

‘Global media, journos played crucial role in 1971’  
Speakers tell programme commemorating Liberation War

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The involvement of the global media and journalistic community played a crucial role during the Liberation War of Bangladesh in 1971, speakers said at an event yesterday.

They praised the professionalism and responsibility demonstrated by the global media in covering the war.

The event was organised by Gonomaddhome Muktiyoddha Poribar, in association with the Liberation War Museum at the museum's seminar hall in capital's Agargaon.

Prof Kaberi Gayen of Dhaka University's mass communication and journalism department mentioned Pakistani journalist Anthony Mascarenhas, who chose to depict the true situation rather than disseminating propaganda.

"He reported on various aspects of war crimes conducted by Pakistani forces. His findings, published under the title 'Genocide' in The Sunday Times on June 13, 1971, played a big role in changing history," she said.

She also noted France Television's journalist Philippe Alfonsi for shedding light on the widespread massacre for global awareness.

Also, renowned media outlets such as The New York Times, Newsweek, The Washington Post, and Time criticised the US policy on Pakistan, she also said, adding that Voice of America, Radio Australia, and Radio Japan played crucial roles too, while BBC emerged as the most reliable and cherished source for news on the war.

Indian newspapers prominently featured the Bangalee people's aspirations for freedom, and Debdulal Bandopadhyay from India's Akashvani radio played a legendary role during the Liberation War, she added.

Freedom fighter, writer, and journalist Harun Habib, Liberation War Museum trustee Mofidul Haque, and daughter of a martyred intellectual Nuzhat Chowdhury, also spoke.

GMP chairperson Mohim Mizan presided over the event.

MEDICAL COLLEGE HOSPITAL IN DINAJPUR

Patients hit hard by rising cost of dialysis

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

The cost of dialysis at M Abdur Rahim Medical College Hospital in Dinajpur surged due to a lack of supply of medical equipment and medicine, leaving at least 200 patients worried for their lives.

According to hospital sources, the dialysis unit has around 41 dialysis machines, of which 29 are operational. Around 200 patients are registered there and take dialysis regularly.

Protesting the situation, patients staged a protest on Tuesday at the hospital. Patients with acute kidney dysfunction in Dinajpur, Thakurgaon, Panchagarh and Nilphamari are solely reliant on this unit.

Previously, the hospital would provide a majority of the accessories and medicine required for dialysis, such as dialysis filter, bloodline, IV saline, heparin injection, renal fluid A and B. In total, dialysis patients would pay Tk 1,200 for the service along with all of the medicine and accessories provided by the hospital.

Speaking with patients, The Daily Star learned that the hospital authorities are now giving patients only saline worth Tk 20 and syringe worth Tk 7.

As a result, dialysis patients are forced to spend an additional Tk 1,700 out of their pockets to procure all necessary medicine and accessories. This has resulted in



Protesting the increased costs of dialysis at M Abdur Rahim Medical College Hospital in Dinajpur, patients demonstrated at the hospital on Tuesday.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

them having to spend Tk 3,000 for each dialysis.

"This has been continuing for the last four months," said one patient, adding, "They even force us to buy hand gloves, syringe and sanitiser now."

Krishna Chandra Roy of Birganj upazila in Dinajpur said he has been on dialysis for the last 12 years. So far, he spent all of his savings to support the dialysis cost. He has to get dialysis 2-3 times a week. Just six months ago, a single dialysis cost him Tk 1,200, but it increased to Tk 3,000 after the hospital authorities stopped supplying the necessary accessories and

medicines gradually.

Similarly, Sudeb Karmaker of Dinajpur town has been on dialysis for the last three years and he is deeply concerned about the implications of the rising cost of dialysis.

"Where will kidney patients like us go?" he questioned.

Contacted, Dr ATM Nuruzzaman, hospital director, said the supply of dialysis accessories and medicines has stopped. They have been trying to procure the necessary materials, but they need time. While they have managed some renal fluid, it is not enough for all patients.

