



B4 Cash-strapped Sri Lanka seeks \$6b from IMF



P7 Wounded UK PM presses on despite Tory rebellion



P8 A company's negligence killed 43 people. What price will it pay?



P11 Bangladesh face Bahrain today in Asian Cup Qualifiers

Target more export, remittance

Finance minister outlines measures in next budget

REJAUL KARIM BYRON and MD FAZLUR RAHMAN

The government plans to boost exports by promoting large industries and send a record number of migrant workers abroad to raise foreign currency reserves.

"There will be a surprise in the upcoming budget in terms of support for large industries," said Finance Minister AHM Mustafa Kamal.

Besides, additional funds will be set aside for the poor and low-income people reeling from the rising cost of living amid high inflation.

The minister shared his thoughts with The Daily Star on Monday as he prepares to place his fourth budget in the Jatiya Sangsad tomorrow.

"We will support large industries that are capable of making and selling products in other countries ...

"We will promote 'made in Bangladesh' products and facilitate the manufacturing of products elsewhere [by Bangladeshi large industries] to meet the global demand. We will produce cars for export," he noted.

The minister, however, did not elaborate on the support to be extended to large industries.

Seeking anonymity, a finance ministry official said the assistance might include both tax relief and policy support.

The size of the next budget could be Tk 678,064 crore.

The revenue generation goal may be Tk 433,000 crore and the National Board of Revenue could be tasked with collecting Tk 370,000 crore.

The budget deficit may amount to Tk 245,064 crore or 5.5 percent of the gross domestic product, meaning it will be above the 5 percent ceiling that Bangladesh had always maintained until the Covid pandemic forced the government to increase spending despite lower-than-expected revenue generation.

The budget comes at a time when Bangladesh, like other economies, is facing the twin challenges of higher consumer prices and strain on the foreign currency reserves.

The Russia-Ukraine war has intensified volatility and is threatening to derail the recovery trajectory.

But Kamal is hopeful of keeping the country insulated from the crisis and his confidence stems from the outward movement of migrant workers as global economies reopen.

"We will send abroad the highest number of migrant workers this fiscal year."

Nearly eight lakh migrant workers went abroad in the first 10 months of the current fiscal year, comfortably exceeding the number a year ago. And Kamal expects the figure to hit 10 lakh before this fiscal year ends on June 30.

"Western economies will require additional workers once the war in Ukraine comes to an end. We are going to set a manpower export goal of 15 lakh in the upcoming fiscal year," he mentioned.

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A firefighter picks up the helmet of a colleague while another helmet and an oxygen tank of another coworker lies among the debris at BM Container Depot in Chattogram's Sitakunda around noon yesterday. Forty-three deaths have so far been reported in the blaze.

PHOTO: RAJIB RAIHAN

ADANI GODDA POWER PLANT

BPDB to pay Tk 1,219.1cr for power not used

Finds study by Bangladesh Working Group on the External Debt and Growthwatch

ASIFUR RAHMAN

If it does not add value, it is a waste, said the seminal American industrialist Henry Ford. And the quote best describes the situation the Bangladesh Power Development Board finds itself in with its deal with India's Adani Power.

Engineered during Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi's maiden visit to Bangladesh in 2015, Adani Power has set up a 1,600MW thermal power in Jharkhand's Godda to supply most of the power generated to BPDB through a dedicated transmission line.

That power plant will be going into generation from August but its transmission would not be ready until December at least, meaning the power would be going to waste.

And yet, BPDB would have to pay \$141.1 million, or Tk 1,219.1 crore, in capacity charge for the four months to December, according to the report "Adani Godda Coal Power Plant: An Achilles Heel of the Power Sector of Bangladesh".

Capacity charge is a penalty paid

to the plant owner for failure to buy a certain portion of power readily available.

As per the agreement signed in 2017, Adani Power would supply 1,496 MW of electricity for 25 years from December 2021.

Because of the pandemic, the Adani Group subsidiary pushed the start date by six months. The power plant is all set to start commercial operation in August.

But the Power Grid Company of Bangladesh (PGCB) said more time is needed to get the infrastructure ready to import electricity. It will take at least December this year.

As per the agreement, Adani Power would install a dedicated 106 kilometres long 400 kV transmission line from Godda to the interconnection point.

To relay the power from the point, PGCB took up a Tk 225.2 crore project

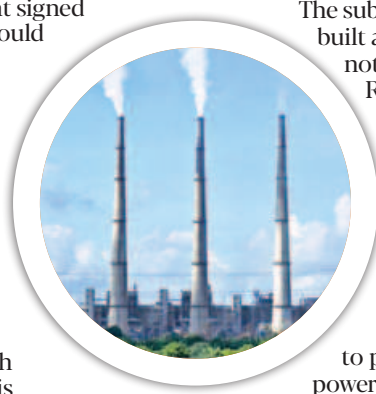
to construct a 28 km transmission line from the Indo-Bangla border to the Rohanpur substation in Bangladesh.

The substation is yet to be built as the materials have not arrived, Md. Mizanur Rahman Sarkar, project director of the transmission line, told The Daily Star.

"We will be able to import power from about 800 MW in the early months of the next year," he said. BPDB has agreed to pay the Adani Godda power plant Tk 3.26 as the capacity charge per unit. For similar plants in Bangladesh, the capacity charge is Tk 2.83.

Nasrul Hamid, the state minister for power, energy and mineral resources, is not sure yet whether BPDB would have to pay the capacity charge for the

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WB revises down growth forecast for Bangladesh

REJAUL KARIM BYRON

Taking into account the Ukraine war, the World Bank reduced Bangladesh's economic growth projection to 6.7 percent for the next fiscal year from its January forecast of 6.9 percent.

The economy of the country will grow at its previous projected rate at 6.4 percent at the end of the current fiscal 2021-22, according to the Global Economic Prospects report released by the WB yesterday.

However, the Bangladesh government in April projected that the country's economy will grow at 7.5 percent in the next fiscal year and at the end of the current fiscal year the economy will grow at 7.2 percent.

The WB report said, "Energy subsidies as a share of government expenditure are the

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Harmony bullet trains at a high-speed train maintenance base in Wuhan, Hubei province. China has the world's longest high-speed-rail network, more than the rest of the world combined.

PHOTO: REUTERS

HIGH-SPEED RAIL PROJECT

COST
Tk **93,35,0.93**cr
(\$1=Tk 84)

FRAMEWORK
G2G PPP between Bangladesh and China

COMPANY
RECOMMENDED
China Railway Group Ltd

FARE
over Tk **2,000** likely

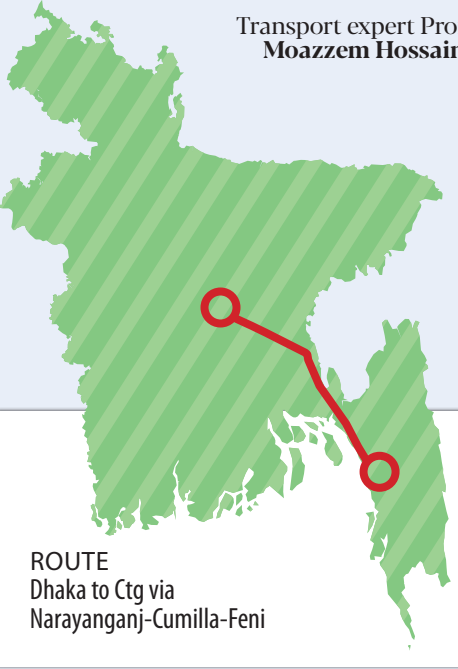
TRAVEL TIME
55 to 73 minutes

SPEED
Max **300** km/hr

TRACK LENGTH
224.64km

"I would not say such a project should not be initiated. But it depends. Such a project can be undertaken if the economic growth continues for the next six to seven years. But if the economy slips, then this amount of money itself could be a huge burden for the country."

Transport expert Prof Moazzem Hossain



ROUTE
Dhaka to Ctg via Narayanganj-Cumilla-Feni

HIGH-SPEED RAIL NETWORK

China seeks MoU ASAP

Wants implementation under G2G-PPP; local experts term the project 'highly ambitious'

TUHIN SHUBHRA ADHIKARY

Following the instruction of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in October 2014, Bangladesh Railway carried out a feasibility study for constructing a high-speed rail network between Dhaka and Chattogram.

However, the project was apparently put on the back burner considering the huge amount of money -- Tk 93,35,0.93 crore (\$1=Tk 84) -- required for its implementation.

In a recent development, China has proposed carrying out the project under the government-to-government-Public Private Partnership (PPP) framework, bringing it back into discussion.

The country has also selected China Railway Group Ltd (CREC), a state-run company, for implementing the project, which will cost more than three times the expenditure for Padma Bridge (Tk 30,193 crore).

Li Jiming, the Chinese ambassador to Bangladesh, in April wrote to Railways Minister Nurul Islam Sujan for signing a memorandum of understanding between CREC and BR "as soon as possible".

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First e-gates of S Asia open in Dhaka airport

RASHIDUL HASAN

Passengers who have e-passports can now use e-gates and complete their immigration within a short time at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport.

After inauguration of the e-gates yesterday, passengers went through those, and one could finish the immigration process in around 18 seconds, said Group Captain Kamrul Islam, executive director of the HSIA.

Monirul Islam, additional IGP, Special Branch, and Brig Gen Sadat, project director, e-passport project, were present at the inaugural event.

With the launching of the e-gates, long wait of e-passport holders to finish their immigration formalities has come to an end.

Twelve e-gates have been installed in the departure area and three in the arrival area.

On June 6, the immigration process was successfully completed through e-gate on a pilot basis.

Apart from HSIA, six e-gates each have been set up at Shah Amanat International Airport and Osmani International Airport. But those are yet to be operational.

The government has planned to set up 50 e-gates at all the airports and land ports across the country under the "E-Passport and Automated Border Control Management Project".

Mokabbir Hossain, secretary of Security Services Division under the home ministry, recently told The Daily Star that outbound and inbound passengers could zip through immigration formalities at the country's main gateway via the automated border control system.

"Passengers don't need to stand in queues for long, as the e-gates will open automatically for the people with e-passports."

Bangladesh is the first country in South Asia to launch e-gate for e-passports.

The camera attached to the e-gate will identify the passenger automatically after analysing information with the e-passport chip. The process ensures high security during the verification of travel documents.

The government launched the e-passport programme and automated border control management in January 2020, aiming to make the immigration process easier and enhance the acceptability of Bangladeshi passports abroad.

In June 2019, e-gates were set up at the HSIA as part of the government's move to launch e-passport. The immigration officials were imparted training on operating the e-gates.



Ride-sharing motorbikes wait for passengers at the Zero Point in the capital's Gulistan around noon yesterday. Many commuters say they don't avail the service as drivers would not accept trips on mobile apps. Drivers, however, claim that their income drops significantly if they operate via mobile apps.

PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

PM calls for austerity again

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday urged the people to take austerity measures amid high inflation and price hike of goods across the world due to the Russia-Ukraine war and the Covid-19 pandemic.

"Yes, it is true that prices of goods have shot up to some extent. But it is still uncertain how much the prices would soar further. It is not only in Bangladesh, but also throughout the world. Rather we've been able to keep these under control at least [to some extent]. We've been trying our best," she said.

The premier was addressing a discussion online from the Gono Bhaban.

Bangladesh Awami League arranged the discussion at its central office in the city's Bangabandhu Avenue marking the historic Six-Point Day. Hasina, also the AL president, chaired it.

She said this war doesn't seem to end soon. "We all have to be economical. We'll have to pay attention so that food does not get wasted."

The shipping cost of goods went up from US\$ 800 to US\$ 2500-US\$ 3,000, she said.

Pointing to the readymade garment workers' movement to raise salary, the premier said they might lose their jobs if any unrest is created in the sector in this

tough time when the purchasing power of the people is declining in the export markets of Bangladeshi clothes.

"I think the matter should be informed to the workers and their leaders," she said.

The labour leaders will not face any trouble as they will get a good amount of money from instigators. "But what will be the fate of workers? They will be affected for taking to the streets."

Hasina said her government increased the salary of the apparel workers on several occasions. A worker now gets Tk 8,000-Tk 10,000 a month and other facilities, but the salary was only Tk 1,600 in the past, she added.

She said the government has been providing subsidies in different sectors. It has given all sorts of incentives to the garment sector. "It is not possible to provide more than that," she added.

As the government helped the factories preventing their closure for Covid-19, now they get work orders, their exports increase and they can import capital machinery, she said.

The PM said if anyone wages movement leading to the shutdown of the factories, the job would also be lost. "If you don't understand it, we have nothing to do here. Because how much more can we give to the private sector?" she said.



China seeks MoU ASAP

FROM PAGE 1

Moreover, the ambassador expected that an MoU would be inked between the two governments in "near future" to embark on the high-speed rail project under the G2G-PPP framework.

Under the G2G-PPP arrangement, Bangladesh may request other governments to provide financial support and select state-owned or private entities to act as the investors.

No project under the G2G-PPP arrangement has yet to be implemented in Bangladesh. Discussions with several countries, including Japan and South Korea, have been going on to implement some projects under this model.

The Chinese proposal came at a time when prominent transport experts questioned the viability of such a huge-investment project. Some of them said BR lacks capacity to complete this "highly ambitious" scheme. Even, the railways minister himself told The Daily Star last year that the government would "go slow" with the project due to the massive cost involved.

"Instead of investing the huge amount of money for the high-speed railway, we found investment in other projects is more crucial ... We are giving emphasis on other infrastructure projects," Sujan said on October 31.

In March this year, the project evaluation committee led by the

rail secretary decided to seek opinions from the railways minister whether BR will send the DPP of the proposed project to the Economic Relations Division for funds.

The Daily Star could not confirm if the committee took the steps as the minister, secretary and additional secretary (development and planning) were not available for comments.

According to the International Union of Railways, speed of the high-speed rail would be at least 200km per hour for upgraded tracks and 250km per hour or faster for new tracks.

The world's fastest public train connects Shanghai's Pudong airport of China's Shanghai with Longyang Road Station in the city centre and it has a maximum commercial speed of 460km/hr, says a CNN report of December last year.

The 10 fastest trains of the world are being operated at 300 to 460km/hr in China, Japan, Germany, France, Japan, Morocco, Spain, South Korea, Italy and Saudi Arabia, according to the report.

The work for India's first high-speed train project is underway between Mumbai and Ahmedabad and the bullet train will be operated at a speed of 320km/hr, according to Indian newspapers.

In Bangladesh, once the high-speed rail project is implemented, the journey on the 224.64km

route between Dhaka and Chattogram via Narayanganj-Cumilla-Feni will take 55 minutes if uninterrupted, and 73 minutes with stopovers. The travel time is currently more than six hours.

It will, however, not be cheap. With the fare expected to be over Tk 2,000, more than three times the fare of an AC seat on existing Bangladeshi inter-city trains. Minimum air fare from Dhaka to Chattogram is Tk 3500.

Approximately 50,000 passengers will be transported each way daily while the bullet train will run at up to 300km/hr.

THE PROJECT Sheikh Hasina, while visiting the railways ministry on October 23, 2014, issued several instructions, including taking steps for operating high-speed train (bullet train) between Dhaka and Chattogram.

More than 90 percent of the country's seaborne trade is being handled by the Chattogram port.

Dhaka-Chattogram highway is considered the life line of the economy as it carries more than 80 percent of the external trade but the contribution of the railways is very low compared to this.

Following the PM's instruction, BR has already completed a feasibility study and detail design of the project, spending Tk 110.16 crore. A joint-venture firm led by a Chinese company carried out the study and opined that the project would be

economically viable with economic international rate of return is 15.18 percent.

If implemented, it will be the second costliest infrastructure project of the country after the Rooppur Nuclear Power Plant being built at Tk 113,092 crore.

Apart from CREC, two other Chinese companies -- China Railway Construction Corporation and China Civil Engineering Construction Corporation -- expressed interest in forming a joint venture to construct, operate and manage funds for the high-speed rail project under a PPP model.

BR held a meeting over the joint venture proposal in March last year and decided to seek opinion from the Economic Relations Division in this regard. However, no visible move followed.

Transport expert Prof Moazzem Hossain thinks this is an "ambitious project" with some extent of risk, if the country's present economic situation is taken into consideration.

"I would not say such a project should not be initiated. But it depends. Such a project can be undertaken if the economic growth continues for the next six to seven years. But if the economy slips, then this amount of money itself could be a huge burden for the country," he said.

"In that sense, it is a risky project," he told The Daily Star on May 21.

Replying to another question, he said,

"Consequence would be same -- be it an investment project with [foreign] loan or under PPP. Ultimately, the government has to bear the liability."

SIGN MOU ASAP: CHINESE ENVOY

In his letter to the railways minister, Chinese ambassador mentioned a virtual meeting held between them on October 14, 2020, when "a preliminary agreement" for the project implementation through G2G-PPP was reached between two sides.

He said CREC has submitted its "letter of interest" to the ministry recently to develop the high-speed rail project.

CREC is involved in the Padma Bridge Rail Link Project and Chattogram-Cox's Bazar Rail Link Project, two fast-track projects implemented by BR.

The contractor of Padma Bridge is also a subsidiary of CREC.

CREC is the leading company for design and construction of railway in the word and the company is active in Bangladesh since 1990s, the ambassador said.

The ambassador termed CREC an "ideal partner" of railways ministry for implementing the project and suggested an MoU be signed for cooperation on the project between BR and CREC as soon as possible.

He requested the ministry to provide "needful supports" to CREC to facilitate the feasibility study, financing construction and operation

of the project.

The ambassador also wrote that with the MoU on G2G-PPP between China and Bangladesh being signed in the near future, "we can surely expect" that the project would be developed under the G2G-PPP framework.

BR sources said the if CREC is given the charge of the project implementation, they will prepare a plan to use the high-speed corridor for operating freight trains, besides passenger trains, by lowering the speed at around 200km/hr.

Upon receiving the letter, the railways minister sought BR's opinion over the matter and BR recently sent their opinion, sources said.

Contacted, Habibur Rahman, additional secretary (development and planning), asked this correspondent to talk to a BR official.

The official said they informed the ministry that no such MoU is required to be signed with the company as the Public Private Partnership Authority (PPPA) has specific procedures regarding G2G-PPP framework.

This correspondent tried to talk with Railways Secretary Humayun Kabir going to his office on May 25 but could not manage an appointment. The secretary could not be reached over phone either.

He tried to meet the railways minister in his office the next day but to no avail. The minister was also not available on phone.

Journalist held in DSA case

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police yesterday arrested the editor of Dainik Parbatta Chattogram, a Rangamati-based daily, in a case filed under the controversial Digital Security Act.

The arrestee, Fazle Elahi, was held in the evening, said Kabir Hossen, officer-in-charge of Rangamati Police Station.

Elahi is also the district correspondent of several other media outlets.

