

74pc rise in misinformation between Jan, June

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Political misinformation increased by 74 percent during the second quarter (April-June), compared to the first quarter (January-March), ahead of the national elections, according to fact-checking organisation Dismislab.

A 56 percent increase was recorded in between the second and third quarter (July-September), according to the organisation's analysis of 2,049 reports published on seven fact-checking websites between January and September.

In September alone, fact-checking organisations identified 83 instances of false political information, contrasting to only 31 instances in January. Meanwhile, 44 percent of the misinformation was identified in a single fact-check, pertaining to politics. The analysis highlights emergence of visa policies and sanctions as new subjects for disinformation, while the creation of counterfeit photo cards, under the guise of mainstream media, has become a prominent disinformation tactic.

In Bangladesh, the propagation of misinformation revolves around four areas – politics, religion, disaster, and sports. While the traditional trend of spreading false information about politicians persists, a new trend, targeting the US ambassador has recently emerged, according to the analysis. About 40 percent of the 370 instances of verified political misinformation in Bangladesh were directed towards Avami League, while BNP was targeted in 26 percent of cases.

Most of the false and misleading content carries a negative tone, but each category also contains some instances of fake praise for leaders and their actions.

Out of the 81 manipulated media content identified this year, 69 percent were employed to spread false information around local politics, as per the analysis.

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Nilphamari

A bridge, built on the Kala Matia river to connect Nilphamari and Dinajpur districts, has been left abandoned for six years without repairs or maintenance.

Constructed by the relief and disaster management department in 2013, the bridge connected Ramkola village under Nilphamari Sadar upazila on the east end with Basuli Shah Para village under Khansama upazila of Dinajpur in the west.

During the 2017 flood, the river's west embankment attached to the bridge and its approach road were swept away by violent current of river water, creating a 115-foot long and 25-foot deep ditch. Since then, the bridge became disconnected and was left abandoned.

People are now forced to use alternative means to commute between the two sides of the river, either going for a route covering a longer distance during monsoon, or wading through the river in dry season.

"About 40,000 people from 15 villages on both ends are now facing difficulties. It was easier to go to Nilphamari, Domar,



Dinajpur, Khansama, Deviganj and Panchagarh towns using the bridge," said Proshanta Kumar Roy, chairman of Khokshabari union parishad under Nilphamari.

Alfal Hossain, member of Alokjhari UP under Khansama in Dinajpur, blamed poor planning. Visiting the spot recently, this correspondent learnt that around 6,000 students study in five educational institutions situated on both ends of the bridge.

Rafiqul Islam, 21, an honour's student from Faridabad village in

the bridge's west end, said earlier they could hire battery-run vehicles and cross the bridge conveniently, now they have to travel a long way, which is both costly and time consuming.

"Many farmers like me are facing troubles to take our harvested crops to the market," said Nripendranath Roy, 50, of Ramkola village.

Contacted, Shah Obaidur Rahman, LGED engineer in Khansama, said a 40-metre long new bridge will be constructed over the river soon.

A bridge that no longer connects

Hearing on Fakhrul's bail petition Nov 20

Abbas shown arrested

COURT CORRESPONDENT

The hearing on the bail petition by BNP Secretary General Mirza Fakhru Islam Alamgir will be held on November 20, in a case filed over the attack on the chief justice's residence in Kakrail on October 28.



Mirza Fakhru Islam Mirza Abbas

Judge Md Asaduzzaman of the Metropolitan Sessions Judge's Court of Dhaka set the date hours after Fakhru sought bail before the court, said additional public prosecutor Tapash Kumar Pal.

On October 29, the Detective Branch of police detained Fakhru from his Gulshan residence around 9:25am.

Fakhru was shown arrested in the case filed with Ramna Police Station.

Meanwhile, BNP standing committee member Mirza Abbas was shown arrested yesterday in a graft case filed against him in 2007.

