

Razing a hill

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Ferdous Anwar, deputy director of DoE Chattogram, said, "If any evidence of hill cutting is found during our investigation, we will take legal action against those responsible."
Officials from the upazila administration, who visited the area, have substantiated claims of hill cutting.
The port city has lost around 120 hills over the past four decades. In 1976, the city had 32.37 square km of hills, which reduced

to 14.02 square km by 2008, reveals Bangladesh Environment Forum's data.
Mohammad Kamal Hossain, former professor at the Institute of Forestry and Environmental Science, Chittagong University, emphasised the dangers of living near a hill that has been cut.
"The chopped-down hills usually collapse during monsoons as the soil is loose and soft. Such actions also pose a serious threat to the natural habitat of animals in the area," he said.

Repeal DSA

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"We hope Adhora's case will be withdrawn, or the home ministry will issue a statement declaring it null and void," he demanded.
He emphasised the need for the government to ensure press freedom by taking the journalists' concerns about DSA into consideration.
DUJ general secretary Akter Hossain shared details about the case and said Adhora had been receiving threats after the news was aired. Akter, also the news editor of RTV, called for an end to such targeted harassment and to take appropriate action against those responsible for filing baseless cases against journalists.
Dhaka Reporters Unity president Morsalin Nomani, DRU former

general secretary Syed Shukur Ali Shuvo, Nurul Islam Hasib, among others, spoke at the programme.
The speakers highlighted the discrepancy between the government's claim that the DSA does not target journalists, saying increasing number of cases are being filed against journalists under this act.
They feared DSA cases against journalists may rise as the national election is approaching.
Mentioning that journalists are a supporting force of the state, the protesters sought cooperation from the administration.
Journalist communities have long been demanding repeal of the law, saying it has been curbing the freedom of press and expression.

Journo Ratan Sarkar no more

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinaipur
Muminur Rahman popularly known as Ratan Sarkar, Rangpur bureau chief of Somoy Television, died of cardiac arrest early yesterday. He was 48.
He left behind his parents, wife, two children, and a host of relatives and well-wishers to mourn his death.
Ratan started his journalism career in 1990 in Nilphamari.
Mahbubur Rahman, president of Rangpur Press Club, said Ratan was taken to Rangpur Medical College Hospital after a massive cardiac arrest on Thursday. He breathed his last at around 12:30am yesterday, he said.
He was also accused of a DSA case filed in Rangpur and later was acquitted of the charge.



PHOTO: COLLECTED

At least give us

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Junaid Saki, chief coordinator of Ganosamhati Andolon, said, the government has adjusted its employees' payments in line with the inflation.
"However, our garment workers, who are a pillar of the country's economy, are left to suffer the brunt of the inflation," he added.
He said the whole working class, in general, is suffering.
Taslima Akter of Bangladesh Garments

Sromik Songhoti said the current price hike is making things difficult for garment workers to purchase even essentials like rice, eggs, dal, and so on.
During the last five years, workers' hardship has soared while their income remained the same, she added.
Barrister Jyotirmoy Barua and other activists were also present at the event which ended with a procession towards the Jatiya Press Club.

Ahmadullah passes away

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
S h a h Sufi Syed Ahmadullah, the incumbent of Azimpur Dayera Sharif, breathed his last at a hospital in Dhaka early yesterday. He was 77.
Ahmadullah was admitted to Square Hospitals a couple of days ago, following his return from hajj, due to cold and respiratory-related complications, as confirmed by family members.
He is survived by his wife, one son, two daughters, relatives and disciples.
His namaz-e-janaza was held after the Asr prayers yesterday. He was buried at Dayera Sharif compound.



কার্গো ভেসেল বিক্রয়
জবুবি ভিত্তিতে ১০০০ টন ধারন ক্ষমতা সম্পন্ন প্রায় নতুন ১টি কার্গো ভেসেল বিক্রয় হবে। বর্তমানে কার্গো ভেসেলটি থেকে মাসিক ৪,০০,০০০/- (চার লক্ষ) টাকা নিট ভাড়া আসে। শুধুমাত্র প্রকৃত আহরী ক্রেতাদের যোগাযোগ করুন।
মোবাইল: ০১৭০৮-০০৯০০০

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Local Government Engineering Department
Office of the Upazila Engineer
Upazila: Golapganj, Dist: Sylhet.
www.lged.gov.bd
Date: 13/07/2023.