Naznin Anwar, daughter of former lawmaker (reserved seat) Firoza Begum Chinu, lodged the case with Cybercrime Tribunal last year over a report published in Dainik Parbatta Chattogram on DC Park irregularities, he said.

The OC said they received the arrest warrant from the tribunal yesterday.

Dengue cases jump in June

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

At least 109 dengue patients were hospitalised in the first week of June alone, an alarming spike.

Seventeen dengue patients were admitted to hospitals across the country in 24 hours ending at 8:00am yesterday, said the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS)

So far this year, 463 dengue patients were hospitalised.

Of them, 75 are still undergoing treatment and 388 have recovered.

Warning the city corporations of a major outbreak this year, experts suggested that the corporations take extensive measures immediately to control Aedes mosquitoes, the carrier of the virus.

Dhaka is at risk of a major dengue outbreak this year, according to a pre-monsoon survey of the DGHS conducted between March 23 and April 4.

The survey found three Dhaka South City Corporation wards to be at "high risk" and 10 at "medium risk" of an outbreak. Nine wards in Dhaka North City Corporation are at "medium risk".

Trader kidnapped in Patuakhali

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Patuakhali

Criminals abducted a trader in Rangabali upazila of Patuakhali on Sunday night and demanded a ransom of Tk 1 lakh.

Nizam Fakir, brother of victim Swapan Fakir, 32, who sells lentil, filed a general diary with Rangabali Police Station on Monday.

Swapan's family claimed that he went to nearby Galachipa upazila town on Friday to sell lentil. He got Tk 2.5 lakh from the sale and took it with him when he left home around 4:30pm on Sunday.

He had called for a motorbike ride at 9:45pm to get home from North Charalta area. But the bike rider found his phone turned off when he reached North Charalta to pick up Swapan.

At 11:48pm, Swapan called his sister Hosneara Begum. He told her that he had been kidnapped and that the abductors wanted Tk 1 lakh for his release.

"Sister save me. I can't say where he is taking me. I'm blindfolded," he was quoted as saying.

There has been no communication with Swapan since then.

Target more export

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Another comfort for Bangladesh comes from the fact that the country's export-oriented items are consumed mostly by low and middle-income groups in the destination countries.

"We don't produce high-value items much. Our exports will not be affected," Kamal said, adding that the country's export earnings would hit \$50 billion this fiscal year.

Owing to higher import bills against moderate exports and slower remittance inflow, Bangladesh's foreign currency reserves have taken a hit recently.

Kamal, however, said, "The reserves are still at a comfortable level. And we will soon raise it to \$50 billion."

As prices of essentials are likely to stay at higher levels in the coming months, the government has decided to support one crore families hit hard by raging inflation that rose to an 18-month high in April.

"We are initiating safety net projects. The

beneficiaries will not have to come to us to seek aid. Rather, we will take measures so that they can get the assistance in the convenience of their homes," said Kamal, referring to money transfers through mobile financial services.

The finance ministry official said the total allocation for the safety net programmes might be Tk 113,000 crore or 2.5 percent of the GDP. The bill on the universal pension scheme is also likely to be placed in the budget session.

The official further said that in the next fiscal year, the government may offer opportunities to bring back the money that was generated in Bangladesh but was laundered abroad.

Under the facility to be offered for the first time, those who transferred money abroad through trade under-invoicing may get the chance to bring it back by paying 7 percent tax as penalty, said the official.

"This scope will be available only for the next fiscal year."

WB revises down

FROM PAGE 1

highest in Bangladesh, the Maldives, and Pakistan.

"With already high energy costs and the uncertain outlook, the region could face additional pressure on inflation -- despite the dampening effect of subsidies -- and larger current account deficits.

"This pressure could undermine growth, increase poverty, and divert budgetary resources away from productivity-enhancing investment and social protection."

Rising energy prices, given the region's high dependency on energy imports and elevated energy subsidies in some economies, could further undermine growth and threaten a widening of fiscal imbalances, reads the report.

Stronger-than-expected rebound from the pandemic helped Bangladesh boost activity through early 2022.

In Bangladesh, goods exports have grown by over 25 percent so far this fiscal year.

To treat burn patients, time is of the essence

In conversation with Dr Samanta Lal Sen

MOHAMMAD JAMIL KHAN and SHAHEEN MOLLAH

At least 100 people were burnt, and of them, 67 were being treated after the BM container depot fire in Chattogram. Due to the limited capacity in Chattogram, patients with serious injuries needed to be shifted to Dhaka through emergency helicopters.

But why is a divisional city still lacking proper treatment facilities, and what actual steps have been taken for improvement?

In search of the answers, The Daily Star (DS) yesterday talked to Dr Samanta Lal Sen, chief national coordinator for plastic surgery and burn projects in Bangladesh.

DS: What are the limitations in providing treatment to burn patients?

Dr Sen: We are still lagging behind due to lack of supporting infrastructures like dedicated operation theatres (OT), intensive care units (ICU), high-dependency units (HDU) and relevant equipment.

The same crisis was seen in Chattogram. Although it has a burn unit, there are no ICU or OT dedicated for burn patients. On the bright side, the Chinese



DR SAMANTA LAL SEN
Chief national coordinator for plastic surgery and burn projects in Bangladesh

We have successfully set up a skin bank at Sheikh Hasina National Institute of Burn and Plastic Surgery last year. But we are yet to start the procedure, as we need proper campaigning for it. We have plans to inspire people to donate skin, which will be used for burn patients. A person's skin can be taken within six hours after death.

government is building a burn unit in Chattogram, and four places have already been selected for it primarily.

DS: A dedicated institute was built for burn patients, but many people are still dying. Why?

Dr Sen: Yes, people are still dying, and the death rate, at least six percent, is high. The major reason behind this is cross infection.

Due to space shortage in burn units of divisional cities, patients are kept in close proximity, which spreads infections. Another reason is the issue of shifting patients.

The first 24 hours is the most crucial for a burn patient's treatment. But patients in Satkhira or Barguna will not get that treatment, as these places do not have dedicated burn facilities.

These patients are taken to Dhaka, which takes a lot of time. In these cases, we often have nothing to do.

DS: What steps have been taken to improve burn treatment? What is the status of setting up burn institutes in divisional cities?

Dr Sen: We have successfully set up a skin bank at Sheikh Hasina National Institute of Burn and Plastic Surgery last year. But we are yet to start the procedure, as we need proper campaigning for it.

We have plans to inspire people to donate skin, which will be used for burn patients. A person's skin can be taken within six hours after death.

And to set up burn hospitals in divisions -- Sylhet, Barishal, Rangpur, Rajshahi and Faridpur -- a bill has already been passed in the Ecne meeting around seven months ago.

DS: If an incident like the depot fire happens again, what steps should be taken?

Dr Sen: At first, the casualty hospitals need to turn into specialised burn hospitals immediately. Next, all expert doctors, including those specialising in burns and causality, should form teams to provide treatment without any delay.

Finally, ICUs and separate spaces need to be dedicated for burn patients.

But for this, we need to raise awareness among every stakeholder and keep in mind that prevention is better than cure.



Despite the ban, slow-moving, battery-operated three-wheelers continue to ply highways. As vehicles on the highway tend to move at fast speeds, the mismatched pace of these vehicles opens up a chance for accidents. This photo was taken from Dhaka-Mymensingh highway yesterday.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

Children not even safe at home: study

They're abused more at homes than schools, other places, says national survey by MJF



PHOTO: COLLECTED

Speakers at the roundtable on "Violence against Children in Bangladesh" at the capital's Cirdap auditorium yesterday. Manusher Jonno Foundation organised the event.

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

About 95.8 percent of children become victims of violence in their very homes, which is more than the violation occurred in educational institutes or community level, found a national survey by Manusher Jonno Foundation (MJF).

MJF yesterday unveiled the report, prepared by INCIDIN Bangladesh between June 2020 and May 2021, at a roundtable in the capital's Cirdap auditorium.

The survey also revealed that 86.1 percent of children experienced emotional abuse at educational institutes, while 82 percent were subjected to physical violence.

At the community level, children experienced emotional abuse (84.6 percent) more than physical violence (67 percent).

The situation was similar at workplaces, where 72 percent of children were exposed to emotional abuse, while 55.3

percent were faced with physical violence.

Nearly a quarter of children (24.1 percent) have experienced sexual violence at educational institutes, 36 percent at the community level and 37.8 percent at workplaces.

Within the households, 86.9 percent of children said they have faced physical violence in the name of punitive action. Around 81 percent of guardians were found to be supportive of physical punishment when a child is disobedient.

About 55 percent of children said they faced sexual violence at home.

MJF surveyed 5,078 children in 11 districts, of whom 3,134 were from urban and 1,940 from rural areas.

Teachers, physical instructors, religious instructors, security guards, shopkeepers, neighbours, and unknown individuals were among the perpetrators, according to the report.

Most of the children stated that they did not report those issues because they were afraid of being judged if they complained to their parents.

"We have to involve families, communities, schools, elite groups of the society and elected representatives to stand against the violence," said Shaheen Anam, MJF executive director.

Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD) Distinguished Fellow Dr Debapriya Bhattacharya said, "We cannot limit violence on children in three categories [physical, emotional and sexual]. The greatest of them all is child labour. Why does a 14-year-old have to go to a welding factory instead of going to school?"

"Digital violence is another major kind of violence. Using children for political purposes is another one, which will be seen frequently in the upcoming election. All violence of such kind should be abolished," he added.

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'Too many cooks spoil the broth'

Experts call for single authority to ensure food safety

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government needs to reshape seasonal drives on an institutional level to protect people from food crisis and syndicates.

Besides, there must be constant monitoring in this regard.

At the same time, a single authority needs to be entrusted to look after food safety issues as many government agencies are involved in the supervision of food-related businesses.

Experts said these at a seminar titled "Safer Food for Better Economy" organised by Bangladesh Food Safety Authority (BFSa) at a city hotel to mark the World Food Safety Day yesterday.

"The country's population has doubled whereas the food production has quadrupled in the last 50 years. It still doesn't make sense why there would be a food crisis," said Dr Mohammed

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Centralised toll system in the offing

Authorities developing unified system for bridge, elevated expressway, tunnel

TUHIN SHUBHRA ADHIKARY

Bangladesh Bridge Authority (BBA) has started a process to develop a centralised electronic toll collection system for all its structures -- bridges, elevated expressways and tunnels.

When we hire a company, it deploys a software, and after the tenure, leaves with the software. So, we have to hire a new one. We can't depend on this process for an indefinite time. We want to develop [by hiring consultant] a software and provide our staffers necessary training, so that we can collect toll on our own.

QUAZI MUHAMMAD FERDOUS
Chief engineer of BBA

The authority is going to engage a consulting firm to develop the software and provide training to BBA staffers to run the system on a pilot basis for a certain period.

"We have taken the step to improve the authority's capacity," Quazi Muhammad Ferdous, chief engineer of BBA, told The Daily Star yesterday.

Bangabandhu Bridge, Mukhtarpur Bridge in Munshiganj, and Padma Bridge, which would be opened on June 25, are BBA structures.

Besides, it is building Bangabandhu tunnel under Karnaphuli river in Chattogram, and two expressways -- Dhaka Elevated Expressway and Dhaka Ashulia Expressway -- in Dhaka and adjacent areas. More such projects are in the pipeline.

Currently, BBA hires companies for collecting toll from their structures for a certain period and has to spend a handsome amount of money for the task.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 4

'Raking in money by promising govt jobs'

DB arrests syndicate leader for defrauding people

MOHAMMAD JAMIL KHAN

Md Selim, owner of a community centre in Rajshahi, submitted a file at the education ministry last month, requesting for a promotion for his relative, who worked at a college.

While Selim was trying to get his file approved, he received a call on May 26. The caller identified himself as a personal secretary (PS) working at the ministry.

"The caller then told me to not worry about anything, assuring that the file will be approved soon. But for the process, I needed to deposit an amount," said Selim.

"It was very hard to realise that the person was a fraud, as he was talking in an official manner. So, I sent Tk 50,000 twice to a mobile financial service [MFS] account," he said.

A couple of days later, Selim went to Dhaka and requested the caller to meet him, but he refused to do so.

Selim then called the actual number of the PS, and found a different person

receiving the phone.

Interestingly enough, Selim claimed that he did not share any information about submitting the file to any unknown person. "Maybe these frauds have a link with the ministry."

This is not an isolated incident. According to victims and detectives, a syndicate using names of ministry officials has been pocketing huge sums of money over the years.

For example, Nasim Atahar, a victim from Dinajpur, paid Tk 1.25 lakh for a job in the education ministry. He talked to three different fraudsters for this.

"Around 11 of us paid around Tk 1 crore in the last one and half months for different jobs," he said.

Cyber and Special Crime Division of police's detective branch (DB) disclosed findings, after arresting a fraudster from Rangpur on Monday.

The arrestee is Rezwanul Haque (21), who studied till 10th-grade, said

SEE PAGE 4 COL 1



Dhaka South City Corporation built this structure a few years ago to enhance the city's beauty. But at present, the only purpose it serves is that of an eyesore. Posters of political and marketing campaigns have been pasted on the structure, while its broken parts lie around its base. This photo was taken from Shahbagh recently.

PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON

Mob beats up traffic sergeant

Video goes viral

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A traffic police sergeant was beaten by a mob in Dhaka's Jurain area yesterday following an altercation with commuters on a motorcycle.

Sergeant Ali Hossain of Wari Traffic Division was undergoing treatment at Central Police Hospital in Dhaka's Rajarbagh.

He needed 23 stitches in his hand, said Mofizur

SEE PAGE 4 COL 6

PRAYER TIMING		JUNE 8			
Fazr	Zohr	Asr	Maghrib	Esha	
4:05	12:45	5:00	6:45	8:15	
JAMAAT 4:40	1:15	5:15	6:50	8:45	
SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION					

Too many cooks

FROM PAGE 3
Farashuddin, former governor of Bangladesh Bank and founding vice chancellor of East West University. “Why do market inspections occur abruptly and stop after a few days? I don’t understand why we can’t carry on such inspection and monitoring on an institutional basis.”

Food Minister Sadhan Chandra Majumder said farmers and businessmen have to comply with the directives of 18 government

organisations, which creates complexities. “That’s why the matter was brought up before the cabinet,” he said. Preparations are being taken to bring the food-related businesses under the supervision of one authority, he added. Dr Mohammad Abu Eusuf, professor of Development Studies at Dhaka University, said zero-tolerance should be shown against those involved in food adulteration.

Raking in money

FROM PAGE 3
Junaed Alam Sharker, ADC of the division.

Rezwana has been involved in such activities for last five years. He is wanted in four cases. For duping people, he used to open social media accounts using names and photos of ministry secretaries. Then he would connect with

random people and given them job-related advice. Besides, he used to send messages to officials and put up posts on social media. The Daily Star has managed to collect some of his screenshots. Detectives have so far confirmed that five victims have paid Rezwana more than Tk 12 lakh in just a month.

The girl

FROM PAGE 5
The scene after being informed and took the injured to hospital, said ANM Masud, in-charge of Doshmile Highway Police Station. Abdur Rahim (40), Aysha Akter (24) and another unidentified individual succumbed to their injuries.

“Rima was found almost unconscious with arms protectively wrapped around her daughter,” said Mehruz Tanvir, station officer of Dinajpur fire service.

“The child was scared but unhurt. She stopped crying when I picked her up from the floor,” he added.

ACC files

FROM PAGE 5
and pocketing about Tk 85.75 lakh, allocated for repairing.

In another case filed by ACC’s Assistant Director Bazlur Rahman, additional deputy director of DAE Wahiduzzaman and staffer Mojibur Rahman Bhuiyan were made accused for misappropriating money allocated for different repairing purposes.

Meanwhile, ACC filed a case against Soma Saha, wife of superintendent engineer of National Housing Authority Porimol Kumar Kuri, for amassing about Tk 1.19 crore.

On Monday, ACC filed a case against Porimol for amassing about Tk 50 lakh beyond known source of income.

Centralised toll

FROM PAGE 3
The government in April appointed Korea Expressway Corporation and China Major Bridge Engineering Co Ltd for collecting toll and maintaining Padma Multipurpose Bridge for next five years, at a cost of Tk 692.92 crore.

The authority is going to form a dedicated company for operating and maintaining Padma Bridge, and the board of BBA last month gave approval, in principle, to a proposal in this regard.

Meanwhile, BBA is now collecting toll from Bangabandhu Bridge over the Jamuna using software of a local company.

“When we hire a company, it deploys a software, and after the tenure, leaves with the software. So, we have to hire a new one,” Ferdous said. “We can’t depend on this process for an indefinite time.”

“We want to develop [by hiring consultant] a software and provide our staffers necessary training, so that we can collect toll using our very own

workforce,” he added. He said they have already floated tender for hiring consultants for the toll collection work.

As per the draft terms of reference, the main objective of the consultancy service is to develop a centralised electronic toll collection system for BBA structure.

The consulting firm will have to install the software, provide training to BBA staffers to run the system on a pilot basis for certain period and hand over the system to BBA with source code.

The contract duration will be one year initially to develop the software.

Six more months would be required for commissioning and training.

Then, Ferdous said, they will use the software using their own manpower for a particular booth on pilot basis. “We will learn by trial and error.”

Once they are successful in using the software like this, they will even be able to provide the service to other government agencies, he added.

Mob beats up traffic

FROM PAGE 3
Rahman, OC of Shyampur Police Station. Constable Sirajul Islam and SI Utpal Chandra took primary treatment.

Saidul Islam, deputy commissioner of Wari Traffic Division, said in the morning, the sergeant stopped a motorcyclist – with a woman as pillion passenger – for going on the wrong side.

The initial incident was captured in the sergeant’s body cam where it was seen that the motorcyclist got agitated as the police officer wanted to see his papers.

“The man wanted to see

paper [ID] from the police officer in uniform,” he said, adding that the man and the woman identified themselves as a lawyer and journalist. “All of a sudden, the woman shouted: ‘Why did you touch me?’ The body cam did not show the woman,” he added. Later, a scuffle ensued between the three and the body cam got displaced and the incident was not recorded properly.

Later, others – including ride sharing bikers and passersby – started beating the police officer, the DC said, citing camera footage.

The DC said police took the two commuters to custody. However, many

shared a short video clip of the attack on social media, saying the traffic sergeant was manhandled by people in Jurain for “harassing” a commuter.

Shyampur Police OC Mofizur said police detained motorcycle rider Roni, who identified himself as editor of Jatra Bichitra; his wife Nishat and her brother Yeasir Arafat. A case was filed against them, he said.

Nishat was taken to DMCH as she was feeling unwell, said DMCH police camp In-charge Bachchu Mia. The Daily Star did not get in touch with the two, despite attempts.

Children not even safe at home

FROM PAGE 3
Tony Michael Gomes, director of World Vision, said, “Merely breaking the silence is not enough. Every day the newspapers have stories about violence. The question is – who will read them all?”

