

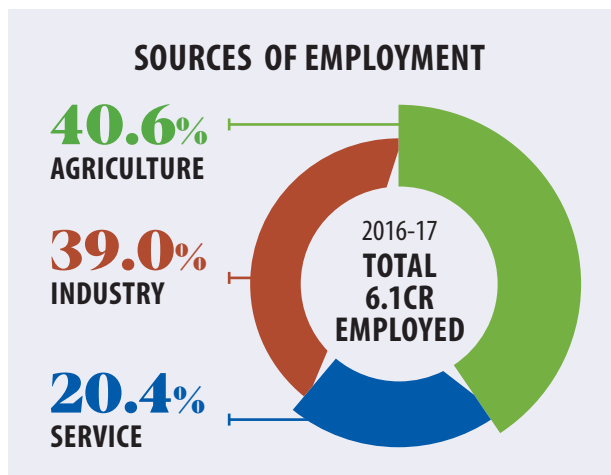
LABOUR FORCE SURVEY 2022

Agriculture still main job generator

REJAUL KARIM BYRON

It seems the Bangladesh economy is stuck in a time warp, going by the latest edition of the Labour Force Survey unveiled yesterday.

As an economy develops, more and more labour move out of the agriculture sector and join the manufacturing sector. In the next stage of transformation, workers move out of manufacturing and on to the services sector.



In Bangladesh, agriculture continues to be the chief source of employment -- in 2022. In 2016-17, the sector accounted for 40.6 percent of employment. In 2022, that ratio increased to 45.33 percent -- indicating that the country continues to be a largely agrarian society.

The share of manufacturing in total employment declined from 20.4 percent in 2016-17 to 17.02 percent -- raising questions about the nature of economic development in recent years.

Over the past decade, the Bangladesh economy clocked in respectable GDP growth of about 6 percent on average, and just before the global coronavirus pandemic started, it was amongst the fastest growing nations in the world.

SEE PAGE 2 COL 3



PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

Covering their mouth, members of leftist student platforms form a human chain in front of the Raju Memorial Sculpture in Dhaka University yesterday demanding immediate release of daily Prothom Alo journalist Samsuzzaman Shams. Shams was detained in a DSA case.

2 ministers, AL leaders slam Prothom Alo over report

STAR REPORT

Two ministers and ruling party leaders yesterday came down heavily on Bangla daily Prothom Alo for a report it ran online on March 26.

Their comments came after Prothom Alo reporter Samsuzzaman Shams was picked up from his home

SEE PAGE 2 COL 3

Prothom Alo journo held at dead of night

Case filed under Digital Security Act

STAR REPORT

A Prothom Alo reporter was picked up from his home in Savar by law enforcers wearing plainclothes around 4:00am yesterday, triggering widespread criticism.

Samsuzzaman Shams, a staff correspondent based in Savar, was detained less than two hours after a Jubo League leader sued him under the Digital Security Act (DSA).

Journalist organisations and rights bodies condemned the incident and demanded his immediate release.



S Shams

SEE PAGE 7 COL 4

Editors, journo, rights bodies voice concern

STAR REPORT

The Editors' Council has expressed deep concern over the detention of Samsuzzaman Shams, a reporter of Bangla daily Prothom Alo, and filing of a case against him under the Digital Security Act.

The DSA has already created barriers to journalism as well as freedom of speech and freethinking, the organisation said in a press release

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1

AL serves people while BNP-Jamaat destroy: PM



STAR REPORT

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has said the BNP-Jamaat clique destroys people's properties but the Awami League builds to serve the nation as it emerged from the struggle to ensure people's rights.

"From the very beginning, the Awami League is continuing

SEE PAGE 6 COL 4

Prothom Alo editor sued under DSA

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Prothom Alo Editor and Publisher Matir Rahman, reporter Samsuzzaman Shams, an unnamed assistant cameraman, and unnamed others were sued late last night under the Digital

SEE PAGE 7 COL 8



PHOTO: FIROZ AHMED

Bangladesh captain Shakib Al Hasan bagged five wickets as Ireland were handed a 77-run defeat in a curtailed-over match in Chattogram yesterday. The performance put another feather in his cap in becoming the highest wicket-taker in T20Is with 136 scalps. The Tigers took an unassailable 2-0 lead in the three-match T20I series.



Nur-E-Alam Siddique passes away

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Nur-E-Alam Siddique, whose name is etched in the history of the nation's struggle for freedom, passed away early yesterday.

An organiser of the Liberation War, he was widely known as one of "four caliphs" -- the four key leaders of Swadhin Bangla Kendriya Chhatra Sangram Parishad, which was at the forefront of the non-cooperation movement in March 1971.

The former lawmaker

SEE PAGE 6 COL 4

Rice, wheat intakes get smaller for poor

Finds survey by Sanem

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Poor people are eating smaller portions of the staples rice and wheat while their protein intake has become few and far between as they strive to make ends meet amid the persistently high inflation, according to a recent survey.

In the first eight months of the fiscal year, inflation averaged 8.74 percent, way above the budgetary target of 5.6 percent, according to data from the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics.

"Low-income families have become big victims of high inflation, supply chain disruptions and imperfections in the domestic market," said Selim Raihan, executive director of the South Asian Network on Economic Modelling (Sanem), which conducted the survey.

The findings of the survey titled "Effects of Inflation on the Livelihoods of the Poorer Households in Bangladesh" were revealed at a press briefing at the Brac Centre Inn in the capital yesterday.

Sanem surveyed 1,600 households in eight divisions between March 9 and

March 18 and found the average cost for families is 13 percent more than six months ago. The highest cost increase was in food.

Poor households have reduced their consumption of staples like rice and wheat by 37.08 percent and 56.55 percent respectively.


More than 96 percent of the poor have slashed their meat consumption and 88.22 percent have reduced fish consumption. Egg and oil consumption was down 77.06 percent and 81.43 percent respectively.

However, the income of the households remained unchanged in the six months -- from September last year to February this year.


To cope with the situation, 90 percent of the households are changing their food habits and 74 percent are forced to borrow, Raihan said.

"Poorer households are eating less -- they are more food insecure now," he said, adding that the extent of the impact is higher in urban areas than in

SEE PAGE 7 COL 4




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COX’S BAZAR 3 Rohingyas killed in landslide

They were hired by local traders to cut hills illegally

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Cox’s Bazar*

Three Rohingya refugees, who were buried alive while illegally cutting hills in Ukhiya of Cox’s Bazar, were hired by local soil traders at lower wages.

According to locals and forest department sources, two locals of Muhuripara village in the upazila, have been selling soil and sand by illegally cutting hills of the Forest Department for a long time.

The duo appointed the Rohingyas to cut the hills at lower wages, they alleged.

SM Sarwar Alam, divisional forest officer of South Forest Division in Cox’s Bazar, said preparations were underway to file a case on behalf of the forest department in this regard.



The dead are Syed Akbar, Zahid Hossain and Nur Kabir.

They were buried alive under a huge chunk of soil while cutting hills in Muhuripara area of Sadar Rajapalong union between 3:30am and 4:00am, said Officer-in-Charge of Ukhiya Police Station Sheikh Mohammad Ali.

Soon after the incident, other workers took the body of a victim inside the Rohingya camp, which was later recovered by police.

Police and fire fighters in Ukhiya also conducted a search at the scene and recovered two more bodies. The bodies were sent to Cox’s Bazar Sadar Hospital morgue for autopsy.

Police are investigating the incident and process is underway to file a case in this connection, said the OC.



Devotees take Astami Snan, the holy bath in the Old Brahmaputra, in Narayanganj’s Langanbandh yesterday. The pilgrims believe that the bath in the river will please Brahma and they will be relieved of their sins.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

PUBLIC HOSPITAL DOCTORS They’re to see patients after hours from today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

From today, doctors at 51 public hospitals will see patients after their working hours taking fees.

The healthcare facilities include 11 district hospitals and 40 upazila health complexes.

For this, the Directorate General of Health Services instructed the chiefs of these hospitals to prepare at a meeting on Tuesday afternoon.

However, majority of the chiefs said they may not be able to start the service from today, a DGHS official, who was present at the meeting, told this newspaper, preferring anonymity.

“We have been instructed verbally, but did not receive any order in writing yet,” Anisur Rahman, superintendent of Sunamganj Sadar Hospital, told this

correspondent last night.

He said they would not be able to start the service today.

“Because we have shortages of manpower and logistics. In fact, we have been struggling to keep the outdoor service smooth during office hours.”

Besides Sunamganj Sadar Hospital, 10 other district hospitals are Manikganj, Rajbari, Feni, Cox’s Bazar, Khagrachhari, Jamalpur, Jhenaidah, Thakurgaon, Bhola, and Kurigram, according to the DGHS draft list obtained by The Daily Star.

The upazila health complexes include Savar and Keraniganj (Dhaka), Araihaaz (Narayanganj), Madhupur (Tangail), Bhairab (Kishoreganj), Boalmari (Faridpur), Tungipara (Gopalganj), Bhedarganj (Shariatpur), Senbagh, Begumganj (Noakhali), Patiya (Chattogram),

SEE PAGE 7 COL 3

Sultana’s death in Rab custody won’t impact US-Bangla ties Says foreign minister

UNB, Dhaka

Foreign Minister AK Abdul Momen yesterday said that the death of Sultana Jesmine in Rab custody won’t impact the US- Bangladesh relations.

“This type of incident can happen suddenly. You can see such accidents happening in the US almost every day,” he said.

The minister made the remarks at the foreign ministry while responding to journalists’ queries regarding the death of Sultana.

“Just this week, children were killed in a mass shooting in the US. Is

SEE PAGE 7 COL 3

Editors, journos, rights bodies voice concern

FROM PAGE 1

undersigned by its President Mahfuz Anam and General Secretary Dewan Hanif Mahmud.

Journalists, lawyers, human rights activists, civil society members, and even several ministers and lawmakers have been expressing concern and suggesting amendments to the act, it says.

The Editors’ Council also has been opposing the law from the very beginning.

Law Minister Anisul Huq recently hinted at amending the act to prevent its misuse. Even after this, journalists and free thinkers are continuously being harassed and repressed through the use of this act, reads the press release.

“An aggrieved person can file a complaint and a case with the Press Council regarding any news. Instead, cases are being filed under DSA,” it states.

For the sake of independent journalism and a safe environment for journalism, the Editors’ Council demands amendments to DSA immediately and the withdrawal of cases against all journalists, including Shams.

In a separate statement, Editors Guild Bangladesh expressed deep concern over the detention of Shams.

“It is everyone’s duty to ensure a safe environment for the work of free and independent media,” reads the statement signed by Mozammel Babu, president of Editors Guild and editor-in-chief of Ekattor TV.

“If the Prothom Alo publishes any news going against the ethics of journalism, the aggrieved party can seek redress at the Press Council. The matter should be settled through the Press Council,” it said.

Dip Azad, secretary general of Bangladesh Federal Union of Journalists (BFUJ), also thinks the issue could have been taken to the Press Council instead of detaining the journalist and filing a case against him.

“Our opposition to the use of Digital Security Act against journalists will remain unchanged,” he told The Daily Star last night.

“At the same time, we think Prothom Alo should have issued a clear explanation for its work that went against the ethics of journalism.”

A CID team from Dhaka picked up Shams from his home in Ambagan area near the Jahangirnagar University campus early yesterday after a Jubo League leader filed the DSA case.

It drew condemnations from different political, social and right organisations, who demanded his release immediately.

Meanwhile, 30 eminent citizens yesterday expressed concern over the picking up of journalist Shams.

In a statement, they said the reporter had been untraced for about 10 hours after he was picked up.

“Detaining a person at night without a warrant is unthinkable in a civilised country. We are dismayed at such harassment of citizens during the month of independence,” added the statement.

They demanded unconditional release of Shams and repeal of the DSA.

Among the signatories to the statement are former Dhaka University VC Prof Anwarullah Chowdhury, photographer Shahidul Alam, writer and economist Prof Anu Muhammad and Supreme Court lawyer Sara Hossain.

At a protest programme, President of CPB’s south unit Shamsuzzaman Hira said the quote in the news report in question reflects the view of every common people of the country.

“We took part in the Liberation War. The country is yet to achieve economic emancipation though we got a map and a flag. The struggle for freedom is still going on,” he said.

Rights organisation Ain o Salish Kendra said the conduct with the journalist was very repulsive and unacceptable.

“Such an act [DSA] is a huge barrier to independent journalism and professional duty,” it said, adding that picking up a journalist in the middle of the night is unacceptable.

“The practice of denying the detention of Shams is unthinkable,” reads the press release signed by ASK Executive Director Nur Khan.

Founding President of Foundation for Human Rights Culture Advocate Sultana Kamal said the human rights activists have long been demanding that it is not appropriate for law enforcers to pick up anyone when they are in plainclothes because it gives them scope to conceal their identities.

“The state agencies must have transparency while discharging duties,” she said in a press release.

Rastro Songskar Andolon said the government does not dare counter the report logically by producing evidence. Demanding his immediate release, it asked the government to repeal DSA.

Agriculture still main job generator

FROM PAGE 1

It is a similar story in the services sector: its share of employment declined to 37.65 percent from 39 percent in 2016-17, when the labour force survey was last carried out by the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics.

“This is not a good sign,” said Ahsan H Mansur, executive director of the Policy Research Institute of Bangladesh.

In 2022, the total number of employed in the manufacturing sector stands at 1.21 crore, down from 1.24 crore in 2016-17.

This is somewhat puzzling because industry, particularly manufacturing, was the fastest growing sector during the same period, said Zahid Hussain, a former lead economist of the World Bank’s Dhaka office.

“How can the absolute number employed decline when production in the sector is growing at nearly double-digit rates? Automation may be one explanation, but has it happened to an extent that would fully explain the decline in industrial employment?”

Skill shortage can explain slower employment growth, not decline in employment, Hussain said.

“When there is no employment option, you go back to farming. The strategy is you migrate from agriculture to industries or services, esp. industries. This shows that the manufacturing growth could not be maintained,” said Mansur, also a former economist of the International Monetary Fund.

The total employed by the

agriculture sector increased from 2.47 crore in 2016-17 to 3.22 crore in 2022.

“When more worker is employed in agriculture, the output per worker declines. When labour productivity is not increasing, it is alarming for economic growth,” Mansur said, adding that insufficient investment could be the reason for the lack of industrial job creation.

Meanwhile, the total number of employed has increased from 6.08 crore to 7.08 crore in the six years.

“All of the increases in employment seem to have happened in agriculture and services where job quality is a major issue. The share of agriculture in GDP has been declining at a time when employment expanded by over 70 lakh. This fact deserves deeper analysis,” Hussain said.

The total number of unemployed has declined from 27 lakh to 26.3 lakh. Subsequently, the unemployment rate has come down to 3.6 percent from 4.2 percent.

“These are nonsensical statistics. Our problem is underemployment as the poor have to work to survive in a country like Bangladesh,” Mansur said.

The definition of unemployment is the one used by the International Labour Organisation.

“That definition applies to advanced economies. What is relevant is the unemployment among the educated. The unemployment there is 24-25 percent,” said Mansur, also the chairman of Brac Bank.

However, the survey brought

some good news: female labour force participation increased in the six years.

In 2016-17, 1.86 crore women were employed. That number increased to 2.5 crore in 2022.

“Labour force growth came entirely from a remarkable increase in female participation rate by over 6 percentage points,” Hussain said.

In 2016-17, the female labour force participation rate was 36.3 percent, which increased to 42.68 percent in 2022.

“This is necessary. It is no longer possible to run a house on one income. This has positive socioeconomic implications,” Mansur added.

Female labour force participation in urban areas declined significantly: from 31 percent in 2016-17 to 23.6 percent in 2022, Hussain said.

“There appears to have been a reverse migration of female labour from urban to rural areas,” he said.

Off-farm activities have increased in recent times, said Planning Minister MA Mannan at the launch of the survey.

Activities that are related to crops and livestock but occur outside of the field such as processing, packaging and other forms of value addition are termed off-farm activities.

This perhaps explains the increase in female labour force participation in rural areas.

Female labour force participation rate in rural areas increased from 38.6 percent to 50.89 percent in 2022.

Mannan went on to cite a survey

by the Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies that found the poverty rate declined from 20 percent to 16 percent during the pandemic to further his point.

“We did not go for a hard lockdown — our roads were always open. We swiftly ensured a stimulus package. As a result, Bangladesh fared better than other countries with the pandemic,” he added.

During the pandemic, many returned to villages and took up farming, said Shamsul Alam, the state minister of planning.

There has been a structural change in the agricultural sector, with a variety of crop options and plenty of incentives.

“So the jump in rural jobs is not unrealistic,” he said.

In 2016-17, 4.39 crore people were employed in rural areas. In 2022, that number stood at 5.31 crore.

In contrast, urban employment increased from 1.69 crore to 1.77 crore in 2022.

Alam, however, called for increasing blue-collar jobs.

Garment factories account for up to 80 percent of manufacturing jobs and employment generation in those plants is stagnating.

“Manufacturing jobs must increase but that can’t happen overnight,” he added.

BBS is considering publishing the labour force survey, which was first done in 1980, every quarter, said Shahnaz Arefin, secretary of the statistics and informatics division.

Man jailed over rape

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Patuakhali*

A Patuakhali court yesterday sent a man to jail in connection with the rape of a woman in the district’s Kalapara upazila.

The victim filed a case against Riaz, 30, of the same upazila, with Kalapara Police Station on Tuesday night.

According to the case statement, Riaz entered the victim’s house and raped her on Monday night when she was alone at her home. Hearing her scream, locals rushed to the spot and rescued her.

On information, police arrested the accused and placed him before the court, said Jasim, officer-in-charge of Kalapara Police Station.

The court then sent him to jail, he added.

The victim was sent to Patuakhali Medical College Hospital for medical tests.

Chinese crewman goes missing

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, *Ctg*

A Chinese crewman has remained missing for more than 28 hours after accidentally falling into the sea at the outer anchorage of Chattogram port on Tuesday afternoon.

