

Police Week
to start on
January 3

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The six-day Police Week 2023 is going to begin on January 3.

After a two-year gap due to the pandemic, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has given her consent to be present at the inaugural ceremony in the capital's Rajarbagh Police Lines.

Confirming the development, Haider Ali Khan, deputy inspector general (operation) of the Police Headquarters (PHQ), told The Daily Star that they have already taken all necessary steps for the event.

Followed by the inauguration, the PM will attend a welfare parade with officials.

Asked about placing any demands at the parade, DIG Haider said they are yet to decide on any specific demands to place in front of the premier. "But we may request for our needs in front of the prime minister."

According to PHQ sources, the PM will listen to seven officers of different ranks -- from constable to additional superintendent of police -- at the welfare parade about their ongoing issues.

Besides, at least 100 officers will receive Bangladesh Police Medal (BPM) and President Police Medal (PPM) from the PM for their courageous work around the year, they said.

According to the schedule, on the second day of the programme, the PM will give a speech addressing the police officials at the Prime Minister's Office. On the same day, the president will also give a speech addressing them at Bangabhaban.


On the third day, police officials will hold a meeting with Home

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**PRAYER
TIMING**
DECEMBER 27

Fajr	Zohr	Asr	Maghrib	Esha
AZAN 5:30	12:45	4:00	5:27	7:00
JAMAAAT 6:05	1:15	4:15	5:30	7:30

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION



Meherpur Krishak
League leader
assaulted Inamul

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kushiia

Meherpur's Krishak League leader Bani Amin was the person who assaulted Engineer M Inamul Haque, former director general of the River Research Institute, in Dhaka on Saturday.

Bani Amin is the president of Krishak League's Kazipur Union of Gangni upazila, said party sources.

On Saturday afternoon, Inamul was speaking at a rally in front of the National Museum at Shahbagh when Bani Amin was passing through the area to participate in Awami League's 22nd national council at Surawardy Udyan.

Amin suddenly attacked Inamul, bringing allegation that he was making anti-government statement at the rally.

Criticism started pouring in soon after a video of the incident went viral on social media.

While talking to The Daily Star yesterday morning, Bani Amin regretted the incident.

He said he asked Inamul not to make such statements. But when Inamul did not pay heed to him, he attacked him, he added.

Gangni Police Station's Officer-in-charge Manajit Nandi said he had heard about the incident.

However, no complaint has been filed in this regard yet, he mentioned.

"The incident took place in Dhaka. We are yet to receive any instruction from there," the OC said.

Contacted, District Krishak League General secretary Wasim Sajjad claimed that Amin is known as a "gentleman". The reason behind the incident should be investigated, he said.



PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

Staffers of ships docking at the St Martins ghat have to take this risky endeavour regularly since no structure, like ramps or ladders, is in place to get off the vessels after docking. They walk on the rope that ties the ship to the dock till they get off. The photo was taken recently.

Want to save a river?
Brace for slew of cases

Tk 8.15-cr project to save Ichhamati fails

AHMED HUMAYUN KABIR TOPU,
Pabna

In March 2021, Water Development Board started dredging 5.67 kilometres of Ichhamati river to increase its navigability, under a project worth Tk 5.46 crore. Besides, it simultaneously kicked off an eviction drive, under a Tk 2.69 project, to free the riverbank.

The deadline of the first project was June 2022, while the second one is scheduled to end in February 2023.

But TTSL, the company in-charge of the dredging project, apparently left the project site some months ago after completing only 30 percent of the work. Some Tk 95 lakh used for the project so far has practically been washed away into



Ichhamati, as the re-excavated part of the river has been covered with silt again.

The eviction drive has been abruptly halted too, and the

encroachers are trying to reoccupy the land that was freed. The reasons for this situation are the slew of cases filed by the encroachers and lack of

coordination between Water Development Board (WDB) and TTSL.

"We have written repeated letters to TTSL to complete the dredging work but they are reluctant to continue," Sarwar Jahan Sujon, executive engineer of Pabna WDB, told The Daily Star.

"Only 13 percent of the allocated fund has been used so far," he mentioned.

Md Ismail Hossain, a local shopkeeper, said, "I had been living beside the river for many years. But my house was evicted in the name of dredging the river. Sadly, the river has been filled up with silt again."

"This was all for nothing," Ismail said.

Md Shahin Reza, sub-divisional

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Fog disrupts
ferry services

UNB, Goalanda

Poor visibility caused by thick fog has disrupted the ferry services on Daulatdia-Paturia and Aricha-Kazirhat routes yesterday morning.

Meanwhile, the movement of all types of water transports has been suspended on the routes.

Khorshed Alam, office assistant manager of Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Corporation (BIWTC) at Daulatdia point, said the ferry services remained suspended from 6:00am due to poor visibility.

