

### Samson H Chowdhury's death anniversary

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

Today is the 12th death anniversary of Samson H Chowdhury, the founder of Square Group.



On this day in 2012, the visionary entrepreneur and industrialist passed away at Raffles Hospital in Singapore at the age of 86. Samson left behind an unmatched legacy of entrepreneurship and industrialisation. He built up from scratch Square Group, one of the largest conglomerates in Bangladesh, and set an example of ethical business.

Born on February 25, 1926 in Pabna, Samson was the eldest child of medical officer Eakub H Chowdhury and Latika Chowdhury.

He also obtained a diploma in management from a Harvard University school.

Samson started a small pharmacy at Ataikula in Pabna in 1952, which was the beginning of one of the leading pharmaceutical companies.

Like previous years, several programmes have been chalked out to observe the day.

PRAYER TIMING JANUARY 5  
Fazr Juma Asr Maghrib Esha  
AZAN 5:30 12:30 4:00 5:30 7:00  
JAMAAT 6:05 1:15 4:15 5:35 7:30  
SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION



The Fatullah field in Narayanganj is full to the brim during a campaign rally of the Awami League yesterday. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, also the AL president, addressed it as the chief guest. This was the party's last public rally of the election campaign for the 12th parliamentary polls slated for January 7. PHOTO: PIX

## 'King's parties' a no-show in Ctg

AL, independents dominant in all constituencies

SIFAYET ULLAH

Candidates of Trinamool BNP, Bangladesh Supreme Party and Bangladesh Nationalist Movement are in a fix as Awami League and independent candidates are contesting in all the constituencies in Chattogram.

Their candidates also alleged that they are facing challenges during campaigning in most of the constituencies, resulting in many of them backing out.

The three parties, who gained familiarity as king's parties, have nominated 20 candidates for the January 7 election in 16 constituencies.

BSP chairman Syed Saifuddin Ahmad Maizbandari is contesting from Chattogram-2 (Fatikchhari).

AL's Kadizatul Anwar Sony and independent candidate Hossain Mohammed Abu Tayeb are also contesting in this constituency.

Mohammed Sayed, a voter, told The Daily Star, "We rarely see BSP candidates campaigning."

In Hathazari (Ctg-5), former vice president of Chittagong University Central Student Union Nazim Uddin is contesting with the "jute" symbol after getting a nomination from Trinamool BNP.

He is campaigning in full swing. But he is up against two formidable opponents -- 14 party alliance candidate Anisul Islam Mahmud, co-chairman of Jatiyo Party, and AL independent candidate Shahjahan Chowdhury.

Nazim Uddin, however, claimed he is getting positive responses from voters.

Yeakub Ali, the lone BNM candidate in Chattogram, is contesting in Chattogram-12 (Patiya).

He is up against two heavyweights -- JS whip Shamsul Hoque Chowdhury and

Chattogram South AL president Motaherul Islam.

"Before the election, we saw some posters of BNM candidates. But we haven't seen him in the field," said Kawser Ahmed, a local of the Patiya Junglekhai union.

Meanwhile, Santosh Sharma is contesting in Chattogram-8 (Boalkhali) from Trinamool BNP.

"We haven't seen any of his campaigns yet," said Mohammed Emran, a voter of this seat.

This correspondent spoke to dozens of voters in these constituencies. Most of them said voters were not familiar with these leaders of the "king's parties".

Contacted, Akter Kabir Chowdhury, president of Sachetan Nagorik Committee (SANAK), said voters already knew that candidates of these parties are contesting to fulfil demand of the ruling party. "So, they are not getting much attention from voters," he added.

### Raihan Ahmed passes away

STAR REPORT

Raihan Ahmed (Azad), a teacher of St Joseph High School,



passed away at his home in Shyamoli, Dhaka on December 27. He was 77.

He was buried beside his mother and younger brother's graves in Banani graveyard.

A Gregorian (batch of '65), he began his career as a teacher at the school in 1977.

All have been requested to pray for the salvation of his departed soul.

### GRAFT CASE GK Shamim gets bail

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday granted bail to Golam Kibria alias GK Shamim, an expelled Jubo League leader, in a case filed over amassing illegal wealth worth Tk 297 crore.



