

Judge Dilruba Sultana passes away

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Khulna's Women and Children Repression Prevention Tribunal Judge Mosammat Dilruba Sultana passed away at a hospital in the city yesterday. She was 50.



She had been suffering from cancer for a long time. Dilruba left behind her husband, a son, a daughter and a host of relatives and well-wishers to mourn her death.

Chief Justice Obaidul Hassan, Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Anisul Huq and Law and Justice Division Secretary Md Golam Sarwar expressed deep shock at the death.

In separate messages, they prayed for eternal peace and salvation of the departed soul, and conveyed sympathy to the bereaved family.

Eid rush yet

FROM PAGE 3 supposed to leave Dhaka yesterday.

Meanwhile, many people left Dhaka by bus, but the number was not expected, bus operators said.

Mosharraf Hossain, general manager of Hanif Paribahan, said the number of homegoers was very low yesterday compared to the previous time.

"I think many people will not go home due to financial conditions," he told The Daily Star.

He said no traffic congestion was reported yesterday as the number of buses was relatively thin.

He, however, said the Eid rush will reach its peak on Tuesday.

Meanwhile, 61 launches left Dhaka till 8:00pm yesterday. The number of launches left Dhaka was 75 on Saturday.

The number of passengers saw little rise yesterday, Alamgir Kabir, joint director of Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority, told The Daily Star.

Lichi growers eyeing a bumper harvest

AHMED HUMAYUN KABIR TOPU, Pabna

Lichi growers in Pabna are eyeing a bumper yield of the juicy summer fruit this year.

With the trees already blooming with the buds in abundance, the growers are waiting for the weather to become favourable for the fruit's production.

"I have a four-bigha Lichi orchard with 200 trees. All the trees are in bloom. A tree usually produces at least 5,000 to 7,000 Lichis of local variety," said Md Mirajul Islam, a farmer and trader of Shahpur village.

Untimely rain in early Chaitra (Bangla last month) can cause damage to the buds and lower Lichi production, he also said.

If the weather becomes favourable, a high yield of the fruit

may be harvested this year, Mirajul added.

"I have never seen so much Lichi buds in my orchard. Even if 30 to 40 percent buds get destroyed, I am expecting a minimum yield of 15,000 fruits from each of my 100 trees of hybrid variety in my

"We have ample Lichi buds in trees. The sudden hail storm on Monday night did not cause any harm. However, if hail storms continue then it will damage the buds and lower the yield," said Sheikh Mehedi Hasan, another grower and trader.

According to The Department of Agricultural Extension, Lichi is being cultivated on a total 4,721 hectares of land in Pabna, with a target to produce 48,801 tonnes of Lichi this year.

At least 3.150 hectares of land is brought under Lichi cultivation in Ishwardi upazila alone.

"Lichi cultivation has been increasing in Pabna every year as the land is suitable for it," said Md Shah Alam, a DAE official in Pabna.

A favourable weather in next one month will be vital for a bumper harvest, he added.



orchard," said Md Rakib Uddin of Shahpur village.

He, however, claimed a little rain in early Chaitra helps irrigate Lichi trees, which is beneficial for the fruit production.

Sand lifting continues 5 BCL committees

FROM PAGE 5 Shamim Hossain, officer-in-charge of Ukhiya Police Station, said they are trying to arrest the other criminals.

Meanwhile, at least 1500 unregistered dump trucks are engaged in transporting the earth and sand extracted illegally from different areas in Cox's Bazar. There are only 150 registered dump trucks in the district, most employed at the Rohingya camps.

Md Mamunur Rashed, an inspector at the vehicle office, cited a shortage of manpower hindering their ability to take action against the illegal dump trucks.

While fines are imposed on these trucks at times, those cannot be seized due to lack of dumping ground, he added.

"These unregistered dump trucks are solely engaged in transporting stolen earth and sand. Taking actions against these could significantly curb illegal hill cutting and sand lifting," said Sarwar Alam, divisional forest officer of Cox's Bazar South Forest Division.