## Tough battle in two, not much

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substantial public support, according to voters.

"Ruhi was a popular student leader at Ananda Mohan College in Mymensingh. He was the vice president and assistant general secretary of the college's student union, which made him highly popular at that time," said Sharif Uddin, another constituent.

Besides, constituents claimed most of the BNP votes will go in favour of Ruhi as he is a relative of a top BNP leader.

In Netrakona-5, former Jahangirnagar Vice-Chancellor Prof Anwar Hossain is vying as an AL independent against the "boat" candidate Ahmad Hossain.

Prof Anwar is the elder brother of three-time MP and upazila AL President

Waresat Hussain Belal, Bir Pratik.

Voters said Prof Anwar has a clean image in the constituency, but he was absent until recently.

"If he had come to his constituency regularly earlier and his brother Belal, who is quite popular here, was physically well, the race would have been much more competitive," said Abdul Awal Munshi, a resident of the Purbadala area.

At the same time, AL district and local leaders and activists are working for Ahmad, the organising secretary of central AL. He also has a strong vote bank here, said voters.

Despite these factors, there will be a good contest between Anwar and Ahmad, said voters.

Meanwhile, incumbent MP Sajjadul Hassan,

former senior secretary of the Prime Minister's Office and AL nominee from Netrakona-4, has no strong opponent and is likely to secure a smooth run.

His father, late doctor Akhlakul Hossain Ahmed, was a Gono Parishad member and one of the organisers of the Liberation War. Sajjadul's elder brother Obaidul Hassan is the chief justice of the country.

Locals said Shafi Ahmed, a prominent student leader of the 1990s, bought a nomination as an independent candidate to run in the electoral race but was rejected during the scrutiny.

They said if Shafi's candidature had not been rejected, it would have been a tough battle between Shafi and Sajjadul.

## The struggling successors

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executive chairperson of Trinamool BNP and daughter of former BNP leader Nazmul Huda, is also in the race but faces challenges in establishing a connection with voters who seemed unfamiliar with her.

The lacklustre campaigns of these two candidates suggest it's going to be an uphill battle for them. Meanwhile, the vibrant and energetic campaigns of the Awami League candidate, Mohiuddin Ahmad, and the independent candidate, Golam Sarwar Kabir, are capturing attention of voters.

Much like elsewhere in the country, the electoral race for Munshiganj-1 is shaping up to be a two-horse race, between AL and "independent" AL.

The constituency, consisting of Sreenagar and Sirajdikhan, was a BNP stronghold. The party won this constituency from 1991 to 2001, until the AL emerged victorious in

2009. The "boat" retained the seat ever since.

Mahi is contesting with his party's symbol "winnowing fan". Voters claimed that Mahi has been absent from the area in his five years as MP, not developing infrastructure or assisting during the pandemic.

"We have not seen our MP for five years. Now, ahead of polls, he is asking for votes," said a Sreenagar resident.

Jalal Uddin, 55, who runs a tea stall in Ichapura union, echoed him.

On his limited campaign trails, Mahi has been highlighting what he claims is the "improvement in the law and order situation during his tenure" as a reason why voters should re-elect him.

Meanwhile, out of 28 unions, Antara has conducted small campaigns in only two out of fourteen unions in Sirajdikhan and two in Sreenagar.

Voters are mostly unaware of her candidacy

and unfamiliar with Trinamool BNP.

"We do not know anything about the Trinamool BNP or its candidate Antara," said Nahar Begum, 65, of Uttar Kolapara village.

Sharmin Begum, a resident of Malkhanagar village of Sirajdikhan, echoed her.

"No one from the 'Golden fibre' (the party's electoral symbol) came to seek votes in our area nor were any posters put up," she told this newspaper.

Contacted, Mahi said he has been campaigning door-to-door peacefully, unlike his AL counterparts.

"I don't like to bring out large rallies and processions. I don't believe in the display of power," he added. He also claimed he is getting a good response from voters.

