

ATTACK ON BERNICAT'S CONVOY  
Prime accused  
held in Dhaka  
Court accepts supplementary  
charge sheet against 9

COURT CORRESPONDENT

Police yesterday arrested prime accused Mohammad Ishtiaque Mahmud in a case filed over the attack on former US ambassador to Bangladesh Marcia Bernicat's convoy in August 2018.



Ishtiaque, also brother-in-law of Sujan Secretary Badiul Alam Majumder, was arrested from Mohammadpur. He will be sent to court today, HM Azimul Haque, deputy commissioner of DMP's Tejgaon Division told The Daily Star.

Earlier in the day, a Dhaka court accepted the supplementary charge sheet against nine people in the case. The nine included Ishtiaque and Naimul Hasan Rasel, president of Mohammadpur unit of BCL.

Eight accused -- Firoz Mahmud, Naimul Hasan Rasel, Mir Amzad Hossain Akash, Sazu Islam, Razibul Islam Razu, Shahidul Alam Khan Kajol, Siam and Oli Ahmed Jony -- are now on bail.

Following re-investigation, Investigation Officer Rajon Kumar Saha, an assistant commissioner of Detective Branch of DMP, pressed charges on September 19 to the Dhaka Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's Court, accusing Ishtiaque and eight others.

In the supplementary charge sheet, only Ishtiaque was shown as a fugitive accused.

After accepting the charges, Dhaka Metropolitan Magistrate Zaki Al Farabi issued an arrest warrant against Ishtiaque as he did not secure bail from any court.

The magistrate directed the Mohammadpur Police Station OC to submit by October 31 the progress report on execution of the arrest warrant.

New student org  
leaders attacked by  
'BCL members'

DU CORRESPONDENT

Leaders of Democratic Students' Force (DSF), a students' organisation that was launched yesterday, suffered injuries in an attack carried out allegedly by a BCL group on the Dhaka University campus yesterday afternoon.

Eyewitnesses said the attack took place around 1:20pm near the Teacher Student Centre when DSF Convener Aktar Hossain was leaving the campus on a rickshaw, after launching the new organisation.

Aktar was taken to Dhaka Medical College Hospital for primary treatment, said Asif Mahmud, convener of the DU unit of DSF. Six other leaders -- Lutfur Rahman, Faysal Hasan, Nishita Jaman, Rahnuma Hridy, Sadia Islam and Asadulla -- were also injured in the attack.

BCL leaders and activists denied the allegation.

The DSF leaders claimed that Rasheduzzaman Ronny, BCL vice president of DU Jashim Uddin Hall, was among the attackers.

Rasheduzzaman told The Daily Star that he was not even near TSC when the incident happened.

The new organisation has been formed by a group of former leaders and activists of Chhatra Odhikar Parishad, who resigned from the organisation a few months ago.



Caught in a downpour, Maleka Begum carries her precious roses to a nearby shed. The 60-year-old makes a living by selling the flowers next to the Kirtankhola river in Barishal. She earns Tk 500-600 from the sales every day. The photo was taken near the Trish Godown area yesterday.

PHOTO: TITU DAS

Barishal now new  
dengue hotspot

DIPAN NANDY, DHAKA and SUSHANTA GHOSH, Barishal

Entire Barishal division is now facing an emergency situation amid dengue outbreak.

Barishal division also saw the second highest dengue death toll recorded this year after Dhaka, while ranking third after Dhaka and Chattogram in the number of dengue cases.

There are 1,155 patients currently admitted to hospitals across the division, including 461 in Barishal district, 262 in Patuakhali and 167 in Pirojpur.

In the last 24 hours, 294 dengue patients were hospitalised in this division.

In September, Barishal division recorded the highest number of dengue cases.

There are more than 900 patients admitted to the medicine department of Sher-e-Bangla Medical College Hospital against only 100 beds. After the dengue outbreak, the medicine ward was announced as a dedicated ward for dengue treatment, and currently has around 250 dengue patients.

Due to the bed crisis, patients are compelled to use spots even near restrooms.