Naimul Islam Chowdhury, president of Cox's Bazar District Truck

Owner Association, stated that illegal dump trucks pay bribes ranging from Tk 3,000-5,000 to highway and traffic police, BRTA, and the forest department.

"Each vehicle, carrying approximately 200cft of earth or sand, typically makes around 10 trips per day. The price of earth ranges from Tk 1,000-1,200 per truckload, while sand fetches at least Tk 5,000 per truckload," he also said.

Despite raising the issue multiple times during district law and order meetings, Naimul expressed frustration that no action has yet been taken.

According to the district administration, there are a total of 36 approved sand pits (Balu Mahal) in Cox's Bazar. However, perpetrators are illegally plundering sand from rivers and crop fields at hundreds of locations, and earth from hills.

Since the illegally extracted sand and earth are transported late at night, it is difficult for law enforcers to take action since their duties typically end at around 11:00pm, said Jasim Uddin, additional superintendent of police of Cox's Bazar traffic division.

FROM PAGE 3 said, "With the increasing number of students at private universities, BCL, as the largest student organisation, cannot overlook their engagement in politics."

"That's why we are gradually moving forward, forming committees in private universities where students express interest."

Responding to inquiries about the ban on student politics at private university campuses, he said, "If politics is done in a constructive manner for the benefit of students, there shouldn't be any issues."

Contacted, NSU Vice Chancellor Prof Atiqul Islam told this newspaper that the university has yet to take a definitive stance on the matter of student politics on campus.

He said decisions regarding student politics would involve discussions with various stakeholders - Board of trustees, teachers, and students, after the Eid holidays. They would decide student politics on campus, he added.

Belal Ahmed, Director of the Association of Private Universities of Bangladesh, said, "In such cases, we rely on decisions of the respective university authorities. If they deem student politics on campus okay, then it is."

Back in September 2022, the BCL central committee

formed committees for at least 16 private universities, including NSU. Following that, the Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal also formed units on nine private university campuses.

At that time, officials of several private universities, including American International University Bangladesh, BRAC University, University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh, and Stamford University Bangladesh, had stances against student politics on campus.

Mentionable, the Private University Act of 2010 does not provide clear provisions regarding student politics.

5 Eid Jamaats

FROM PAGE 3 the five designated Imams remain absent.

Meanwhile, the National Moon Sighting Committee will convene tomorrow to determine the date of Eid-ul-Fitr, Shailla Sharmin, assistant public relations officer at the Islamic Foundation, told The Daily Star.

Religious Affairs Minister Faridul Haque Khan will preside over the meeting to be held at the Islamic Foundation's Baitul Mukarram office after Maghrib prayer, she added.

Release all our

FROM PAGE 5 They grabbed the state power by contaminating the electoral process, Rizvi alleged further adding that Awami terrorism has exceeded all of its limit.

"By burying the principles of democracy, AL has made the country as a totalitarian state. In this situation, the feeling of joy for Eid has disappeared from people's mind," Rizvi said.

Especially, this time Eid seems pale for the middle and lower-income group people, he said.

"Torture, robbery is everywhere in the country. By using state power, AL in continuing oppression, forced disappearance, killing, filing ghost and false cases against oppositions," he added.

The BNP leader said the AL government has filed 1.5 lakhs false cases in the last 16 years against 50 lakh BNP leaders and activists including its chairperson Khaleda Zia and acting chairman Tarique Rahaman.

Empowering

FROM PAGE 5 JICA's interventions have led to a significant increase in number of patients visiting NCD corners to get proper diagnosis and better treatment, she added.

Contacted, U Cha Prue Marma, senior health education officer at the Civil Surgeon's Office in Cox's Bazar, said compared to other places, people in the three upazilas covered by JICA's project have shown greater awareness of NCDs.

Lack of language skill leaves

FROM PAGE 3 He, however, affirmed that with better proficiency in the languages of the host countries, Bangladeshi migrant workers could do better.

BMET's housekeeping training manual incorporates Arabic language in the "language and communication skill" unit, one of seven units.