Judge Monjurul Imam of Dhaka's Special Judge Court-6 passed the order after Sub-inspector Shafiqul Islam Akhonda of Shahjahanpur Police Station submitted an application in this regard.

On October 30, the same court issued an arrest warrant against Abbas after dismissing his time petition in the case. Following the order, the court sent a copy of the arrest warrant to the police station for the next course of action.


In the application, SI Shafiqul Islam said, on October 31, Mirza Abbas was arrested in another case filed with Shahjahanpur Police Station over exploding crude bombs, attacking police and snatching firearms from them during the party's rally on October 28.

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ফ্ল্যাট বিক্রয়

২৭৬০ বর্গফুট ৪ বেড রুমের প্রায় রেডি বিলাশ বক্স এ্যাপার্টমেন্ট বিক্রয় হবে। ঠিকানা: বসুন্ধরা ব্রক-বি। ০১৯৩৯১৯০২, ০১৯৩৯১৯০১



আধুনিক ভাষা ইনস্টিটিউট

ঢাকা বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়

ভর্তি বিজ্ঞপ্তি

শিক্ষাবর্ষ : ২০২২-২০২৩

বিদেশি ভাষার নাম	আরবি, ইংরেজী, চীনা, ফরাসি, জার্মান, ইতালীয়, জাপানি, ফার্সি, রাশিয়ান, স্পেনীয়, কোরীয়, তুর্কি, হিন্দি, মালয় এবং বাংলা (ভাষাসহ বিদেশি শিক্ষার্থীদের জন্য)।
কোর্সের মেয়াদ	১৫০ ঘণ্টা (১ বছরে সমাপ্য)
শিক্ষা কার্যক্রমের নাম	এলিমেন্টারি সার্টিফিকেট কোর্স। ইংরেজী ভাষার জন্য প্রি-ইন্টারমিডিয়েট ও ইন্টারমিডিয়েট সার্টিফিকেট কোর্স।
গ্রন্থাগার ব্যাপ্তিকাল	প্রতিবছর ২/৩ ঘণ্টা করে, সপ্তাহে ২/৩ দিন।
ভর্তির ন্যূনতম যোগ্যতা	এইচ.এস.সি / সমমান পরীক্ষার উত্তীর্ণ। ন্যূনতম দ্বিতীয় বিভাগ/বি শ্রেণি/জিপিএ ২.৫ পাকতে হবে। ইংরেজী ভাষা কোর্সটি শুধুমাত্র ঢাকা বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ে অধ্যয়নরত নিয়মিত স্নাতক শিক্ষার্থীদের জন্য।
আবেদনপত্র সংগ্রহ	আধুনিক ভাষা ইনস্টিটিউটের নির্ধারিত ওয়েবসাইট seba-iml-du.com এর মাধ্যমে ভর্তির জন্য নির্ধারিত ফর্ম অনলাইনে পাওয়া যাবে যা, যথাযথভাবে পূরণ করে ক) ১ কপি ছবি ও খ) নিজ স্বাক্ষর (৮০ কেবির নিচে) - এর ক্যান্ডিড কপি আপলোড করতে হবে।
আবেদন বাবদ ফিস জমা (অনলাইনে)	ক) ঢাকা বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের অধ্যয়নরত বর্তমান শিক্ষার্থীদের ক্ষেত্রে : ৫০০.০০ (পাঁচশত) টাকা। খ) ভূতপূর্ব ও অন্যান্য শিক্ষার্থীদের ক্ষেত্রে : ৭০০.০০ (সাতশত) টাকা।
আবেদনপত্র জমা	ঢাকা বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ে অধ্যয়নরত বর্তমান শিক্ষার্থীদের 'ব' ব বিভাগের চেয়ারম্যান/ইনস্টিটিউট পরিচালকের স্বাক্ষরকৃত আবেদনপত্র এবং ভূতপূর্ব ও অন্যান্য শিক্ষার্থীদের আপলোডকৃত আবেদনপত্রের সাথে এইচ.এস.সি ও এইচ.এস.সি, সনদ পত্রের সত্যায়িত কপিসহ আধুনিক ভাষা ইনস্টিটিউটের ১২৫ নং অফিস কক্ষে আগামী ৫ই নভেম্বর রবিবার থেকে ২৯শে নভেম্বর বুধবার ২০২৩ তারিখের মধ্যে জমা দিতে হবে।
ভর্তি সফলতা ব্যাপারে যাবতীয় তথ্য ইনস্টিটিউটের ওয়েবসাইট এবং বিজ্ঞপ্তি ফলকে প্রকাশ করা হয়েছে	

