

No one can stop election train: Quader

UNB, Dhaka  
Awami League General Secretary Obaidul Quader yesterday said the train of the 12th parliamentary election is already running, and it won't stop until it reaches its destination.  
"Though BNP is not participating as a party, 30 former MPs, including 15 central leaders [of the party], are taking part in the polls."  
"A festive atmosphere is prevailing... It's not about whether one or two parties are taking part in the election; now it's more about the people's participation."  
The AL general secretary made the remarks during a press briefing at the Awami League central office in Dhanmondi.



The 150-year-old Panchkari Zamindar Bari has turned into a shabby place due to lack of maintenance and renovation as its current owners are unable to properly maintain it because of financial crisis.



PHOTO: STAR

'AL will claim victory by staging drama' Says speakers

STAFF CORRESPONDENT  
Awami League is trying to manipulate the upcoming national election and suppress human and workers' rights, said political and RMG workers' leaders yesterday.  
They were addressing a protest rally organised by Sammilita Sramik Parishad in front of Jatiya Press Club in Dhaka.  
Nagorik Oikya President Mahmudur Rahman Manna said, "We know that people will not go to vote. However, they [AL] will stage a drama after the

150-YR-OLD PANCHKARI ZAMINDAR BARI  
Once a vibrant palace, now in ruins

SIFAYET ULLAH, City  
What were once walls with intricate terracotta motifs are now covered with mosses and weeds, a temple and a guesthouse located nearby were partially damaged -- this was what this correspondent saw when he visited the 150-year-old Panchkari Zamindar (landlord) Bari (palace).  
The palace, located in Chattogram's Hathazari upazila, has turned into a shabby place due to a lack of maintenance and renovation as its current owners are unable to properly maintain these assets because of financial crisis.  
Zamindar Aparna Charan Roy Chowdhury began construction of the palace between 1870 and 1880 during the British reign.  
After his death, his son Panchkari Roy Chowdhury completed the construction.  
The grand structures of the palace, on 1.5 acres of land in Chikandandi union under the upazila, consist of many compounds

including a two-storey building with six bed rooms, a kitchen, and a drawing room, a horse stable, two ponds with bathing space, a Durga temple, and a separate guesthouse.  
Locals demanded the palace to be declared as an archaeological asset, and preserved accordingly.  
"It's a fascinating specimen of colonial era architecture. The authorities concerned should take an initiative to protect it," said Mohammed Iqbal, a local physician.  
Currently, the third generations of the Zamindar are living in the palace.  
"Our assets were gradually lost to some local influentials after the feudal system was abolished by the government following partition in 1947," said Aungshuman Roy Chowdhury, 55, an heir of Panchkari Roy Chowdhury.  
"We started a legal battle to regain our properties. The palace has gradually become uninhabitable. We are unable to renovate and maintain it properly as we are facing

financial constraints after spending money on lawsuits," he said.  
"We will never sell this property as it's our identity," he added.  
Any ancient (minimum 100 years old) product of human civilisation, illustrative of architecture, warfare, politics, or culture, can be called a piece of antiquity under the Antiquities Act, 1968, (amended in 1986).  
According to the law, the government can declare any antiquity as protected. Besides, if the government fears that any protected historical site is in danger of being destroyed, it can acquire the land of the site.  
The Department of Archaeology, however, is still in the dark about this palace.  
"We have a plan to conduct a fresh survey in Chattogram to find new antiquity sites," said AKM Saifur Rahman, regional director of DoA in Chattogram.  
"We will take initiative to protect this structure if it meets the conditions of the Antiquities Act," he added.

Country to see a 'staged election' Speakers fear it will exacerbate political, economic crises

STAFF CORRESPONDENT  
The country is likely to see a "staged election" on January 7 which may deepen the existing political and economic crises, speakers said at a webinar yesterday.  
As the upcoming national election will take place amid boycott from BNP, there is less chance that it will be contested, they said.  
Forum for Bangladesh Studies, a platform of academics, analysts, and practitioners studying Bangladesh, organised the webinar on "Staged Election, Judiciary and Rule of Law".  
Addressing the webinar, eminent jurist Shahdeen Malik said the way the next parliamentary election is going to take place will

The way the next parliamentary election is going to take place will only augment the ongoing political and economic crises and its impact could be visible within a year.