The HC bench of Justice ASM Abd Mubin and Justice Md Mahmud Hassan Talukder passed the order following a bail petition filed by GK Shamim.

GK Shamim cannot get released from jail following the HC order as he is arrested in other cases.

The ACC filed the case against GK Shamim, a top government-listed contractor, on October 21, 2019.

### 3 of a family killed in boiler explosion

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Thakurgaon

An 11-year-old girl, her mother, and her 12-year-old cousin were killed when the boiler of a rice mill exploded in Thakurgaon Sadar upazila yesterday morning.



The deceased are Dipti Das, 40, wife of Sagar Das, her daughter Puja Das, and Sagar's nephew Palak Das, said Talha bin Zaim, an official of fire service's media cell. Sagar was injured in the incident.

Station Officer of Thakurgaon fire service Sorowar Hossain said the rice mill is situated about 80 yards south of Thakurgaon-Baliadangi road.

The three were nearby when the boiler exploded around 9:30am, and were hit by debris.

### Hasina doesn't care about visa policies, sanctions Quader tells DU event marking 76th anniv of BCL

DU CORRESPONDENT

Awami League General Secretary Obaidul Quader yesterday said Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina does not care about visa policies or any sanction from the "other side of the Atlantic".

He made this remark while speaking as the chief guest at the 76th anniversary programme of Chhatra League at Dhaka University.

Pointing to the new voters, Quader said around one crore new voters are without employment. Hasina will arrange jobs for them in steps as a New Year gift, he added. As part of the event, a cultural programme was also held.



### Govt will lose on Jan 7: Moyeen

UNB, Dhaka

BNP leader Moyeen Khan yesterday said the government will suffer a crushing defeat in the "dummy election" on January 7.

Speaking at a rally, he said Awami League, which claims to be a pro-independence force, is walking on the wrong path.

Bangladesh Sammilita Peshajibi Parishad, a platform of pro-BNP professionals, organised the rally in front of Jatiya Press Club to protest the

upcoming 12th parliamentary polls.

Moyeen, a BNP standing committee member, along with other party leaders, distributed leaflets among pedestrians, urging them to boycott the election.

He called upon the government to come to the right path to restore peace in the country by cancelling the election, and dissolving the parliament and the cabinet.

"You won't be able to suppress the 18 crore people of Bangladesh with bullets, sound grenades and tear gas. So come to the path of negotiation, come to the path of peace."

### 'Will follow further development closely' Says State Dept spokesperson on Yunus conviction

UNB, Dhaka

The United States has said it wants to see a fair and transparent legal process regarding the case against Nobel laureate Prof Muhammad Yunus.

"For our part, we have encouraged the Bangladeshi government to ensure a fair and transparent legal process," US State Department Spokesperson Matthew Miller said in a regular media briefing at Washington on January 3.

He said they have been following the case against him closely. "We've seen, of course, the widespread international criticism of the verdict," Miller said.

He said they will continue to follow any further developments closely.

Responding to a question on the January 7 polls, Miller again said they support a free and fair election in Bangladesh. "We have made that quite clear a number of times. We will watch the elections very closely," he said.

### Covid positivity rate rises to 4.5pc

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Coronavirus transmission rate has gone up once again in the country with positivity rate increasing to 4.53 percent yesterday from Wednesday's 3.98 percent.

On December 20, the infection rate was 0.66 percent.

The DGHS reported 21 new Covid-19 cases in the last 24 hours till 8:00am yesterday. On Wednesday, 16 new cases were recorded. No Covid-19 patients died in the last 24 hours.

The total number of confirmed cases rose to 20,46,367 and the total number of fatalities to 29,477. Meanwhile, eight patients recovered during this time taking the overall recovery rate to 98.42 percent.

The total number of recoveries now stands at 20,13,951.

After Covid-19 transmission remained under control for around three months, it started rising early last month, indicating the beginning of the fourth wave of Covid-19 in the country.

A positivity rate below five percent for at least two weeks at a stretch indicates the end of the previous wave, according to experts.