In 10 sub-units, it incorporates Arabic words used in everyday life, for domestic jobs, names of Arabic days, months, and numbers, and short and simple sentences required at airports, households, and for primary healthcare.

On the other hand, the PDO manual incorporates only a handful of words and simple sentences used in everyday life.

Returnee migrant worker Abdur Rahim, 42, said he worked in Kuwait for several years between 2001 and 2017 but went there without knowing Arabic.

He said it put him in a lot of trouble initially, especially when he needed to converse with his Kuwaiti employer.

"In such situations, I had to depend on other Bangladeshis who knew Arabic," he said, adding he later learned the language with the help of some Arabs.

He also said Bangladeshi workers with better Arabic proficiency can get better jobs in Kuwait.

If a worker knows the language and seeks a job at a shopping mall, he can get a salesman's job and even earn Tk 50,000 a month. If he doesn't know the language, then he will most likely get

a cleaner's job and earn Tk 20,000 a month, he added.

An official at Bangladesh-Korea Technical Training Centre, one of the training centres under BMET in the capital, said they started an Arabic language course five to six years ago but did not continue due to a lack of students.

Contacted, Md Ruhul Amin, secretary of the expatriates' welfare ministry, recently told this newspaper that they will start an Arabic language course next year.

A total of 1.25 crore workers have migrated from Bangladesh since 2004, of which over 73 percent were recruited by six Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries - Saudi Arabia, Oman, Kuwait, United Arab Emirates, Qatar, and Bahrain.

According to a list of BMET, currently 38 TTCs and five IMTs offer Japanese language courses, 30 TTCs and two IMTs offer Korean language courses, three TTCs offer Cantonese and one TTC offers Mandarin language courses.

Besides, 15 TTCs and one IMT offer English language courses.

Shakirul of Okup said while learning the languages of host countries is essential, there should be an initiative so that more aspirant migrants can at least have training on basic English as it is an international language.

NO LANGUAGE COURSE ON MALAY Like Gulf countries, Malaysia is another regular and large destination for

Bangladeshi workers, but BMET-run training centres do not offer courses on Malay, the national language of Malaysia.

An official at BMET said they have no plan to offer the course anytime soon.

Malaysia hired 9.59 percent of the migrant workers, who migrated from Bangladesh since 2004, according to BMET.

Provide

FROM PAGE 3 Poet Prof Muhammad Samad echoed the sentiment, stressing the significance of events like Mongol Shobhajatra in combating fundamentalism and promoting secularism. They emphasised the vision of building a prosperous and secular nation following the ideals of Bangabandhu.

Prof Nisar Hossain, Dean of the Faculty of Fine Arts and Member Secretary of the Bengali New Year Celebration Committee at Dhaka University, reiterated the importance of the event in preserving cultural heritage and fostering national unity.

Artist Rafiqun Nabi highlighted the contributions of Fine Arts students who invest their own funds in creating items for the Mongol Shobhajatra, expressing concern over potential financial setbacks if attendance and sales decline.

The annual Mongol Shobhajatra, organised by students of DU's Fine Arts Faculty on April 14, holds UNESCO recognition as an intangible cultural heritage since 2016.

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Ref: 37.00.1586.001.03.151.23-24.01 Date: 04/04/2024

e-Tender Notice

e-tender is invited to the e-GP portal for following goods. Interested tenderers are requested to visit (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) website for details. (APP ID - 37.00.1586.001.01.007)

Sl no	Tender ID	Name & number of the package	Tender Publication Date and Time	Last Date and Time for Tender Security Submission	Tender Opening Date and Time
1.	971995	37.00.1586.001.03.151.23-24 Procurement of Duplicator Machine for Dean Office and Toner & Cartridges for General Store	08-Apr-2024 11:00 a.m.	23-Apr-2024 11:30 a.m.	23-Apr-2024 12:30 p.m.

This is an online tender, where only e-tender will be accepted in the National e-GP portal. To submit tender registration in e-Gp system portal is required. (www.eprocure.gov.bd).

