

## Court accepts

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he relieved Prof Nikhil from the charges. The case was filed with Badda Police Station under the Public Examinations (Offences) Act in November 2021.

Following the question leak in recruitment tests of five state-owned banks on November 6, 2021, the detectives have so far arrested 11 people.

Initially, Bangladesh Bank ignored the question leak complaints and did not make any immediate enquiry. Later, it cancelled the examination.

The name of Prof Nikhil came up in Delowar's confessional statements during investigation in the case filed with Badda Police Station under the Public Examinations (Offences) Act in November 2021.

A few days later, on November 21, 2021, Nikhil was relieved of the chairman post of Buet's industrial and production engineering department and exam-related duties.



The Daily Star and Manarat Dhaka International School & College signed an agreement on the latter's campus in Dhaka yesterday. Under the agreement, students of the educational institution will now have the opportunity to read the newspaper with exceptional facilities. Brig Gen (ret'd) Md Mehdi Hassan Pramanik, principal of the school and college; and Imran Kadir, head of marketing, business development, The Daily Star, signed the deal on behalf of the respective organisations.

PHOTO: STAR

## 64pc of its land

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presented to the parliamentary watchdog by the BJC. According to the report, the grabbers or their heirs are involved in the encroachments. Besides, mosques, madrasahs, temples, government slaughterhouses, Bihari camps, municipality, markets, chamber of commerce, rickshaw workers' unions, fire stations, educational institutions, health complexes, land

office, post office, telephone office, local clubs are also in the list of grabbers.

According to the report, BJC's immovable assets include 797 houses, 1,924 trees, 62 office buildings, 120 warehouses, 21 presses, 29 shops, 19 educational institutions, one mosque, one temple, and two pieces of machinery.

According to the report, a total of 299 cases of BJC are ongoing. Among them, 14 were in Supreme Court,

86 in High Court, and 187 were in lower court.

In the meeting, it was recommended that the summary of the occupied land of BJC will be placed before the prime minister for recovering the grabbed land and deposit the money earned by selling the illegally occupied unused land to the state exchequer.

Awami League MP Mirza Azam, chairman of the parliamentary watchdog, presided over the meeting.

## EC in dilemma over

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By taking population data from the latest census preliminary report, each parliamentary seat should have over 5 lakh people on average, if the population were distributed equally.

"This means we need to add 10 more constituencies in Dhaka, five in Gazipur, and two each in Chattogram and Khulna," Alamgir said.

"From where will we get these seats? The number of constituencies are fixed at 300," he added.

Demarcation of seats, a complicated and technical job that sometimes creates controversy, takes a good amount of time, said EC officials.

The commission will have to publish a preliminary list of redrawn constituencies, and the voters will get the chance to file appeals against the EC's decision.

The EC would be able to finalise demarcation only after settling the objections.

In the process, some constituencies become larger and some smaller.

This means some MP candidates in the next parliamentary election will have to woo new voters in their constituencies, while some would lose voters in their strongholds.

The EC's work plan for the 12th parliamentary polls, likely to be held late December this year or early January 2024, targetted to prepare a new policy to demarcate constituencies by reviewing the previous policy by January this year, and complete delimitation by June.

The then KM Nurul Huda-led commission brought changes to boundaries of 25 constituencies, ahead of the 11th parliamentary polls in December 2018.

The then commission, headed by Kazi Rakibuddin Ahmad, redrew the boundaries of 87 constituencies in 2013, ahead of the 10th parliamentary elections.

The ATM Shamsul Huda-led commission brought massive changes to 133 constituencies ahead of ninth parliamentary polls in 2008.

## Welcoming new cultures

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the first manga (comics or graphic novels originating from Japan) magazine in Bangladesh. This is the first time they have set up shop in Boi Mela.

Faiaz Ishrak, chief editor of Source, said, "We are overwhelmed by the reader's reception. It's just our first issue, we are

selling a lot every day."

He said there are only three mangas in the first issue. The first one is Qangkai, an action-fantasy-adventure genre written and drawn by "Oindrojo". The second manga features Hasin Raihan Dhruvo and Fatin Raihan Arco's original psycho-thriller story called

"Carnage". The first read is the first volume of Black Jack, a popular manga by Shuto Sato, that has been translated into Bangla.

After the weekend, yesterday's Boi Mela's doors were open for all at 3:00pm.

According to Bangla Academy, 73 new books were published on the fifth day of the fair.