Memo No. 46.02.9138.000.14.035.19-472
e-Tender Notice No: 01/2023-2024

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the Procurement of Works as stated below:

Sl. No	Package No.	Name of Works	Tender ID No.	Method of Tender	Tender Closing Date and Time
1	e-Tender/PEDP-4 /SYL/GOL/2022-2023/W2.05277	Construction of Additional Class Room (3H+3V/F3) at Dakkhin Bagha GPS under PEDP-4, Upazila: Golapganj, District: Sylhet.	851155		
2	e-Tender/PEDP-4 /SYL/GOL/2022-2023/W2.05278	Construction of Additional Class Room (3H/F3) at Maizbagh GPS under PEDP-4, Upazila: Golapganj, District: Sylhet.	851156		
3	e-Tender/PEDP-4 /SYL/GOL/2022-2023/W2.04049	Construction of Additional Class Room (2H+2V+1V/F4) at Sayghory GPS under PEDP-4, Upazila: Golapganj, District: Sylhet.	851157		
4	e-Tender/PEDP-4 /SYL/GOL/2022-2023/W2.04050	Construction of Additional Class Room (4H+1V/F2) at Niz Lakhonabond GPS under PEDP-4, Upazila: Golapganj, District: Sylhet.	851158		
5	e-Tender/PEDP-4 /SYL/GOL/2022-2023/W1-04079	Construction of Additional Class Room (2H+2V+1V/F3) at Solima Khanam GPS under PEDP-4, Upazila: Golapganj, District: Sylhet.	851159		
6	e-Tender/PEDP-4 /SYL/GOL/2022-2023/W2-05420	Construction of Additional Class Room (3H+3V/F3) at Amkuna-2 GPS under PEDP-4, Upazila: Golapganj, District: Sylhet.	851160		
7	e-Tender/PEDP-4 /SYL/GOL/2022-2023/W2-05527	Construction of Additional Class Room (2H+2V+2V+1V/F4) at Kanishail GPS under PEDP-4, Upazila: Golapganj, District: Sylhet.	853342		
8	e-Tender/PEDP-4 /SYL/GOL/2022-2023/W1-05503	Construction of Additional Class Room (3H+2V/F3) at Dakshin Ponair Chok Adorsho GPS under PEDP-4, Upazila: Golapganj, District: Sylhet.	853343		
9	e-Tender/PEDP-4 /SYL/GOL/2022-2023/W1-05522	Construction of Additional Class Room (2H+2V+2V/F3) at Fajilpur-1 GPS under PEDP-4, Upazila: Golapganj, District: Sylhet.	853344		
10	e-Tender/PEDP-4 /SYL/GOL/2022-2023/W14-02597	Construction of Boundary wall & Gate at Bagla-01 Govt. Primary School, Bagla-02 Govt. Primary School, Kalaim Govt Primary School, and Supatek-2 Govt Primary School under PEDP-4, Upazila: Golapganj, District: Sylhet.	851161		
11	e-Tender/PEDP-4 /SYL/GOL/2022-2023/W14-02598	Construction of Boundary wall & Gate at Mullar Chok Govt. Primary School, Nowai-2 Govt. Primary School, Kalijuri Govt. Primary School and Amkuna-2 Reg. non Govt. Primary School under PEDP-4, Upazila: Golapganj, District: Sylhet.	851162	NOTM	08.08.2023 on or before 14:00 BST
12	e-Tender/PEDP-4 /SYL/GOL/2022-2023/W14-02599	Construction of Boundary wall & Gate at Dakshin Ponair Chok Adorsho Reg. Primary School, Ponair Chok Govt. Primary School, Meherpur-1 Govt. Primary School, Bosontapur Govt. Primary School and Kodupur Govt. Primary School under PEDP-4, Upazila: Golapganj, District: Sylhet.	851163		
13	e-Tender/PEDP-4 /SYL/GOL/2022-2023/W14-02601	Construction of Boundary wall & Gate at Haji Abdul Karim Reg. Primary School, Haji Jahir Uddin Reg. Primary School, Uttar Golap Nagar Govt. Primary School and Palanduli Govt. Primary School under PEDP-4, Upazila: Golapganj, District: Sylhet.	851164		
14	e-Tender/PEDP-4 /SYL/GOL/2022-2023/W14-02602	Construction of Boundary wall & Gate at Purbo Bagha Govt. Primary School, Lainagar Hakim Ali Reg. Primary School, Kanishail Chowdhury Para Govt. Primary School, and Kotoalpur Govt. Primary School under PEDP-4, Upazila: Golapganj, District: Sylhet.	851165		
15	e-Tender/PEDP-4 /SYL/GOL/2022-2023/W14-02603	Construction of Boundary wall & Gate at Hetimgonj Reg. Primary School, Helimia Govt. Primary School, Ghugarkul Govt. Primary School and Shilghat-2 Govt. Primary School under PEDP-4, Upazila: Golapganj, District: Sylhet.	851166		
16	e-Tender/PEDP-4 /SYL/GOL/2022-2023/W14-02604	Construction of Boundary wall & Gate at 2-No Fulshaind Govt. Primary School, Achina Reg. Primary School, Korgaw Govt. Primary School and Terapur Govt. Primary School under PEDP-4, Upazila: Golapganj, District: Sylhet.	851167		
17	e-Tender/PEDP-4 /SYL/GOL/2022-2023/W14-02842	Construction of Boundary wall & Gate at Dakshin Sunampur Reg. Primary School, Banagram Kalidher Govt. Primary School and Islampur Muthahar Ali Reg. Primary School under PEDP-4, Upazila: Golapganj, District: Sylhet.	851168		
18	e-Tender/PEDP-4 /SYL/GOL/2022-2023/W14-02843	Construction of Boundary wall & Gate at Kadipur Govt. Primary School, Nurjahanpur-2 Govt. Primary School, Paniaga Govt. Primary School and South Islampur Govt. Primary School under PEDP-4, Upazila: Golapganj, District: Sylhet.	851169		
19	e-Tender/PEDP4 /SYL/GOL/2022-2023/W14-01654	Construction of Boundary Wall Including Gate of Khagail Govt. Primary School & Pashchim Roygor Non-Govt. Primary School.	851462		

