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B1 \$58b merchandise export target set

Electricity crisis may worsen

Furnace oil stock depleting, Barapukuria plant could shut for coal crisis; PMO meet orders steps to cut costs, consumption

PARTHA PRATIM BHATTACHARJEE and ASIFUR RAHMAN

The government's plan for one to two hours of daily power cuts is failing, especially in the north, and the signs are that the electricity crisis may worsen across the country in the coming days.

The north is already seeing three to four hours of load shedding a day with Rangpur being the worst affected.

The government on Sunday announced a schedule for area-based power cuts to mitigate the electricity crisis.

Experts have warned that with the dwindling fuel stocks, the duration of power outages would surely increase in the days ahead. They also pointed fingers at underutilised coal-fired plants and inadequate transmission lines.

With the crisis deepening, the government yesterday came up with some new measures to cut power usage. It directed the public offices to cut consumption by 25 percent. Officials have been asked to avoid, as much as possible, having in-person meetings to reduce fuel

- Govt offices to reduce power consumption by 25pc
- Ministries to review procurement plan to cut expenditure
- Officials to avoid in-person meetings unless absolutely necessary
- Officials are to avoid foreign trips unless absolutely essential
- Govt looking for alternative sources of Urea

and electricity consumption.

Bangladesh Power Development Board has been generating 500MW a day more from coal-based plants compared to what it produced on June 29, when the load shedding began.

But the Barapukuria Power Station in Dinajpur has been gobbling up its stocks

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EC's dialogue hits a snag as BNP skips it

MOHIUDDIN ALAMGIR

The BNP yesterday skipped Election Commission's dialogue seeking recommendations of political parties on how to hold a free and fair general election.

BNP leaders said they shunned the talks because it was impossible for the EC to hold a free and fair election under the incumbent government.

Election commissioners yesterday said they would "wait" for the BNP until the election and they might contact the opposition parties "time and again".

Late last month, the BNP and several other parties skipped the EC's views-exchange programmes on electronic voting machines.

BNP Standing Committee Member Khandakar Mosharrar Hossain said, "Our decision is that we will not join an election under the current government. We have not joined the process of forming this Election Commission, have not given them recognition, and have not taken part in any activities of the commission. We have not changed our stance and that is why we did not join the talks."

While talking to reporters at the EC office, Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Kazi Habibur Awal said he would not comment on whether the commission will take any special measures to bring the BNP to the dialogue.

Election Commissioner Md Alamgir

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IMF'S \$4.5B LOAN

Govt now has cold feet

REJAUL KARIM BYRON

The government is stalling on taking the \$4.5 billion loan from the International Monetary Fund to ease the pressure on the foreign currency reserves after seeing the conditions that would be attached.

"At this moment, we will not take it," Finance Minister AMH Mustafa Kamal told the media yesterday after a meeting of the cabinet committee on purchase.

A delegation from the IMF is in the capital on a nine-day tour and has held talks with the National Board of Revenue and the finance division's teams on subsidy and debt management among others regarding the loan.

The mission would be wrapping up its agenda today with a meeting with the Bangladesh Bank and Kamal.

"Neither did we get a formal offer, nor did we place a formal proposal for the loan. If there is a need, we will take the loan, and we will take it in a way that safeguards our interests," he said.

One of the conditions that would be attached to the loan is the withdrawal of subsidies on fuel, electricity and fertilisers.

In the budget for this fiscal year, Tk 82,745 crore has been earmarked for subsidy, which is 23.8 percent more than what was spent on the overhead in the just-concluded fiscal year. This is the highest amount that the government would be spending on subsidies yet.

Achieving fiscal balance would be tricky if such levels of subsidy are extended, the IMF mission said.

Subsidy benefits all regardless of their income status, so the IMF instead recommended targeted aid for the poor and the middle-income people.

While the government is willing to adjust the prices for fuel and electricity, it is not willing to withdraw the subsidy on fertilisers, whose prices in the global market have escalated for the Russia-Ukraine war.

The elevated price level in Bangladesh is thanks to rising food prices and taking the subsidy on fertilisers would send the food prices through the roof.

In June, inflation raced to a nine-year high of 7.56 percent; food inflation was a staggering 8.37 percent and in rural areas, 8.93 percent.

"We will never take up any deal that will not be in the best interests of our countrymen," Kamal said.

The government is hopeful that the raft of austerity measures taken in recent weeks would ease the pressure on the country's strained foreign exchange reserves.

As of July 13, foreign reserves stood at \$39.8 billion, sufficient to cover import bills for just about five months.

The IMF mission has been briefed on the measures and they endorsed the move, said a finance ministry official involved with the proceedings on the condition of anonymity.

"We have taken those measures thinking six months ahead. The situation is comfortable for us at present."

However, given the protracted nature of Russia-Ukraine was taken on, there is bound to be more volatility in the global economy and further pressure on Bangladesh's foreign currency reserves.

So the IMF mission has said that there might be a need for budget support of the sort the Washington-based multilateral lender is offering: \$1.5 billion interest-free and \$3 billion at less than 2 percent interest.

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Road crash claims six more lives

Woman, her 18-month-old child among the dead

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barishal

A toddler, her mother, and aunt were among six people who died after a bus rammed into an auto rickshaw in Bakerganj, Barishal, yesterday afternoon.

One-and-a-half-year-old Farhana died at Sher-E-Bangla Medical College Hospital, her mother Shathi, 22, died on the way to the facility and aunt Tanjila, 30, died at the scene, police said, adding that the family is from Gaurnadi upazila of Barishal.

The other deceased are Bakerganj residents Sohag Shikder, 21, Hasib Khan, 25, and Amir Chowdhury, 50.

Two others injured in the crash are being treated at the hospital with serious injuries.

The bus of Bangladesh Road Transport Corporation, going towards Barishal from Kuakata, was on the wrong side of the road when it collided with the auto-rickshaw coming from the opposite direction.

The crash happened in front of a fire service office, said Bakerganj Upazila

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Rajapaksa ally elected Lanka president

Wickremesinghe calls for unity in face of challenges; protesters vow to fight on

AGENCIES

Six-time prime minister Ranil Wickremesinghe was elected as crisis-racked Sri Lanka's new president yesterday, with the backing of the party of the ex-leader -- who fled abroad after his palace was stormed by protesters.

Official results showed Wickremesinghe garnered 134 votes in the 225-member parliament, with his main opponent Dullas Alahapperuma getting 82 and leftist Anura Dissanayake just three, giving him an absolute majority on first preferences.

"Our country is facing massive challenges and we have to work on a new strategy to fulfill the aspirations of the people," the 73-year-old leader said after his victory. "Now everyone must come together."

He will be sworn in this morning and will appoint a new prime minister within the course of the day, officials from the President's Office told Xinhua.

He is expected to name public administration minister Dinesh Gunawardena, 73, his schoolmate and a strong Rajapaksa loyalist, as the new prime minister.

Wickremesinghe takes charge of a bankrupt nation that is in bailout talks with the IMF, with its 22 million people enduring severe shortages of food, fuel and medicine.

But he was backed by the Rajapaksa's SLPP party -- still the largest in parliament -- and is despised as a proxy

SEE PAGE 2 COL 5



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Gold worth Tk 55 lakh seized in Benapole

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Benapole

Members of Customs Intelligence and Investigation Directorate arrested a woman with gold worth Tk 55 lakh in Benapole yesterday.

Umme Salma, 25, of Dhaka's Demra, was smuggling the gold to India, said Moniruzaman Chowdhury, assistant director of CIID in Benapole.

A team of CIID conducted a raid at International Customs Checkpoint on information that a woman was smuggling gold to the neighbouring country.

The team checked the woman and found 72 bhori of gold, he added.

CIID deposited the gold to Benapole Customs House and filed a case against her with Benapole Port Police Station, he further said.

HEATWAVE IN EUROPE

More than 500 died in Spain: PM

AFP, Madrid

Spain's prime minister said "more than 500 people died" during a 10-day heatwave as Europe counts the cost of a record period of extreme temperatures.

Climate change protesters said the scorching weather should be a wake-up call for the continent.

"This has nothing to do with ideologies, but with a reality, with a climatic emergency that the planet is living through," said Spanish Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez yesterday.

Speaking against a backdrop of charred trees and burnt ground in the hard-hit northeastern Zaragoza region, he urged people to exercise "extreme caution".

Cooler air swept in yesterday, bringing relief to people from Portugal to Britain, but thousands of firefighters continued to tackle blazes that have broken out in multiple countries after months of drought-like conditions.

The heatwave saw a new all-time record for Britain where the national weather service clocked 40.3C in eastern England, surpassing the previous high set in 2019.

Meanwhile Greek firefighters gained the upper hand in a battle against a wildfire raging for a second day in mountainside suburbs north of Athens that had forced hundreds of people to flee, an official said.

In France, firefighters brought twin blazes near the southwestern city of Bordeaux under control.

Temperatures of more than 40 degrees Celsius (104 degrees Fahrenheit) over previous days have spelled misery for millions and shattered heat records.



A local resident helps firefighters to put out a fire in the town of Bakhmut in the Donetsk region following an airstrike on Tuesday, amid the Russian invasion of Ukraine. PHOTO: AFP

Russia looks beyond Donbas

Lavrov says western arms in Ukraine forced Kremlin to rethink objectives

AGENCIES

Russia's military aims in Ukraine are no longer focused "only" on the country's east, Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said, adding that supplies of Western weapons had changed the Kremlin's calculus.

"The geography is different now. It is not only about the DNR and LNR, but also the Kherson region, the Zaporizhzhia region and a number of other territories" Lavrov told state media in an interview published yesterday. "This process is continuing, consistently and persistently."

The pro-Moscow breakout so-called Donetsk and Lugansk People's Republics (DNR and LNR) are in east Ukraine. Moscow's forces already control the southern Kherson region and parts of the southeastern region Zaporizhzhia.

Lavrov said that while Moscow's aim remains the same — "denazification and demilitarisation" of Ukraine — the "geography" has changed since Istanbul talks between Moscow and Kyiv in March 2022.

He said Western supplies of weapons to Kyiv including US-made HIMARS missile systems had made Moscow review its plans.

Lavrov said Russia's "geographical aims

will move even further from the current line" if the West continues to "pump" Ukraine with weapons, adding that it makes no sense to resume peace talks with Kyiv at the moment.

Russian forces shelled eastern and

"The geography is different now. It is not only about the DNR and LNR, but also the Kherson region, the Zaporizhzhia region and a number of other territories."

southern Ukraine yesterday after Washington said it saw signs Moscow was preparing to formally annex territory it has seized during nearly five months of war.

Five civilians were killed and 16 wounded by Russian shelling in the Donetsk region, while two civilians were killed by shelling in the city of Nikopol in the south, the respective Ukrainian regional governors said on Telegram.

Roman Starovoi, governor of Russia's Kursk region, which borders Ukraine, wrote on Telegram that Ukrainian forces

had shelled a border crossing there.

Russian President Vladimir Putin, meanwhile, said Moscow would only ease the path for Black Sea exports of Ukrainian grain if the West lifts sanctions on Russia's shipments.

"We will facilitate the export of Ukrainian grain, but we are proceeding from the fact that all restrictions related to possible deliveries for the export of Russian grain will be lifted," he said after talks with both Turkish President Tayyip Erdogan and Iran's President Ebrahim Raisi in Tehran on Tuesday night.

Uncertainty swirled over the planned restart of a huge Russian gas pipeline to Europe today, as Putin warned that its capacity could be further reduced due to slow progress in equipment maintenance.

The West has accused Russia of using its energy supplies as a tool of coercion. Russia denies those accusations, saying it has been a reliable energy supplier.

Setting out its emergency plan, the EU yesterday told members states to cut gas usage by 15 percent until March as part of an emergency plan.

"We believe that a full disruption is likely and it is especially likely if we don't act and leave ourselves vulnerable to it," one EU official said.

1,104 new Covid cases and 1 death recorded

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The health directorate yesterday reported just one death from Covid-19, down from eight the previous day.

The Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS) also reported 1,104 new cases.

However, the positivity rate increased to 12.20 percent from 9.66 percent the previous day.

This takes the total number of confirmed cases to 19,99 lakh and deaths to 29,250 lives.

In Tuesday's inoculation campaign, 56,37003 people received booster shots and 2,24845 their second dose of a vaccine, according to the DGHS.

Man shot dead in Rangunia

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A man was shot dead by unidentified assailants in Azimnagar area of Rangunia, Chattogram, on Tuesday night.

Mohammad Enam, 30, was shot in the chest and head, police said.

Enam, who was a tractor driver, was at home with his wife and two children around 11:00pm when the armed men broke in, said Obaidul Islam, officer-in-charge of Dakkhin Rangunia Police Station.

Enam managed to flee and took shelter at a neighbour's house, but the attackers found him and shot him dead, the OC said, adding that the motive behind the murder was not clear.

Former Akhaura UNO, 2 others sued over allegations of irregularities

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Brahmanbaria

A departmental case has been filed against the immediate past upazila nirbahi officer of Akhaura and two other officials following allegations of irregularities and negligence during the construction work under Ashrayan project.

Former UNO Rumana Akhter, former assistant commissioner (land) Saiful Islam and Project Implementation Officer Tapas Chakrabarty were accused in the case, said Deputy Commissioner Shahgir Alam of Brahmanbaria at a press conference yesterday.

Rumana and Saiful are currently posted in Rangamati.

The deputy commissioner did not say exactly when the case was filed.

The DC announced that the prime minister is set to virtually inaugurate 834 houses in seven upazilas of Brahmanbaria under the Ashrayan project.

EC's dialogue

FROM PAGE 1

said, "It would have been better if they [the BNP] joined the talks. The talks are going well because political parties are giving thoughtful opinions. These will help us hold a better election.

"We are repeatedly taking initiatives to [bring the BNP to the talks]. We will contact them time and again."

The EC's latest talks with political parties started on Sunday. Eleven parties have participated while the BNP, Bangladesh Kalyan Party and Bangladesh Muslim League shunned the talks.

On March 13, the EC began another round of talks with a cross section of people, including educationists, civil society members, journalists, former CECs and ECs, and local election observers.

The CEC yesterday said, "It is really our sole responsibility to ensure that every voter can cast their vote freely. This is the foundation of democracy. And for this, everyone's cooperation is needed. Every party has said they believe in political consensus. Whether there is consensus or not, we said we will continue our efforts."

Road crash claims

FROM PAGE 1

Nirbahi Officer Sajal Chandra Shil, adding that the driver managed to flee the scene.

Alauddin Milan, officer-in-charge of Bakerganj Police Station, said the auto rickshaw got completely mangled in the impact.

Shah Alam, assistant director at Bangladesh Road Transport Authority office in Barishal, said the bus had no fitness certificate since May 28, 2015, and its registration expired towards the end of 2017.

"We cannot say anything about the driver because we do not have the identity of the driver. We are searching for information on the driver," he told The Daily Star.

Electricity crisis may worsen

FROM PAGE 1

of coal without replenishment. The coal production at its mine was suspended in late April for underground development work, and the plant would not get fresh coal until the middle of August, said sources.

The plant now has a coal stock for only 15 days, even though it is generating only 200MW with a capacity of 525MW.

An official of the Barapukuria coal mine said the plant might have to stop generation due to the shortage of coal.

Data from Nesco, the power distributor for northern districts, shows it received 500MW yesterday, about half of what it needs.

The demand-supply gap resulted in serious power cuts in the north.

Officials of Dhaka's two distributors — DPDC and DESCO — told The Daily Star that they got less power than required and that they could not maintain one to two hours of load shedding in some areas.

Shamim Hasan, director (public relations) of Bangladesh Power Development Board (BPDB), said they received some allegations that the distribution companies failed to maintain the schedule but "that was not at a large scale".

The coal-fired 1,320MW Payra Power Plant is producing 1,000-1,050MW, but it can only supply the power to the Barishal-Khulna region as the transmission line to Dhaka is yet to be completed.

On top of the issues with coal-fired plants, the stock of furnace oil is running low.

A Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation official told The Daily Star, "We have only 1.2 lakh tonnes of furnace oil in stock against the monthly requirement of 55,000 tonnes."

The official said the stock was below the standard practice and the BPC was yet to buy its next consignment of furnace oil.

Bangladesh has a capacity to generate 22,348MW electricity. Of that, around 52 percent is from gas-based plants, 27 percent from furnace

oil-based plants, 5.86 percent from diesel-based, 8.03 percent from coal-powered plants, 1 percent from hydro, 0.5 percent from other renewable energies, and 5.27 percent is imported, according to the BPDB data.

The government this week decided to shut 10 diesel power plants. Last month, it stopped importing LNG from the high-priced spot market, and the power cuts began after this.

LNG injection into the national gas grid has slipped further in recent days, Petrobangla data shows.

Yesterday, it was 430 million cubic feet (mmcf). On June 29, the injection was 854 mmcf and in the first week of July, it was 500 mmcf.

The country is generating 12,000-13,000MW electricity a day against a demand of 14,000-14,500MW.

Talking to The Daily Star, energy expert M Shamsul Alam said, "The schedule [for power cuts] was not made to be maintained automatically. It will be manually implemented and the negligence and ignorance of officials may ruin this process."

He observed that there needs to be more professional efficiency.

Amid this situation, the state-owned Chittagong Urea Fertiliser Ltd suspended production due to gas shortage on Tuesday night. Jamuna Fertiliser Company Ltd, the country's largest urea producer, had shut down earlier for the same reason.

Agriculture Minister Muhammad Abdur Razzaque yesterday said the government was trying to find alternative sources of fertiliser. "We're trying to make both Jamuna Fertiliser Company Ltd and Chittagong Urea Fertiliser Ltd operational. The government has to provide gas to bring these two factories back into operation."

STEPS TO CURB CONSUMPTION

Senior secretaries and secretaries of all the ministries and divisions sat at the PMO yesterday to find ways to reduce expenditure.

The meeting, chaired by Prime Minister's Principal Secretary Ahmad Kaikaus, came up with six decisions

and recommendations.

It decided that the Finance Division would issue a circular to cut 20 percent energy sector expenditure.

Officials would avoid in-person meetings and foreign trips as much as possible. Markets would be monitored to keep prices of essentials at a tolerable level and action would be taken against hoarders.

The National Board of Revenue will take steps at the beginning of the financial year to increase internal resource mobilisation and to achieve the revenue collection target.

The meeting also asked all ministries to review their procurement plans and take initiatives to reduce expenditure.

Talking to reporters afterwards, Kaikaus said, "There's no reason to panic. These are precautionary measures so that we don't have to face any kind of crisis in the future."

He urged non-government organisations to follow suit.

Hours after the meeting, the water resources ministry issued an office order asking its officials to avoid personal use of government vehicles and set the thermostats at 26 degrees Celsius at the Pani Bhaban.

China speeding up approvals for new coal plants: Greenpeace

AFP, Beijing

China has ramped up approvals for new coal power plants this year, Greenpeace said yesterday, with authorities trying to lower the risk of economically painful electricity shortages.

China is the world's biggest emitter of the greenhouse gases driving global warming, and President Xi Jinping last year vowed to phase down coal use from 2026 as part of an ambitious set of national climate commitments.

Govt now has cold feet

FROM PAGE 1

"This round of talks can be viewed as preliminary work for the loan if the need arises in future," the finance ministry official added.

Meanwhile, the IMF mission has expressed reservations about the BB's method of calculating foreign currency reserves.

The BB reports on gross reserves — and includes local investment exposure. The IMF prescribes reporting net reserves.

Going by IMF's method, Bangladesh's actual reserves at present would be about \$7 billion less.

The central bank, however, is defiant and maintains that there should be no distinction between local

and foreign investment exposure.

"We will continue to calculate the reserves in the manner that we have been doing," Kamal said.