পরিচালক

GD- 1692

Around 100

FROM PAGE 3
On this day in 1975, five army personnel, wearing khaki uniforms and carrying STEN guns and SLRs (self-loading rifles), arrived at the erstwhile Dhaka Central Jail around 4:00am. The five, including one who introduced himself as Captain Muslemuddin and attached to the Bangabhaban, entered the jail and shot the four leaders to death after charging bayonets at them, says the FIR.

The leaders, who had led the Liberation War in 1971 after Bangabandhu's detention by the Pakistan army -- were put behind bars soon after the August 15, 1975 bloodbath that claimed the lives of Bangabandhu and most of his family members.

"Without honesty and devotion, it would have been impossible to sustain this business for so many years. Though the prices have increased, we try our best to ensure that it is affordable," said Chanchal. While the store employs around a dozen employees, the main confectioner is 65-year-old Srivas Kirtanya, who has been working here for the last 30 years.

"I was 30 years old when I joined this shop. I am teaching this art to my two daughters to work here in the future," he said. "Jagar Mishti tastes better than sweets from other regions. The reason behind this is their use of good quality milk from local dairies," said Monowara Latif, UP member.

"No occasion is complete without sweets from Jagar Mishti. The fact that its goodwill has spread across the nation is a matter of great pride for us," she added.

48 years on, justice still elusive

FROM PAGE 3

A day later, Kazi Abdul Awal, the then deputy inspector general (prisons), filed the FIR with Lalbagh Police Station.

ABM Fazul Karim, the then Lalbagh OC, was tasked with the investigation and he collected evidence from the scene after a magistrate made an inquest report of the bodies, and a post-mortem report was prepared.

The Indemnity Ordinance, however, halted the investigation and trial for about 21 years until the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) resumed probe on August 18, 1996.

In 2004, a trial court in Dhaka handed punishments to 11 perpetrators.

Of the convicts, eight still could not be traced

by the government despite efforts through diplomatic channels, intelligence agencies and the Interpol.


In the case verdict by the Appellate Division of the SC, the then chief justice Surendra Kumar Sinha observed that the assassination of the four national leaders was the result of a criminal conspiracy with involvement of very powerful state machineries.

The apex court on April 30, 2013 upheld a Dhaka court's verdict that gave death sentences to three former army personnel -- Muslemuddin, Marfat Ali Shah and Abdul Hashem Mridha -- and life imprisonment to eight others -- Khondaker Abdur Rashid, Shariful Haq Dalim,

Noor Chowdhury, Rashed Chowdhury, Ahmed Shariful Hossain, Abdul Majid, Kismat Hasem and Nazmul Hossain.

Four other accused -- Syed Farooq-ur Rahman, Sultan Shahriar Rashid Khan, Bazul Huda and AKM Mohiuddin Ahmed -- who were executed in the Bangabandhu murder case in 2010, were exempted from charges.

Law Minister Anisul Huq recently said the verdict has been implemented through the execution of the convicted killers of Bangabandhu, as most of the convicts were involved in both the assassinations. The government is now working to set up a commission to identify all those behind the killings.



Department of Sociology

University of Dhaka

ADMISSION NOTICE

Masters in Sociology and Social Policy (MSSP)

2nd Batch 2023-2024

The Department of Sociology, University of Dhaka invites applications for admission to the Masters in Sociology and Social Policy for 2023-2024 session. The one-year Master's program is designed to provide well-grounded academic and professional training in theory and methods relevant to sociology, development, and social policy.

