

Why do you need Anu

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out the feasibility study for MRT Line 5 (southern route) under a project funded by Asian Development Bank (ADB).
Out of 17.3km, 13.1km would be underground and 4.2km elevated.

According to the working paper of the PEC meeting, the project authority has sought Tk 1,769.21 crore for consultancy services, which is 3.24 percent of the total project cost.

Of the Tk 1,769.21 crore, Tk 1,310.53 crore will come from loans, while the rest will come from the government exchequer.

When the detailed design of the project was drawn under a separate project, a detailed explanation is needed for such a huge amount of consultancy service, it reads.

The Planning Commission also asked why Tk 203.5 crore, which served as a commitment charge for the loan of ADB, and Tk 5,846.74 crore, which is for interest on the foreign debt, were included in the total project cost.

Because, as per the existing system, the Economic Relations Division usually pays the money from a particular fund, it reads.

Contacted, Project Director Abdul Wahab said Tk 1,769.21 crore was sought for hiring local and international consultants to supervise the entire project for next seven years.

"So, the amount is not that big. Usually, consultant service costs account for around 5 percent of the total project cost," he said, adding that they have to hire some more consultants as per the conditions of the ADB for environment assessment.

DMTCL hired consultants for MRT Line-5 (northern route), which would be a 20km line with both underground and elevated sections, at a cost of Tk 1,123 crore.

Asked why they sought more than MRT Line-5 (northern route) for consultancy services, Wahab said changes in dollar exchange and time were the main reasons behind it.

He said they have already started the advanced procurement process and hope to hire consultants within February next year if the project is approved soon.

Once the Planning Commission cleared the project, it would be placed before the Ecne meeting for approval, he added.

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"I have seen photos from doctors. We have decided to conduct a combined surgery, which he needs now. The combined surgery will include orthopaedic surgery and plastic surgery. That is why he has been relocated to the Burn Institute," he told a press briefing at the institute.

The minister said Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina called him and asked to ensure the highest possible treatment for Anu Muhammad.

"The prime minister has given all the instructions necessary so that we do whatever's necessary for his treatment. We will form a medical board. We will do whatever we need to bring him back to his workplace. We will operate soon after tests are performed," said the health minister.

The incident took place on Sunday morning when Anu Muhammad slipped and fell under the wheels of Dinaipur-Dhaka bound Ekota Express train while getting off the train in the capital's Khilgaon area.

He was admitted to DMCH with injuries to both his feet and underwent surgery there.

On Sunday, Prof Bidhan Sarker, head of DMCH's Burn and Plastic Surgery Unit, said all five toes of his left leg were crushed. He also suffered damage to a toe of his right foot.

Media's role crucial in protecting children Prioritise

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Their insightful analysis of children's issues provides crucial guidance for both society and policymakers. She urged journalists to take meaningful action in ensuring children's rights.

Sheldon Yett, Unicef representative to Bangladesh, said, "The news reports, photographs, and videos not only highlight the needs of children, but also what can be done to make their lives better."

Prof Giitara Nasreen of the Mass Communication and Journalism Department at Dhaka University said, "Our journalist community, including aspiring child journalists, will continue to write about the pressing issues that impact the lives of children in Bangladesh."

Mahfuz Anam, editor and publisher of The Daily Star,

said this award has created awareness about children's rights. At the same time, the award also helps encourage journalists to work for their rights, he added.

"There are many children who are deprived of their rights, and many whose potential is yet to be flourished. As a result, the nation is also deprived of those intellectuals, at a large scale," Anam said.

Md Jahangir Alam, director-general of Bangladesh Television; Muhammad Zafar Iqbal, writer and educationist; Reaz Ahmed, executive editor of Dhaka Tribune; Shameem Akhtar, filmmaker and lecturer at Pathshala Institute; and Unicef national goodwill ambassador Bidya Sinha Saha Mim also spoke at the programme.

Winners of the Unicef Meena Media Awards 2023 are - Ahmadul Hassan of Prothom Alo; Rabiul Alam of Dhaka Note; Md Rakibul Hasan Tamim and Md Jasim Uddin, both from Dhaka Post; Musa Mollick and Nazrul Islam, both from Dhaka Post; Sadhan Kumar Sarker of Daily Protidin Bangladesh; Sharmin Rima of Cvoice24.com, and Udisa Islam of Bangla Tribune.

Md Sazid Hossain of Daily Prothom Alo won the award for photojournalism. In video journalism - Md Boni Amin of Jamuna Television, and Md Shabuj Mahmud of Independent Television won awards.

Winners in the under 18 age group are - Md Safayet Hossain Shanto of Daily Aiker Sundarban in Photojournalism; MD Mojahid Islam of

ATN Bangla in Video Journalism; and Md Naime Islam of economicnews24.com in Print Journalism.

