his 26th century at this level he became the only player to have scored 10,000 runs within ten years of his Test debut.

The Yorkshireman was also only the second Englishman to do so and the joint-youngest from any country to achieve the feat, equalling retired former England captain Alastair Cook's record of 31 years 157 days.

"The game ebbed and flowed throughout the whole time," said Stokes at the presentation ceremony.

"No-one ever really had the upper hand at any stage and I thought the way we handled the pressure in the fourth innings to chase down 270 on a pretty difficult wicket was fantastic.

"And obviously 'Mr Dependable', Joe Root, stood up. Scoring and 10,000 runs -- what a player and what a man."

The New Zealand-born Stokes, brought up in Cumbria, northwest England, added: "Regardless of being captain, the first Test match of the summer has always got a buzz about it, but obviously it was a special week. "To come away with the win obviously

**India legend Sunil Gavaskar in 1987 was the first player to get to the mark and since then Allan Border, Steve Waugh, Brian Lara, Sachin Tendulkar, Rahul Dravid, Ricky Ponting, Jacques Kallis, Mahela Jayawardena, Shivnarine Chanderpaul, Kumar Sangakkara, Alastair Cook, Yonis Khan and now Joe Root have reached the milestone.**

makes it even better."

Root stood down as England's Test captain after five years at the helm and a record 64 games in charge following a 1-0 series loss in the Caribbean earlier this year that came hot on the heels of a convincing 4-0 Ashes defeat.

England came into this match bottom of the World Test Championship table but are

now 1-0 up in a three-game series against title-holders New Zealand heading into Friday's second match at Trent Bridge.

For Root, playing a key role in a win was more important than any personal milestones.

"Obviously it feels fantastic," he said. "More than anything, first of all, for us to have won this Test match after such a long time is the greatest feeling of all.

"It's been a tough road for everyone but the way everyone has gone about it has been so enjoyable...I love batting and I just want to keep batting for as long as I can, and score as many runs as I can, to help us win as many Test matches as we can."


Root, a close friend of Stokes since they played youth cricket together, added: "I couldn't wish for a better person to be leading this team."

Stokes went on to make 54 and share a partnership of 90 with Root.

"The game ebbed and flowed the whole time," said New Zealand captain Kane Williamson. The Black Caps skipper, himself one of the world's leading batsmen, hailed Root's century as an "incredible innings".


"You recognise the quality of the player and his longevity as a world-class player," he added.





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## Inflation creating 'new poor' again

### Finds PPRC-BIGD survey in May

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The number of 'new poor' in Bangladesh has not dropped off despite the economy reopening due to the runaway inflation between January and May, found a recent study.

At the end of May, the number of 'new poor' in the country stands at 30.9 million, which is 18.54 percent of the population, according to the report styled "Inflation, Coping and Recovery Challenges".

"It is a huge poverty burden," said Hossain Zillur Rahman, executive chairman of the Power and Participation Research Centre (PPRC), which jointly prepared the report with the Brac Institute of Governance and Development (BIGD).

Between May 12 and 23, 3,910 rural and urban slum

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A launch carrying passengers across the Padma yesterday. The vessel travels from Munshiganj's Shimulia to Madaripur's Banglabazar and back. Such trips could become a thing of the past once the Padma Bridge, right behind, opens to the public this month.

PHOTO: SAJJAD HOSSAIN

## Govt hikes gas tariff by 22.8pc

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government yesterday hiked the gas price by 22.8 percent, compounding the woes of the ordinary citizens who are already grappling with the spiralling prices of almost all essentials.

As per the new tariffs announced by the Bangladesh Energy Regulatory Commission (BERC), the use of a single burner will cost Tk 65 more at Tk 990 and a double-burner Tk 105 more at Tk 1,080.

Of the 43 lakh household gas connections, about four lakh have pre-paid meters and the tariff for those will increase 42.9 percent to Tk 18 per cubic meter.

The gas price was last hiked in July 2019. Fertiliser factories have been slapped with the steepest hike: they will now have to pay Tk 16 per cubic meter of gas instead of Tk 4.45.

Asked about the hike, which can add to the inflationary pressure, Mohammad Abu Faruque, the acting chairman of BERC, said: "The government has already decided not to give subsidies for any product at the production level. It would be extended at the consumers' end."

The small and cottage industry users, however, will pay Tk 6.26 less at Tk 10.78 per cubic meter of gas.

The price for compressed natural gas (CNG) was not hiked: consumers will continue to pay Tk 43 per cubic meter of gas.

"We saw earlier that if the CNG price is hiked, ..."

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## PADMA BRIDGE OPENING

### No legal bar to inviting Khaleda

### Says law minister

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

There is no legal bar to inviting BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia to Padma Bridge's inaugural ceremony, Law Minister Anisul Huq said yesterday.

"There are two conditions that Khaleda Zia's release came with -- she will receive treatment inside Bangladesh and she cannot go abroad. There is no legal bar to inviting her at the programme to be held on the occasion of the Padma Bridge opening."

He was talking to reporters after a meeting to inaugurate the 146th refresher course for chief judicial magistrates and chief metropolitan magistrates at the Judicial Administration Training Institute (JATI) in Dhaka.

Quoting Road Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader, Anisul said the government will be inviting Khaleda to the opening ceremony.

The law minister said he also informed Quader yesterday that there was no legal bar in this regard.

Earlier on Saturday, Quader, also the general secretary of the ruling Awami League, told reporters that BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia would be invited "if the relevant law permits".