Mohammad Amran Khan, assistant director at the department of social services, said Bangladesh has all the commitment

and laws to protect children but some of them have no visible implementation.

“We have started to form community-based committees and appoint social workers and volunteers to protect children. If NGO workers all come together, it will bring good results.”

MJF project coordinator Rafeza Shaheen said they have implemented a pilot

project in nine wards of Dhaka and Barishal.

Shahnaz Huda, professor of law at DU; Jinat Ara Haque, chief coordinator of WE CAN; Syeda Munira Sultana, ILO national programme coordinator; MM Mahmudullah, additional director of social service; and Mahbuba Bilki, deputy secretary of labour ministry, were also present at the event.



সোনালী ব্যাংক লিমিটেড

ইনফরমেশন টেকনোলজি ডিভিশন
(আইটি প্রকিউরমেন্ট এন্ড মেইনটেন্যান্স)
প্রধান কার্যালয়, ঢাকা

সৈনিক প্রথম আলো এবং The Daily Star পত্রিকা ০৬/০৬/২০২২ তারিখে প্রকাশিত Request for Expression of Interest (ISMS Implementation & ISO 27001:2013 Certification of Sonali Bank Limited) এর একটি অনুচ্ছেদ বাতিল প্রসঙ্গে।

কাজের নামঃ Procurement of ISMS Implementation & ISO 27001:2013 Certification of Sonali Bank Limited
Tender Ref. No. SBL/Proc/EOI/2022/27, Date: 02/06/2022 এর 14 f.) নং অনুচ্ছেদ [Eligibility of Consultancy Firm: 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)] টি রহিত করা হলো।

প্রকাশিত টেন্ডার বিজ্ঞপ্তির অন্যান্য শর্তাবলী অপরিবর্তিত থাকবে। Web: www.sonalibank.com.bd ফোনঃ ০২২২৩৩৮৪১৬৭, মোবাইলঃ ০১৭৫৫৫৯৪১০০, জিডি-১১৮১

ডেপুটি জেনারেল ম্যানেজার

LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF BANGLADESH
HIGH COURT DIVISION
(STATUTORY ORIGINAL JURISDICTION)
COMPANY MATTER NO. 173 OF 2022

IN THE MATTER OF:
An application under Section 81(2) read with Sections 85(3) and 396 of the Companies Act, 1994, AND

IN THE MATTER OF:
Biplob Bikash Shill, son of Jotindra Kumar Shill, Director, Destiny-2000 Ltd. Dhaka-6 B, Bikash & Associates, 48/A-B, Baitul Khair, Bhaban (1st Floor), Purana Palton, Dhaka-1000 and others. Petitioners


VERSUS

The Registrar, Joint Stock Companies and Firms, TCB Building (6th Floor), 1 Kawran Bazar, Dhaka-1215, and another Respondents

Notice is hereby given that an application under S.81(2) read with S.85(3) and S.396 of Companies Act, 1994, was filed before the High Court Division by the petitioners for condonation of delay in holding Annual General Meetings of Destiny-2000 Ltd. for the calendar years of 2012 to 2021. Upon hearing the learned advocate of the petitioner on 06.06.2022, the Hon'ble Company Judge, Mr. Justice Muhammad Khurshid Alam Sarker, was pleased to admit the application and passed an order to issue notices upon the respondents.

Anybody interested to oppose the application may appear before the Court at the time of hearing. Copy of the said application may be obtained from the undersigned on payment of necessary cost.

M. Mainul Islam, Barrister-at-Law
Advocate, Supreme Court of Bangladesh,
Law House, Flat-8/B, Sharmag Mac, 3/1, 3/2 Bijoynagar, Dhaka-1000.



ন্যাশনাল টি কোম্পানী লিমিটেড

“বিজ্ঞাপন টাওয়ার” (৮ম তলা)
৩৪, ভোপখানা রোড, ঢাকা- ১০০০।

তারিখঃ ০৭.০৬.২০২২

নিয়োগ বিজ্ঞপ্তি

দেশের চা সেটের সর্ববৃহৎ পাবলিক লিমিটেড কোম্পানী ন্যাশনাল টি কোম্পানী লিমিটেডের জন্য উপ-ব্যবস্থাপনা পরিচালক পদে নিয়োগের লক্ষ্যে আগ্রহী যোগ্য বাংলাদেশী নাগরিকদের নিম্নে উল্লিখিত নিম্নলিখিত বর্ণনায় বর্ণিত দায়িত্ব আবেদন করা যাচ্ছে। নিয়োগ প্রাপ্তকৈ কোম্পানীর বেতনক্রম অনুসারে বেতন-ভাতাদি প্রদান করা হবে। নিয়োগের শর্তাবলী:-

- অভিজ্ঞতা:- চা বাগানের মঠ ও কারখানা পর্যায়ে কাজের ক্ষেত্রে কমপক্ষে ২০(বিশ) বছর কাজের অভিজ্ঞতা থাকতে হবে। তবে কোন চা কোম্পানীতে মহাব্যবস্থাপক বা সাম পর্যায়ে পদে ৩ বছরের অভিজ্ঞতা সম্পন্ন প্রার্থীদের অগ্রাধিকার দেয়া হবে।
- শিক্ষাগত বৈশিষ্ট্য:- ন্যূনতম স্নাতক/ডিগ্রী পাশ হতে হবে।
৩. ১ জুন, ২০২২ তারিখে প্রার্থীর বয়স অন্তর্ধ্ব ৫২ (বাঁয়ত্রিশ) বছর হতে হবে। উপর্যুক্ত প্রার্থীদের ক্ষেত্রে বয়স ও অভিজ্ঞতা শিথিল করার এখতিয়ার কর্তৃপক্ষ সংরক্ষণ করে।
৪. প্রার্থীকে শারীরিকভাবে সক্ষম হতে হবে এবং প্রচুর প্রমদ ও যেকোন পরিশেষে কাজ করার মানসিকতা থাকতে হবে।

অন্যান্য শর্তাবলী:-

- আবেদন- পত্রের সঙ্গে প্রার্থীর জীবন বৃত্তান্ত ও সত্য তোলা ২ (দুই) কপি পাসপোর্ট সাইজের ছবি এবং সকল পরীক্ষা পাসের সার্টিফিকেট/প্রমাণ-পত্র, অভিজ্ঞতার প্রত্যয়ন-পত্র, জাতীয় পরিচয়-পত্রের ফটোকপি, মোবাইল/টেলিফোন নম্বর ও ইমেইল ঠিকানা এবং ২ জন স্বাক্ষরযুক্ত ব্যক্তির বৈশিষ্ট্য সনাক্ত করে তোলা সহ আবেদন-পত্র সর্বশেষ ৫ই জুলাই, ২০২২ তারিখের মধ্যে কোম্পানীর উপর্যুক্ত ঠিকানায় আবেদন করতে হবে। অসম্পূর্ণ ও নির্ধারিত সময়ের পরে প্রাপ্ত আবেদন-পত্র সরাপরি বাতিল বলে গণ্য হবে।
২. যাচাই-বাছাই এর সময় ক্রটিপূর্ণ আবেদনসমূহ বাতিল করা হবে এবং শুধু সর্বাধিক তালিকাভুক্ত প্রার্থীদের লিখিত ও মৌখিক পরীক্ষা গ্রহণ করা হবে।
৩. কর্তৃপক্ষ কোন প্রকার কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতীতকৈ যে কোন সময় এ নিয়োগ বিজ্ঞপ্তি আংশিক/সম্পূর্ণ সংশোধন/সংশোধন/স্থগিত/বাতিল করার ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করেন।
৪. নিয়োগ পরীক্ষা/সাক্ষাৎকারের জন্য কোন টিএ/ডিএ প্রদান করা হবে না।

ব্যবস্থাপনা পরিচালক
ন্যাশনাল টি কোম্পানী লিমিটেড,
৩৪, ভোপখানা রোড, ঢাকা-১০০০।



বাংলাদেশ স্যাটেলাইট কোম্পানি লিমিটেড

(রাজ্যীয় মালিকানাধীন একটি প্রতিষ্ঠান)
১১৬, কাজী নজরুল ইসলাম আডিনাউ, ঢাকা-১২০৫
www.bscl.gov.bd

পুনঃ দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

সরকারি মালিকানাধীন প্রতিষ্ঠান বাংলাদেশ স্যাটেলাইট কোম্পানি লিমিটেড (বিএসসিএল) এর জন্য দরপত্র আহবানকৃত নিম্নোক্ত পণ্য ও পণ্য সরবরাহ সেবা সরবরাহের লক্ষ্যে প্রকৃত সরবরাহকারী/সেবাস্থ প্রতিষ্ঠানের নিম্নে উল্লিখিত দরপত্র আহবান করা যাচ্ছে।

ক্রম নং	দরপত্র সূত্র নং ও তারিখ	দরপত্র সেবার বিবরণ	দরপত্র জামানত	দরপত্র বিক্রয়ের শেষ তারিখ ও সময়	দরপত্র দাখিলের তারিখ ও সময়	দরপত্র খেলার তারিখ ও সময়	প্রতিটি দরপত্রের মূল্য
১।	১৪.৩৯.০০০০.০০২. ০৭.০১.১৯.৯৭নং তারিখঃ ০৬ জুন ২০২২	Procurement of Measuring Instrument, tools & hardware	২৫,০০০/-	২৩ জুন ২০২২ বিকাল ০৫:০০টা পর্যন্ত।	২৬ জুন ২০২২ বেলা ১২:০৫ টায়	২৬ জুন ২০২২ বেলা ১২:২০ টায়	৫০০/-

দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি প্রকাশের তারিখঃ ০৮ জুন ২০২২

দরপত্র সাধনের স্থানঃ বিএসসিএল প্রধান কার্যালয়, সেল রোজ-এন-ডেল (৭ম তলা), ১১৬, কাজী নজরুল ইসলাম আডিনাউ, ঢাকা-১২০৫।

বিস্তারিত বিবরণসহ-এর ডকুমেন্টস www.bscl.gov.bd-এ পাওয়া যাবে।

GD-1184



গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার

শিল্প মন্ত্রণালয়
বাংলাদেশ শিল্প কারিগরি সহায়তা কেন্দ্র (বিটাক)
১১৬(খ), তেজগাঁও শিল্প এলাকা, ঢাকা-১২০৮
ফোনঃ ০২-৫৫০৩০০৫৫, ই-মেইলঃ purchasedhaka@bitac.gov.bd
ওয়েবসাইটঃ <http://www.bitac.gov.bd>


নং-৩৬.০৬.২৬৯২.০২৬.০৭.০১৬.২২/১৪৭১

তারিখঃ ২৪ জ্যৈষ্ঠ, ১৪২৯ বঙ্গাব্দ
০৭ জুন, ২০২২ ইংরেজি

তালিকাভুক্তির বিজ্ঞপ্তি

২০২২-২০২৩ অর্থবছরের জন্য তালিকাভুক্তি নবায়ণ এবং নতুন ঠিকাদার তালিকাভুক্তির জন্য আবেদন ফরম আহবান করা যাচ্ছে। পণ্য/কার্য/সেবা সরবরাহের ক্ষেত্রে পৃথক পৃথক আবেদন ফরম ক্রয় করতে হবে। আবেদনের শর্তাদি সরবরাহকারী ও ঠিকাদারী প্রতিষ্ঠান (বিদ্যমান ও নতুন) প্রত্যেকের পূরণ আবশ্যিক। প্রতিটি আবেদন ফরমের মূল্য ৩০০/- (তিনশত) টাকা মাত্র। আগ্রহী প্রতিষ্ঠানসমূহ আগামী ১২-৬-২০২২ হতে ৩০-৬-২০২২খ্রিঃ তারিখ পর্যন্ত সকল কর্মদিবসে দপ্তরের হিসাব বিভাগের ক্যাশ শাখা থেকে আবেদন ফরম ক্রয় করতে পারবেন এবং আবেদন ফরম পূরণপূর্বক ক্রয় বিভাগে জমা দিতে পারবেন। আবেদন ফরম জমাদানের প্রয়োজনীয় নির্দেশনা ও বিজ্ঞপ্তির বিস্তারিত বর্ণনা বিটাক এর ওয়েবসাইট (<http://www.bitac.gov.bd>)-এ দেখা যেতে পারে।

কোন কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতিরেকে কর্তৃপক্ষ যে কোন/সকল আবেদন গ্রহণ অথবা বাতিলের ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করেন।


মোঃ জোকারেল হোসেন খান
ক্রয় কর্মকর্তা
বিটাক, ঢাকা
পক্ষে-মহাপরিচালক

জিডি-১১৭৩



Government of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh

Local Government Engineering Department
Office of the Upazila Engineer
Ulipur, Kurigram
www.lged.gov.bd

শেখ হাসিনার মূলনীতি
গ্রাম শহরের উন্নতি

Invitation for Tender (Work’s NOTM) (Re-Tender)

e-Tender Notice Number: 09/2021-2022

Memo No. 46.02.4994.000.14.003.22-373 Dated: 06.06.2022

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

Sl No.	Tender ID	Package No.	Name of work	Tender last selling date & time	Tender closing date & time	Tender opening date & time
1	705901	e-Tender/PEDP4/KUR/ULI/2021-22/W1.02310	Const. of additional classroom of Atharo Paika Joykali GPS	26-Jun-2022 16.00	27-June 2022 13.00	27-June-2022 13.00

This is an online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in National e-GP Portal and offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required. The fees for downloading the e-Tender documents from the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through any registered bank branches up to 13.00 on 27-June/2022.

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

Interested person can be communicate with the undersigned office hours.

K.K.M Sadekul Alam
Upazila Engineer
E-mail: ue.ulipur@lged.gov.bd

GD-1179



Government of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh

Local Government Engineering Department
Office of the Executive Engineer
District: Mymensingh
www.lged.gov.bd

শেখ হাসিনার মূলনীতি
গ্রাম শহরের উন্নতি

Memo No. 46.02.6100.000.07.001.22-2217

e-Tender Notice: 66/2021-22

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

Sl. No.	Package No. and scheme name	Tender ID	Last selling date & time	Closing/ opening date & time	Tendering method
1	IRIDP-3/MYMDOW-199 a) Improvement of Tarakanda GC-Balika UP via Sheikh Raseel GPS Road (ch.00-200m) [Road ID: 361183049] [Salvage Amount: Tk-16553.00] under Tarakanda Upazila, District: Mymensingh. b) Construction of 14 Nos. 0.625m X 0.600m Culvert on same Road at Ch. 350m, 380m, 528m, 720m, 850m, 922m, 998m, 1285m, 1341m, 1580m, 1620m, 1670m, 1780m, & 1963m. c) Construction of 01 No. 2.500m X 2.500m Double Vent RCC Box Culvert on Same Road at Ch. 140m. d) Construction of 01 No. 2.000m X 2.000m Single Vent RCC Box Culvert on Same Road at Ch. 590m.	707278	Date: 30-Jun-2022 Time: 13:00	Date: 30-Jun-2022 Time: 14:00	OTM
2	MRIDIP-22/MYMINANDVR368 a) Improvement of BCR Road with Protective Work of Ghushpara – Udir Bazar [Rahman’s house to Mofic Master’s house to Khajepur] Road from Ch.00-2500m. b) Construction of 1 No. 3.00m X 2.50m Box Culvert on Same Road at ch. 1315m and c) Construction of 1 No. 1.50m X 1.50m Box Culvert on Same Road at ch. 1613m under Nandail Upazila, District: Mymensingh [Road ID: 361124294] [Salvage Amount Tk 5060572.00]	706687	Date: 30-Jun-2022 Time: 13:00	Date: 30-Jun-2022 Time: 14:00	OTM

This is an online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required. The e-Tender security submitted last date & time from the national e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through any registered banks branches respectively. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd) also from E-mail: xen.mymensingh@lged.gov.bd or Call to 091-66378, 091-66110, 091-64365.

Interested persons can communicate with the undersigned during office hours.

Md. Ashrafuzzaman
Executive Engineer
LGED, Mymensingh
Phone: 091-64365
xen.mymensingh@lged.gov.bd

GD-1176

Sagar-Runi murder probe gets 90th time

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday asked Rab to submit by July 19 the probe report of a case filed over the murders of journalist couple Sagar Sarowar and Meherun Runi. Dhaka Metropolitan Magistrate Debdash Chandra Adhikary passed the order after the Rab officer investigating the case failed to submit the report for 89th time yesterday. Sagar, news editor at Maasranga TV, and his wife Runi, a senior reporter at ATN Bangla, were killed in the early hours of February 11, 2012 in their flat at the capital's West Razabazar.

15ft python released in Sundarbans

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bagerhat

A 15 feet long python, rescued from Sharankhola area in Bagerhat, was released into the Sundarbans yesterday. Being informed by locals, forest officials rescued the python from the house of one Haider Ali in Paschim Rajapur village around noon, said Abdus Sabur, station officer at East Sundarbans Chandpai Range. "It was found in a chicken coop," he added.



Although at first glance, one may mistake them for bird cages, these handmade bamboo crafts are in fact fish traps, an age-old tool used by rural fishers to catch small fish during monsoon -- when floods and downpours are far too common. A set of 20 of them is sold for Tk 1,500-2,000 in local markets. This fisher was recently seen buying a set at Shalutikor Bazar in Sylhet's Gowainghat upazila.

PHOTO: SHEIKH NASIR

MISAPPROPRIATING TK 1.11CR ACC files cases against DAE officials

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Anti-Corruption Commission yesterday filed two cases against four officers and staffers of Department of Agriculture Extension (DAE) and a contractor for misappropriating about Tk 1.11 crore from different projects. ACC's Deputy Director Rezaul Karim filed a case against upazila agriculture officer Roshomoy Mondal, clerk Mohammad Ali and contractor Shawkat Hossain Molla for creating fake vouchers

SEE PAGE 4 COL 3

The girl who lived

Newborn escapes unhurt in road accident that killed 3 people

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

"I held my daughter tight when the coach suddenly started scurrying from right to left," said Rima Akter, who saved her five-day-old daughter from an accident that killed three people and left 28 others injured in Dinajpur on Monday night. "When I opened my eyes, I was in a hospital," said Rima, who sustained serious injuries. The accident occurred around 9:30pm on Dinajpur-Rangpur highway at Bangkali in Sadar upazila, when the driver of the Dhaka-bound Ahsan Paribahan bus lost control over the vehicle and hit a roadside tree, said police. The left side of the bus got damaged seriously. Firefighters from Dinajpur unit rushed to the

SEE PAGE 4 COL 3



GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER

EDUCATION ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

MANIKGANJ

eed.manikganj.gov.bd



e-Tender Notice (Open Tendering Method)

Notice No:- EED-Manikganj/Vertical Ext./Furniture/2021-22/35

Date: 07-06-2022

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

SL No.	Tender ID	Name of woks	Last date and time of selling documents	Tender Closing Date/Time	Tender Opening Date/Time
01	708349	Manufacturing and Supplying of Furniture for Academic Building to Kafil Uddin darjee High School under Ghior Upazila, Manikganj District	23-June- 2022 16:00 BST	26-June- 2022 14:00 BST	26-June- 2022 14:00 BST

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

The fees for downloading the e-Tender Documents from the National e-GP Portal have to be deposited online through any registered Banks branches up to **16.00 BST on 23-June-2022**. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).