SHAHDEEN MALIK  
Eminent jurist  
only augment the ongoing political and economic crises and its impact could be visible within a year.  
The country's institutions and systems are falling apart and the outcome of the upcoming polls could only exacerbate instability, he added.  
"I hope my concerns will not be true," he said, adding that those who are in power may not have to face the situation but common people could suffer greatly.  
Human Rights and Peace for Bangladesh President and Supreme Court lawyer Advocate Manzil Murshid said Bangladesh's recent election history suggests there have been two main contesting political parties in the country.  
If one of these parties does not contest the election then it will not reflect the majority's opinion, he said.  
There was a need for holding dialogue for participation of all parties in the national polls but such a step was never taken, he said, adding,

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**PRAYER TIMING**  
DECEMBER 2  
Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha  
AZAN 5:15 12:45 3:45 5:19 7:00  
JAMAAT 5:50 1:15 4:00 5:22 7:30  
SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

The grand structures of the palace, on 1.5 acres of land, consist of many compounds including a two-storied building with six bed-rooms, a kitchen room, and a drawing room, a horse stable, two ponds with bathing space, a Durga temple, and a guesthouse.

Courtesy meeting or forced detention? Police 'pick up' independent candidate to coerce him to 'withdraw nomination'

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinaipur  
Police allegedly picked up an independent candidate from Dinaipur-3 constituency on Thursday after the news spread that he was likely to submit his nomination papers for the upcoming national election.  
The candidate, Bishwajit Ghosh Kanchan, is a former general secretary of Dinaipur Sadar Awami League. He was once a close aide to the incumbent lawmaker of Dinaipur-3, who secured AL ticket again to contest the election from the constituency for the fourth consecutive time.  
According to individuals close to Kanchan, a police team allegedly picked him up from his relative's house in the Barabandar area of Dinaipur town around 12:30am, and took him directly to Dinaipur Sadar Police Station. Kanchan was released around 2:30am.  
Bazlar Rahman, an aide to Kanchan, alleged the police indirectly insinuated him to refrain from submitting his nomination papers.  
However, Kanchan submitted his nomination papers around 3:30pm on Thursday to returning officer Shakil Ahmed, also the deputy commissioner of Dinaipur. Kanchan said he stayed around two hours at the police station after being taken there.  
He declined to talk further about the issue.  
Sheikh Zinnah Al Mamun, ASP (Dinaipur Sadar Circle), claimed police took him to the station just for a courtesy meeting, and the situation is being misled.

JP leader submits nomination from Trinamool BNP

STAFF CORRESPONDENT  
Jatiya Party leader Md Rafiqul Islam, who has submitted nomination from Trinamool BNP, is going to contest the 12th national election from Dhaka-4 constituency without his party's consent.  
He is one of the executive members of JP and was an organising secretary till 2020. "I don't belong to the party as the party does not allow the next tier of leaders to come forward," said Rafiqul on Thursday.  
He was the founding president of Shyampur Thana unit of JP. In his constituency, the JP co-chairman Syed Abu Hossain Babla is the incumbent member of parliament. "This time, he [Babla] got the party [JP] nomination, though he took part in the 2018 election violating the party decision," said Rafiqul, who joined the JP in 1992.  
In the last 10 years, Babla didn't conduct enough development works in his constituency, alleged Rafiqul. Babla lives in Wari area, which is under Dhaka-6 constituency. Rafiqul joined Trinamool BNP only a few days ago. "I believe there is no



