



From left, Mojahedul Hoque Abul Hasanat, chairman and chief technology officer of DSI; Constantinos S Gavriel, GM of Le Meridien Dhaka; Russell T Ahmed, president of BASIS; Iqbal Ahmed Fakhrul Hasan, founder and CEO of Divine IT Ltd; MA Mannan, planning minister; Tawhida Shiropa, founder and CEO of Moner Bondhu; Meheriar Munim Hasan, chairman of Brac Bank Ltd; Selim RF Hussain, MD and CEO of Brac Bank Ltd; Kazi Saifuddin Munir, founder, and CEO of IT Consultants Ltd; Anayet Rashid, CEO of Truck Lagbe; and Morin Talukder, co-founder and CEO of Pickaboo.com, pose for a photo at the 8th Brac Bank-The Daily Star ICT Awards at Le Meridien Dhaka yesterday. One individual and five IT firms were awarded for their outstanding contributions to the ICT sector in Bangladesh.

PHOTO: STAR

ICT heroes honoured

5 companies, one individual get 8th Brac Bank-The Daily Star ICT Awards

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Five companies and one individual were recognised yesterday at the eighth edition of the Brac Bank-The Daily Star ICT Awards for their exceptional contributions to advancing the information and communication technology sector.

Planning Minister MA Mannan handed over the awards to the winners at a ceremony organised in association with Brac Bank and Bangladesh Association of Software and Information Services (BASIS) at Le Meridien Dhaka, the hospitality partner for the event.

Kazi Saifuddin Munir, managing director and chief executive officer of IT Consultants, was recognised as the ICT Business Person of 2022. Divine IT won the ICT solution provider of the year award in the local market focus category and Dynamic Solution Innovators in the international market focus category.

Pickaboo was awarded the Digital Commerce of the year, and Truck Lagbe and Moner Bondhu were the ICT start-ups of the year.

The prime minister has taken the first initiative in building digital and smart Bangladesh, Mannan said.

"Now, Bangladesh is advancing with the new startups of the youths. A bridge between the government and youths has been established and the government is working with everyone, including the ICT sector people, for the development of the country," the minister added.

The nominees for the awards have showcased exceptional talent and are a testament to the nation's potential and spirit, said Selim RF Hussain, managing director and chief executive officer of Brac Bank.

"They remind us that we can achieve anything when equipped with the right tools, mindset and environment. Today, let us pledge that we will continue to foster an environment where innovation thrives, dreams are realised and Bangladesh stands tall as a beacon of progress and prosperity," he added.

When the Digital Bangladesh vision was introduced in 2009, there was some uncertainty, said BASIS President Russell T Ahmed.

"However, there is now a strong confidence in our ability to build a Smart Bangladesh as the success of Digital Bangladesh boosted the morale."

The ICT sector will play a crucial role in



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MA Mannan
Planning Minister

shaping Smart Bangladesh, and as such, deserves the highest level of attention from policymakers.

Russell emphasised the need for collaboration between the ICT industry, academia and the government in research and development.

Additionally, he stressed the importance of promoting the sector and building a skilled workforce to support the export of IT services, which can be the next highest export earner after garment.

Mahfuz Anam, editor and publisher of The Daily Star, shared his understanding of IT from the perspective of someone who is outside of the sector.

"To me, digitalisation means understanding the value of time. The value of time is at the core of the advancement of information technology. As a society, we still haven't grasped how to do things on time. Unless you have the mindset of saving time and more efficient use of time, I don't think its potential will come to us," he added.

This ICT award is a representation of the innovation and digital growth in Bangladesh and the ICT sector is emerging as a fresh catalyst for economic

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'Economy in a shambles for wanton graft'

Fakhrul alleges ruling party looted country's resources, laundered money abroad

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP yesterday alleged that extreme mismanagement in the banking sector, widespread corruption, and siphoning off money abroad made the country's economy fragile.

"It is completely a fragile economy. The economy is in shambles. In fact, they [Awami League] have looted the country's resources and siphoned off money abroad," BNP Secretary General Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir told a press conference at the party chairperson's Gulshan office.

He alleged that the main focus of many local private banks, which were set up purely on political considerations, is on looting public money instead of banking.

Citing data collected from newspapers and other sources, the BNP leader claimed that about Tk 90,000 crore was looted from banks and other sectors over the last 15 years.

Referring to the Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD), Fakhrul said two classes have been created in Bangladesh -- one of very rich people who go abroad, wear expensive dresses, and use luxurious cars like BMW and Mercedes-Benz while another of low-income people who beg and cannot manage their food -- due to the growing inequality.