(Mujahidul Islam Alif)
Executive Engineer
Education Engineering Department
Manikganj
ee_man@cedmoe.gov.bd

GD- 1182

রেজিস্ট্রার এর কার্যালয়

খুলনা প্রকৌশল ও প্রযুক্তি বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়

খুলনা-৯২০৩, বাংলাদেশ।



Office of the Registrar

Khulna University of Engineering & Technology

Khulna-9203, Bangladesh

স্মারক নং/খুপ্রবি/ ৪৪৯৭

তারিখ ০৭.০৬.২০২২

আইন উপদেষ্টা (এডভোকেট) তালিকাভুক্তির বিজ্ঞপ্তি

নিম্নবর্ণিত যোগ্যতা ও শর্তাবলীে খুলনা প্রকৌশল ও প্রযুক্তি বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়-এর বিভিন্ন আইনগত বিষয়ে মতামত গ্রহণ ও বাংলাদেশ সুলীমকোর্টে মামলা পরিচালনার জন্য একজন আইন উপদেষ্টা (এডভোকেট) তালিকাভুক্তির উদ্দেশ্যে বাংলাদেশী নাগরিকদের নিকট থেকে দরখাস্ত আবেদন করা যাচ্ছে।

শর্তাবলীঃ

১। বাংলাদেশের সুলীম কোর্টের হাইকোর্ট বিভাগে একাধারে ১৮ বছর আইন ব্যবসা পরিচালনায় বাস্তব অভিজ্ঞতা সম্পন্ন আইনজীবীগণ আইন উপদেষ্টা (এডভোকেট) পদে তালিকাভুক্তির জন্য আবেদন করতে পারবেন। কোন সরকারী/আধাসরকারী/স্বায়ত্তশাসিত সংস্থা/ ব্যাংক/বীমা/আর্থিক প্রতিষ্ঠানে Panel Lawyer হিসেবে নিযুক্তি অতিরিক্ত যোগ্যতা হিসেবে বিবেচিত হবে।

২। আবেদনকারী এডভোকেটকে তালিকাভুক্ত হতে নাম, পিতা ও মাতার নাম, জন্ম তারিখ, স্থায়ী ঠিকানা ও বর্তমান চেম্বারের ঠিকানা, নাগরিকত্ব সনদপত্র, শিক্ষাগত ও পেশাগত যোগ্যতার সনদপত্র (বার কাউন্সিলের আইনজীবী হিসেবে তালিকাভুক্তির সনদ, আইনজীবী হিসেবে বাংলাদেশ সুলীমকোর্ট আইনজীবী সমিতিতে যোগদানের আইনজীবী সমিতির সনদ) অভিজ্ঞতা, জাতীয়তা, মোবাইল ফোন নম্বর ইত্যাদি উল্লেখ পূর্বক দুই কপি পাসপোর্ট সাইজের ছবিসহ ৭ (সাত) সেট আবেদনপত্র রেজিস্ট্রার, খুলনা প্রকৌশল ও প্রযুক্তি বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়, খুলনা-৯২০৩ বরাবর-এ আবেদন করতে হবে। আবেদনপত্রের সাথে রেজিস্ট্রার, খুলনা প্রকৌশল ও প্রযুক্তি বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়-এর অনুকূলে জনতা ব্যাংকের যে কোন শাখা থেকে ৩০০/- টাকার ডিডি সংযুক্ত করতে হবে। আবেদনপত্র আগামী ২৮/০৬/২০২২খ্রি: তারিখের মধ্যে রেজিস্ট্রার, খুলনা প্রকৌশল ও প্রযুক্তি বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়, খুলনা-৯২০৩ বরাবর-এ অফিস চলাকালীন সময়ে পৌছাতে হবে।

৩। আইন উপদেষ্টা (এডভোকেট) হিসেবে আবেদনকারী কে প্রতিটি আইনগত পরামর্শ/আইনী মতামত প্রদানের জন্য পরামর্শ ফি-এর পরিমাণ আবেদন পত্রে সুস্পষ্ট করে উল্লেখ করতে হবে।

৪। আবেদনকারী বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় কর্তৃক নিযুক্ত আইনজীবী হিসেবে মামলা পরিচালনা করার সময় (ক) লিপ্যলি নোটস প্রদান (খ) আরজি/জবাব প্রস্তুতকরণ (গ) হাজিরা (ঘ) মামলা তালিকা (অন্যান্য যদি থাকে) ইত্যাদি কাজের জন্য পৃথক পৃথক ভাবে পরামর্শ/পেশাগত ফি-এর পরিমাণ আবেদনপত্রে স্পষ্ট করে উল্লেখ করতে হবে।

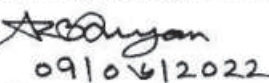
৫। সকল প্রকার শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতা, অভিজ্ঞতা ও অন্যান্য সনদপত্র প্রথম শ্রেণীর কর্মকর্তা কর্তৃক সত্যায়িত হতে হবে।

৬। আবেদনকারীকে অবশ্যই বাংলাদেশের নাগরিক এবং শারীরিক ও মানসিকভাবে সুস্থ হতে হবে।

৭। অসম্পূর্ণ আবেদনপত্র বাতিল বলে গণ্য হবে।

৮। অত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি খুলনা প্রকৌশল ও প্রযুক্তি বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়-এর ওয়েব সাইট www.kuet.ac.bd ঠিকানায় দেখা যাবে।

ডাইস-চ্যান্সেলর মহোদয়ের অনুমোদনক্রমে,



০৭/০৬/২০২২

(প্রকৌশলী মোঃ অনিছুর রহমান জুয়ে)

রেজিস্ট্রার (ভারপ্রাপ্ত)

খুলনা প্রকৌশল ও প্রযুক্তি বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়।

GD- 1185

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh


Prime Minister's Office

Bangladesh Export Processing Zones Authority

BEPZA Economic Zone

Mirsarai, Chattogram-4320

(www.bepza.gov.bd)



No. 03.06.1553.394.14.054.19-263

Date: 06 June 2022

Request for Expression of Interest (Eol)

Bangladesh Export Processing Zones Authority (BEPZA) invites Request for Expression of Interest (Eol) from the eligible applicants (Bangladeshi Citizen) for the position described below:

	Ministry/Division	Prime Minister's Office.
2	Agency	Bangladesh Export Processing Zones Authority (BEPZA).
3	Procuring entity name	Superintending Engineer, BEPZA Economic Zone.
4	Procuring entity code	N/A.
5	Procuring entity district	Chattogram
6	Expression of Interest for	Selection of individual Consultant (National/(Time Based).
7	Title of Service	Request for Application (RFA) for Selection of Project Management Advisor as Individual Consultant for BEPZA Economic Zone, Mirsarai Project.
8	EOI Ref No.	03.06.1553.394.14.054.19-263
9	Date	06 June 2022

KEY INFORMATION

10	Procurement sub-method	Selection of Individual Consultant (SIC)
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FUNDING INFORMATION

11	Budget and source of funds	GoB
12	Development partners	Not applicable.

PARTICULAR INFORMATION

13	Project/programme code	224252300
14	Project/programme name	BEPZA Economic Zone, Mirsarai-1st Phase (1st Revised)
15	Package No.	BEPZA S-05
16	Package name	Selection of Project Management Advisor as Individual Consultant for BEPZA Economic Zone, Mirsarai Project.
17	Eol closing date & time	19 July 2022 at 3:00pm.
18	Name and address of the office(s)	Office of the Project Director, 2nd floor, BEPZA Complex, House # 19/D, Road # 06, Dhanmondi, Dhaka-1205.
19	Receiving of Eol	
20	Eol opening date & time	19 July 2022 at 3:30pm.

INFORMATION FOR THE APPLICANT

21	Brief description of assignment	The overall objective of the services shall cover, but not limited to the following scope: a) Advice Project Director to coordinate between the projects personnel including the consultants. b) Coordinate with all stakeholders to assess, monitor, and improve the progress of the project as per guidelines and standards of the project implementation. c) Monitor and assess implementation constrains, identify solutions and advise Project Director on remedial measures. d) Advice Project Director in writing policies, procedures and operational directives for the execution of the project. e) Monitor and evaluate the project Implementation timeline and advice Project Director in timely completion of the project. f) Assist BEPZA to select potential & suitable investors & positioning them in proper location considering the master plan. g) Perform duties which deems fit by the appointing authority.
22	Qualification and experience	(a) At least Master Degree in Management, Human Resources, Engineering, Public Administration or any other related discipline from any reputed University. (b) Minimum 15 years of Management experience in managing/developing Industrial, Residential estate or similar nature of assignment (c) Must have extraordinary written communication and reporting skills (d) Must have Computer skills (Word, Excel, Access) and MIS systems.
23	Required documents	Interested Candidates shall have to submit the Request for Application (RFA) along with 03 (three) copies of passport size photograph, copy of NID, copy of all certificate of Educational, job Experience, training and eligibility of the post. Submitted documents may be verified if deemed necessary.
24	Other details	1. Consultant will be selected using the Selection of individual Consultant (SIC) sub-method in accordance with the PPA-2006, PPR-2008 and its amendments. 2. Interested consultants are required to submit their expressions of interest in accordance with the standard Request for Application (RFA), which may be obtained from the office of the undersigned during normal office hours within 19/07/2022. The copy of relevant documents shall also be found at http://www.bepza.gov.bd/ 3. Other required conditions and documents of the Request for Application (RFA) documents must be fulfilled. 4. The Application in two sets (1 original+ 1 duplicate) shall be submitted in sealed envelope & delivered to the address as mention in serial 19 up to 03.00pm by 19/07/2022 & clearly marked as Request for Expression of Interest for the "Selection of Project Management Advisor as Individual Consultant for BEPZA Economic Zone, Mirsarai Project. (Package No. BEPZA S-05)". The application can also be sent through e-mail (se.ez@bepza.gov.bd).

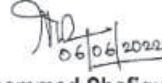
25	Package No.	Phasing of services	Location	Start date	Completion date
	BEPZA S-05	10 months	Dhaka and Mirsarai, Chattogram.	01-09-2022	30-06-2023

PROCURING ENTITY DETAIL

26	Name of official inviting Eol	Mohammad Shafiqul Islam.
27	Designation of official inviting Eol	Superintending Engineer.
28	Address of official inviting Eol	BEPZA Economic Zone, Mirsarai, Chattogram.
29	Contact details of official inviting Eol	Phone: +880241389011, Fax: 02-9673020, E-mail: se.ez@bepza.gov.bd , shafiqce74@gmail.com

SPECIAL INSTRUCTION

30	(i) Incomplete or partial RFAs will be rejected. (ii) The PPA-2006, PPR-2008 and its amendment will be followed. (iii) The authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all of the Eols or annul the Eol process at any stage without assigning any reason(s) whatsoever and without incurring any liability to the affected applicant(s).
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০৬/০৬/২০২২

Mohammad Shafiqul Islam

Superintending Engineer

BEPZA Economic Zone

Mirsarai, Chattogram

Phone: +880241389011

E-mail: shafiqce74@gmail.com

GD-1183

How acting made PRITOM HASAN a better MUSICIAN



While the internet continues to obsess over Pritom Hasan's latest release "Shoroter Shesh Thekey" being a prequel to "Morey Jak", both superlative outings by the singer-turned-actor, his entourage continues to plan the definitive ending to what Pritom revealed to be a trilogy.

SADI MOHAMMAD SHAHNEWAZ

Both of the songs were conceptualized and executed by Team Pritom – a robust group of talented artistes that now act as the think-tank for Pritom Hasan's unorthodox ideas. "A lot of questions will be answered in the last chapter," says the singer. "I am indebted to team Pritom – Leo, Ashik, Noodles, Mango and Clever, for their outstanding work."

Neither of the aforementioned names

are, however, their real ones. "These people actually have full-time jobs, which might be imperilled if their employers find out they've been working with me," laughs Pritom. "I'd like to thank Afan Aziz Pritul, Parbot Raihan, Kawsar Hamid Sharot, Waliun Nabi and Titu for their work as well."

Pritom Hasan has come a long way since he tinkered with his theatrical skills in Nuhash Humayun's "700 Taka", opposite Sabila Nur. Since then, he has starred in "Wedding Bells," "Close-up Kache Ashar Golpo" and "WTFry", among many projects, earning accolades for his breakthrough performance in Adnan Al Rajeev's "YouTumor" in 2021.

Pritom's best acting performance, however, was pictured in his own song, "Bhenge Porona Ebhaba" in 2020.

He recently starred in a much-talked

about role in Nuhash Humayun's "Pett Kata Shaw". "I feel privileged to have worked alongside some of the most talented directors of this generation – Adnan Al Rajeev, Taneem Rahman Angshu, Piplu R Khan, Anam Biswas and of course, Nuhash," says the composer.

Through working in many TVCs, web series and many music videos, Pritom has learned how to better pace himself in front of the camera, which helps him as a musician as well. "Expression is a vital aspect of both music and acting, and having accustomed myself in front of the camera, I now know how to operate better in the studio as well," he says.

Pritom, having started his career in his early 20's, has always been measured in his approach – having a profound understanding of metrics, and more often than not, having a gameplan.

What is next for the musician? "A lot is, but you'll just have to wait to find out," he pauses, as if to ponder on infinite possibilities.

As for the third instalment and actual sequel of "Morey Jak", it is best left to Team Pritom to deliver something special again.

READ THE FULL ARTICLE ONLINE.



PHOTOS: COLLECTED

KK's last song was with Gulzar, after 26 years

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

It has been just a week since we have lost one of Bollywood's finest singers, Krishnakumar Kunnath, better known as KK. His first ever playback for Bollywood was "Chhor aye hum galiyan" from the film "Maachis". The track was penned by eminent lyricist Gulzar.

After 26 years, KK voiced Gulzar's lyrics once again, for Srijit Mukherji's latest film "Sherdil: The Pilibhit Saga". Little did fate know it would be KK's very last project.

The track, "Dhoop Paani Behne De" is composed by prominent Indian music director Shantanu Moirta. The release drew frenzied responses from his fans.

KK passed away on May 31 after performing at a concert in Kolkata's Nazrul Mancha auditorium.

25th Shanghai International Film Festival postponed due to COVID-19

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK



This year the largest events across the globe including the Academy Awards, and the Cannes Film Festival were successfully held in a post-pandemic world.

Meanwhile, the Shanghai Film Festival has been postponed due to COVID-19 restrictions.

The 25th edition of China's most prestigious film festival was due to run from June 10 until June 19 of this month. However, due to the country's zero-COVID policy, they have placed travel restrictions which has resulted in the festival being postponed to 2023.

The organisers announced the news of postponement at the very last minute.

NEWS

ACC to review allegations

FROM PAGE 12

militancy and spreading communal hatred. The Gono Commission called upon the ACC to take actions against them.

Asked on what basis they worked on this issue, Barrister Tureen Afroz, member secretary of the Commission, said the Nirmul Committee have so far published 12 white papers on various issues, including the country's education system and Hefajat-e-Islam.

"There are many instances of publishing white papers by civil society members in different countries. Publication of such white papers has a social and political basis," she told The Daily Star.

Speaking at the May 12 event, Gono Commission Chairman Justice Manik said names of those who do business in the name of religion were mentioned in the white paper. Among them is former Hefajat-e-Islam joint secretary general Mamunul Haque.

Home Minister Asaduzzaman said the white paper opened their eyes to the allegations. He insisted that he would inform Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina about the committee's recommendations after examining the report.

ACC Chairman Moinuddin Abdullah said he would also examine the white paper.

Immediately after the release of the report, different religious organisations came down hard on the Gono Commission and the white paper, saying that its information was not correct.

They said an identified anti-Islam group prepared the report to malign religious leaders. They also warned that this might lead to an unstable situation in

the country.

Following the protest, the home minister on May 20 apparently changed his stance and said there was no legal basis for the commission and its report.

"I don't know what the Gono Commission has written in its report. We didn't see those named in it are responsible for terrorism or corruption. Therefore, we cannot say anything about it," Asaduzzaman said.

Sayed Mahbub Khan, director general of ACC, said an investigation would be launched if they found any substance to the allegations after reviewing the white paper.

"The Gono Commission has provided some data and the white paper is quite long. The ACC will investigate the matter if it finds that a crime has been committed, which falls under the scope of the ACC law," he said.

The Public Inquiry Commission, however, rejected the allegations, saying that the white paper was not published to undermine Islam or religious leaders.

Tureen Afroz, member secretary of the commission, said it was proved that many religious leaders collected money in the name of holding Waz Mahfil, but they did not pay taxes.

"This is the main reason why the people on the list are angry. But we have said this after finding evidence. We visited many madrasas and held several public hearings," she told this newspaper.

Rejecting the white paper, Hefajat Ameer Muhibullah Babunagari said, "Calling us 'dhormo babosayee' [those who use religion to make money] is insulting to us."

Farid Uddin Masood, chief of Bangladesh Jamiatul Ulama, said,

"We think that the Gono Commission's move is a bad attempt to confront Islamist scholars and the government by destroying the present stable situation in the country."

Farid Uddin is also known as a pro-government religious leader.

Abul Kasem Kasimi, senior naye-e-amir of Bangladesh Khelafat Andolan, denied the allegation of collecting money.

"Why should we take money? If we do anything against the law, then the law enforcement agencies are there to look into it. Any individual or a group of people cannot assassinate the characters of Islamic scholars in this way," said Kasimi, also a Hefajat leader.

Tureen Afroz said they did not mention any name of Islamic scholars in the report; rather they named those against whom there were specific allegations.

"We didn't talk about all madrasas, but gave some information about 1,000 and the government should look into the activities of those."

Shahriar Kabir, president of Ekattorer Ghatok Dalal Nirmul Committee, said though the Gono Commission has no legal basis, its report certainly has social and political basis.

"We want to help the government curb militancy and religious fundamentalism." About the methodology of their work, Tureen Afroz said they held mass hearings in different areas for about nine months, took interviews of victims of communal attacks, local people, law enforcement officials, talked to stakeholders and collected "secondary data" from various sources, including newspapers.

Monkeypox

FROM PAGE 12

International Airport on a Turkish Airlines flight around 2:00pm yesterday, said an official.

Meanwhile, a health ministry press release said there was no confirmed monkeypox case in the country as of yesterday.

Japan hopes

FROM PAGE 12

exporting equipment to Vietnam, the Philippines and ASEAN countries, he said.

