

## BNP's strategy is to create chaos, foil polls: info minister

BSS, Dhaka

Information and Broadcasting Minister and Awami League Joint General Secretary Hasan Mahmud yesterday said BNP's main strategy is to create chaos in the country and foil the next elections.

"... and it is clear in the statement of BNP secretary general Mirza Fakhru Islam Alamgir," he said, replying to a query of reporters at the meeting room of the ministry at Secretariat.

Hasan said BNP has been changing their strategy after a few days. Sometimes they announce walkathon then they declare sit-in programmes, he added.



**Jamaat is a political party and for this, approval was given to hold a rally. We have no communication with Jamaat and there is no need to communicate with them.**

Criticising a comment of Fakhru over the resignation of the government, the minister said the US visa policy has announced that the policy will be applicable against those who will obstruct the polls.

Hasan also said Jamaat is in alliance with BNP and the party is the main ally in the alliance. "Jamaat is a political party and for this, approval was given to hold a rally. We have no communication with Jamaat and there is no need to communicate with them."

## Food grain storage capacity to be increased: minister

UNB, Naogaon

The storage capacity of food grain will be increased to 3.5 million tonnes in the country, said Food Minister Sadhan Chandra Majumder yesterday.

"There is storage capacity for 2.18 million tonnes of food grains. Currently, we have over 2 million tonnes in stock. There is no space left to store more food grains," he said while talking to reporters in Naogaon.

Eight steel silos across the country are nearly complete to address this issue, the minister said.

"This initiative will increase the overall storage capacity by 6.5 lakh tonnes. Additionally, the government has approved the construction of 200 paddy silos with a capacity of 5,000 tonnes each," he said.

He said a draft law encompassing various aspects of food production, marketing, and supply will be placed in parliament. "If passed, this act is expected to be a landmark legislation that will bring order in the marketing, storage, and harvesting of food crops," he said.

The minister said the government has decided to procure 12.5 lakh tonnes of rice and 4 lakh tonnes of paddy in the current Boro season.

# Saving the shy slow loris

MINTU DESHWARA, Moulvibazar

Plumporis Ev, a Germany-based voluntary organisation, is working actively to preserve the endangered Bengal slow loris, locally known as "Lajjabati Banor" in Moulvibazar.

A timid arboreal creature, these animals are usually found in the Lawachhara National Park in Moulvibazar and various regions of the Chattogram Hill Tracts.

According to the organisation, a team sets off to rescue these nocturnal animals, who are often electrocuted when they come near human settlements. The injured ones are then brought to the Janakichhara Wild Animal Rescue Centre, located in the park, where they receive necessary treatments.

The initiatives are jointly carried out with wildlife management and nature conservation wings under the forest department.

"Locals inform us of the injured animals, and we rush to the spot. People were not keen on reporting such injuries earlier. But they have become aware now and work alongside us to protect these animals," said Azizul Hakim Abir, deputy manager of the organisation.

Since January 2022, the initiative has rescued 23 such loris, 15 of which have already been released in the park after treatment.

The first one named Himu was released on October 20, 2022 while Lallu, the last



**THE NIGHT DWELLERS...** Listed as endangered on the IUCN Red List, the Bengal slow loris, locally known as "Lajjabati Banor" is under constant threat. These nocturnal animals are most commonly found in the forests of Sylhet and Chattogram. PHOTO: STAR

one, was released on June 17 this year.

Radio collars are put on the animals before releasing them, mentioned Abir.

A radio collar is a wide band of machine-belted fitted with a small radio transmitter and battery. The transmitter

emits a signal at a specific frequency that can be tracked from up to 5km away.

"The collars let us observe, study and record their behaviour, movement patterns, and feeding habits," he added.

Two of the rescued animals died, while

six others are currently being rehabilitated by the organisation. Of them, five were rescued from various tea-estates in Sreemangal while one was recovered from Habiganj.

They are waiting to release these animals in the park as soon as they are healthy again.

"We rescued Luna on July 18, 2022, from a tea garden. She had a broken leg and many other injuries caused by electrocution. Luna is now doing better, and we plan to release her soon," said Abir.

"We regularly monitor the weight of these animals, as weight gain usually means recovery. A female loris is released if it weighs at least 800 grammes. A healthy male loris weighs a little more, around 900 grammes," he shared.

Though these shy animals prefer living on tall trees located away from human settlements, the organisation releases their rescues near the centre initially to help them adapt to their new life better.

