

US SCIENCE ENVOY Bangladeshi-born scientist selected

STAR REPORT

The US Department of State has recently announced the selection of Dr Rumman Chowdhury, a Bangladeshi-origin Bengali American data scientist, as one of the four scientists to serve as a new US Science Envoy in 2024.



She has become a part of the first all-female cohort in the history of the US Science Envoy Program.

According to an official press release by the US Department of State, Dr Chowdhury brings a wealth of experience and expertise to her role as a Science Envoy. Currently serving as the CEO of Humane Intelligence, a technology nonprofit focused on evaluating AI models, she has previously held key positions such as Director of the Machine Learning Ethics, Transparency, and Accountability (META) team at Twitter, and Global Lead for Responsible AI at Accenture Applied Intelligence.

Garbage dumping continues unabated in Brahmaputra



OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

Garbage dumping into the Brahmaputra River at Kalibari Puratan Gudarghat area has persisted for years, causing concerns among environmentalists. Despite protests and appeals to authorities, the situation remains dire.

During a recent visit to the site, municipal cleaning staff Ripon Mia and Faruq Mia were observed dumping garbage by the river dam. They claimed to be following orders from the local councillor.

Residents alleged that garbage is sometimes dumped into the river due to traffic jams on the Brahmaputra Bridge that has to be crossed to get to the designated dumping spot named Moilakanda at Char Kalibari.

Advocate Shibir Ahmed Liton,

secretary of Mymensingh Poribesh Rokkha O Unnayan Andolon, said the pollution jeopardises both the river water and surrounding environment.

"We submitted memorandums to the deputy commissioner and municipal mayor urging action, but no permanent measures have been taken," Liton said.

Advocate Nazrul Islam Chunnu, convener of Jonouddogh, Mymensingh, expressed disappointment over the continued pollution of Brahmaputra, noting the adverse impact on residents.

"We can easily feel the scale of the nuisance when cleaners of the city corporation dump garbage into the river," Chunnu said.

Residents said that protests and interventions by environmental organisations have only

temporarily halted the dumping, with approximately 1,600 families residing in the affected area.

Mohabbat Ali, conservation inspector of Mymensingh City Corporation, said that despite efforts to manage garbage, around 500 tonnes are produced daily, with 480 metric tonnes managed. Garbage dumping into the river persists despite periodic drives, he added.

Executive Engineer Md Akhlak Ul Jamil of the Water Development Board in Mymensingh stressed the importance of raising awareness among city residents to address the issue.

He said that mixing garbage with river water would harm the river's ecology and biodiversity, urging the municipal authority to take decisive action.

4 more killed Ireland pledges

FROM PAGE 5

Mia, who was crossing the road.

Mohammad Ashikuzzaman, officer-in-charge of Pirojpur Sadar Police Station, said, "Masum and Hasib died on the spot, while Nuru Mia succumbed to injuries on the way to Khulna Medical College Hospital."

Meanwhile, in Gazipur's Kapasia upazila, a teenager died and two others were injured as their motorcycle hit a tree early yesterday.

The deceased was identified as Rajib, 15, son of Rokon Uddin from Pachua village. The injured are Shamim, 23, and Abdur Rahim, 22.

The accident occurred around 12:00am on Khirati road in Ghagatia village, said Kapasia Police Station Officer-in-Charge Abu Bakar Mia.

Quoting locals, the OC said the driver lost control of the motorcycle and rammed the vehicle into a roadside tree.

The victims were rushed to Monohardi Upazila Health Complex, where duty doctors declared Rajib dead.

The injured are in critical condition and were referred to Dhaka Medical College Hospital for further treatment, the OC added.

Ireland has high demand for foreign workers, and Bangladeshis can take this opportunity. Meanwhile, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina sought Ireland's support in Bangladesh's efforts to enjoy the preferential trade facilities in the EU market until 2032 instead of 2029, during the country's post-graduation period, reports UNB.

Coveney suggested intensifying security to and a Rohingya man were killed and a child was injured as a mortar shell from across the border in Myanmar exploded in Ghumdhum union of Bandarban's Naikhongchhari on February 5.