The IMF mission also recommended the NBR come up with a robust revenue action plan with reduced exemptions and more autonomy to buy the government more fiscal space.

While Bangladesh's external debt situation is at ease, the IMF mission prescribed more caution while taking on more bilateral loans and providing guarantees to state-owned enterprises' loans.

"It is a consultative committee and the IMF's advice is always helpful," Kamal added.

Rajapaksa ally elected

FROM PAGE 1

for the former leader by the protesters who forced him from his palace after months of demonstrations over the unprecedented economic crisis.

On the streets, the mood was sombre. Soon after the election result was announced, a burst of chants broke out against Wickremesinghe. It lasted only a few minutes, before the small group of protesters left the steps of the secretariat.

But some vowed to keep up their protest against the 73-year-old leader.

Civil engineer Nuzly Hameem said he was "disappointed" by the result. "We expected more from our parliamentarians," he told AFP.

The protests would "obviously" continue, he said, but added "We are burnt out. It's been four months."

"The reason why people came out against Gota(baya) was not a personal grudge. It was protesting for ideals and values he held," said Buwanaka Perera, a 26-year-old protester.

"We see those same values, corruption and oppression in Ranil."

Wickremesinghe has pledged to crack down hard if protesters take to the streets and hundreds of heavily armed troops and police stood guard outside the parliament, but there

were no signs of demonstrators.

As acting president, Wickremesinghe extended a state of emergency that gives police and security forces sweeping powers, and last week ordered troops to evict protesters from state buildings they had occupied.

A court yesterday ordered the protesters to vacate their camp near the Presidential Secretariat and confine themselves only to an area designated as a protest site.

Opposition MP Dharmalingam Sithadhan said ahead of the vote that Wickremesinghe's hardline stance against demonstrators had gone down well with MPs who had been at the receiving end of mob violence, describing him as the "law-and-order candidate".

Wickremesinghe automatically became acting president when Rajapaksa resigned and political analyst Kusal Perera said he had "regained the acceptance of the urban middle classes by restoring some of the supplies like gas and he has already cleared government buildings showing his firmness".

But he appears to be indebted to the Rajapaksa, a clan of four brothers who have dominated Sri Lankan politics for much of the last two decades, for his victory.



The rain did not come early enough for the little ones to skip school and cozy up at home for the day. After school ended, this one was seen homebound with her parent, covered in a raincoat. The photo was taken around noon yesterday in Asad Gate area. PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON

FIGHT AGAINST TRAFFICKING

US recognises Tariqul Islam

DIPLomatic CORRESPONDENT

The US government has recognised Bangladesh's Tariqul Islam, an advocate for victims of human trafficking whose work has helped increase Bangladesh government's capacity to investigate and prosecute traffickers.

US Secretary of State Antony Blinken honoured him and five others from around the world as 2022 Trafficking in Persons (TIP) Report Heroes in a ceremony hosted by US Department of State in Washington DC on Tuesday.

Tariqul has led anti-trafficking organisations that have facilitated assistance to more than 2,000 victims. He has worked diligently with the victims to either provide or connect them to the services they need in many

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5 held for kidney trade on social media: Rab

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Rab claimed to have arrested five members of a gang on charge of buying and selling kidneys using social media.

They were arrested from Dhaka's Bhatara, Banasree and Mirpur areas, said Lt Col Abdullah Al Momen, commanding officer of Rab-1.

The arrestees are: Shahidul Islam Mithu (49), "ringleader" of the gang; Mizanur Rahman (44); Al Mamun Mehedi (27); Saimun (28); and Rasel Hossain (24).

Briefing reporters at the Rab media centre, the CO said the gang has 15 to 20 members who carried out kidney trade in three groups.

One group used to communicate with patients – via pages on social media – and another sought out people from disadvantaged backgrounds as donors.

The third group had

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PRAYER TIMING
JULY 21
Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha
AZAN 4-15 12-45 5-00 6-54 8-15
JAMAAT 4-50 1-15 5-15 6-58 8-45

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

A small victory for a solo protest

Shohoz fined for irregularity after Mohiuddin Roni's complaint, 2-week-long protest

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Directorate of National Consumers Rights Protection (DNCRP) has fined e-ticketing platform Shohoz Tk 2 lakh for negligence in selling train e-tickets, more than a month after a complaint was filed by Dhaka University student Mohiuddin Howladar Roni.

The fine was imposed yesterday at a hearing – under the Consumer Rights Protection Act-2009 – on the complaint filed by Mohiuddin, DNCRP Director General AHM Shafiquzzaman said at a press briefing at his office. "Shohoz's negligence has been proved in the hearing. Shohoz has to pay the fine within the next five working days," he said.

The company has also been directed to submit a report on how they operate the e-ticketing system as DNCRP wants to review the whole e-ticketing process with support from technical experts. Mohiuddin will get 25 percent (Tk 50,000) of the amount.

Mohiuddin, a senior-year student of theatre and performance studies at Dhaka University, has been protesting alone in Kamalapur station against the irregularities in the railway for nearly two weeks now. He started his solo protest on July 7 after the authorities' inaction for three weeks since the filing of his complaint on June 14.

According to Mohiuddin's account, he made a payment on June 13 on shohoz.com to purchase four tickets of Silk City Express for travelling from Dhaka to Rajshahi. Although the amount was deducted from his bKash account, neither did he get a notification receipt nor the e-tickets afterwards.

The company has the provision to challenge the verdict in the next five working days, said Shafiquzzaman. Lawyer Mirza Ragib Hasnat, who is representing Shohoz, said they will challenge the verdict. Ragib claimed the complainant failed to produce enough evidence in support of his complaint.

Talking to reporters at the briefing, Mohiuddin



expressed his satisfaction with the verdict. "It was one of my six demands, I will continue my protest for the other five," he said. His other demands include the end of mismanagement in selling train tickets, stern action against irregularities, the end of black market purchases and ensuring the purchase of an equal number of tickets both online and offline.

Meanwhile, the High Court yesterday asked Deputy Attorney General AKM Amin Uddin Manik and ACC lawyer Khurshid Alam Khan to inquire about Mohiuddin's protest and inform what steps have been taken about the issue. Justice Md Nazrul Islam Talukder and Justice Khizir Hayat delivered the order following a photo of Mohiuddin and a caption about his movement published on The Daily Star.

DAG Amin Uddin Manik said he will talk to the ministry and inform the HC bench on the steps taken.

Meanwhile, train operation from Dhaka to other destinations was disrupted for three hours yesterday as students demonstrated at the airport rail station for not getting tickets. According to a BR official, the students withdrew their demonstration after rail authorities decided to run the Rajshahi-bound Silk City Express on July 24 to facilitate Rajshahi University admission test candidates.

10-TRUCK ARMS HAUL CASE

Final justice still in legal limbo

ASHUTOSH SARKAR

Final justice is still out of sight for the sensational 10-truck arms haul case, even though its death reference and appeals were registered with the High Court eight years back for hearing and disposal.

Even now, four separate benches of the court are dealing with matters of 2016.

The long delay took place as an HC bench refused to deal with the matters, and another assigned bench was reconstituted by the then chief justice, Supreme Court sources said.

However, Chief Justice Hasan Foez Siddique recently took an initiative to dispose of this case along with the death reference and appeals filed by 12 convicts with the HC bench of Justice Shahidul Karim and Justice Fatema Najib.

Yesterday, the bench fixed October 18 to start hearing of the death reference and appeals.

Deputy Attorney General Bashir Ahmed – who presents state's arguments before the HC bench, led by Shahidul Karim – told The Daily Star that a long period might be needed for final disposal, as many lawyers will place arguments before the court.

He could not say specifically how much time will be needed.

A huge quantity of arms and ammunition, reportedly meant for Indian separatist organisation Ulla, was captured at the Chittagong Urea Fertiliser Ltd jetty in Chattogram on April 2, 2004, when it was being loaded onto 10 trucks.

A smuggling case and an arms case were filed with Karnaphuli Police Station the following day.

On January 30, 2014, Chittagong Metropolitan Special Tribunal-1 handed down death penalty to 14 people, including former minister and Jamaat-e-Islami Ameer Motiur Rahman Nizami and former state minister for home Lutfozzaman Babar of BNP, for smuggling 10 truckloads of firearms.

The 14 convicts also received life imprisonment in another case filed for possessing illegal firearms.

Twelve of the convicts filed separate appeals with the HC in 2014.

Nizami was executed on May 11, 2016, after the SC upheld his death penalty for committing crimes against humanity during the country's Liberation War.

Contacted, Attorney General AM Amin Uddin said he has requested the chief justice to send the death reference and appeals of the arms haul and August 21

SEE PAGE 4 COL 5

Biman officials illegally recruited cadet pilots: ACC

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Biman's former CEO and managing director Abul Munim Mosaddique Ahmed and three others were involved in illegal recruitment of cadet pilots, according to investigators.

Misusing their powers, they had recruited 28 pilot cadets, including a nephew of Mosaddique, who failed tests.

ACC filed a case against Mosaddique, former flight operations director Farhat Hasan Jamil, principal of Biman Bangladesh Airlines Training Centre Partha Kumar Pandit and manager (recruitment) Fakhru Hossain Chowdhury on November 25, 2019.

ACC Secretary Mahbub Hossain yesterday said the commission approved the report.

ACC Assistant Director Saiful Islam, who investigated the case, told The Daily Star that he will soon submit the charge-sheet before court.

Biman officials gave "grace marks" and then manipulated viva exams to give the jobs to the failed cadets, the probe report said.

Biman published two circulars on September 18, 2018 and September 19, 2018 to recruit pilots for short- to medium-range Boeing 737s and Bombardier Dash-8s.

Population control a must

Speakers tell dialogue on making Dhaka liveable

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Controlling Dhaka's population density is a must to make it liveable as too many people work as obstacles to ensuring civic facilities, said speakers at a dialogue yesterday.

City Development Journalists Forum, Bangladesh (CDJFB) organised the dialogue on "Challenges and way forward in planning to develop the capital", held at Jatiya Press Club.

"In Dhaka, 40,000 people on average live in a square kilometre of area. It is very difficult to provide

necessary utilities for residents," said Dr Akter Mahmud, former president of Bangladesh Institute of Planners (BIP), who presented keynote papers at the event.

Addressing the dialogue as chief guest, Dhaka South City Corporation (DSCC) Mayor Sheikh Fazle Noor Taposh said, "If population density is not controlled, it will not be possible to save and modernise Dhaka."

The mayor said they have already taken initiatives to build a playground, secondary transfer station, kitchen market and community centre in every DSCC ward.

Md Ashrafur Islam, DAP project director, stressed the need to protect all Dhaka ponds and create more footpaths for pedestrians who make up over 40 percent of the city's daily trips.

BIP president Fazle Reza Sumon said as Rajuk is not taking strict measures to control development, many buildings are being constructed ignoring regulations.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 4

'Such acts will empower land grabbers'

Speakers urge govt to cancel forestland's allotment for training centre in Cox's Bazar

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Green activists, rights organisations and civil society members yesterday urged the government to cancel the allotment of a forestland for Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) in Cox's Bazar Khuniyapalong reserve forest.

They made the urge in a press conference held at Jatiya Press Club.

The government has removed the reserve status for 20 acres of forestland in Khuniyapalong forest in Cox's Bazar's Ramu, which is home to 50 Asian elephants categorised critically endangered by IUCN.

Syeda Rizwana Hasan, chief executive of Bangladesh Environmental Lawyers Association (BELA), said the reserve forest was allotted to the BFF technical centre disregarding reservations of the Forests Department.

"We would accept it had there not been any land for the technical centre. Opening a recreation centre in the name of training academies in Cox's Bazar's forestland has gone to the level of addiction," she said.

Rights activist Khushi Kabir said the allotment must be cancelled to prove that government cares about the future of the next generation.

"Allotting forestland for such purposes violates the law and constitution and sends a wrong message to the



Marking 101 years of Dhaka University, fine arts students of the institution painted this mural on the outer wall of TSC. It depicts the glorious movements of the country and the spirit of resistance. The photo was taken yesterday. PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

SEE PAGE 4 COL 5

USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

Position Vacancy Announcement

Position: Project Management Assistant (Budget), FSN - 09

The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) in Bangladesh is seeking applications from qualified Bangladeshi nationals for the position of **Project Management Assistant (Budget), FSN - 09** in the Economic Growth Office (EG).

Location: USAID/Bangladesh, Deadline for application submission: August 11, 2022.

For a complete job description, required qualifications and detailed information on how to apply please visit USAID/Bangladesh website: <http://www.usaid.gov/bangladesh/work-with-us/careers> and www.bdjobs.com

Death anniversary of Rebeca Walie

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Today is the 16th death anniversary of Rebeca Walie, wife of late ATM Walie Ashraf MP (Brahmanbaria 6), and founder editor of Janomot Newsweekly, London.



Rebeca played an important social role in London, fighting for the cause of the Liberation War.

In this regard, prayers and a milad will be held at her grave in Bancharampur, Brahmanbaria.

Families, friends and well-wishers are requested to pray for her departed soul.

US recognises

FROM PAGE 3
of these cases, according to the TIP report.

In 2017, he started the Bangladesh branch of UK-based non-government organisation Justice and Care, where he currently serves as country director.

Tariqul has also supported Bangladesh government's anti-trafficking efforts to achieve measurable progress in key areas.

In his reaction at the ceremony, Tariqul said it is an honour for him and others to be TIP heroes, who have been fighting the fight against human trafficking.

90 universities to meet potential freshmen

CITY DESK

Eduko International Education Summit 2022 is set to take place at The Westin Dhaka tomorrow.

The event, organised by Eduko Pathways Bangladesh and Universal College Bangladesh, will run from 10:00am to 5:00pm. Top-ranked universities, business and medical schools, and specialised colleges will meet prospective students and their families.

Each visiting student will get the chance to speak to counsellors one-on-one, discussing preferred subjects, tuition fees and scholarship options. The fair will bring representatives from more than 90 institutions of seven countries.

Population control

FROM PAGE 3

Rajuk Chairperson Aminul Islam Miah said they have already developed Purbachal, and around 400 building plans have been approved by them.

The dialogue was presided over by Amitosh Pal, president of CDJA, B and moderated by secretary Sohel Mamun.

Among others, Shahadat Hossain, general secretary of Institute of Engineers, Bangladesh; Nilima Akhtar, executive director of Dhaka Transport Coordination Authority; and Farhana Sharmin, general secretary of Institute of Architects, also addressed the programme.

It's unfair, unethical

FROM PAGE 5

memorandum of understanding of recruitment of Bangladeshi workers in December last year. However, labour-sending has not been started yet.

According to media reports, only 25 agencies are trying to send workers to the Southeast Asian country by creating a "syndicate".

Addressing the inaugural session of the workshop, Chunnu, also chairman of the parliamentary standing committee on labour ministry, said large number of workers could have been sent to Malaysia by now but the process was delayed due to uncertainty over the sending agencies as various interested groups are here.

He said he would have asked the expatriates' welfare minister reasons behind the selection of only 25 among about 1,000 to 1,200 valid recruiting agencies.

"We the responsible ones, the government, MPs and ministers are doing unfair instead of

fair, unethical instead of ethical," he added.

At the session, speakers stressed for ensuring ethical and fair recruitments of migrant workers.

BPCMD Chairperson Shameem Haider Patwary, ILO Bangladesh Deputy Country Director Gunjan Dallakoti, former director of Bureau of Manpower, Employment and Training Nurul Islam, and BPCMD Secretary General Mahjabeen Khaled, among others, spoke at the session.

Such acts

FROM PAGE 3

masses. When the government itself violates the law, it empowers land grabbers," said **F t e k h a r u z z a m a n**, executive director of TIB.

He also said one-third of the forestland in Cox's Bazar has already been grabbed and the liability falls on the government.

"The development which destroys the environment, forest and livelihood of people is not development at all," said Sharif Jamil, general secretary of Bapa.

Final justice

FROM PAGE 3

grenade attack cases to the HC for hearing.

"I hope that the matters will be heard and disposed of now," he added.

On January 8, 2019, the HC bench of Justice Bhabani Prasad (now retired) and Justice Md Kamrul Hossain Mollah dropped the death reference and appeals of the arms haul case from its hearing list and sent them to then chief justice Syed Mahmud Hossain for a decision.

Mahmud on January 10, 2019 assigned the bench of Justice Md Ruhul Quddus and Justice ASM Abdul Mobin to deal with the matter. But the bench was reconstituted before it started hearing, according to sources.

5 held

FROM PAGE 3

tests done in hospitals and diagnostic centres to determine whether the donors' organs were a match for the recipients.

During primary interrogation, the arrestees admitted that they used to take Tk 20-25 lakh from each kidney seeker. They promised each donor Tk 4-4.5 lakh and paid Tk 2 lakh in advance, they said.

Kidneys of more than 50 persons were traded by the gang, he said.

ডাউনটাইম নোটিশ

সম্মানিত গ্রাহকবৃন্দ

আপনাদের অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, সিস্টেম রক্ষণাবেক্ষণ কাজের কারণে যমুনা ব্যাংক এর ইন্টারনেট ব্যাংকিং, জাস্ট-সে, ডেবিট কার্ড এবং এটিএম সেবাসমূহ ২৯ জুলাই ২০২২ সন্ধ্যা ৬:০০ টা থেকে ২৪ জুলাই সকাল ৬:০০ টা পর্যন্ত বন্ধ থাকবে।

আপনাদের সাময়িক অসুবিধার জন্য আমরা আন্তরিকভাবে দুঃখিত।

JAMUNA BANK

Invitation to submit proposals for two (2) Request for Proposals (RFPs) issued by UNICEF Bangladesh

- RFP No. LRPS-9176517:** To develop Knowledge Management for Emergency Nutrition Information System.
- RFP No. LRPS-9176599:** Development a divisional level costed action plan to implement the national Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) Strategy, 2021.