The missing crewman is Zhang Mingyan, 42, chief engineer of the China flagged vessel MV Kang Huan, port officials confirmed.

The accident occurred when 16 crewmen of the vessel, anchored at the outer anchorage, were conducting lifeboat drill, said Chattogram Port Authority (CPA) Secretary Md Omar Faruk.

The lifeboat suddenly got unlocked from the davit hook and fell into the sea around 3:10pm, he said, adding that 15 crewmen were rescued immediately.

CPA and Bangladesh Coast Guard initiated a rescue operation but the missing crewman could not be found till filing of the report at 8:30pm yesterday.

3 held for helping Rohingyas get Bangladeshi NIDs

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, *Ctg*

Three members of a forgery gang were arrested yesterday in the capital’s Agargaon area for helping Rohingya refugees obtain Bangladeshi national identity cards (NIDs) and birth certificates.

A team of Detective Branch of Chattogram Metropolitan Police arrested them.

The arrestees are Razu Sheikh, 32, Mahmudul Riad, 24, and Nayan Sheikh, 21.

Police also recovered three fake NIDs and five birth certificates from their possession.

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POLICE ACTION IN SCBA POLLS
HC refuses to order probe
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday refused to pass an order to conduct probe into the allegation against police of assaulting pro-BNP lawyers and forcing them to leave the polling centre on March 15, the first day of the two-day annual Supreme Court Bar Association (SCBA) election. Delivering order on a writ petition, the court observed that the allegations mentioned in the petition are involved with the questions of facts, which cannot be dealt with by this court. The allegations might be placed before any other forum if those are specific, said the HC bench of Justice Md Justice Md Khasruzzaman and Justice Md Iqbal Kabir.

SEE PAGE 5 COL 3

PRAYER TIMING

MARCH 30

Fajr	Zohr	Asr	Maghrib	Esha
AZAN 4:45	12:45	4:45	6:20	7:45
JAMAAT 5:20	1:15	5:00	6:25	8:15

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

SEHRI, IFTAR TIMING

RAMADAN	MARCH	SEHRI	IFTAR
7	30		6:17
8	31	4:30	6:18
9	01	4:29	6:18

Meth smuggling rose by 3 times in a year

Reveals Annual Drug Report of Bangladesh

MOHAMMAD JAMIL KHAN and MAHBUBUR RAHMAN KHAN

From 2021 to 2022, the seizure of crystal meth increased by three times. According to the Annual Drug Report of Bangladesh 2022, around 104 kilos of crystal meth were seized by all agencies last year, while the figure was 36 kilos in 2021. Law enforcers said the drugs mainly entered Bangladesh from Myanmar, and the major market for the meth -- also known as ice -- is Dhaka. Only 8 to 10 percent of the total smuggled narcotics is usually seized by law enforcers, and the remaining 90 percent flood the market. A similar scenario has been witnessed regarding Phensedyl, which mainly comes from India. Around 5.74 lakh bottles of Phensedyl were seized in 2021, but that number rose to 6.71 lakh in 2022, reveals the annual report. However, the report stated that the seizure of yaba decreased by 13.75 percent compared to 2021. Around 5.30 lakh yaba pills were seized in 2021, while it was 4.37 lakh in 2022.

Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan Kamal unveiled the annual report at the secretariat yesterday. Minister Asaduzzaman said the country is heading toward a deadly disaster as a good number of youths are attracted to these drugs. "Demand and supply go together. When demand rises, supply increases as well. We are reducing both demand and supply in this case."

Tanvir Momtaz, director (operation & intelligence) of the Department of Narcotics Control (DNC), said the smuggling of yaba decreased as they have managed to identify the drug routes and smuggling techniques. "However, ice smuggling has increased as demand always remains high for new drugs among abusers," he said.

Regarding Phensedyl, Tanvir explained that it is also entering Bangladesh using new bottles and new names. "Compared to previous years, we have increased our drives by 1.5 times. Department of Narcotics conducted over 5,000 drives last year. This year, the number of drives already crossed 8,000," said the director. He said they are holding meetings with the

DRUG SEIZURES		2021	2022
	Meth	36 kg	104 kg
	Phensedyl	5.74 lakh bottles	6.71 lakh bottles
	Yaba	5.30 lakh pills	4.37 lakh pills
	Cannabis	86,000 kg	1.04 lakh kg

neighbouring country regarding the smuggling of narcotics and cooperating with each other in this regard. Among the drugs, the seizure of cannabis also increased by 33.07 percent in comparison to the previous year. Around 86,000 kilos of cannabis were seized in 2021. However, the amount rose to 1.04 lakh kilos in 2022.

DHAKA: A MAJOR MARKET
Analysing the seizures of narcotics, the report found that Dhaka is the major market for such drugs. After Dhaka, the most drug-prone districts in the country are Cox's Bazar, Chattogram, Cumilla, Brahmanbaria, Narsingdi, Faridpur, Gazipur, Narayanganj, Tangail, Mymensingh, Rajshahi, Natore, Pabna, Sirajganj, Bogura, Joypurhat, Dinajpur, Satkhira and Jashore. The maximum number of narcotics cases were also filed in Dhaka last year, which was 7,556, out of 25,654 cases countrywide, revealed the report.

'The new curriculum must be implemented'
Says Dipu Moni
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Implementation of the new educational curriculum is a must to cope with the changing world and lead Bangladesh towards becoming a developed country, said Education Minister Dipu Moni yesterday. The minister made the comments while inaugurating training programmes for headteachers and school teachers across the country, as part of the national curriculum-2022 expansion project. The National Curriculum and Textbook Board, Bangladesh (NCTB) and the Directorate of Secondary and Higher Education (DSHE) jointly organised the programme at the capital's International Mother Language Institute. The minister also said a group of people with vested interests conspired against the government's decision to implement the new curriculum. "Some parties also use religion as a political tool and oppose the curriculum. But no one can stop us from implementing it," said Dipu Moni. The minister said

SEE PAGE 5 COL 5

MAN BEATEN TO DEATH
Bring the perpetrators to book
Relatives, locals demand
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Relatives and locals yesterday demanded immediate arrest and punishment of the people, including two Ansar members, accused of beating a man to death on suspicion of him being a thief at the capital's Shishu Hospital on March 26. They held an hour-long human chain under the banner of "Locals of Adarshanagar Mirpur-II" at the capital's Jatiya Press Club, where they demanded capital punishment for the perpetrators. Meanwhile, police arrested three persons, including a shopkeeper and two ambulance helpers, in connection with the killing, said Utpal Barua, officer-in-charge of Sher-e-Bangla Nagar Police Station. Some Ansar men allegedly beat Md Mamun, 32, a tea-stall owner residing in Pallabi area, to death on March 26. The victim's elder brother Masud Rana filed a murder case the following day. Addressing the human chain, Rahima Begum, wife of the victim, accused Ansar members Hira and Mahbub of being the masterminds behind her husband's killing and claimed that police excluded the two from their investigation. She asserted, "The two accused Ansar members are still at large. Even the following day, the two were found discharging duties at the hospital, which means that police are keeping them out of their investigation." Additionally, she demanded compensation from the authorities concerned for her family losing the breadwinner. In response to the allegation of theft, Rahima claimed that her husband was innocent. The victim's younger brother Mohammad Munna said that those who apprehended his brother handed him over to Ansar members

SEE PAGE 4 COL 6



TRUE SPIRIT OF TOGETHERNESS... With smiles on their faces, the children at Sir Salimullah Muslim Orphanage come together every day to prepare iftar, creating a heart-warming scene of unity and cooperation. These children may have lost their families, but they have found a new family at the orphanage, filled with love and support. This photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

IFTAR AT AN ORPHANAGE

Ramadan made special for the children

HELEMUL ALAM

It was a warm Wednesday evening, and the clock struck 5:15pm at the Sir Salimullah Muslim Orphanage located in Dhaka's Azimpur. A small group of orphaned children gathered in a room of the Haji Rafique Bhaban, preparing to break their day-long fast with a mixture of iftar items called Muri Makha. As they peeled cucumbers, cut tomatoes and washed the ingredients, their hearts were filled with enthusiasm and eagerness to participate in the preparation of iftar. After preparing the mixtures, they divided themselves into two groups and shared the bowls of Piaju, beguni, chickpea, pulled rice, and tomatoes. It was a daily routine for them, and they looked forward to it with joy in their hearts. The orphanage authorities also provided different kinds of fruits, making sure the children had a healthy and nutritious meal. Six rooms on the second floor of the three-storey building, Kazi Rafique Bhaban, housed male students who were now staying at the orphanage. Every day, iftar preparation went on in four out of six

rooms, said Mohammad Arif, an 11th grader. "In our room, eleven of us, from class one to HSC candidates, are living together," said Md Shourav Islam, a fifth-grader. The orphanage had been established in 1909, and it was now home to 136 students, 71 females and 63 males, according to Md Mahmudul Ehsan, the assistant superintendent of the orphanage. Ehsan further explained that the children admitted to the orphanage ranged from six years to nine years and had no parents to take care of them. The authorities provided them with all kinds of support from food to education until they reached 18 years of age, and all the money came from different donors, government grants, and the orphanage's properties. As the children gathered around to break their fast, some of them shared their thoughts and emotions. For Md Yasin, a grade three student who had been living at the orphanage for the last year, it was a different and nice experience, but he still missed his mother dearly. "I loved staying with my mother, and breaking fast with her was very



SEE PAGE 4 COL 4


Devotees participate in Ashtami Snan ritual

SAURAV HOSSAIN SIAM, Narayanganj

Thousands of Hindu devotees yesterday performed Ashtami Snan, a ritual of bathing in the holy waters of the Brahmaputra at Langalbandh in Narayanganj. Devotees from all over Bangladesh as well as from different countries like India, Nepal and Bhutan joined the religious function. According to Hindu mythology, taking a dip in the river during a specific lunar period purifies sins and earns religious merit. The Ashtami Snan ritual is celebrated on the eighth day of the lunar month, which falls in the Bengali month of Chaitra. This year's bathing time began on Tuesday at 9:18pm and ended at 10:47pm yesterday, according to the Hindu Tithi. The event drew at least one million people, according to Saroj Kumar

SEE PAGE 4 COL 5





(1940 – 2023)

WE MOURN

Nur-E-Alam Siddique
The former Member of Parliament
The convener of Swadhin Bangla Kendriya Chhatra Sangram Parishad
Founder Chairman of Doreen Group

www.tbibd.com

PBI finds body of girl Protect children

FROM PAGE 5
Child Repression
Prevention Tribunal 2,
accusing Rubel on Tuesday.
Taking the complaint
into cognisance, the court
ordered the officer-in-
charge of Pahartali Police
Station to investigate the
incident. The victim's
family alleged after filing
the GD, Pahartali police
detained Rubel for an
hour, but did not quiz him
properly.
Deputy Commissioner
(DC, West) Chattogram
Metropolitan Police
Muhammad Jasim Uddin
told The Daily Star "It is
true that we have noticed
the inefficiency of some
officers. Police also quizzed
and arrested Rubel, but
failed to unearth the truth
in time."
"We will take action over
the failure," added the DC.

ILO Convention-138, the
report found that there are
34,50,000 child labourers
in the country, of whom,
12,80,000 are engaged in
hazardous occupations.
M Robiul Islam, assistant
director of the National
Human Rights Commission,
Bangladesh; Fatema Rashid
Hasan, secretary general of
the executive committee
of Ain o Salish Kendra
(ASK), and Abdullah Al
Mamun, director of Child
Protection and Child Rights
Governance at Save the
Children International,
spoke at the event among
others.

Ramadan

FROM PAGE 3
charming and cheerful," he
said. Yasin had come to the
orphanage when his father
died, and his mother was
struggling to make ends
meet as a domestic worker.
Masuma Akhtar, a 12th
grader, could not remember
the iftar at her home, as she
had been out of her home
since childhood. She found
solace in having iftar with
her six roommates and
loved the camaraderie they
shared.
However, for fourth-
grader Mariyam, the pain
of losing her mother was
still raw, and she missed her
badly during the iftar hour.
"I still miss my mother, and
I'm waiting for the chance
to go to Jhalakathi to be
with her during vacation,"
she said.

Fighting water crisis

FROM PAGE 5
people of Kachua Sadar;
we do not get this water
[through the pipelines]."
Shahida Begum, a local,
said, "I collect at least 40
jars of water from the plant
every day and sell those to
different shops and
households in my locality."
Kachua DPHE Deputy
Assistant Engineer Raihan
Hossain said, "Pond and
canal water is first taken
into the treatment plant's
reserve tank, then through
sand filtration to the clear
water tank. Later, the water
is transferred to the service
tank, from where the
freshwater is delivered to
people's homes via supply
lines."
Kachua UNO Tasmina
Khatun said, "We recognise
the demand for more water
plants as we are determined
to provide pure water to
every resident."

Devotees

FROM PAGE 3
Saha, president of the
Langalband Bathing
Festival Celebration
Committee. Visitors
brought with them ritual
ingredients such as flowers,
grasses, fruits, Tulsi leaves,
and mango leaves, as they
bathed in the Brahmaputra
River throughout the day. A
folk fair was also organised
on the bank of the river.
Many devotees expressed
satisfaction with the
management and security
measures in place. In 2015,
a stampede during the
bathing festival resulted
in the death of ten people.
Since then, the authorities
have been vigilant and taken
all necessary measures to
ensure a safe and organized
event.

Superintendent of Police
in Narayanganj Golam
Mostofa Rasel stated that
around 1,200 policemen
were deployed to provide
security to the devotees.
Despite this, heavy traffic
created a 20-kilometre-
long tailback on the Dhaka-
Chittagong highway
yesterday morning.
An 85-year-old
woman named Ekadashi
Rajbangshi, who came from
Munshiganj with her family,
said, "I'm nearing the end
of my life. I have come here
to seek God's blessings for
purifying my sins."
Another devotee, Dipty
Saha, who was injured in
the 2015 event, expressed
satisfaction with the
improved management and
security measures this year.

Bring the

FROM PAGE 3
stationed at the hospital.
He questioned, "If the
Ansar members were not
involved in the incident,
how can a man die in their
custody?"
Questioned why law
enforcers did not arrest the
accused Ansar members
despite being informed of
their identities, OC
Utpal Barua said police
have yet to establish their
involvement.
He said investigation is
ongoing, and the two would
be apprehended once their
involvement is confirmed.
Utpal mentioned that
they have collected video
footage from the hospital
and are verifying its
authenticity.
Hira and Mahbub could
not be contacted despite
repeated attempts.

Legal Notice
IN THE SUPREME COURT OF BANGLADESH
HIGH COURT DIVISION
(STATUTARY ORIGINAL JURISDICTION)
COMPANY MATTER NO. 111 OF 2023
IN THE MATTER OF
The Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited and
others. -VERSUS-Petitioners
Lenny Fashions Limited and others.Respondents
Notice is hereby given to all concerned that an application under
section 228 read with section 229 of the Companies Act, 1994, for
sanctioning the Scheme of Arrangement of Lenny Fashions Limited,
Lenny Apparels Limited and Kwun Tong Apparels Limited ("Debtor
Companies") and the Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation
Limited, Standard Chartered Bank, Brac Bank Limited, Eastern Bank
Limited ("Creditor Banks") whereby the Debtor Companies and the
Creditor Banks are proposing for an orderly and coordinated solution
for restructuring the debt liabilities of the Debtor Companies owed to
Creditor Banks as well as other government entities, was moved
before the Hon'ble High Court of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh.
Upon preliminary hearing, Mr. Justice Khizir Ahmed Choudhury was
pleased to admit the application by an order dated 16.03.2023.
Any person or persons having interest in the said application may
appear either personally or through duly authorized Advocate on or
before the date so fixed.
A copy of the application may be collected from the undersigned upon
payment of necessary costs.
Yours faithfully
(Nazmun Binte Islam) Barrister-at-Law, Advocate
Supreme Court of Bangladesh
Tanjib Alam & Associates BSEC Bhaban (Level 11) 102 Kazi
Nazrul Islam Avenue, Karwan Bazar, Dhaka-1215, Bangladesh

Notice for Election of Directors
from Shareholders of the Company

As per the Insurance Act 2010, the Insurance Rules 1958 and the Articles
of Association of the Company, nominations in the prescribed forms are
invited from eligible shareholders for expressing their interest to contest the
election of Directors from shareholders of the Company in accordance to
the schedule given below:

Date of Election : 30/05/2023
Time of Election : 10:30 A.M.
Place of Election : Delta Life Tower, Plot # 37, Road # 90,
Gulshan-2, Dhaka-1212

Nomination forms and criteria for qualification of the Directors and election
schedule will be available at the Registered Office of the Company. The
Nomination Form duly completed must be submitted at the Company by
25/05/2023 and the withdrawal of Nomination papers is 29/05/2023.



After scrutiny, the final list of eligible candidates will be published in the
notice board at the registered office of the Company on 29/05/2023.

Date: Dhaka
29/03/2023
By order of the Board of Directors
Sd/-
Company Secretary

**Delta Life Insurance Company Ltd.**
Delta Life Tower, Plot - 37, Road - 90, Gulshan Circle - 2, Dhaka - 1212, Bangladesh
Phone : 09613666000, 55051919, FAX : 88 - 02 - 9899605, 8831739

**WE MOURN**
We are deeply saddened by the passing
away of **Abdur Rauf Chowdhury**, the
founder of Rangs Group, a leading
industrial company in Bangladesh and
the legendary entrepreneur. He died on
18th February, 2023, Saturday.
We convey our profound sympathy to the
bereaved Family and pray for his
departed soul.
Multimode group
Chairman, Director, Officers and Staffs

RFP Ref. No.: LRPS-BAN-2023-9181811
Request for Proposal (RFP): For development and introduction of eVLMIS (Electronic Vaccine Intelligence Network System 'VaxIN') to support EPI for strengthening the Immunization Supply Chain.
UNICEF Bangladesh is inviting interested companies with a strong record
and credibility of providing the above-required service. To receive the detailed
scope of work and procedure to submit the bid response, please email to
'supplybangladesh@unicef.org'
Pre-bid Meeting Date: **9 April 2023 at 11:00 am (virtual meeting)**
The deadline to submit the proposal is **Sunday, 23 April 2023; Time: 11:00 Hrs.**
Please note UNICEF does not charge any fee at any stage of the solicitation process.
www.unicef.org/bangladesh

unicef  for every child 

**World Health Organization**
Bangladesh
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)
The World Health Organization in Bangladesh invites proposals/bids from the
interested Companies in Bangladesh for the following service:
1. RFP/BAN/2023/002 (Re-1): Re-advertisement for Concluding Bangladesh First
National Tuberculosis Catastrophic Cost Survey.
Deadline for the submission of RFP: **14:00hrs, 16 April 2023.**
Interested Companies can view and download the relevant RFP documents from:
https://www.who.int/bangladesh/about-us/procurement-notice.
Interested bidders are requested to submit their financial and technical proposals in
two separate sealed envelopes as per the instructions provided in the RFP documents
at the Reception of WHO Bangladesh, House-SW(I)1/A, Road-8, Gulshan-1, Dhaka.