Teknaf rocked

FROM PAGE 5

Myanmar government troops, predominantly Myanmar's Border Guard Police, sought asylum in Bangladesh in successive waves before being repatriated on February 15.

With the conflict spreading from the Naikhongchhari to the Teknaf border, where many Rohingya populations live in villages bordering Rakhine State, the situation remains risky.

The ongoing clashes between the Myanmar government and Arakan Army along the Bangladesh border areas have caused tragic incidents on this side of the border as well.

A Bangladeshi woman

Kazal denied

FROM PAGE 3

On March 8, Assistant Attorney General Saifur Rahman Siddique Saif, who was assaulted centring the polls violence, filed the case with Shahbagh Police Station naming independent candidate Nahid Sultana Juthi, Kazal and 18 others. On March 9, Kazal was arrested from near his Purana Paltan chamber in the capital.

Over 3.4m street children

FROM PAGE 3

how poverty, lack of access to education, absence of protection systems and services, and familial instability - including violence - drive children to live on the streets, where they encounter various forms of exploitation and abuse.

Seventeen recommendations are proposed in the study, including a multifaceted policy response addressing the root causes of children living on the streets and providing a pathway for their reintegration into society.

The study also emphasises the need

for collaborative efforts between government, non-governmental organisations, and community groups to create sustainable solutions that prioritise the welfare and rights of street children.

Addressing the launching ceremony, Social Welfare Minister Dipu Moni said that although street children are a part of society and have all rights to receive the basic entitlements granted to other children, they face various forms of torture and live in insecure lives.

She highlighted the government's aim to reduce

poverty to zero, saying, "We have already significantly reduced poverty. When poverty reaches zero, the situation of street children will improve."

Terming the study's findings important, Women and Children Affairs State Minister Simeen Hussain Rimi echoed her.

They said the government will do more for the street children at policy level.

Unicef Representative to Bangladesh, Sheldon Yett, stressed the need for a more targeted and focused approach to ensure all children have the opportunity to reach their full potential.

Narco couple held

FROM PAGE 3

"Both of them were known as notorious narcotics dealers and used to sell marijuana, yaba, and heroin. Sumi was arrested earlier several times but managed to secure bail and go back to previous professions," he added.

Police said the couple has a strong network, and several lawyers stood at the court for their defence every time they were arrested and produced in court.

"We primarily found a ring of around 15 to 20

members who used to control the couple's drug network. We are trying to get more details to take legal action," he said.

Mamun said they found the details of 30 cases against the couple so far after analysing the database till the year 2017.

"We believe there will be more cases against them," he said.

Mamun further said they may be able to give more details about the drug racket's activities after interrogating the couple during remand.

Three misguided

FROM PAGE 3

Later, they would get new IMEI stickers, put those phones inside a new box, and sell those to different markets, and also through courier services, he said.

The DB chief said, "Even, the real operating systems were used in these fake and duplicate phones."

Regarding the process of collecting the parts, Harun said that they used to buy stolen phone accessories, and also collected low-quality imported parts.

Then these phones were assembled on level seven of Eastern Plaza market, he said.

The DB team has recovered a large quantity of phone parts and accessories from the assembling centre - including 97 different brands of Vivo handsets, 48 handsets of Oppo, 25 handsets of Redmi, 20 handsets of Mi, 20 iPhone handsets, and various other phone accessories.

"It could be possible to make thousands of phones by using the accessories recovered from the

arrestees," added DB chief Harun.

Detectives suggested matching the IMEI numbers with the packets and the cell phones before buying a new one from the market.

Ashrafullah, additional deputy commissioner of DB police, who led the drive to arrest the syndicate, told this newspaper, "We are trying to know how the syndicate managed the operating systems or accessed the software."

"We are also investigating how the IMEI numbers are being used for these phones, ensuring access to Google Drive or iCloud with duplicate accessories," he said.

We did not get the scope to check all the accessories properly, once we complete scanning all the devices then we may be able to clarify the concerns, he added.