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 (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required. The fees for downloading the e-Tender documents from the National e-GP Portal have to be deposited through online at any branches of registered bank up to 07/08/2023 on or before 17:00 BST. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd)
The tender notice will be available on the website: www.lged.gov.bd

Signed
Md. Mahmudul Hasan
Upazila Engineer
LGED, Golapganj, Sylhet
Phone: 01708-161691
E-mail: ue.golapganj@lged.gov.bd

Purbachal

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Centre will be constructed within the forest. Additionally, a beat office under the Forest Department will be established to manage and safeguard the forest against encroachment, according to the senior official of the Social Forestry department.
Urban forests serve as vital defenses against airborne pollutants, alleviate the heat island effect, improve mental well-being, and contribute to the replenishment of water tables.
Prof Adil Mohammed Khan of the Department of Urban and Regional Planning at Jahangirnagar University said, "An urban forest helps maintain the environmental equilibrium of a city. Ideally, a city should maintain 25 to 30 percent green coverage, with five to 10 percent dedicated to urban forests. If properly implemented, this initiative could greatly benefit a city like Dhaka."
Maj (ret'd) Shamsuddin Ahmed Chowdhury, a member of Rajuk responsible for development, revealed that the draft MoU with the Forest Department has nearly been finalised.
He emphasised the importance of conserving and expanding the existing greenery in Purbachal to prevent any commercial encroachment.
Chowdhury acknowledged that the Forest Department possesses the necessary laws and regulations to safeguard the area. Hence, they engaged the department to establish a legal conservation framework for the designated forest area, he added.
"By undertaking this significant initiative, Dhaka aims to strike a balance between urban development and environmental preservation, setting an example for other cities to follow suit," he added.

Your time is up, resign

FROM PAGE 5
caretaker government system. They know that they would not come to power if the election is held under nonpartisan caretaker government," said Fakhru.
"They [AL] continue to repress the BNP activists. Many of our party men have been implicated in false

cases while many others were killed," alleged Fakhru.
"Our one-point demand is resignation of the government and an election under a non-party interim administration. We along with people will topple the government," he added.
Several central and local leaders spoke at the rally.

Dengue cases shoot

FROM PAGE 3
and liver complications and cancer, and pregnant women have to be taken under special supervision," he added.
GM Saifur Rahman of National University

also highlighted the shared responsibility of both residents and city corporations in maintaining awareness, cleaning houses, and eliminating potential breeding sources to ensure effective source reduction.