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PADMA OIL COMPANY LIMITED
(An Enterprise of Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation)
4, Strand Road, Sadarghat, Chattogram

e-Tender Notice

Following work has been carried out for e-GP tender of this office as stated below tender.

Tender ID No. & Reference	Name of Works	Tender Publishing Date & Time in e-GP	Last Date & Time of Tender Selling	Last Date & Time of Tender Security Submission	Date & Time of Tender Closing
972448, 28.22.0000.852, 07.001.24.09	Construction of remaining works of Twenty-Three Storied Head Office Building of Padma Oil Company Limited including: Retrofitting, Exterior Aluminium Screen, Glazing and Substation at Agrabad C/A, Chattogram	07-Apr-2024 at 09:00 Hrs	19-May-2024 at 15:00 Hrs	20-May-2024 at 12:00 Hrs	20-May-2024 at 15:00 Hrs

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 (as above) is required.

Md. Kafilus Sattar
Project Coordinator & Manager (Ops.)
Padma Oil Company Limited
Strand Road, Sadarghat, Chattogram
Phone: +8802333394235, Fax: 031-912668
Email: pd.ho@pocd.gov.bd

WAREHOUSE RENT
"Chittagong warehouse service provider"

Location: Hossain Complex, Airport Road

- Area: 3500 sqft
- 5 Air conditioners
- CCTV & 24 Hours security
- Inventory & PO Management
- EDI integration & Inspection

Abdullah Al Hasan
(01772696591)

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Chief Signal & Telecommunication Engineer (Telecom)
Bangladesh Railway, Railbhaban, Dhaka.

NO:- 54.01.0000.501.14.004.16 Date: .04.2024.

e-Tender Notice (NCT)

e-Tender is in the e-GP System portal (<https://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procuring of following goods.

Tender ID	Package No	Name of Tender	Publication Date and Time	Closing date and Time	Procurement Method
960987	CSTE/T WR-30	Restoration/Rectification of OFC at different section of Chattogram-Dohajari OFC route.	08-Apr-2024 10:00	25-Apr-2024 12:00	OTM
924681	CSTE/T23-24 WR-2	LKM-CDR section 20 Nos HH maintenance, STI-CDR and MEHP-HJJ sections damage OFC rectification.	08-Apr-2024 10:30	22-Apr-2024 12:30	OTM

- ❖ This is 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 on the national e-GP System portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required.
- ❖ Details about the Tender have shown in e-Tender notice and e-Tender document. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP help Desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

(Syed Md. Shaeeduzzaman)
Chief Signal & Telecommunication Engineer (Telecom) (A.C.):
Bangladesh Railway, Railbhaban, Dhaka.

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Reference No. 46.02.4700.000.07.387.23.1387 Date: 04-04-2024

e-Tender Notice No. 44/2023-2024

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of works mentioned below under LGED, District: Khulna.

Sl No.	Tender ID	Package No. & name of work	Tender closing date & time	Procurement method
1	954213	e-Tender/PEDP4/KLN/2023-24/W11.099 Construction of 5 (Five) storied Academic cum Administrative Building with 6 (Six) storied foundation at Khulna PTL.	09/05/2024 12:00pm	OTM
2	969200	LGED/KHU/VRRP/Rehab/23-24/W-50 Rehabilitation of Padmabila Bazar Towards Beel Road Via Saheb Ali Member's house Road from Ch: 00m-1100m, Road ID: 247945119, under upazila: Terokhada.	23/04/2024 12:00pm	LTM
3	969201	LGED/KHU/VRRP/Rehab/23-24/W-51 Rehabilitation of Patta Karoria-Induhati FRB Road from Ch: 4075m-5110m, Road ID: 247944017, under upazila: Terokhada.		

This is the 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 bank's branches up to 17:00 on 08-05-2024 for ID No-954213 and 22-04-2024 for ID No- 969200, 969201.

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

A K M Anisuzzaman
Executive Engineer
LGED, Khulna