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার বাংলাদেশ পুলিশ পুলিশ সুপারের কার্যালয় গোপালগঞ্জ. উন্মুক্ত দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি. ২০২৩-২০২৪ অর্ধশতাব্দী গোপালগঞ্জ জেলা পুলিশের বিভিন্ন ইউনিটের মোরামত ও সংস্কার কাজ বাস্তবায়নের জন্য টিকাদার নিয়োগের লক্ষ্যে "দি পাবলিক প্রকিউরমেন্ট বিধি/২০০৮" (সর্বশেষ সংশোধনসহ) অনুসারে নিম্নবর্ণিত শর্ত সাপেক্ষে সীলমোহরকৃত বামে প্রতিযোগিতামূলক দরপত্র আহ্বান করা যাচ্ছে।

Raise more

FROM PAGE 3

shelter for forcibly displaced Rohingyas from Myanmar on humanitarian grounds and arranged improved accommodation for them in Bhashanchar, ensuring many facilities for them. Now some one lakh Rohingyas can reside in Bhashanchar, she added.

She sought assistance from the UNDP to relocate more Rohingyas to Bhashanchar.

Princess Victoria arrived in Dhaka yesterday on a four-day visit to Bangladesh during which she will tour Rohingya camps in Cox's Bazar and Bhashanchar.

The princess said there is a huge scope to deepen the bilateral relations between Sweden and Bangladesh.

Dhaka Bus Rapid Transit Company Limited Road Transport & Highways Division House-04, Road- 21, Sector- 04, Uttara, Dhaka-1230 www.dhakabrt.gov.bd Invitation for Tenders. 1 Ministry/Division Road Transport & Highways Division 2 Agency Dhaka Bus Rapid Transit Company Limited 3 Procuring Entity Name Dhaka Bus Rapid Transit Company Limited 4 Procuring Entity District Dhaka 5 Invitation for Hiring of six (06) vehicles for Dhaka BRT Company Limited's official purpose 6 Invitation Ref No 35.06.0000.007.07.004.23-177, Date: 14-03-2024 7 Procurement Method OTM (NCT) PSN 8 Budget and Source of Funds GoB (Development) 9 Project Name Greater Dhaka Sustainable Urban Transport Project (BRT, Gazipur-Airport) 10 Tender Package No. SD4 11 Tender Publication Date 19-03-2024 12 Tender Last Selling Date 02-04-2024 13 Tender Closing Date and Time 03-04-2024 at 12:00 PM 14 Tender Opening Date and Time 03-04-2024 at 12:00 PM 15 Name & Address of the office - Selling Tender Document Maintenance Section, 3rd Floor, Dhaka Bus Rapid Transit Company Limited, House# 04, Road# 21, Sector# 04, Uttara, Dhaka-1230 - Receiving Tender Document General Manager, 1st Floor, Dhaka Bus Rapid Transit Company Limited, House# 04, Road# 21, Sector# 04, Uttara, Dhaka-1230 - Opening Tender Document Conference Room, 1st Floor, Dhaka Bus Rapid Transit Company Limited, House# 04, Road# 21, Sector# 04, Uttara, Dhaka-1230 16 Brief Eligibility and Qualification of Tenderer a) The minimum number of years of general experience of the tenderer in contracting industries in the public sector as a prime contractor, subcontractor, or management contractor shall be 03 (three) years. b) The minimum specific experience as a prime contractor in providing non-consultant service of at least one contract of similar nature, i.e. supplying a minimum of 06 (six) vehicles including 03 (three) SUVs over a period of 03 (three) years each with a value of at least Tk 62,00,000/- (sixty two lac) shall be required. A contract for providing rent-a-car service in any government, semi-government, or autonomous organization in a single work order will be treated as similar in nature. c) The required average annual turnover of the tenderer shall be at least the amount of Tk 42,00,000/- (forty two lac) over the last three years. d) The minimum amount of liquid assets, i.e. working capital or credit line(s) of the tenderer, shall be Tk 20,00,000/- (twenty lac). e) Up-to-date trade license, income tax return submission documents, and VAT registration with BIN. 17 Brief Description of Goods (i) One 4WD Jeep (SUV), not earlier than the 2015 model, and a minimum 2477 CC (ii) Two 4WD Jeeps (SUV), not earlier than the 2015 model, and a minimum 1998 CC (iii) One sedan car, not earlier than the 2015 model, and a minimum 1490 CC (iv) One double-cabin pickup with a cover (carryboy) not earlier than the 2015 model, and a minimum of 2477 CC (v) One Microbus with a minimum 10-seat capacity, not earlier than the 2015 model, and a minimum 2400 CC 18 Brief Description of Related Services Vehicle rent service with driver and parking facilities 19 Price of Tender Document (Tk) 2,000.00 (Two thousand) Taka 20 Lot Identification of Lot Location Tender Security Amount (Tk) Completion Time in Months 20 01 Hiring of six (06) vehicles for Dhaka BRT Company Limited's official purpose. Dhaka 2,00,000.00 (Two lac) 12 (twelve) 21 Name of Official Inviting Tenderer Md. Mohiuddin 22 Designation of Official Inviting Tenderer General Manager 23 Address of Official Inviting Tenderer House# 04, Road# 21, Sector# 04, Uttara, Dhaka-1230 24 Contact details of Official Inviting Tenderer Mobile: +88 02-48957784 e-mail address: mohiuddin.dbrt@gmail.com 25 The Procuring Entity reserves the right to reject all Tenders or annul the Tender proceedings. GD- 441