Hospital director Dr Md Saiful Islam said they are utilising every available space to accommodate dengue patients.

Dr Shyamal Krishna Mondal, health director of Barishal division, said dengue is spreading rapidly due to stagnant water in villages and lack of awareness among people.

Pirojpur Civil Surgeon Dr Mohammad Hasnat Yusuf Zaki said most dengue patients in the district are from Nesarabad upazila, due to presence of nurseries and orchards, which led to a higher rate of infection among labourers.

Patuakhali Civil Surgeon Dr SM Kabir Hasan said hospitals are facing a shortage of beds amid an alarmingly high rate of dengue infection in the district.

Dr Rabiul Islam, conservation officer of Barishal City Corporation, said, "The mosquito eradication programme is facing challenges due to presence of canals, waterbodies, and numerous drains in the city. However, we are trying hard to check dengue spread."

Mahiuddin Ahmed, mayor of Patuakhali Municipality, and Bani Amin, executive officer of Pirojpur Municipality, stressed on awareness campaigns.

Additionally, intensive spraying is being conducted to keep drains clean, they said.

Meanwhile, 16 more people died from dengue in 24 hours preceding 8:00am yesterday. At least 2,564 dengue patients were hospitalised in the 24-hour period, according to DGHS.

VISA POLICY  
US ambassador  
clarifies Editors  
Guild's concern

STAR REPORT

The Editors Guild Bangladesh has received a response from US Ambassador Peter Haas reaffirming the US commitment to defending press freedom.

On September 28, the Editors Guild sent the US envoy a letter expressing concern over his remarks in a TV interview in which he said Bangladeshi media could come under the purview of the US visa restrictions.

Haas in his reply categorically said his country supports the freedom of press, reads the release issued by Editors Guild yesterday.

"US Ambassador Peter Haas has said the United States staunchly defends press freedom and the right of journalists and media outlets to exercise their right to freedom of expression. This includes views critical of any government, including the United States," the release adds.

Being assured, Editors Guild wants to keep trust in the clarified positions of the US government and the ambassador who are known as firm advocates of free and independent press, reads the release signed by Mozammel Haque, president of the organisation, and Inam Ahmed, its general secretary.

MA Rashid's  
31st death  
anniversary

CITY DESK

Today is the 35th death anniversary of former secretary MA Rashid.



On the occasion, a doa and milad mahfil will be held at Maghrib prayers at the Unity Club, United House, said a press release.

Relatives, friends and well-wishers are requested to attend the event and pray for his departed soul.

PRAYER TIMING OCTOBER 5					
Fazr	Zohr	Asr	Maghrib	Esha	
AZAN 4-45	12-45	4-15	5-53	7-30	
JAMAAT 5-20	1-15	4-30	5-56	8-00	
SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION					

4<sup>TH</sup> DEATH ANNIVERSARY

It's been 4 years we  
lost our honorable former MD  
Veteran Industrialist,  
**FEROZ ALAM**  
on 5 October 2019.  
We remember him on this day.  
We all pray to Almighty Allah  
for granting him Jannat.

DIRECTORS AND ALL EMPLOYEES OF

**AUSTRALIAN  
INTERNATIONAL  
SCHOOL**

Evercare Hospital  
observes Heart Day

STAR REPORT

Evercare Hospital Dhaka recently organised a patient forum to observe World Heart Day 2023, said a press release.

In the press conference, the speakers discussed this year's theme "Use Heart, Know Heart" and exchanged opinions and experiences.

Dr AQM Reza, coordinator and senior consultant, Clinical and Interventional Cardiology Department; Prof Md Shahabuddin Talukder, Dr Shams Munwar, Dr Atiqur Rahman, and Dr Tamzeed Ahmed, senior consultants, Clinical and Interventional Cardiology; Prof M Atahar Ali, senior consultant, Heart Failure and Arrhythmia Unit; and Dr Nighat Islam, consultant, Noninvasive Cardiology, joined the discussion.