**Palli Karma-Sahayak Foundation (PKSF)**
PKSF Bhaban, E-4/B, Agargaon Administrative Area, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar Dhaka-1207
Tel: 880-0222218331-33, 02222218335-39; Fax: 880-0222218341, 0222218343, e-mail: pkfsf@pkfsf.org.bd; Website: www.pkfsf.org.bd
Ref. No: 53.23.0000.001.03.028.23-1955 Date: 29 March 2023
Request for Application (RFA)
(Selection of Individual Consultant: National)
Basic Information (Procuring Entity, Assignment, Procurement Method, Source of Fund, etc) for the Consultant:

1	Name of the Organization	Palli Karma-Sahayak Foundation (PKSF)
2	Procuring Entity Name & Designation	AQM Golam Mawla, Deputy Managing Director
3	Applications for Selection of	An Individual Consultant for Preparing the 'Project Completion Report (PCR)' of Microenterprise Development Project (MDP) of PKSF
4	Ref No	53.23.0000.001.03.028.23-1955
5	Package No.	PKSF/MDP/SD-01
6	RFA Publishing Date	30 March 2023
7	Procurement Method	Individual Consultant Selection (ICS)
8	Source of Fund	Palli Karma-Sahayak Foundation (PKSF)
9	Development Partner	Asian Development Bank (ADB)
10	Project Name	Microenterprise Development Project (MDP)
11	Applications submission closing date, time, and place	Date: 16 April 2023; Time: 2:00 PM; PKSF Bhaban, E-4/B, Agargaon Administrative Area, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207


B. Key Information for the Consultant:

12	Brief description of the assignment	The detailed Request for Application (RFA) document including Terms of Reference (ToR) and Guideline are obtainable from the office of the undersigned during office hours: 9:30 am to 2:30 pm at free of cost. It will be also available at PKSF website https://pkfsf.org.bd/tender/ . Interested eligible consultants are requested to submit their applications along with all necessary documents in sealed envelope to the office of the undersigned directly or by courier/mail by 2:00 PM on or before 16 April 2023.
13	Experience, resource, and delivery capacity required of the Consulting firm	
14	Other Details	

C. Procurement Entity Details

15	Name of the Official Inviting RFA	AQM Golam Mawla
16	Designation of Official Inviting RFA	Deputy Managing Director
17	Address of the Official Inviting RFA	Palli Karma-Sahayak Foundation (PKSF) PKSF Bhaban, E-4/B, Agargaon Administrative Area, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207.
18	Contact Details of Official Inviting RFA	Telephone: 880-0222218331-33, 02222218335-39; Fax: 880-0222218341, 02222218343 e-mail: mawlapksf@gmail.com

The Procurement Entity reserves all the rights to accept or reject all applications.
(AQM Golam Mawla)
Deputy Managing Director & PE

CAREER OPPORTUNITY
**NORTH SOUTH UNIVERSITY**
Center of Excellence in Higher Education
North South University (NSU), the first private university in Bangladesh, seeks applications from candidates with required qualifications and experiences for the following positions:
Please read the full job description carefully to see if you have the skills, knowledge and experience that NSU is looking for. Only eligible candidates will be contacted by NSU for written examination and interview:
Lab Instructor for Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering: 1 (one) position
Job Description:

- Assist faculty members in conducting lab classes, and prepare the list of experiments.
- Conduct lab classes and involve in the preparation of lab examinations.
- Develop, improve, and troubleshoot lab experiments.
- Grading the homework, assignments, and lab test reports.
- Maintain inventory list records of the equipment used in the laboratories.
- Update lab safety notebooks in the laboratories from time to time and maintain the same.
- Attend meeting with faculty members/researchers to discuss changes and modifications in laboratory experiments.
- Any other duties as assigned by the concerned faculty members or the Department Chair.

Academic Qualification:

- Master's degree in Civil Engineering/Civil and Environmental Engineering from any reputed university with a minimum CGPA of 3.5 (the CGPA requirement may be slightly relaxed for deserving candidates).

Age: Not exceeding 32 years.
Pay Scale: Tk. 25,383 - 2,538- 63,456 (as per NSU policy).
Assistant Lab Officer for Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering: 1 (one) position
Job Description:

- Assist faculty members in conducting lab classes, and prepare the list of experiments.
- Conducting lab classes and involve in the preparation of lab examinations.
- Develop, improve, and troubleshoot for all lab experiments.
- Grading the homework, assignments, and lab tests
- Update lab safety notebooks in the laboratories from time to time and maintain the same.
- Attend meeting with faculty members/researchers to discuss changes and modifications in laboratory experiments.
- Any other duties as assigned by either the concerned faculty members or the Department Chair.

Academic Qualification:

- B.Sc. in Civil Engineering / civil and environmental engineering from any reputed university with a minimum CGPA of 3.5 (the CGPA requirement may be slightly relaxed for a very deserving candidate).

Age: Ideally 25-30 years.
Pay Scale: Tk. 15,999-1,600-39,998 (as per NSU policy).
Other Terms and Conditions:

- Excellent verbal and written communication skills, supervisory experience and well conversant in computer applications.
- Ability to handle civil engineering test-related machinery.
- Willingness to work in holidays and after office-hours if necessary.
- Third division/ class/ equivalent CGPA of the candidates in any educational level will not be accepted.

NSU reserves the right not to appoint anyone if suitable candidates are not found.
Any prior communication or persuasion to the position will be considered as a disqualification. Interested candidates are requested to apply through jobs.northsouth.edu by April 28, 2023.
Department of Administration
NORTH SOUTH UNIVERSITY
Plot# 15, Block# B, Bashundhara, Dhaka – 1229
NSU Job Portal: jobs.northsouth.edu

PBI finds body of girl missing for a week

Arrestee confesses to killing her after rape

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Police Bureau of Investigation (PBI) yesterday recovered the decomposed body of a fourth-grader, who has been missing since March 21.

Abeda Sultana Aynin, 11, was a student of Abdul Ali Government Primary School at Saraipara. Her body was found inside a sack near a pond in port city's Alamtara Murgir Farm area.

Police said she was raped before being strangled to death. Later, her body was dumped in a ditch on the night of March 21.

PBI has arrested Rubel, 30, a roadside vegetable vendor, in this connection.

PBI Chattogram Metro Unit Superintendent of Police (SP) Naima Sultana said, "Since March 23, PBI has been investigating a missing diary filed with Pahartali police station. On Tuesday evening, PBI held Rubel and started quizzing him. Rubel then admitted to raping and murdering her."

"Based on his confession, PBI conducted a drive at the pond area and spotted the decomposed body," said the SP.

Luring the child, Rubel took the girl to a house and raped her there. As the victim tried to scream, Rubel strangled her to death, she added.

After filing the GD with the police station, Abeda's mother lodged a complaint with Chattogram Women and

SEE PAGE 4 COL 1

WATER TREATMENT PLANT IN BAGERHAT

Fighting water crisis for a decade

PARTHA CHAKRABORTY

In 2013, Department of Public Health Engineering (DPHE) in Bagerhat set up a water-treatment plant in Kachua upazila at a cost of Tk 1.10 crore. And this plant has been bounty for the locals ever since.

Unlike many water-treatment projects, this plant has been serving the people continuously, without any hiccups, partly thanks to local authorities taking good care of the facility.

The plant can treat 30,000 litres of water per hour. Pond and canal water is purified by sand filtration method, and the water is later supplied to around 400 households through pipelines.

In return, consumers have to pay a small subscription fee.

Mentionable, there are numerous taps at the project site, where people from all over the upazila gather every day with jugs, bottles and drums to collect pure drinking water. Some of them even sell the water after returning to their localities.

According to officials, this water plant quenches the thirst of about 20,000 residents.

After construction, DPHE handed over the plant to the upazila parishad. There is a committee headed by the upazila nirbahi



People from all over the upazila gather every day at the plant's premises with jugs, bottles and drums to collect pure drinking water. Some of them even sell the water after returning to their localities. PHOTO: STAR

officer (UNO) to manage the plant, and three workers do maintenance work.

They regularly clean the water tanks and refineries, and their salaries and allowances are paid from the money received from the beneficiaries. Locals said that this model of maintenance is the reason behind the facility running so smoothly.

However, due to the low production capacity, residents outside the upazila headquarters do not get the water through the pipelines. Locals have demanded setting up more such plants to directly supply water in all areas of the upazila.

Niaz Iqbal, a local, said, "Previously, there was a shortage of fresh water in Kachua. But now, I get fresh supply at home. This has made our life much easier."

The traders at Kachua market said the quality of the water supplied by the upazila parishad is great.

Al Amin, proprietor of Mir Hotel and Restaurant at Kachua Bazar, said, "Water supplied from the plant is used for cooking food in hotels, and no one has any complaints."

Bappi Debnath, a trader from Signboard Bazar area, which is farther away from the headquarters, said, "This water is mainly for the

SEE PAGE 4 COL 4

'Protect children and their rights'

Say speakers, demanding implementation of Children's Act-2013

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Children's Act-2013 needs to be implemented as soon as possible, along with creating a separate commission, to ensure the rights of children, said speakers at an event yesterday.

They said although it has been required by law, since 2001, to obtain birth certificates, many people still do not do so due to a combination of ignorance and the perceived complexity of the procedure.

The event, titled "National Consultation on Child-Focused UPR Stakeholder's Report", was organised by Child Rights Advocacy Coalition Bangladesh and Joining Forces Bangladesh, presenting a draft report detailing the development, limitations, and recommendations of child rights in Bangladesh.

State Minister for Women and Children Affairs Meher Afroze Chumki said, "A child's rights may be jeopardised due to the difficulty of obtaining a birth certificate. Union and municipal officials have been accused of overcharging for birth certificates as well."

"The role of parents is crucial. Our parents are more concerned with our academic performance and prospects than with our development as individuals. As a result, they fail to make use of resources meant to foster children's cognitive growth," she added.

Seventeen-year-old Mosammat Anika shared how she intervened when a girl in the fifth grade living in a Mohammadpur slum was being married off a month ago.

"I dialled 1098 and successfully halted the wedding. That girl's name was recorded as a 'survivor of child marriage' by government officials. Later that night, however, the girl was married off anyway," said Anika.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 3

SAARC Agriculture Centre (SAC)
BARC Complex, Farmgate
Dhaka - 1215, Bangladesh

Vacancy Announcement

SAARC Agriculture Centre (SAC) under the framework of SAARC has been working for strengthening agricultural research and technology transfer through regional network among agricultural research/extension institutions and policy makers in the South Asian Region. SAARC Agriculture Centre (SAC) is inviting application for the position of Senior Technical Officer [to be recruited from citizens of Bangladesh].

Details of appointment notice, qualification and experience, terms and conditions, salaries/allowances, facilities and benefits etc. shall be available at the SAARC Agriculture Centre (SAC), BARC Complex, Farmgate, Dhaka - 1215, Bangladesh and in website: <http://www.sac.org.bd>.

All Applications should reach to Director, SAARC Agriculture Centre (SAC) not later than 30 April 2023.

Canvassing of any form will disqualify the candidate.

All rights reserved by the authority.

Director, SAC

HC refuses to order

FROM PAGE 3

The bench, however, said the alleged incidents mentioned in the petition are unexpected and unfortunate. With the observations, the bench disposed of the petition.

All the 14 candidates from pro-BNP lawyers'

panel collectively submitted the petition to the HC on March 19.

The two-day SCBA election was held amid police assault on lawyers and journalists and clashes between pro-Awami League and pro-BNP lawyers on March 15 and 16.

The new

FROM PAGE 3

the fourth industrial revolution, the pandemic and current world political situation caused changes in the established systems, prompting most countries to change their education system. Deputy Education Minister Mohibul Hasan Chowdhury; Educationist Muhammed Zafar Iqbal; DSHE Secretary Soleman Khan; NCTB Chairman Prof Farhadul Islam; Senior Secretary of the Technical and Madrasah Education Division Kamal Hossain; Unicef Chief of Education Deepa Shankar; and Member of the Public Service Commission Prof Syed Golam Faruk also spoke at the event, presided over by DSHE Director General Prof Nehal Ahmed.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Land Administration Training Centre
Ministry of Land
277/5/A, Shaheed Janani Jahanara Imam Sarani
Nilkhet, Katabon Dhal, Dhaka-1205
www.latc.gov.bd

Memo No. 31.04.0000.000.07.007.2022-324 Date: 28/03/2023

Invitation for Tender Open Tender Method e-Tender Notice No.

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

SL	Tender ID	Package No.	Name of work	Tender last selling (date & time)	Tender opening & closing (date & time)
1	808647	01	Procurement of Books	12-April-2023 17:00	13-April-2023 11:00
2	808812	01	Procurement of Stationery Item	12-April-2023 17:00	13-April-2023 21:42
3	808751	01	Procurement of Training Materials	12-April-2023 17:00	13-April-2023 12:30

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. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal, e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd) also interested persons can communicate with the undersigned during office hours.

Khan A. Sobur Khan
Assistant Director (Development & Service)
Land Administration Training Centre
Dhaka-1205
Phone: 58610596

GD-585

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Executive Engineer
Health Engineering Department (HED),
Health services Division
Ministry of Health & Family Welfare
Barishal Division, Barishal
HED Bhaban, Brown Compound Road, Barishal
E-mail: xenhedbsl2015@gmail.com, Phone: 0247-8861211

Memo No: 45.02.0000.341.07.003.22-1636 Dated: 29/03/2023

e-Tender Notice (NCT, LTM)

Ministry Approval Reference No: 59.00.0000.155.26.018.22-27 Dated: 01/03/2023

e-Tenders are invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<https://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of the following packages.

Sl No.	Name of District	Tender ID No.	Package No.	Document Last Selling Date & Time	Tender Closing and Opening Date & Time
1	Bhola	806221, 806222, 806223, 806224, 806225, 806226, 806227, 806228, 806229, 806230, 806231, 806232, 806233, 806234, 806235, 806236, 806237, 806238, 806239	HED/BD/GOB-Health/2022-23/01 to HED/BD/GOB-Health/2022-23/19	16-Apr-2023 16:00	17-Apr-2023 12:30

These are Online Tenders where only e-Tenders will be accepted in the above mentioned Portal and no off-line tender/hard copies will be accepted. The fees for downloading the e-Tender documents from the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited on Online through any registered Bank's branch up to time specified in Online Notice. Supplementary information with guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal (<https://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) and from the e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd) The Procuring Entity reserves the right to accept any or reject any or all Tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.

Engr. Md. Isaque Miah
Executive Engineer
Health Engineering Department (HED),
Barishal Division.

GD-591

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Local Government Engineering Department
Office of the Upazila Engineer
Sadar, Lakshmipur
www.lged.gov.bd

Memo No-46.02.5143.000.14.001.23-498 Date: 29/03/2023

e-Tender Notice(LTM) No-08/2022-23

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

Sl No.	Package No Name of Work	Tender ID No.	Last Selling Date & Time	Last Date & Time of Tender Submission	Closing & Opening Date & Time
01.	e-Tender/UZP/UDF/Lax-s/2022-23/01	808753	16-Apr-2023 12:00	17-Apr-2023 11:00	17-Apr-2023 12:10
02.	e-Tender/UZP/UDF/Lax-s/2022-23/02	808754	16-Apr-2023 12:00	17-Apr-2023 11:00	17-Apr-2023 12:20
03.	e-Tender/UZP/UDF/Lax-s/2022-23/03	808755	16-Apr-2023 12:00	17-Apr-2023 11:00	17-Apr-2023 12:30
04.	e-Tender/UZP/UDF/Lax-s/2022-23/04	808756	16-Apr-2023 12:00	17-Apr-2023 11:00	17-Apr-2023 12:40
05.	e-Tender/UZP/UDF/Lax-s/2022-23/05	808757	16-Apr-2023 12:00	17-Apr-2023 11:00	17-Apr-2023 12:50
06.	e-Tender/UZP/UDF/Lax-s/2022-23/06	808758	16-Apr-2023 12:00	17-Apr-2023 11:00	17-Apr-2023 13:00
07.	e-Tender/UZP/UDF/Lax-s/2022-23/07	808759	16-Apr-2023 12:00	17-Apr-2023 11:00	17-Apr-2023 13:10
08.	e-Tender/UZP/UDF/Lax-s/2022-23/08	808760	16-Apr-2023 12:00	17-Apr-2023 11:00	17-Apr-2023 13:20
09.	e-Tender/UZP/UDF/Lax-s/2022-23/09	808761	16-Apr-2023 12:00	17-Apr-2023 11:00	17-Apr-2023 13:30

This is an online Tender, Where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP System portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required. The fees for downloading the e-Tender Documents from the National e-GP System portal have to be deposited online through any registered Banks' branches. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

(Md. Azizul Haque)
Upazila Engineer
LGED, Sadar, Lakshmipur.
e-mail: ue.laxmipur-s@lged.gov.bd

GD-587

NO STATEMENT in the world is above scrutiny

MAMUNUR RASHID

I have always felt obligated to talk about injustice. When a girl was raped and killed in Tangail's Madhupur, I raised my voice. I regularly write about the rampant inflation, which puts my fellow countrymen in harsh circumstances. Where are the naysayers then? Do they not see it?