Program features:

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- It prepares graduates to meet the demands of government organizations, local and international NGOs, and private sectors.
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Eligibility: Bachelor degree in any discipline, with at least 2nd class/CGPA 2.5 or equivalent on a 4.0 scale. Students with a Third division/class or "D" grade in their academic career will not be considered.

Class time: On weekends and one working day during evening, starting from first week of January 2024

Selection procedure: Admission test on Friday, December 3, 2023, at 11am (Room: 516, Social Sciences Faculty Building, Level 4) The written test will be comprised of language and communication, quantitative aptitude and writing skills The qualifying examination will be of 100 marks: written 80 & oral 20


How to apply: Application forms can be collected from the Sociology Department office (From 09am - 4.00 pm, Sunday - Thursday) at a cost of Tk. 1200, and to be submitted to the office by November 25, 2023.

Visit- <https://du.ac.bd/body/SOC> to download the application form.

Contact address: Department of Sociology, Faculty of Social Sciences Building (Level 4), University of Dhaka, Dhaka- 1000. Phone: 9661900 Ext. 6576.

Contact: +8801534856513; +8801689325801, E-mail: msspdu@gmail.com

GD- 1691



Pragati Life Insurance Limited

Head Office : Pragati Insurance Bhavan (6th Floor), 20-21 Kawran Bazar, Dhaka-1215

THIRD QUARTER FINANCIAL STATEMENTS-2023 (UN-AUDITED)

Balance Sheet (Un-Audited)