UNICEF-Bangladesh is inviting interested companies with a strong track record and professional credibility of providing the above-required services under one contract. To receive the detailed scope of work and procedure to submit the bid response, please email to "supplybangladesh@unicef.org"

The deadline to submit the proposal is **Wednesday, 10 August 2022; Time: 11:00 Hrs.**

Please note UNICEF does not charge any fee at any stage of the solicitation process.

www.unicef.org/bd

unicef for every child

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Executive Engineer
Roads and Highways Department
Road Safety Division
Sarak Bhaban, Tejgaon, Dhaka.
E-mail: eers@rhd.gov.bd

Record Number: 35.01.0000.394.17.01.22-187

Date: 20/07/2022

e-Tender Notice

Following e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of "Foundation, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of Optical Fiber Network (RHD Head Quarter-Jatrabari-Padma Bridge on N8) and Field Devices (Jatrabari-Padma Bridge) on Dhaka (Jatrabari)-Mawa-Bhanga-Barishal-Patuakhali Road with establishment of Traffic Center at RHD Headquarter under Road Safety Division during the financial Year 2022-2023 (Package No-PW-01)"

Sl No	Tender/ Proposal ID, Reference no	Description	Field name	Date & Time
1.	Tender ID-716306 E-gp- 01/EE/RSD/ 2022-2023	Foundation, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of Optical Fiber Network (RHD Head Quarter-Jatrabari-Padma Bridge on N8) and Field Devices (Jatrabari-Padma Bridge) on Dhaka (Jatrabari)-Mawa-Bhanga-Barishal-Patuakhali Road with establishment of Traffic Center at RHD Headquarter under Road Safety Division during the financial Year 2022-2023 (Package No-PW-01)	Tender/Proposal Document last selling Date & time	21/08/2022 11:00
			Tender/Proposal security Submission. Date & Time	21/08/2022 15:00
			Tender/Proposal Closing. Date & Time	21/08/2022 16:00
			Tender/Proposal Opening. Date & Time	21/08/2022 16:00

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 (<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 within mentioned time in Tender Notice. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and From e-GP help desk. (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd)

(Faizulhaq Warda)
ID No-602283
Executive Engineer, (C.C) RHD
Road Safety Division
Sarak Bhaban, Tejgaon, Dhaka.
And
Project Manager

GD-1409

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Office of the Executive Engineer
PWD E/M Wood Workshop Division, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka
Phone & Fax: 88-02-55028813
Website: www.pwd.gov.bd



Memo No. 25.36.2680.534.14.170.22-109

Date: 20/07/2022

e-Tender Notice

This is to notify all concern that the following tenders are invited in the National e-GP Portal:

Sl. No.	Tender ID No.	LTM/OTM	Last selling date	Opening date
01	717855	OTM	03/08/2022	03/08/2022
02	717851	OTM	03/08/2022	03/08/2022
03	717898	OTM	01/08/2022	01/08/2022
04	717852	OTM	31/07/2022	31/07/2022
05	717792	OTM	31/07/2022	31/07/2022
06	717791	OTM	31/07/2022	31/07/2022
07	717776	OTM	31/07/2022	31/07/2022
08	717649	OTM	31/07/2022	31/07/2022
09	716188	OTM	02/08/2022	02/08/2022

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

Md. Shahjodul Islam
Executive Engineer
PWD E/M Wood Workshop Division
Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka
Email: ee_wood@pwd.gov.bd

GD-1408

সিভিল এভিয়েশন স্কুল এন্ড কলেজ

কুমিল্লা-কাওলা, ঢাকা-১২২৯

সূত্র: সিএই/কুমি/

তারিখ: ১৯/০৭/২০২২ইং

নিয়োগ বিজ্ঞপ্তি

সিভিল এভিয়েশন স্কুল এন্ড কলেজ, কুমিল্লা-কাওলা, ঢাকা-১২২৯ এ প্রতিষ্ঠানের নিম্ন অর্ধাবধি অস্থায়ী ভিত্তিতে নিম্নলিখিত পদে শিক্ষক, কর্মচারী নিয়োগ করা হবে। বাংলাদেশের প্রকৃত নাগরিক (পুরুষ/মহিলা)-এর মিলিত থেকে নিম্নলিখিত আবেদন করা যাবে। মোবাইল নম্বর উল্লেখপূর্বক শিক্ষণত যোগ্যতার সকল সনদ, জাতীয় পরিচয়পত্র ও অভিজ্ঞতা সনদের (যদি থাকে) সত্যায়িত কপি, সম্মত ডেটা ০২(দুই) কপি পাশপোর্ট আকারের, ০১(এক) কপি স্ট্যাম্প আকারের বর্তমান ছবি (মোবাইল নামে) এবং "স্বাক্ষর, সিভিল এভিয়েশন স্কুল এন্ড কলেজ, কুমিল্লা-কাওলা, ঢাকা-১২২৯" এর অনুলিপি প্রত্যেক পদের জন্য ৮০০/- (আটশত), সহকারী শিক্ষক ও সহকারী হিসাবরক্ষণ কর্মচারী পদের জন্য ৫০০/- (পাঁচশত) এবং মাসী ও ৪র্থ শ্রেণীর কর্মচারী পদের জন্য ৪০০/- (চারশত) টাকার "পে-অর্ডার" ও জীবন বৃত্তান্তসহ আবেদনপত্র আগামী ০২/০৮/২০২২ইং তারিখের মধ্যে পৌঁছাতে হবে।

পদের নাম ও সংখ্যা	শিক্ষণত যোগ্যতা (মুদ্রিত)	বেতন গ্রেড ও ফেস
প্রভাষক/ বাংলা- ০১	শীতক নির্ধারিত হতে স্নাতক স্নাতক বিধায়ক ২য় শ্রেণির স্নাতকোত্তর ডিগ্রি অথবা	গ্রেড-৯ ফেস- টাকা ২১০০০ - ৫৩০০০ শিক্ষানবিশকালীন এক বছর সর্বস্বত্বোপে ২৫,০০০/- টাকা প্রদান করা হবে এবং শিক্ষানবিশকাল সন্তোষজনক মূল্যায়ন সাপেক্ষে ফেসে বেতন প্রাপ্য হবে।
ইংরেজি-০২	শীতক নির্ধারিত হতে স্নাতক স্নাতক বিধায়ক ৪ বছর মেয়াদি ২য় শ্রেণি/সমন্বিত স্নাতক (সমন্বিত) ডিগ্রি।	গ্রেড-১০ ফেস- টাকা ১৬০০০ - ৩৮০০০ শিক্ষানবিশকালীন এক বছর সর্বস্বত্বোপে ১৮,০০০/- টাকা প্রদান করা হবে এবং শিক্ষানবিশকাল সন্তোষজনক মূল্যায়ন সাপেক্ষে ফেসে বেতন প্রাপ্য হবে।
পদার্থ বিজ্ঞান- ০২	শীতক নির্ধারিত হতে স্নাতক স্নাতক বিধায়ক ৪ বছর মেয়াদি ২য় শ্রেণি/সমন্বিত স্নাতক (সমন্বিত) ডিগ্রি।	গ্রেড-১০ ফেস- টাকা ১৬০০০ - ৩৮০০০ শিক্ষানবিশকালীন এক বছর সর্বস্বত্বোপে ১৮,০০০/- টাকা প্রদান করা হবে এবং শিক্ষানবিশকাল সন্তোষজনক মূল্যায়ন সাপেক্ষে ফেসে বেতন প্রাপ্য হবে।
রাসায়ন- ০২	শীতক নির্ধারিত হতে স্নাতক স্নাতক বিধায়ক ৪ বছর মেয়াদি ২য় শ্রেণি/সমন্বিত স্নাতক (সমন্বিত) ডিগ্রি।	গ্রেড-১০ ফেস- টাকা ১৬০০০ - ৩৮০০০ শিক্ষানবিশকালীন এক বছর সর্বস্বত্বোপে ১৮,০০০/- টাকা প্রদান করা হবে এবং শিক্ষানবিশকাল সন্তোষজনক মূল্যায়ন সাপেক্ষে ফেসে বেতন প্রাপ্য হবে।
গণিত- ০২	শীতক নির্ধারিত হতে স্নাতক স্নাতক বিধায়ক ৪ বছর মেয়াদি ২য় শ্রেণি/সমন্বিত স্নাতক (সমন্বিত) ডিগ্রি।	গ্রেড-১০ ফেস- টাকা ১৬০০০ - ৩৮০০০ শিক্ষানবিশকালীন এক বছর সর্বস্বত্বোপে ১৮,০০০/- টাকা প্রদান করা হবে এবং শিক্ষানবিশকাল সন্তোষজনক মূল্যায়ন সাপেক্ষে ফেসে বেতন প্রাপ্য হবে।
উদ্ভিদ বিদ্যা- ০২	শীতক নির্ধারিত হতে স্নাতক স্নাতক বিধায়ক ৪ বছর মেয়াদি ২য় শ্রেণি/সমন্বিত স্নাতক (সমন্বিত) ডিগ্রি।	গ্রেড-১০ ফেস- টাকা ১৬০০০ - ৩৮০০০ শিক্ষানবিশকালীন এক বছর সর্বস্বত্বোপে ১৮,০০০/- টাকা প্রদান করা হবে এবং শিক্ষানবিশকাল সন্তোষজনক মূল্যায়ন সাপেক্ষে ফেসে বেতন প্রাপ্য হবে।
ফিন্যান্স ও ব্যাংকিং- ০২	শীতক নির্ধারিত হতে স্নাতক স্নাতক বিধায়ক ৪ বছর মেয়াদি ২য় শ্রেণি/সমন্বিত স্নাতক (সমন্বিত) ডিগ্রি।	গ্রেড-১০ ফেস- টাকা ১৬০০০ - ৩৮০০০ শিক্ষানবিশকালীন এক বছর সর্বস্বত্বোপে ১৮,০০০/- টাকা প্রদান করা হবে এবং শিক্ষানবিশকাল সন্তোষজনক মূল্যায়ন সাপেক্ষে ফেসে বেতন প্রাপ্য হবে।
হিসাব বিজ্ঞান- ০২	শীতক নির্ধারিত হতে স্নাতক স্নাতক বিধায়ক ৪ বছর মেয়াদি ২য় শ্রেণি/সমন্বিত স্নাতক (সমন্বিত) ডিগ্রি।	গ্রেড-১০ ফেস- টাকা ১৬০০০ - ৩৮০০০ শিক্ষানবিশকালীন এক বছর সর্বস্বত্বোপে ১৮,০০০/- টাকা প্রদান করা হবে এবং শিক্ষানবিশকাল সন্তোষজনক মূল্যায়ন সাপেক্ষে ফেসে বেতন প্রাপ্য হবে।
উৎপাদন ব্যবস্থাপনা ও বিপণন - ০২	শীতক নির্ধারিত হতে স্নাতক স্নাতক বিধায়ক ৪ বছর মেয়াদি ২য় শ্রেণি/সমন্বিত স্নাতক (সমন্বিত) ডিগ্রি।	গ্রেড-১০ ফেস- টাকা ১৬০০০ - ৩৮০০০ শিক্ষানবিশকালীন এক বছর সর্বস্বত্বোপে ১৮,০০০/- টাকা প্রদান করা হবে এবং শিক্ষানবিশকাল সন্তোষজনক মূল্যায়ন সাপেক্ষে ফেসে বেতন প্রাপ্য হবে।
ব্যবসা সংগঠন ও ব্যবস্থাপনা- ০২	শীতক নির্ধারিত হতে স্নাতক স্নাতক বিধায়ক ৪ বছর মেয়াদি ২য় শ্রেণি/সমন্বিত স্নাতক (সমন্বিত) ডিগ্রি।	গ্রেড-১০ ফেস- টাকা ১৬০০০ - ৩৮০০০ শিক্ষানবিশকালীন এক বছর সর্বস্বত্বোপে ১৮,০০০/- টাকা প্রদান করা হবে এবং শিক্ষানবিশকাল সন্তোষজনক মূল্যায়ন সাপেক্ষে ফেসে বেতন প্রাপ্য হবে।
প্রশাসক/ পদার্থ বিজ্ঞান- ০১	শীতক নির্ধারিত হতে স্নাতক স্নাতক বিধায়ক ২য় শ্রেণির স্নাতক ডিগ্রি/ সমমান।	গ্রেড-১০ ফেস- টাকা ১৬০০০ - ৩৮০০০ শিক্ষানবিশকালীন এক বছর সর্বস্বত্বোপে ১৮,০০০/- টাকা প্রদান করা হবে এবং শিক্ষানবিশকাল সন্তোষজনক মূল্যায়ন সাপেক্ষে ফেসে বেতন প্রাপ্য হবে।
অধ্যক্ষ/যোগাযোগ প্রযুক্তি- ০২	শীতক নির্ধারিত হতে স্নাতক স্নাতক বিধায়ক ২য় শ্রেণির স্নাতক ডিগ্রি/ সমমান।	গ্রেড-১০ ফেস- টাকা ১৬০০০ - ৩৮০০০ শিক্ষানবিশকালীন এক বছর সর্বস্বত্বোপে ১৮,০০০/- টাকা প্রদান করা হবে এবং শিক্ষানবিশকাল সন্তোষজনক মূল্যায়ন সাপেক্ষে ফেসে বেতন প্রাপ্য হবে।
উদ্ভিদ/প্রাণিবিজ্ঞান - ০১	শীতক নির্ধারিত হতে স্নাতক স্নাতক বিধায়ক ২য় শ্রেণির স্নাতক ডিগ্রি/ সমমান।	গ্রেড-১০ ফেস- টাকা ১৬০০০ - ৩৮০০০ শিক্ষানবিশকালীন এক বছর সর্বস্বত্বোপে ১৮,০০০/- টাকা প্রদান করা হবে এবং শিক্ষানবিশকাল সন্তোষজনক মূল্যায়ন সাপেক্ষে ফেসে বেতন প্রাপ্য হবে।
সহকারী শিক্ষক/ শারীরিক শিক্ষা (মহিলা) - ০১	শীতক নির্ধারিত হতে স্নাতক স্নাতক বিধায়ক ২য় শ্রেণির স্নাতক ডিগ্রি/ সমমান।	গ্রেড-১০ ফেস- টাকা ১৬০০০ - ৩৮০০০ শিক্ষানবিশকালীন এক বছর সর্বস্বত্বোপে ১৮,০০০/- টাকা প্রদান করা হবে এবং শিক্ষানবিশকাল সন্তোষজনক মূল্যায়ন সাপেক্ষে ফেসে বেতন প্রাপ্য হবে।
শারীরিক শিক্ষা (পুরুষ) - ০১	শীতক নির্ধারিত হতে স্নাতক স্নাতক বিধায়ক ২য় শ্রেণির স্নাতক ডিগ্রি/ সমমান।	গ্রেড-১০ ফেস- টাকা ১৬০০০ - ৩৮০০০ শিক্ষানবিশকালীন এক বছর সর্বস্বত্বোপে ১৮,০০০/- টাকা প্রদান করা হবে এবং শিক্ষানবিশকাল সন্তোষজনক মূল্যায়ন সাপেক্ষে ফেসে বেতন প্রাপ্য হবে।
সহকারী শিক্ষক/ মায়ামিক শাখা (গণিত/বিজ্ঞান) - ০২	শীতক নির্ধারিত হতে স্নাতক স্নাতক বিধায়ক ২য় শ্রেণির স্নাতক ডিগ্রি/ সমমান।	গ্রেড-১০ ফেস- টাকা ১৬০০০ - ৩৮০০০ শিক্ষানবিশকালীন এক বছর সর্বস্বত্বোপে ১৮,০০০/- টাকা প্রদান করা হবে এবং শিক্ষানবিশকাল সন্তোষজনক মূল্যায়ন সাপেক্ষে ফেসে বেতন প্রাপ্য হবে।
সহকারী শিক্ষক/ শারীরিক শিক্ষা (মহিলা) - ০১	শীতক নির্ধারিত হতে স্নাতক স্নাতক বিধায়ক ২য় শ্রেণির স্নাতক ডিগ্রি/ সমমান।	গ্রেড-১০ ফেস- টাকা ১৬০০০ - ৩৮০০০ শিক্ষানবিশকালীন এক বছর সর্বস্বত্বোপে ১৮,০০০/- টাকা প্রদান করা হবে এবং শিক্ষানবিশকাল সন্তোষজনক মূল্যায়ন সাপেক্ষে ফেসে বেতন প্রাপ্য হবে।
শারীরিক শিক্ষা (পুরুষ) - ০১	শীতক নির্ধারিত হতে স্নাতক স্নাতক বিধায়ক ২য় শ্রেণির স্নাতক ডিগ্রি/ সমমান।	গ্রেড-১০ ফেস- টাকা ১৬০০০ - ৩৮০০০ শিক্ষানবিশকালীন এক বছর সর্বস্বত্বোপে ১৮,০০০/- টাকা প্রদান করা হবে এবং শিক্ষানবিশকাল সন্তোষজনক মূল্যায়ন সাপেক্ষে ফেসে বেতন প্রাপ্য হবে।
সহকারী শিক্ষক/ রেল ও কারকলা (মহিলা) - ০১	শীতক নির্ধারিত হতে স্নাতক স্নাতক বিধায়ক ২য় শ্রেণির স্নাতক ডিগ্রি/ সমমান।	গ্রেড-১০ ফেস- টাকা ১৬০০০ - ৩৮০০০ শিক্ষানবিশকালীন এক বছর সর্বস্বত্বোপে ১৮,০০০/- টাকা প্রদান করা হবে এবং শিক্ষানবিশকাল সন্তোষজনক মূল্যায়ন সাপেক্ষে ফেসে বেতন প্রাপ্য হবে।
শারীরিক শিক্ষা (পুরুষ) - ০১	শীতক নির্ধারিত হতে স্নাতক স্নাতক বিধায়ক ২য় শ্রেণির স্নাতক ডিগ্রি/ সমমান।	গ্রেড-১০ ফেস- টাকা ১৬০০০ - ৩৮০০০ শিক্ষানবিশকালীন এক বছর সর্বস্বত্বোপে ১৮,০০০/- টাকা প্রদান করা হবে এবং শিক্ষানবিশকাল সন্তোষজনক মূল্যায়ন সাপেক্ষে ফেসে বেতন প্রাপ্য হবে।
সহকারী শিক্ষক/ ইসলাম ও নৈতিক শিক্ষা- ০১	শীতক নির্ধারিত হতে স্নাতক স্নাতক বিধায়ক ২য় শ্রেণির স্নাতক ডিগ্রি/ সমমান।	গ্রেড-১০ ফেস- টাকা ১৬০০০ - ৩৮০০০ শিক্ষানবিশকালীন এক বছর সর্বস্বত্বোপে ১৮,০০০/- টাকা প্রদান করা হবে এবং শিক্ষানবিশকাল সন্তোষজনক মূল্যায়ন সাপেক্ষে ফেসে বেতন প্রাপ্য হবে।
সহকারী শিক্ষক/ ইংরেজি ভাষা/১	শীতক নির্ধারিত হতে স্নাতক স্নাতক বিধায়ক ২য় শ্রেণির স্নাতক ডিগ্রি/ সমমান।	গ্রেড-১০ ফেস- টাকা ১৬০০০ - ৩৮০০০ শিক্ষানবিশকালীন এক বছর সর্বস্বত্বোপে ১৮,০০০/- টাকা প্রদান করা হবে এবং শিক্ষানবিশকাল সন্তোষজনক মূল্যায়ন সাপেক্ষে ফেসে বেতন প্রাপ্য হবে।
প্রাথমিক শাখা (বাংলা/ইংরেজি/গণিত)-০২	শীতক নির্ধারিত হতে স্নাতক স্নাতক বিধায়ক ২য় শ্রেণির স্নাতক ডিগ্রি/ সমমান।	গ্রেড-১০ ফেস- টাকা ১৬০০০ - ৩৮০০০ শিক্ষানবিশকালীন এক বছর সর্বস্বত্বোপে ১৮,০০০/- টাকা প্রদান করা হবে এবং শিক্ষানবিশকাল সন্তোষজনক মূল্যায়ন সাপেক্ষে ফেসে বেতন প্রাপ্য হবে।
সহকারী শিক্ষক (বাংলা ভাষা)	শীতক নির্ধারিত হতে স্নাতক স্নাতক বিধায়ক ২য় শ্রেণির স্নাতক ডিগ্রি/ সমমান।	গ্রেড-১০ ফেস- টাকা ১৬০০০ - ৩৮০০০ শিক্ষানবিশকালীন এক বছর সর্বস্বত্বোপে ১৮,০০০/- টাকা প্রদান করা হবে এবং শিক্ষানবিশকাল সন্তোষজনক মূল্যায়ন সাপেক্ষে ফেসে বেতন প্রাপ্য হবে।
প্রাথমিক শাখা (বাংলা/ইংরে		

Cops dilly-dallying with arrests

Allege victims of Narail mayhem

DIPANKAR ROY

Many attackers of the Narail mayhem have already been identified through video footage. They are still roaming around the village but police did not arrest them, alleged the victims.

At least 11 homes, five temples and dozens of shops were vandalised or burnt down in Narail's Sahapara on July 15. The attacks were carried out by mobs on the grounds of "hurting religious sentiments" due to a Facebook post allegedly made by a Hindu youth from the neighbourhood.

Later, police filed a case accusing some 200 to 250 unnamed attackers but could only arrest eight of them till yesterday.

This correspondent yesterday talked to over a dozen victims whose houses and shops were vandalised or torched. They expressed frustration over police's role in arresting the attackers.

