

It's time to unite Raushan Ershad urges JP leaders, activists

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Raushan Ershad, chief patron of Jatiyo Party, yesterday urged all party leaders and activists to be united.

In a media statement, Raushan regretted that JP leaders and activists are divided into many factions.

Many followers of the party founder were expelled, which made the party weak, she said.

She also urged the party chairman and other central leaders to reinstate the expelled leaders.

Raushan came up with the statement following removal of at least four JP central leaders including Kazi Firoz Rashid and Sunil Suvo Roy following the party's debacle in the January 7 national election where JP only got 11 seats.

A section of JP leaders blamed the party's chairman GM Quader and secretary general Mujibul Haque Chunnur for the party's failure, an allegation, however, they refuted.



Workers unloading stones from a cargo vessel docked at the banks of Sandhya river in Sikarpur area of Barishal's Wazirpur upazila yesterday afternoon. Working from 7:00am till 5:00pm, they make around Tk 800 daily.

PHOTO: TITU DAS

Admit 10 students to first grade

HC orders Viqarunnisa

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday ordered the authorities of Viqarunnisa Noon School and College to immediately admit the siblings of 10 existing students as first graders, contingent on seat availability.

The court has also issued a rule, questioning the legality of the Private School, School and College (Secondary, Lower Secondary, and Attached Primary Level) Students Admission Rules, 2023, which restricted admission opportunities for siblings.

The bench comprising Justice KM Kamrul Kader and Justice Khizir Hayat Lizu issued the order and rule in response to a petition filed by the guardians of the 10 aspiring students.

Passengers suffer for bus strike in Barguna

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Patuakhali

Bus services in Barguna came to a standstill yesterday morning following an indefinite strike called by the district Bus and Minibus Owners Association (BMOA) after an alleged attack on its general secretary.

The strike, announced with no prior notice, left passengers stranded and struggling to reach their destinations.

Abdus Salam, a resident of Barguna Sadar planning to travel to Gopalganj, said, "I had no idea about the bus strike. I came to the terminal only to find no buses operating. Now, I don't know how to proceed." The strike has also impacted transport workers' livelihoods.

Md Mehdi, a driver of a transport company, said, "If I drive, I get a daily salary of Tk 500. No bus on roads means no money for us."



Meanwhile, police were deployed at the bus terminals since morning to avoid any untoward incident.

Golam Mostafa Kislul, Barguna BMOA president, said its General Secretary Md Sagir came under attack on Sunday night. The association's office was also damaged during the incident, Kislul said.

Sagir suffered a head injury and was initially taken to Barguna General Hospital before being referred to Barisal Sher-e Bangla Medical College Hospital for further treatment.

Kislul said legal action would be taken against those involved in the attack.

Barguna Sadar Police Station Officer-in-Charge AKM Mizanur Rahman said, "No case has been filed on the incident. Police are monitoring the situation closely to prevent any untoward incidents."

Global South should unite for sustainable development

Says foreign minister

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Foreign Minister Hasan Mahmud has called for unity and solidarity among the countries of the Global South to achieve sustainable development.

He stressed the need for countries of the Global South to be better capable of tackling global challenges, including rising protectionism, debt crisis, sanctions counter-sanctions, climate change, and conflicts.

Hasan Mahmud made the call at the Third South Summit of Group 77 and China held in the Ugandan capital of Kampala on Sunday, according to a foreign ministry statement.

Recalling the historic speech of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman at the UN in 1974, Hasan Mahmud said the message of human values and equality is very relevant in the current global context.

He mentioned five elements of a fair world order — taking effective measures to achieve sustainable development goals, reforming the international financial structure, tackling the technological divide, reducing the gender gap, empowering youths through skills development, and creating employment.

He also reiterated Bangladesh's support for the struggle of the Palestinians for independence and justice.



Caught in 'easy money'

FROM PAGE 3
borrowed Tk 5,000 from friends and invested again. However, this time, the scammers did not fulfil their promise and demanded an additional Tk 19,000.

