

'Circular will facilitate loan defaulters'

Petition challenges BB's decision to relax default loan rescheduling policy
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A rights organisation has filed a writ petition with the High Court challenging legality of a Bangladesh Bank decision to grossly relax the policy for rescheduling of defaulted loans.

Human Rights and Peace for Bangladesh (HRPB) submitted the petition to the HC on August 28, seeking a stay on the effectiveness of the circular issued by the central bank on July 18.

The organisation said the BB has issued the notice to give facilities to the big loan defaulters, which is discriminatory and contradictory to the constitution. Corruption will take place in the banking sector due to the extra facilities given to the loan defaulters, HRPB's lawyer Manzill Murshid told The Daily Star.

On July 18, the central bank issued the circular allowing the defaulters to reschedule their non-performing loans for four times in contrast to the previous three times.

DAG Tushar Kanti Roy told The Daily Star yesterday that the HC may hear the petition after reopening of the court on October 16.

PRAYER TIMING
SEPTEMBER 5

Fazr	Zohr	Asr	Maghrib	Esha
AZAN 4:30	12:45	4:45	6:23	7:45
JAMAT 5:05	1:15	5:00	6:26	8:15

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

'We can't progress leaving them behind'

Suborno Nagorik Foundation honours inspirational persons with disabilities



Suborno Nagorik Foundation, an organisation that works for the betterment of persons with disabilities, in association with United Commercial Bank (UCB) and The Daily Star, yesterday honoured 15 successful individuals with disabilities, special needs children's parents, organisations that employ physically challenged people, and sports organisations where differently abled people are included. The event held at capital's Daffodil Education Network Conference Hall in Dhanmondi. PHOTO: STAR

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A total of 15 persons with disabilities and organisations working for them from different parts of the country were honoured with crests and certificates yesterday at Daffodil Education Network Conference Hall in Dhanmondi.

The event, titled "UCBL Suborna Nagorik Award 2022: Special Citizen Award for Changing perception and Improving the Quality of Life of Persons with Disabilities", was organised by the Suborna Nagorik Foundation, which works for the betterment of disabled people in Bangladesh.

The event was sponsored by United Commercial Bank (UCB), with The Daily Star as

a media partner and Daffodil International University as a strategic IT partner.

The awards were presented in four categories – special needs children's parents, successful persons with disabilities, organisations employing physically challenged people, and sports organisations with specially challenged people.

In a special category, titled "Silent Heroes", seven independent persons with disabilities, who have become self-reliant despite their challenges and have been guiding others to be independent, were also awarded.

This special civic honour was aimed at the issue that physical adversity cannot be an obstacle and persons with disabilities can

reach the expected goal with the collective efforts in building the country.

"The number of people with physical disabilities in Bangladesh is more than one and a half crore. More than half of them are women and children. A large section of the country's citizens are grossly neglected, backward, and unemployed. Their position is at the bottom of the economy," said Suborna Nagorik Foundation founder and CEO Asif Iqbal Chowdhury, also moderator of the event.

"It is not possible to achieve the desired development goals of the country without including this large number of people," he added.

Mostafa Azad Chowdhury Babu, FBCCI senior vice president,

was also present at the event.

He invited the Suborna Nagorik Foundation at FBCCI to discuss a campaign among businessmen across the country to create job opportunities for persons with disabilities.

Syed Ashfaul Haque, executive Editor, The Daily Star; Dr Md Sabur Khan, founder and Chairman Board of Trustees, Daffodil International University; ATM Tahmiduzzaman, deputy managing director, UCBL; Abul Kalam Azad, EVP and head of Brand Marketing and Corporate Affairs, UCB; spoke at the event, among others.

This initiative was officially launched with a press conference at the Gulshan Head Office of UCBL on June 14, 2022.

2 private hospitals fined over anomalies

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Chattogram

The Directorate of National Consumer Rights Protection (DNCRP) yesterday fined a private hospital in Chattogram for using expired reagents (a substance used for medical tests).

Anisur Rahman, assistant director of the DNCRP Chattogram divisional office, said, "We have fined Metro Diagnostic Center of Golpaha area Tk 1 lakh for using expired reagents."

Besides, DNCRP fined Landsteiner Blood Bank & Transfusion Medicine Centre Tk 20,000 for not having a date on the blood bag, he said.

DNCRP also fined Hotel Sufia Tk 12,000 for preparing and serving food in unclean and unhygienic condition.

Man hacked to death in Ctg

UNB, Ctg

A 42-year-old man has been hacked to death allegedly by a drug addict youth in Sitakunda upazila of Chattogram, said police.