"We have provided multiple videos of the violence. Many attackers can clearly be identified. They are still in the village but police have not arrested them," said a victim whose house was vandalised.

"Some attackers are now coming to our village in disguise of sympathisers with different organisations. Their faces are clear in the videos," said another victim, requesting anonymity.

"Some policemen were also present during the attack and even saw the attackers," said an anonymous Sahapara youth. Meanwhile, many of the Hindus, who fled the areas after the mayhem, have started returning home.

"But people of the community are still scared of another attack due to many attackers not being arrested," said Barun Kumar Saha, a local schoolteacher.

Amid their frustration, villagers are arranging meals for the law enforcers deployed in the village for ensuring security for Sahapara's Hindus.

"As part of our hospitality, we are providing food to law enforcers for their efforts," said Shibnath Saha, one of the arrangers, whose house also came under attack.

Contacted, Lohagara police station OC SK Abu Hena Milon said, "We are conducting drives to arrest the accused who are on the run."

We have provided multiple videos of the violence. Many attackers can clearly be identified. They are still in the village but police have not arrested them.

Anonymous victim
Whose house was vandalised



The relief from sweltering heat was short lived in Chattogram, as 153 mm rain was enough to inundate the city. Vehicular movement came to a standstill and few rickshaws were seen on roads. In many places, office-goers and students had to wade through knee-to-waist-deep water to reach their destinations. This photo was taken in Chawkbazar area yesterday.

PHOTO: RAJIB RAIHAN



Death toll 5

Total number of patients 1,910

244 still undergoing treatment

Number of recovered patients 1,661

70 more hospitalised yesterday

SOURCE: DGHS

It's unfair, unethical

Says Chunnu on allowing selected recruiting agencies to send migrant workers to Malaysia

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Allowing selected number of recruiting agencies to send migrant workers to Malaysia is not "fair and ethical", Jatiya Party Secretary General Mujibul Haque Chunnu said yesterday.

Recruiting agencies get license from the government maintaining due procedure and they also pay fee to the government for sending workers abroad, Chunnu said, addressing an event at a city hotel.

"Then why only few selected agencies will send workers," he added.

Warbe Development Foundation organised the day-long workshop on "Fair and Ethical Recruitment: National and International Instrument Perspective", attended by different stakeholders including lawmakers and members of Bangladesh Parliamentarians' Caucus on Migration and Development (BPCMD).

Bangladesh and Malaysia signed a

SEE PAGE 4 COL 4

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Divisional Passport & Visa Office

E-7 Agargaon, Dhaka-1207
www.dip.gov.bd

Invitation for Enlistment

Sl. No.	Description	Detail
1.	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Home Affairs (MOHA), Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
2.	Agency	Department of Immigration & Passports (DIP)
3.	Procuring Entity Name	Divisional Passport & Visa Office, Agargaon, Dhaka.
4.	Procuring Entity Code	N/A
5.	Procuring Entity District	Dhaka, Bangladesh
6.	Invitation for	Enlistment of Firm for the supply of Furniture, Electronics, stationary items & goods, Stamp & Seals and related service.
7.	Invitation Ref No.	58.DI.00000.601.74.001.20-1244
8.	Date	20/07/2022
KEY INFORMATION		
9.	Procurement Method	Limited Tendering Method/ Request For Quotation
FUNDING INFORMATION		
10.	Budget and Source of Funds	Government of Bangladesh (GOB)
11.	Development Partners	None
PARTICULAR INFORMATION		
12.	Office Code	N/A
13.	Office Name	Divisional Passport & Visa Office, Agargaon, Dhaka.
14.	Application Closing Date and Time	16/08/2022 at 01:00 pm (BST)
15.	Name & Address	
Application Form Availability		
MD. YOUSUF, Assistant Director, Divisional Passport & Visa Office, Agargaon, Dhaka, Room No-603. Telephone No- 02-58156425		
Receiving Application Form		
MD. MONIRUZZAMAN, Assistant Director, Room No-606, Divisional Passport & Visa Office, Agargaon, Dhaka. Telephone No- 02-58156425		
INFORMATION FOR APPLICATION		
16.	Eligibility of Application	a) Vat Registration and TIN Certificate of the Suppliers. b) Up-to-date Trade License of Local Agent from City Corporation. c) Proprietorship/Partnership/Limited Company ie. Concerned Commercial Documents (Photocopy) of the Tenders. d) Money Receipt of purchase of Tender Documents. e) Proof of Solvency. f) Must confirm that has legal Capacity to enter into a contract under the authority with valid Power of Attorney. g) At least 3 years' experience certificate for the supply of similar goods and related service.
17.	Brief Description of Goods or Works	a) Supply of Stationary items, b) Supply of office furniture. c) Supply of AC (Air Conditioner)/ Electronics goods and miscellaneous items.
18.	Brief Description of Related or Physical Services	N/A
19.	Price of Application Form	2000.00 BDT
PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS		
20.	Name of Official Inviting Application	Director
21.	Designation of Official Inviting Application	Director
22.	Address of Official Inviting Application	Director, Divisional Passport & Visa Office, Agargaon, Dhaka.
23.	Contact details of Official Inviting Application	Telephone No-02-58156425.
The procuring entity reserves the right to reject any or all the Tenders without assigning any reason.		

(Md. Yousuf)
Assistant Director
For Director

GD-1406

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office the Executive Engineer
Education Engineering Department
Netrokona

Memo No. 37.07.7200.008.07.002(04).22-2147 Date: 20/07/2022

e-Tender Notice No. 04/2022-2023

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

Sl. No.	Package No.	Name of works	Tendering method	Tender ID	Last date and time of selling documents	Tender closing date/time	Tender opening date/time
1	Haor26	Construction of 5 Storied 50 Beded Girls Hostel Building with 5 Storied Foundation including Sanitary Water Supply and Electrification Works at Ikaratia Anowera Abdul Aziz Talukder Memorial Girls High School Under Alpara Upazila Netrokona District.	OTM	718501	17/08/2022 15:00	21/08/2022 13:00	21/08/2022 13:00
2	Haor27	Construction of 5 Storied 50 Beded Boys Hostel Building with 5 Storied Foundation including Sanitary Water Supply and Electrification Works at Kutubpur Public High School Under Khalajuri Upazila Netrokona District.	OTM	718502	17/08/2022 15:00	21/08/2022 13:00	21/08/2022 13:00
3	Haor28	Construction of 5 Storied 50 Beded Girls Hostel Building with 5 Storied Foundation including Sanitary Water Supply and Electrification Works at Kutubpur Public High School Under Khalajuri Upazila Netrokona District.	OTM	718503	17/08/2022 15:00	21/08/2022 13:00	21/08/2022 13:00

This is an online tender where only e-Tender will be acceptable in the National e-GP System Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).
The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tender(s) without assigning any reason whatsoever.

Monzurul Alam Sharif
Executive Engineer
Education Engineering Department
Netrokona
E-mail: ee_net@eednoe.gov.bd

GD-1405

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার
বিভাগীয় বন কর্মকর্তার কার্যালয়
বান্দরবান বন বিভাগ
বান্দরবান।

২০২২-২০২৩ আর্থিক সালের জন্মকৃত/অড়ুপড়া/বিভাগীয় পর্যায়ে আহরিত/জিন্মায় রক্ষিত
বিভাগীয় বন কর্মকর্তার কার্যালয়

একমাত্র সর্বস্বত্বাধারের অবশিষ্ট ঘনা জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, ২০২২-২০২৩ আর্থিক সালে বান্দরবান বন বিভাগ, বান্দরবান এর অধীন বিভিন্ন সেক্টর/ডেক টেনসের জন্মকৃত/অড়ুপড়া/বিভাগীয় পর্যায়ে আহরিত/জিন্মায় রক্ষিত বিভাগীয় বন কর্মকর্তার কার্যালয় নিম্নের সিডিএল মোতাবেক প্রকৃত কঠ ব্যবসায়ী/সেবাদারের নিকট হতে সীলবদ্ধ স্বাধীন মরপত্র/প্রকাশ্য নিলাম প্রক্রিয়া আবেদন করা যাচ্ছে। মরপত্র/প্রকাশ্য নিলামের পূর্বে 'খ' ও 'গ' সেক্টর/স্টেশনের শটসমূহ সরেজমিনে দেখার জন্য অনুরোধ করা হলো। মরপত্র দাখিল/প্রকাশ্য নিলামের পর বন কর্মকর্তা বা সেখান কর্মকর্তাকে কোন প্রকার গুহা আওতা প্রদান করা হবে না। পরিপার্শ্বিক অবস্থার সন্ধিক্ষেত্রে যে কোন সময় বিভাগীয় বন কর্মকর্তা মরপত্র/নিলাম গ্রহণ, সময় ও তারিখ পরিবর্তন করতে পারবেন। মরপত্র/নিলামের পর্যালোচনা ও লট সম্পর্কীয় যাবতীয় আবেদন বিষয়কী বিভাগীয় বন কর্মকর্তার নিকট ও 'খ' ও 'গ' সেক্টর অফিস হতে অফিস চলাকালীন সময়ে লেখিত ও জাণিয়ে সেওয়ার জন্য জরুরী প্রেক্ষা মরপত্র/নিলামে অংশগ্রহণকারীদেরকে অনুরোধ করা হলো।

নিলাম মরপত্র বিক্রয় নং- ০১/অব ২০২২-২০২৩ তারিখ : ০৭/০৭/২০২২ খ্রি।

ক্রমিক নং	নিলাম আহরিতের তারিখ ও সময়	নিলামের সিডিএল সংগ্রহের তারিখ ও স্থান	মরপত্র গ্রহণের স্থান	মরপত্র খোলার তারিখ, সময় ও স্থান	বন কর্মকর্তার অবস্থান
১।	২১/১০/২০২২ খ্রি। সকাল ১০.০০টা হতে বেলা ০১.০০ টা পর্যন্ত।	১৪/১০/২০২২ খ্রি। হতে ২০/১০/২০২২ খ্রি। পর্যন্ত।	১.জেলা প্রশাসকের কার্যালয়, বান্দরবান পার্বত্য জেলা। ২.পুলিশ সুপারের কার্যালয়, বান্দরবান পার্বত্য জেলা।	২১/১০/২০২২ খ্রি। তারিখ বিকাল ৪.০০ ঘটিকা।	অত্র বন বিভাগের সদর, বেতহাটা, সেকু, টেকোকাটা, খায়ারুল, পাইলু, জলা, খানসি সেক্টর কার্যালয় ও সুজলক ডেক টেনস কার্যালয় গ্রহণ এবং বিভিন্ন সিডিএল/তারিখের মোতাবেক।
২।	১৮/০১/২০২৩ খ্রি। সকাল ১০.০০টা হতে বেলা ০১.০০ টা পর্যন্ত।	১২/০১/২০২৩ খ্রি। হতে ১৭/০১/২০২৩ খ্রি। পর্যন্ত।	৩.বিভাগীয় বন কর্মকর্তার কার্যালয়, বান্দরবান বন বিভাগ, বান্দরবান এর কার্যালয়।	১৭/০১/২০২৩ খ্রি। তারিখ বিকাল ৪.০০ ঘটিকা।	অত্র বন বিভাগের সদর, বেতহাটা, সেকু, টেকোকাটা, খায়ারুল, পাইলু, জলা, খানসি সেক্টর কার্যালয় ও সুজলক ডেক টেনস এর কার্যালয় সিডিএল/তারিখের মোতাবেক।

প্রকাশ্য নিলাম বিক্রয় নং- ০২/২০২২-২০২৩ তারিখ: ০৭/০৭/২০২২ খ্রি।

ক্রমিক নং	নিলাম আহরিতের তারিখ	সময়	স্থান	নিলামের অবস্থান	সময়
১।	১১/০৮/২০২৩ খ্রি।	সকাল ১১.০০ টা হতে ০২ ঘণ্টা শেষ হওয়া পর্যন্ত।	স্থান ১- বিভাগীয় বন কর্মকর্তার কার্যালয়, বান্দরবান বন বিভাগ, বান্দরবান এর কার্যালয় গ্রহণ।	অত্র বন বিভাগের সদর, বেতহাটা, সেকু, টেকোকাটা, খায়ারুল, পাইলু, জলা, খানসি সেক্টর কার্যালয় ও সুজলক ডেক টেনস এর কার্যালয় সিডিএল/তারিখের মোতাবেক।	বন কর্মকর্তার নিকট ০১ ঘণ্টা সময় পর্যন্ত। সিডিএল/তারিখের মোতাবেক।

(বন কর্মকর্তার কার্যালয়)
বিভাগীয় বন কর্মকর্তা
বান্দরবান বন বিভাগ, বান্দরবান।
ফোন: ০২৩৩৩৩০২০১০

GD-1401



SOUTHEAST UNIVERSITY

Meeting the Challenges of Time

Permanent Campus: 251/A & 252, Tejgaon I/A, Dhaka-1208, Bangladesh
Tel: 55034192, 55034135, 55034125-28, 8878502, 8878497, 8870474-76
Fax: 880-2-55034109, Web: www.seu.edu.bd, E-mail: info@seu.edu.bd

Congratulations GRADUATES



بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

President
People's Republic of Bangladesh
& Chancellor

Message

It gives me immense pleasure to learn that Southeast University is going to hold its 7th Convocation. On this happy occasion, I extend my warm felicitations to the graduating students, guardians, faculty members and university authority.

Bangladesh with her enormous development potential is in need of high skilled and well-informed human resources to materialize the targets of Vision-2041. The government has initiated development programs and strategies to enhance the quality of higher education so that it can cope with continuous demand for national and global competitiveness. I hope Southeast University will maintain a high standard in its academic undertakings and produce a pool of skilled and quality graduates who will contribute to the development of our nation.

Convocation is an important ritual to acknowledge the academic success of graduating students. This is an event which recognizes their hard work, perseverance and dedication. I hope the graduates will make the proper use of their hard earned knowledge to achieve competency in their respective fields of studies and build a happy and prosperous Bangladesh. I wish them a bright future.

I wish the 7th Convocation of Southeast University a grand success.

Khoda Hafez, May Bangladesh Live Forever.

Md. Abdul Hamid

Md. Abdul Hamid



Minister
Ministry of Education
Govt. of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Message

I am delighted that Southeast University (SEU) is holding its 7th Convocation Ceremony. I would like to extend my heartfelt congratulations to the graduating students, their proud parents, teachers and the university authority on this auspicious occasion.

It gives me immense pleasure to know that SEU has been working relentlessly to provide world-class education at an affordable cost and prepare students to meet the challenges of the 21st century.

Due to Corona pandemic, activities in all sectors, especially in the field of education, have faced serious setbacks all over the world. Under the visionary leadership of our Hon'ble Prime Minister, Bangladesh has been transformed into "Digital Bangladesh" which enabled us to continue our education virtually during the pandemic period.

Our Government has undertaken many new initiatives to ensure quality education in Bangladesh. We are committed to improving outreaching and learning environment, governance and student welfare, especially at the tertiary level with an objective to turn human resources into human capital.

I hope Southeast University continues to produce graduates who will be knowledgeable with required skills and values and are able to provide leadership to our nation in the future.

I wish the 7th Convocation of this University a grand success.

Joy Bangla, Joy Bangabandhu
May Bangladesh Live Forever

Dipu Moni

Dr. Dipu Moni, MP



Deputy Minister
Ministry of Education
Govt. of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Message

I am delighted to hear about the 7th Convocation Ceremony of Southeast University and I render my heartfelt congratulations to the graduating students and their proud parents and the University family members on this auspicious occasion.

After academic studies, students are to translate their knowledge into practical implementation to face the reality of life. I hope they would be sincere and devoted to their respective pursuits in life and would be in the frontline of the development and progress of Bangladesh.

Convocation of a university is a weather-vane of its continuous success and achievement. I hope this Convocation will go a long way in placing Southeast University on the top echelons of the higher education in Bangladesh.

I wish Southeast University further success.

Joy Bangla, Joy Bangabandhu
May Bangladesh Live Long

Mohibul Hassan Chowdhury

Mohibul Hassan Chowdhury, MP



Chairman
University Grants Commission
of Bangladesh (UGC)

Message

It gives me immense pleasure to know that Southeast University is going to hold its 7th Convocation on July 21, 2022. On this auspicious occasion, I would like to extend my heartfelt congratulations and felicitations to the graduating students, their proud guardians, the faculty members and university administration.

At present, private universities are making substantial contribution to providing knowledge and skills to students who, in turn, are advancing the economic and social development of the country. Education without quality, mission and vision, cannot contribute meaningfully to the socio-economic development of the nation and economy. I am happy to know that Southeast University is well aware of this and moving in the right direction to produce manpower equipped with the right kind of skills, knowledge and attitude by imparting quality education since its inception. I would like to assure Southeast University the continuous support from UGC to promote quality education.

I wish the 7th convocation of the university a grand success.

Prof. Dr. Kazi Shahidullah

Prof. Dr. Kazi Shahidullah

Southeast University at a Glance

Introduction

Southeast University (SEU) started its journey in 2002 with a noble aim to take higher education to the doorsteps of students living across the country. Realizing the need for building a knowledge-based society and contributing to the development of human capital, a group of educationists and philanthropists established Southeast University which today, not only offers quality education in a congenial environment but also excels in the fields of research and innovations. The graduates of SEU have proved expertise in their respective fields and thus entered the job market successfully. Today, Southeast University takes pride in producing graduates who are contributing significantly to the economy of the country.

Vision

★ To Obtain Global Recognition as a World Class University

Mission

- ★ To provide higher education at an affordable cost keeping in view the economic conditions of the middle and lower middle income families in Bangladesh
- ★ To impart world class education
- ★ To provide research facilities so that the students can develop their full intellectual, social and personal potentials
- ★ To provide Knowledge, Skills and Expertise required to transform human resource into human capital
- ★ To inculcate moral and ethical values among the students
- ★ To prepare students to meet the challenges of the 21st century

Accreditation and Collaboration

Southeast University is accredited by the Government of Bangladesh. Its curricula as well as programs have been approved by UGC Bangladesh.

Southeast University has exchange programs with Indiana University of Pennsylvania; Claflin University, USA; The University of Manchester, UK; Zhejiang Forestry University, Zhejiang Gongshang University, Wuhan Textile University, Kunming University of Science and Technology, Yunnan Minzu University, Yunnan University of Finance and Economics, China; The Finance Academy under the Government of the Russian Federation, Russia; WTO Research Centre of Aoyama Gakuin University, Shinshu University, Japan and Asian Institute of Technology (AIT), Bangkok, Thailand.

Southeast University Authority

The Board of Trustees (BOT) of Southeast University Trust provides policy guidelines and approves the University Budget. The BOT is headed by the Hon'ble Chairman, Mr. Rezaul Karim, an illustrious industrialist of the country. The Trustee Board is the highest body of the University. It consists of BOT members and the Vice Chancellor. The University is run by a number of statutory bodies as required under the provisions of the Private University Act, 2010. The Vice Chancellor as the Chief Executive and Academic Head runs the University with the help of different statutory bodies.

UGC Approved Programs of Southeast University

- 1. Southeast School Business (SBS):** • BBA • MBA • EMBA **2. School of Science & Engineering (SSE):** • Bachelor of Architecture (B. Arch.) • BSc in Electrical & Electronic Engineering (EEE) • B.Sc in Computer Science & Engineering • B.Sc in Textile Engineering • Bachelor of Pharmacy (B. Pharm.) **3. School of Arts & Social Sciences (SASS):** • LLB • LLM • BA in English • MA in English • BA in Bangla • MA in Bangla • BSS in Economics • Master of Development Studies (MDS).