DCAB President Rezaul Karim Lotus and Secretary AKM Moinuddin also spoke on the occasion.

Researchers

FROM PAGE 12

over 51.7km, NICT noted in a press release detailing the achievement.

Russia

FROM PAGE 12

hub as part of its bid to conquer a vast swathe of eastern Ukraine but Kyiv's forces have so far managed to hold out.

"We have already lost too many people to simply cede our territory," President Volodymyr Zelensky said by video link at an event hosted by Britain's Financial Times newspaper. Stalemate was "not an option," he said. "We have to achieve a full deoccupation of our entire territory."

With fighting raging in the east, Ukraine yesterday accused Russian forces of detaining some 600 people, mainly journalists and pro-Kyiv elements in the southern region of Kherson, which Moscow's military now holds in its grip.

In Donetsk, the leader of Ukraine's pro-Russian separatists, Denis Pushilin, confirmed the death of another Russian general in the fighting.

BPDB to pay Tk 1,219.1cr for power not used

FROM PAGE 1

four months that power is not imported from Adani Power, which is founded by Gautam Adani, the world's fifth richest person.

"But had we built it by ourselves and did not use the power, we would still have to make the capacity payment."

The government policy of 'no electricity, no payment' is not applicable for such large-scale independent power producers, he told The Daily Star.

"If we apply it, no one will agree to build a plant. Adani will invest and we have to pay a minimum return to them. If we don't take electricity, they will be in trouble," Hamid added.

To offtake electricity from the Godda coal power

plant, BPDB would be doing away with its usual 'merit order dispatch' method and go with the 'priority-based dispatch'.

Under the 'merit order dispatch' method, the power plants supplying cheaper electricity are given the first opportunity to generate.

But under the 'priority-based dispatch' method, the imported power will be transmitted first keeping the domestic power plants idle even if those generate electricity at a cheaper rate.

So the power from Adani Godda will be 56.2 percent more expensive than other imported power, 36.9 percent more than imported coal power and 4.3 percent more than domestic coal power, according to the study by

the Bangladesh Working Group on the External Debt and India-based Growthwatch.

Bangladesh will have to pay more than Tk 1 lakh crore to the Adani coal power plant as a capacity charge over the 25-year lifetime of the agreement, which is equal to enough to build three Padma bridges, said the study published on Monday.

In the worst-case scenario, BPDB will have to pay \$423.3 million (Tk 3,657.2 crore), in capacity charges annually, and \$11.01 billion (Tk 108,360.6 crore) over the plant's 25 years operational lifetime.

The Padma bridge was built for \$3.87 billion, the Dhaka metro rail for \$2.59 billion and the Karnaphuli river tunnel for \$1.22

billion, the report added.

In the best-case scenario, the annual capacity charges payable to the Adani Godda power plant would be \$331.66 million (Tk 2,865.55 crore), while the lifetime capacity charges would reach \$8.62 billion (Tk 84,903.7 crore).

Adani Power will have its investment returned in a maximum of six years and a minimum of 4.67 years, according to the report.

"Capacity charge will depend on the availability of the power plant. If the power plant runs with 85 percent plant load factor (PLF), it will be the highest scenario and the power plant may drop its PLF at 53 percent, which is the lowest average in India," said Hasan Mehedi, one of the authors of the report.

Many victims risk losing eyesight

FROM PAGE 1

"We will make a decision after talking to senior police officials," he added.

When visiting CMCH yesterday, Dwin Mohammad Nurul Haque, former director of National Institute of Ophthalmology and Hospital, said he attended to 63 patients and almost all had eye injuries.

"Many may lose vision permanently if proper treatment is not started immediately," he said. "They should be shifted to Dhaka for that, but they also have burn injuries, which is why they cannot be shifted right now."

"The eyes of six patients are in critical condition," he added. The eye specialist also announced that a high-level medical team would be formed to provide their treatment.

On Monday, Samanta Lal Sen visited the CMCH and stressed on installing a burn ICU in Chattogram.

"Due to a lack of burn ICUs in Chattogram, many critical patients have to be shifted to Dhaka," he told journalists.

Doctors at CMCH's burn and plastic surgery ward are struggling to cope with the number of patients.

"Our ward has the capacity to serve 60 patients, but around 100 are now admitted. We are trying our best to provide proper treatment, despite shortage of doctors, nurses, staffs and other limitations," said Rafiq Uddin Ahmed, the ward's chief.

CONTAINERS WITH CHEMICALS SET ASIDE

Fire Service and Civil Defence officials yesterday said the depot had around 27 chemical-laden containers, said Md Akhtaruzzaman, fire service assistant director.

Of those, 15 containers with hydrogen peroxide had exploded following the fire. The remaining 12

are still inside the depot premises, and were shifted to a safe distance of the compound to avoid further fires.

As the chemical-laden containers had close contact with fire for a long time, there is a chance of further explosions, said firefighters.

"We've lost our fellow firefighters in the fire as the depot authorities did not inform us about the chemical-laden containers," Anisur Rahman, deputy director of Fire Service and Civil Defence, said at a press briefing in front of the depot.

Around 12:30pm, fire service officials recovered two more charred bodies from under the wreckage of containers, Akhtaruzzaman said.

"We suspect that one of the bodies is of a firefighter as we found a piece of uniform. Another victim may be a security guard.

We're still searching for bodies."

Three firefighters have been missing since the incident.

After three days, the fire is under control and almost doused, said Lt Col Ariful Islam, commander of Brigade-18 of Bangladesh Army's 24 Infantry Division which is helping with the search and rescue.

Inspector General of Police (IGP) Dr Benazir Ahmed yesterday visited the spot and said legal action would be taken against those responsible for the fire and subsequent container explosions.

The probe committee of Chattogram Divisional Commissioner's office yesterday visited the spot and collected evidence.

So far, identities of 26 deceased were confirmed. According to police and fire service at least 200 persons including police and fire service personnel had suffered injuries.

‘A hollow victory’

UK PM defiant despite Tory rebellion

AFP, London

UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson yesterday lauded the loyalty of his cabinet and vowed to “get on with the job” after surviving a confidence vote of his Conservative MPs that has still left him severely weakened.

The beleaguered leader has insisted that Monday evening’s dramatic ballot, which saw 211 Tory party lawmakers support him remaining prime minister but 148 vote against, was a “conclusive” result.

“Thank you... everybody for all your good work yesterday, which was a very important day because we’re able now to draw a line under the issues that our opponents want to talk about,” he told his team of two dozen or so top ministers and officials.

But most critics and commentators disagreed, arguing that Johnson’s authority has been hugely undermined and his days in Downing Street are numbered.

The Times called him “a wounded victor” while his former employers at the Daily Telegraph branded it “a hollow victory that tears Tories apart”.

The vote -- just over two years after the Brexit architect won a landslide general election victory -- was brought after a string of scandals that have left the Conservative party’s standing in tatters.

Chief among them was the “Partygate” controversy over lockdown-breaking events at Downing Street, which caused public outrage and saw him become the first serving UK PM to have broken the law.

Most of Johnson’s cabinet publicly backed him in the secret ballot.

But more than 40 percent of the parliamentary party -- and almost certainly a majority of backbenchers -- did not, setting up potentially tougher times ahead for the government in parliament.

Under current party rules the PM cannot be challenged again for a year, which leaves little time for any new leader to emerge before the next general election due by 2024.

In previous Tory confidence ballots, Margaret Thatcher and Theresa May scored better than Johnson yet despite narrowly winning their votes, both ultimately resigned after deciding that their premierships were terminally damaged.

Johnson has steadfastly refused to resign over “Partygate” and shows no sign of doing so now.

But many question whether he can recover his authority and voters’ trust.

Various opinion polls have shown the public think he lied about the scandal and should resign.

Former Tory party leader William Hague argued that Johnson should now “look for an honourable exit”.



People queue up to buy kerosene oil for domestic use at a supply station in Colombo, Sri Lanka, yesterday.

PHOTO: AFP

‘DEROGATORY’ PROPHET REMARKS

Indonesia, Malaysia summon India envoys

AFP, Jakarta

Indonesia and Malaysia have both summoned India’s envoys in their countries over “derogatory” remarks made about the Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) by two officials with the South Asian nation’s ruling party, their foreign ministries said yesterday.

It comes as anger spreads across the Arab and Muslim world, with various Middle Eastern nations summoning New Delhi’s envoys and a Kuwaiti supermarket removing Indian products.

In a statement posted on Twitter, the ministry said Indonesia “strongly condemns unacceptable derogatory remarks” made by “two Indian politicians” against the Prophet Mohammad (PBUH).

Malaysia also “unreservedly condemns the derogatory remarks” by the Indian politicians, its foreign ministry said in a statement late yesterday, adding that it had conveyed its “total repudiation” to India’s envoy.

27 killed in Sudan ethnic clashes

AFP, Khartoum

Heavy fighting in Sudan’s west and south has killed at least 27 people and left dozens wounded, residents said yesterday, with the United Nations envoy saying he was “deeply concerned.”

In separate incidents, clashes broke out in the restive Darfur region in a bitter land dispute, leaving 16 dead, as well as in South Kordofan state, where 11 people died after an argument between two people reportedly escalated into wider gun battles.

Ghani ‘unlikely’ to have fled with millions

AFP, Washington

Former Afghan president Ashraf Ghani almost certainly did not flee Kabul as it fell to the Taliban with millions of dollars in stolen cash, a US government watchdog’s report said Monday.

Ghani hastily fled the Presidential Palace in Kabul while the Taliban marched into the capital on August 15, 2021.

In subsequent days, multiple reports suggested that Ghani and the other officials took up to \$169 million in Afghan government money with them.

Ghani has always fiercely denied these claims. The report says he might have taken \$500,000 - \$1 million.



গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার

মহিলা ও শিশু বিষয়ক মন্ত্রণালয়

Accelerating Protection for Children (APC) Project

বাংলাদেশ শিশু একাডেমি, দোয়েল চত্তর সড়ক, ঢাকা-১০০০

নং-মশিবিম/এপিসি/নিয়োগ (HPPC, CACO, CRF)/২০২২/৯৪-২০০১ তারিখঃ ০৭/০৬/২০২২খ্রিঃ

নিয়োগ বিজ্ঞপ্তি

মহিলা ও শিশু বিষয়ক মন্ত্রণালয় কর্তৃক বাস্তবায়নায়ী **ইউনিসেফ সাহায্যপুস্ট** “Accelerating Protection for Children (APC)” প্রকল্পে এসিস্ট্যান্ট ফাইন্যান্স কনসালট্যান্ট পদে (০১ জন) সম্পূর্ণ অস্থায়ী ভিত্তিতে নিয়োগের নিমিত্ত বাংলাদেশী নাগরিকগণের নিকট হতে দরখাস্ত আহ্বান করা যাচ্ছে। যোগ্যতা, অভিজ্ঞতা ও অন্যান্য শর্তাবলী বাংলাদেশ সরকারের মহিলা ও শিশু বিষয়ক মন্ত্রণালয়ের ওয়েবসাইট <http://www.mowca.gov.bd> এ দেয়া আছে। ওয়েবসাইট হতে প্রয়োজনীয় শর্তাবলী জেনে নিয়ে যোগ্যতাসম্পন্ন অগ্রাহী প্রার্থীদের আগামী ২৩/০৬/২০২২ তারিখের মধ্যে “প্রকল্প পরিচালক, Accelerating Protection for Children (APC) Project, বাংলাদেশ শিশু একাডেমি, দোয়েল চত্তর সড়ক, শাহবাগ, ঢাকা-১০০০” এই ঠিকানায় ডাকযোগে/সরাসরি আবেদনপত্র পৌছাতে হবে।

(Signature)
এস এম লতিফ

প্রকল্প পরিচালক (উপ-সচিব)

একসিলারেটিং প্রটেকশন ফর চিলড্রেন (এপিসি) প্রকল্প

জিডি-১১৮০

ফোন নং-৯৫১৪৮৭৭

‘We are prepared’

US, South Korea fly warplanes after North’s missile tests

AFP, Seoul

South Korea and the United States flew warplanes including stealth fighter jets over waters around the Korean peninsula yesterday in a fresh show of force following recent missile tests by the North, Seoul said.

Sixteen South Korean warplanes, including F-35 stealth fighters and four US F-16 jets, formed an attack squadron over the West Sea -- also known as the Yellow Sea -- to “respond to the enemy threat,” Seoul’s Joint Chiefs of Staff said in a statement.

The allies “demonstrated their strong ability and will to strike quickly and accurately against any provocation from North Korea,” it added.

The air manoeuvres, which involved some 20 warplanes, come a day after the allies fired eight ballistic missiles into the Sea of Japan in the wake of Pyongyang’s Sunday weapons tests.

US and South Korean officials have been warning for weeks that Kim Jong Un’s regime is preparing to carry out a fresh nuclear test.

US Deputy Secretary of State Wendy Sherman, in Seoul on a three-day visit, warned there would be a “swift and forceful” response were Pyongyang to go ahead with what would be its seventh such test.

The entire world will respond in a “strong and clear manner,” she said, adding: “We are prepared.”

INDIA DOWRY VIOLENCE

Death of sisters spotlights crisis



AFP, Jaipur

Before the three sisters and their children were found dead in a well, they left a message blaming the family they had married into.

Kalu, Kamlesh and Mamta Meena were victims of a dispute over dowries, the often hefty sums Indian parents pay to marry off their daughters.

The sisters had wed brothers from the same household and lived under the same roof, but suffered constant violence from their husbands and in-laws, according to the trio’s grieving relatives.

They were abused constantly, they say, including when their father failed to meet demands for more money. All three were found dead last month near their marital home, a village on the outskirts of Jaipur, along with Kalu’s four-year-old son and infant child. Both Kamlesh and Mamta were pregnant.

“We don’t wish to die but death is better than their abuse,” read a message on WhatsApp left by one of the sisters after their disappearance, a cousin said. “Our in-laws are the reason behind our deaths. We are dying together because it’s better than dying every day.”

Authorities are investigating and currently treating the deaths as suicides, a senior police officer in Jaipur told AFP.

The sisters’ distraught father, Sardar Meena, a farmer, said life had been a living hell for his daughters, whose husbands banned them from pursuing their education and constantly harassed them for more payments.

Police have arrested the three husbands, their mother and a sister-in-law on charges of dowry harassment and spousal abuse.

India outlawed the practice of paying dowries more than 60 years ago, and harassment or extortion over the payments is a criminal offence.

But the custom persists.

India’s National Crime Records Bureau recorded nearly 7,000 dowry-related killings in 2020 -- around 19 women every day. The same agency reported that more than 1,700 women killed themselves that year over “dowry-related issues”.

Government of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh

Ministry of Road Transport and Bridges

Road Transport and Highways Division

Dhaka Transport Coordination Authority

Nagar Bhaban (Level 14-15), Fulbaria, Dhaka.

Establishment of Clearing House for Integrating Transport Ticketing System in Dhaka City and Adjacent Districts (Phase II) Project

Memo No. 35.02.0000.008.35.026.22-28

Date: 08 June, 2022

INVITATION FOR PROPOSAL FOR

Staff Outsourcing through Firm/Company For

Establishment of Clearing House for Integrating

Transport Ticketing System in Dhaka City

and Adjacent Districts (Phase II) (ECHITSDCAD (P-II) Project –DTCA

1	Ministry / Division	: Road Transport and Highways Division
2	Executing Agency	: Dhaka Transport Coordination Authority (DTCA)
3	Procuring Entity	: Project Director, Establishment of Clearing House for Integrating Transport Ticketing System in Dhaka City and Adjacent Districts (Phase II) Project.
4	Invitation Ref No.	: Memo No: 35.02.0000.008.35.026.22-28
5	Invitation Date	: 08 June, 2022
6	Invitation For	: Proposal for staff out sourcing [Physical Service]
7	Source of Budget	: Govt. Fund (GOB)
8	Procurement Method	: Open NCB (Least Cost Selection)
9	Project Name	: Establishment of Clearing House for Integrating Transport Ticketing System in Dhaka City and Adjacent Districts (Phase II) Project.
10	Package No	: ECHITSDCAD (P-II) Project S10-CH
11	Package Name	: Staff Outsourcing for ECHITSDCAD (P-II) Project-DTCA
12	Last Date for Proposal Submission	: 29 June, 2022 (during office hour)
13	Last Date for Proposal Submission	: 30 June, 2022 at 12:00 noon (Bangladesh Standard Time)
14	Eligibility of the Applicant	: Any reputed Bangladeshi Firm having at least two years of experience of providing the physical services mentioned below (or relevant positions) to any government/non-government office/project or any NGO/Consulting Firm. The firm shall have at least five years of general experience of providing physical service. Other eligibility criteria are stated in the Proposal Document.
15	Brief Description of the service to be provided	: To provide Staff Input for the post of Data Entry Control Operator 01, Office Assistant Cum Computer Typist 01, Driver 01 and 3 (Three) Office Assistant (MLSS) for the Office of the Project Director.
16	Contract Period	: 24 Months (approx) Renewable.
17	Address of Selling Proposal Document	: Office of the Project Director, ECHITSDCAD (P-II) Project, Room No 1440, Nagar Bhaban, Dhaka-1000.
18	Address of Receiving Proposal Document	: Office of the Project Director, ECHITSDCAD (P-II) Project, Room No 1440, Nagar Bhaban, Dhaka-1000.
19	Proposal Price	: A non-refundable amount of Taka 1000/- (One Thousand) in cash.
20	Name of the Officer inviting Proposal	: Mohammad Mamunur Rahman
21	Designation of the officer inviting Proposal	: Project Director
22	Contact Details	: Phone : +88-02-47120832, E-mail engnmrmrshohel@gmail.com

The Procuring Entity reserves the right to Accept or Reject any or all Proposals and the whole process.

(Signature)
Project Director

Establishment of Clearing House for Integrating Transport Ticketing System in Dhaka City and Adjacent Districts (Phase II) Project

Dhaka Transport Coordination Authority (DTCA) (DSCC) Nagar Bhaban, Dhaka.

