



# THROUGH CARTOONS

## they express themselves

### Young cartoonists' take on election

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**

A competitor being fed milk during a boxing match by his opponents (a dig at the current election situation), a grave with "fair election" written on its boundary wall, a satirical portrayal of a posh car valued at only Tk 50,000 as a commentary on candidates' affidavits, and caricatures of influential political figures, were among the 94 cartoons exhibited at an exhibition yesterday.

Bangladesh Cartoonist Association, Cartoon Factory and earki jointly organised a campus based cartoon competition and later the exhibition titled "Political Cartoon: The Election".

The five-day exhibition was inaugurated yesterday at the Drik Gallery. About 250 cartoons were sent for the competition from students of different universities.

In every situation, be it political, economic, or festive, cartoons in Bangladesh have



consistently flourished, said visitors at the event.

From the Language Movement to the anti-dictatorship movement, cartoonists have ceaselessly continued their artistic expressions. Beyond the veil of laughter, cartoonists turned into powerful storytellers, transcending the confines of mere humor,

they added.

Nurul Kabir, editor of the New Age, said, "When cartoonists draw cartoons they do not think about the consequences. It's a very challenging job now to draw political cartoons."

"Not just elections and voting, we have to depict the whole political and societal situation through cartoons and continue this journey," he added.

Simu Naser, the founder and editor of earki, said, "Cartoonists, a significant group working tirelessly for freedom of expression, have produced numerous election-themed cartoons in our country, visible both offline and on social media. This exhibition provides insight into the thoughts of young people regarding the election."

Maha Mirza, a researcher and activist, said, "Our creative young generation has crafted these cartoons, instilling hope that they will continue to contribute effectively to the progress of the country."

## MBBS entry test February 9

UNB, Dhaka

The MBBS (Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery) admission test for the next academic year will be held on February 9.

Besides, the entry test for Bachelor of Dental Surgery (BDS) will be held on March 8.

The decision was taken at a meeting on the MBBS and BDS admission tests for the academic year 2023-24 at the health ministry yesterday.

Health Minister Zahid Maleque presided over the meeting.

He said all medical coaching centres will remain shut for one month from January 9. "There has been no case of irregularities in medical admission test in the last 10 years," he said.

Foreign students can apply to appear in the admission test on January 4 while students from the country can apply from January 11 online. The minimum pass mark was fixed at 40.

MBBS admission test will be held against 11,728 seats. Of these, 5,380 are available for government medical colleges while 6,348 in private medical colleges. Meanwhile, 375 seats are available in army-run colleges.

## Sofia Hasna Jahan Ali's death anniv

STAR REPORT

Today is the 27th death anniversary of Dr Sofia Hasna Ali (Dolly), professor, the Department of Economics, Dhaka University.

Wife of late Dr Shaikh Maqsood Ali, Sofia was engaged in many social development activities, said a press release.

She served as the president of Lioness Club of Dhaka East and the vice president of the Bangladesh Economic Association. She was also reputed as a sportswoman and organiser.

Her family requested everyone to pray for the salvation of the departed soul.



## Fugitive convict held 14yrs after verdict

BSS, Ctg

Police arrested a life-term fugitive convict in Chattogram city's Asadganj area on Saturday night, 14 years after the verdict.

The arrestee -- Md Nurunnabi -- is from Jummapura in Rangpur.

He was convicted over a murder that took place on August 20, 2008 in Rangpur, said Mehidi Hasan, sub inspector of Kotwali Police Station. But he went into hiding after the murder case was filed.

A Rangpur court in absentia sentenced him to life-term imprisonment.

## Careful who you

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On September 1, Deepika sent some of the victim's videos and pictures to his WhatsApp number and asked him to pay Tk 1,00,000.

Although, Deepika was using an Indian number, a Bangladeshi mobile financial service number was given for payment. The victim replied he did not have that money and a deal was made to pay Tk 25,000.

ADC Saifur said the call was made from Pakistan. After the money was sent to the Bangladeshi MFS number, the syndicate purchased cryptocurrency online and shared the details with their contacts in Pakistan.

"For the job, Bangladeshi

agents retained 25 percent of the collected sum, Pakistani agents kept 25 percent, and the remaining 50 percent was sent to the mastermind in India," he added.

Regarding the number of victims, Saifur said generally people don't file complaints in such cases. "But we have already received eight general diaries. We suspect there will be a huge number of victims," he said.