When asked about his absence during the pandemic, he said, "I got stuck outside Bangladesh due to the lockdown."

"Everyone does not notice when I enter a village

as I don't bring hundreds of motorbikes alongside me," he added.

This correspondent couldn't reach Antara despite repeated attempts.

Meanwhile, most grassroots leaders and activists have rallied behind the AL candidate

Mohiuddin, who is a three-time chairman of Sirajdikhan and upazila AL president for 29 years.

Independent candidate Golam Sarwar, former organising secretary of Dhaka south city AL, is also running an active campaign with "truck" symbol.

## Urban poverty on rise

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should be reduced by enhancing self-employment in the villages," he said.

Shishir Shil, secretary general of APPG, said, "Urban poverty is increasing more compared to the villages. After the pandemic, the extent of urban poverty increased further. The number of slum dwellers and homeless people is increasing."

"The poor villagers are getting more benefits from the government's social security programmes. The city's poor people are not getting most of these facilities," he added.

Khushi Kabir, coordinator of Nijera Kori, said, "We should ensure that all people are getting the same benefits. The social safety net programme should be implemented effectively."

Samakal's advisory editor Abu Sayeed Khan presided over the discussion.

Architect Iqbal Habib, ALRD executive director Shamsul Huda, director general of social services department Abu Saleh Mostafa Kamal, and CPD research director Khondaker Golam Moazzem also spoke at the event.

### Job Opportunity

**South Asia Engineering & Technology Company Ltd. (SAEET)** is a locally registered company in Bangladesh. It is a subsidiary of China National Machinery Import & Export Corp. (CMC) engaged in power engineering and Industrial facilities development.

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Human Resource & Admin Department

0-150

**Government of the Peoples Republic of Bangladesh**  
**Office of the Executive Engineer, RHD**  
**Road Division, Lalmonirhat.**  
**+Tel: 0591-61770, FAX: 0591-61770**  
**email: eerhd1al@yahoo.com, eelal@rhd.gov.bd**

**e-Tender Notice**

This is an online Tender, where only e-Tenders will accept in e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, please register on e-GP system portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>).

**e-Tenders are invited in e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) by Executive Engineer(PE), RHD, Road Division, Lalmonirhat for:**

**Road Marking work with Supplying, Manufacturing and Installation of Necessary Traffic Signs and Sign post of Barabari-Lalmonirhat-Burimari (N-509) & Paglapir-Daliya-Testa Barrage (R-560) Road at different km under Road Division, Lalmonirhat during the year 2023-2024**


Sl no	Tender ID no	Tender ref., no	Tender last selling	Tender closing date	Tender opening date
1.	928312	eGP-19/EE/LRD/2023-2024	10-Jan-2024 17:00	11-Jan-2024 13:00	11-Jan-2024 13:00

Reference No. 1382  
Date: 26-12-2023

GD- 2019

**(Khalid Saifullah Sardar)**  
ID No. 602287  
Executive Engineer(C.C.), RHD  
Road Division, Lalmonirhat.

### 38<sup>th</sup> Death Anniversary



The 38<sup>th</sup> Death Anniversary of Late Rahimullah Choudhury, a renowned industrialist of the country and former Member, National Assembly (M.N.A.), is being observed on the 28<sup>th</sup> December, 2023 both at his village home in Matubhuiya, Feni and in Dhaka by The Insaniyat Society, an N.G.O. founded by him for the education and welfare of the destitute in the society.

We request all his relatives, friends and well wishers to pray for his departed soul.