"That is the reality," he said.

He said it would be difficult for making the economy rebound due to unprecedented corruption and

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TRAVEL TO BANGLADESH

US asks its citizens to exercise caution

Warns them about violence ahead of next national polls

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The United States has advised its citizens to exercise increased caution while travelling to Bangladesh ahead of the general election.

"The next general election is anticipated to occur before January 2024, and political party rallies and other election-related activities have already commenced. Political rallies and demonstrations may be held with increasing frequency or intensity as the general election draws nearer. Travellers to Bangladesh should practise vigilance and remember that demonstrations intended to be peaceful can turn confrontational and escalate into violence.

"Because of security concerns US government employees in Bangladesh are subject to some movement and travel restrictions. The US government may have limited ability to provide emergency services to US citizens in Bangladesh due to these travel restrictions, a lack of infrastructure, and limited host government emergency response resources," reads a statement from the US state department.

"Exercise increased caution in Bangladesh due to crime, terrorism and the upcoming general election. Some areas have increased risk."

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1

Stars, netizens applaud 'Mujib'

STAR REPORT

The much-anticipated film "Mujib: The Making of a Nation" had its nationwide premiere in 154 theatres yesterday, as part of a collaborative effort between the governments of Bangladesh and India to honour the legacy of the Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina watched the premiere with the entire film crew, attending from both sides of the border, at the National Film Archives on Thursday.

Following the screening, the PM said the people of the country will learn many previously unknown facts and find new chapters of history through the film. "I'm inviting everyone to watch the film... through this cinema, you can learn a lot about my family and parents. Even the parts of history you have never known are depicted in this movie."

Arifin Shuvoo leads the ensemble cast as the title character of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. After watching the film with the prime minister, he told The Daily Star, "PM Sheikh Hasina says that I've effectively encapsulated Bangabandhu's character. As for whether I have succeeded or not, I really don't know as I haven't thought about it that much. When someone closely connected to him, like his daughter, feels that her father's character has been portrayed splendidly, there's not much room left to speculate. Following the screening, I was humbled when she asked me, 'How did you portray it [the lead role] so beautifully?'"

Veteran Bangladeshi film actress Anjana Rahman also expressed her heartfelt emotions after watching the



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Russian air strikes hit southern, eastern Ukraine

Two killed, 15 wounded; fierce fighting rages around Avdiivka in east

REUTERS, Kyiv

At least two people were killed and 15 wounded in Russian air strikes in southern and eastern Ukraine yesterday, Kyiv said, as Russian and Ukrainian forces fought fierce battles around the eastern Ukrainian town of Avdiivka.

One person was killed and 13 wounded by a missile strike on the city of Pokrovsk in the eastern region of Donetsk, the Ukrainian Interior Ministry said, citing preliminary information. Emergency services said two administrative buildings had been damaged.

A 34-year-old woman was killed and her 36-year-old husband seriously injured in a drone strike on their vehicle in the town of Beryslav in the southern Kherson region, regional governor Oleksandr Prokudin said on the Telegram messaging app.

Meanwhile, Russian and Ukrainian forces fought fierce battles around the eastern Ukrainian town of Avdiivka

after Moscow launched one of its biggest military offensives in months.

President Volodymyr Zelensky said Ukrainian forces were holding their ground on the third day of battle, but municipal officials said the Russian attacks were relentless.

Ukrainian officials described scenes of destruction in and around the town amid round-the-clock Russian attacks.

"Everything is so difficult and tense.

For three days, there has been no letup in battles, day or night," Vitaliy Barabash, head of the city's military administration, told Espresso TV.

"The enemy is using all available means: artillery, grad (missile launchers), mortars and everything else.

This is endless shelling."

Video posted on social media by Ukrainian military commander Maskym Zhorin showed smoke pouring from the shells of shattered, abandoned apartment buildings. Empty streets were littered with rubble and smashed installations.



পুলিশ স্টাফ কলেজ, বাংলাদেশ
মিরপুর-১৪, ঢাকা-১২১৬

ভর্তি বিজ্ঞপ্তি

Master of Applied Criminology and Police Management (MACPM)

এমএসিপিএম প্রোগ্রামের উদ্দেশ্য

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- একাডেমিক জ্ঞানকে সমৃদ্ধ করা এবং পেশা সংক্রান্ত জ্ঞান ও বিশ্লেষণ কার্যকরভাবে উপস্থাপনের প্রয়োজনীয় দক্ষতার বিকাশ;
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প্রত্যাশিত ফলাফল

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পরিচালক (একাডেমিক)
পুলিশ স্টাফ কলেজ বাংলাদেশ