Institutional Quality Assurance Center (IQAC):

The Institutional Quality Assurance Center (IQAC) has been established as a permanent institute to support SEU to achieve its goal of quality education.



Chairman
Board of Trustees
Southeast University Trust



Message

I feel extremely delighted on this auspicious day of the 7th convocation of Southeast University. You all know that we struggled a lot during the corona pandemic period over the last two years. This convocation ceremony was scheduled to be held in 2020, but we were compelled to postpone it due to lockdowns and severe restrictions on physical movements during the pandemic. I am thankful to almighty Allah that we are gradually coming back to normal life and have successfully organized this grand event in a befitting manner, even though we are two years late. I would like to extend my heartfelt congratulations to all the graduates who will be awarded their degree in today's ceremony.

Southeast University started its journey in 2002. We have produced over 35,000 graduates over the last twenty years. Most of our graduates are employed by prestigious employers of the country, while a significant number are pursuing higher studies overseas. Some of our graduates have become successful entrepreneurs who have created employment opportunities for fresh graduates from both private and public universities. I believe that the graduates of the 7th convocation will continue carrying out the legacy of their predecessors.

Southeast University is a purely non-profit institution. It is a philanthropic venture of the members of the Board of Trustees, the founders of the university. Alongside formal education, we have also equipped our students with all the skills and capabilities that will prepare them to meet the challenges of time successfully.

I once again congratulate our graduates for successful completion of their degree. I urge them to stay associated with the university in the years to come and support their Alma Mater in whatever way possible as proud alumni of this institution.

Rezaul Karim

Rezaul Karim

Board of Trustees

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Md. Anwar Hossain
Vice Chairman

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- Ishiaque Ahmed
- Tazkia Labeeba Karim
- Azmat Niaz

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Prime Minister
Govt. of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Message



I am happy to know that the 7th Convocation of Southeast University is being held on 21 July 2022. On this joyous occasion, I extend my heartfelt greetings and best wishes to all the graduating students, their parents, current and ex-students, faculty members, officials and staffs of the university.

In the light of the philosophy of education of the Greatest Bangalee of all times, Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, the Awami League government has brought outstanding changes to the education sector in the last 13 years. Our government has been working relentlessly to produce knowledge and technology savvy human resources by ensuring quality and time-worthy education in the country through nurturing the next generation in the spirit of our War of Liberation, moral values and national heritage. Some significant steps have been taken to expand access to higher education and enhance its quality. Public universities have been set up in almost all the districts in the country. During the last 13 years the number of private universities has increased extensively. By increasing the number of universities, our government has been working tirelessly to ensure higher education facilities to the doorsteps of the countrymen.

I believe that economic development of the country largely depends on education and human resource development. Banking on this view, the scope of education has been expanded through introduction of digital system in education, development of infrastructure, establishment of new education institutions, inclusion of more educational institutions under MPO facility, and construction of physical infrastructures. Academic Innovation Fund has been given to encourage and promote creativity research activities at the higher educational institutions. Bangladesh Research and Education Network (BdREN) has been established in order to increase technical skills of the universities, and connect foreign universities and research institutions with the local universities. 'Private University Act-2010' has been enacted to develop the quality of education of the private universities. Beside 'Bangladesh Accreditation Council Act-2017' has been passed to ensure quality of higher education at public and private universities.

We have been working relentlessly to turn Bangladesh into a prosperous-developed nation by 2041. I hope that the students of Southeast University will apply their acquired knowledge, talent and creativity with patriotism, integrity and dedication to build hunger-poverty-free developed-prosperous Golden Bangladesh as dreamt by Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

I wish the 7th convocation of Southeast University a grand success, and bright future of all the graduates.

Joy Bangla, Joy Bangabandhu
May Bangladesh Live Forever

Sheikh Hasina

Sheikh Hasina

বাণী

সমাবর্তন বক্তা
পদার্থবিদ, লেখক ও কলামিস্ট



সাইথিস্ট বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের সপ্তম সমাবর্তন উপলক্ষে তাদের স্নাতক ছাত্র-ছাত্রীদের জন্য রইল আন্তরিক অভিনন্দন। এই বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের সমাবর্তনে আমাকে সমাবর্তন বক্তা হিসেবে আমন্ত্রণ দেওয়ার জন্য ধন্যবাদ, আমি এই সুযোগ পেয়ে নিজেকে জাগ্রত মনে করছি।

ছাত্র-ছাত্রীদের জীবনে সমাবর্তন একটি অনেক বড় ঘটনা- আর নিজের চোখে সেই ঘটনাটি দেখা অনেক বড় সৌভাগ্যের ব্যাপার। আমি নিশ্চিত ছাত্র-ছাত্রীরা গত চার বছর এই বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ে চমৎকার একটি সময় কাটিয়েছে। কোভিডের কারণে পুরো পৃথিবী যখন অচল হয়েছিল, তার ভেতরেও এই বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় তাদের শিক্ষা কার্যক্রম চালিয়ে গিয়েছে এবং সে কারণে আজকে তাদের স্নাতকদের জন্য সমাবর্তন আয়োজন করতে পেরেছে, সেটি নিঃসন্দেহে অনেক প্রশংসার দাবী রাখে।

আমরা অনেক আনন্দের সাথে লক্ষ করছি যে বাংলাদেশে বিশাল সংখ্যক ছাত্র-ছাত্রী প্রাইভেট বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ে পড়াশোনা করে। একসময় এই ছাত্র ছাত্রীদের একটা বড় অংশকে দেশের বাইরে গিয়ে তাদের স্নাতক ডিগ্রি গ্রহণ করতে হত। নিজের দেশে পড়াশোনার সুযোগ এই ছাত্র-ছাত্রীদের জীবনে আশীর্বাদ বয়ে এনেছে। আমরা দেখতে পাচ্ছি প্রাইভেট বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের ছাত্র-ছাত্রীরা ইতিমধ্যে দেশের নানা কর্মকাণ্ডে গুরুত্বপূর্ণ অবদান রাখতে শুরু করেছে। যে কয়টি বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় দেশে এবং বিদেশে সবার দৃষ্টি আকর্ষণ করেছে তার মাঝে সাইথিস্ট বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় অন্যতম।

এই বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের সুনাম সারাদেশে ছড়িয়ে দেওয়ার দায়িত্ব এই বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের স্নাতকদেরই পালন করতে হবে। আমি আশা করব তারা নিষ্ঠার সাথে তাদের সেই দায়িত্ব পালন করবে।

আমি এই আনন্দক্ষেত্রে বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের সকল ছাত্র-শিক্ষক, কর্মকর্তা এবং অভিভাবকদের অভিনন্দন জানাই।

Md. Zafar Rashed

মুহম্মদ জাফর ইকবাল



Vice Chancellor
Southeast University

Message



Southeast University is holding its 7th Convocation on 21st July 2022. This is indeed a memorable day in the life of graduating students. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate our new graduates on this auspicious day. Our graduates are our important ambassadors and real friends of the University, and they can make important contributions to the University in myriad areas. The University also endeavors to ensure that the life with their students renew intact as alumni. As the Vice Chancellor of the University, I feel proud to share your happiness.

As you are aware, Southeast University is committed to providing quality education at an affordable cost, and aims to establish this University as a World Class University by 2030. In the meantime, Southeast University has gained the reputation of being one of the top private universities in the country. Being a graduate of this University, you should therefore constantly serve as a source of pride and inspiration to you for the rest of your life.

We hope you will make use of your newly found status and take on the responsibility of driving constructive changes, especially in mentoring and helping those who are less fortunate to make their future brighter and promising. As Southeast University graduates, this is a mission that you are more than capable of carrying out. While Southeast University has painstakingly nurtured your academic growth, in turn, you will act as the future ambassadors of this institution. As part of the alumni, you are expected to contribute to its further development.

I sincerely wish your continual success in your future endeavors. As you graduate now, you have the opportunity to do your part, to help create a better future for your families, a better future for your communities, and, a better future for your country.

Prof. Dr. AFM Mafzul Islam

Prof. Dr. AFM Mafzul Islam

Chancellor's Gold Medal Awardees



Mahdee-Al- Mahmud
ID: 201302020073
BA in English, 24th Batch



Shamsun Nahar
ID: 201400050005
B. Sc. in EEE, 13th Batch

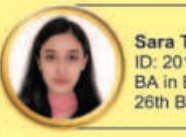


Mostafa-E-Zaman
ID: 201500400005
BSc in Textile Engg., 28th Batch

Vice Chancellor's Gold Medal Awardees



Rahnuma Nurain
ID: 2013000300121
B. Pharm
21st Batch



Sara Tazkea
ID: 2013220200033
BA in English
26th Batch



Kawshar Ahmed
ID: 2016010004161
MBA (1-yr)
23rd Batch



Jarin Tasnim Nishad
ID: 2014010000020
BBA
36th Batch



Umma Shafia Joty
ID: 2014000300046
B. Pharm
23rd Batch



Mashkura Khan
ID: 2014020106017
BSS in Economics
20th Batch



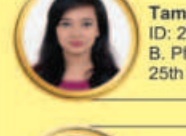
Sharmin Sultana
ID: 2015210001012
MBA (Regular)
41st Batch



Md. Zakir Hossain
ID: 2016120100006
MDS
17th Batch



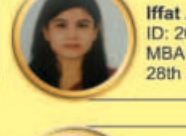
Mohammad Raisul Hasan
ID: 2015010000298
BBA, 39th Batch



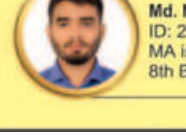
Tamanna Sarker
ID: 2015000300058
B. Pharm
25th Batch



Sania Sharmin
ID: 2015020106016
BSS in Economics
23rd Batch



Iffat Anjum
ID: 2017210004008
MBA (1-year)
28th Batch



Md. Musfikur Rahman
ID: 2018020502001
MA in Bangla
8th Batch



S.M. Nabid Hasan Sunny
ID: 2014200000021
B. Sc. in CSE
38th Batch



Nasim-ur-rahman Chowdhury
ID: 2015020300136
LLB (Hons)
35th Batch

No. of Students Graduating During 2016-18

• Undergraduates: 4386 • Graduates: 3694 • Total Graduates: 8080

No. of Graduates Attending 7th Convocation

• Undergraduates: 945 • Graduates: 357 • Total Graduates: 1302

Putin endorsed by Iran for 'invasion'

Khamenei says Ukraine war was forced on Russia, calls on Moscow to work together to reduce the power of the dollar



AGENCIES

Iran's supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei has endorsed Russian President Vladimir Putin's war in Ukraine saying if Moscow didn't start the war, the West would have.

Putin arrived in Tehran on Tuesday for talks on the Syrian war at a three-way summit with the Iranian and Turkish presidents that has been overshadowed by fallout from Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

Khamenei told Putin that although Iran "is not at all happy that ordinary people" are suffering from the Ukraine war, the West was to blame.

"War is a harsh and difficult issue, and Iran is not at all pleased that ordinary people suffer from it, but in the case of Ukraine if you had not taken the initiative, the other side would have caused the war with its own initiative," Said Khamenei calling for strengthening "long-term cooperation" with Russia.

"If the road is open to Nato, it knows no boundaries and if it was not stopped in Ukraine they would start the same war some time later under the pretext of Crimea," he added.

He said Russia and Iran needed to work together gradually to reduce the power of the dollar.

Putin echoed Iran's judgment that he had no choice but to invade, saying: "No one is in favour of war, and the loss of ordinary people's lives is a great tragedy, but the behaviour of the west made us have no choice but to react. Some European countries said 'We were against Ukraine's membership in Nato, but we agreed under American pressure,' which shows their lack of independence."

Prior to Putin's visit, the National Iranian Oil Company and Russia's Gazprom signed a memorandum of understanding "worth about \$40 billion", the Iranian oil ministry's official news agency Shana reported.

Gazprom said the MoU looks to "analyse possibilities of cooperation" in different areas, including development of Iran's gas and oil fields.

RANIL WICKREMESINGHE More cunning than the 'old fox'

AFP, Colombo

New Sri Lankan President Ranil Wickremesinghe's election yesterday is the fulfilment of a lifetime's ambition for a veteran political operator who is the nephew of one of his predecessors.

Wickremesinghe, a six-time former prime minister, was backed by the Sri Lanka Podujana Peramuna (SLPP) party of ousted leader Gotabaya Rajapaksa, who fled abroad and then resigned last week after protesters overran his palace.

The pro-Western Wickremesinghe has sought the top position for decades.

A few families have long played outsized political roles in the Indian Ocean island nation, and Wickremesinghe's uncle Junius Jayewardene was one of its longest-serving leaders — in power for 12 years until stepping down in 1989.

Dubbed the "old fox", Jayewardene was renowned for his cunning, but his nephew is regarded as an even shrewder navigator of the country's internecine power networks.

It was Jayewardene who brought him into politics by making him a deputy foreign affairs minister in 1977. Commentators joked the initials of their United National Party (UNP) actually stood for Uncle and Nephew.

Family members say that Jayewardene, who died in 1996, had wanted to ensure that Wickremesinghe becomes president "even for one day".

Gotabaya appointed Wickremesinghe, 73, as prime minister in May, after the leader's elder brother Mahinda resigned in the face of widespread protests against the rule of the Rajapaksas, who have dominated Sri Lankan politics for much of the last two decades.

Wickremesinghe ran for the presidency

twice before — in 1999 and 2005 — losing both elections, and the UNP was annihilated in a parliamentary election in 2020, leaving the silver-haired veteran as its only MP.

Wickremesinghe is married to Maithree, an English lecturer. They do not have children and have bequeathed their assets to his old school and their universities.

Born into a wealthy and politically connected family rooted in publishing and plantations, Wickremesinghe started work as a rookie reporter at one of the family newspapers.

His first appointment as prime minister was as a result of the May 1993 assassination of president Ranasinghe Premadasa by a suicide bomber.

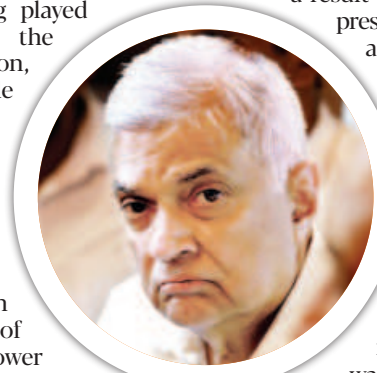
The then-premier Dingiri Banda Wijetunga was elevated to the presidency, and picked Wickremesinghe — then Industry, Science and Technology minister — to replace him.

A similar attack arguably denied him the presidency six years later: his main election rival Chandrika Kumaratunga was wounded by a suicide bomber just three days before the polls.

She brought the nation to tears in a television appearance with a patch over the right eye she had lost and received a significant sympathy vote, with Wickremesinghe losing an election many thought he would win.

Wickremesinghe has been accused of protecting members of the Rajapaksa clan who have been accused of graft, kickbacks, siphoning off public finances and murder.

His status as a pro-Western, free-market reformist could smooth bailout negotiations with the International Monetary Fund and foreign creditors, but he has already warned there will be no quick fix to the nation's unprecedented economic woes.



TORY LEADERSHIP RACE It's Rishi Sunak vs Liz Truss



REUTERS, London

Former finance minister Rishi Sunak and foreign secretary Liz Truss made the final two candidates yesterday to become Britain's next prime minister, kicking off the last stage of the contest to replace Boris Johnson.

Sunak has led in all rounds of the voting among Conservative lawmakers, but it is Truss, who seems to have gained the advantage so far among the around 200,000 members of the governing party who will ultimately choose the winner.

Whoever triumphs when the result is announced on Sept. 5 will inherit some of the most difficult conditions in Britain in decades. Inflation is on course to hit 11 percent annually, growth is stalling, industrial action is on the rise and the pound is near historic lows against the dollar.

Eleven candidates originally put their names forward, but in a fifth and final ballot of Conservative lawmakers, the junior trade minister Penny Mordaunt was eliminated. Sunak won 137 out of 357 votes, versus Truss's 113 and Mordaunt's 105.

Polls show Truss would beat Sunak in the party members' contest, but all could change as the two finalists start weeks of hustings up and down the country before the party's membership.

Polls show Truss would beat Sunak in the party members' contest, but all could change as the two finalists start weeks of hustings up and down the country before the party's membership.

Hasina writes to Mamata

FROM PAGE 12 pointed to the commonalities of language and culture and "ideological affinities" between the "two Bengals" and asserted that there was no alternative to working together to consolidate the existing relations.

Hasina's letter to Mamata was primarily in response to a letter from the chief minister who thanked the former for sending her mangoes.

Hasina began her letter by thanking Mamata for her letter and said she has been "overwhelmed by

your [Mamata's] sincerity and kindness." It is in the same spirit the people of Bangladesh and West Bengal "feel oneness", the PM added.

Indian officials have repeatedly made it clear that while federal Indian government has always been ready to ink the Teesta deal, West Bengal needs to be on board.

The Teesta deal has been left hanging for nearly 11 years due to Mamata's steadfast refusal to agree to the deal because it may lead to water scarcity in the northern part of West

Bengal. Mamata opted out of a tour to Dhaka in September, 2011, at the eleventh hour when the then Indian PM Manmohan Singh had visited Dhaka, and when the stage was ready to sign the Teesta accord.

In her letter, Hasina extended an invitation to Mamata to visit Bangladesh at a time of her convenience.

She also expressed confidence that the Padma Bridge would open a new door of possibilities for India-Bangladesh trade.

Shutting diesel-run

FROM PAGE 12 population will suffer."

He said the energy secretary's talk about ensuring balance through load shedding was nothing but idealistic talk.

"As there is a raw material crisis, it is expected that less electricity will be produced and subsequently, the consumers will also receive less. But those with lower incomes will suffer the inconveniences attached with this crisis more, and they will have to pay a higher price, too. This is unjust, and that is why I do not believe the decisions taken by the government will be able to bring any positive outcome," added Alam.

He mentioned that it was not possible to preserve energy by keeping petrol pumps closed one day a week — another step under the government's consideration.

"In order to achieve real results, the system needs to change. Strict restrictions need to be enforced for the usage of personal vehicles. Implementing that is not

a very difficult task for the state. The government officials will use public transport instead of government vehicles.

"If the energy adviser, along with other ministers and secretaries, call a press conference and announce that they will start using public transport, that will instantly save half the total energy expenditure. But no, they will keep enjoying every kind of perk. They won't let load shedding affect them. We cannot possibly hope that whatever they say and implement will solve all our problems.

"If, today, the energy adviser or any of the top officials of the government said their houses too would experience load shedding for two hours a day, the general population would have rallied behind the cause wholeheartedly and enthusiastically. However, they haven't done that. That kind of love for the motherland, compassion towards the general population has never been expressed by them," added M Shamsul Alam.

Narco trade

FROM PAGE 12 Myanmar has historically been known as a producer of opium.

"When poppy production decreased during the pandemic-induced lockdown, drug lords and syndicates shifted their focus on the synthetic drug trade."

Quoting a Reuters report, he said in 2022 alone authorities in Laos, Thailand and Myanmar seized 90 million methamphetamine pills, and 4.4 tonnes of crystal meth.

"It implies that due to increased instability since the military coup in Myanmar, the trade has gained more traction in this region," Imtiaz said.

The yaba is transported from Maungdaw in Rakhine to the Tombru border, from where it seeps into the Rohingya camps situated just beside the zero-line border along Bangladesh, he said.

At least 70 lakh yaba pills, at the cost of Tk 210 crore, are consumed by Bangladeshis every day.

There were 56 drug-related deaths in 2017. It went up to 396 in 2018 and was 256 in 2019, he said.

International relations analysts said Bangladesh has already been burdened with more than a million refugees since 2017, and now the drug trafficking — which is enough to destabilise the entire region — is adding to that.