A threat to marine

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Mohammad Najibur Rahman, secretary of Shrimp Hatchery Association of Bangladesh, said they cannot produce the fries as they cannot catch the mother fish from the bay due to the ban.
The country has 60 shrimp hatcheries with a combined production capacity of around 1,000 crores post-larva production against a market demand of around Tk 800 crore.
The market demand is high during this season as it is very suitable for shrimp cultivation.
"We have no savings to keep us going during the ban. We don't even receive government aid. This is the only option left for us," said Abdul Hamid, a fisherman from Cox's Bazar's Samitipara.
A hundred pieces of tiger shrimp fries are sold for Tk 40. Wholesalers buy it from local fishers and later sell it to shrimp farmers, said Jahangir of the same area, who catches around 500-1,000 fries every day.
"The fish grow easily during this season but we don't get any supply from the hatcheries during this period. Thus, we have to turn to the local fishers to source the fries," shared

a fry collector, preferring anonymity.
According to experts, lack of monitoring by the Department of Fisheries is to blame for this destruction. The government, in 2000, banned the collection of marine fries. However, the regulation only remains confined to paper.
"The field officers were asked to monitor the coasts and prevent such actions. The fries are mostly supplied to farms in Khulna as the demand is high there. Stern actions will be taken against the ban-offenders," said Syed Alamgir, principal scientific officer (planning and survey) of the fisheries department.

Four drown

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10:30am and recovered their bodies from the pond with the help of locals.
Durgapur Police Station OC Nazmul Haque said Megha fell into the pond while washing her hands. Seeing this, Hira tried to pick her up, but she also drowned. "Their bodies have been handed over to their families after the autopsy. An unnatural death case has been registered," said the OC.

Let the people of Bangladesh decide

FROM PAGE 3
on the Rapid Action Battalion in December 2021, she said this was a decision and result of "careful research and consideration" of information.
"And, in fact, since those sanctions were imposed, we have seen a constructive development in terms of a documented reduction in reported extrajudicial killings and enforced disappearances," Zeya said.
But on the question of lifting the sanctions, she underscored that they would need to see accountability for past and current abuses, and meaningful reform of the institution of Rab.
"These are considerations to take in mind with respect to a potential lifting of sanctions," said the senior

diplomat.
Regarding the visa restrictions policy, she said it was put forward absolutely in a spirit to support the prime minister's stated commitment to free, fair and peaceful elections.
"And that's something that I heard very affirmatively in the discussions we had."
Responding to a question on sending election observers, Zeya said they were examining the issue. In fact, it did come up in the discussions, she said, adding that they are aware of the government's openness to welcoming election observers.
Asked about any plan or proposal from the US related to St Martin's Island, the senior diplomat said, "Let me be very clear on this. There is absolutely no plan on this. The United States respects

Bangladesh's sovereignty and there have not been any discussions about a potential lease of St Martin's Island."
On the perception that the US is escalating pressure on Bangladesh, Zeya said, "I think I would correct your perception a bit respectfully. This visit is about the importance of Bangladesh as a partner to the United States. Our desire is to deepen that partnership, but also our view is that this partnership is anchored in shared democratic principles and human rights."
ROHINGYA REPATRIATION
On her "very moving" full day visit to Cox's Bazar, she said they toured the camps extensively and had the opportunity to consult with senior Bangladeshi officials, vital UN human

HC orders

FROM PAGE 3
Port Authority, said that the HC Division of the Supreme Court has now issued an arrest warrant for the Liberian-flagged commercial ship MV Panagia Canala.
In response to this directive, the authorities concerned, including the Port Department, Coast Guard, Navy, and the local shipping agent, have been contacted to ensure that necessary measures are taken to prevent the vessel from leaving Mongla port until further instructions are received.
Khandkar Riazu Haque, the Khulna assistant manager of the vessel's local shipping agent, Togi Shipping and Logistics Limited, confirmed that the HC has issued a restraining order against the vessel, with the Mongla Port Authority also issuing a corresponding letter.

Memorial event

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Rokia was also the chairman of Arlinks Group, RR Group, and MIDAS Financing Limited, founder president of Bangladesh Federation of Women Entrepreneurs, and president of Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and Industries—MCCI, Dhaka.
Born in 1941 in a respectable Muslim family, Rokia started her career with a job at a commercial bank in 1962.
At that time, women working in banks was a rarity. Within two years, she became the first woman bank manager of the country.
In 1964, Rokia married Azimur Rahman, former chairman of Arlinks Group and founder chairman of Mediaworld Ltd and Mediastar Ltd.
Throughout her illustrious career, Rokia received numerous awards including the "Leading Women Entrepreneurs of the World" award in Monte Carlo, "Businessperson of the Year-2003" by the American Chamber of Commerce in Bangladesh, and "Priyadarshani Award" in India.