

FROM CANDIDATES' AFFIDAVITS

Dipu Moni's
immovable assets
rise 6-fold in 5yrs

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Education Minister Dipu Moni's annual income has increased three times over the past five years – from Tk 40.5 lakh to Tk 1.2 crore – as per her affidavit submitted to the Election Commission ahead of the upcoming national polls.

Dipu Moni, also Awami League joint secretary, and an incumbent MP from Chandpur-3, reported an annual income of Tk 1.2 crore in 2023, a sharp rise from the Tk 40.5 lakh in 2018.

Her main sources of income include teaching, physician, lawyer and consultancy fees, as



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Hanif's income
Tk 3.64cr, loan
Tk 102.86cr

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Awami League candidate Mahbubur Rahman Hanif for the Kushtia-3 constituency has a loan of Tk 102.84 crore from banks and financial institutions.

Hanif, also the joint general secretary of AL, showed no loans in the 11th parliamentary election, while he had a Tk 13.99 crore loan in banks and financial institutions in the 10th parliamentary election, as per the affidavits he submitted to EC.

In the "liabilities" section, he disclosed loans of Tk 47.42 crore in Premium Bank, Tk 5.38 crore in National Bank, a security



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GM Quader's
wealth triples
in 5yrs

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Jatiya Party Chairman GM Quader's wealth has increased three times over the past five years, according to an affidavit he submitted to the Election Commission.

Meanwhile, his wife, Sherfia Quader, an incumbent lawmaker from reserved seat and candidate from Dhaka-18 constituency for the upcoming polls, has seen a twofold increase in her wealth in the same period.

In the affidavit, GM Quader submitted recently, he mentioned possessing Tk 49,88,253 in cash, while the



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Dastagir bought
242 plots of land
since 2008

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Since Jute and Textiles Minister Golam Dastagir Gazi became an MP from Narayanganj-1 in 2008, he has purchased 236 plots of land.

Most of the land purchased is in North Rupshi and Khadun of Rupganj, Brahmanaon of Bikrampur and Khadun of Narayanganj.

He owns 388 plots, and most of these were purchased after he was elected a parliamentarian, as per his affidavit and relevant documents submitted to the EC.

However, he doesn't own any arable land, the documents show. Gazi is once again contesting the national elections from



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Haji Selim's son
Solaiman earns
Tk 1.46cr annually

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Annual income of Awami League candidate for Dhaka-7 constituency Mohammad Solaiman Selim is Tk 1.46 crore, as per the affidavit he submitted to Election Commission.

Solaiman, making his debut as a parliamentary candidate, is son of incumbent member of parliament for the same constituency, Haji Selim.

According to Selim's affidavit, his cash reserve is Tk 11.79 crore. In addition, there is a deposit of Tk 20.56 lakh in banks and financial institutions.

Solaiman's financial portfolio extends to shareholdings in



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Ferdous' annual
income Tk 51 lakh,
no loans

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Film actor and Awami League candidate for the Dhaka-10 constituency Ferdous Ahmed's yearly income is about Tk 51 lakh.

According to the affidavit he submitted to the Election Commission for the 12th parliamentary election, there is no record of any bank loans under his name.

Ferdous has cash of Tk 31,28,658 according to his affidavit. In addition to his Tk 11,25,000 worth of shares in various companies, he has Tk 31,57,997 in various bank accounts. Also, he has invested Tk 1,09,32,296 against fixed deposits.



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EC gets transfer list of
110 UNOs, 338 OCs

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Lists of 110 more UNOs and 338 OCs of different police stations were sent to the Election Commission by the authorities concerned yesterday for transfer ahead of the January 7 national polls.

This time the list of UNOs is made up of the ones who served over a year at their station, while in the first phase, UNOs who served over two years were proposed for transfers.

For the OCs, this was the first list, and OCs who served over six months made the list, said officials at the public administration ministry and the Police Headquarters.

The EC held a meeting yesterday after receiving the list from the PHQ and had a discussion on it,

but did not take any decision, said EC sources.

The commission will sit again today.

"Following the EC directive, our section concerned sent a list of OCs who served over six months to the commission. I have heard the number is 338," Anwar Hossain, deputy inspector general at the PHQ, told The Daily Star yesterday.