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খুলনা-৯২০৩  
সংশোধনী  
পত্র ০৪/০২/২০২২ইং তারিখে প্রকাশিত নিম্নোক্ত বিজ্ঞপ্তির ক্রমিক নং-৪ এ বর্ণিত পদের বেতন স্কেল ৩৫৫০০-৬৭০১০/- স্থলে ২২০০০-৫৩০৬০/- পড়িতে হইবে এবং ক্রমিক নং-৫ এ বর্ণিত পদ সংখ্যা ১টি এর পরিবর্তে ২টি পড়িতে হইবে। (জিডি-১৮৮)

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Please visit our web site, <https://www.pubalibangla.com/tender.asp> for more details. Interested Parties may purchase Tender documents by **20 February 2023** duly fulfilling all other requirements and submit their proposal on **22 February 2023** up to **11:00 AM (BST)**.  
(Md. Helal Uddin)  
GM & Division Head  
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GD- 185

## Proposed data protection law

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"Before I describe some of our concerns though, let me be clear -- we respect that Bangladesh will choose for Bangladesh," Haas mentioned.

"So, what are some of our concerns? We worry the Data Protection Act, if passed with strict data localisation requirements, may force some US companies currently operating in Bangladesh to leave the market," he said.

The online-platform regulations will similarly dissuade companies from investing in businesses, if they face criminal liability for user content. The consequences could have very negative effects for Bangladesh, he continued.

Over 2,000 startups could be put out of business, and services that Bangladeshis use millions of times every day could become inaccessible, Haas said. He also expressed concern over human-rights issues that may arise if DPA is enacted.

"...However, as we look at the draft online-platform regulations, we are

concerned about the broad definitions for what type of online content is deemed criminal. The ability to accept criticism and ensure freedom of speech even when that speech is unpleasant are hallmarks of a strong democracy," he said. "We are concerned the latest draft of the DPA does not provide for an independent data oversight authority and that it includes criminal penalties," he added.

Echoing Haas, Robert Chatterton Dickson, British high commissioner in Bangladesh, said Bangladesh has made remarkable progress in the digital field -- like IT outsourcing and data processing. However, the continuation of this progress may be affected by DPA, he said.

New technologies like cloud computing, artificial intelligence and machine learning have the potential to create new markets and drive prosperity in Bangladesh.

These need to be regulated in the right way, he said. "We also have

some concerns about data localisation."

Bangladesh may also face another huge risk if foreign businesses find themselves unable to access international tools, which is basic for doing business.

Rubaba Dowla, country managing director of Oracle Bangladesh, Nepal and Bhutan, said in 2008, the total export of the IT sector was \$25 million, which reached nearly \$2 billion in 2021. Export from IT industries will grow to \$4.8 billion by 2025, and investment in this sector will also grow to \$5 billion by this time.

But, how will the country reach these targets if there are such barriers, she questioned.

Iftekharuzzaman, executive director of Transparency International Bangladesh, said there is a possibility of unregulated use of personal data by the stakeholders. It is a huge risk.

Tuomo Poutiainen, country director of the International Labour Organisation, also spoke.

## Waiting for justice even after

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"People will remember the platform because it was one of the significant events in the post-Liberation War era. Shahbagh does not sleep, rather Shahbagh rises during times of national crisis. If necessary, we'll take to the streets again," said Kamal Pasha, one of the organisers of Gonojagoron Mancha.

At the beginning of the rally, organisers observed one-minute silence in respect of the activists who were murdered by militant outfits.

A group of cultural performers of Bangladesh Udichi Shilpigoshthi staged cultural events, followed by a torch procession during the event.

Some of the placards from the rally read, "Confiscate all wealth of war criminals" and "Return to the constitution of 72".

Gonojagoron Mancha means "platform for popular uprising" or "mass-awakening platform". It refers to the Shahbagh mass protest in Bangladesh, which began on February 5, 2013 and calls for the punishment of those involved in war crimes committed during the Liberation War.

**Sylhet City Corporation**  
Nagar Bhaban, Sylhet  
[www.scc.gov.bd](http://www.scc.gov.bd)  
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1. Ministry/Division Ministry of the Local Government, Rural Development & Co-operatives.  
2. Agency Sylhet City Corporation Electrical Department  
Tender ID No. Type of method Publishing & opening date of tender submission Brief description of work  
3. 778035 NCT, OTM (Goods) 05-Feb-2023 10:00:00, 05-Mar-2023 15:00:00 Supply & Installation of Lift & Generator with other Electrical Equipment for (Nagar MAA and Shishu Hospital) at Kumarpura, Sylhet City Corporation  
4. 775393 NCT, OTM (Goods) 05-Feb-2023 10:00:00, 06-Mar-2023 15:00:00 Supply & Installation of CCTV, Lift, Solar System, Automatic Sliding Door & Access Control and Fire Fighting Equipment for Nagar Bhaban of Sylhet City Corporation  
6. Name, designation & address of PE Md. Ruhul Alam Executive Engineer (Electrical) Sylhet City Corporation. 02-996635045 01911-249699  
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Md. Ruhul Alam Executive Engineer (Electrical) Sylhet City Corporation  
GD-184

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