The deceased was identified as Md Khurshid Alam, a resident of the upazila.

The alleged drug addict, Arafat, hacked Khurshid with a sharp weapon on Saturday night following an altercation when Khurshid's car hit him in the municipality area, said Abul Kalam, officer-in-charge of Sitakunda Model Police Station.

Later, locals rushed Khurshid to Chattogram Medical College and Hospital where doctors declared him dead, he added.

Steps will be taken to arrest Khurshid, said the OC.

213 more dengue patients hospitalised

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

At least 213 dengue patients were admitted to different hospitals across the country in the last 24 hours till 8:00am yesterday.

With 213 new patients, 55 from outside Dhaka, the total number of dengue cases this year rose to 6,905, according to the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS).

A total of 817 dengue patients are still undergoing treatment and of them 129 are from outside Dhaka. A total of 6,065 patients have been released from hospitals so far.

Reconsider decision to use EVM The ordeal of putting drug traders behind bars

FROM PAGE 3
were not provided with the source code of the machine and we do not have much to say about it at present, we are eager to share our long-standing experience on the election with the Commission," the letter said.

Shujan, in the statement, said EVM is not connected to the internet, and no one has the software

source code. It is almost impossible for anyone to manipulate the machine.

"But a vested quarter with the help of EC officials might be able to take control of the machine by putting malware in the intranet of EC. The existing EVM is a technically weak machine," it said.

"We fear that the disparaging statement of commissioners and EC's

decision to use EVMs [in up to 150 seats] by accepting the ruling party's recommendation has further provoked doubts about the neutrality of the Commission."

In such a situation, Shujan strongly request the commission to reconsider the decision in the larger national interest, it said in the letter.

FROM PAGE 3
"We are aware of the low conviction rate and are trying to improve the condition. We are also training officials about dealing with narcotics cases and ensuring the presence of witnesses," he added.

DNC appointed 68 prosecutors across the country in 2019 to improve the conviction rate and expedite disposal of long-pending cases. But the disposal rate has not improved.

For instance, police arrested Mohammad Babul and Mahammad Golap with 100 bottles of Phensedyl from Uttar Bishil area of the capital's Shah Ali on June 4, 2006.

A case was filed with

Shah Ali Police Station that day.

After 28 days, Anisur Rahman, a sub-inspector of police's detective branch (DB), pressed charges against the duo, and on November 26 that year, a Dhaka court framed charges against them.

Only three out of 10 prosecution witnesses gave their depositions till June 27, 2010, according to court documents.

Since then, the remaining seven witnesses, including IO Anisur Rahman, have not appeared before the court to testify, despite the court issuing several summonses.

The case has recently been transferred to Speedy Trial Tribunal-4 of Dhaka for quick disposal.

Asked about the poor conviction rate, Tohidul Islam, additional deputy commissioner of the transnational crime unit of Counter Terrorism and Transnational Crime, said the fate of narcotics cases depends on proof of seizure.

"It can only be proved by witnesses' statements, as video footage of seized drugs are not accepted in court as evidence," he said.

The Cabinet Division on July 25 gave the final approval to the draft of Evidence (Amendment) Act, 2022, which will allow electronic records and digital data to be admissible in court.

Once passed in parliament, the proposed amendment will give

both the prosecution and defence the opportunity to produce digital evidence.

SMUGGLING ON THE RISE

DNC's annual report shows that narcotics smuggling, especially of yaba, also increased in 2021, when compared with the previous year.

The report shows that the amount of yaba seized, which is smuggled into the country from Myanmar, increased by 45.88 percent between 2020 and 2021.

A similar scenario has been witnessed with regards to heroin and cannabis, which mainly enter from India.

The amount of heroin seized by law enforcers increased by 109.67 percent during the same period,

the report reads. Only eight to 10 percent of total smuggled narcotics can be seized by law enforcers, so 90 percent flood the market.

Usually when smuggling increases so do seizures, according to officials and experts.

Obituary and Dua
Ms. Najma Khasru, wife of late Syed Amir Khasru passed away on Sept 2 (Friday), 2022 afternoon after Juma prayers. There will be a Dua for her on Sept 9 (Friday) at the residence of her son Prof. Syed Munir Khasru after Asr prayers from 4:30-5:30 pm. Cousins, relatives, friends, and well wishers are requested to join. Address: Dhanmondi, Road 3 (Opposite Labaid hospital), House 11, Urban Nestlewood, Apt 9B. Contact: Emran: 01711532092.