Md Rafiqul Islam

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১.	মন্ত্রণালয়/বিভাগ	বাংলাদেশ স্থলবন্দর কর্তৃপক্ষ
২.	সংগ্রাহক সত্তা	বেনাপোল স্থল বন্দর, বেনাপোল, যশোর।
৩.	বাজেট ও অর্থের উৎস	বাংলাদেশ স্থলবন্দর কর্তৃপক্ষের রাজস্ব বাজেট
৪.	দরপত্র আহ্বানের সূত্র ও তারিখ	১৮.১৫.৪১৯০.০২৫.০০.০৯৯.২৩-৭৯৮ তারিখঃ ২৮-১১-২০২৩খ্রিঃ
৫.	দরপত্র বিক্রয়ের সর্বশেষ তারিখ ও সময়	২০-১২-২০২৩খ্রিঃ পর্যন্ত (অফিস চলাকালীন সময়)
৬.	দরপত্র দাখিলের সর্বশেষ তারিখ ও সময়	২১-১২-২০২৩খ্রিঃ তারিখ দুপুর ২.০০টা
৭.	দরপত্র খোলার তারিখ ও সময়	২১-১২-২০২৩খ্রিঃ তারিখ দুপুর ২.৩০টা
৮.	দরপত্র সিডিউল বিক্রয়ের স্থান ও ঠিকানা	পরিচালক (ট্রাফিক) এর দপ্তর, বেনাপোল স্থলবন্দর, আন্তর্জাতিক প্যাসেঞ্জার টার্মিনাল ভবন (৩য় তলা), বেনাপোল স্থলবন্দর, যশোর।
৯.	দরপত্র দাখিলের স্থান ও ঠিকানা	(ক) আন্তর্জাতিক প্যাসেঞ্জার টার্মিনাল ভবন (৩য় তলা), বেনাপোল স্থলবন্দর, প্রশাসন শাখা, বেনাপোল, যশোর। (খ) জেলা প্রশাসকের কার্যালয়, যশোর।
১০.	দরপত্র জামানত	তফসিলভুক্ত যে কোন ব্যাংক থেকে ইস্যুকৃত পে-অর্ডার/ব্যাংক ড্রাফট চেয়ারম্যান, বাংলাদেশ স্থলবন্দর কর্তৃপক্ষ এর অনুকূলে জমা দিতে হবে।
১১.	দরদাতার যোগ্যতা	(ক) সরকারী/আধা-সরকারী/স্বায়ত্বশাসিত/বেসরকারী প্রতিষ্ঠানে সংশ্লিষ্ট কাজে নিযুক্ত ০২ (দুই) বছরের মধ্যে একক কার্যালয়ে কমপক্ষে ১০ (দশ) লক্ষ টাকা কাজের অভিজ্ঞতা; (খ) হালানানাদ ট্রেড লাইসেন্স (গ) আয়কর পরিশোধের সার্টিফিকেট (করবর্ষ ২০২২-২০২৩); (ঘ) ভ্যাট রেজিস্ট্রেশন সার্টিফিকেট এবং (ঙ) ব্যাংক কর্তৃক প্রদত্ত স্বচ্ছলতার সনদপত্রের সত্যায়িত ফটোকপি দরপত্রের সাথে অবশ্যই দাখিল করতে হবে।

নং	কাজের বিবরণ	দরপত্র সিডিউলের মূল্য (অফারতথ্যে)	দরপত্র (নিরাপত্তা) জামানত (ফেরতযোগ্য)	সর্বনিম্ন গিউকিউ এ্যাসেট	কাজ সমাপ্তির সময়সীমা
১	বেনাপোল স্থলবন্দর, যশোর এর জন্য মাসিক ভাড়া ভিত্তিতে একটি মাইক্রোবাস (ড্রাইভারসহ)	১৫০০/- (এক হাজার পাঁচশত) টাকা মাত্র	৪২,০০০.০০ (বিশ্বাশ্রয় হাজার) টাকা	৩,৫০,০০০.০০ (তিন লক্ষ পঞ্চাশ হাজার) টাকা	১২ (বার) মাস

মোঃ রেজাউল করিম  
পরিচালক (ট্রাফিক) অঃ দঃ  
বেনাপোল স্থলবন্দর, যশোর  
ফোনঃ ০২৪৭৭-৭৯৫৬০১  
ই-মেইলঃ benapolelandport@gmail.com