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Mamunur Rashid is a bona-fide legend in the country's theatre and television industry. After fighting for Bangladesh in our Liberation War, he went on to establish his mark on Bangladeshi art and culture, winning the coveted Ekushey Padak and the Bangla Academy Literary Award.

However, his statement on the 'famine of taste', reflecting on how the audience's taste was losing its integrity, giving way to cheap content to plague social media, has been a hotly debated topic. "The advent of the likes of Hero Alom is a testament to our famine in taste", he had said.

"It is completely fine to debate my statement," said the eminent thespian to The Daily Star. "I believe in democracy, and people are well within their rights to do so. However, some are also bringing in class divide in their arguments, without ever reading the full interview. My words are being twisted."

The artiste, with utmost humility, said that he is only a cultural worker who has always strived for the betterment of the society. "Why would someone assume that the social status of a person was being discussed? I am merely a cultural worker, but there are greats like Kazi Nazrul Islam, who do not come from a wealthy background. So why is that coming in to the discussion?" He pointed out that despite his background, he educated and enlightened himself, reaching the pinnacle of his craft.

"I do not know the person in question," said Mamunur Rashid about his controversial statement, "I only used his name as a general



PHOTOS: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED



example. I have never seen his works. Some have asked why I only took his name, and not anyone else's – and to that I will say that many more names could have come up, but that was not the point." He also mentioned that he knows that not all entertainment is tasteful, and he does not expect it to be. However, for the artiste, education is always important, regardless of the medium.

"Some learn from schools, colleges and other institutions, and some from their gurus. There is always the opportunity if one

is really dedicated."

Rashid urged everyone to feel free to debate his and any other statements, but after knowing the context and with logic. "I have always felt obligated to talk about injustice. When a girl was raped and killed in Tangail's Madhupur, I raised my voice. I regularly write about the rampant inflation, which puts my fellow countrymen in harsh circumstances. Where are the naysayers then? Do they not see it?"

The thespian has recently been honoured with the "Jibankriti Lifetime Achievement Award" in Kolkata, and the special honour on World Theatre Day. "I have spent my life in service of the arts. I have struggled a lot, but never once thought of leaving this path. To be recognised for my service is always humbling," he concluded.

Translated by Sadi Mohammad Shahnewaz



Jury Board for National Film Awards 2022 selected

The annually celebrated National Film Awards is the highest honour and recognition given in the arena of films, from the state.

Now, the government has already started preparing for the 2022 edition of the awards ceremony. On March 27, the government announced a 13-member jury board, who will be evaluating films from the year 2022.

The board includes noted personas from the Bangladesh Film Development Corporation and members of the concerned ministries.

According to the government notice, the jury members will soon submit a shortlist of films released in 2022. Afterwards, they will have two months to evaluate and scrutinise the films.

Mahiya Mahi blessed with baby boy

Actress Mahiya Mahi was blessed with a baby boy on Tuesday (March 28), at the capital's United Hospital. The news was confirmed to The Daily Star by her husband, Rakib Sarker.

"The mother and son are both doing well, please pray for us," he said.

Mahi had tied the knot to Rakib on September 13, 2021. She was arrested and subsequently bailed on two cases this month, with the entire entertainment industry protesting her arrest.



NEWS

At least 18

FROM PAGE 12

Gias had been a cable TV technician in Saudi Arabia for 22 years.

He left behind his wife, Rabeya Akter, a 16-year-old son, a 12-year-old daughter and a six-year-old daughter.

"Please bring the body of my husband for burial; I would stand beside his grave and pray for him. I never thought that this was in my fate," said Rabeya as she burst into tears at their home in Debidar upazila yesterday.

Apart from Gias, two other deceased are also from Cumilla. They are Mamun, son of Abdul Awal of Mostapur village, and Rasel Mollah of Muradnagar upazila.

Awal said that he borrowed Tk5 lakh to send his son to Saudi Arabia six months ago.

The foreign ministry has also provided the details of 10 other deceased.

They are Shahidul Islam, son of Shariat Ullah of Noakhali's Senbagh; Md Helal Uddin of Noakhali; Sabuj Hossain of Laxmipur; Md Asif and Sifat Ullah from Cox's Bazar's Maheshkhali; Md Imam Hossain Roni of Dhaka's Tongi; Ruku Miah, son of Kalu Miah of Chandpur; Mohammad Nazmul, son of Kawsar Mia (district unknown); Rony, son of Iskandar of Jashore; and Mohammad Hossain of Cox's Bazar.

Rab arrests

FROM PAGE 12

area and arrested him.

The statement said that Al Amin, during initial interrogation, admitted his involvement in a racket that used the name of Enamul to lure unemployed youths and conned them.

Meanwhile, Rights body Ain o Salish Kendra yesterday called for formation of a judicial commission for enquiry into the death of Sultana.

Speaking at a meet the press in the Lalmatia office, Mohammad Nur Khan, executive director of ASK, said Rab made so many deviations from the beginning of her detention to the death. A judicial inquiry should be launched in this regard.

Jugantor reporter

FROM PAGE 12

The plaintiff, who stands accused in a case filed over the double murder in Chattogram's CRB area on June 24, 2013, mentioned in the case statement that the report defamed him.

The court has directed the cyber unit of the Counter Terrorism Unit of Chattogram Metropolitan Police to investigate the case, said Mezbah.

No point of sitting with EC

FROM PAGE 12

Gulshan office yesterday.

The BNP yesterday in a meeting of the standing committee, its highest policy-making body, discussed the letter sent by the CEC to the secretary general.

Fakhrul said the national elections in 2014 and 2018 have proved that the Election Commission is not independent and it does not have the power to conduct elections in a free, fair and impartial manner, even if it is willing to do so.

"It was decided in our meeting that the BNP is unable to accept the Election Commission's invitation because there is no possibility of resolving the main political problem through a discussion or view-exchange meeting with the commission."

Replying to a question, Fakhrul said they will not send any letter to

UNOs can't serve

FROM PAGE 12

says, "Local government in every administrative unit of the republic shall be entrusted to bodies, composed of persons elected in accordance with law."

Article 60 says, "For the purpose of giving full effect to the provisions of article 59, parliament shall, by law, confer powers on the local government bodies referred to in that article, including power to impose taxes for local purposes, to prepare their budgets and to maintain funds."

The HC observed that since the UNO is not an elected representative of the people and he or she has not been made accountable to upazila parishad, which is a local government body, and therefore sections 33 (1) and (2) of the law are a violation of articles 59 and 60 of the constitution.

The bench of Justice Farah Mahbub and Justice Ahmed Sohail delivered the verdict after two writ petitions were filed in 2020 challenging the sections 33 (1) and (2) of Upazila Parishad Ain.

Petitioners' lawyers Hassan MS Azim and Md Minhadduzzaman Leeton told The Daily Star that the UNOs will perform duties under the upazila parishads led by their elected chairmen.

The UNOs will remain accountable to the upazila parishads, and they

the EC conveying the party decision.

"I am informing him [CEC] about our decision through this press conference. I hope he would accept our opinion."

In response to another question, Fakhrul said there is no point in sitting with the EC which has no power to resolve the problem of the country and its people.

"He [CEC] is not a mailbox where we will drop a letter for sending it to the government. It is absolutely a matter of the government. Since the government has the two-thirds majority in parliament, it can do this and nobody else can take this decision."

He added the party will consider if the government proposes talks on the caretaker government issue. "There'll be no talks except for that on the issue of polls-time neutral government."

cannot exercise absolute powers in the administration, they added.

Meanwhile, Mohammad Mehedi Hassan Chowdhury, additional attorney general, told this correspondent that the UNOs have been giving secretarial assistance to upazila parishads and they are always accountable to the parishads.

The HC has rejected the petitioners' prayers for not to allow the UNOs become heads of the committees funded by the government in upazilas and provide security to upazila chairmen like the UNOs get, he said.

The additional attorney general said in another writ petition, they (petitioners) sought HC verdict to scrap the provisions of Upazila Parishad Ain that allowed removal and suspension of upazila chairmen or vice-chairmen and expressing no confidence on them, but the court did not allow their prayers.

Senior lawyer Ajmalul Hossain argued for the petitioners.

Details of the HC observations could not be known as its full text is yet to be released.

Several upazila chairmen, including Harun-Or-Rashid Howlader and Md Abdul Aziz, and Supreme Court lawyer Minhadduzzaman Leeton filed the petitions in 2020 and 2021 challenging the legality of different relevant sections of Upazila Parishad Ain.

Nur-E-Alam Siddique passes away

FROM PAGE 1

breathed his last while undergoing treatment for old-age complications at United Hospital in the city at the age of 79. In the evening, he was buried at Zirani in Savar, near a mosque that was built with his fund, said Aniket Rajesh, his press secretary.

Earlier in the morning, his body was taken to his village home in Jhenaidah by a helicopter for his first Namaz-e-Janaza.

After the body was flown back to the capital, another Janaza was held at Gulshan Central Mosque after Asr prayers. The district administration of Dhaka also gave Nur-e-Alam Siddique a guard of honour.

A pall of gloom descended on the political arena as soon as the news of his death spread.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, Speaker Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury, ministers, distinguished personalities, top leaders of different political and socio-economic cultural organisations, including the Awami League and Workers Party of Bangladesh, expressed deep shock at his demise.

Born in Jhenaidah in 1944, Nur-E Alam left behind his wife, two sons and a daughter. His son

Tahzeeb Alam Siddique is an Awami League lawmaker from Jhenaidah-2 constituency.

Nur-E-Alam Siddique, a student of Dhaka University, was one of the student leaders who spearheaded the struggles against the oppression by West Pakistan regime.

He took active part in the movement centring the six-point programme of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman in 1966 and the mass upsurge in 1969.

Nur-E-Alam Siddique and his three comrades Shajahan Siraj, ASM Abdur Rab and Abdul Kuddus Makhon eventually became known as "four caliphs" of Bangabandhu.

On March 2, 1971, a massive crowd, mostly students, thronged Dhaka University defying curfew to witness a milestone event of history. In the presence of three others, Abdur Rab hoisted the flag of Bangladesh for the first time ever.

Nur-E-Alam, as the Chhatra League president, was the convener of Sangram Parishad.

The next day, the four leaders organised an event where Shajahan Siraj, read the manifesto for the country's independence. They also organised a

national flag hoisting ceremony all over the country on March 23.

During the Liberation War, he was a member of Bangladesh Liberation Force (BLF), commonly known as Mujib Bahini.

After independence, Nur-e-Alam became the founding general secretary of the Awami Jubo League.

He was elected a member of parliament as a candidate of Awami League in the first national parliamentary election held in 1973 and served as the chairman of various parliamentary standing committees from 1973 to 1975.

He was also a member of the Bangladesh Constitution formation committee.

With the ruling Awami League tickets, he contested the 1996 and 2001 parliamentary elections from Jhenaidah-2.

This veteran politician authored several books including "Awami League Birodhi Noi, Tabu Samalochona Kori", "Kaler Jayodhvani", "Titihass Akdin Kotha Bolbei," and "Sekaler Rajniti of Chhatra League".

A good orator, he was popular a face at different television talk-shows specially on political issues.

BR project runs

FROM PAGE 12

Later, the BR sought three and a half years more and an additional Tk 279.69 crore to complete the project. The revision proposal is now pending approval by the Planning Commission, shows the project document.

As the revision proposal was not approved, project authorities failed to pay the contractors.

If the proposal is approved, the total cost of the project would go up to 658.34 crore and the deadline would be June 2026.

A BR official said the contractor's payment arrears is only Tk 15 crore and that it has already been handed over the land of 11km out of the total 12km.

The project office on March 23 wrote to the contractor giving an explanation about its allegation.

BR Director General Quamrul Ahsan said they have informed the Project Steering Committee about the issue.

"We have written to them [contractor] and asked them to sit with project authorities to solve the problem amicably," he told The Daily Star.

PAKISTAN NAT'L ASSEMBLY

Bill passed to curb top judge's suo moto powers

DAWN ONLINE

Pakistan's National Assembly yesterday passed the Supreme Court (Practice and Procedure), Bill 2023, which aims to deprive the office of the chief justice of Pakistan (CJP) of powers to take suo motu notice in an individual capacity. The bill, presented by Federal Minister for Law and Justice Azam Nazeer Tarar, was passed hours after the Standing Committee on Law and Justice approved the cabinet's proposed amendments. PPP Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, while addressing the law minister, termed the initiative "too little and too late", and said that it should be called a "judges empowerment" bill. When Tarar spoke, he said, "It is being said that a constitutional amendment should be made. I want them to know there is no need for a constitutional amendment. They should go and read Article 191 of the Constitution, which empowers the Assembly to legislate. The Supreme Court also made their rules according to the Constitution and law since 1980 and it is written on the preamble as well."

China warns Taiwan leader over US visit

President Tsai hits defiant note; sr US officials say no reason for Beijing to overreact

REUTERS, Taoyuan

External pressure will not stop Taiwan engaging with the world, President Tsai Ing-wen said yesterday as she left for the United States, hitting a defiant note after China threatened retaliation if she met US House Speaker Kevin McCarthy.

China, which claims democratically-ruled Taiwan as its own territory, has repeatedly warned US officials not to meet Tsai, viewing it as support for the island's desire to be seen as a separate country.

The United States says such transits by Taiwanese presidents are routine and that China should not use Tsai's trip to take any aggressive moves against Taiwan.

The United States sees no reason for China to overreact to planned transits of the United States this week and next month by Taiwan's president, senior US officials said ahead of Tsai's departure.

Sultana's death

FROM PAGE 2

the relationship with anyone getting worse? I don't think an accident like this will spoil our bilateral relationship."

Sultana, 38, an office assistant of Naogaon Municipality-Chandipur Union Land Office, was picked up by a Rab-5 patrol team on March 22 while she was on the way to work in the morning.

She died at Rajshahi Medical College Hospital on March 24, according to hospital authorities.

Momen yesterday said Bangladesh needs no lessons on democracy from others.

"Bangladesh is the only country where 30 lakh people laid down their lives for the struggle of democracy, justice and human rights."

The minister said the democracy in Bangladesh is very strong now.

They're to see patients

FROM PAGE 2

Daudkandi (Cumilla), Pekua (Cox's Bazar), Chhagalnaiya (Feni), Lama (Bandarban), Sharisabari (Jamalpur), Nokla (Sherpur), Gaforgaon (Mymensingh), Durgapur (Netrakona), Monirampur, Keshabpur (Jeshore), Shreepur (Magura), Kumarkhali (Kushatia), Gurudaspur, Baraigram (Natore), Poba (Rajshahi), Sapahar (Naogaon), Phulbari (Dinajpur), Bodorgani, Gangachara (Rangpur), Domar (Nilphamari), Amtoli (Barguna), Agailjhara (Barishal), Charfashion (Bhola), Sreemangal (Moulvibazar), Golapgani, Bishwanath (Sylhet), Madhabpur (Habiganj), and Chhatak (Sunamganj).

Prothom Alo journo held at dead of night

Around 1:15pm, Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan told journalists at his Secretariat office that a case was filed against Shams over a report published on Independence Day.

Asked why law enforcers told the landlord that the state has an objection about his report, the home minister said it was not about the state's objection.

On Independence Day, Prothom Alo ran a report on its website, and while posting the report on social media, it made a "card" with a quote of a labourer named Zakir Hossain. Although the card contained Zakir's quote, it had the photo of an adolescent boy taken from behind.

The mistake was noticed within 17 minutes, and the card was removed immediately. Besides, corrections were made to the report and the news was again published online mentioning the corrections.

Prothom Alo maintains that the report doesn't mention that the quote was of that boy in the photo. Rather, the report clearly says that it was Zakir who said this.

Shams, aged 37, is the younger brother of the slain Detective Branch assistant commissioner Robiul Karim, who died at

least 14 people on board the vehicles, one of which had no number plate.

Shams has been living there for a year. His mother and the widow of his slain brother often visit him.

Ferdous, the landlord, said six-seven people entered the building and introduced themselves as CID officers before asking for Shams.

Then they searched Shams' flat and seized a laptop, two mobile phones and a portable hard disk.

"One of the men was in a police uniform and the rest were in plainclothes. They said that they came from Dhaka," said Ferdous.

The law enforcers then took Shams to Bot Tola area on Jahangirnagar University campus and had sehri.

Ariful Islam, a local journalist who was in Shams' flat at the time of the incident, said, "The law enforcers came for a second time and made a list of the seized items. They asked Shams to take some clothes and took his photo. They left in 5-7 minutes."

Sudipta Shaheen, the chief security officer of Jahangirnagar, was present when the law enforcers came for a second time, he added.

Sudipta told The Daily Star that a CID Superintendent of Police

named Rezaul contacted him and said the widow of Shams' slain brother was in trouble and officers needed to meet her.

Since the woman is an employee of the university, Sudipta helped the cops find Shams' flat. "But later, I found out that the CID team actually came to pick up Shams."

CID SP Rezaul neither answered his phone nor replied to texts sent via WhatsApp.

THE CASE

In the complaint, the Jubo League leader wrote that the report went viral on social media. The news was shared by thousands of people at home and abroad along with screenshots of the "card". There was adverse reactions at home and abroad on Independence Day.

From news broadcast by Ekattor TV, it was known that Prothom Alo intentionally presented the news with false identity and a false quote, it read.

Prothom Alo

FROM PAGE 1

Security Act with Ramna Police Station.

Around 2:00am, Ramna police informed that the case was filed.


The first information report (FIR) of the case mentioned that it was filed at 11:10pm yesterday.

A lawyer named Abdul Malek Mashiur Malek, 61, filed the case under the Digital Security Act.

Malek accused them of using print, online, and electronic media to tarnish the image and reputation of the state, the FIR said.

The FIR also mentioned that the accused spread falsehood on purpose to deteriorate law and order.

The case was filed under the sections 25, 31 and 35 of the DSA.