GD-1178

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার

বাংলাদেশ পুলিশ

অধিনায়কের কার্যালয়

১০ আর্মড পুলিশ ব্যাটালিয়ন

বরিশাল

উন্মুক্ত দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

২০২২-২০২৩ অর্থ সালের ১০ আর্মড পুলিশ ব্যাটালিয়ন, বরিশাল ১ম ও ২য় কোয়ার্টারের (জুলাই/২২ হতে ডিসেম্বর/২২ পর্যন্ত) তিনি সরবরাহ কার্যের ঠিকাদার নিয়োগের নিমিত্তে “The Public Procurement Act-2006 & “Regulation-2008” এর তদ্বিধ সংশোধিত বিধি মোতাবেক প্রকৃত বাংলাদেশি ঠিকাদার/সরবরাহকারী প্রতিষ্ঠানের নিকট হতে সীমাবদ্ধকৃত খামে (কাজের নামসহ) উন্মুক্ত দরপত্র আহ্বান করা যাচ্ছে।

০১	মন্ত্রণালয়/বিভাগ	স্বরাষ্ট্র মন্ত্রণালয়/জননিরাপত্তা বিভাগ।
০২	সংস্থা	১০ আর্মড পুলিশ ব্যাটালিয়ন, বরিশাল।
০৩	দরপত্র সম্পাদনকারী প্রদান	অধিনায়ক (পুলিশ সুপার), ১০ আর্মড পুলিশ ব্যাটালিয়ন, বরিশাল।
০৪	সম্প্রদায়ের প্রদান	১০ আর্মড পুলিশ ব্যাটালিয়ন, বরিশাল।
০৫	দরপত্রের বিবরণ	অফিস নং-১৯ এ বর্ণিত জালিকা অনুযায়ী।
০৬	দরপত্রের সূত্র নম্বর ও তারিখ	এপিবি(১০)/প্রশাঃ-২০২২/৪৫০৬ তারিখ-০৭/০৬/২০২২খ্রিঃ।
০৭	দরপত্রের পদ্ধতি	উন্মুক্ত দরপত্র পদ্ধতি।
০৮	অর্থেও উৎস	পুলিশ হেভলোয়ার্ডস হতে গ্রাহক বাজেট বরাদ্দ সাপেক্ষে।
০৯	দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি প্রকাশের তারিখ	১৩/০৬/২০২২খ্রিঃ তারিখ এর মধ্যে।
১০	দরপত্র সিডিউল প্রাপ্তি তারিখ ও সময়	১৪/০৬/২০২২খ্রিঃ হতে ২৭/০৬/২০২২খ্রিঃ ১৪:০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত। অফিস ঢাকাকালীন সময় (বছরের দিন ব্যতীত)।
১১	দরপত্র জমা প্রদানের সর্বশেষ তারিখ ও সময়	২৮/০৬/২০২২খ্রিঃ তারিখ ১২:০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত।
১২	দরপত্র খোলার তারিখ ও সময়	২৮/০৬/২০২২খ্রিঃ তারিখ ১২:৩০ ঘটিকা।
১৩	দরপত্র মূল্যায়নের তারিখ ও সময়	২৮/০৬/২০২২খ্রিঃ তারিখ ১২:০০ ঘটিকা।
১৪	দরপত্র প্রাপ্তি স্থান	ক. অধিনায়কের কার্যালয়, ১০ আর্মড পুলিশ ব্যাটালিয়ন, বরিশাল। খ. ডিআইজি, এপিবিএন, বাংলাদেশ পুলিশ, উত্তরা, ঢাকা। গ. অধিনায়ক, রাস-৮, রূপান্তরী, বরিশাল।
১৫	দরপত্র দাখিলের স্থান	অধিনায়ক (পুলিশ সুপার) এর কার্যালয়, ১০ আর্মড পুলিশ ব্যাটালিয়ন, বরিশাল।
১৬	দরপত্র খোলার স্থান	অধিনায়ক (পুলিশ সুপার) এর কার্যালয়, ১০ আর্মড পুলিশ ব্যাটালিয়ন, বরিশাল।
১৭	দরপত্র আবেদনকারীর সহিত যোগাযোগের মাধ্যম	টেলিফোনঃ ০৪১-৭১৬৮২ (অফিস), ই-মেইল- co10ap@police.gov.bd
১৮	দরপত্রাদানের যোগ্যতা	(ক) হালনাগাদ নবায়নকৃত ট্রেড লাইসেন্স (খ) হালনাগাদ আয়কর পরিশোধ সার্টিফিকেট (গ) ভ্যাট নিবন্ধন সার্টিফিকেট (ঘ) যে কোন ডফসিলভুক্ত বাণিজ্যিক ব্যাংক হতে আর্থিক স্বচ্ছলতার সনদপত্র (বিপত ০৩ মাসের লেনদেনের বিবরণীসহ) (ঙ) নাগরিকত্ব সার্টিফিকেট (এনআইডি) (ব) দরদাতা কাসো তালিকাভুক্ত নহে এই মর্মে অঙ্গীকারনামা (ছ) সন্য তোলা ০২ কপি পাসপোর্ট সাইজের (সম্মতিপত্র) ছবি (জ) সর্বশ্রেষ্ঠ কাজের অভিজ্ঞতার সনদপত্র। এছাড়া সিডিউলে বর্ণিত সকল শর্তাবলী গ্রহণ্য হতে।

১৯	ক্রঃ নং	কাজের বিবরণী	পরিমাণ/সংখ্যা	সিডিউলের	দরপত্র	কাজের
	(ক)	২০২২-২০২৩ অর্থ সালে ১ম ও ২য় কোয়ার্টারের (জুলাই/২২ হতে ডিসেম্বর/২২ পর্যন্ত) স্বচ্ছ পলি গ্যাকে প্যাকেটজাত করে টিনিস সরবরাহ কাজ।	১৭,০০০ কেজি (কম/বেশী)	৭৫০/-	৩৫,০০০/-	কার্যাদেশ প্রদানের ১০ (দশ) দিনের মধ্যে
২০	বিশেষ আবেদন	ক. সিডিউল ক্রমের ক্ষেত্রে লাইসেন্সের মূলকপি প্রদানপূর্বক বাড়ি বা প্রতিষ্ঠানের স্বত্বাধিকারীর স্বাক্ষরযুক্ত প্যাকেট আবেদনের মাধ্যমে বর্ণিত দরপত্র বিক্রয়ের স্থান হতে অফিস ঢাকাকালীন সময় পর্যন্ত দরপত্র সংগ্রহ করা যাবে। দরপত্র ক্রয়ের সময় প্রতিষ্ঠানের সীল অবশ্যই সঠিক আদিত হবে। খ। দরপত্র আবেদনকারী কর্তৃপক্ষ কোন কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতীত যে কোন বা সকল দরপত্র বাতিলের ক্ষমতা সতর্কত্ব করেন এবং সর্বদিকে দর গ্রহণেও বাধ্য নহে।				

(Signature)
আবু নায়েম মোহাম্মদ হাফিজ

সিপি-৬৭৯৫০৬২৫৬২

অধিনায়ক (পুলিশ সুপার)

১০ আর্মড পুলিশ ব্যাটালিয়ন

বরিশাল

জিডি-১১৭৭

The Daily Star

FOUNDER EDITOR: LATE S. M. ALI

How are banned hospitals still operating?

DGHS drive must not be yet another failure of implementation

IN yet another show of how rotten the roots of our health sector is, a 13-year-old child died on Sunday after she underwent an appendix removal surgery at Al-Hera Clinic and Hospital in Khulna's Shalikha upazila. The claim from Nirjala Khatun's uncle is that, after hospitalising her the night before, the clinic informed them that the surgery had been completed, but also "forced" the deteriorating young patient to be taken to Jashore Sadar Hospital, where she was declared dead upon arrival. Apparently, the surgeon left right after the surgery, without ensuring if the patient had been brought back to consciousness by the assigned anaesthesiologist. All this aside, what is perhaps most contemptible is the fact that the Al-Hera Clinic and Hospital was sealed by district health authorities eight days prior. So, the question is: How was this clinic still operating openly?

Despite the DGHS' rocky track record regarding the regulation of healthcare facilities – fully demonstrated during the peak of the pandemic – we have been slightly hopeful about this much-needed large-scale drive against illegal establishments. But we wonder what the point is of making such a fuss about quickly shutting down 882 facilities countrywide for being unauthorised, if the authorities will not follow up to ensure that these facilities remain closed until they have obtained a proper licence. Even more concerning is the Magura civil surgeon's query to this newspaper: "If anyone runs the hospital ignoring our ban, what can we do?" If this is the response of someone who is in a position to actually prevent unauthorised facilities from operating, we cannot help feeling hopeless regarding the outcome of the DGHS drive.

In another incident on May 29, doctors and nurses reportedly abandoned a mother and her newborn on the operating table at a Narayanganj hospital upon hearing that DGHS officials were raiding unauthorised hospitals in the area. Paperwork and licences aside, how is it that those in charge of looking after the citizens' health do not possess the least amount of humanity?

While we believe that some good will certainly come out of the DGHS' drive to only allow licensed healthcare facilities to operate, we urge the health directorate to also ensure that this does not turn into just another government step failing at the implementation stage. If successful, this could also lead to less exploitation of patients by private hospitals, and also allow only authorised medical professionals to practise. A country which had to deal with the overwhelming effects of the Covid pandemic just last year must realise the value of a properly-regulated health sector.

2.1m new poor in five months!

Is the government taking note of inflation inequality?

A new study has confirmed what we have been fearing all along – that the number of "new poor" has increased between January and May of this year. After two years of Covid-induced hardships, all had hoped for a speedy recovery of the economy as well as of people's lives and livelihoods. Such hopes soon turned to despair, with unbridled inflation wreaking havoc on people's lives and eating away at their ever-shrivelling incomes.

According to a multisectoral research report titled "Inflation, Coping and Recovery Challenges," jointly prepared by the Power and Participation Research Centre (PPRC) and the Brac Institute of Governance and Development (BIGD), the number of new poor in the country stands at 30.9 million, which is 18.54 percent of the population. A year ago, the same researchers found that the pandemic had pushed 24.5 million people – 14.75 percent of the country's population – into poverty in one year.

The findings, based on a survey of 3,910 households, show that most of the surveyed households have drastically reduced their consumption of major food items; in fact, as many as one in five urban households said they had to skip at least one meal in the last month, while two-thirds of the respondents had to cut back expenditures on healthcare and children's education. Thirty-eight percent need to borrow money but cannot do so because they are already struggling to repay their existing debts.

We seem to have ushered in a new era of inflation inequality, in which poor households are having to bear the brunt of rising costs, and more and more new poor are being created. But the question is: Is the government taking note of people's lived realities, or is it content simply touting inflated figures of GDP growth and per capita income? Unfortunately, we are yet to see any active effort from the government to even count these people in official statistics, much less make targeted interventions to bring them out of poverty by providing stimulus packages or including them in various social protection programmes.

The respondents noted that they were in need of TCB food supply, but 50 percent of them said they could not buy what they needed from the TCB trucks because of a lack of opportunity, lack of TCB family cards, and long waiting time in the queues. A whopping 57 percent respondents believed that the government should take stern action against market manipulators to stabilise prices. We agree wholeheartedly with the proposals put forth by the households most affected by the inflation. In addition to addressing the governance oversights, the government must prioritise the realities and needs of these vulnerable groups as it finalises the national budget, scaling up targeted social protection programmes, creating new jobs, and providing policy support to revitalise local economies and SMEs.

A company's negligence killed 43 people. What price will it pay?



'JUSTICE' IN PRACTICE

Taqbir Huda is a legal researcher and coordinates Justice for All Now (JANO), Bangladesh.

TAQBIR HUDA

THE deadly fire and explosion at the BM Container Depot Ltd in Chattogram's Sitakunda upazila have killed at least 43 people, and injured over 300 others. The revised death toll was announced during a press briefing held by the Fire Service and Civil Defence on June 7 afternoon, which also disclosed that 12 of the 43 people killed were Fire Service personnel. Therefore, it is likely that the remaining 32 deceased individuals were workers of the depot.

This explosion comes less than a year after the horrific fire at Hashem Foods Factory, which killed 52 workers, including at least 17 children, which the Nagarik Tadantya (Citizens' Investigation) Committee found was caused by lethal corporate negligence. It comes as yet another brutal reminder that, despite our much-celebrated growth and development, the occupational safety of workers who made them possible remains a painfully distant dream.

The Department of Explosives has stated that BM Container Depot Ltd did not obtain any licence to store hydrogen peroxide, the presence of which initial reports suggest caused the explosion. Tofazzol Hossen, inspector at the Chattogram office of the Department of Explosives, told *The Daily Star*, "We were not informed that chemicals were stored there. They did not take any licence or approval from us. There is no legal scope for hoarding dangerous goods in such a space surrounded by locality."

The inspector also mentioned that the storage of such chemicals requires a specialised facility where temperatures can be controlled, and which must be situated far enough from the nearest locality – and that neither of these conditions were met by the BM Container Depot authorities.

What I wish the inspector had also mentioned is the last time the department had sent an inspector to inspect this 30-acre depot.

Fire Service officials have also alleged that they were not informed that chemicals were being stored in the depot. If they had that information, they could have taken cautionary and responsive measures accordingly to not only put out the blaze more effectively, but also protect the lives of firefighters and bystanders. Fire Service and Civil Defence Director-General Brig Gen Md Main Uddin told *The Daily Star*, "I've been working with the Fire Service for almost 25 years. In all these years, I have never seen this many deaths [of firefighters] in a fire incident."

Some of the surviving workers told *Prothom Alo* that the pocket gate on the



▲ **The 'financial assistance' that BM Container Depot Ltd is offering to pay the fire victims is only 0.2 percent of Smart Group's self-declared annual revenue of USD 160 million from RMG exports alone.**

PHOTO: STAR

business must always go on.

So, what is the price of 32 dead workers to a company that seemingly puts profit over people?

Well, according to Chapter XII of the Bangladesh Labour Act, 2006 (read with the Fifth Schedule to the Act), the owners of BM Container Depot Ltd are only required to pay Tk 2 lakh for every worker killed in the explosion. However, the depot authorities have published a press statement declaring that they would pay Tk 10 lakh of "cash/financial assistance" ("*nogod shohayota*") to the families of those killed in the "accident" ("*durghotona*"). Therefore, the total amount of "financial assistance" they are planning to pay to the families of 32 deceased workers is Tk 3.2 crore. Whether any "assistance" would also be paid to the families of the 12 dead Fire Service personnel was not clearly mentioned.

The press statement also mentions that the company would pay an adult family member of each of the deceased workers a monthly amount that is equal to the monthly salary the worker used to earn, until the worker's children reach adulthood. However, in the absence of any legally enforceable mechanisms, such voluntary commitments have amounted to little more than empty promises in the past.

The director of BM Container Depot Ltd told *Prothom Alo* that his company

between charity and accountability. "Compensation" and "damages" speak the language of accountability – and corporations refuse to be held accountable.

For perspective, BM Container Depot is one of the many companies owned by the Smart Group of Industries, an industrial conglomerate that owns corporations in an array of sectors ranging from the energy sector to the RMG sector. The Tk 3.2 crore that the depot authorities are offering to pay is only 0.2 percent of Smart Group's self-declared annual revenue of USD 160 million from RMG exports alone, as mentioned on its website.

When the price of a worker's death is limited to Tk 2 lakh in the very law that was meant to "ensure labour rights," employers (who store hazardous chemicals without proper licence, putting workers lives at acute risk) can then advertise the payment of Tk 10 lakh as a grand act of magnanimity or "unprecedented instance of humanity" – instead of having to fear unlimited liability from a class action lawsuit that would sue them for all they're worth for committing gross corporate negligence that led to the preventable loss of lives.

As long as there is no real price to pay for corporate negligence, companies won't have the incentive they need to stop acting so negligently, and workers will continue dying preventable deaths.

Celebrating 50 years of global environmental movement



Dr Saleemul Huq is director of the International Centre for Climate Change and Development (ICCCAD) at Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB).

SALEEMUL HUQ

THE global environmental movement started in 1972, with the first global environment conference held in Stockholm, Sweden, hosted by then Swedish Prime Minister Olof Palme. Among the heads of governments who also attended was the then Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, who famously declared that environment and poverty were two major global issues that needed to be tackled together.

Since that watershed event, the United Nations set up the UN Environment Programme (UNEP), and different environmental treaties such as the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), UN Convention on Biological Diversity (UNCBD), and UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) have been enforced, which are moving forward with their respective annual conferences of parties (COPs).

To commemorate the event, the Government of Sweden, together with the Government of Kenya and UNEP, held Stockholm+50 in Stockholm last week, with participants from around the world to take stock of the environmental movement and plan the next phase.

I had the privilege of attending the event, and will share some of my reflections on both the event and what

The biggest shift we need to achieve is in the consciousness of every person in the world, where they start to think of themselves as the citizens of Planet Earth first, before thinking of themselves as the citizens of their countries and cities.

needs to happen next.

The two-day event started with a high-level opening session, where the heads of governments of Sweden and Kenya as well as the UN secretary-general and the head of UNEP all spoke, followed by plenary sessions for ministers from many countries, including Bangladesh Foreign Minister AK Abdul Momen.

However, the most interesting sessions were the many side events where different groups such as scientists, women, youth, farmers, indigenous groups, businesses, and many others, were invited to share their work and views about the future.

The main theme of the overall conference was to reconnect the different strands of the original environmental movement, which has become divided over the last 50 years, as well as to galvanise actions at a faster pace involving all stakeholders, rather than just governments.

I had the opportunity to share my reflections at the concluding session of the conference and said the following.

While there is much to celebrate in terms of having raised global awareness of the importance of the environment over the last 50 years, as well as some progress on different aspects such as climate change, biodiversity and pollution control, the progress has been too little, too late, and hence we needed to change our approach going forward.

The first task is to stop relying on government leaders to come to global events once a year and make promises and then go home and fail to implement their own promises. This has clearly failed as a process. Hence, there is a need to have other global stakeholders involved in such meetings and in implementing the decisions once they are approved. This

includes the private sector as well as civil society networks and groups.

The second new element that needs to happen is to make the youth more prominent in the decision-making process, and even the implementation, and not just in advocacy as they are now. Young people around the world have already demonstrated their capabilities to take actions and support environmental causes locally as well as globally. I suggested that we turn the annual pre-COP of the UNFCCC into a Youth COP as well as an "Accountability COP" henceforth. This was in fact done quite successfully by Italy, who hosted the pre-COP26 in Milan last year before the main COP26 in Glasgow in November.

The upcoming pre-COP27 will be hosted by the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) in Kinshasa prior to COP27 in Sharm el-Sheikh in Egypt this year. This could be an opportunity to make it into a youth COP again.

Finally, the biggest shift we need to achieve is in the consciousness of every person in the world, where they start to think of themselves as the citizens of Planet Earth first, before thinking of themselves as the citizens of their countries and cities. This means that each and every one of us need to do whatever we can as conscious citizens to preserve our environment, while also looking after our own development and well-being. This is possible to do, but will require a major paradigm shift in our thinking and commitment starting from the individual level upwards.

It is important that we solve these problems in the next 50 years, or the future will be unthinkable for our children and grandchildren in the coming decades.

And the Nobel Prize for Violence Goes to...



OF MAGIC
& MADNESS

BADIUZZAMAN BAY

Badiuzzaman Bay
is assistant editor at
The Daily Star.