Delwar Hossain, another Dhaka University professor of international relations, said Myanmar's regime is complicit in and a beneficiary of illegal drug trade, which is no less than narco-terrorism.

"We need to identify the criminals and bring them to book to keep the trade in check."

They called for sanctions against Myanmar in this regard.

Masud Bin Momen, foreign secretary; Brig Gen (Retd) M Shakhawat Hussain, security analyst; Jahangirnagar University's Professor Shahab Enam Khan; British High Commissioner Robert Chatterton Dickson; Saudi Ambassador Issa bin Youssef Al-Dahilan; Malaysian High Commissioner Haznah Md Hashim and Brunei High Commissioner Haji Haris bin Haji Othman also spoke at the seminar.

CLIMATE CHANGE

Biden to announce executive actions

REUTERS, Washington

US President Joe Biden was set to announce a set of executive actions yesterday aimed at addressing climate change in a visit to the site of a former coal-fired plant in Massachusetts that is playing a role in supporting the state's offshore wind industry.

Scientists discover

FROM PAGE 12 said in a statement.

"It would have been downright perilous for ancient humans to head down to the river for a drink," Dr Brochu added.

The new species had big, conical teeth and short, deep snouts, the study noted.

Instead of opening straight upward like contemporary crocodiles, researchers analysing the fossils of these reptiles say their noses opened somewhat up and to the front.

Scientists say the

crocodiles likely waited for prey in the forest for the majority of the time instead of being in the water.

"They had what looked like this big grin that made them look really happy, but they would bite your face off if you gave them the chance," Dr Brochu said.

The crocodiles lived during the early to middle Miocene period 18 million and 15 million years ago in the East Africa Rift Valley, in parts of present-day Kenya at a time when the region was largely blanketed by forests.

'I'll invite the PM to our home!'

FROM PAGE 12 School, told this correspondent.

Earlier, Jannat's father Rabiul Islam, a day labourer, had no other option than to live in a shabby tin-roof house built on government land with his wife and two children.

"My daughter has been so happy since we got our own house. She even cut out a picture of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina from an electoral poster and pasted it on the fence near our house."

"The deputy commissioner later presented her with a framed photo of the premier, which Jannat cleans regularly and keeps beside her pillow."

With her new home, Jannat can now focus on her dreams of becoming a doctor and serving the poor.

At least 60 other families of Kajaldighi have benefited the same way under the ongoing third phase of the project.

Meanwhile, 394 landless families in Tangail have also been given homes.

Karimon, a widow working as domestic help, said, "I am so happy to have gotten my own house and land without having to pay a penny to anyone!"

Ataul Gani, deputy commissioner in Tangail, said apart from clean water and electricity supply, the shelters were also provided with greenery, while sewing machines were distributed among residents to help them make a living.

Houses will also be built for the people who have become homeless and landless due to floods and river erosion, he added.

In the third phase, the

government is to provide 67,800 semi-pucca houses to homeless families in different districts across the country.

Of those, 32, 904 houses have already been gifted, while 26,229 will be handed over on July 21. The remaining 8,462 houses are under construction.

In January 2021, the prime minister handed over 69,904 houses to homeless and landless families under the first phase of the project on the occasion of the birth centenary of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

During the second phase, in June last year, 53,330 houses were handed over.

The government has allocated Tk 4,028 crore for the construction of 1,85,129 houses in the current fiscal year.

Alt News co-founder

FROM PAGE 12 The court also stated that while investigations can continue, there was no justification for keeping Zubair in custody.

Zubair's lawyer had earlier said the case bordered on the absurd, because Zubair, a Muslim, had used satire from a Hindi-language movie in his 2018 tweet and there was no evidence that he had hurt religious sentiments of Hindus.

Zubair and his colleagues accused the federal government of using the police to silence the voice of journalists and

other critics. Earlier this year, Zubair had drawn attention to an incendiary remark about Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) made on TV by a spokesperson for Modi's ruling Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP).

Zubair's lawyer said the government was using the 2018 case to punish him after this year's tweet went viral.

The BJP suspended the spokesperson for anti-Islam remarks and expelled another official to defuse domestic and international diplomatic outrage.

India is ranked 150th

on the 180-country World Press Freedom Index, compiled annually by Reporters Without Borders.

Cut your wifi to save power France urges holidaymakers

AFP, Paris

The French government yesterday urged citizens to make the effort to save energy in the face of record high oil and gas prices, including by cutting wifi routers when heading off on holiday.

The Daily Star

FOUNDER EDITOR: LATE S. M. ALI

No austerity for dollar-guzzling power plants!

Govt must stop entertaining 'capacity' payments to the plants

IT'S outrageous that "capacity charges" – that predatory costing exercise that allows power plants to take a big bite out of our budget regardless of whether the power is bought or produced – will have to be paid amid ongoing power outages and depleting forex reserves. This is despite the fact that the government, on Monday, shut down all diesel-fired power plants due to low fuel stocks. But it is bound to pay their capacity charges nonetheless. Data disclosed by the Bangladesh Power Development Board (BPDB) shows how this exercise has been a huge drain on our scant resources.

The BPDB paid Tk 16,785 crore in capacity charges in the first nine months of the 2021-22 fiscal year for 22,118MW daily power generation capacity, although it had not been able to use more than 14,000MW a day during that period. Earlier, it paid Tk 18,977 crore in 2020-21, and Tk 18,123 crore in 2019-20. To put things into perspective, these numbers dwarf the subsidy packages the government set aside for the power sector in the corresponding years. For example, the subsidy package was Tk 7,400 crore in the 2019-20 budget, Tk 8,900 crore in the 2020-21 budget and Tk 12,000 crore in the 2021-22 budget. Capacity charge is a trap that the government set for itself, for reasons that continue to elude us, and we're having to pay for that even during a time of austerity.

Nothing about that makes business sense. The current demand for electricity in the country ranges between 14,000MW and 14,500MW. But due to the crisis of gas imported from international sources, the government is producing 12,000-13,000MW, but continues to pay for the unutilised power. Already, the government has announced up to two hours of "load shedding" across the country. Citizens from many areas, however, have reported longer and frequent spells of outage. The question is, how effective will these measures be to tackle the energy crisis?

According to experts, a comprehensive assessment of the situation was not done before undertaking these measures. For example, despite the closure of diesel-run power plants, diesel use in other sectors is bound to rise. The generators being used in farms, factories and offices are all run on diesel; load shedding will only increase the use of fuel to run these generators. Clearly, piecemeal solutions will not work against a crisis that has, frankly, developed over years. A big part of the problem is the capacity charges, which have to be paid in dollars, another big barrier to the drive to save foreign currency. Therefore, we think the government should urgently renegotiate the terms with power plants to stop capacity payments. This will take a huge burden off our collective shoulders, and help us focus on the wider issues.

Time to act to secure GSP-plus status

Bangladesh's labour law and rights situation under EU scrutiny

IT comes as no surprise that Bangladesh will need to fulfil certain conditions to be eligible for the European Union's Generalised Scheme of Preferences Plus (GSP-plus), as has been made clear by the visiting delegation of the European Parliamentary Committee on International Trade. The delegation categorically said that Bangladesh needs to improve its rights situation and amend its labour law in line with international standards. Among the issues it flagged is the progress achieved in workplace safety since the Rana Plaza disaster which, it claimed, has not been "substantial". The committee also expressed – justifiably, we may add – concerns over certain aspects of the labour law, extrajudicial killings, enforced disappearances, and shrinking of civic space in the country.

The warning comes at a time when Bangladesh is struggling on multiple fronts to ensure sustainable economic growth and good governance with the rights of workers and general citizens protected. Bangladesh is scheduled to become a developing country in 2026, and in this regard, a UN committee has recommended that the country should get five years, instead of three, to prepare for the transition due to the impact of Covid-19. Understandably, until 2026, Bangladesh will continue to enjoy trade benefits reserved for Least Developed Countries (LDCs). To get the GSP-plus status, however, it will have to implement 32 international conventions on human rights, labour rights, environment, and good governance. In return, the EU will cut its import duties to zero on more than two-thirds of the tariff lines.

But the road ahead is certainly challenging. Bangladesh is under pressure to make a uniform labour law for workers both inside and outside of the Export Processing Zones (EPZs). Currently, the law allows trade unions only outside the EPZs. If all workers are allowed to unionise, it will increase their bargaining power and help address grievances related to working conditions. Bangladesh is also under pressure to fulfil its commitment to eliminate child labour by 2025. This will be harder to achieve given how children continue to be employed in vast numbers across the country. Meanwhile, the general rights situation also needs to be drastically improved, with concerns over the shrinking of civic space, using legal tools such as Digital Security Act, remaining largely unaddressed.

All these boxes will need to be ticked going forward. Otherwise, Bangladesh's export of readymade garments and other exportables to the EU will not be the only thing affected. The future of our democracy will also be negatively impacted. We urge the government to rise to the occasion and undertake necessary reforms.

Why should MPs have a role in school, college management?



Kamal Ahmed is an independent journalist and writes from London, UK. His Twitter handle is @ahmedkai

KAMAL AHMED

IT is hard to imagine the level of humiliation and agony Principal Salim Reza of Rajbari Degree College in Rajshahi has been forced to endure. First, he was assaulted, and then he was forced to issue a denial by the same person who assaulted him. It can only happen if the alleged perpetrator turns out to be so powerful that protesting an assault or defiance for telling the truth means losing what else the victim is left with, such as safety and dignity of other members of his family and his livelihood. Reports suggest that both the incidents took place at the same venue, the private chamber of the local MP Omor Faruk Chowdhury. Salim was assaulted by the MP in front of other principals of different colleges in his constituency. And the second event was so surreal that he had to read a prepared statement to the assembled press, sitting beside the same MP, denying his ordeal at the hands of the host.

Principal Salim Reza's denial is only comparable to those so-called admissions by suspects extracted during police remand. The choreography of the press conference of MP Omor is quite extraordinary, where he presented ready-made witnesses in defence of his invented innocence. One such witness was Abdul Awal, principal of Matikata Degree College, who, rather incriminating himself, said he and Salim were arguing about something when "I couldn't take a word he uttered during the argument and pushed him, and I am sorry for that." Following repeated questioning by journalists, Principal Awal, according to Prothom Alo, further added, "To control the situation, the member of parliament pushed me, and also pushed Principal Salim Reza." Principal Awal's desperate bid to whitewash MP Omor's alleged manhandling of Principal Salim Reza unwittingly establishes the fact that the MP indeed resorted to applying physical force, which is clearly not included in the lawmaker's job description.

The whole episode raises some serious questions regarding the roles of both the lawmaker and the college principals. Media reports quoted MP Omor asking journalists to give him back the reputation he had lost because of the assault allegations. But the lawmaker should know



ILLUSTRATION: BIPOLO CHAKROBORTY

that, before sympathising with him, someone needs to know whether his behaviour was suitable to his office. If the reports saying that he was annoyed with Principal Salim for his failure to discipline a teacher for slandering him are correct, he should have taken the legal course for mitigation of his alleged suffering. No law permits him to summon the victim to his office and assume the roles of a prosecutor, judge and executioner. His rivals have alleged that, a few years ago, MP Omor had assaulted Principal Abdur Rahman of Godagari Government College over allegations of monetary dealings to get government grants. No action was taken against him then, but the principal lost his job in the following months.

What makes it obligatory for college teachers to maintain such close relations that require attending MPs' private offices? What makes one principal engage in heated exchanges with another, which ultimately becomes violent in the presence of a lawmaker? Do those principals belong to the ruling party? Otherwise, why have references of leadership contests in the local unit of the Awami League been made in the denial statement

body of these colleges. Hopefully, those teachers who became accomplices – either voluntarily or through force – will face appropriate reprimand and penalties. But the biggest challenge the university probe body faces to conduct its investigation fairly is to get cooperation from MP Omor. Isn't it quite strange that neither the speaker, the guardian of the parliament, nor the ruling party has initiated any investigation and disciplinary procedure against the MP for harming the image of parliamentarians in general and bringing the party into disrepute?

Educational institutions have long been a very important tool for expanding political power and influence in Bangladesh. According to the government policy, the most important role in the formation of a school or college management body is that of the member of parliament in the area. Though their role is defined to be consultative, it would be difficult to find a single institution where the management committee has been formed without the approval (unofficial) of the local MP. Even in electing the representatives

sentiment, subsequent investigations by the media have found that local politics also played a part in it, over the appointment of principal. After these details came to light, the ruling Awami League also expelled one person from the local committee, a colleague of Swapan Kumar Biswas.

Many of us have forgotten how Shyamal Kanti Bhakta, headmaster of Piar Sattar Latif High School in Narayanganj's Bandar upazila, was humiliated and tortured in the presence of the local MP, Salim Osman. No action was taken against the lawmaker by the House speaker or his party, Jatiya Party. A criminal case filed by the victim was discharged by a court in Dhaka for lack of proof.

Establishing control on schools and colleges has become crucial for parliamentarians for various reasons, including the role teachers play during elections as polling officers for the Election Commission. It's about time we rethought the MPs' consultative role in constituting management committees in our schools and colleges. Protecting teachers' dignity and rights is an issue of changing our political culture too.

We need to talk about the World Bank



Dr Sayeed Ahmed is a consulting engineer and the CEO of Bayside Analytic, a technology focused strategy and management consulting organisation.

SAYEED AHMED

NARMADA Devi, 63, lost her home to a World Bank (WB) funded hydropower project in the north Indian state of Uttarakhand, the *Japan Times* reported on May 30. In 2021, construction waste from the plant buried what she had once called home. Hers was one of over 240 households in the village that had to make room for the under-construction 444MW plant on the Alaknanda River.

Officials from the project's owner, THDC India, cajoled the locals to sell their lands "involuntarily" for a compensation of one million Indian rupees each. Those who refused were forcibly taken to a police station, while their homes were turned into a pile of rubble.

Curious, I searched the World Bank's (WB) database. According to the project summary, social protection is one of its objectives, and the extent of "forced displacement" was zero percent. But Devi's saga tells an altogether different story. What's the problem, then? To find out, let's go back several years.

In 2007, WB's senior IT staffer John Kim noticed a serious anomaly of USD 2 billion in the bank's accounts. Finding no institutional avenue to report the matter, he shared it with the *Forbes* magazine. The bank promptly identified Kim as the source of the information, put him on administrative leave for two years, before firing him on Christmas Eve in 2010. Kim didn't have the option of a legal course; WB is above the jurisdiction of any court,

including in the US. In a press release on July 28, 2012, it denied that the accounts glitch had ever happened.

The Washington, DC-based Government Accountability Project (GAP) represented Kim from 2009 to 2011 in an internal case for wrongful termination and received orders for his reinstatement. The bank acknowledged it had wronged Kim, but retired him instead.

In a separate incident, in May 2019, the World Bank Group launched an external review of its private funding institutions' – International Finance Corporation (IFC) and Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA) – environmental and social accountability. The group's – including the International Development Association (IDA) and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) – sustainability policy, adopted in 2006, is clear about its environmental and social (E&S) responsibilities. Supervising the client's adherence to the policy and taking corrective action where necessary is the IFC's job.

What the review found was incriminating. In only 13 percent of the cases, remedial actions were adequate to bring the projects into compliance. For 37 percent, they were partly satisfactory, and for 50 percent, unsatisfactory. The most damaging issue it raised was an "internal approval culture" that rewarded staff for pushing through as many projects as possible, without adequate attention

to environmental and social impacts.

The next big scandal at the WB surfaced more recently, in September 2021. An investigation found that senior leadership at the bank manipulated the Doing Business index under pressure from China and Saudi Arabia for the 2018 and 2020 reports,

All these incidents over the years point to a cultural problem and only strengthen the call for the World Bank Group's reform. One of the major criticisms is its US-centric policies and practices, including the unwritten rule that Washington will select the group's president.

respectively. The index, first published by the World Bank in 2002, ranked countries on several aspects of business regulation. The ranks were important; a one percentage point improvement in the overall Doing Business score correlated with USD 250-500 million additional foreign direct investment (FDI). As a result, governments were tempted to manipulate them. Scores forced governments to change their policies, and governments lobbied with the bank to change the scores. WB insiders already knew about it. In January 2018, its Chief Economist Paul Romer told the *Wall Street Journal* that political motivations of the World

Bank staff had tainted the index. Twelve days later, Romer resigned.

All these incidents over the years point to a cultural problem and only strengthen the call for the World Bank Group's reform. One of the major criticisms is its US-centric policies and practices, including the unwritten rule that Washington will select the group's president. The process of preparing the since defunct Doing Business index was heavily biased towards the Common Law that the US and the UK follow. Countries operating under a civil legal code such as France – one of the world's largest economies – had initially ranked poorly for low scores on the "registering property" and "getting credit" metrics.

Let's recap the World Bank Group's *raison d'être*. Its main objective is to provide funds for development to nations that cannot finance it themselves. But that has changed. Today, China is one of WB's biggest borrowers. It also holds the world's largest foreign exchange reserves, is one of the highest recipients of FDIs, enjoys some of the best borrowing terms of any sovereign borrower, and is itself the world's largest sovereign lender. Why does the WB still lend money to China? Being the world's second-largest economy, China doesn't need the bank's funds. But the bank needs to lend because China is a good borrower, and it significantly benefits the bank's balance sheet.

The idea of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) came into being at a global conference in July 1944 at Bretton Woods in New Hampshire. The world has moved a long way from the post-World War II situation, when the US was the only financial power. Have the Bretton Woods institutions lost relevance in today's world?

'PEC, JSC exams are making for increased memorisation'

Dr Mohammad Tariq Ahsan, professor at the Institute of Education and Research (IER) in Dhaka University, and also a member of the Curriculum Development and Revision Core Committee (CDRCC), talks about why the PECE and JSC exams should be scrapped in an interview with Mohiuddin Alamgir of The Daily Star.

The government recently said there would be no Junior School Certificate (JSC) exams after Class 8 and the Primary Education Completion (PEC) and equivalent exams this year. What is your take on it?

I welcome this decision. Educationists in Bangladesh have been arguing for scrapping these exams permanently for a while now. We should go ahead and do it so that these exams don't take place in the future.

Why do the educationists want these exams scrapped?

Bangladesh's education system is memorisation-based, and these exams, which mark the completion of Class 5 and Class 8, respectively, have made memorisation all the more deep-rooted. They have also given a boost to the commercialisation of education via coaching centres, guidebooks and notes.

These exams were introduced in 2009 and 2010. Since then, how have they impacted children?

These exams have already had negative impacts on the psychosocial and emotional development of our children. We want and need creative, productive and skilled people in the country - people who will be able to perform their own duties and can have an impact on the development of society. Creative human beings who will be innovative and inventive. But an education system based on memorisation cannot produce such skilled and creative human resources.

The PEC and JSC exams have economic repercussions, too. Although it is said that primary education is free of cost and mandatory, after the introduction of these exams, students' dependency on coaching and notes has increased significantly, which increased out-of-pocket expenditure for their guardians. This out-of-pocket expenditure is high, because there is an unhealthy competition among parents about their children getting the highest grades in these exams. A study by the Campaign for Popular Education (CAMPE), conducted four to five years ago, showed that a parent needed to spend Tk 4,000-5,000 per month on coaching and guidebooks for each PEC exam candidate.

These exams are also putting mental pressure on the students as

they are pushed into the unhealthy competition of getting the highest marks in the tests. If a child cannot get the desired result, their confidence level is severely impacted, which negatively affects their mental and emotional development.