North-West Power Generation Company Ltd
ISO 9001:2015, ISO 14001:2015 & ISO 45001:2018 Certified
(An Enterprise of Bangladesh Power Development Board)

Office of the Plant Manager (Superintending Engineer)
Sirajganj 225 MW Combined Cycle Power Plant (Unit-2)
Soydabad, Sirajganj.


Ref: 27.28.8878.201.07.001.21.110 **Date:** 29/03/2023

e-Tender Notice

The following e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (www.eprocure.gov.bd):

Sl. No.	Tender ID	Brief Description of Tender	Publication Date	Last Selling Date & Time	Opening Date
1	807383	Procurement of spare parts and calibration gas of CEMS.	29-Mar-2023	26-Apr-2023 15:45 PM	27-Apr-2023

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 (www.eprocure.gov.bd) is required. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and e-GP Help Desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).



Engr. Md. Asad Halim
Plant Manager (Superintending Engineer)
Sirajganj 225 MW CCPP (Unit-2)
NWPGL, Soydabad, Sirajganj.

GD-589



SOUTH ASIAN UNIVERSITY
A University established by SAARC nations
Rajpur Road, Maidan Garhi, New Delhi 110068
Phone: +91 11 20863540, www.sau.int

Recruitment Notice - 02/2023

South Asian University (SAU), an international University jointly established and funded by the eight SAARC countries having focus on post-graduate teaching and research. SAU, located in New Delhi, invites applications from outstanding, highly qualified and experienced individuals for the following positions:

Regular Non-Teaching Positions	Director (Finance) – 1 post Deputy Director (Finance) – 1 post
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The application form, job description, eligibility criteria and other necessary information are available on the University website at <http://www.sau.int>. All subsequent corrigendum relating to this advertisement will only be published in the University website.

Application Deadline: 16-05-2023 (Tuesday).



**Sd/-
Acting President**

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Executive Engineer
PW Division, Munshiganj
Phone: (02) 997731677
E-mail: ee_musi@pwd.gov.bd

Memo No. 25.36.5900.460.27.001.20.717 Date: 29/03/2023

e-GP Tender Notice


e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP Portal System Portal (www.eprocure.gov.bd) for procurement of the following work described below.

1. No.	Name of work	Tender ID No.	Tender proposal opening date and time
1.	Renovation and Modernization of Conference Room and attached bathroom repair work at Sadar Hospital Munshiganj. F.Y: 2022-2023.	805493	Date: 16-04-2023 Time 12:30pm

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

Md. Khairuzzaman
Executive Engineer
Munshiganj PW Division
Munshiganj

GD-588



Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Chattogram City Corporation
Tigerpass, Chattogram
www.ccc.gov.bd

Memo No. 46.11.1600.002.14.23.0030 Dated: 28/03/2023

e-Tender Notice-CE/ADP-1230/2022-23/01

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

Sl. No.	Package No.	Name of works	Tender ID	Tender document last selling/downloading date and time	Tender closing & opening date and time
1	CCC/WLD-01	Land development work for Kulgaon Bus-Truck Terminal at 2 No. Jalalabad Ward (Lot-1)	805738	20-Apr-2023 12:00	20-Apr-2023 14:00
2	CCC/WLD-02	Land development work for Kulgaon Bus-Truck Terminal at 2 No. Jalalabad Ward (Lot-2)	805739	20-Apr-2023 12:00	20-Apr-2023 14:00

This is an online tender where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required. The fees for downloading the e-Tender documents of following packages from the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through any registered bank branches up to particular date and time specified on the tender notice. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (<http://www.helpdesk.eprocure.gov.bd>).

Jashim Uddin
Deputy Project Director & Executive Engineer
Chattogram City Corporation
Tigerpass, Chattogram

CCC/PRD-139/22-23
Size: 5"x4 col
GD-590

Can the banking sector be turned around?

Approval of draft Bank Company Act gives hope but enforcement is key

After the looting of thousands of crores of taka from our banking sector, and the entire sector's rating getting demoted by the Moody's from "stable" to "negative", the cabinet has cleared the draft Bank Company (Amendment) Act, 2023 in a bid to improve financial governance in the country. And if implemented properly, it could have major consequences for habitual loan defaulters and for how bank boards are formed and run. This has been long overdue. Experts have been howling for it for years, and finally the government has decided to go for the amendment with a \$250 million loan from the World Bank hanging in the balance because of this, according to finance ministry officials. The IMF, as part of its \$4.7 billion loan, also stipulated that the government submits the draft law before parliament by September, which it seems poised to do.

Regardless of the reason behind the decision to finally approve the draft act, which has been stuck in the vetting stage with the law ministry since May 17, 2021, it is a welcome development for our banking sector. It could undo a lot of the bad government policies adopted in recent times, such as increasing the maximum number of members from the same family that could serve on a bank's board. It will also require bank directors and their family members to provide collateral, bonds or securities for taking loans from the bank, the absence of which has led to numerous scandals across our banking sector.

Banks will also have to publish lists of wilful defaulters on their websites and in newspapers. An individual will be considered a wilful defaulter if they do not repay a loan taken in their name or their company's name despite having the means to pay it back. And any person will be treated as a habitual defaulter if they take loans under the name of a non-existent company.

Additionally, banks will have to inform Bangladesh Bank about wilful loan defaulters and the central bank can then issue a ban on their foreign travel, obtaining trade license, and companies' registration to the joint stock and security exchange commission – which can act as a deterrence against the culture of wilful loan default in our country. The draft act also broadens the role of Bangladesh Bank in some aspects for it to investigate whether rules are being broken.

However, as good as all that sounds, a law is only as effective as its enforcement. One may recall that Bangladesh Bank has time and again flouted its own rules and regulations over the years – often under pressure from the finance ministry or other influential quarters. Such violations and misgovernance resulted in undue benefits for a few at the expense of the many. So, while the draft act seems promising, the proof of how sincere the government really is in addressing the problems in the sector, after having done the complete opposite for years, will be in how well it implements the act. For the health of the sector and our overall economy, we hope it will act properly and sincerely this time.

Air pollution crippling our nation

Govt must take action locally and with regional partners to improve air quality

We are alarmed by a report of the World Bank that states that air pollution is causing about 20 percent of all premature deaths in Bangladesh. This comes at a time when we are witnessing massive air pollution in many cities, particularly Dhaka, Narayanganj, and Chattogram. Over the last few years, there have been a host of similar reports and studies, with Dhaka's air being adjudged to be the worst in the world repeatedly. Unfortunately, while we hoped that such alarming revelations would be met with appropriate response, the reality has been quite different so far.

In the absence of any substantive action from the government agencies responsible, air pollution in Dhaka has reached the most dangerous levels in recent times. As a result, residents have been suffering from various health complications. Reportedly, air pollution is causing the death of about 88,000 people every year in the country, while decreasing the average life expectancy of Dhaka residents by seven to eight years. The latest World Bank report also reveals exposure to extreme air pollution on a regular basis, with its impacts "ranging from stunting and reduced cognitive development in children, to respiratory infections and chronic and debilitating diseases". This is not only increasing our healthcare costs but also lowering the country's productive capacity. Moreover, poor air quality is contributing to a rise in premature births as well as babies born with low birth weight in Dhaka, as a recent study by the family planning directorate and icddr,b has found.

The question is, how long will the government treat air pollution with indifference when the health of the entire population is at such great risk? Evidently, the government has done little to check contributing factors such as vehicular emissions, fumes from factories and brick kilns, dust accumulation from ill-planned development projects, etc. You see black smoke emitting buses and trucks everywhere you look. You see open construction sites creating and spreading dust. There is no dearth of regulations to prevent such activities, yet the government is failing miserably to enforce them.

This must stop. Air pollution has reached a level that can no longer be ignored. The government, therefore, must take stern action to ensure people's health and well-being. With a strong political will, right policies, and timely and sustained interventions, it is possible to tackle air pollution, as cities even in our neighbouring countries have been able to do. The government should also work with its regional partners to check transboundary air pollution – which has been found to be one of the major irritants in our cities. Recently, Bangladesh, India, Nepal and Pakistan drew up the Kathmandu Roadmap for improving air quality. We only hope that any effort, local or regional, will be followed by proper execution and coordination to bring us the result we desperately need.

IOC interest in our gas reserves a good sign

ExxonMobil proposal should be considered with calculated speed



Dr Badrul Imam is an honorary professor at the Department of Geology of Dhaka University.

BADRUL IMAM

One of the largest and most renowned oil companies in the world recently expressed interest in exploring Bangladesh's deep offshore blocks for gas and oil. According to media reports, ExxonMobil, a US-based international oil company (IOC), has submitted a proposal for petroleum exploration in all 15 deep sea blocks located in Bangladeshi territory, supposedly investing around \$3 billion during the initial exploration phase. ExxonMobil suggested that the deep sea blocks be offered to the company so it can begin exploration immediately. The company also suggested that it would participate in the upcoming offshore bidding round for the shallow-water blocks.

Observers in the energy sector, as well as insiders from the Bangladesh Oil, Gas and Mineral Corporation (Petrobangla), opine that Bangladesh should utilise this opportunity and initiate negotiations in terms of engagement with this well-experienced and technically robust oil company.

ExxonMobil's proposal has come at a time when Bangladesh is facing serious gas shortage in its own reserves. The country's offshore gas exploration has been stalled for many years. Local gas production has been on a decline since 2016. To cover the gas shortage, Bangladesh had to buy from the liquefied natural gas (LNG) market, known for its volatile and unstable price trends. The LNG price hike at certain points last year rendered the fuel temporarily unsustainable for Bangladesh. Given the situation, it is not clear why the government stayed away from major offshore block biddings for more than a decade.

Bangladesh's offshore region, comprising a major part of the central Bay of Bengal, is globally known for its high hydrocarbon potential.



Allowing offshore drilling in the Bay of Bengal may help Bangladesh tackle its energy crisis.

FILE PHOTO: REUTERS

It has 11 shallow-water blocks and 15 deepwater blocks. Of these 26 blocks, two are leased out to Indian company ONGC Videsh Ltd. While there is little to no exploration in the Bangladesh part of the Bay, the scenario is different on the Myanmar and Indian sides. Both the countries have conducted extensive exploration with significant success in finding gas in their respective parts in the Bay.

The excuse that government high-ups in Bangladesh have been using – saying that the IOCs have shown no interest in exploring the country's offshore reserves – has been proven wrong. Companies like ConocoPhillips, Santos Ltd, Posco Energy, and TotalEnergies have expressed interest in exploring our offshore blocks. They conducted initial exploration, but did not continue because of disputes on fiscal terms

with Bangladesh. ConocoPhillips, on the basis of seismic survey, delineated several prospective structures, among which it wanted to drill two in the deep offshore blocks 10 and 11, but left the country because of disagreement on gas prices. Similar issues arose with Santos and Posco.

In these cases, Bangladesh's stand

knowledge base on an area that it intends to explore for gas and oil.

ExxonMobil likely has the data to judge the merit of exploring Bangladesh's offshore blocks. Offshore drilling, especially deepwater drilling, is very costly, requiring \$60-100 million per well, compared to the cost of drilling an onshore well, which is \$10-15 million only. Understandably, when an IOC decides to take on such an expensive exploration venture, it is likely to know what it's doing.

What is so special about ExxonMobil? The answer to that question is probably best explained by Anthony Simpson in his bestselling book *The Seven Sisters*. Simpson describes the world's petroleum scenario in the 1940s and 1950s, showing how poverty-stricken Middle Eastern countries, including Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, etc, turned into super-rich nations through the discovery of huge amounts of underground petroleum resources. And seven of the most powerful IOCs at that time – whom he calls the seven sisters – employed their machineries, talent, and fortune to unearth the vast reserves of oil in the Middle East. These companies included Exxon, Mobil, British Petroleum, and Shell. Exxon and Mobil later merged together and started running their exploration ventures across the world.

After a long break, Bangladesh decided to launch an offshore bidding round in December last year. A model production sharing contract (PSC) has been revised and all documents have been prepared for approval from the ministry. But due to bureaucratic tangle, files are moving much slower than expected, delaying the launch of the bidding round repeatedly. As of March this year, the date is yet to be announced.

One thing that Bangladesh does not have on its side is time. Prolonging a process may be the bureaucratic norm here, but IOCs tend to operate on a fast-track basis and often find it frustrating to wait for a decision for too long. Bangladesh does not have offshore drilling capabilities and has to depend on IOCs right now. If the government is serious about extracting its own offshore gas, it must take a faster route of action.

The deadly, murky history of the rules-based order



Ashfaque Swapan is a writer and editor based in Atlanta, US.

ASHFAQUE SWAPAN

Since Russia's invasion of Ukraine in February 2022 (the conflict between the two countries actually began in 2014 following a US engineered coup, but the Western media won), the world has been deluged with shrill cries of outrage by the West, led by the United States. The US and the West have been lecturing the rest of the world about them being the guardians of democracy for decades. What has been remarkable since Russia invaded Ukraine is the sanctimonious frenzy. We are told that the war in Ukraine is not, as many of us believe, a complex dispute over autonomy for an ethnic minority in a multi-ethnic state, but that the Russian attack is a civilisational challenge to a global "rules-based order."

What is this "rules-based order"? This month provides a harrowing historical landmark of what an ugly turn that order has taken in the past.

Twenty years ago on March 20, the US attacked Iraq. It had twisted many an arm, but failed to get the UN Security Council to agree. No matter. So much for rules. The war left a terrible legacy for Iraqis.

"No one knows with certainty how many people have been killed and wounded in Iraq since the 2003 United States invasion. However, we know that between 280,771 and 315,190 have died from direct war-related violence... from the time of the invasion through

March 2023," according to Brown University's Watson Institute. "The violent deaths of Iraqi civilians have occurred through aerial bombing, shelling, gunshots, suicide attacks, and fires started by bombing."

That's not all. "Several times as many Iraqi civilians may have died as an indirect result of the war, due to damage to the systems that provide food, healthcare and clean drinking water," the Watson Institute report adds. "The war has compounded the ill effects of decades of harmful US policy actions towards Iraq since the 1960s, including economic sanctions in the 1990s that were devastating for Iraqis."

The harrowing historical landmark I refer to, however, goes back over half a century.

Fifty-five years ago, on March 16, 1968, in the Vietnamese village of My Lai, US soldiers went in and slaughtered 347 to 504 villagers. They were unarmed – almost all of them being old men, women, and children. Women were gang-raped. Even animals were killed in a wanton, pointless act of brutality.

If the Vietnam war was part of a rules-based order, the rules must have been made in hell.

In a decades-long war against a small, impoverished, agrarian country halfway around the world, the US, the world's mightiest nation, unleashed a carnage of extraordinary ferocity

and barbarity. According to Vietnam, over two million Vietnamese civilians died. More bombs were dropped in that tiny country than during World War II; the country was smothered in incendiary napalm bombs and tons of carcinogenic Agent Orange.

I bring up the My Lai massacre because while the Iraq war was relatively recent, the Vietnam war has receded from public memory.

There are other fascinating historical strands that connect the past to the present. After the My Lai massacre, the US Army attempted a cover-up, but the person who broke the story was a tenacious reporter. Seymour Hersh won the prestigious Pulitzer Prize for bringing the horrific details to the attention of the US public.

Fast forward a few decades. In the early days of the US occupation of Iraq, a prison in Abu Ghraib, one of the most notorious in the time of Saddam Hussain's rule, was converted into a US military prison. In April 2004, the US television network CBS published photos of torture and abuse that shocked and outraged the world. The US Army and the CIA committed a series of human rights violations and war crimes against detainees in Abu Ghraib.

In the same year in April, Seymour Hersh, who broke the My Lai story, wrote a series of three articles in *The New Yorker* magazine discussing the abuses in detail. The magazine also published a report on its website by Hersh, along with a number of images of the torture, taken by US military prison guards.

Abu Ghraib, in my mind, is to the Iraq war what My Lai is to Vietnam. In both cases, stark, relatively small-scale events epitomise the depravity and essential lawlessness of the two US

campaigns.

Another common thread that runs through Abu Ghraib and My Lai is the astonishingly poor accountability. In the case of My Lai, the only person who was ever actually convicted was a low-level officer, Lt William Calley, Jr. He was sentenced to life imprisonment; he ultimately served around two years. In the case of Abu Ghraib, a few low-level US military personnel were tried and punished.

But these abuses did not happen in a vacuum. Officers higher up than the ones charged allowed the killings to happen and condoned and even tried to cover them up. Nothing ever happened to them.

I am sure the avid readers will find the name of Seymour Hersh familiar. Hersh has been in the news for publishing an explosive report that claims that the US was behind blowing up the Nord Stream 2 pipeline in September last year that transports Russian natural gas. The Western mainstream press has ignored or pooh-poohed Hersh's claim, instead quoting anonymous intelligence sources to suggest that the explosions may have been caused by a rogue Ukrainian group – a theory that strains credulity.

So here we are, then, a fearsome war between Ukraine and Russia, and the West, with its fierce Manichean take on it, is demanding that everyone else join its righteous battle to slay the dragon – evil Russia.

Yet, the Global South – India, China, Latin America, Africa – is sceptical at best. For many, once you remove the fancy packaging of the "rules-based order," what lurks underneath is an equally sanctimonious and unconvincing claim of yesteryear – the entire world is "the White man's burden."

Tracing the origins of Bangladesh’s economic woes

Dr Rashed Al Mahmud Titumir
is professor and chairman of the Department of Development Studies in Dhaka University, and chairperson of Unnayan Onneshan.

RASHED AL MAHMUD TITUMIR

The ongoing downward pressure on Bangladesh’s economy originated before the Covid pandemic, which only exposed the existing structural fractures and institutional fragilities. The Russia-Ukraine war, diminishing foreign exchange reserves and, most importantly, the continuous rise in living costs only added to the woes.

Bangladesh was already facing certain structural challenges before the pandemic broke out. Poverty reduction had already started to slow down. According to the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS), the poverty rate declined by 1.8 percentage points per year between 2000 and 2005, by 1.7 percentage points between 2005 and 2010, and by 1.2 percentage points between 2010 and 2016. It rose to 29.5 percent from the pre-Covid levels of 20 percent in recent years.