Anisul yesterday told reporters that Prime Minister

SEE PAGE 5 COL 4

## Freak accident takes lives of 3 BAEC officials

### Bus with no fitness certificate rams parked bus, T-bones a truck, goes into oncoming traffic and hits staff bus

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Savar

Four staffers of the Bangladesh Atomic Energy Commission, including a pregnant woman, were killed in a crash on Dhaka-Aricha highway in Savar yesterday.

The commission's senior scientific officer



Puja Kauser Arifuzzaman

Arifuzzaman, 34, scientific officer Puja Sarkar, 28, and engineer Kauser Ahmed, 29, died at Enam Medical College Hospital soon after they were taken there with critical injuries. Rajib Hossain, driver of the staff bus they were in, died at the scene, police said.

Puja was five-month pregnant, they added. At least 20 others, including nine employees of the commission, were injured.

Atikur Rahman, officer-in-charge of Savar Highway Police Station, said the accident took place around 9:00am in Boliarpur area.

The driver of a speedy bus of Safe Line Paribahan lost control of the vehicle and caused the accident, he said.

The bus first hit a bus parked by the road and then swerved into a cattle-laden truck, he said.

The bus then hit the road divider, broke it and hit the BAEC bus on the other side of the road, he added.

The injured were rushed to Enam Medical College Hospital in Savar after the crash.

Some of them were in critical condition and got admitted to ICU and NICU.

**Savar BRTA Inspector Sazzadur Rahman said the vehicle's fitness certificate was updated the last time in 2014 and taxes were paid the last time in 2015.**

Atikur also said they were trying to identify and locate the bus driver who went into hiding right after the accident.

A case would be filed soon and police are trying to collect documents of the bus, he added.

Savar BRTA Inspector Sazzadur Rahman said the vehicle's fitness certificate was updated the last time in 2014 and taxes were paid the last time in 2015.

The vehicle did not even have a route permit, he said, adding that they did not find any number plate on the bus while visiting the spot.

Contacted, Abdus Salam, traffic inspector of Dhaka (North) district police, said they were primarily suspecting the bus had some mechanical faults.

However, it would be difficult to point out the faults as the engine was completely damaged in the accident, he added.

## Nadal wins 22nd Grand Slam crown

AFP, Paris



Rafael Nadal won a 14th French Open and record-extending 22nd Grand Slam title on Sunday with a straight-sets rout of Casper Ruud to become the oldest male champion at Roland Garros.

In a disappointing final, 36-year-old Nadal won 6-3, 6-3, 6-0 with victory coming 17 years to the day since he claimed his first French Open as a 19-year-old in 2005.

Nadal won the last 11 games of the final and is now two Slams ahead of old rivals Novak Djokovic and Roger Federer with Sunday's victory coming against all the odds.

Nadal, the oldest winner in Paris since a 34-year-old Andre Gimeno in 1972, had not been certain of taking part after a chronic left foot injury, which has plagued him throughout his career, flared up again.

He also needed the best part of a gruelling 12 hours to see off Felix Auger-Aliassime, Novak Djokovic and Alexander Zverev in the previous three rounds.

His two-hour 18-minute win on Sunday took his record at the tournament to 112 wins against just three losses and also put him halfway to a rare calendar men's Grand Slam last achieved by Rod Laver in 1969.

Nadal, unbeaten in 13 previous finals in Paris and playing in his 30th Grand Slam decider, got off to a flying start against Ruud, the first Norwegian man to feature in a championship match at the majors.



**PADMA BRIDGE inauguration**  
**19 DAYS TO GO**

## WESTERN ARMS FOR UKRAINE

# Putin threatens to strike new targets

### Kyiv rocked by blasts from Russian missiles as battle rages on in east

AGENCIES

Russian President Vladimir Putin warned yesterday that Moscow will hit new targets if the West supplies Ukraine with long-range missiles, hours after several explosions rocked the Ukrainian capital Kyiv.

If Kyiv is provided with such missiles "we will draw the appropriate conclusions and use our arms... to strike targets we haven't hit before," Putin was quoted by Russian news agencies as saying.

He did not specify which targets he meant. "We understand that this supply (of advance rocket systems) from the United States and some other countries is meant to make up for the losses of this military equipment," Putin said. "This is

nothing new. It doesn't change anything in essence."

Ukrainian officials earlier yesterday said Russian missiles hit railway infrastructure sites in the first such strikes on Kyiv since April 28.

Russia said it had destroyed tanks supplied to Ukraine by eastern European countries during the strikes.

"High-precision, long-range missiles fired by the Russian Aerospace Forces on the outskirts of Kyiv destroyed T-72 tanks supplied by eastern European countries and other armoured vehicles that were in hangars," Russian defence ministry spokesman Igor Konashenkov said.

One person was wounded and AFP reporters saw several buildings with

SEE PAGE 5 COL 4



The wreckage of a runaway bus that hit a staff bus of the Bangladesh Atomic Energy Commission and killed four of its employees, including the driver, on the Dhaka-Aricha highway in Savar's Boliarpur yesterday morning. It also hit two other vehicles.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

## Letters show how doctor treated Hitler

REUTERS, Zurich

The Swiss descendent of one of Adolf Hitler's doctors has released details of letters that show how he treated the Nazi dictator for voice problems, NZZ am Sonntag newspaper reported yesterday.

Hitler was treated several times by Carl Otto von Eicken, a German ear, nose and throat specialist, for 10 years from 1935, the newspaper said.

The letters from the doctor to a cousin were discovered by Robert Doepgen, von Eicken's great-great-grandson, who found them when researching family archives for a school project. Von Eicken died in 1960.

British historian

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