Family Members of Late Rahimullah Choudhury

**আবদুল দক্ষিণ সিংহ সাহায়াত!**

**অফিস-স্পেস ভাড়া বিজ্ঞপ্তি**

ঢাকা শহরের প্রশাসনিক অঞ্চলে অবস্থিত ইউসেপ বাংলাদেশ এর মালিকানাধীন ২৫ সেকন বাণিজ্য ১৫ (পনের) কাঠা ভূমির উপর নির্মিত ছয়তলা বিশিষ্ট চেইনি টাওয়ার ভবনের বর্ধিত ফ্লোর স্পেসসমূহ লিফট, কার পার্কিং স্পেস, প্রশস্ত সিঁড়ি, টাইলস/মোজাইক মেঝে বিশিষ্ট ব্যবহারযোগ্য অফিস স্পেস, পুরুষ/মহিলা আলাদা টয়লেট সুবিধাসহ অফিসের জন্য গ্রহণ ২০২৪ থেকে ভাড়া প্রদান করা হবে।

অফিসের নাম, ঠিকানা ও অবস্থান	ভাড়াযোগ্য স্পেসের বর্ণনা
ইউসেপ চেইনি টাওয়ার, ২৫ সেকনবাণিজ্য, ঢাকা-১০০০	ক) তর্র ভদা = ৮৫০০ বর্গফুট খ) ৪র্থ তলা = ৮৫০০ বর্গফুট গ) ১২ টি কার পার্কিং স্পেস

সরকারি ও আধা সরকারি অফিস, স্বায়ত্বশাসিত সংস্থা, প্রতিষ্ঠিত ব্যাংক, বীমা কোম্পানী ভাড়া গ্রহণে অস্বীকার্য বা প্রতিষ্ঠানকে দিল্লি ঠিকানা/ফোন নম্বরে যোগাযোগ করার জন্য অনুরোধ করা হল। স্পেস ভাড়া প্রদানের ব্যাপারে ইউসেপ বাংলাদেশ-এর সিদ্ধান্তই চূড়ান্ত বলে বিবেচিত হবে।

পরিচালক-মানবসম্পদ ও প্রশাসন  
ইউসেপ বাংলাদেশ, গিট ২ ও ৩, মিরপুর-২, ঢাকা-১২১৬  
ফোন: ০১৭৩৫৫৮১৭৪৫ (দিল্লি সরকার),  
০১৯৭৭২০০১০৮ (ইঞ্জিনিয়ার মোঃ আশরাফ উদ্দিন)

**ইউসেপ বাংলাদেশ**

**Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh**  
Office of the Executive Engineer  
Manikganj PWD Division  
Manikganj  
[www.pwd.gov.bd](http://www.pwd.gov.bd)

Memo No. 799 Date: 27/12/2023

**e-Tender Notice e-GP Tender (OTM)**

e-Tender is invited in the e-GP System Portal <http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>

SL. No.	Tender ID & Reference No.	Name of work	Last selling date & time	Opening date & time
01.	929127 Office of the SE Savar Circle, Dhaka Memo No. 751 dt. 12.12.23	Construction of one-storied Armory Building with 2-storied Foundation for Bangladesh Ansar Battalion-one at Manikganj	15-Jan-2024 12:00	15-Jan-2024 15:00
02.	929322 Office of the SE Savar Circle, Dhaka Memo No. 714 dt. 07.12.23	Emergency works as per demand of Manikganj District Commissioner during the year 2023-24	14-Jan-2024 12:00	14-Jan-2024 13:00
03.	929335 Office of the ACE Dhaka Zone, Dhaka. Memo No. 2309 dt. 10.12.23	Supplying work of Furniture in PWD Divisional Office at Manikganj	14-Jan-2024 12:00	14-Jan-2024 13:00
04.	929344 Office of the ACE Dhaka Zone, Dhaka Memo No. 2310 dt. 10.12.23	Supplying work of Furniture in PWD inspection Banglow at Manikganj	14-Jan-2024 12:00	14-Jan-2024 13:00

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The fees for downloading the e-Tender documents from the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through any e-GP registered bank's branches within due time.

Further information and guideline are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk ([helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd](mailto:helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd)) or (email: [ee\\_manik@pwd.gov.bd](mailto:ee_manik@pwd.gov.bd)) and call to 02-996610401).

Interested person can communicate with the undersigned during office hours.

**Sharmin Aktar**  
Executive Engineer  
Manikganj PWD Division  
Manikganj

GD-2025