There is another issue: unethical practices are increasing among parents and teachers over these exams. Cheating takes place in the exams, and teachers are tutoring students privately instead of teaching lessons properly in the classroom. In the past, we also witnessed incidents such as

that these students eventually become desensitized to such practices. We cannot curb corruption because we cannot raise a generation that has strong ethical values. This is causing us permanent damage, because these students are growing up to be unproductive and unskilled people. One of the lifelines of our economy is remittance earned by expatriate Bangladeshis. Almost all of them are unskilled. If they were skilled, we could have earned 10 times more remittance than we do now. There is a shortage of mid-level managerial professionals.

our education is memorisation-based. Our students can hardly develop the capacity for questioning and critical thinking, leadership and cooperative skills.

The world is moving towards automation in sectors such as agriculture and ready-made garments (RMG). With these changes, many existing jobs will be abolished, and new kinds of jobs will be created. In this new era, no one is interested in the certificates you have; rather, employers look at what you can do and what kind of hands-on training you have.

In Bangladesh, 80 percent of students who enrolled at pre-primary level drop out before university. As a result, many of these students neither become knowledge producers, nor do they become skilled manpower. We need to transform our memorisation-based education system into one that can produce creative and skilled manpower.

Government officials often argue that PEC and JSC exams lessen students' fear about the later public examinations and determine scholarship recipients. What is your take on this?

This is not a logical argument right now. The new curriculum has proposed changes in the public exam system. In the new curriculum, we proposed reducing paper-and-pencil-based exams. We proposed that exams be held to determine students' proficiencies, and be more assignment-based and focused on problem-solving methods. There will be continuous assessment during the whole learning period.

In the current system, we are evaluating a student through a three-hour exam. These exams were never designed to evaluate a student as a whole.

Scholarships can be given on the basis of the creativity shown by students. Special arrangements like Maths Olympiad, Language Olympiad and others can be helpful to determine eligibility for scholarships. Across the globe, there are initiatives for assisting the development of advanced level students.

What kind of reforms are you proposing for public exams in the upcoming curriculum?

The majority of countries are reforming their curricula, targeting experience-based and competency-based education. They also reduced public exams and fixed term exams after Class 10 or 12. We also proposed not having any public exams before Class 10 in the new curriculum. There will be no written exams till Class 3, but there will be formative assessment for the students.

How will the evaluation be done?

We are for reducing the use of paper and pencil in the overall evaluation process. Students' capacity of proficiency and hands-on training should be increased. There will be some kind of tests for classical subjects like Bangla, English, maths and science. Learning time evaluation, continuous assessment will take place for the rest of the subjects. The evaluation will be formative assessment and by multiple stakeholders, including teachers, guardians and communities.

Are our teachers ready for these changes?

Preparing our teachers for these changes is really important. Without preparing the teachers, these reforms will not work. Skill enhancement, change of attitude of the teachers are also needed. An extensive training package has been planned, and it is being implemented. Previously, we had a training module where trainers of teachers were prepared first, and then they trained the teachers. Such modules minimise the quality of training. The new plan is that teachers will have some self-preparation by using web portals and apps, so that they don't go into the training sessions without knowing what to expect. Teachers will also get on-the-job mentoring. For such support, a mentoring group would be created in each upazila.

Future teachers, who will join in a few years, will get foundation training. Teachers who will join four or five afterwards, pre-service teacher education is also in the plan.

If we want quality teachers to bring qualitative change in our education, we will need to ensure their dignity as well as lucrative salaries. A small education budget is a big challenge to these goals.

We cannot curb corruption because we cannot raise a generation that has strong ethical values. This is causing us permanent damage, because these students are growing up to be unproductive and unskilled people.



Dr Mohammad Tariq Ahsan

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

question leaks during primary exams. And a nexus of some teachers and guardians were involved in question paper leaks.

Primary education is the foundation-laying level of education. As children at the primary level are suffering mental pressure and seeing such unethical activities, what kind of effects will these have on them as they move on to the higher levels of their education, and in life in general?

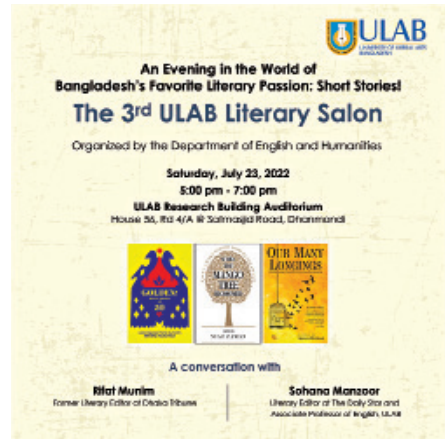
The impact of the unethical activities

To fill up this vacuum, foreigners are hired in these positions in our country. The amount of money these foreign workers are taking from us is almost the same amount of remittance we are earning. With our education system in its current state, we cannot create the manpower needed to fulfil the demand of the global market, nor the local market.

We don't have that many patents. Our education system is hardly research-friendly, and does not provide scopes for our children to develop into creative individuals. We need inquiry-based, experience-based, problem-solving-based learning, but

Advertisement for SPCL (Specialized Procurement Cell) regarding procurement of goods and services. Includes contact info: E-mail: info@spcbl.org.bd, Website: www.spcbl.org.bd. Address: Gaziipur-1903.

Official notice from the Government of Bangladesh regarding procurement of goods and services. Includes a table with 11 items and their specifications, and a table with contract details. Includes signature of Md. Maruf Ahamed.



BOOK NEWS ULAB Literary Salon to discuss Bangladeshi short story anthologies

STAR BOOKS REPORT

After hosting the Bangladesh launch of the novel *Cyber Mage*, the critically acclaimed novel by science fiction writer Saad Z Hossain, the third ULAB Literary Salon will acknowledge Bangladesh's passion for short stories by showcasing three remarkable recent collections: *When the Mango Tree Blossomed* (edited by Niaz Zaman), *Our Many Longings* (edited by Sohana Manzoor) and *Golden Bangladesh at 50* (edited by Shazia Omar). The event will take place on Saturday, July 23 between 5 pm – 7 pm at The Auditorium, 6th Floor, ULAB Research Building, House 56, Road 4/A Dhanmondi.

Noted editors and writers Rifat Munim, former Literary Editor at *Dhaka Tribune*, and Sohana Manzoor, Literary Editor at *The Daily Star* and Associate Professor of English, ULAB, will lead the conversation with other writers, including several contributors to these volumes. They will discuss their work, this vibrant literary art form, and the ever-enriching context of Bangladesh.

All three collections will be available for display and sale of signed copies at the venue. ULAB Literary Salon is open to all.

The Lit Salon is an initiative of the Department of English and Humanities at ULAB—University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh. The Lit Salon is a first of its kind literary platform in Dhaka to bring together writers, readers and publishers from Bangladesh and elsewhere in South Asia in an informal, engaging setting.

Once a month, each month, the ULAB Lit Salon offers Dhaka's literary minded a Saturday evening of book launches of leading authors, book readings, discussions, book signing, and sale of books at a discount by Bookworm Bangladesh and ULAB Press, ULAB Lit Salon's partners.

More information is available on the ULAB Literary Salon Facebook and Instagram pages.

BOOK REVIEW: NONFICTION

Getting a grip on the Bangladesh development narrative

MUSTAFIZUR RAHMAN

The celebration of 50 years of Bangladesh's independence has been a welcome opportunity to revisit and put on the spotlight Bangladesh's developmental experience over the past five decades, from a diverse range of perspectives. As is to be expected, a number of books have been published on this occasion covering the broad theme of economic development and dealing with a wide spectrum of areas. However, as the writers of the volume, *Bangladesher Orthonoitik Unnoyoner Gatidhara: Subarnajoyantite Firay Dekha* (University Press Limited, 2022) rightly point out in the preface of the book, regrettably only a few scholars have ventured to write books in Bangla. For this, the authors—three of the most highly acclaimed economists writing on the Bangladesh economy—deserve to be particularly appreciated. And one should hasten to also add that they—Rushidan Islam Rahman, Rizwanul Islam and Quazi Shahabuddin—have penned their interpretation and assessment in such lucid and eminently readable Bangla that even readers unfamiliar with the complex concepts of economics and development studies will feel comfortable going through the volume and learning from the excellent analysis and discussion that the authors offer.

The book poses a number of questions: which factors have contributed to Bangladesh's growth? What were the drivers of the turning points in the growth? What were the trade-offs involved? What are the puzzles that call for explanation? And what are the emergent risks and challenges? Drawing on the analyses, the book then offers a number of policy suggestions in view of the journey forward.

In undertaking this task, the authors dive deep to identify which factors and policies had triggered success, where new challenges and tensions are emerging and how these will need to be addressed with appropriate policies, fit-for-purpose institutions, by stimulating and incentivising the private sector and through capacity building of labour market participants.

The arguments and analyses put forward in each of the nine chapters of the volume are based on most recent available data and evidence and survey results, the richness of analyses also lying in the extensive reference to global literature to substantiate, refute and challenge conventional explanations and draw useful conclusions.

The authors point to important transitions, from aid dependence to trade dependence, import substitution to export-orientation, subsistence farming to commercial cropping and changes in the labour market, by relating



DESIGN: KAZI AKIB BIN ASAD

these to shifts in policies and practices. This allows readers to appreciate the path that Bangladesh has crossed, with deeper understanding about the causal relationships and the associated drivers. Thus, when the authors discuss GDP growth, investment, employment generation and agricultural production and food security, they contextualise these with issues of poverty and distribution, women's participation in labour force, technological changes and human development and issues of structural transformation, and relate these to policies and actors.

The authors argue that in industry, the challenge is to encourage private sector investment by incentivising product diversification and broadening the export basket underpinned by upgradation of skills and transfer of technology. In agriculture the challenge is to raise productivity, go for crop diversification and deepen backward and forward linkage of agriculture with industry. Going forward, agriculture will need to be less dependent on weather, industry will need to be founded on a more diversified base, public sector investment will need to be cost effective and private sector investment will need to be driven by skills and productivity, the authors argue.

While discussing issues of investment, the authors discuss why efficiency factors assume heightened interest if Bangladesh is to remain competitive both in domestic and foreign markets. This is very pertinent from the vantage point of Bangladesh's upcoming LDC graduation. They convincingly argue why not just employment creation but creating opportunities for decent employment will be increasingly important for Bangladesh; why women's greater participation has emerged as an urgent priority; why crop diversification has become a necessity for food and nutritional security at a time of shifting

consumer behaviour in the backdrop of rise in purchasing power, also more so in the backdrop of the current rise in global food prices. Backed by evidence, they show why in agriculture a new technological frontier will need to be opened as the advantages of the HYV-driven technological frontier are almost exhausted. One is, however, tempted to ask if Bangladesh is poised for a Lewisian turning point.

The authors draw attention to a number of puzzles. Why did the savings rate show signs of decline at a time when poverty rates were coming down sharply? Was it because dissaving by the poor also contributed to poverty reduction? Based on global literature, the authors note why a fall in inequality has emerged as a precondition for sustainable reduction of poverty in Bangladesh. If that be the case, then the question arises as to whether in Bangladesh, where income inequality has been on the rise, the fast pace of poverty reduction will be sustainable in future. The authors do not elaborate but raise an important research question.

It is to be noted that in undertaking their analyses, the authors have been constrained by the lack of reliable and up to date data, which they go on to identify as a major weakness of Bangladesh's official statistical system. They rightly point out the importance of generating up to date data, data reliability and data integrity for sound policymaking.

Indeed, this is a very timely publication deserving attention and appreciation of both experts and general readers keen to understand the Bangladesh narrative with its shifts and turns, and how the country can sustain the current momentum and realise its developmental aspirations in the context of a fast-changing domestic scenario and dynamic global developments.

Mustafizur Rahman is Distinguished Fellow, Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD).

BOOK REVIEW: POETRY

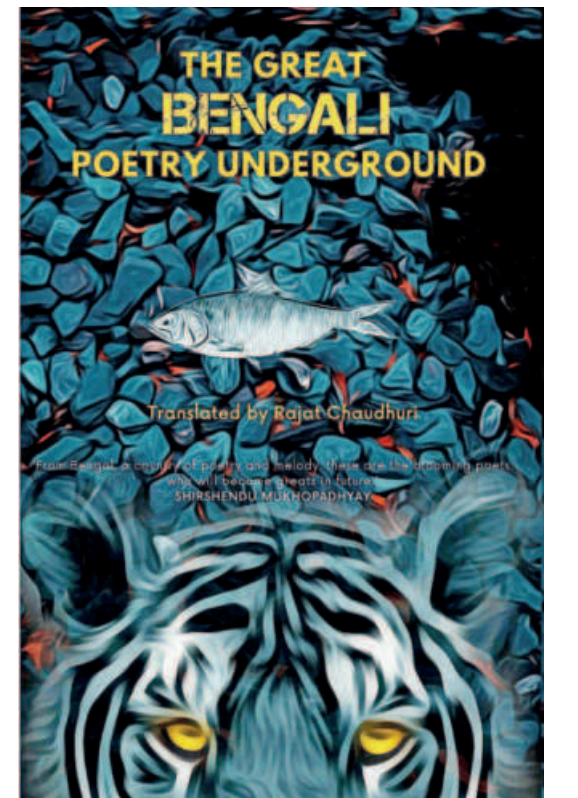
More poets than crows

MINHAZ MUHAMMAD

What is underground poetry?—you may ask. Editor and translator Rajat Chaudhuri offers somewhat of an answer in a sparse introduction to this book. During the late '90s, he spent a formidable chunk of his time mingling with poets from Kolkata. They were primarily writing for the love of the form and the way the language made them feel. But then things changed as they often do, life went on, and these poets never quite made it to the mainstream of Bengali poetry publishing. There's hardly any patronage for writing, let alone for poetry, that too in Bangla, a name that stands for both the language and the land. And as the saying goes over here—there are more poets in Bengal than crows. I suspect that there is some truth in this. Our parents would share life-lessons couched in rhymes in the form of bedtime stories. In school we would be forced to memorise and write them in exam scripts. While some certainly develop a hostile relationship to the medium, and understandably so, there's a great number of us, who see its power and what it can do. Think about all the protest poems, some of which are presented as songs, think about the influence of Rabindranath Tagore or Kazi Nazrul Islam. Then think about the time you fell in love and wanted to profess it, but instead of writing a novel, or a story, you wrote a poem. It was probably a bad poem, but nevertheless, even you are aware of the value of the form, and what it can accomplish.

Chaudhuri picks some of these poets from both sides of Bengal, who despite the trial and tribulation life threw at them, never stopped writing. Unlike us, they kept honing their craft, publishing at avenues like little magazines. And then came social media which granted them a second life. Chaudhuri locates 'underground' as these spaces, far from the mainstream and deep within the terrains, one that doesn't sustain but nourishes writers and their writings. And in hopes for new audiences and greater engagement, he selected some of their poems and translated them into English.

What comes across in the translations, from the very beginning, are the poems' distinctive Bengali origin, in the way their atmosphere has



been constructed, the elements that have been borrowed. Arpan Chakraborty writes about his first encounter with the summer storm—Kaalbaishakhi—in a poem titled 'I Wish'. As with many of his poems, this too is free-verse, written compactly, its architecture built on image, one on top of another. But what makes this one memorable is the way it gauges the body and its immediate response to different senses. The writer hears the clouds rumble, feels scared, gets stunned in silence and recalls the past where he would walk in the rain. There's an unmistakable longing to get back to a state of innocence that's no longer available, yet, the success, as stated in the last line—"Today you're in the spark of light that crosses the darkness / Don't you remember?" is in the pursuit of convincing the mind to travel to childhood through memory.

Atanu Chakraborty's poems feature a wide range of characters, from the mythical—Draupadi—to the ordinary, everyday man. But his primary concern seems to be the corporeal body: its various functions and adornments. The poem titled "Body" recalls Jibanananda Das to mind. Perhaps it was designed as an homage, at least any conscious reader of Bangla poetry will take it as such—body being one of Das's favourite topics to explore. While it would be unfair to compare anybody to Das's mighty and singular talents, in the context of the book, this poem offers very little. Its rhyming feels forced, perhaps due to the clunky translation.

In terms of "formal experimentation", the collection brings a few prose poems to the table. The one by Novera Hossain titled "Arrow-pierced Hornbill" takes advantage of the form. The result is long and meandering. It's ominous in its tone, achieved through short and clipped sentences. It's a story—in the way a poem can be called one—about birds, nature, city, and their existence and place in the world. But it also acts as an allegory, a warning bell about death, decay and destinations. Nevertheless, it seems to suffer from the same illness as much of the other poems. It uses its economy to create simple images that are at best mildly interesting, and at worst repetitive and boring.

If this collection proves anything, then it's that Bangalees will take to poetry like flies take to freshly cut mangoes on a hot summer day. But then, this can't all be it, can it?

Minhaz Muhammad is a contributor.

BOOK REVIEW: FICTION

The human cost of progress

SHOAB ALAM

Malaysia's economic progress has long fascinated the aspirational among us. More than 4,000 wealthy Bangladeshis have invested in Malaysia's expensive 10-year-residency visa programme, eager to bask in its tropical shores and sleek modern infrastructure. Since the 1980s, poorer Bangladeshis have relocated to Malaysia in droves for work until labour import from Bangladesh was banned in 2018. Nearly 800,000 Bangladeshis are still toiling away in Malaysia's plantations, staffing factories, and constructing skyscrapers, symbols of economic might, in jobs that Malaysians are too prosperous to do.

This formidable ascent has its costs. In 2015, authorities discovered multiple mass graves deep in the forests of the Malaysia-Thailand border. The victims, migrants from Bangladesh and Rohingyas fleeing Myanmar, had been starved, raped, and tortured before being killed by human traffickers. It's likely they had dug the very graves in which they were later hastily buried. Under the tinted glass canopies of rising Asia, hidden in its gleaming concrete jungles, lies a haunting tragedy, one that only fiction can—and must—unearth.

In *We, the Survivors* (2019), Malaysian writer, Tash Aw, dissects his country's transformation with tact and sensitivity. He writes not from the lens of a hip "KL urbanite" but a provincial man, Ah Hock, whose Chinese ancestors fled persecution to



DESIGN: KAZI AKIB BIN ASAD

settle in Malaysia. This is a deliberate and strategic choice: Ah Hock's life mirrors the fate of the migrants in his country in ways big and small. In the fishing village where he grows up, Ah Hock receives little education and has few prospects. Like millions across the continent, he is locked out of the Asian dream. The only road out leads to a bustling cosmopolitan city.

It is in Kuala Lumpur, working alongside migrants, that Ah Hock finally finds being Malaysian to be an advantage. The foreigners release him from the curse of manual labour; in a slew of low-paid jobs, he is quickly promoted to supervise them. Ah Hock watches their bodies waste away while he marries up, moves into a new house, and plans for an even bigger one. Tash Aw is particularly adept at capturing the toll of relentless manual labour on the mind and body. Passage after

passage describes the blood and sweat, the physical and mental degeneration imported from abroad.

It is fitting, therefore, that a sudden labour shortage finally puts a break on Ah Hock's social climb. Workers with papers, it turns out, are in short supply. In desperation, Ah Hock turns to the black market, a crucial mistake. When his attempt to crack a deal goes wrong, Ah Hock ends up brutally murdering a Bangladeshi broker. Though he is eventually caught, it takes the police two months to nab Ah Hock because the victim is, in his own words, "That type of person. A foreigner. An illegal. Someone with dark skin."

Thankfully, it isn't in Ah Hock's nature to make excuses for his crimes. At the start of *We, the Survivors*, he has recently been released and approached by Sui Min, a researcher and US returnee, seeking to turn his story into

a book. Much of this novel takes the shape of Sui Min's notes as Ah Hock downloads his past to her. Urbane, idealistic, but ultimately disconnected, her elite, socially conscious rage against an unfair system is a necessary foil to Ah Hock's resigned acquiescence to what fate offers him. Their nuanced tensions lay bare the chasms between Malaysia's contemporary social classes.