বাংলাদেশ স্যাটেলাইট কোম্পানি লিমিটেড  
www.bscl.gov.bd  
Invitation for Expressions of Interest (EOI) for Services  
1. Ministry/Division: Posts and Telecommunications Division, Ministry of Posts, Telecommunications and Information Technology  
2. Agency: Bangladesh Satellite Company Limited  
3. Client name: Dr. Shahjahan Mahmood, Chairman and CEO  
4. Client code: Not used at present  
5. Client district: Dhaka  
6. Expression of Interest for Selection of: Consulting Firm for Feasibility Study for Demarcation, Pole Establishment, Design and Estimation for Construction of Boundary Wall and Warehouse at Sajeeb Wazed Satellite Ground Station, Gazipur  
7. EOI Ref No.: 14.39.0000.012.07.001.23.-1(M)  
8. Date: 01/01/2024  
KEY INFORMATION  
09. Procurement sub-method: Least Cost Selection (LCS)  
FUNDING INFORMATION  
10. Budget and source of funds: Own funds  
11. Development partner (if applicable): N/A  
PARTICULAR INFORMATION  
12. Project/programme code: N/A  
13. Project/programme name: N/A  
14. EOI closing date and time: 21 January 2024 12:05pm  
INFORMATION FOR APPLICANT  
15. Brief Description of the Assignment: Bangladesh Satellite Company Limited (BSCL) requires to build a boundary wall around 13-acre land and a warehouse (approximately 2000 sq feet) at Gazipur ground station. In this regard, BSCL wants to procure "Consultancy Services" from eligible "Consultancy Firm" to prepare the architectural & construction engineering design and to estimate the cost of construction.  
16. Objectives of the assignment: To prepare the architectural & construction engineering design and to estimate the cost of construction to build a boundary wall and a warehouse at Gazipur ground station.  
17. Other details (if applicable): The applicant must submit the following documents along with EOI: 1. Valid TIN certificate 2. Valid trade license 3. Valid VAT certificate/BIN certificate 4. Financial Audit Report of latest 2 years 5. Proof of experience (Work Completion Certificate/Contract) on relevant field. 6. Company profile. The Terms of Reference will be found at https://bscl.gov.bd/ (under tender notice)  
PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS  
18. Name of the official inviting EOI: Dr. Shahjahan Mahmood  
19. Designation of the official inviting EOI: Chairman and CEO, Bangladesh Satellite Company Limited (BSCL)  
20. Address of the official inviting EOI: 116, SEL Rose-N-Dale, 7th & 8th floor, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Dhaka-1000  
21. Contact details of the official inviting EOI: Phone: +88 02 41030091-92 E-mail: procurement@bscl.com.bd; info@bscl.com.bd  
The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all EOIs  
Rehenuma Tarannum  
Manager, Procurement (Additional Charge)  
Bangladesh Satellite Company Limited

TO-LET Super-luxurious, brand new unfurnished apartments at Navana Wedgewood (Plot # 24, Road #65, Flat # A8, Gulshan-2, Dhaka). Each unit is 4000 square feet in size and the complex has state of the art swimming pool and gymnasium. Please call at: Ph. 01779732622  
TO-LET Fully Furnished South-Facing 5th Floor Apartment on Road-76 in North Gulshan, Dhaka- 3 Bed, 4 Bath, Living, Family Living, Dining, Kitchen, Utility Space & Balcony. Contact: 01740808330, 01713102090  
রাজউক পূর্বাচলে এবং গাজীপুরে প্রুট বিক্রয়  
বাসউক কর্তৃক ১০ টলা নারদিক কলেজ ডিআইসিও নগর অসুন্দেবনসে রাজউক পূর্বসে আইসিউক টাওয়ারে পাশে ২০ নম্বর স্টোরি ৫ কতরে একটি প্রুট ৫ সোটা টলা এবং পূর্বসে নরুন শহর কতরে ২৯ নম্বর স্টোরি নিকট লক্ষ্য মনোহরনু এবং খড় কামিলা মৌজায় প্রুট পর রাজ সন্থায় অবসিউক/বিসিআই/ইউসিআই স্থাপন করে উপসেটা ৩ টলা ভবনসে ০০ বিকট প্রুট ৫ নম্বর টলা শহর এবং পাকিস্টানি কংগ্রেসনে দখল শবনে মৌজায় কুই নির্ধারিতায় সন্থায় হাইওয়ে রাস্তার পাশে গার্ডেনসে, সিইউসিআই, হস্পিটালসে, শির্ক-কারখানসে, বড়ি হস্টেই করর উপসেটা উই নিকট ৬৯ শতসে জমি ২০ নম্বর টলা শহরকতরে বিক্রি হবে। যোগাযোগে ০১৯৯২-০৭৭০০৪, ০১৯৯৪-৪৪৩০২৫, Email: founder.digital.co@gmail.com