Heavy fog started to cover the river basins of Daulatdia-Paturia and Aricha-Kazirhat points from midnight. The authorities halted all ferry services on these two routes to avoid the risk of accidents.

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PHOTO: COLLECTED

HABIGANJ MUNICIPALITY

Row over payment mode
stalls water-supply project



MINTU DESHWARA, back from Habiganj

On June 30, the Directorate of Public Health Engineering finished building a water-supply centre in Habiganj at a cost of Tk 9.29 crore.

This is the second water-supply project in Habiganj municipality. It has a water-purification capacity of 350 cubic feet per hour.

However, even six months after completion, the project is still not up and running due to a disagreement between the municipal authorities and Bangladesh Power Development Board (BPDB) over electricity connection.

BPDB intends to provide prepaid-meter electric connection for the water-supply scheme. But the municipality wants postpaid facility to pay the bill.

Abdul Quddus, assistant engineer (water and sewerage) of Habiganj municipality, said if this centre starts operation, at least 60 percent

residents will get pure water.

Currently, half of Habiganj dwellers are already getting clean water from the first water-supply centre located in Kalibari area of the city. The new centre, located in Babystand area of Habiganj, can supply purified water to at least 10 to 15 percent of Habiganj dwellers, he added.

Ataur Rahman, mayor of Habiganj municipality, said, "The municipality is an institution of the state. We always pay our bills in postpaid mode. But BPDB is not agreeing to this for the second centre."

"There is a delay in getting electricity connection due to BPDB's negligence and irresponsibility. That is why this centre cannot be launched. Residents are being deprived of clean water," he added.

Contacted, BPDB Habiganj Office Executive Engineer Abdullah Al Mamun Sarkar said, "Monthly

bills must be paid monthly. In the postpaid method, bills can be kept in arrears. The municipal authorities want to take advantage of this method."


"We are ready to provide electricity connection according to the BPDB policy," he added.

As the two government bodies pass the buck over the payment method, it is the people of Habiganj who continue to suffer, said locals and rights activists.


The water residents get is full of iron and often unusable. However, locals reluctantly end up using the contaminated water as they don't have any alternatives, they added.

Tofazzal Sohel, coordinator of Habiganj Sankhubdo Nagorik Andolon, said, "BPDB and the municipal authorities should pay heed to the people's needs."

"Both sides have to come forward to resolve the disagreement," he added.



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Memo No: 57.03.8800.301.07.034.22-
Date: 26/12/2022

Invitation for e-Tender

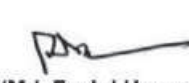
Sl No.	Tender ID	Name of package & Ref. No.	Last date & time for selling document	Tender/proposal closing date & time	Tender/proposal Opening Date & Time
1.	767775	SPI /GD-1, Memo No: 57.03.8800.301.07.034.22-895 Date: 15/12/2022	16 January, 2023 12:00	16 January, 2023 14:00	16 January, 2023 14:00
2.	768932	SPI /GD-2, Memo No: 57.03.8800.301.07.034.22-896 Date: 15/12/2022	16 January, 2023 12:00	16 January, 2023 15:00	16 January, 2023 15:00
3.	768969	SPI /GD-3, Memo No: 57.03.8800.301.07.034.22-897 Date: 15/12/2022	16 January, 2023 12:00	16 January, 2023 16:00	16 January, 2023 16:00
4.	768979	SPI /GD-4, Memo No: 57.03.8800.301.07.034.22-898 Date: 15/12/2022	16 January, 2023 12:00	16 January, 2023 17:00	16 January, 2023 17:00
5.	768991	SPI /GD-5, Memo No: 57.03.8800.301.07.034.22-899 Date: 15/12/2022	17 January, 2023 12:00	17 January, 2023 14:00	17 January, 2023 14:00
6.	768993	SPI /GD-6, Memo No: 57.03.8800.301.07.034.22-900 Date: 15/12/2022	17 January, 2023 12:00	17 January, 2023 15:00	17 January, 2023 15:00
7.	769688	SPI /GD-7, Memo No: 57.03.8800.301.07.034.22-901 Date: 15/12/2022	17 January, 2023 12:00	17 January, 2023 16:00	17 January, 2023 16:00
8.	769451	SPI /GD-8, Memo No: 57.03.8800.301.07.034.22-902 Date: 15/12/2022	17 January, 2023 12:00	17 January, 2023 17:00	17 January, 2023 17:00

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

The fees for last selling/downloading the e-Tender Documents from the National e-GP system portal have to be deposited online through any registered banks branches up to: as mentioned in IFT.

Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP system portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd), +8809609112233, +8801762625528, +8801762625529, +8801762625530, +8801762625531).

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