

No polls under AL govt: Fakhrul

STAR REPORT

BNP will not participate in any election under this government, said party Secretary General Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir at a divisional youth rally in Barishal yesterday.

He also urged the youth to play a key role in removing the government and establishing democracy.

The rally was organised by three BNP-affiliated organisations -- Jubo Dal and Chhatra Dal. Over 6,000 leaders and activists attended the rally.

"We want polls to be held under a neutral government," he stated.

Fakhrul said to save the country, it is essential to empower the youth.

He also criticised the chief election commissioner's remarks over the attack on IAB mayoral candidate Syed Faizul Karim. "The government's objective is to manipulate our votes and smuggle our money abroad," he asserted.



BNP Secretary General Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir addressing a youth rally in Barishal city's Bangabandhu Udyan yesterday. PHOTO: TITU DAS

Railway to transport sacrificial animals

BSS, Rajshahi

The West Zone of Bangladesh Railway will transport cattle to Dhaka from Chapainawabganj and Rajshahi districts centring the Eid-ul-Azha at less cost.

Cattle will be transported in separate wagons of the existing mango special train till June 26.

Asim Kumar Talukder, general manager of the zone, said the sacrificial animals will be transported to mark the Eid Ul-Azha on the basis of demand of farmers and businessmen for the third consecutive year.

The train will depart Rohanpur Railway Station at 4:00pm for Dhaka. It will load cattle in six stations, including Chapainawabganj and Rajshahi, and reach Dhaka at night.

He said 20 cattle can be transported to Dhaka in a broad gauge wagon at a cost of Tk 11,830. Per kilometre, the fare for a wagon load of cattle heads (20 cattle heads) has been fixed at Tk 20.

He said starting from Chapainawabganj, the special train would halt at six railway stations, including Kakanhat, Rajshahi and Bangabandhu Bridge West.

PRIMARY SCHOOLS IN THAKURGAON, NILPHAMARI Lack of fund, resources hinder progress

Says CPD study

ARAFAT RAHAMAN, back from Thakurgaon and Nilphamari

There are no libraries at nine out of 10 primary schools in Nilphamari and seven out of ten schools in Thakurgaon, according to the latest Centre for Policy Dialogue studies.

The studies further showed that only 17 percent of the students in Thakurgaon and 26 percent of those in Nilphamari use the existing libraries.

Approximately half of the schools in Nilphamari lack enough benches for students.

The reports were revealed during two separate dialogues held under the same title "Education atmosphere at Primary education: Our duties", in Thakurgaon and Nilphamari over this weekend.

The sessions were organised in collaboration with the European Union, Citizen's Platform for SDGs, Bangladesh and Eco-Social Development Organization (ESDO).

A total of 136 respondents, including teachers, students, parents, and stakeholders from government and non government organisations in Gaibandha, Thakurgaon and Nilphamari participated in the studies.

Senior Research Fellow at CPD Towfiqul Islam Khan presented the studies.

LACK OF RESOURCES, DIGITAL FACILITIES

According to the reports, 54 percent of the schools in Thakurgaon, and 59 percent of those in Nilphamari lacked internet facilities. Some 29 percent of schools in Thakurgaon had no multimedia projectors, while most of the available ones were out of order.

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Chandi Das Roy, a primary school headteacher in Nilphamari, said, "Students cannot engage in co-curricular activities as we don't have proper playgrounds. Their safety is also an issue, as boundary walls are missing in most schools.

Around 89 percent of respondents from Thakurgaon and 74 percent from Nilphamari said the schools do not have teachers or instructors for extracurricular activities.

LIMITED MOTIVATION TOOLS

Of the Thakurgaon-based study participants, 41 percent said they were dissatisfied with the amount they receive as government stipends and demanded an increase.

Additionally, a large proportion of indigenous students are dropping out due to difficult economic circumstances.

Addressing these issues, the speakers asked the attending government officials to reconsider the stipend amount while also ensuring other educational incentives.

Alfa Begum, headteacher of a primary school in Thakurgaon Sadar, suggested introducing food for education programmes where the students will be offered mid-day meals at school to reduce the existing dropout rate.

Around 18 percent of the students in Thakurgaon had lower pass rates as they did not attend private tuition. In Nilphamari, 55 percent students experienced the same issue.

The lack of skills among primary teachers compels students to seek tuition privately, according to education officials.

BUDGET CONSTRAINTS

Around 61 percent of the survey respondents said they did not receive any grants since the

SEE PAGE 4 COL 4

DHAKA-CTG HIGHWAY

Renovation work halted for Eid

UNB, Dhaka

The ongoing renovation work on Sitakunda section of Dhaka-Chattogram highway will remain suspended for 10 days to ensure smooth journey for Eid travellers.

The Roads and Highway Department announced that all road renovation activities will be suspended until July 3.

Belal Uddin Jahangir, officer-in-charge of Baro Auliya Highway Police Station, said, "Due to the ongoing renovation work carried out in Sitakunda section, vehicles have been limited to using a one-way road. This has resulted in constant traffic congestion... spanning 10 to 15 kilometres".