Saifur said they have found a transaction history of around Tk 1.5 crore in their MFS numbers.

Investigators said the arrestees used to live in Karail. They interacted with the Indian mastermind through social media.

## Verdict on January 1

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Establishments Department filed the case with the Third Labour Court of Dhaka.

According to the case documents, IFED officials on August 16, 2021 inspected the office of Grameen Telecom in the capital's Mirpur and found several violations of labour laws.

On August 19 that year, the department sent a letter to the authorities of Grameen Telecom, mentioning that 67 of its employees were supposed to be made permanent employees. But it was not done, the case statement said.

Besides, the employee's participation and welfare funds were yet to be formed, and five percent of the company's dividends supposed to be paid to the workers were not given, it added.

## JP stronghold under

FROM PAGE 5

Commerce Minister Tipu Munshi is running with the "boat" symbol from Rangpur-4.

Although it seems like smooth sailing for Munshi with no strong opponents competing against him, party insiders said he is lagging behind in electioneering compared to Mostafa Selim, the JP candidate, who is actively campaigning door-to-door.

Munshi's grassroots connections will be a determining factor in the polls, they said.

In Rangpur-6, AL candidate and Speaker Shirin Sharmin Chowdhury is contesting.

In this constituency,

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina secured victory in the previous three national polls after losing in 2001. Shirin won the seat in the last two terms through by-polls after the PM resigned to make way for her.

According to sources, she will face the challenge of being an outsider with fewer grassroots connections compared to her opponent, Md Shirajul Islam, a relative of the prime minister, who's running independently.

This constituency is also likely to witness a triangular contest, with Nur Alam Mia of JP also posing a strong competition.

In Rangpur 5, AL candidate Rasheq Rahman, member of AL

sub committee and son of incumbent lawmaker HN Ashequr Rahman, is contesting for the first time.

However, he is unlikely to have a smooth sailing despite his family legacy, as he will be opposed by AL independent Zakir Hossain Sarkar, general secretary of Mithapukur upazila AL.

He will also face competition from JP candidate Anisur Rahman.

In the remaining constituency, Rangpur-2, incumbent lawmaker Abul Kalam Md Ahsanul Haque Chowdhury is likely to have an easy victory with the 'boat' symbol as there are no strong opponents against him.

## Burning people

FROM PAGE 3

come under a bloody attack. Attacks are being carried out even on hospitals. No one, even children and women, are spared from the attacks, she added.

At the event, Christmas carols and patriotic songs were performed by the members of the Christian community.

Archbishop of Dhaka Archdiocese Bejoy Nicephorus D'Cruze and President of Bangladesh Christian Association Nirmal Rozario jointly handed over the Christmas greeting card to the prime minister.

The prime minister also cut a Christmas Day cake in the event.

the premises of the Faculty of Business Studies at Dhaka University.

DU Vice-Chancellor Prof ASM Maksud Kamal will inaugurate the three-day fair at 10:00am.

A total of 41 publishing houses and research organisations will showcase their publications at the fair, organisers told a press conference at the faculty's Professor Dr Abdullah Faruk Multipurpose Hall.

The main purpose of the non-fiction book fair is to increase familiarity of business, economy and research-based books among students and readers, they said.

For the very first time, the fair organisers are also introducing a "Non-fiction Book Award" this year, said faculty Dean Prof Md Abdul Moyeen.

### vacancy Announcement

#### Divotex Limited


**Position:** Country Manager

**Job Context:** The Candidate should have capable to handle Garments Apparel Manufacturing, Quality Control, costing and pricing also responsible for customer (buyer) quality claims and giving on-time customer feedback in any quality issues. Work place in Dhaka.

**Educational & Experience Requirements:** Related to Apparel Manufacturing with Bachelor Degree. (Foreigner's also can apply) At least 15 years of experience in the Garments Manufacturing sectors. Also 10 years of Buying house experience.