NO, silly, there is no such prize for violence. That's just a conversation starter. After all, what better way to invoke the mighty Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) than with a nod to violence? But, believe it or not, there was a time when we came very close to having a Nobel Prize for Violence. It was in 2009 when Barack Obama got the Nobel Peace Prize for – wait for it – not being George W. Bush. He really wasn't. He dropped more bombs in one year than Bush did during his entire presidency. Or think of when the European Union got the prize despite being one of the biggest producers of weapons in the world.

It takes a Megamindian sense of humour to have violence double as peace. But if there is a universe in which this headline will make sense, BCL will surely love to be in it.

After all, who doesn't love awards? In a basic sense, an award is a recognition of the hard work you put into something. When Benjamin Franklin said, "Either write something worth reading or do something worth writing about," he wasn't just raising the bar for us scribes, but also for BCL activists, who as "students" can't seem to do either. So they're doing what they do best, and with all the fists and feet they can master. We have respectable-sounding prizes for crappy achievements and crappy-sounding prizes for respectable achievements. But none for violence. How is this fair?

Violence, especially organised violence, is hard work. It takes discipline, commitment and a practised apathy to pursue an unpopular course to conflict resolution. And, contrary to popular belief, it requires both brain and brawn. You need both to commit violence, to mobilise support for it, and to dodge repercussions in case things go haywire. Ask anyone who has ever been involved in a war, revolution, genocide or terrorism.



ILLUSTRATION:
BIPLOB
CHAKROBORTY

Violence, especially organised violence, is hard work. It takes discipline, commitment and a practised apathy to pursue an unpopular course to crisis resolution.

But in Bangladesh, the peril of political showmanship is that nothing you do, however egregious, for your party is worth a dime unless it reaches the intended eyes and ears. With so many competitors around, it's hard for the average muscle to get the message of his "contributions" across to senior party leaders. Anonymity does not maketh political careers, nor is the satisfaction of beating the daylight out of a rival meant to last long. Violence, after all, is not its own reward.

To BCL's credit, it knows this all too well. So after the recent series of violent attacks on the rival activists of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD), many hard-hitting men and women of the organisation made no secret of their complicity. Some of them were luckier than others. They managed to get their photos and strangely revealing defences published in the media. Others, not to be outdone, came stampeding out of their social media closet to announce their "contributions," subtlety be damned.

While neither group will get any award for that, they certainly hope it will get them noticed in the right quarter and a better position when the organisation's next council is held in a few months.

But then, as always, like night follows day, comes the righteous pushback: What gives BCL the right to attack JCD? Why would its leaders give excuses that no one in the four hemispheres can believe? Why would anyone openly admit complicity in violence? Or why be so unrepentant about it?

Violence, defence, righteous pushback – rinse and repeat. This has been a trademark BCL outrage cycle for so long. What this shows to me is that, for all its dedication and hard work in violence and its seemingly inexhaustible ability to "keep at it," BCL sucks at public relations.

Let me explain. In director Mostofa Sarwar Farooki's 2007 drama series "420" – perhaps the most scathing portrayal of grassroots politics in Bangladesh – two wannabe politicians celebrate by treating

people to sweets after a photo showing the older one wielding a gun is published in a newspaper. In another scene, the younger one forces a girl into marriage and tries to settle into a comfortable life. Hardly anyone felt put off by these scenes.

But BCL doing the same is a problem. Its violence, with helmet or without, in Dhaka or Rajshahi, is always frowned upon. Its defences are always met with incredulous reactions. Even its choice of weapons – machetes, bamboos and iron rods – is mercilessly derided. It's like whenever it goes full pistols at dawn at JCD, the enemy is somehow replaced by the public. Somehow, what is thoroughly unforgettable for BCL becomes thoroughly unforgivable for them. What is necessary to it is excessive to them. What it finds desirable, they find repulsive. The public seems to have a problem with everything that BCL does. And this, justifiably, confuses the more sober section of the organisation.

The question is, having put every other enemy in their place, can BCL change the prevailing public perception about it, or at least nudge it in a slightly different direction? At the risk of drawing both righteous and lefteous flak, let me offer a few suggestions.

I think the BCL leadership should, first and foremost, recognise the importance of public relations in today's world. If Barack Obama can beguile the Nobel committee into giving him an award, and bemused Americans into giving him a second term in office, there is no reason why BCL cannot do the same and win a few hearts in the process. Once it has realised that, there is a lot that it can do. It can hire a PR firm to rebrand its public image. It can fund news/views outlets to present its violent activities dressed in a suit of peace, or at least buff away a pesky fact or two here and there. It can subject all its members to mandatory training, not just in the art of violence, but also in the art of guile, charm, subtlety and political spin.

The goal should be to improve its image by refining its engagement with the public. The public, as it is, has a rich history of selective mutism. The BCL just has to tap into that resource and make them mute or feel unperturbed about it. Knowing how forgiving we can be or how susceptible to suggestions, I'm sure we will not mind it.

CROSSWORD BY THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Knave

7 Do origami

11 Rio Grande city

12 Lake near Buffalo

13 Preserve immediately after harvesting

15 Rose part

16 Golf pegs

18 Suit piece

21 Munich mister

22 Sentence ender

24 Firefighter's tool

25 Gimlet base

26 Silent assent

27 Bit of strategy

29 Karate award

30 Asterisk

31 Uses oars

32 Sword metal

34 It's a 5 on the Beaufort scale

40 Part to play

41 Infertile

42 Shout

43 Was a noisy sleeper

DOWN

1 Game caller

2 Maximum amount

3 Relaxing retreat

4 Cartoon ghost

5 Fire remnants

6 Barn area

7 Tentative inquiry

8 Mine yield

9 Designer Claiborne

10 Ruby of films

14 Black bird

16 Alamo setting

17 Put up

19 Muscular power

20 Shop equipment

21 Bowler, for one

22 Snapshot

23 Banned pesticide

25 Circumference

28 Fez feature

29 Lively dance

31 Showed over

33 Wanes

34 Make temporary

35 Surgeon eggs

36 Building wing

37 Blunder

38 Last letter

39 Conclude

WRITE FOR US. SEND US YOUR OPINION PIECES TO
dspinion@gmail.com.

YESTERDAY'S ANSWERS

W	A	N	D	A	S	P	A	T	S
A	P	O	R	T	L	I	L	A	C
G	E	N	O	A	E	X	T	R	A
			P	L	O	D		O	P
A	L	A	N	L	A	D	D		
N	A	S	A		F	O	R	U	M
A	D	A	M	S		G	O	T	I
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			S	M	A	S	H	H	I
A	D	J		A	N	T	I		
Q	U	E	S	T		O	N	E	N
U	N	D	E	R		O	T	T	E
A	K	I	T	A		P	S	A	T

GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH
Office of the Executive Engineer
Rajshahi PWD Division-1, Rajshahi
Phone-02588-801406; Fax-02588-801407
www.pwd.gov.bd

Memo No-25.36.8100.110.05.005.22/9247 Date- 06/06/2022.

e-GP Tender Notice 18/2021-2022 (OTM)

S.L	Tender ID No	Tender/Proposal Last selling Date and Time	Tender/Proposal Closing & Opening Date and Time
1.	705769	27-Jun-2022 17:00	28-Jun-2022 11:30
2.	705764	27-Jun-2022 17:00	28-Jun-2022 11:40
3.	705762	27-Jun-2022 17:00	28-Jun-2022 11:50
4.	705763	27-Jun-2022 17:00	28-Jun-2022 12:00
5.	707516	27-Jun-2022 17:00	28-Jun-2022 12:10

These are online Tenders where only e-Tenders will be accepted in National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted.

To submit e-Tender Registration in the National e-GP system Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required. The fees for downloading the e-Tender Documents from the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through any schedule bank.

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

(Md. Harun Or Roshid)
Executive Engineer
Rajshahi PWD Division-1, Rajshahi.
E-mail: ee_raj1@pwd.gov.bd

GD-1172

Government of The Peoples Republic of Bangladesh
Local Government Engineering Department
Office of the Executive Engineer
District: Naogaon.
www.lged.gov.bd

Memo No.: 46.02.6400.07.000.001.21-1996 Date: 07/06/2022 খ্রীষ্টাব্দ
২৪/০২/১৪২৯ বঙ্গাব্দ

e-Tender Notice No : 45/2021-22
Tendering Method (OTM/LTM)

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

Sl No	Description of Work & Package No.	Tender Last Selling (Date & Time)	Tender Closing (Date & Time)	Tender Opening (Date & Time)	Estimated Cost (Tk./Remarks)
01	Construction of Executive Engineer's Administrative Building, Lged, Naogaon (Package No. RDRIDP/Naogaon/office building-01/21-22) (Tender ID No- 706681)	27-Jun-2022 17:00	28-Jun-2022 16:00	28-Jun-2022 16:00	OTM
02	Improvement of Baldaher Govt. Primary School Connecting road at ch.00-330.00m. Road ID 164793009, under Porsha Upazila (District: Naogaon. (School Code: 111060305) (Package No. RDRIDP/ Naogaon/Porsha/SC-42/21-22) (Tender ID No- 708443)	19-Jun-2022 17:00	20-Jun-2022 16:00	20-Jun-2022 16:00	LTM 22,73,952.00

This is an online tender where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender registration in the National e-GP system portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required. The fees for downloading the e-Tender Documents from the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through any registered Banks Branches up to Last Selling Date & Time as mentioned above. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP system portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd)

(Tofail Ahamed)
Executive Engineer
Ph: 0741-62416
e-mail : scn.naogaon@lged.gov.bd

GD-1175

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার
স্থানীয় সরকার প্রকৌশল অধিদপ্তর
উপজেলা প্রকৌশলীর কার্যালয়
চুনাকুয়াট, হবিগঞ্জ।
www.lged.gov.bd

Memo No: 46.02.3626.902.14.047.22.418 Date : 07.06.2022

e-Tender Notice No: 04/2021-22

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

Sl. No.	Tender ID	Package No	Name of the Works	Date & Time of closing
01	702374	e-Tender/PEDP-4/HAB/CHU/2021-22/W1.02906	Construction of Additional Classroom at Jour Lalchand Govt. Primary School, Chunarughat, Habiganj Under PEDP-4	29 June, 2022 BST 13:00:00
02	702404	e-Tender/PEDP-4/HAB/CHU/2021-22/W1.02907	Construction of Additional Classroom at Chatpara Government Primary School, Chunarughat, Habiganj Under PEDP-4	29 June, 2022 BST 13:00:00
03	707681	e-Tender/PEDP-4/HAB/CHU/2021-22/W1.02826	Construction of Additional Classroom at Bhularjum Government Primary School, Chunarughat, Habiganj Under PEDP-4	29 June, 2022 BST 13:00:00

This is an online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies are allowed. To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required. Any others conditions for this tender is stated in TDS. Interested Tenderers may communicate with the undersigned during office hours.

(Abdullah Al Baker Mazumdar)
Upazila Engineer
Chunarughat, Habiganj.
Phone: 08325-56189
ue.chunarughat@lged.gov.bd

GD-1174



These burnt mobile phones were recovered from the site of the deadly explosion that took place in Sitakunda’s BM Container Depot. According to Chattogram District Police’s count, 41 people have perished in the fire and the subsequent explosion, of whom, 26 have been identified so far. The injuries they succumbed to were so gruesome that it has been impossible so far to confirm the identities of the remaining 15. Around 230 are currently undergoing treatment for sustaining critical injuries at different hospitals in Chattogram. Meanwhile, the factory producing the chemicals responsible for the explosion is still operating despite multiple violations. No one from the depot authorities paid a visit to the injured workers in the hospitals. Healthcare providers are still struggling to accommodate and provide treatment to these many patients with critical burn injuries.

PHOTO: RAJIB RAIHAN

The many faults of Al Razi Chemical Complex

Plant owned by BM Depot owner still in operation despite multiple violations

“

“Apart from this, the company has been fined twice -- amounting to a fine of Tk 7 lakh in total -- for cutting down hills to construct the plant,”

DOE DEPUTY DIRECTOR.

MOSTAFA YOUSUF AND SIFAYET ULLAH

Al Razi Chemical Complex, located at South Pahartholi (Ward 1) of Chattogram City Corporation, was found to be producing Hydrogen Peroxide nine times higher than the permissible limit by the Department of Environment.

According to DoE officials, the plant’s environment clearance also expired four months ago, and its effluent treatment plant (ETP) was also found to be faulty.

The complex is owned by Smart Group, which also owns BM Container Depot in Sitakunda, where a chemical explosion took at least 44 lives and injured around 400 on Saturday.

The chemical produced in this factory was behind the explosion at the Sitakunda depot, Abdul Mobin, member of the investigation committee for the BM depot incident and vice-principal of the

fire service training complex of Mirpur, revealed to this newspaper.

The Al Razi plant was allowed to produce 1,000 tonnes of the oxidising agent in 2020 when it went into production in South Pahartholi, a densely populated area under CCC.

However, according to National Revenue Board (NBR) data, the plant exported 9,635 tonnes of chemicals in 2021.

Mia Mahmudul Haque, deputy director of the DoE (metro), told The Daily Star that the DoE declined to renew their clearance as their ETP had flaws in its designs, asking them to apply after implementing necessary corrections.

Asked whether they inspected the factory to ensure it complies with environmental guidelines and production ceiling, Mahmudul asked this newspaper to contact Hillol Biswas, director of DoE Chattogram (metro).

This newspaper could not reach the DoE Chattogram director despite repeated attempts.

These are only the tip of the iceberg when it comes to the faults of the Al Razi Chemical Complex.

“Apart from this, the company has been fined twice -- amounting to a fine of Tk 7 lakh in total -- for cutting down hills to construct the plant,” said the DoE deputy director.

Pollution from the plant and the risks of another explosion have also turned into

major reasons for concern.

During a recent visit to the complex site, this newspaper saw that toxic wastes from the factory was being dumped into the adjacent canal, polluting the environment.

Khairul Alam, a local, told The Daily Star, “This canal was our go-to source of water for paddy cultivation. Now it’s all polluted.”

Contacted, Jahidul Islam, administrative officer of the complex, said they have applied for the environment clearance renewal and ETP approval.

However, the official admitted to cutting down the hill for the factory’s construction.

Meanwhile, despite repeated attempts, this newspaper could not reach Muzibor Rahman, owner of the complex, regarding the issue.

In the wake of this situation, locals agitated in front of the chemical complex asking the authorities concerned to shut down the facility.

“We are worried about our safety after the Sitakunda blast. There is a market, residential buildings, schools and madrasas within a kilometre’s radius of the plant,” said Gazi Maenuddin, a local of South Pahartholi.

“The plant authority assured us of suspending their operations. We want the facility to be closed permanently,” said former councillor and local Awami League leader Jafar Alam Chowdhury.

Going beyond the call of duty

Constable who first informed fire service of explosion in critical state

ARUN BIKASH DEY

Imrul Kaisar, a constable of Industrial Police at Kumira, was the first to inform firefighters of the BM Depot explosion on Saturday night. Imrul is currently fighting for his life at the Burn and Plastic Surgery Unit of Chattogram Medical College Hospital (CMCH).

Imrul, along with his two colleagues rushed to BM Container Depot minutes after receiving information that the depot had caught fire. He immediately called the fire service.

But his work did not stop at that. He and his colleagues got busy on the frontline, trying to disperse outsiders from the depot who were live-streaming on Facebook and taking pictures.

“In the meantime, the fire service arrived and started dousing the blaze. Moments later, another blast occurred and sub-inspector Kamrul Hasan, constable Sohag and I were within its 100-yard radius. We felt a heat wave in our bodies and then I couldn’t see anything... I couldn’t open my eyes,” said Imrul, while describing the horrors that unfolded that night.

Dr Sadia Akter, assistant registrar of Burn

“In the meantime, the fire service arrived and started dousing the blaze. Moments later, another blast occurred and sub-inspector Kamrul Hasan, constable Sohag and I were within its 100-yard radius. We felt a heat wave in our bodies and then I couldn’t see anything... I couldn’t open my eyes.”

IMRUL, WHILE DESCRIBING THE HORRORS THAT UNFOLDED THAT NIGHT

and Plastic Surgery unit at CMCH, said Imrul’s corneas have been badly affected. He also sustained burns on both legs.

Md Raihan, Imrul’s elder brother, rushed to CMCH from their village at Narsingdi after hearing about the incident. He was attending his brother in the hospital.

“My brother went there on call of duty but now his life is under threat,” Raihan told The Daily Star.

“Imrul is a brave heart. He could’ve remained aloof from the spot but his sense of duty did not let him,” he added.

Raihan said an eye specialist from Dhaka visited CMCH yesterday morning and advised them to take him to Dhaka for better treatment.

‘No one came to see us’ Injured staffers yet to be visited by depot authorities

ARUN BIKASH DEY

Tofajjal Haque, an IT in-charge of BM Container Depot, was on duty when the depot caught fire on Saturday night. He was around 120 feet away from the explosion spot inside the container but could not save himself from the blaze.

Tofajjal is currently fighting for his life at the Burn and Plastic Surgery unit of CMCH.

“When the firefighters came, we felt a sigh of relief. None of us could imagine what awaited us a few moments later,” said Tofajjal, lying in the unit’s bed B-15.

“Suddenly, I felt immense heat on my face, head, and hands. I started running and at one stage I fell.”

“Next thing I know, someone was lifting me on the ambulance,” added Tofajjal.

A woeful Tofajjal, attended by his family at CMCH, said the BM Depot authorities are yet to visit any of the victims.

“I have heard that the depot authority issued a statement to stand by the families of the deceased and injured staffers with financial and other logistic support. However, no official has even come to see our state,” he said.

Md Akter (32), a labourer of the depot, echoed the same, lying in a bed next to Tofajjal.

Akter, an employee of the Depot for four years, had no attendant by his bed.



“My family lives in Sandwip. My wife is there but she could not come and so I lie here alone,” he said.

“We have been visited and cared for by many voluntary organisations but none from the company visited.”

“I cannot believe that such a big company would show such irresponsible attitude. They are yet to provide any assistance for the injured who are fighting for their lives at the hospital,” said 18-year-old injured worker Anwar Hossain’s maternal uncle Abdul Mannan, who is attending him at CMCH.

Contacted, Major (ret’d) Shamsul Haider Siddique, general manager of BM Container Depot Limited, said their teams were in hospitals with food, medicine and blood from the very first day of the accident.

When informed about the injured staffers’ accounts, he said he would look into it.

Goodwill bounded by limitations

CMCH struggling to treat burn patients

ARUN BIKASH DEY

Never has the burn and plastic surgery unit of Chattogram Medical College Hospital (CMCH) faced the rush of so many patients with burn injuries at the same time. Such was the scene after the deadly explosion at Sitakunda BM Depot -- an incident that not only exposed the fault lines in the country’s factory management procedures yet again but also the limitations of the hospitals in Chattogram.

The city has no burn ICUs to treat critically injured patients. On top of that, Chattogram’s public hospitals lack adequate equipment and facilities for state-of-art treatment for patients suffering from optical injuries.