When Kamrul refused, he was removed from the Telegram channel.

He is among 15 people this correspondent talked to who got lured by enticing messages and calls, offering part-time or freelance jobs that involve tasks related to recharge and cashback, ultimately leading them into the clutches of digital frauds. The mediums for such fraudulent activities were mostly WhatsApp and Telegram.

Abu Saeed Khan, senior policy fellow at LIRNEasia, a Colombo-based think-tank, told The Daily Star, "Fraudulence, although one of the oldest crimes,

has assumed new forms in the digital age. People succumb to digital scams primarily due to their greed. It's essential to recognise that earning easy money is not realistic."

Junaed Alam Sharker, the additional deputy commissioner of DB police, said, "Frequently, these messages and calls originate from foreign numbers, involving individuals from China and Nigeria. There's a possibility of a few Indian nationals being involved in such scams as well."

Describing it as an organised scam operation, Junaed added, "These scammers employ Bangladeshis individuals to execute the fraud, laundering the money through informal channels, primarily utilising cryptocurrency."

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INVITATION TO APPLY FOR DIFFERENT POSTS
Applications are invited from suitable eligible Bangladeshi candidates for the posts of 1) Registrar and 2) Laboratory Attendant (Department of Mechanical and Production Engineering) at Ahsanullah University of Science and Technology. The details regarding the Qualifications, Experience and other information are available in the AUST website (www.aust.edu). The last date of application is February 20, 2024 (Tuesday) and application must be sent together with all the supporting documents and one PP Photograph to regr@aust.edu with cc to vc@aust.edu and one hard copy to the Registrar, Ahsanullah University of Science and Technology, 141-142 Love Road, Tejgaon Industrial Area, Dhaka-1208 within the last date.

BANGLADESH ACADEMY OF SCIENCES
National Science & Technology Complex, Agargaon, Dhaka 1207
Website: www.bas.org.bd, Email: office@bas.org.bd

Election of Associate Fellows (AF) of BAS 2023

Bangladesh Academy of Sciences (BAS) announces the Election of Associate Fellows (AF) 2023 as below:
Young scientists who are below 45 (forty five) years of age on 31 December 2023 having Ph.D./D.Sc./FCPS/FRCS/MRCP/MRCVS/MD/MS/MPhil or equivalent degree in science streams and are of exceptional talent and promise, and have contributed to science and technology in recognized field, are eligible for election as Associate Fellows (AF) of BAS.
Application/nomination for the above Associate Fellows, with CV mentioning academic and professional record must reach the Secretary of the Academy by **22 February 2024** at the latest.

Prof. Dr. Haseena Khan
Secretary

2 held with 20,000 yaba pills in Dhaka

UNB, Dhaka

The Detective Branch of police claimed to have arrested two persons along with 20,000 yaba pills in Dhaka's Lalbagh area yesterday.

The arrestees are Yunus and Sajib Ahmed. The two were travelling on a truck, which police intercepted on Azimpur Road and seized the pills, said DB (North Division) Assistant Commissioner Md Imran Hossain Mollah.

Yunus was driving the truck, he added. During preliminary interrogation, the two said they sourced the contraband from Cox's Bazar and were supposed to deliver it to a dealer in Azimpur. A case was filed with Lalbagh Police Station.

Why so many

FROM PAGE 3
Instead, they are quickly arrested in new cases as soon as they come out on bail," he said.

"BNP leaders and activists are not freed unless they pay intelligence agency members at the jail gate," Rizvi alleged.

The BNP leader also claimed Bangladeshis people have lost their democratic rights, freedom of speech, and right to vote due to "unwarranted interference" from India. AL has deprived people of their right to vote, he said. He also demanded the unconditional release of BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia.

During the briefing, Rizvi presented a list of jailed BNP leaders, including Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir, and called for their unconditional release by withdrawing "false and fabricated" cases.