It also reduces the chances of internal conflicts or fights between their community as they are territorial, the deputy manager further mentioned.

"The organisation members are conducting studies to know more about this animal. We don't know much about these species, so they are better off in Plumporis Ev's care," said Jahangir Alam, divisional forest officer.

### IMPACT OF RUSSIA-UKRAINE WAR

## Fertiliser price rose by 105pc

Says ActionAid study

UNB, Dhaka

The cost of food, fuel, and fertiliser in some of the world's most vulnerable communities has escalated due to the food and energy crisis, which is attributed to Russia's invasion of Ukraine, according to a new study conducted by ActionAid.

The cost of living in Bangladesh has gone up across multiple parameters, hitting the marginalised communities the hardest, the report suggests.

The report found that in Bangladesh, price of fertiliser has increased by 105 percent, sugar by 60 percent, petrol by 47 percent, and sanitary pads by 23 percent.

As a result, communities are facing multiple challenges, particularly women, girls and children have, who been hit hard, according to the report.

They are compromising on their

education, nutrition, and health.

A survey of more than 1,000 community members and leaders in 14 countries across Asia, Africa and the Caribbean found that prices of fertiliser rose by more than 115 percent over the period



monitored, while costs of petrol and sanitary pads increased by 80 percent or more, leading to soaring child marriage rates, deteriorating women's health, and worsening

mental health.

Alberta Guerra, global policy analyst for ActionAid, said this research shows that since the onset of the war in Ukraine, the most vulnerable people around the world are bearing the brunt of skyrocketing food, fuel and fertiliser prices, with women and girls the hardest hit.

School dropout rates have increased for both girls and boys in 10 of the 14 countries surveyed, which includes Bangladesh.

The economic pressure created by price hikes has also resulted in increased rates of child marriage.

One of the respondents in Sunamganj district, said, "Education is far less important than securing food for survival. Boys have to work in Bangladesh in the stone quarry or in sand extraction for Tk 300/day in the Jadukata river. That's why they skip school."

## Jamuna erosion

FROM PAGE 5

and Sarpolshia in Nikrail union; and Jogotpora, Kuthiboirra, Rayer Basalia and Bolorampur under Arjuna union.

Sadar UNO Hasan Bin-Muhammad Ali said the local lawmaker has already visited the area and instructed WDB to take necessary steps.

Dulal Hossain Chokdar, chairman of Govindasi Union Parishad, said many dwelling houses have already gone into the river while many structures – including several schools and a temple – are under threat in his area.

"We have already informed the local administration about the matter," he said.

Bhuanpur UNO Belal Hossain said they have informed WDB of the issue and requested them to take

required steps.

Sazzad Hossain, executive engineer of WDB in Tangail, said they have informed higher authorities.

Meanwhile, the erosion victims, who are now left alone under the open sky, are waiting for relief to reach them.

Dilip Kumar, district relief officer in Tangail, said the process to send relief materials is underway.

## Monir was

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Suhrawardy Medical College Hospital where doctors pronounced him dead.

Morgue sources said there were two stab injuries on his left leg and two on his left shoulder.

Moniruzzaman joined Bangladesh Police in 2002. He is survived by his wife and two sons.