The country has also been experiencing jobless growth. According to the last Labour Force Survey of 2016-17, the unemployment rate is 4.2 percent. The rate of youth unemployment, comprising the population aged between 14 and 24 years, is high at 12.3 percent. The rate of long-term unemployment (that is, jobless for more than a year) is 15.2 percent.

Inequality has also been increasing at an accelerating pace due to higher returns on capital vis a-vis labour. According to the Household Income and Expenditure Survey (HIES), which was conducted before the pandemic, the Gini coefficient, which is generally used as a measure of equality, stood at 0.482 in 2016, up from 0.458 in 2010 – a worrying trajectory. The top five percent has taken over 95 percent of the total income.

The pandemic has severely impacted the lives and livelihoods of marginalised segments of society, particularly low-income groups, women, children, the elderly, the unemployed, and the informal sector workers. In the absence of universal

social security, the inflationary pressures have further caused many to cut down on essential food intake, forcing a reduction in nutrition levels. Some have been compelled to reduce expenditures such as medical and children’s education.

Bangladesh’s economy is overwhelmingly dominated by informal sectors. The informalisation stems from deindustrialisation, which has set in prematurely in the country, with negative employment creation in manufacturing. The capacity to generate employment in the formal sector, particularly in manufacturing, has shrunk, and export has been concentrated to one sector, putting the economy at the risk of high vulnerability and shocks. The paralysed policy process has failed to induce and unleash the capacity of the private sector to expand and diversify the sector with more competitive products.

A lack of foresight has put pressure on our energy security as well. The sector is not foreseeing an immediate solution due to import dependency for the supply of basic energy, lack of gas extraction, timid progress in renewable energy use, and inadequate investment in transmission systems despite the high rent-accruing production setup.

There has been no significant breakthrough in agriculture in terms of innovation and technological advancement in the post-green revolution period. Productivity in agriculture has sunk and costs of production have soared. The fertiliser market is also volatile. Farmers need financing, despite having the best track record in loan repayment. The conventional land reform and small farmers’ policy is not tenable against the backdrop of diseconomies of small scale and the associated coercion and distress. Small and cottage industries are still neglected despite creating the most employment opportunities. The service sector is facing a critical shortage of skilled manpower.

The fiscal balance is in shambles. There is no sign of improvement in our tax-GDP ratio, one of the lowest in the world, which is pushing the country towards an increasing reliance on borrowing and further accumulation of debt. The government’s loan from the central bank has risen to a record

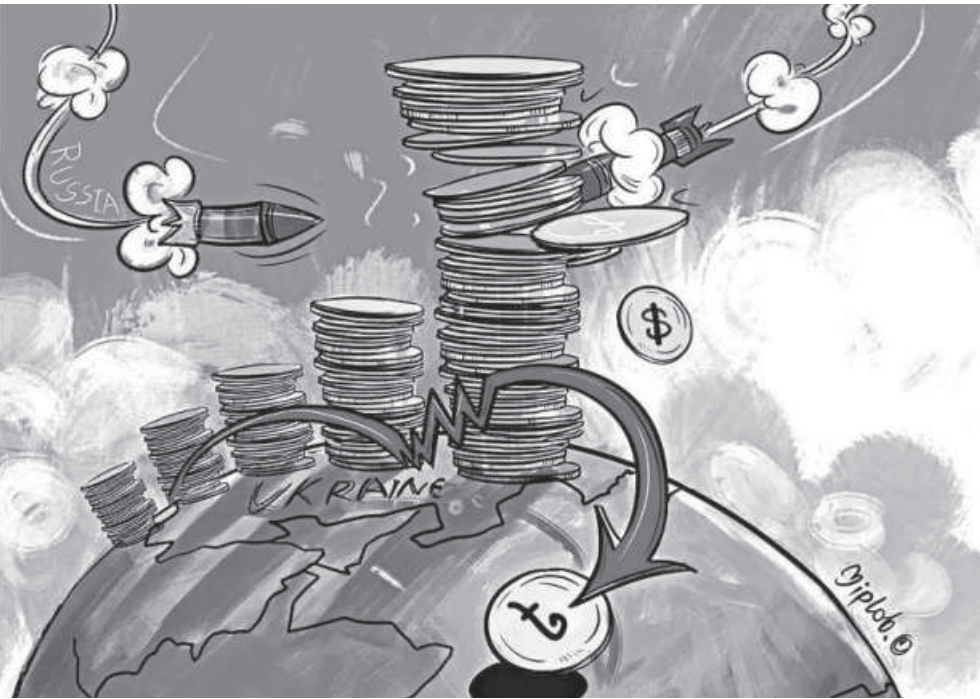


ILLUSTRATION: BIPOLOB CHAKROBORTY

of more than Tk 1 trillion. Printed money is entering the market as the government borrows from the central bank. Inflation is on the rise again due to further escalating consumer price levels. The public sector credit stands at Tk 3.34 trillion. Then there are questions about capital expenditure. Some projects have become burdensome with cost overruns. Foreign debt repayments have spiralled due to the appreciation of the US dollar.

The sluggish growth in the collection of value-added tax (VAT) indicates a slowdown in economic activities, and the paltry addition in the consumption tax is due to a rise in prices. The collection of import duties has started to decelerate, with the tightening of imports and lack of availability of foreign currency in the banks to underwrite letters of credit.

When the price of goods surges, so does tax evasion – particularly in trade – with higher intensity. There are reports of money laundering in the form of overinvoicing. The best way for the government to gain fiscal

leverage is to curb the rampant tax evasion in the country, focusing on an endogenous tax reform programme. It will build the fiscal space if the espoused goal of collection from income tax as the number one source of domestic resource mobilisation is attained.

The financial sector has been in disarray for quite a while. Most of the enterprises are not defaulters, but the lion’s share of non-performing loans (NPLs) is in a few hands. The recovery, in spite of many cushions, of large defaulted loans is yet to happen, with politically intrusive rentier governance in public and private banks. Thus, the NPLs in the country have increased three-fold in the last 10 years.

Depletion of forex reserves began in Bangladesh months before the Ukraine war broke out. Reserves are decreasing due to lower forex earnings, having dropped from \$45.99 billion in March last year to \$32.30 billion as of March 1 this year, despite belt-tightening measures to stall the fall. After excluding the investment, the net reserve can at best cover three months of import.

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার				
অধীক্ষকের কার্যালয়				
সিলেট শহীদ শামসুদ্দিন আহমদ হাসপাতাল, সিলেট				
Email: sylhet@hospi.dqhs.gov.bd				
স্মারক নং- সিশশাআহাসি/২০২৩/৭১		তারিখঃ ২৮/০৩/২০২৩ খ্রিষ্টাব্দ		
আউটসোর্সিং পদ্ধতিতে জনবল সরবরাহের ২য় পুনঃ দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি				
০১	মন্ত্রণালয়/বিভাগ	স্বাস্থ্য ও পরিবার কল্যাণ মন্ত্রণালয়, গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার।		
০২	সম্প্রাহক/স্বত্বাধিকারীর নাম	সিলেট শহীদ শামসুদ্দিন আহমদ হাসপাতাল, সিলেট।		
০৩	অর্থায়নের উৎস	রাজস্ব খাত হইতে (বরাদ্দ প্রাপ্তি সাপেক্ষে)।		
০৪	আহ্বানকৃত দরপত্রের স্মারক নং ও তারিখ	স্মারক নং- সিশশাআহাসি/আউটসোর্সিং/২০২৩/৭১/২০, তারিখঃ ২৮/০৩/২০২৩খ্রিঃ।		
০৫	সম্প্রাহক স্বত্বাধিকারীর জেলা	সিলেট।		
০৬	ক্রয় প্রক্রিয়া	উন্মুক্ত দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি (ওটিএম)।		
০৭	দরপত্রদাতার যোগ্যতা	২০২২-২০২৩ইং অর্থ বছরে আউটসোর্সিং পদ্ধতিতে সেবা গ্রহণের নিমিত্তে জনবল সরবরাহ/নিয়োজিত করণের লক্ষ্যে আগ্রহী অভিজ্ঞতাসম্পন্ন ও সরকার কর্তৃক স্বীকৃত/রেজিস্টার্ড জনবল সরবরাহকারী প্রতিষ্ঠান/ঠিকাদার প্রতিষ্ঠানের নিকট হইতে শর্ত সাপেক্ষে দরপত্র আহ্বান করা যাইতেছে।		
০৮	দরপত্র তফসিলের মূল্য (অফেরতযোগ্য)	প্রতিটি সিডিউলের মূল্য বাবদ ২,০০০/- (দুই হাজার) টাকা ট্রেজারী চালানের মাধ্যমে কোড নং- (১) (২)(৭)(১)(১) (০)(০)(০)(০) (২)(৩)(৬)(৬)-এর বিপরীতে বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংক, সিলেট/সোনালী ব্যাংক, সিলেটে জমা প্রদান করিয়া চালানের মূলকপি হাসপাতালের কোষাধ্যক্ষের নিকট জমাপূর্বক সিডিউল সংগ্রহ করা যাইবে।		
০৯	দরপত্র জামানত/বায়নার টাকা	দরপত্রের সহিত অধীক্ষক, সিলেট শহীদ শামসুদ্দিন আহমদ হাসপাতাল বরাবরে যে কোন তফসিলী ব্যাংকের ১,৯৫,০০০.০০ (এক লক্ষ পঁচানব্বই হাজার) টাকার পে-অর্ডার/ডিডি দাখিল করিতে হইবে মাত্র।		
১০	দরপত্র তফসীল বিক্রয়, দর প্রস্তাব গ্রহণকারী প্রতিষ্ঠানের নাম ও ঠিকানা	অধীক্ষক, সিলেট শহীদ শামসুদ্দিন আহমদ হাসপাতালের কার্যালয় (দরপত্র পুস্তিকা অধীক্ষকের অফিস হইতে সংগ্রহ করিতে হইবে)।		
১১	দরপত্র তফসীল দাখিলের স্থান	অধীক্ষক, সিলেট শহীদ শামসুদ্দিন আহমদ হাসপাতালের কার্যালয়, জেলা প্রশাসকের কার্যালয়, সিলেট এবং পুলিশ সুপারের কার্যালয়, সিলেট।		
১২	দরপত্র সিডিউল বিক্রয়ের তারিখ ও সময়	০২/০৪/২০২৩খ্রিঃ তারিখ থেকে ১৬/০৪/২০২৩খ্রিঃ তারিখ (২.০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত)।		
১৩	দরপত্র খোলার দপ্তরের নাম ও ঠিকানা	অধীক্ষকের কার্যালয়, সিলেট শহীদ শামসুদ্দিন আহমদ হাসপাতাল, সিলেট।		
১৪	দরপত্র দাখিলের তারিখ ও সময়	১৭/০৪/২০২৩খ্রিঃ বেলা ১২.০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত।		
১৫	দরপত্র বাস্তব খোলার তারিখ ও সময়	১৭/০৪/২০২৩খ্রিঃ বেলা ১২.৩০ ঘটিকায়। দরপত্রদাতাদের সম্মুখে (যদি কেহ উপস্থিত থাকেন)।		
১৬	বিশেষ নির্দেশনা	১। দরপত্রের যাবতীয় শর্তাবলী নিয়মাবলী দরপত্র সিডিউল/তফসীলে উল্লেখ রহিয়াছে। ২। ক্রটিপূর্ণ/অসম্পূর্ণ দরপত্র সরাসরি বাতিল বলিয়া গণ্য হইবে। কর্তৃপক্ষ কোনরূপ কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতিরেকে যে কোন দরপত্র গ্রহণ অথবা সকল দরপত্র বাতিল করার ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করেন। ৩। দরপত্রে দি পাবলিক প্রকিউরমেন্ট এ্যাক্ট-২০০৬, পিপিআর-২০০৮ অনুসরণ করা হইবে।		
১৭	দরপত্রের নাম/কাজের বিবরণ	২০২২-২০২৩ইং অর্থ বছরে সিলেট শহীদ শামসুদ্দিন আহমদ হাসপাতালে আউটসোর্সিং পদ্ধতিতে আউটসোর্সিং নীতিমালা অনুযায়ী নিম্নোক্ত জনবল নিয়োজিত করা হইবে।		
		ক্রমিক নং	পদের নাম	পদের সংখ্যা
		০১	ইলেকট্রিশিয়ান	০১ (এক)
		০২	পাম্প অপারেটর	০১ (এক)
		০৩	গার্ডেনার	০১ (এক)
		০৪	ল্যাব এ্যাটেনডেন্ট	০১ (এক)
		০৫	ওটি এ্যাটেনডেন্ট	০১ (এক)
		০৬	ওয়ার্ড বয়	০৬ (ছয়)
		০৭	আয়া	০৪ (চার)
		০৮	সিকিউরিটি গার্ড	০৪ (চার)
		০৯	পরিচ্ছন্নতা কর্মী	০৮ (আট)

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার

ট্যাকসেস আপীলাত ট্রাইবুনাল

রাজস্ব ভবন (১০ম তলা)

এফ ১/এ, আগারগাঁও, শের-ই-বাংলা নগর, ঢাকা-১২০৭

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নথি নং-০৮.০২.০০০০.০০০.১১.০০২.১৮-৬১০

তারিখঃ ২৮/০৩/২০২৩খ্রিঃ
১৫/১২/১৪২৯ বাং

আউটসোর্সিং পদ্ধতিতে জনবল সরবরাহের দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

ট্যাকসেস আপীলাত ট্রাইবুনালের জন্য আউটসোর্সিং পদ্ধতিতে ১টি ফরাস জমাদার (ক্যাটাগরি-৪), ২টি সিকিউরিটি (ক্যাটাগরি-৫) এবং ৫টি ম্যাসেজার (ক্যাটাগরি-৫) সহ মোট ০৮ জন সেবা কর্মীর সেবা ক্রয়ের উদ্দেশ্যে স্বীকৃত প্রতিষ্ঠানের নিকট হতে দরপত্র আহ্বান করা যাচ্ছে।