Edcl এসেনসিয়াল ড্রাগস কোম্পানী লিমিটেড  
ঠনঠনিয়া, বগুড়া  
সূত্র নং- ইডিসিএল/বগুড়া/ক্রম/২০২৪/২০১ তারিখঃ ০৪/০১/২০২৪ইং  
ইডিসিএল বগুড়া কারখানার Cephalosporin Unit এর Pre-Treatment Plant এর উত্তর পাশ এবং দক্ষিণ পাশে Brick Flat Soling কাজের দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি  
এসেনসিয়াল ড্রাগস কোম্পানী লিমিটেড (ইডিসিএল), বগুড়া, কারখানার Cephalosporin Unit এর Pre-Treatment Plant এর উত্তর পাশ এবং দক্ষিণ পাশে Brick Flat Soling কাজ করার লক্ষ্যে সংশ্লিষ্ট কাজের সাথে অভিজ্ঞ প্রতিষ্ঠানের নিকট হতে দরপত্র আহবান করা যাচ্ছে। বিস্তারিত নিয়মাবলীসহ দরপত্রের সিডিউল ইডিসিএল, হিসাব বিভাগ, প্রধান কার্যালয়, ৩৯৫-৩৯৭ শি/এ, তেজগাঁও, ঢাকা-১২০৮ ও ইডিসিএল, হিসাব বিভাগ, ঠনঠনিয়া, বগুড়া এর ক্যাশ শাখা হতে নগদ ৭৫০/- (সাতশত পঞ্চাশ) টাকা (অফেরতযোগ্য) মূল্যে আগামী ২২/০১/২০২৪ইং তারিখ পর্যন্ত অফিস চলাকালীন সময়ে ক্রয় করা যাবে। আগ্রহী প্রতিষ্ঠানসমূহকে আগামী ২৩/০১/২০২৪ইং তারিখ বেলা ১২:০০ ঘটিকার মধ্যে ইডিসিএল প্রধান কার্যালয় এবং ইডিসিএল, বগুড়া এর ক্রয় বিভাগের রক্ষিত টেন্ডার বক্সে সিডিউল দাখিল করতে হবে। যা (ঢাকা হতে দরপত্র প্রাপ্যতা সাপেক্ষে) ২৫/০১/২০২৪ইং তারিখে দরদাতাদের উপস্থিতিতে (যদি থাকে) বেলা ০৩.১৫ ঘটিকায় ইডিসিএল, বগুড়ায় খোলা হবে। ইডিসিএল কর্তৃপক্ষ কোন প্রকার কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতিরেকে যে কোন অথবা সকল সিডিউল গ্রহণ বা বাতিল করার পূর্ণ ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করেন। উল্লেখ্য যে, দরপত্র দাখিলের দিন কোন প্রকার দরপত্র বিক্রয় করা হবে না।  
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জিডি-২৮

Khulna Development Authority  
Khulna  
www.kda.gov.bd  
Memo No: 25.41.0000.021.0236.2024-40 Date: 03/01/2024  
e-Tender Notice (OTM)  
e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP system Portal (http://www.eprocure.gov.bd) for the Procurement of following works, details are given below.  
Sl. No. Name of work Tender Package No Tender ID No Tender Last selling (date & time) Tender Opening (date & time)  
1. Construction of 2.70 km long (2 lane ) link road from Bastuhara Road to Old Sathkhira Road (including Road works, Culvert, Retaining Wall, Protection works, Plantation etc) KDA/3link/Wd-4/2023-24 932066 30-Jan-2024 16:00 31-Jan-2024 14:00  
This is an online Tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted.  
To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP system Portal (http://www.eprocure.gov.bd) is required. The fees for downloading the e-Tender documents from the National e-GP system portal have to be deposited online through any registered Banks branches Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP system portal and e-GP help desk (helpdesk @eprocure.gov.bd).  
31/1/2024  
(Mortoza Al Mamun)  
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3link Road Project  
&  
Executive Engineer (Project) (C.C)  
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GD- 26