As at 30 September 2023

CAPITAL AND LIABILITIES	30 Sep'23	31 Dec'22	Growth			
	Taka	Taka	Rate (%)			
SHAREHOLDER'S CAPITAL:						
Authorized Capital						
100,000,000 Ordinary Shares of Tk.10 each	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	-			
Issued, Subscribed and Paid-up Capital						
325,452,000 Ordinary Shares of Tk.10 each	325,452,880	325,452,880	-			
fully paid up in cash						
Share Premium Accounts	76,757,755	76,757,755	-			
Life Insurance Fund	6,231,733,552	6,216,457,794	0.25			
Reserve for Unclaimed Losses	25,000,000	25,000,000	-			
Liabilities and Provisions	596,448,103	596,171,641	0.05			
Fair Value Change Account	(223,595,289)	(213,370,644)	4.79			
	7,031,797,001	7,026,469,426	0.08			
Life Revenue Account (Un-Audited)						
For the 3rd Quarter ended 30 September 2023						
EXPENDITURE	For the 9 months ended	Growth	For the 3 months ended	Growth		
	Jan to Sep'23	Jan to Sep'22	Jan to Sep'23	Jan to Sep'22		
	Taka	Taka	Taka	Taka		
Claims & Surrenders less Re-insurance	2,731,754,073	2,244,745,374	21.70	834,978,664	738,405,486	13.88
Commissions and Allowances	792,634,420	689,947,862	14.80	223,508,675	186,373,147	19.97
Administrative Expenses	481,087,100	414,010,080	16.20	153,702,665	141,309,213	8.77
Provision for management expenses, commissions, re-insurance and others	(1,273,781,524)	(1,103,957,862)	15.38	377,291,244	327,682,368	15.14
Total Management Expenses	39,854,346	52,195,272	(25.18)	39,854,346	52,195,272	(25.18)
Balance of the fund at the end of the period as shown in the Balance Sheet	6,231,733,552	6,117,730,859	1.86	6,231,733,552	6,117,730,859	1.86
	10,276,243,495	9,518,628,567	7.96	7,483,058,182	7,236,613,177	3.41
Cash Flow Statement (Un-Audited)						
For the 3rd Quarter ended 30 September 2023						
	Jan-Sep'23	Jan-Sep'22				
	TAKA	TAKA				
A. CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES :						
Collection from Premiums	3,859,446,277	3,164,975,489				
Other Income received	1,679,492	801,372				
Payment for Claims	(2,736,955,860)	(2,242,718,077)				
Provision for management expenses, commissions, re-insurance and others	(1,272,566,861)	(1,112,409,796)				
Source Tax (Income Tax) deducted	(32,553,363)	(21,231,902)				
Net Cash Flow from operating activities	(186,958,315)	(218,662,897)				
B. CASH FLOW FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES :						
Acquisition of Fixed Assets	(29,777,989)	(25,451,766)				
Disposal of Fixed Assets	94,594	507,547				
Profit on Sale of Fixed Assets	(8,995,808)	(17,872,993)				
Investment in Insurance	101,126,774	(187,769,186)				
Interest, Dividends and Return Received	256,021,842	268,925,549				
Net Cash Flow from investing activities	316,938,963	38,459,811				
C. CASH FLOW FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES :						
Dividend Paid	(195,966,548)	(33,752,230)				
Net Cash Flow from financing activities	(35,986,566)	(33,752,230)				
D. Net Increase in cash and cash equivalents (A+B+C)	97,002,870	(285,966,114)				
E. Cash and Cash Equivalents at the beginning of the year	1,448,733,262	1,893,186,143				
F. Cash and Cash Equivalents at the end of the year (D+E)	1,545,736,132	1,607,219,899				
Reconciliation of Operating Cash Flow (After Indirect Method)						
Addition of Life Fund	15,275,738	26,847,105				
Depreciation and Amortization	14,400,255	12,117,568				
Profit on Sale of Fixed Assets	(8,995,808)	(17,872,993)				
Investment in Insurance	(5,554,303)	(1,425,498)				
Income (Expense) of Provisional Deposit	5,000,000	21,999,999				
Income (Expense) of Premium Deposit	(1,174,432)	(35,789,416)				
Cash Flow from Operating Activities	(186,958,315)	(218,662,897)				
Statement of Changes in Shareholder's Equity (Un-Audited)						
For the 3rd Quarter ended 30 September 2023						
Particulars	Share Capital	Share Premium	Reserve for Unexpected Losses	Retained Earnings	Other Reserve	Total
Balance as on 01 January 2023	325,452,880	76,757,755	25,000,000	-	-	427,210,635
Share Issue during the period	-	-	-	-	-	-
Addition during the period	-	-	-	-	-	-
Balance as on 30 Sep 2023	325,452,880	76,757,755	25,000,000	-	-	427,210,635
Balance as on 01 January 2022	307,031,020	76,757,755	10,000,000	-	-	393,788,775
Share Issue during the period	18,421,860	-	-	-	-	18,421,860
Addition during the period	-	-	15,000,000	-	-	15,000,000
Balance as on 30 September 2022	325,452,880	76,757,755	25,000,000	-	-	427,210,635
Notes:						
i) Accounting Policies: The interim accounts have been prepared using the same accounting policies as those adopted in the accounts for the financial year ended 31 December 2022						
ii) Previously reported interim period's figures have been retained to confirm to current period's presentation.						
iii) Recognition and measurement: a) Measurements for interim reporting period are on a Year-To-Date basis: b) Principles involved for recognizing liabilities, income and expenses for interim periods are the same as for annual financial statements.						
iv) The detail of the un-audited half yearly financial statements ended 30 September 2023 is available in the website of Pragati Life Insurance Ltd. The address of the website is www.pragatilife.com						
Sd/- Jagadish Kumar Bhanja, FCS Company Secretary	Sd/- Chandra Shekhar Das, FCA Chief Financial Officer	Sd/- Md. Jalalul Azim CEO & MD	Sd/- Mohammed Abul Awwal Director	Sd/- Sahel Ahmed Choudhury Independent Director	Sd/- Khalilur Rahman Chairman	