Women must unite

FROM PAGE 5

education, saying that people with disabilities are vulnerable to sexual abuse and exploitation due to limited access to information. Prof Kaosar Afsana from James P Grant School of Public Health (JPGSPH) at Brac University said, "We are still struggling to impart comprehensive sex education among our children. Until parents openly discuss it with their children, it will remain a taboo."

Rita Houkayem, senior development officer (gender equity), High Commission of Canada in Bangladesh, emphasised collective action and urged for focus on marginalised groups, particularly women, girls,

and sexual minorities, to end violence and discrimination.

Rehnuma Ahmed discussed the necessity of united action to combat violence and sexual harassment, saying, "It's a matter of our existence now."

Artist Dilara Begum Jolly, retired Justice Krishna Debnath, Manusher Jonno Foundation programme head Banasree Mitra, and Brac's JPGSPH director Farhana Alam, spoke at the roundtable, among others.

Nijera Kori Coordinator Khushi Kabir moderated the programme. Sushmita S Preetha, editor of editorial and opinion section at The Daily Star, made the concluding remarks.

**Sylhet City Corporation**  
Nagar Bhaban, Sylhet  
[www.scc.gov.bd](http://www.scc.gov.bd)

“শেখ হাসিনার মূলনীতি,  
গ্রাম শহরের উন্নতি”

e-Tender Notice-05/2023-24 (Electrical)

Memo No. 46.07.0000.021.99.067.23.১১৫৫ Dated: 04.10.23

1	Ministry/Division	Ministry of the Local Government, Rural Development & Co-operatives.								
2	Agency	Sylhet City Corporation.								
3	Tender ID No.	Type of method	Publishing & opening date of tender submission	Electrical Department	Brief description of work					
	881792	NCT, OTM	05-Oct-2023 09:00:00, 19-Oct-2023 15:00:00		Electrical Pole Transformer, Electrical Line Shifting works for road Widening Constructing Drain Retaining wall etc at Coverage Area 20 No ward different road at Sylhet City Corporation.					
4	881719	NCT, OTM	05-Oct-2023 09:00:00, 19-Oct-2023 15:00:00		Electrical Pole Transformer, Electrical Line Shifting works for road Widening Constructing Drain Retaining wall etc at Coverage Area of 03 & 07 No ward different road at Sylhet City Corporation.					
10	Name, designation & address of PE	Md. Ruhul Alam Executive Engineer (Electrical) Sylhet City Corporation. 02-996833045 01911-249699								
11	This is online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and offline/hard copies will not be accepted. Interested persons/firms can see details in the website: <a href="http://www.eprocure.gov.bd">www.eprocure.gov.bd</a>									
12	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.									
13	Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk ( <a href="mailto:helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd">helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd</a> ).									
Md. Ruhul Alam Executive Engineer (Electrical) Sylhet City Corporation										
GD-1531										

**COMMONWEALTH  
SCHOLARSHIPS**

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh  
**University Grants Commission of Bangladesh**  
UGC Bhaban, Plot # E-18/A, Agargaon Administrative Area  
Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207  
[www.ugc.gov.bd](http://www.ugc.gov.bd)

**Viva - voce announcement for the  
Commonwealth Scholarships tenable in the UK  
(MS & PhD) – 2024 (Open Category)**

The viva-voce of the Commonwealth Scholarships tenable in the UK (MS & PhD) – 2024 is going to be held on **9 & 13 October 2023 at UGC Bhaban, Agargaon, Dhaka**. The applicants are requested to check the UGC website ([www.ugc.gov.bd](http://www.ugc.gov.bd)) to find short list/s, viva-voce date/s, result/s and other directions etc. All relevant information will be uploaded at the UGC website timely. Any attempt of persuasion regarding the Viva-voce will disqualify the applicant/s. No communication will be made with the applicant/s from UGC side.

**Dr. Ferdous Zaman**  
Secretary  
UGC

GD- 1528

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School of Business and Entrepreneurship (SBE)

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Scan this QR code to download the prescribed application form, fill it up and email it to [hrdept@iub.edu.bd](mailto:hrdept@iub.edu.bd) by **October 18, 2023** along with your latest resume and photograph. Clearly mention the name of the position in the subject line of the email.