EASTERN REFINERY LIMITED (A Subsidiary of Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation) North Patenga, Chattogram-4204, Bangladesh. (www.erl.gov.bd)		ER	
<b>INVITATION FOR INTERNATIONAL RE-TENDER</b>			
1. Ministry/Division	Energy and Mineral Resources Division		
2. Agency	Eastern Refinery Limited		
3. Purchaser Name	Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation (BPC)		
4. Purchaser District	Chattogram		
5. Invitation for	Fabrication and Supply of Heat Exchanger Shells (shell, shell cover, channel cover of different heat exchangers with necessary nuts, bolts, & gaskets) & one complete Heat Exchanger with Tube bundle		
6. Invitation Ref. No.	ER/MAINT/HES-01/2023		
7. Date	03/07/2023		
<b>KEY INFORMATION:</b>			
8. Procurement Method	International Open Tender Method "One stage Two Envelope (Technical & Financial)"		
<b>FUNDING INFORMATION:</b>			
9. Budget and Source of Funds	Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation (BPC)		
<b>PARTICULAR INFORMATION:</b>			
10. Tender Package Name	Fabrication and Supply of Heat Exchanger Shells (shell, shell cover, channel cover of different heat exchangers with necessary nuts, bolts, & gaskets) & one complete Heat Exchanger with Tube bundle.		
11. Tender Publication Date	03/07/2023		
12. Tender Last Selling Date	21/08/2023		
13. Tender Closing Date and Time	22/08/2023, 11:00 HRS		
14. Tender Opening Date and Time	22/08/2023, 11:15 HRS		
15. Price of Tender Document	TK 3,000.00 (Three Thousand)		
16. Name & Address of the office (s):	Selling Tender Document i) Manager (Accounts ), Eastern Refinery Limited, North Patenga, Chattogram-4204, Bangladesh. Phone: +8802333301261-7, ii) ERL Liaison Office, YMCA Bhaban, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor, 1/1 Pioneer Road, Kakrail, Dhaka-1000, Bangladesh, Phone: +88023391991		
Receiving Tender Document	BPC BOARD ROOM, Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation; BSC Bhaban, Saltgola Road, Chattogram, Bangladesh.		
Opening Tender Document	BPC BOARD ROOM, Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation; BSC Bhaban, Saltgola Road, Chattogram, Bangladesh.		
<b>INFORMATION FOR TENDERER:</b>			
17. Eligibility of Tenderer	As per Tender Data Sheet (Section-2)		
18. Brief Description of Goods:	Fabrication and Supply of shells(shell, shell cover, channel cover with necessary nuts, bolts, & gaskets) of different heat exchangers (E1101, E1102, E1104, E1105, E1108, E1111, E1118, E1120, E1121, E1202, E1204, E1209, E1212, E1307, 10E05) and one complete Heat Exchanger with tube bundle (E1205), at Eastern Refinery Limited.		
19. Lot No.	Identification of Lot	Location	Tender security
01 (Single)	ER/MAINT/HES-01/2023	Eastern Refinery Limited, North Patenga, Chattogram, Bangladesh.	TK. 10,00,000.00 (Ten lac) Or, USD 10,00,00.00 (Ten Thousand)
Completion Time in Weeks/Days			
Delivery of Goods: 52 weeks from the effective date of Letter of Credit			
<b>PURCHASER DETAILS:</b>			
20. Name of Official Inviting Tender	Engr. K.M Mahmudul Haque		
21. Designation of Official Inviting Tender	Assistant General Manager (Maintenance)		
22. Address of Official Inviting Tender	Eastern Refinery Limited, North Patenga, Chattogram-4204, Bangladesh.		
23. Contract details of Official Inviting Tender	Telephone: +8802333301261-7, Ext. 330 Fax: +88023333301269 Email: agm.maintenance2021@gmail.com, md-office@erl.com.bd Website: www.erl.gov.bd		
24. The Purchaser reserves the right to reject all tenders or annul the Tender proceedings.			

GD- 1066

## It's time polluters

FROM PAGE 3

from tropical cyclones of approximately \$1 billion.

He said climate change is primarily caused by the pollution from large industrialised economies, but the countries that contribute least to global warming face the brunt of it.

Loss and damage is well enshrined in decisions made by the Conference of Parties (COP) to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change and in the Paris Agreement, but international finance for adaptation was seriously lacking.

Despite an agreement

that the Green Climate Fund would provide a 50–50 split in finance between mitigation and adaptation, this has not been the case.

Fry recommended that the UN secretary-general establish a group of finance experts to consider innovative sources of funding for loss and damage.

Establishing an international funding mechanism in this regard is critical for climate change vulnerable countries such as Bangladesh.

"It is time that the polluters paid for the loss and damage inflicted on other countries," Fry said.

## Getting paid to do

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Ruhul Amin, a labour leader and coordinator of Sramik-Krishak Chhatra-Janata Oikya Parishad, said, "So many officials are taking salaries on taxpayers' money for doing so called 'maintenance and administrative works' but still they could not reopen the mills and pay the workers their due salaries. This is an example of outright negligence and injustice."

Eminent economist Dr Badiul Alam Majumdar, secretary of Shujan, a citizen's platform, said, "The government could have earned millions of foreign revenue by modernising and reviving the jute industry, as the demand of biodegradable fibre is on the rise in the international market. The jute industry is one of the very few industries of our country where we do not have to import any raw material."