PRAYER TIMING
JANUARY 23

Fazr	Zohr	Asr	Maghrib	Esha
AZAN 5-30	12-45	4-15	5-43	7-15
JAMAAT 6-05	1-15	4-30	5-47	7-45

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Local Government Engineering Department
Office of the Executive Engineer
District: Munshiganj
www.lged.gov.bd

Memo.no.46.02.5900.000.07.001.23-194 Date: 22/01/2024

e-Tender Notice No: 40/2023-24 Procurement of Works (NCT)

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of the following works:

Sl. No.	Package No.	Name of Works	Tender ID No	Tender Document Last Selling Date & Time	Tender Closing Date & Time	Procurement Method
1.	UTMIDP/MUNSTONG/ WKM-53	Development of Butka Bazar under Yangtari Upazila, District:Munshiganj	940021	Upto 12:00 08-Feb-2024	At 14:00 08-Feb-2024	OTM
2.	GDP-IV/MUN/TONG/ WR-352	Improvement of Kalibari Bazar-Panchgaon UP Office Via Madia Road By BC From Ch.508-2932m, Under Upazila Tongbari, District Munshiganj (Road ID:359943017)	939640	Upto 12:00 08-Feb-2024	At 14:00 08-Feb-2024	OTM
3.	IRIDP-3/MUN/DW-54	Improvement of Fultala Robi Bepari Bari-Fakirbandi Dhakin Chamusara Road From Ch.69-2000m, Under Upazila Sadar, District:Munshiganj (Road ID:35956034) (Salvage Material Cost: BDT:279256.00)	957407	Upto 12:00 08-Feb-2024	At 14:00 08-Feb-2024	OTM

This is an online Tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP System 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.

Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP system portal and from the e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

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GD-111

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BKB/HO/EED-2(233)/2023-24/724 Date: 22/01/2024

"e-Tender Notice (OTM)"

This is to notify all concern that the following tender has been published through National e-Government Procurement Portal (<https://www.eprocure.gov.bd>)

Sl	Tender ID, Tender Package and Reference No.	Name of Tender	Tender Documents Last Selling Date and Time	Tender Closing & Opening Date and Time	Tender Method
01	939337, 40/2023-2024, Reference No.: HO/EED-2(233)/2023-24/724 Dated: 22/01/2024	Renovation and Modernization works of Auditorium at 7th floor of Bangladesh Krishi Bank, Head Office, Dhaka.	Date: 13-02-2024 Time: 17:00	Date: 14-02-2024 Time: 12:00	OTM

This is an online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the national e-Government Procurement Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender registration in the National e-Government Procurement Portal (<https://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required.

Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-Government Procurement Portal (<https://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) and you can also ask help from e-gp help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

Sd/-
(Md. Anowarul Azim Khan)
Deputy General Manager

GD-112

Invitation for Bids-for Purchase of US-origin soybeans for any country/port within SAFTA (South Asian Free Trade Area)

Monetization agents Cantera Partners, Omaha, Nebraska, USA and RPXI Consulting, Delhi, New York, USA, on behalf of U.S. non-profit organizations, request bids for the purchase of **40,000 metric tons (+/- 15%)** of whole U.S. Yellow Soybeans, with usual USDA No. 2 specifications. The soybeans will be sold (monetized) under USDA Food For progress program.

The loading/shipment period from U.S. export port(s) is estimated in APR 2024. Commodities will be sold at CFR Free Out terms to Buyer's selected seaport(s) capable of servicing min. "Handymax" vessels.

For full tender with specifications and details, and standard Purchase Agreements that the winning bidder(s) would be expected to finalize and sign as Buyer(s), please consult Cantera Partners website at www.canterapartners.com/soybeans/SAFTA/

Cantera/RPXI will consider/accept bids for a minimum bidding tonnage of 5,000 metric tons and/or for any tonnage (and combinations) between 5,000 metric tons and 40,000 metric tons.

Questions about the bidding process, terms or purchase may be referred by email to Mr. Ben Kalhorn to bid@canterapartners.com or to Mr. Matt Krzyston at krzyston@rpxi.com

Interested parties need to submit their bids by Wednesday, 31st January 2024, by the close of business, US Central Standard Time.