Strengthening

FROM PAGE 4
Each of the boats also featured different folk culture including Gazir Gaan, Gambhira, Alkap rangaros, sang ranga, Madarer Gaan and Manasa pala.

In Charghat, a

procession paraded the town followed by a discussion.

The discussants said Gram Theatre has been working on the heritage and culture of Bangladesh for more than four decades, aiming to consolidate

the non-communal cultural consciousness of Bangalees and move towards the future.

After the discussion, Rajshahi's Mathal performed a gambhir. In the afternoon, the boat journey ended with returning to the city.



Hundreds of people gathered to see the inauguration of "Bangamata Begum Fazilatun Nesa Mujib 8th Bangladesh-China Friendship Bridge" over Kacha River at Bekutia in Pirojpur yesterday. The bridge was inaugurated by Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina through a virtual platform from her office in the capital. PHOTO: TITU DAS

Find alternative

FROM PAGE 3
go from the warehouses to the people for OMS and food-friendly programmes.

"In the last couple of days, the price of rice has decreased by Tk 4-5. The pressure on the people has reduced significantly due to OMS and food-friendly programmes," he said.

The cabinet secretary said he had recently held a meeting with several deputy commissioners who reported that Aman's irrigation work is going well due to uninterrupted power supply from midnight to dawn in village areas.

In the meeting, the cabinet, in principle, approved the Bangladesh Institute of Management Act, 2022, reports BSS.

Besides, ratification of the Protocols Amending Articles 50 (a) and 56 of the Convention on International Civil Aviation was also cleared by the Cabinet in yesterday's meeting.

PM OPENS BEKUTIA BRIDGE
Meanwhile, the PM yesterday inaugurated the

1,493-metre "Bangamata Begum Fazilatun Nesa Mujib 8th Bangladesh-China Friendship Bridge" over Kacha River at Bekutia in Pirojpur, reports UNB.

The bridge has established uninterrupted road connectivity between Khulna and Barishal divisions.

The premier joined the event through a virtual platform from her office in the capital.

Road Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader and Chinese Ambassador to Bangladesh Li Jiming also spoke at the opening ceremony conducted by PM's Principal Secretary Ahmad Kaikas.

The Chinese envoy said the bridge will give a strong boost to the development of southern Bangladesh.

To continue such a precious tradition of friendship, China is determined to build the 9th Bangladesh-China Friendship Bridge, he said. Experts from the two countries are already preparing for feasibility study on the project.

বঙ্গবন্ধু শেখ মুজিবুর রহমান বিজ্ঞান ও প্রযুক্তি বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়, গোপালগঞ্জ
নিয়োগ বিজ্ঞপ্তি
বঙ্গবন্ধু শেখ মুজিবুর রহমান বিজ্ঞান ও প্রযুক্তি বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়, গোপালগঞ্জ-এর পরিচালনা, উন্নয়ন ও প্রকল্প দপ্তর পরিচালক পদে নিয়োগের জন্য বাংলাদেশের প্রকৃত ও স্থায়ী নাগরিকদের নিকট থেকে দরখাস্ত আহবান করা যাচ্ছে।
আবেদন ফর্ম, শিক্ষাপত্র যোগ্যতা, অভিজ্ঞতা এবং নিয়োগের অন্যান্য শর্তাবলী অত্র বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের ওয়েবসাইট www.bsmrshu.edu.bd-তে সন্ধান করা যাবে।
আবেদনপত্র পত্রাঙ্গের শেষ তারিখ ২৯/০৯/২০২২ বিকাল ৪.০০টা।
স্মারক নং-বঙ্গবন্ধুবি/প্র/নিয়োগ/২০২২/২৬-২৯/১৩৪২ তারিখ: ০৪/০৯/২০২২
স্বাক্ষর: রেজিস্ট্রার (ভারপ্রাপ্ত)

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Executive Engineer, PWD E/M Division-1
Tejgaon, Dhaka. Phone: 0255030115

e-GP Tender Notice
The following tender has been called through e-GP System.

Sl	Tender name	Opening date & time
01.	Construction of 10-Storeyed building with a semi-basement Sobhanbag Mosque at Mirpur Road, Dhanmondi (Sub-Head: Supply & Installation of 2 Nos. 1000-Kg, 10-Stop Passenger Lift and 1 No. 1600-Kg, 10-Stop Fire Lift)	25-Sept-2022, 15:00

All others information is available in www.eprocure.gov.bd

Dr. Md. Ashraful Islam
Executive Engineer
PWD E/M Division-1, Dhaka
GD-1681