Unfortunately, the novel sacrifices some of this febrile forward motion to take us back to its crucial set piece, Ah Hock's crime scene. Some narrative tension fizzles out in lengthy flashbacks. Nevertheless, careful construction gives Tash Aw licence to rove through the myriad injustices of globalisation. Ah Hock is, ultimately, the novel's namesake, one of the survivors. In Tash Aw's novel, as in real life, the migrants don't fare quite as well.

With remittance as one of our chief economic engines, Malaysia is an especially important market, hosting one of the largest Bangladeshi diasporas. A recent deal will enable Bangladesh to send close to half a million more workers over the next five years. As we reap this windfall, we must look modern migration's harsh realities in the eye. Few novelists can show us with depth and heart that which we would rather not see. *We, the Survivors* deserves to be widely read in Bangladesh.

Shoab Alam is a writer and development worker from Bangladesh. Connect with him at shoabalam@outlook.com or @.annotations on Instagram.

Miraz banking on seniors' experience at 2023 WC

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh spinner Mehedi Hasan Miraz returned to the country yesterday after being adjudged player-of-the-match in first two ODIs as the Tigers swept the West Indies 3-0 in the ODI series.

The ODI series win will help the Tigers gear up for the Zimbabwe series, especially given they lost both the Test and T20I series in the Caribbean. Miraz said that they would have to make the most of the few days with their families to refresh themselves.

"We're professional players and that's how it's supposed to be," he said of the Zimbabwe tour coming so soon after the end of the West Indies sojourn. "It's important to mentally refresh ourselves and enjoy the time with our families."

He talked about the team's comfort in ODIs and said that if they could follow the template they had in ODIs, the seniors could make their experience count.

"The [50 over] 2023 World Cup [in India] is not far off. The way we are going forward, if we follow the same process, we can do well in the World Cup. Since we have a lot of experienced players. Tamim bhai, Shakib bhai, Mushi and Riyad bhai are very experienced. Even Mustafizur, Liton and I have played a World Cup. Those of us who are there have almost five years of international experience. So we can go to the World Cup with experience on our side," Miraz said when asked to comment on the World Cup dream.

Asked if the youngsters players had the responsibility to do something for the seniors in what might be their last World Cup, Miraz said: "It's everyone's responsibility. If we do something good in the World Cup, it will be good for us and the country. So as long as they [seniors] are there, we will try to achieve something big."



Bangladesh pacer Taskin Ahmed was delighted to be reunited with his son following a month-long tour of the West Indies, which the Tigers ended on a sweet note with a 3-0 ODI series win over the hosts after humiliating defeats in the preceding Test and T20I series.

PHOTO: FIROZ AHMED

Can Tigers sort out opening pair in Zimbabwe?

SPORTS REPORTER

With the upcoming ICC T20 World Cup in Australia later this year in mind, the upcoming tour of Zimbabwe presents the ideal platform for selectors to try something different to change the Tigers' dwindling fortunes in the shortest format of the game.

The Bangladesh team is scheduled to fly for Zimbabwe on July 26, just days after completing their tour of the West Indies, to take part in three-match T20I and ODI series.

Selectors are expected to announce the squad today ahead of Bangladesh beginning their tour of Zimbabwe with the first of the three T20Is in Harare on July 30.

Bangladesh's performances have been disappointing in the shortest format since the T20 World Cup in Oman and the UAE last year, when Mahmudullah Riyad's side lost to Scotland in the qualifier stage before losing all their group stage matches in the

event proper.

Batting has remained the biggest area of concern in the shortest format, especially when it comes to utilising the Powerplay, when teams look to score runs and lay the platform for big totals.

Interestingly, Bangladesh have fielded five different opening pairs in eight matches since the last World Cup. The likes of Liton Das, Naim Sheikh, Najmul Hossain Shanto, Saif Hasan, Anamul Haque and Munim Shahriar have been shuffled around, but no duo has shown promise.

Bangladesh were whitewashed in the three-match T20 series in West Indies, with the team management trying two different opening pairs featuring Munim Shahriar, Liton Das and Anamul Haque but none made an impact.

Although Tamim did not feature in the Tigers T20I side in the past year or so, his retirement from the format should give the

selectors a clearer picture as they aim to form a settled opening pair before the T20 World Cup.

"Our opening pair has definitely not been doing well. We tried a few players, including the latest in the lot, Munim Shahriar. We have already finalised 12-13 players for the upcoming Zimbabwe tour and we are in discussions before finalising the full squad. I think we need to look forward, especially in regards to the opening pair, which is very important for us," chief selector Minhajul Abedin Nannu told The Daily Star yesterday.

The chief selector had previously said that they would give another opportunity to Anamul, who made a comeback to T20I format after seven years on the tour of the West Indies. However, he also hinted that they would experiment by including someone new in the opening position for the Zimbabwe tour.

Messi on course to fulfilling Khelaifi's promise?

AGENCIES

It probably is too soon to tell, but Lionel Messi seems to be on the right track to fulfilling his PSG club president Nasser Al-Khelaifi's promise made last month.

Messi netted just 11 goals in all competitions for PSG last season but the French club president said last month that in 2022/23 "we will see the best version of Messi ever."

Messi was among the scorers on Wednesday but PSG were made to work hard for a 2-1 win over Kawasaki Frontale in the first match of their pre-season Japanese tour.

Star forward Messi, Neymar and Kylian Mbappe all started in new PSG manager Christophe Galtier's first game in charge of his full squad in front of a crowd of 65,000 at Tokyo's National Stadium.

Messi opened the scoring with a 32nd-minute shot but a much-changed PSG line-up in the second half could manage only one more goal through substitute Arnaud Kalimuendo.

J-League champions Kawasaki pulled a goal back in the 84th minute when Kazuya Yamamura headed home unmarked to set up a nervy finish.



Baridhara deny Ctg Abahani

SPORTS REPORTER

Uttar Baridhara secured a crucial point in their quest to stay in the top tier of professional football with a fighting 2-2 draw against Chittagong Abahani in their Bangladesh Premier League fixture at the Sheikh Fazlul Haque Moni Stadium in Gopalganj yesterday.

The draw lifted Baridhara to 14 points from 20 matches, two points clear of Muktiyoddha Sangsad and five ahead of Swadhinata KS, both of whom have played a match less.

Chittagong Abahani, on the other hand, stayed in seventh position with 27 points from 20 matches.

Shakhawat Hossain Rony gave the port city side the lead in the 10th minute before Arifur Rahman doubled the lead in the 36th minute.

Saiddoston Fozilov reduced the arrears for Uttar Baridhara five minutes after restart before Arif Hossain scored the equaliser in the 78th minute.



PHOTO: AFP

Shafique scripts epic at Galle to down Sri Lanka

AGENCIES

It was a tense fifth day morning, with Pakistan needing 120 more with seven wickets in hand to pull off a record chase at Galle against Sri Lanka.

But even though three wickets fell, and Pakistan survived multiple close calls on a day when the play was halted briefly by rain, Abdullah Shafique's continued presence meant that Pakistan always had the chase in hand.

Shafique hit an epic 160 to anchor Pakistan's record chase of 342 at Galle as the tourists won a thrilling opening Test against Sri Lanka on Wednesday.

The opener capped his marathon display with the winning runs in the final session on day five, jumping for joy and pumping his fist as Pakistan triumphed by four wickets for a 1-0 lead in the two-match series.

Pakistan went on to accomplish their second highest successful chase of 342 riding Shafique's career-best knock, which included seven fours and a six.

"The way he [Shafique] plays, so clean and with his focus, he will get many, many more such knocks," said

HIGHLIGHTS

● **The 342-run target chased by Pakistan against Sri Lanka is the highest successful chase by any side in Galle.**

● **Abdullah Shafique's 524-minute stay at the crease is the longest by any batter during a successful chase in Tests.**

● **Shafique's 408 balls are also the second most faced in a successful chase.**

● **Shafique amassed 720 Test runs after just six matches. Only three batters scored more runs than him in their first six matches: Sunil Gavaskar (912), Don Bradman (862) and George Headley (730).**

Pakistan skipper Babar Azam, who was involved in a key third-wicket stand of 101 with Shafique to set up the chase.

"I hope that he becomes one of the best openers in the world."

The 22-year-old batted for just under nine hours and five sessions against a spin attack led by the in-form Prabath Jayasuriya, who took a match tally of nine wickets.

"As a youngster, when you prove yourself and perform in tough conditions and difficult tracks, then it's good," Azam told reporters.

"His confidence was high after performing against Australia so he was on a different level. And to perform against quality bowling, your confidence goes up higher."

Shafique survived three dropped catches, on 70, 135 and 151, but deserved his luck and played the anchor's role to perfection as he surpassed his previous Test best of 136 not out.

Shafique, who was named man of the match, said: "It was difficult but with time it was easier. Babar is one of the best in the world. We have learnt so much from him. I enjoyed batting with him in the middle."

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Director
Chattogram Medical College Hospital.
www.cmch.gov.bd

Memo No: CMCH/Tender/2022-2023/Outsourcing Manpower/9330 Date: 20-07-2022.

Invitation For Tender


Sealed tenders are hereby invited from recognized Contractors / Manpower Suppliers to supply **Outsourcing manpower** for CMCH in the fiscal year 2022-2023. As per PPA-2006 & PPR-2008 (Including all corrigendum); Terms and conditions are as follow(s):

KEY INFORMATION			
1 Ministry / Division	Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.		
2 Agency	Chattogram Medical College Hospital, Chattogram.		
3 PE Name, Designation & Contact details	Brigadier General Md. Shamim Akbar, Director, Chattogram Medical College Hospital. Telephone: +88031630179, Fax No: 88-031-610022, E-mail address: cmch@hospi.dghs.gov.bd		
4 Procuring Entity Code & District	GOB, Chattogram.		
5 Invitation for	Tender for procurement of supplying outsourcing manpower for CMCH in the fiscal year 2022-2023.		
6 Tender Ref. No & date	Memo No: CMCH/Tender/2022-2023/Outsourcing Manpower/9330 Date: 20-07-2022.		
7 Procurement Method	Open Tender Method (OTM).		
8 Budget and Source of Funds	GOB in Bangladeshi Taka.		
9 Tender Publication Date	20-07-2022.		
10 Tender Schedule Selling Starting Date and Time	23-07-2022 During office hours.		
11 Pre-Tender Meeting	06-08-2022, 11:00 A. M.		
12 Tender Last Selling Date and Time	20-08-2022, 12:00 P. M.		
13 Tender Dropping & Closing Date and Time	Dropping date: 21-08-2022, Dropping time: from 09:00 AM to 12:00 PM. Closing time: 12:01 P. M.		
14 Tender Opening Date and Time	21-08-2022 at 01:00 P.M.		
Name and address of the Office's			
(a) Selling Tender Documents	1 Cashier, Office of the Director, Chattogram Medical College Hospital.		
	2 Cashier, Office of the Civil Surgeon, Chattogram District.		
(b) Receiving Tender Documents	1 Office of the Director, Chattogram Medical College Hospital.		
	2 Officer in-charge, Panchalish Model Thana, Chattogram Metropolitan Police.		
Tender Documents Opening Place Office of the Director, Chattogram Medical College Hospital, KB Fazal Kader Road, Chattogram.			
INFORMATION FOR TENDERS			
16 Bidders Eligibility	Details in Tender Booklet.		
Description of Group, Price of Tender Document, Tender Security etc.			
17 Sl. No.	Description of Group	Price of Tender Document in BDT (Only in Cash, Non Refundable)	Tender Security in BDT (Bank Draft / Pay Order to be submitted with the tender booklet in favor of The Director, CMCH). Bank guarantee is not acceptable.
1	Tender for procurement of supplying outsourcing manpower	2,500.00 (Two Thousand Five Hundred only)	6,00,000.00 (Six Lac only)
18 Description of Related Services	Detailed description in Tender Booklet.		

Note:
(a) Corrigendum if necessary in future will be a part of this notice. The competent authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tender without assigning any reason whatsoever.
(b) If the date of selling, receiving & opening of tender is disturbed under any unavoidable circumstances, the next working day will be applicable for the same respectively.

(Brigadier General Md. Shamim Akbar)
Director
Chattogram Medical College Hospital.
Telephone: 880-31-630179
E-mail: cmch@hospi.dghs.gov.bd

IN THE MAIN STRUCTURE OF PADMA BRIDGE
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Hasina writes to Mamata

Intends to meet the West Bengal CM during her upcoming India visit



OUR CORRESPONDENT, New Delhi

Ahead of her official visit to India in the first week of September, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina expressed hope to meet West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee whose consent is required for inking the Teesta water-sharing deal.

"I hope that during my scheduled tour of India in September, 2022, there will be an opportunity to meet you," Hasina said in a letter to Mamata on July 12.

Although the dates of Hasina's India visit are yet to be officially announced, she is expected to be on tour on September 5-7.

The Bangladesh PM in her letter

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Hundreds of train passengers stuck on the Dhaka Airport Railway Station platform as angry students blocked the Nilsagar Express Train coming in from Kamalapur yesterday morning, as part of an ongoing protest against railway irregularities. Train movement was halted there from 9:00am to 12:20pm, causing sufferings to regular passengers. Related story on Page 3. PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

ASHRAYAN PROJECT-2 'I'll invite the PM to our home!'

Says an ecstatic 9-year-old upon getting new home in Panchagarh

ASHIK ABDULLAH APU and MIRZA SHAKIL

"I am Sheikh Hasina's Jannat!"

This is the sweet response of a nine-year old whenever her name is asked.

Jannat's family, in Kajaldighi of Panchagarh's Boda upazila, was gifted a semi-pucca house and two decimals of land under the government's Ashrayan 2 project - aimed at providing homes to the country's homeless people.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will officially inaugurate the second part of the project's third phase today.

"I used to see other people's homes and dreamed of having one of our own someday. The prime minister has fulfilled that dream. I love her very much and will invite her to our house in Panchagarh whenever I get the chance," Jannat, a third grader of Kajaldighi Government Primary



Jannat

SEE PAGE 7 COL 1

ENERGY CRISIS

Shutting diesel-run plants won't do much

Top energy expert tells Star

SADI MUHAMMAD ALOK

A top energy expert has expressed doubt over whether the government's actions to solve the energy crisis will bear much fruit, and said people with lower incomes will be hit harder by measures such as load shedding.

While speaking to The Daily Star yesterday, Prof M Shamsul Alam, Consumer Association of Bangladesh's (CAB's) adviser and energy expert, was also unsure whether temporarily shutting down diesel-fired power plants would have much impact on saving fuel.

"The diesel-run power plants are being shut down to save expenditure. However, whenever there will be load shedding, use of generators will increase. As a result, energy consumption will increase, too.

"The government cannot or will not control this. The rich people and government officials will save themselves from load shedding by using generators and Instant Power Suppliers (IPSs).

"Ultimately, the brunt of load shedding will be borne by people with low-income levels. They will endure this pressure. In a nutshell, 70 to 80 percent of the country's

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Prof M Shamsul Alam

1,543 GOVT PROJECTS

Over a third missed deadline last fiscal year

Likely to see cost escalation

TUHN SHUBHRA ADHIKARY

At least 552 projects that were supposed to be finished by June this year could not meet deadlines.

They constitute 36 percent of the total 1,543 projects that got Annual Development Programme (ADP) allocation in the last fiscal year.

The number of projects that missed their deadlines in the 2021-22 fiscal year is 63 percent higher than the number (337) in the previous fiscal year, show planning ministry documents.

Having missed the deadlines, authorities have to seek time extensions and, as delays usually go hand in hand with cost increases, this will likely escalate the costs of many of the projects.

Most of the projects involve construction of roads, bridges, rail lines, while some others are technical assistance projects.

The cost overrun of development projects have become a major concern, with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina on several occasions giving directives to stop wastage of state resources.

The Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD) recently said the government is making significant investments in public infrastructure projects (PIPs), but a lack of good governance in project implementation undermines efficiency.

The think tank identified weak feasibility studies, coordination failure, delays in land acquisition,

Having missed the deadlines, authorities have to seek time extensions and, as delays usually go hand in hand with cost increases, this will likely escalate the costs of many of the projects.

and frequent changes of project directors as some of the key reasons behind the poor governance in PIP implementation.

Because of the cost escalations and deadline extensions, the majority of the projects fail to attain their goals that include the

internal rate of return, financial rate of return and the economic rate of return.

The National Economic Council at a meeting in May this year directed that the 552 projects which failed to meet the deadlines be included in the ADP for 2022-23 fiscal year, and asked authorities to extend their deadlines by June 30 - the last day of the 2021-22 fiscal year.

The Planning Commission in a letter last month asked all secretaries of ministries and divisions concerned to complete necessary procedures for time extension by June 30, shows a planning ministry document.

Different implementation agencies of those projects have sent proposals to the planning ministry, but deadlines of many of the projects have yet to be extended.

"We have already sent time extension proposals for the projects concerned. However, the process takes time and so deadlines are being extended gradually," said an official of roads and highways department, one of the major implementing agencies.

Scientists discover two new giant crocodile species

INDEPENDENT.CO.UK

Scientists have discovered two new crocodile species that lived between 18 and 15 million years ago and likely preyed on early humans, an advance that sheds more light on the evolution of the reptiles.

These crocodiles, which may have grown to over 3.5m (12 ft) in size, formerly inhabited east Africa between 18 and 15 million years ago before "inexplicably becoming extinct", scientists from the University of Iowa in the US say.

The new species - Kinyang mabokoensis and Kinyang tchernovi - are similar to the dwarf crocodiles found in central and western Africa, according to the study, published in the journal The Anatomical Record.

However, while the dwarf crocodiles rarely grow longer than 4 or 5 ft, scientists say their prehistoric ancestors could reach lengths of up to 12 ft (3.6m), making them among the most dangerous threats to any animal they came across.

"These were the biggest predators our ancestors faced," study co-author Christopher Brochu, professor in the Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences at the University of Iowa,

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Narco trade rose alarmingly since Rohingya influx

Say researchers, officials

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Trafficking of illegal drugs, notably methamphetamine or 'yaba', from Myanmar to all its neighbouring countries has risen alarmingly since the 2017 Rohingya influx in Bangladesh.

This poses serious threats to security in the region, researchers and officials have said.

They called upon the international community to take urgent action against Myanmar - producer and supplier of the drug that harms consumers both physically and mentally.

Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan Kamal said police across Chattogram division seized 34.76 lakh Yaba pills in 2016. The number increased to 1.2 crore in 2018 and 2.59 crore in 2021.

"The Rohingyas are not the consumers but the carriers," he said at a seminar, organised by the Diplomats World Publication on "Rohingyas & Narco Terrorism", at the capital's Radisson Blu Water Garden yesterday.

Kamal said the long, porous Bangladesh-Myanmar border is used for drug trafficking, which is leading to more criminal activities. Those who become addicted may also become easy prey for extremist organisations.

Imtiaz Ahmed, professor at Dhaka University's international relations, in his keynote speech, said

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A fisherman works on his nets on the Chila Canal in Bagerhat's Mongla. As the ongoing 65-day fishing ban is about to end on July 23, fishermen across the country are readying the equipment they need to head back out to the sea. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: HABIBUR RAHMAN

TWITTER POST Alt News co-founder gets interim bail

REUTERS, New Delhi

India's Supreme Court yesterday ordered the release on bail

of a prominent journalist arrested last month over what police said was a "highly provocative" 2018 tweet aimed at straining ties between majority Hindus and minority Muslims.

Mohammed Zubair, a co-founder of fact-checking website Alt News and vocal critic of Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi, was arrested after an anonymous Twitter user lodged a complaint over the four-year-old post.

While granting Zubair bail, the judges stated that "power of arrests must be pursued sparingly".

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