এসেনসিয়াল ড্রাগস্ কোম্পানী লিমিটেড ৩৯৫-৩৯৭ তেজগাঁও শিল্প এলাকা, ঢাকা-১২০৮। স্থানীয় দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি. ইন্ডিসিএল নিম্নোক্ত আইটেমটি প্রকৃত স্থানীয় প্রস্তুতকারী/সরবরাহকারীদের (সংশ্লিষ্ট ব্যবসার সাথে জড়িত) নিকট হতে সীলমোহরকৃত দরপত্র আহ্বান করছে :- ক্রমিক নং দরপত্র নং ও তারিখ বিবরণ পরিমান ০১। ইন্ডিসিএল/ক্রম/স্থানীয়/দরপত্র/ ২০২৪/১৩০ তারিখ ১৮/০৩/২০২৪ইং প্রিন্টেড এ্যালুমিনিয়াম ফয়েল ফর ওআরএস ১/২ লিটার উইথড ১৬০ এবং ৬০০ গ্রামএম { Printed Alu.Foil for ORS 1/2 Litre Width: (160 & 600 mm) } ( সিডিউল মোতাবেক ) সিকিউরিটি/ আনেষ্ট মানি দরপত্র শিডিউলের মূল্য ( অফেরথোগ্য ) দরপত্র গ্রহণের শেষ তারিখ ও সময় দরপত্র খোলার তারিখ ও সময় ২.৫% টাকা ১৬০০.০০ (এক হাজার ছয়শত) টাকা প্রতি সেট ৩/০৪/২০২৪ইং বেলা ১২-০০ ঘটিকা ৩/০৪/২০২৪ইং বেলা ১২-১৫ ঘটিকা সকল কার্যবিবরণে অফিস চলাকালিন সময়ে উপরোক্ত কার্যালয় হইতে শর্ত ও নিয়মাবলীসহ দরপত্র সিডিউল ক্রয় করা যাইবে। উল্লেখ্য যে, যাহাদের ভ্যাট রেজিস্ট্রেশন নাই তাহাদের দরপত্র অংশগ্রহণ করার প্রয়োজন নাই। দরপত্র খোলার দিনে কোন দরপত্র শিডিউল বিক্রয় করা হইবে না। ( ৪.৫ ইঞ্চি ৪ কলাম ) মহা-ব্যবস্থাপক, প্রকিউরমেন্ট পক্ষে ব্যবস্থাপনা পরিচালক।