

Mahalaya celebrated

UNB, Dhaka

Hindus across the country yesterday celebrated Mahalaya, the auspicious occasion of heralding the advent of Goddess Durga, with due religious fervour and festivity.
Mahalaya signifies the invitation to Goddess Durga from her devotees to arrive at her paternal home (Earth) from Kailash, along with her children.
This invitation is extended through the chanting of mantras from Sri Sri Chandri and singing of devotional songs.



A representation of the slaying of Mahishasur (demon) by Goddess Durga, a symbolism of removing injustice from the world, presented on stage on the occasion of Mahalaya in Barishal. Mahalaya, the auspicious occasion that signals the advent of Durga, was celebrated with great fervour and festivity across the country yesterday. This photo was taken at Sri Sri Radha Govind Nibash Mandir premises.

PHOTO: TITU DAS

'Bringing BNP to polls not AL's responsibility' Says LGRD minister

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Local Government and Rural Development (LGRD) Minister Mohammad Tazul Islam yesterday said it is not Awami League's responsibility to bring BNP to the next national election.

"The Election Commission, an independent body, will organise the election and we all will participate in it. Those who will win the polls will form the government later," he said during an event at a hotel in the port city.

Chattoogram Water Supply and Sewerage Authority organised the event where the Japan International Cooperation Agency officially handed over responsibility of Sheikh Hasina Water Treatment Plant 2 (SHWTP 2) to CWasa.

"The election will not be held under the government. All of us who are members of the council of ministers, including the prime minister, will support the EC to organise polls," the minister said. The SHWTP 2 has been completed under the Karnaphuli Water Supply Project (Phase-2).

The work of the project began in June 2016 at a total cost of Tk 4,489.15 crore. Of this, JICA provided Tk 2,800.92 crore while the government Tk 1,665.16 crore. The remaining Tk 23.7 crore was provided by CWasa.

PM's gift left to decay

Naval ambulance lying idle for 4 years in Patuakhali's Kalapara

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Patuakhali

A naval ambulance, gifted by the prime minister four years ago to ensure emergency health service for the shoal dwellers in Patuakhali, has been lying idle on the bank of Andharmanik river in Kalapara town.

The authorities are now trying to figure out what to do with the ambulance, which is mostly unusable. They also claimed they no longer needed it.

Meanwhile, with the ambulance lying unused, its driver is now working at Kalapara Upazila Health Complex in different roles... sometimes as a plumber while other times as an electrician.

The ambulance was gifted to the health complex in 2019 by the PM to facilitate prompt health services to shoal dwellers, said Dr Chinmoy Howladar, upazila health and family planning officer.

During a recent visit, this correspondent saw several holes on the vessel, which might cause it to sink when in operation.

"The naval ambulance is an absolute necessity for people living in remote shoals, as communication between the upazila health complex and other unions becomes difficult during the monsoon," said Abid Hasan

of Charipara area in the upazila. "Road communication is also stressful, especially for patients, as the condition of the roads is not good. But we have never seen the vessel being used for its purpose," he added.

Dr Chinmoy, however, said road communication in the upazila has improved significantly and they no longer need the naval ambulance.

"Patients now arrive at the hospital before the ambulance can reach to pick them up. Several requests for its repair and transfer have been made but no action has been taken yet in this regard," he added.

Asked about its driver, the

officer said, "Due to a shortage of manpower, the driver currently works in the hospital."

The driver refused to comment on the issue without permission from the authorities.

"Many patients, who come from neighbouring Rangabali and Taltali upazilas in Barguna to Kalapara Upazila Health Complex for treatment, could use this ambulance. But the authorities never used it and left it to decay," said Mejbah Uddin Mannu, general secretary of Bangladesh Poribesh Andolon in Kalapara.

"This is nothing but a sheer wastage of public money," he added.



Office of the Registrar, Jashore University of Science and Technology. Advertisement for recruitment of 08 positions. Includes details of qualifications, age limits, and application procedures. The Registrar is Md. Tasnuva Begum.

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার. Advertisement for recruitment of 16 positions for various roles in the Bangladesh Food Corporation. Includes details of qualifications, age limits, and application procedures.

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