০১.	মন্ত্রণালয়/বিভাগ	অভ্যন্তরীণ সম্পদ বিভাগ, অর্থ মন্ত্রণালয়।																
০২.	সেবা সমগ্রকারী কর্তৃপক্ষ	গ্রেসিডেন্ট, ট্যাকসেস আপীলাত ট্রাইবুনাল, প্রধান দপ্তর; জাতীয় রাজস্ব ভবন (১০ম তলা), এফ ১/এ, আগারগাঁও, শের-ই-বাংলা নগর, ঢাকা-১২০৭।																
০৩.	সেবা গ্রহণকারী দপ্তর/সংস্থা	ট্যাকসেস আপীলাত ট্রাইবুনাল।																
০৪.	দরপত্র আহ্বানের বিষয়	<table> <tr> <th>সেবাকর্মীর পদের নাম ও ক্যাটাগরি</th><th>সেবা কর্মীর সংখ্যা</th><th>কর্মস্থল দপ্তর/অফিসের নাম</th><th>শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতা ও বয়সসীমা</th></tr> <tr> <td>১। ফরাস জমাদার (ক্যাটাগরি-৪)</td><td>০১ (এক)</td><td>ট্যাকসেস আপীলাত ট্রাইবুনালের অধীনস্থ তৈত বেঞ্চ-১, ঢাকার জন্য ০১ জন।</td><td>১। ন্যূনতম এসএসসি পাস। ২। বয়সসীমা ১৮-৬০ বছর।</td></tr> <tr> <td>২। সিকিউরিটি (ক্যাটাগরি-৫)</td><td>০২ (দুই)</td><td>ট্যাকসেস আপীলাত ট্রাইবুনালের অধীনস্থ তৈত বেঞ্চ-১, ঢাকার জন্য ০১ জন এবং তৈত বেঞ্চ-৫, ঢাকার জন্য ০১ জন।</td><td>১। ন্যূনতম এসএসসি পাস। ২। বয়সসীমা ১৮-৬০ বছর।</td></tr> <tr> <td>৩। ম্যাসেজার (ক্যাটাগরি-৫)</td><td>০৫ (পাঁচ)</td><td>ট্যাকসেস আপীলাত ট্রাইবুনালের অধীনস্থ তৈত বেঞ্চ-২ ও ৫, ঢাকা এবং তৈত-চট্টগ্রাম, খুলনা ও রংপুরের জন্য ০১ জন করে মোট ৫ জন।</td><td>১। ন্যূনতম এসএসসি পাস। ২। বয়সসীমা ১৮-৬০ বছর।</td></tr> </table>	সেবাকর্মীর পদের নাম ও ক্যাটাগরি	সেবা কর্মীর সংখ্যা	কর্মস্থল দপ্তর/অফিসের নাম	শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতা ও বয়সসীমা	১। ফরাস জমাদার (ক্যাটাগরি-৪)	০১ (এক)	ট্যাকসেস আপীলাত ট্রাইবুনালের অধীনস্থ তৈত বেঞ্চ-১, ঢাকার জন্য ০১ জন।	১। ন্যূনতম এসএসসি পাস। ২। বয়সসীমা ১৮-৬০ বছর।	২। সিকিউরিটি (ক্যাটাগরি-৫)	০২ (দুই)	ট্যাকসেস আপীলাত ট্রাইবুনালের অধীনস্থ তৈত বেঞ্চ-১, ঢাকার জন্য ০১ জন এবং তৈত বেঞ্চ-৫, ঢাকার জন্য ০১ জন।	১। ন্যূনতম এসএসসি পাস। ২। বয়সসীমা ১৮-৬০ বছর।	৩। ম্যাসেজার (ক্যাটাগরি-৫)	০৫ (পাঁচ)	ট্যাকসেস আপীলাত ট্রাইবুনালের অধীনস্থ তৈত বেঞ্চ-২ ও ৫, ঢাকা এবং তৈত-চট্টগ্রাম, খুলনা ও রংপুরের জন্য ০১ জন করে মোট ৫ জন।	১। ন্যূনতম এসএসসি পাস। ২। বয়সসীমা ১৮-৬০ বছর।
সেবাকর্মীর পদের নাম ও ক্যাটাগরি	সেবা কর্মীর সংখ্যা	কর্মস্থল দপ্তর/অফিসের নাম	শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতা ও বয়সসীমা															
১। ফরাস জমাদার (ক্যাটাগরি-৪)	০১ (এক)	ট্যাকসেস আপীলাত ট্রাইবুনালের অধীনস্থ তৈত বেঞ্চ-১, ঢাকার জন্য ০১ জন।	১। ন্যূনতম এসএসসি পাস। ২। বয়সসীমা ১৮-৬০ বছর।															
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৩। ম্যাসেজার (ক্যাটাগরি-৫)	০৫ (পাঁচ)	ট্যাকসেস আপীলাত ট্রাইবুনালের অধীনস্থ তৈত বেঞ্চ-২ ও ৫, ঢাকা এবং তৈত-চট্টগ্রাম, খুলনা ও রংপুরের জন্য ০১ জন করে মোট ৫ জন।	১। ন্যূনতম এসএসসি পাস। ২। বয়সসীমা ১৮-৬০ বছর।															
০৫.	বাজেট/অর্থের উৎস	রাজস্ব বাজেট।																
০৬.	ক্রয় প্রক্রিয়া	উন্মুক্ত দরপত্র পদ্ধতি।																
০৭.	দরপত্র তফসিল মূল্য	প্রতিটি সিডিউলের মূল্য ১,০০০/- (এক হাজার) টাকা মাত্র (অফেরতযোগ্য)।																
০৮.	দরপত্র জামানত	রেজিস্ট্রার, ট্যাকসেস আপীলাত ট্রাইবুনাল, ঢাকা এর অনুকূলে যে কোন তফসিলি ব্যাংক হতে পে-অর্ডার বা ব্যাংক ড্রাফট এর মাধ্যমে ১,০০,০০০/- (এক লক্ষ) টাকা (ফেরতযোগ্য) জামানত দাখিল করতে হবে।																
০৯.	দরপত্র তফসিল বিক্রয় ও গ্রহণকারী অফিসের নাম ও ঠিকানা	ট্যাকসেস আপীলাত ট্রাইবুনাল, প্রধান দপ্তর, জাতীয় রাজস্ব ভবন (১০ম তলা), এফ ১/এ, আগারগাঁও, শের-ই-বাংলা নগর, ঢাকা-১২০৭।																
১০.	দরপত্র উন্মুক্তকরণের স্থান	ট্যাকসেস আপীলাত ট্রাইবুনাল, প্রধান দপ্তরের সভাকক্ষ।																
১১.	দরপত্র তফসিল বিক্রয়ের সর্বশেষ তারিখ ও সময়	২৬/০৪/২০২৩খ্রিঃ বিকাল ৫:০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত।																
১২.	দরপত্র দাখিলের সর্বশেষ তারিখ ও সময়	২৭/০৪/২০২৩খ্রিঃ দুপুর ১২:০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত।																
১৩.	দরপত্র খোলার সর্বশেষ তারিখ ও সময়	২৭/০৪/২০২৩খ্রিঃ দুপুর ১২:৩০ ঘটিকায়।																
১৪.	দরপত্রের সাথে যে সমস্ত কাগজপত্রাদি দাখিল করতে হবে	সিডিউল ক্রয়ের রশিদ ও সিডিউলে উল্লিখিত অন্যান্য কাগজপত্রসহ দরপত্র সীলমোহরকৃত খামে প্রধান দপ্তরে রক্ষিত দরপত্র বাস্তব দাখিল করতে হবে। সরকারি প্রতিষ্ঠানসহ ট্রাইবুনালের ২য় পর্যায় কাজ করেছে এমন প্রতিষ্ঠানকে অগ্রাধিকার দেয়া হবে।																
১৫.	দরদাতা প্রতিষ্ঠানের যোগ্যতা ও জনবল সরবরাহের অভিজ্ঞতা এবং দরদাতার প্রতি নির্দেশনাবলী	দরপত্র সিডিউলের বর্ণনা মোতাবেক।																
১৬.	বিশেষ নির্দেশাবলী	<p>(ক) দরপত্রের সেবা ক্রয়ের ক্ষেত্রে পাবলিক প্রকিউরমেন্ট আইন-২০০৬ এবং তফসিল প্রকিউরমেন্ট বিধিমালা-২০০৮ এর বিধিবিধান অনুসরণ করা হবে এবং জনবল নিয়োগের ক্ষেত্রে আউটসোর্সিং নীতিমালা-২০১৮ নীতিমালা প্রযোজ্য হবে।</p> <p>(খ) অর্থ বিভাগের পরিপত্র নং-০৭.১৫৩.০২৯.০৭.০০.০১.২০১৯-২৫৯, তাং-১০/০৬/২০১৯ অনুযায়ী জনপ্রতি সেবার মূল্য নির্ধারণ হবে।</p> <p>(গ) কর্তৃপক্ষ কোন কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতিরেকে যে কোন বা সকল দরপত্র বাতিল করার ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করেন।</p>																



মোঃ এনামুল হক

রেজিস্ট্রার (চঃ দাঃ)

ট্যাকসেস আপীলাত ট্রাইবুনাল

ঢাকা

ফোনঃ ২২২২১৭৯৭৩

ই-মেইলঃ registrar@tat.gov.bd

জিডি-৫৮৪



Obhibashon o Shonar Manush Shommilon 2023

Obhibashon O Shonar Manush Shommilon Aims and Objectives

Bangladesh, in recent years, has become a role model of development in the world. According to the World Bank, it has demonstrated successful ways to reduce poverty dramatically through unique innovations in human development, women empowerment, and climate adaptation. In 2022 Bangladesh had the 35th largest economy with a GDP size of USD 460.8 billion.

Refugee and Migratory Movements Research Unit (RMMRU) believes that migration is an important livelihood strategy for the poor to move out of poverty and a key tool for development. Over more than two decades, In addition to conducting policy research, RMMRU played a key role in policy advocacy, imparting training and grassroots mobilisation for establishing the rights of migrant workers. It has been a pioneer in launching media campaigns for raising awareness among migrants and members of their families as well as to highlight their contribution to broader society. RMMRU has been implementing innovative programmes to help migrants in accessing justice, developing informed migration systems including reintegration of returnees.

RMMRU had the honour to prepare the primary draft of the Overseas Employment Policy 2006 and the draft law of the Migration and Overseas Employment Act 2013 upon request from the government of Bangladesh. RMMRU formulated Alternative Dispute Resolution Rules and recommended specific areas for amendment to the Overseas Employment and Migrants Act 2013. Through evidence-based research on female migration RMMRU launched a campaign that ultimately led to the lifting of the ban on female migration.

The Award Ceremony

Complementing its policy and field actions, RMMRU has organised four national award ceremonies titled **Shonar Manush Shommilon** in 2009, 2011, 2018 and 2019 in which successful migrants, members of their families and their service providers were honoured with Shonar Manush Awards.

This year, RMMRU will highlight migrants' contribution in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and the objectives of Global Compact for Migration. RMMRU will specially acknowledge the returnee labour migrants who have become entrepreneurs and contribute to the national economy. Efforts on reducing poverty through migration, on ensuring a safe environment for migrant workers, particularly the women migrant workers as well as reintegration of returnee migrants and entrepreneurship development will feature prominently in this years' Shommilon.

Introducing Shonar Manush Shommanona 2023

Shonar Manush Shommanona

Despite facing a number of challenges, many Bangladeshi migrant workers have not only transformed the socio-economic conditions of their households, they have also contributed to the development of their respective communities, and created employment opportunities for others. The country as a whole acknowledges the contribution of migrants to the national economy. They are indeed *Shonar Mamush* (The Golden Sons and Daughter) of Bangladesh. RMMRU bestows the *Shonar Manush Shommanona* on them to acknowledge their contribution.

Shonar Manush Sheba Shommanona Expatriates' Welfare Desk

Migration is one of the most important livelihood strategies for the people of Bangladesh. Every year on average seven to eight lakh people migrate for work. In order to extend migration related services to these large numbers of migrants, the Government has established Expatriates' Welfare Desk at three international airports in Bangladesh RMMRU is delighted to recognise the contribution of the Assistant Director of Probashi Kallyan Desk (Expatriates' Welfare Desk), Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport with *Shonar Manush Sheba Shommanona* for delivering emergency services to the returnee migrants during the period of COVID-19 with deep commitment and dedication.

Grievance Management Committee (GMC)

Grievance Management Committee (GMC) is a model developed by RMMRU to resolve migration-related disputes at the local level. Through the locally led committee members, this mechanism reduces migrant workers' difficulties in accessing justice and resolving disputes effectively and satisfactorily. This committee plays a significant role as a platform to address migration related grievances in a transparent, credible and inclusive manner. As appreciation to this effort, RMMRU recognises the contribution of GMC through awarding the *Shonar Mansuh Sheba Award*

Shonar Manush Bishesh Sheba Shommanona Wage Earners' Welfare Board (WEWB)

In 1990, the Government of Bangladesh created the Wage Earners' Welfare Board (WEWB) under the Ministry of Expatriates' Welfare & Overseas Employment to provide assistance to the migrant workers and their family members abroad or at origin to reduce their distress. It is a welfare oriented institution which extends transparent and accountable welfare services to the migrant workers and their families. The WEWB has undertaken path-breaking decisions to reintegrate the returnee migrant workers during and after the COVID-19 period and has made enormous contributions to reduce the hardships of the returned migrants. As appreciation to this effort RMMRU honours the WEWB as an institution, its leadership and contribution with *Shonar Manush Bishesh Sheba Shommanona*.

Shonar Manush Bishesh Sheba Shommanona

Wage Earners' Welfare Board (WEWB)



In 1990, the Government of Bangladesh created the Wage Earners' Welfare Board (WEWB) under the Ministry of Expatriates' Welfare & Overseas Employment to provide assistance to the migrant workers and their family members abroad or at origin to reduce their distress. Over the last couple of years, the WEWB has undertaken important decisions to achieve sustainable improvements in ensuring the short and long term reintegration aspects especially during the time of COVID-19 period. WEWB has given financial assistance to 1510 migrant workers for medical treatments from 2010 to present which amounts to BDT 144.23 million. From January 2022 to February 2023, it has supported 1349 deceased migrant workers' families by supporting to receive BDT 900.12 million as death compensation/regular dues/insurance/ service benefits. As appreciation to this effort RMMRU honours the WEWB as an institution, its leadership and contribution with Shonar Manush Bishesh Sheba Shommanona.

Story of Grievance Management Committee (GMC)

Grievance Management Committee (GMC), Paikara, Tangail

The Grievance Management Committee (GMC) of Paikara consisting of 11 members was established in 2017 to settle migration related disputes at the local level. The committee is mainly responsible for providing legal services through mediation and retrieving money of the deceived migrant workers. From 2017 till 2023, the committee has received 171 complaints from affected migrants and their family members. Out of which 129 have been resolved. Through this committee's intervention, a total of BDT 59,30,000 was recovered from the sub-agents and the recruiting agencies using a win-win approach.

Additionally, this committee has supported children of the migrant family to receive scholarships and sick returnee migrants to get medical allowances. Dead bodies of deceased migrants have been brought back to the country and their families have received compensation through the support of this committee.

RMMRU is awarding GMC Paikara with the Shonar Manush Sheba Award, 2023 for its unique method of dispute settlement and ensuring access to justice locally as well.

The Organiser Refugee and Migratory Movements Research Unit



The Refugee and Migratory Movements Research Unit (RMMRU) was established in 1995. Since then, RMMRU has been engaged in evidence-based research and policy advocacy on labour migration and rights of refugees, displaced and vulnerable people.

Pioneer in Primary Research on Migration

RMMRU research contributed to various evidence-based policy change such as female labour migration, remittances of migrant workers and microfinance institutions in Bangladesh, climate change adaptation and migration, informality in recruitment, plight of Rohingya refugees etc. In recent years RMMRU conducted research on middleman, decentralisation on DEMO services and prepared strategy document for BOESL, WEWB and developed an arbitration model for BAIRA, developed market-oriented business models and conducted a research on the death of women migrant workers in the destination countries.

Major engagement in Policy Advocacy

RMMRU's research and advocacy on female international labour migration contributed to the withdrawal of the ban on migration of unskilled women. In 2001, RMMRU in collaboration with civil society and the private sector prepared a policy document to streamline labour recruitment from Bangladesh. RMMRU prepared the drafts of the Overseas Employment Policy 2006 and the Overseas Employment and Migration Act 2013 for the government of Bangladesh. RMMRU's research on the role of middleman created a space to advocate for a fairer recruitment system to regularise sub-agents in the migration process. The Unit also conducted a research on identifying challenges in disbursing reintegration loan of Probashi Kallyan Bank (PKB) among returnees after outbreak of Covid-19. It also conducted study and policy advocacy on Wage Theft and Arbitrary Return of Bangladeshi migrants in the aftermath of the Covid 19 pandemic.

Field based programme

RMMRU is also engaged in field level interventions to raise awareness among the migrant community of their rights and ensuring services. RMMRU developed the Migration Mediation Model to ensure access to justice at grassroots level. It also formed Community Groups for migration services to avail government services at the grassroots level. Current major activities in field involves strengthening and informing the migration system, expending safe migration information through using mobile application, support to achieve economic resilience and social cohesion of the returnee migrants in their communities and help them to be reintegrated.

Recipients of Shonar Manush Shommanona

Shonar Manush Md. Nazmul Talukdar, Tangail



Md. Nazmul Talukder is an inhabitant of Boilarpur village, Shakhipur union, Tangail. Longing for a better life, he went to Dubai in 2009 with the help of a relative while studying Honors in Accounting. After staying abroad for almost 9 years, he returned home and started a mustard oil factory using his earned money He also started a cattle farm. Currently he has 12 buffaloes and 50 cows in his farm. He also has a partnership in a paper mill business. He created employment opportunities of 162 people. Nazmul is a Shonar Manush of Bangladesh.

Shonar Manush Md. Nuruddin Ahmed, Cumilla



Md. Nuruddin Ahmed from Cumilla's Daudkandi went to Bahrain and worked there for 6 years at a printing press as an operator. During his time abroad, he used to send a major portion of his earnings to Bangladesh through legal channels and kept the rest of it in a bank account as savings. From his earned money, Nuruddin's brother started breeding cows in a farm and now his farm has 38 cows. After returning to Bangladesh he started fish farming and started cultivating fruits and vegetables. Besides, he started another farm with 18 goats and 13 sheeps. Nuruddin has a feed mill as well. Moreover, he regularly saves a big amount in the bank each month from his business earnings. Nuruddin currently has 38 employees working under him. He indeed is a successful entrepreneur.

Shonar Manush Haji Md. Salim Ullah, Keraniganj, Dhaka



Haji Md. Salimullah is a resident of Sonakanda village, Ruhitpur, Dakshin Keraniganj, Dhaka. In 1979, he migrated to Saudi Arabia through a relative longing for a better life. At the beginning, he started working there as a hotel boy, but later took a catering job in a Chinese restaurant. In 1988, he returned to Bangladesh. He bought 1100 decimal farmland and built ponds in some locations for fish farming. His fish farm and agricultural land employ 35 farmers. He bought 43 decimals land and built 4 storied Dakhil Madrasa on it . Currently, 625 students are enrolled in his established Madrasa and 23 staff are working in the madrasa. He also built Sonakanda Secondary School. There 650 students are enrolled and 14 staffs are working. Moreover, he built a mosque. Keeping the poor people in mind, he allocated 30 shops from his market for free and supported the small entrepreneurs. He has 2 sons and 2 daughters. He educated his girls and married them off. One son of his was in South Africa and the other son is currently preparing to go to Canada for MBA. After returning from abroad, he feels he is now ready to give back to society.

Recipient of Shonar Manush Paribar Shommanona

Left in charge Wife

Umme Habiba (Ruma), Wife of Migrant Worker, Kalihati, Tangail



Abul Kalam, a resident of Kalihati upazila in Tangail, left his family and migrated to Saudi Arabia in 2001 to work in a coffee shop. Using his remittance, his wife Umme Habiba first bought 80 decimals of agricultural land to cultivate crops. She also started a fishery farm on 60 decimal of land. Umme Habiba also started cattle farming. Besides, she built a house on 6 decimals of land and bought additional 6 decimals of land in Tangail. In addition, she bought an irrigation machine to cultivate the agricultural land. Umme Habiba also built a market in Baliata Bazar of Tangail and gave the shops for rent. She bought a private car as well for rent. Besides, she and her mother-in-law produce bakery items and sell them online and offline. They also built a poultry farm and sell chickens in the local market. In addition to those, they grow local vegetables in the home yard and sell them in the market. By proper and timely utilisation of her husband's remittances she ensured employment for 11 people. Now in her community many people follow her and want to be like her.

Left in charge Wife

Shiuly Islam, Chanpur, Bhaluka, Mymensingh



Sheuly Akhter's husband Md. Saidul Islam went to Italy in 2006. Saidul Islam. In Italy, Saidul Islam first went to work for a company but later found success working as a cook in a restaurant. After spending on family expenses and education of children Sheuly started to deposit the remaining remittance sent by her husband in the bank. In 2011 she started rearing 4 cows with her savings and slowly grew her farm. Using the profit from that and the remittances , she built a 2000-layer chicken shed and started raising chickens. She then continued to expand her business by hiring more people in the farm and starting a fish farm in addition to the cattle and chicken farms.

Currently a total of 10 people work in her various farms on monthly salary. Sheuly purchased a flat in Tangail town as well. Brother in law of Sheuly has received training in cow husbandry, chicken husbandry and fish farming from the Mymensingh Youth Development Office and has taught it to their workers.

RECORDS KEEP TUMBLING

Liton Das played his career-best T20I innings, scoring 83 runs off 41 balls while bagging the record of the fastest fifty scored in this format for Bangladesh. He took only 18 balls to reach the personal milestone as he went past Mohammad Ashraful’s 20-ball fifty against West Indies in 2007.