PHQ officials said the transfer of such a huge number of OCs ahead of the election will not affect law and order, as those who will replace them have vast experience as OCs.

On December 4, the EC approved a public administration ministry proposal for the transfer of 47 upazila nirbahi officers in the first phase.

37pc female migrants
returned empty-handed

Says BNWLA report

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Jameela (pseudo name) migrated to Jordan as a domestic worker around five years ago, hoping to change her life.

Her life did change, but not in the way she had imagined.

In Jordan, she was subjected to physical and sexual abuse by her employer for months.

Eventually, she had to return home, pregnant and empty-handed. Her child now lives with her and her parents.

Jameela's case is not an isolated one. Like her, around 17.1 percent of women migrant workers had to escape from their employer's homes because of abuses, while 37.3 percent returned without being paid their wages, according to a study conducted by Bangladesh National Women Lawyers' Association.

Half of the returnee women migrants did

not approach any individual or institution for legal support, primarily because they did not know where to seek legal support, according to the 'Strengthened and Informative Migration System 2022-23' (SIMS) report by BNWLA.

Marking "16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence", the study findings were presented at a discussion yesterday afternoon at a Dhaka hotel.

With the technical support of Helvetas Bangladesh, the SIMS project is funded by the Government of Switzerland.

In 73 percent of cases, women chose to go abroad due to economic and social vulnerabilities, including marital strife and a lack of family support, according to SIMS analysis.

Nearly half of female migrant workers encounter difficulties in securing job

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Shahjahan Omar
says he is a victim
of cyber bullying
Visits DB office to seek help

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Shahjahan Omar, who left BNP recently and took the Awami League nomination from Jhalakathi-1, went to the office of the Detective Branch (DB) of police yesterday and alleged that he was a victim of cyber bullying.

Harun Or Rashid, chief of DB of Dhaka Metropolitan Police, told reports about Omar's visit during a briefing.

He came to the DB office to seek help from detectives after becoming a victim of cyber bullying, Harun said.

Just a few days ago, the detectives remanded him for questioning after his arrest on a sabotage case filed with New Market Police Station. He came out of jail on bail on November 29 and the next day submitted his nomination paper from AL.

Earlier in the day, the sacked BNP vice-chairman went to the Supreme Court to meet Chief Justice Obaidul Hassan at his office there.

As he was leaving the SC premises around 12:15pm, pro-BNP lawyers shouted slogans against him.



BANGLADESH STANDS WITH PALESTINE... Holding candles, a group of people form a human chain in front of the Central Shaheed Minar yesterday evening, protesting the killing of women and children in Palestine.

PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

NOMINATION REJECTION
141 more aspirants
appeal to EC

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Challenging the returning officers' decisions to reject their nomination papers, 141 aggrieved aspirants filed appeals to the Election Commission yesterday.

On Tuesday, 42 aspirants filed appeals to the EC on the first day of the appeal window.

So far, a total of 183 appeals have been filed in two days.

Appeals can be filed till December 9 at the EC Bhaban. The appeal hearings will take place from December 10-15.

A total of 731 nomination papers were rejected by the ROs after scrutiny.

Meanwhile, the Election Commission of Sri Lanka informed their Bangladesh counterpart that they would not visit Bangladesh to observe the January 7 polls.

A highly placed EC source said the Sri Lankan EC has sent a letter to Bangladesh CEC Kazi Habibul Awal informing its limitations.

The Sri Lankan government has restricted foreign travels due to the global financial crisis, and therefore, the Sri Lankan EC will not be able to come for polls observation, the letter said.

BNP leaders
Khasru, Swapan
denied bail

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday rejected the bail of BNP standing committee member Amir Khasru Mahmud Chowdhury and the party's media cell convener Zahir Uddin Swapan in a case filed over the death of a constable in a clash between party men and police on October 28.

Judge Faissal Atiq Bin Kader of Dhaka Metropolitan Sessions Judge's Court passed the order.

Detectives detained the two in Gulshan area on November 3.

Police filed the case with Paltan Model Police Station against 164 people, making BNP Secretary General Mirza Fakhru Alamgir a prime accused in the case.

Police have so far arrested four people, including Fakhru and BNP standing committee member Mirza Abbas, in the case.

The same court also rejected a bail petition of BNP Organising Secretary Syed Emran Saleh Prince in another case centring the October 28 rally.