**Salary:** Negotiable, Interested applicants are invited to send resume to.

**DIVOTEX LIMITED**  
ABC Skyrise, 26, Shahjalal Avenue,  
5th Floor, Sector-04, Uttara, Dhaka-1230  
E-mail: info@divotexlimited.com  
Tel: +8801973-036022



### PRAYER TIMING


#### DECEMBER 25

Fazr	Zohr	Asr	Maghrib	Esha
AZAN 5:25	12:45	3:45	5:24	7:00
JAMAAT 6:00	1:15	4:00	5:27	7:30

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

### Commercial Space Rent

8,500sqft per floor Level-8, 9, 13, 14 & 15 available for rent. Any size available from 2,000sqft. Uttara, Syed Grand Centre. Please contact: 01712-276078




## Advertisement of the vacant position

IFDC Bangladesh is looking for interested and qualified candidates for the following positions within its Feed the Future Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA) Project, funded by USAID. For detailed information, please visit the Links provided next to the job titles on the IFDC job portal

Job Title	Application link
Climate Smart Agriculture Specialist	<a href="https://jobs.silkroad.com/IFDC/Careers/jobs/1315?embedded=true">https://jobs.silkroad.com/IFDC/Careers/jobs/1315?embedded=true</a>
Senior Data Management and Monitoring Specialist	<a href="https://jobs.silkroad.com/IFDC/Careers/jobs/1316?embedded=true">https://jobs.silkroad.com/IFDC/Careers/jobs/1316?embedded=true</a>
Soil Health-Fertilizer Management Specialist (Decision Support Tools [DST])	<a href="https://jobs.silkroad.com/IFDC/Careers/jobs/1319?embedded=true">https://jobs.silkroad.com/IFDC/Careers/jobs/1319?embedded=true</a>
Soil Health-Fertilizer Management Specialist (GHG Research)	<a href="https://jobs.silkroad.com/IFDC/Careers/jobs/1318?embedded=true">https://jobs.silkroad.com/IFDC/Careers/jobs/1318?embedded=true</a>

All applications should be submitted via the IFDC career portal as stated above, on or before 16 January 2024.

\*IFDC is an equal opportunity employer\*



### REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FOR DESIGN AND ENGINEERING SERVICES

#### Fire Safety, Electrical and HVAC Improvements for ADB Bangladesh Resident Mission (BRM) Office

The Asian Development Bank for Bangladesh Resident Mission (BRM) is seeking to engage a qualified company to provide services for the Fire Safety, Electrical and HVAC improvements of ADB-BRM office facility.

The Contractor shall provide fire safety, electrical and HVAC system improvements as well as implementation of solar panel and parking shade works as a minimum to deliver a successful outcome of 'the SERVICES' on the basis that seeks to create an excellent Grade A commercial office interior fit-out as required by ADB. The Services shall be complete in all respects and shall be provided in accordance with the **Work Performance Statement** (Appendix 1).

**SUBMISSIONS:**

Qualified and interested bidders should submit the expression of interest and proposal through ADB procurement system sourcing # 5176. The Bids shall be completed and submitted to ADB in accordance with the provisions contained in the **"Instructions to Bidders"**.

**To apply, visit**  
[\[supplier.coupahost.com/quotes/public\\_events?customer=adb&event\\_id=2547\]](https://supplier.coupahost.com/quotes/public_events?customer=adb&event_id=2547)

The following timelines shall be observed:

Pre-bid meeting: **27 December 2023, 10:00 AM Dhaka Time**, registration via the given link: <https://adb-org.zoom.us/j/97086093984?pwd=dEVpWEJBL3hBeTlVRjlpPdnBSOGxzdD09>

Deadline for submission of queries in writing by electronic message at ADB's e-procurement system: **16 January 2024**. ADB shall respond to any request for clarification, provided it is received on/or before the specified deadline.

Deadline for submission of Bids in ADB procurement system: **18 January 2024, 4:00 PM (Dhaka Time)**

**REQUIREMENTS:**

- Have proven relevant experience in the field of Fire Safety, Electrical and HVAC Improvements.
- Have the nationality of the eligible country in accordance with the **"List of ADB Eligible Member Countries" (Appendix 13)**. A Bidder shall be deemed to have the nationality of a Member Country if it is constituted, or incorporated, and operates in conformity with the provisions of the laws of that country.
- Have a good financial and credit position for the past two (2) years (2021-2022). As a minimum, the Bidder's net worth/total equity, calculated as the difference between total assets and total liabilities, should be positive.
- Have not been sanctioned nor be ineligible to enter into transactions with ADB or any other multilateral development bank or institution; and
- Past performance of Works at ADB (if applicable) will be taken into consideration as part of the bid evaluation.