Openers Liton and Rony Talukdar stitched the biggest opening stand for the country as they added 124 runs in just 9.2 overs, surpassing the 102 which Mohammad Naim Sheikh and Soumya Sarkar tallied against Zimbabwe in 2021. This was also the Tigers’ second-highest partnerships for any wicket in T20Is, eight behind Tamim Iqbal-Mahmudullah Riyad’s unbeaten 132 for the second wicket against West Indies in Mirpur in 2012, where Bangladesh lost by 18 runs.

Captain Shakib Al Hasan’s second T20I fifer took him past Tim Southee [134 wickets] to become the highest wicket-taker in the format. The left-arm spinner, who now has 136 wickets in 114 matches, also became the first Bangladeshi to pick two five-wicket hauls in T20Is.

Bangladesh achieved their record of scoring the fastest team fifty and fastest team hundred in T20Is, courtesy of Liton and Rony. The Tigers raced to their 50 in 3.3 overs and 100 in 7.1 overs.

The 77-run win was Bangladesh’s second-largest margin of victory in terms of runs, seven runs short of the one achieved against Papua New Guinea at the 2021 World Cup in Oman.

‘Playing on sporting pitches will definitely help us’

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh continued to showcase an aggressive brand of cricket in the shortest format of the game courtesy of a record opening partnership between Liton Das and Rony Talukdar, clinching the three-match T20I series against Ireland after a comprehensive 77-run win in the second T20I in Chattogram yesterday.

Liton and Rony paired up to register the highest opening partnership for the Tigers, stitching together 124 runs. It was also the fastest that Bangladesh as a team had reached the 50 and 100-run mark. In a rain-curtailed 17-over-a-side game, the Tigers also posted their highest Powerplay score, reaching 73 runs in the first five overs after some blistering hits.

Although Rony was dismissed after scoring 44 off 23 balls, Liton, who had missed out on a half-century in the first game, went on to smash the fastest fifty by a Bangladeshi in T20Is.

After a cautious start, the elegant right-hander added a touch of flourish with some delightful stroke-making and reached his tenth T20I fifty off just 18 deliveries, surpassing Mohammad Ashraful’s record for the fastest fifty by a Bangladeshi, which took him 20 deliveries.

Liton termed the flying start exceptional, but the 28-year-old reminded that it would not be the same when asked whether the sporting track had helped batters express themselves freely.

“First of all, a good wicket doesn’t you will score fifty every game. It’s not like that. You have to score runs consistently on tough wickets and you may even have to work hard on good pitches. Obviously, it will be good for both the batters and bowlers if we play on good pitches. We have seen that the bowlers are also getting help while batters are getting opportunities to play big knocks. Playing on sporting pitches will definitely help us,” Liton told the media yesterday.

The dashing right-hander was nearing a maiden T20I hundred at one point before being dismissed on 83 off just 41 deliveries with the help of three sixes and 10 fours.

“I think I was hurrying a lot and the spinners also bowled well in the middle and the pitch favoured them. If had taken some time, I think I could have converted the 83 into a hundred,” he said.



Argentina talisman Lionel Messi skips past two opposition players during a 7-0 thrashing of Curacao in Santiago del Estero on Tuesday. The seven-time Ballon d’Or winner, who reached 102 international goals in this match, opened the scoring on 20 minutes, the goal coming 17 years after he opened his Argentina account. The 35-year-old soon added another just after the half-hour mark to make it 3-0, and then completed his hat-trick on 37 minutes with the fifth as Argentina toyed with their overmatched opponents.

PHOTO: AFP



Rony Talukdar (L) and Liton Das laid the foundation for another 200-plus score for Bangladesh in the second T20I against Ireland at the Zahur Ahmed Chowdhury Stadium in Chattogram yesterday. Then skipper Shakib Al Hasan and Taskin Ahmed took care of the Ireland batters as the hosts cruised to a 77-run win and 2-0 series victory over the visitors.

PHOTO: FIROZ AHMED

The signs of growing T20I mentality

ABDULLAH AL MEHDI

Is this really a new Bangladesh?

The ongoing T20I series against Ireland has seen Bangladesh turn their dismal T20I record on its head and the disparity in the team’s approach compared to past matches has not only been a thing of beauty but also amazement.

Inevitably, that begs the question of what desirable changes have occurred to facilitate this change.

One key aspect and perhaps most crucial is how the players have been enamoured to be playing alongside star all-rounder Shakib Al Hasan, the captain fantastic who seems to be turning over a new leaf. His devotion to the cause and hands on approach -- in building the side from the England T20Is -- has seen the rest show a keenness to shoulder responsibility.

The approach itself had come from Shakib, who would go about his power-hitting drills at the centre pitches during whatever practice session he found himself in. It started from the BPL two years ago, continued in the last BPL and by the time the team went to Chattogram, the likes of Najmul Hossain, Towhid Hridoy, Liton Das, Rony Talukdar and Shamim Patwary were lining up alongside Shakib at the Zahur Ahmed Chowdhury Stadium to see who was getting the most effective connection to clear the ropes.

SCORES IN BRIEF

BANGLADESH VS IRELAND

Bangladesh: 202 for three in 17 overs (Liton 83, Rony 44; White 2-28, Adair 1-52)

Ireland: 125 for nine in 17 overs (Campher 50, Tector 22; Shakib 5-22, Taskin 3-27)

Result: Bangladesh won by 77 runs

Player-of-the-match: Shakib Al Hasan

sweep against England.

After a convincing 77-run win yesterday, where individual records and team records tumbled again, the aggression factor and the need of the hour was expressed by the captain again.

“We’ve discussed our aggressive approach and need to do it to be an aggressive, competitive side. Luckily it’s coming off,” he said at the post-match presentation yesterday.

He sent his squad the message that there would be no let-off in terms of approach in the last T20I. “We will not be complacent. Maybe try new guys,” he said about the team selection for the third T20I, expecting similar intensity.

While players are being given confidence, the selection has been done with intent. Hridoy and Rony got into the side because they carried their approach from the BPL to the England T20Is, even if they did not manage big scores. Afif Hossain and Mahmudullah Riyad had to make way, with the message being to improve on certain aspects according to roles.

The third biggest factor has been a lack of power hitting. There was always a smart solution at play which the Tigers have often floundered at as they looked to make up for a lack of power.

The way Liton goes about things shows it can also be about technique. The way Liton and Rony began in both T20Is saw Bangladesh put up big Powerplay scores and yesterday toppled the record for Tigers’ fastest fifty.

The fact that timing and intent is just as crucial as power was showcased by the top order. There is a nuance there and although it may not always bear fruit, it is an approach which will also bring more success. But only time will tell if it can find consistency.

Renard leaves Saudi Arabia job

REUTERS

Herve Renard has resigned as Saudi Arabia coach, the Saudi Arabian Football Federation (SAFF) said on Tuesday.

The federation agreed to terminate Renard’s contract at his request, it said in a statement on Twitter.

“A legal settlement has been reached to end the contract between the two parties. The President and Board of Directors of SAFF wish for Mr. Renard every success in his future career,” it added.

Renard took over Saudi Arabia in July 2019, and led the team to a famous 2-1 win over eventual winners Argentina at the World Cup in Qatar last year.

“I would like to thank everybody in Saudi for their support during almost four years,” Renard told reporters after a 2-1 defeat to Bolivia on Tuesday.

‘Belgium have new energy’

REUTERS, Cologne

Belgium captain Kevin De Bruyne says new players in the squad are injecting energy into the team after the failure of their “golden generation” to live up to their number one ranking over the last four years.

Belgium began a new era over the last week with two impressive wins – beginning their Euro 2024 qualifying campaign by beating Sweden 3-0 away and then triumphing 3-2 on Tuesday in a friendly against Germany in Cologne.

It was a positive start for new coach Domenico Tedesco, who replaced Roberto Martinez after Belgium’s surprise early elimination at the World Cup in Qatar last year.

Belgium had spent some three years top of the FIFA rankings in the period between the 2018 World Cup in Russia and the 2022 finals but never came close to a major title, being eliminated in Euro 2000 quarter-finals and then the first round in Qatar.

“You can see that the young players give us new energy,” said De Bruyne, who explained the difference with Tedesco’s predecessor was that Martinez mainly relied on the older guard.

“They come here now with the feeling that they will have opportunities and they fight for the national team. If all the players are in the right place, the quality comes through,” De Bruyne told reporters.



BFF pulls out of Women’s Olympic qualifiers

SPORTS REPORTER

The Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) announced that it would pull out of the 2024 AFC Women’s Olympic Football Qualifying Tournament just six days before the start of the first round in Myanmar, citing financial constraints.

Bangladesh had been drawn in Group B alongside the hosts, Iran, and Maldives on January 12 and were preparing until the sudden reversal.

“As it is the Olympic Qualifiers, we have to bear expenses like airfare, accommodation and conveyance, which is not required for some other tournaments. How can I send the team to Myanmar? We did not get a positive response after seeking financial support from the Bangladesh Olympic Association and Youth and Sports Ministry,” BFF president Kazi Salahuddin told The Daily Star yesterday.

Asked how the amount provided by Dhaka Bank as sponsorship for the women’s team was being spent, the BFF president replied: “Whatever Dhaka Bank pays for the women’s team is spent on players’ wages and nutrition. No money is left for other purposes.”

Interestingly, a couple of weeks ago the BFF sent the men’s national team to Saudi Arabia to prepare ahead of March’s FIFA-sanctioned friendlies, with Salahuddin informing that they had virtually no expenses in Saudi Arabia due to an agreement between the two federations.



SAUDI BUS CRASH At least 18 Bangladeshis confirmed dead

STAR REPORT

The number of Bangladeshis dead in Monday's bus crash in Saudi Arabia has risen to 18.

Kazi Emdad, counsellor (labor wing) at the Bangladesh Consulate in Jeddah, also told The Daily Star yesterday that 16 Bangladeshis injured in the accident were undergoing treatment in different hospitals in Makkah.

According to media reports, on Monday afternoon, the bus lost its brakes, hit a car, overturned on the side of the road, and burst into flames in the Abha district of Asir province.

There were 47 people on board the Makkah-bound bus and 34 of them were Bangladeshis, according to officials at Bangladesh Consulate in Jeddah.

The death toll is now 24.

"It is very difficult to determine the nationality due to the burnt and disfigured bodies. It will require DNA test and we cannot say the time frame to complete this right now," Muhammad Nazmul Hoque, consul general of Bangladesh Consulate in Jeddah, told The Daily Star yesterday.

Deceased Gias Uddin Meer, 49, of Cumilla made a call to his wife not long before the crash. He told his wife that he would be coming home for the Eid holidays this year.

Now his family is waiting for his body.

SEE PAGE 6 COL 1



Fly ash is in the air and coating the bare face, arms and clothes of a worker carrying a sack of the waste product of burning coal. Tonnes of fly ash arrive at Khulna River Terminal every day from India to be used mainly by cement manufacturers in Bangladesh. Even though the ash contains several harmful heavy metals, no safety measures are taken by the contractors who employ the workers.

PHOTO: HABIBUR RAHMAN

SEE PAGE 6 COL 2

No point of sitting with EC Says BNP

STAR REPORT

Rejecting the Election Commission's invitation for informal talks, the BNP policymakers think any meeting with the commission is meaningless since it has no power to resolve the political crisis.

The party, however, thanked Chief Election Commissioner Kazi Habibur Awal for sending a letter inviting the BNP for a discussion.

"Our standing committee feels that any discussion or dialogue with the Election Commission will not be fruitful and will be meaningless until the main political crisis regarding the election-time government is resolved," BNP Secretary General Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir told journalists at a press conference at the party chairperson's

DSA CASE AGAINST SULTANA Rab arrests prime accused ASK asks for judicial probe into death

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

Rab arrested the key accused of the Digital Security Act case that was filed in Rajshahi after Rab detained Naogaon land office employee Sultana Jasmine.



Al Amin

Al Amin, 32, of Chandpur, was arrested in the capital's Shahjahanpur, said a press statement issued yesterday by Farzana Haque, staff officer (media) of Rab-3.

Sultana, 41, an office assistant at Chandipur union land office in Naogaon Sadar, was detained on her way to the office by a patrol team of Rab-5 on March 22. She died at Rajshahi Medical College Hospital in Rab custody two days later.

On March 23, when Sultana was fighting for her life at RMCH, Enamul Haque, director of local government at the office of Rajshahi divisional commissioner, lodged the case with Rajpara Police Station in Rajshahi city.

In his case, Enamul accused Al Amin, Sultana and three other unnamed people of using his hacked Facebook account to con people by offering them jobs.

Since the case was filed, Rab members had been keeping Al Amin under surveillance, according to the Rab-3 statement.

On Tuesday afternoon, acting on a tip-off, a team of Rab-3 raided Shahjahanpur

SEE PAGE 6 COL 1

2ND DHAKA-N'GANJ RAIL LINE

BR project runs into more trouble

Chinese contractor wants scrapping of deal for non-payment, delay in handover of part of site

TUHIN SHUBHRA ADHIKARY

The second Dhaka-Narayanganj rail line project, which is already running behind schedule, has run into major trouble as a contractor has sought to cancel the contract.

Power Construction Corporation of China (PCCC), the contractor for civil works including laying the rail line, on March 15 sent a "contract termination notice" to the project authority citing that it was not getting payments and the project site was not handed over to it on time, shows a project document.

About 40 percent of the contractor's work still remains unfinished.

Yesterday, the Project Steering Committee held a meeting with Railways Secretary Humayun Kabir at the capital's Rail Bhaban. The committee asked the project authority to reach a solution with the contractor, said meeting sources.

In another development, Railways Minister Nurul Islam Suhan yesterday asked a delegation of PowerChina, the mother company of PCCC, to complete the Dhaka-Narayanganj rail line project before approaching the ministry for another BR project.

The delegation met the minister several weeks after Chinese state-run PowerChina sent a proposal to invest and build the Bhanga-Payra rail line on a Public Private Partnership model, two participants of the meeting said.

The delegation, however, was asked

to submit the detailed proposal on the 214km line, which may cost more than Tk 50,000 crore, they said.

The BR in January 2015 took up the second Dhaka-Narayanganj rail line project at a cost of Tk 378.65 crore. The project, which was supposed to be completed within June 2017, is now running behind schedule by more than five years.



But the BR could not even hire two contractors for the works within the stipulated deadline. Although the latest deadline expired in December last year, the project has seen 82 percent progress so far.

When the BR in September 2022 sought extension of the deadline for fourth time up to December 2023, Implementation Monitoring and Evaluation Division refused to extend the time without a revision of the Development Project Proposal (DPP).

SEE PAGE 6 COL 6

UNOs can't serve as upazila chief executive officer HC scraps provisions that gave them sweeping powers

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday scrapped the provisions in a law that gave sweeping powers to upazila nirbahi officers to act as the chief executive officer and secretary of upazila parishads.

Delivering a verdict on two writ petitions, the HC at the same time ruled that the terminology "Upazila Proshason" cannot be used under the Upazila Parishad Ain. Terminology "Upazila Parishad" will be used from now on instead of Upazila Proshason.

The UNOs cannot exercise absolute powers in running the administration and other functions of the upazilas and they must be accountable to the upazila parishads led by their chairmen, who are the elected representatives of the people, said writ petitioners' lawyers.

Section 33 (1) of the Upazila Parishad Ain-1998 says that UNOs will be the chief executive officers of upazila parishads and they will give all secretarial assistant to the parishads.

According to Section 33(2) of the act, the CEOs will implement the decisions of the parishads, comply with the financial disciplines and do other functions as per the rules.

Yesterday, the HC declared sections 33(1) and (2) of the act illegal and unconstitutional, observing that those are contradictory to articles 59 and 60 of the constitution.

Article 59 (1) of the constitution

SEE PAGE 6 COL 2

Scientists identify secret ingredient in Vinci paintings



CNN ONLINE

"Old Masters" such as Leonardo da Vinci, Sandro Botticelli and Rembrandt may have used proteins, especially egg yolk, in their oil paintings, according to a new study.

Trace quantities of protein residue have long been detected in classic oil paintings, though they were often ascribed to contamination. A new study published Tuesday in the journal Nature Communications found the inclusion was likely intentional — and sheds light on the technical knowledge of the Old Masters, the most skilled European painters of the 16th, 17th, or early 18th century, and the way they prepared their paints.

"There are very few written sources about this and no scientific work has been done before to investigate the subject in such depth," said study author Ophélie Ranquet of the Institute of Mechanical Process Engineering and Mechanics at the Karlsruhe Institute of Technology in Germany, in a phone interview.

"Our results show that even with a very small amount of egg yolk, you can achieve an amazing change of properties in the oil paint, demonstrating how it might have been beneficial for the artists."



Artisans sorting out hand-made prayer caps at a small factory in Kamrangirchar. Demand for such products multiplies during Ramadan and ahead of Eid. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

SEE PAGE 6 COL 1

Jugantor reporter sued under DSA

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A journalist of the Bangla daily Jugantor was sued under the Digital Security Act yesterday.

Former deputy financial secretary of Jubo League Helal Akbar Chowdhury alias Babar filed the case against Mahbub Alam, special correspondent of the Jugantor, with the Cyber Tribunal in Chattogram, said the tribunal's Public Prosecutor Mezbah Uddin Chowdhury.

According to the case statement, the correspondent reported on March 14 that a syndicate controls everything — tender, illegal occupation and lease — in Central Railway Building (CRB), the zonal office of Bangladesh Railway, in Chattogram and the plaintiff is a part of the syndicate.



Bismillahir Rahmanir Rahim 2nd Death Anniversary Marhum S.S. Nizamuddin Ahmed

Second Anniversary of death of Eminent banker and social worker **Marhum Shahzada Syed Nizamuddin Ahmed** will be observed on 30th March 2023, Thursday. To mark the day Milad Doa Mahfil and Mezban will be arranged at Gausia Rahmania Nizamia Darbar Sharif (Maizbhandar Sharif) today, 30th March, Thursday, after Magrib prayers.

Marhum Nizamuddin was a past District Governor of Lions Dist. 315 A 1 Bangladesh.

All his friends, relatives and well wishers are requested to attend the function and pray to Allah Subhanahu Ta'la for the salvation of the departed soul.

Rashida Begum and her Affectionate daughters and sons in law