Additionally, with the approaching Eid-ul-Azha, there has been an increase in the number of sacrificial animal transportation vehicles on the highway.

Pintu Chakma executive engineer of RHD, Chattagram, said, "Upon the request of the highway police, we have instructed the contractors to halt the road renovation work for the next 10 days to ensure smooth journey during the Eid."

BNP undermines democracy, steals votes: Quader

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The BNP had snatched people's voting rights in the past, setting records for openly stealing votes and undermining democracy, said Awami League General Secretary Obaidul Quader in a statement yesterday.

In response to an earlier comment made by BNP Secretary General Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir, Quader claimed that BNP leader Khaleda Zia was not being held by the government, but rather serving a court sentence.

He said Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina had displayed generosity by allowing Khaleda Zia to remain at home through an executive order. Quader said BNP should have shown gratitude towards Hasina instead of expressing anger.

He said BNP is facing the consequences of engaging in wrongful politics.

"Despite being a political party in an independent country, they still hold onto the belief of subjugation. They have yet to rid themselves of the influence of Pakistan. Instead of reaching out to the people, they choose to protest at foreign embassies," he added.

Bangladesh is an economically emerging power in the world today. BNP could never accept this achievement and prosperity of the country. BNP's politics is full of hypocrisy and duplicity, Quader added.



Nalka flyover opens to traffic

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

The Nalka flyover in Sirajganj was opened for vehicles yesterday to ease traffic congestion ahead of Eid-ul-Azha to be observed on June 29.

Manjur Hossain, secretary of Bridge Division and also executive director of Bangladesh Bridge Authorities, inaugurated the flyover at noon.

Meanwhile, vehicles of 22 districts -- including 16 northern districts -- move through Hatikumrul Intersection via Bangabandhu Bridge's western end.

Police said normally 17,000 to 18,000 vehicles pass through the highway every day. But the number increases to around 40,000 before Eid.

Rawshan Yajdani, officer-in-charge of Bangabandhu Bridge West Police Station, said, "It would have been better if the Kodda and Mulibari flyovers could have been opened. Because after crossing the Bangabandhu Bridge, the pressure of the vehicles falls here first. Besides, the two-lane road in Pachlia of Salonga is also a problem for smooth traffic."

Tofazzal Hossain, deputy secretary of Local Government Division; Adnan Hossain, assistant superintendent of police in Sirajganj; and Sher Shah Farid, deputy project manager of contractor firm Meer Akter Hossain Limited, were present on the occasion.



PHOTO: STAR



Distraught, a farmer sits near the bank of the Padma in Manikganj after losing all of his cattle in a trawler capsized yesterday. The vessel with 47 sacrificial cattle sank in the river in Harirampur upazila around 10:30am. As of filing the report around 9:00pm, the sunken trawler and 28 cattle were still missing. *Inset*, a boat being used for rescue operation.

PHOTO: STAR



Office of the Rangamati Pourashava

District: Rangamati

Memo No. 752

Date: 21-06-2023

e-Tender Notice No. 03/2022-23 (OTM)

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

Tender ID No.	Package No.	Description of works	Online (e-GP System) tender publication date & time	Online(e-GP System) tender closing and opening date & time
847331	LGCRRP/Rangamati/2022-23/W-01	a) Development of New Jalia Para RCC road from existing RCC Stair to Sukumar Das house (Ch.00-231m), with connecting-01, RCC road from proposed RCC road to Shadu Das house (Ch.00-35m). Connecting-02, RCC road from proposed RCC road to existing RCC Stair (Ch.00-71m), Connecting-03, RCC road from proposed (1) RCC road to Putul house (Ch.00-52m), Connecting-04, RCC road from proposed RCC road to Dhana Das house (Ch.00-35m).Connecting-05, RCC road from proposed RCC road to Manic Das house (Ch.00-24m) (Ward No-01), under Rangamati Pourashava (b) Development of Footpath from "Upazila Office to Aranyaka Gate" (Ch.00-192m) at Sadar Upazila Office (Ward No-09), under Rangamati Pourashava.	25 June, 2023 at 9:00am	18 July, 2023 at 1:00pm
847340	LGCRRP/Rangamati/2022-23/W-02	(a) Development of Chompknagar RCC road from existing BC road to existing RCC (Ch.00-65m), with Connecting-01, RCC road from proposed RCC road to Purnendu Chakma (Ch.00-224.50m), Connecting-02, RCC road from proposed RCC road to Mukut Chakma house (Ch.00-35m), (Ward No-08) under Rangamati Pourashava (b) Development of Bijoy Nagar RCC road from existing CC road to Uttam Kumar Chakma house (Ch.00-70m), with Connecting road RCC road from "Proposed RCC road to Sumon Chakma house" (Ch.00-261.50m), (Ward No-09) at Bijoynagar-Valedi under Rangamati Pourashava		18 July, 2023 at 1:30pm

These are 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-Tendering documents from the National e-GP Portal have to be deposited online through any registered banks branches up to 17 July, 2023 at 4:00pm. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

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