As a result, 16 patients have already been shifted to Dhaka. Another was scheduled to be moved as of filing this report.

CMCH sources said 100 patients injured in the Sitakunda blast have been receiving treatment at CMCH, while 16 others were being treated at different hospitals of the port city.

Doctors in CMCH said around 50 patients have optical injuries. However, they could not be treated at CMCH due to a lack of facilities.

During his visit to the hospital on Tuesday, Prof Dwin Mohammad, former director-general of National Eye Science Institute, said

he attended to 63 patients and most of them had optical injuries.

“Six such patients with major optical injuries should be immediately shifted to Dhaka for proper treatment. However, many of them sustained burn injuries in other parts of the body and could not be moved immediately,” he said while talking to journalists.



While visiting CMCH on Monday, Prof Samanta Lal Sen, director of Sheikh Hasina National Burn Institute, also emphasised establishing an ICU for burn injuries in the port city.

Asked about the difference between a usual ICU and a burn ICU, he said infection control is the first goal for treating patients

with burn injuries, along with ensuring other facilities. “These can only be ensured in a burn ICU, not a usual one.”

Then comes the space-related crisis in the hospitals.

“My ward can cater to 60 patients at best. Yet on Saturday night, just after the accident, we already had 59 patients. Many more were yet to come,” said Dr Rafiq Uddin Ahmed, associate professor and head of the burn and plastic surgery ward of CMCH.

CMCH is also understaffed and lacks human resources to manage a crisis of this magnitude. This posed a greater problem than ever, which could only be worked around by the goodwill of the doctors and nurses on duty.

“My colleagues from other departments, director of the hospital and principal of CMC extended their help at this crucial time... CMC Principal Prof Shahena Akter, also a professor of the gynaecology department, helped us by evacuating their ward to accommodate patients from the explosion site, while CMCH director Brig Gen Shamim Ahsan authorised the operation of the central pharmacy all night long and provided all medicines that we needed for treatment,” said Dr Rafiq.

“All the doctors, intern doctors and nurses gave their best effort to save as many lives as possible,” he added.



I think you need to follow certain things to be highlighted which I deliberately keep myself away from. I am not active on social media. I am not saying it's bad or that I don't want to be highlighted. One day, maybe I can do something extraordinary so that the people of the country will remember me. I also try to stay away from the media because I think it's better for me to stay focused.

Taijul's sights on THE EXTRAORDINARY

Left-arm spinner Taijul Islam has been a revelation for Bangladesh, especially in the red-ball format, but the rather humble 30-year-old prefers to shun the limelight and do his job silently. Arguably the most overshadowed cricketer in the Bangladesh team, Taijul spoke candidly about his game, life and many other topics in an interview with The Daily Star's Mazhar Uddin before travelling to the West Indies yesterday. The excerpts of the interview are below:

The Daily Star (DS): Another away tour is approaching. How's your preparation for the West Indies series?
Taijul Islam (TI): It's always difficult to move from one condition to another. Preparation means knowing what the conditions demand. When we played in West Indies before, the pitch helped both spinners and seamers. Shakib (Al Hasan) bhai picked up five wickets and (Mehedi Hasan) Miraz and I also got a few wickets. It's not easy to comment about a pitch without assessing it. It's not like we haven't seen spin-friendly tracks in the past, but seamers generally tend to get more purchase in the Caribbean. It is difficult if you have a set plan. Instead, you have to be flexible. My initial goal is to help the seamers by bowling tight. If the spinners get purchase, it's a different ball game.
DS: How do you prepare yourself before every series?
TI: Training is one part of preparation, which includes working on skills and trying to bowl in the right areas consistently. But I think it is equally

important to prepare off the field. Preparation in your room is key, whether that is mental set-up or something else and I try to work on that both on and off the field.
DS: How do you tweak your bowling on tours abroad compared to what you do at home?
TI: The most important thing you have to realise is what the conditions are and how can I get help using them. For example, wind plays a very big role. You won't get much purchase in the first few days away from home. The line and length you choose to bowl is crucial as is how much drift you can get from bowling at a particular angle. So it's important to adjust quickly, especially abroad. Initially, I found it difficult bowling abroad but I was able to cope as time went by. Another aspect is variations, which I think is very important in the longest version of the game.
DS: You were the fastest to 150 Test wickets for Bangladesh and have been a consistent performer over the years. Do you feel overshadowed

at times due to the fact that there is someone like Shakib Al Hasan playing at the same time?
TI: I don't feel that. When I do well and perform for my country, it feels good. Nothing other than that.
DS: Do you feel you should have got more exposure and been highlighted more compared to other stars in the team?
TI: I think you need to follow certain things to be highlighted which I deliberately keep myself away from. I am not active on social media. I am not saying it's bad or that I don't want to be highlighted. One day, maybe I can do something extraordinary so that the people of the country will remember me. I also try to stay away from the media because I think it's better for me to stay focused.
DS: Don't you think you have already achieved something?
TI: Yes, I have. But I think I am yet to do something extraordinary that helps my country win. Suppose I single-handedly destroy a top-ranked side and snatch victory for Bangladesh or win a trophy.

I haven't done that yet.
DS: Which part of your game do you think you could improve more?
TI: There is no end to improvement. I learn every day. Despite playing for so many years, I think there is still more to learn. But I feel that if I could contribute more than I am with the bat then it would have been great. If I could score 30-40 runs consistently, then I could have helped my team immensely. I am working on my batting. Let's see.
DS: Despite picking up a hat-trick on your ODI debut, you were unable to lock down a spot as a regular in limited-overs sides. Do you feel unlucky at times?
TI: I don't think that way. I feel like I need to play better to play in the shorter formats. Maybe what I have done is not enough. Picking up a wicket while giving away 30 runs is not enough. I need to do something extraordinary. Apart from Shakib Bhai, Nasum Ahmed is also doing well. I am not thinking about it and waiting for my opportunity.

Tamim distraction ahead of WI Tests

SPORTS REPORTER
The fracas in the media over Tamim Iqbal's recent comments and those of the Bangladesh Cricket Board has exposed a pretty dismal picture of the national team environment ahead of the West Indies tour. As the team leaves for the Caribbean for the month-long tour starting with the first Test in Antigua on June 16, it is not the longest format or the players of the format that are hogging the limelight, instead it is ODI captain Tamim Iqbal's T20I future that is the talk of the town.
The issue surfaced during an event on Sunday when Tamim reacted regarding a question that was posed to Jamie Siddons the day before. The batting coach was asked whether Tamim would do well coming down the order. While Siddons replied that 'Tamim would love that but we need to find another opening batter first,' the batter felt that the question itself was 'stupid'.
Things further rolled on during that event when Tamim was asked about his T20I future. He said he was not being able to talk about his decision as 'either you (media) say it or someone else says it.'
This newspaper had reported back in April that according to BCB sources, an announcement from Tamim on his T20I future was imminent. That announcement did not come and BCB sources had said Tamim would state his decision to the media himself.
With one-and-a-half months left of his self-imposed hiatus from T20Is, Tamim felt the announcement should be left up to him. In a statement yesterday on Facebook, he wrote that his words had been misconstrued and he did not, in any way, mean that the board had not communicated with him regarding his T20I future.
However, apart from the media, who that 'someone else' is was not clarified. What Tamim said on Sunday, may easily be conceived as BCB higher-ups talking ahead of time.
BCB president Nazmul Hassan Papon, speaking to a national English daily on Monday, said that Tamim had already sent a letter to the board saying he was not going to play T20Is. He also said that BCB had urged Tamim to clarify his stance. Meanwhile, Tamim, in his statement yesterday, said he has been communicated by the board and the board knows his decision and he never said that the board did not ask him about his T20I future.
However, while the BCB president did not shy away from saying what he felt, the discussion ahead of a key Test series has once again turned to the T20I availability of a player who last played in the format in March of 2020. The fracas between the board and the players, which had caused an uproar during the T20 World Cup in UAE, is once again at play.



FIFA WC trophy arrives today

SPORTS REPORTER
The original trophy of FIFA World Cup will arrive in Dhaka this morning for a 36-hour tour accompanied by a seven-member FIFA delegation including former French World Cup winner Christian Karembeu.
"Bangladesh Football Federation president Kazi Salahuddin, along with BFF and Coca Cola officials, will receive the trophy at the airport after a chartered flight is scheduled to land at 10:45am," BFF general secretary Abu Nayeem Shohag said yesterday.
Shohag also informed that the trophy will be taken to the President's official residence, Bangabhaban, in the afternoon before being taken to Prime Minister's residence, Gono Bhaban, in the evening.
"The trophy will be displayed for all at the Bangladesh Army Stadium in Banani on Friday afternoon. Some invited guests and winners of Coca Cola draws will get opportunity to take pictures with the trophy," Shohag said. "We believe the trophy tour will be the talk of town and strengthen our football."

Jamal hopeful ahead of Bahrain tie

SPORTS REPORTER
Bangladesh are set to return to the qualification round of the Asian Cup after a lengthy 16-year gap when they take on mighty Bahrain in one of the Group E openers at the Bukit Jalil National Stadium in Kuala Lumpur today.
The match will kick off at 3:15pm (Bangladesh Standard Time).
Bangladesh had a dream campaign in their first-ever Asian Cup qualifiers, in which they secured a spot in the 10-team final round after finishing as one of four group runners up in 1979. But they had a harder time in the final round despite showing potential in two of their four matches in Qatar in 1980.
Since then, Bangladesh were part of the Asian Cup qualifying round until 2006, barring 1996 when Bangladesh withdrew from the competition. Bangladesh would not make it to the final round in their next six attempts.
Instead, Bangladesh were demoted to compete in the newly-introduced AFC Challenge Cup, a tournament that rewarded the winners with tickets to the Asian Cup Qualifiers until it was suspended in 2015.
The AFC then made massive changes to the Asian Cup and World

89th in the FIFA Rankings, Bahrain are Group E favourites. They are 99 places ahead of 188th-ranked Bangladesh, who suffered a 0-2 defeat to Bahrain in the only match between two sides, during the President's Cup in Seoul in 1979. Bahrain appear to be in peak form, registering six wins in seven matches this year against Uganda, Congo, India, Burundi, Myanmar and Thailand. Their lone defeat came against Belarus. Bangladesh have played only three matches this year, losing to Maldives before drawing against Mongolia and Indonesia.

Cup Qualifiers but Bangladesh failed to make it to the qualifiers, losing 3-1 on aggregate to Bhutan in the 2016 playoffs.
This time around, they beat Laos 1-0

on aggregate to enter the Asian Cup Qualifiers and end their 16-year exile but have been derailed by injuries.
But ahead of their tough group encounters, Bangladesh captain Jamal Bhuiyan was upbeat of springing a surprise on Bahrain, who are 99 places ahead of Bangladesh in the FIFA Rankings.
"I think the other team may think Bangladesh will be an easy target but I think the players have other things on their mind and we can spring some surprises," Jamal said at the pre-match conference yesterday.
"Tomorrow is a big match. We know that we have done everything to prepare well," Jamal said. "Of course, we lack in some areas but we have discussed that with the coach. Overall, if the game plan goes well, we can get something from this match."
Bangladesh coach Javier Cabrera knows his team face an uphill task against Bahrain and is expected to adopt a counter-attacking strategy.
"It is going to be a similar approach [as it was in a recently friendly against Indonesia] tomorrow [Wednesday]," said Cabrera, who played a four-man defence and two defensive midfielders in a five-man midfield in that goalless draw.





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GONO COMMISSION PAPER ACC to review allegations

RASHIDUL HASAN

The Gono Commission has recently been facing a backlash from religion-based organisations over submission of a “white paper” that named 116 religious leaders and Islamic speakers for their “involvement in laundering money, funding militancy and spreading communal hatred”.

The Anti Corruption Commission has said it will review the allegations brought by the platform, People’s Inquiry Commission on Fundamentalist and Communal Violence, widely known as Gono Commission.

The ACC said it will launch a probe if it finds any substance to the allegations.

Headed by Justice Shamsuddin Chowdhury Manik, a retired judge of the Supreme Court, the platform on May 12 submitted the report to the ACC in a ceremony attended by Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan.

The 30-member commission was formed in February last year with members of the Parliamentary Caucus on Indigenous and Minorities and the Ekattorer Ghatok Dalal Nirmul Committee.

It prepared the 2,200-page white paper titled “2,000 Days of Fundamentalist and Communal Violence in Bangladesh” based on the research on militancy and communal attacks carried out in the country from July 2016 (the Holey Artisan Bakery incident) to December 2021. The Nirmul Committee has made the white paper public.

The report named 116 Islamic leaders and orators allegedly involved in laundering money, funding

SEE PAGE 6 COL 1



Ukrainian service members fire a shell from a M777 Howitzer near a frontline, as Russia’s attack on Ukraine continues, in Donetsk Region on Monday.

PHOTO: REUTERS

‘Russia partially controls Severodonetsk’

Another Russian general killed in Donetsk

AGENCIES

Russia yesterday reported its forces had taken full control of residential neighbourhoods in Ukraine’s flashpoint city of Severodonetsk, after Kyiv said its troops were fighting on in the eastern hub despite being outnumbered.

“The residential areas of the city of Severodonetsk have been fully liberated,” Russian Defence Minister Sergei Shoigu told a defence ministry meeting.

The Russian army was still seeking to establish control over the city’s “industrial zone and the nearest settlements”, he added, amid conflicting reports of who is in control of what.

Moscow has been pushing for control of the strategic industrial

SEE PAGE 6 COL 4

Japan hopes polls will be better than last

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

The Japanese Ambassador to Bangladesh Ito Naoki yesterday expressed hopes that the government would do everything necessary to ensure next year’s national election is free, fair, and better than the last one held in 2018.

The enactment of the bill on appointing election commissioners is a positive move, the ambassador said while addressing the Diplomatic Correspondents Association Bangladesh (DCAB) Talk at the Jatiya Press Club.

Naoki said Japan had raised concerns over the violence during the 2018 election and the way it was conducted, and that he has been urging government officials to hold better elections and will continue to do so.


He also said the media should be given space so that journalists can play their role in ensuring that citizens have opportunities to freely cast their votes, and that each vote is counted.

The diplomat said Japan is also interested in selling defence equipment to Bangladesh, and a Japanese private company visited Dhaka this year to gauge the level of interest in buying defence equipment, particularly radars for the Air Force.

Bangladesh is diversifying its defence purchases while Japan has relaxed its regulations on sales of defence equipment. Japan is already

SEE PAGE 6 COL 4





PADMA BRIDGE inauguration

17 DAYS TO GO



PHOTO: HABIBUR RAHMAN

A sign displaying raised prices of items at a tea stall near Khulna city’s Circuit House. The continuing hike in prices of daily essentials has also had an impact on tea stalls, which are considered among the cheapest options for customers seeking hot beverages or snacks. The photo was taken yesterday.

Monkeypox ‘alarm false’ Says expert after passenger screened out at HSIA

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Turkish man, sent to a hospital from Dhaka airport because he has rashes on his body, has no monkeypox symptoms, said a top official of the health directorate.

“The rashes are due to a long-term skin disease,” Prof Ahmedul Kabir, additional director general (administration) of the health directorate, told The Daily Star, adding that he examined the man.

However, the authorities at Infectious Diseases Hospital said they will not discharge the man until the laboratory test confirms whether he has the disease.

“We primarily concluded that the patient is not infected with monkeypox virus. But we have sent his sample to the IEDCR for an RT-PCR test,” said Mizanur Rahman, superintendent of the hospital.

The 32-year-old man was sent to the Infectious Diseases Hospital in Mohakhali after doctors at Dhaka airport noticed the rashes during screening.

He arrived at Hazrat Shahjalal

SEE PAGE 6 COL 4

Researchers break data transfer rate record

INDEPENDENT.CO.UK

Researchers in Japan have achieved a world record for data transmission using standard hardware, achieving speeds 100,000 times faster than 5G internet speeds.





The Network Research Institute at the National Institute of Information and Communications Technology (NICT) demonstrated the first ever data transmission of 1.02 petabit (PB) per second, equivalent to just over 125,000 Gigabytes (GB) per second, using optic fibres compatible with conventional cable infrastructure.

NICT constructed the transmission system using fibres with standard 0.125mm cladding diameter, which it described as “a major step towards the realisation of ultra-high-throughput optical links... compatible with existing cabling technologies for near-term adoption.”

The system allowed 1.02 PB per second to be transmitted

SEE PAGE 6 COL 4





BKMEA

Working Today to Shine Tomorrow

Congratulations to Honorable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina

For the construction of the Padma Bridge with own fund and bringing the heroism of independent Bengalis to the forefront of the world

The Padma multipurpose bridge was a dream project, but we didn’t muster the courage at first to do it by our own resources. We were dependent on foreign loan to initially. However, that dream that we were unsure of whether we could make it by our own resources, has come true today.

On June 25, 2022, **Honorable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina** is all set to inaugurate the longest bridge in the country. But it didn’t come easy! The construction of the bridge was supposed to be financed by the donor agency, but they returned to us with unfair conditions. Then PM took it in her stride and spelled out that the people of Bangladesh would construct The Padma Bridge by its own finance. At that time Many of us were bewildered. But The Prime Minister was absolutely sure about what promise She had made. She vowed it, took up the challenge and washing away all the doubts that many of us were garnering in us silently. This Bridge is not just a connection between regions of the north and south. It is a symbol of hope, aspiration, and dignity. It will accelerate the progress of Bangladesh to become a middle-income country by 2031 and a developed country by 2041.

So, today giddy with joy and a sense of pleasure, we, the BKMEA, express our sincere gratitude and thanks to the Honorable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina for her prudent and cogent leadership. It was a gargantuan task completed with a master stroke of craftsmanship!

At the same time, the supervision of the **Honorable Minister for Road Transport and Bridges Obaidul Quader** in the construction of Padma Bridge is also remarkable. Greetings and gratitude to him for his hard work and wisdom as well.

According to the price set by the Bangladesh Energy Regulatory Commission (BERC), the average price of gas at the consumer level has been increased from Tk 9.60 per cubic meter to Tk 11.91, an increase of 22.84 percent. The price of captive power for the RMG industry has by 15.52 percent to Tk 16 per cubic meter. The price of gas in large-scale industries has increased by 11.98 percent to Tk 11.98 per cubic meter. The price is Tk 11.6 for medium industries and Tk 10.6 for the small, cottage, and other industries. We are grateful to the government for keeping the price of gas at a tolerable level for the RMG industry. We would like to thank the Honorable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina for her advice to BERC to keep the price of gas at a tolerable level. We also thank the **State Minister for Power, Energy, and Mineral Resources Nasrul Hamid**, and the chairman of BERC.

We believe, this price will enable us to adjust our production system and maintain the growth of knitwear export.

On behalf of the Board of Directors and members
AKM Selim Osman, MP
President, BKMEA.