"The complicated and corrupt bureaucratic machine has destroyed this industry. Instead of finding out these officials,

the government has been unjustly punishing the poor workers. The government should reopen and revive the state-run jute industries for the sake of our economy and rehabilitate the workers without any delay," added Dr Majumdar.

Abdur Rouf, secretary of ministry of jute and textile, said that some of BJMC's officials will also lose their jobs in the near future.

"We have devised a plan to assimilate the skilled and experienced officials into other state-run corporations and leave some officials under the golden handshake scheme. We shall retain only 200–300 officials at BJMC to monitor the leased out mills," said Rouf.

Regarding the pending salary of the workers, he said, "There are only few workers left who are yet to receive their salaries and benefits due to some administrative complexities and pending cases against them. Once these issues are resolved, they will get their money too."

## Walking beside her people

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As the PM started walking towards the canal, it began to drizzle. A security officer ran up with an open umbrella, but she refused and reportedly told him, "Leave it. I am a daughter of this soil. I will walk in the rain."

The PM ended her work day early by going to the house she had built for her retirement, in a plot adjacent to her father's ancestral home. The premier spent the rest of the day with her son Sajeeb Wazed Joy and extended family members, enjoying some down time.

The day after (yesterday), the premier began her morning by going on a quiet stroll around the neighbourhood where she was born.

Later in the morning, when Hasina had to go to a meeting with politicians at the local AL office, she chose to ditch her bulletproof car and walked all the way instead, surprising her security protocol.

The party office is a good half-kilometre away

from her home, and the sun shone hot in the mid-morning sky.

When her security personnel tried to coax the PM into her vehicle, she reportedly told them, "I want to walk. I will walk on my own land. Those with diabetes should walk more. I don't have diabetes, but I still want to walk and take this chance to get some vitamin-D."

After reaching the local party office, the PM sat patiently through the testimonies of 40 AL leaders and elected representatives.

"I am not here to say anything; I am here to listen," she reportedly said, according to members of her entourage, who spoke with The Daily Star.

An AL leader suddenly remarked, "Leader, you have shown us Vision 2041. We want you to lead us till then."

The PM had a wry reply to that, "I have been elected seven times. What is my age now? Have you any idea what my age will be in 2041?"

The local AL leader

then mumbled about how Mahathir Mohammed became a prime minister at the age of 95, to which Hasina brought her hands together and said, "Forgive me."

After returning home, she concluded her tour by visiting her father's grave and then started for Dhaka.

As the car revved, the skies poured rain. Suddenly Hasina noticed a person with physical disability standing on the side of the road, selling a stack of newspapers in the rain.

She told the driver to stop, rolled down her window and bought several newspapers from the hawk. As the surprised hawk stared on at what just transpired, her SUV sped away towards the capital.

ব্যাংকিং ক্যাম্পাস লিমিটেড  
সকল সুবিধা সম্বলিত ব্যাংকিং, প্রয়োজনীয়  
অনলাইন ব্যাংকিং, ইন্টারনেটে  
ব্যাংকিং, ডেবিট ও ক্রেডিট কার্ড  
সেবায় আপনার বিশ্বস্ত সহযোগী।  
বিসিবি

Save the Children				
Date: July 3, 2023				
Save the Children is the world's leading, independent organisation for children				
Invitation for Tender				
Save the Children International (SCI) is hereby inviting the tender from interested, experienced and bona fide vendors for ECW Holistic Learning Outcome Assessment under Education Sector. For details please see the ITT document which is available on <a href="http://procurement.scibd.info/">http://procurement.scibd.info/</a> under tender notification. Downloaded copy is acceptable for tender participation.				
Description, submission time & date:				
SL	Name of ITT	Reference No.	Pre-Tender Meeting Schedule and Place	Last date of Tender Submission
I	ECW Holistic Learning Outcome Assessment	IFT/SCI/BDCO /FY-23/(Manual) /0007	09/July/2023 at 3.00 PM <a href="https://zoom.us/j/973581019">https://zoom.us/j/973581019</a> 91?pwd=Tmxrmlk4VlVlcXNUNmNQWVNFST1VEjMdz09	July 23, 2023 at 3.00 PM
Special Instruction: (a) All activities in connection with the said procurement of Goods/ Services will be guided as per the SCI's Procurement Policies. (b) If it is not possible to receive & open the tender on the scheduled date for any unavoidable circumstances, the same will be received and opened on the following working date at same time and same place.				
Head of Supply Chain				