Unicef received over 1,000 submissions this year, three times more than last year's entries.

A nine-member expert panel of judges - creative writers, media professionals from both print and broadcast media, photographers, and academics - selected the awardees among 65 nominees in 12 categories.

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wage theft, contract violations, and chronic illness linked to unsafe working conditions. Some are deported for demanding their contractually owed wages.

"There have been thousands of unexplained deaths of young, healthy migrant workers in Qatar. In many cases grieving family members receive neither an explanation nor compensation from employers or Qatari authorities," HRW said.

A 2020 survey found that the average recruitment costs for Bangladeshis going to work in Qatar was about US \$3,863, equivalent to 18 months of earnings in Qatar.

Workers take out informal loans at exorbitant interest rates to pay the fees. Qatar's failure to safeguard worker rights and inadequate compensation mechanisms means that the responsibility is shifted to the origin countries' governments, the HRW said.

Authorities have introduced labour reforms, but HRW has shown that they came too late. They have not abolished the abusive kafala (labour sponsorship) system that enables these abuses, HRW added.

Bangladesh taking up projects

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In a statement released by the Prime Minister's press wing, the prime minister said Bangladesh is taking a long-term programme to address the impacts of climate change.

She outlined various adaptation and mitigation initiatives undertaken by the country, including the Mujib Climate Prosperity Plan and the National Adaptation Plan (NAP), aimed at combating the adverse

effects of climate change.

"We are encouraging social movement for forestation, have created 84,000 volunteers, and have built multipurpose cyclone shelters," she said.

The PM also said researchers in Bangladesh have invented saline, flood, and drought-resilient rice varieties.

From June, tree plantation programmes will be started across the country during the rainy

season, she added.

Simon Steele appreciated the prime minister for creating a climate fund on her own initiative.

He said Bangladesh is not only working to face the climate change impacts, rather it is taking various types of social programmes for adaptation and mitigation.

BNP postpones

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BNP Dhaka Metropolitan south unit's office secretary Saidur Rahman said a new date for the rally will be announced later.

An hour later, AL Dhaka city unit (south) in a press release said they will not hold its scheduled rally as the party did not get police permission.

The unit's office secretary Reaz Uddin said a new date for the programme will be announced later.

Although the ruling party never dubbed its programme as a counter to BNP, such rallies and counter rallies have become a common feature in the country's political landscape since last year.

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Wheel loader, tipper truck, Forklift, Generator, bulldozer, Pile driver barge, Concrete Block-making mixer machine Etc. Location: Barisal. **CICO Bangladesh**
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Why Ashfaqu should not be granted bail

HC questions; his wife gets ad-interim bail in Preeti Urang death case

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday issued a rule asking the state to explain in eight weeks why Syed Ashfaqu Haque, former executive editor of The Daily Star, and his wife Tania Khondoker should not be granted bail in a case.

The case was filed after the death of Preeti Urang, a teenage domestic worker who fell from their flat in Dhaka's Mohammadpur in February.

Yesterday, the HC granted ad-interim bail to Tania in the case.

The HC bench of Justice Md Rezaul Hasan and Justice Fahmida Quader issued the rule and order after holding hearing on a bail petition filed by the couple, who has been in jail since February 6.

Senior lawyer Khurshid Alam Khan appeared for the petitioners while Attorney General AM Amin Uddin opposed it. The full text of the HC order is yet to be released.

Earlier, the couple was denied bail three times by the lower court.

Preeti, 15, from Moulvibazar, died after falling through an opening on Ashfaqu's eighth-floor flat around 8:00am on February 6. Police took Ashfaqu and Tania into custody within hours of the incident.

PRAYER TIMING
APRIL 23

Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha
AZAN 4-25 12-45 4-45 6-27 8-00
JAMAAT 5-00 1-15 5-00 6-31 8-30

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

Overspeeding

FROM PAGE 5

"It is our primary report. We will talk to family members of the bus driver, who is in jail now, to know whether he had any physical sickness or any other issue," said Muhammad Ali Siddiqui.

"A Buet representative has been included in our probe body. She is working to find out technical faults, if there are any. It'll take more time to prepare a full report," he added.

SKS Foundation
College Road, Uttar Harin Singha, Gaibandha

Re-Tender Notice

SKS Foundation is inviting tender from a real supplier/vendor for purchasing goods for the Solar Home System (SHS) on below mentioned three projects, supported by Andheri- Hille Bonn, Germany.

SL#	Project Name	Location	Quantity
1	Lighting the Poor and Disadvantaged Families Living in Char Areas Project	Fulchori	300 Set
2	Expanded Livelihoods for 2000 Poor Households and Increased Resilience to Flooding in Lalmonirhat District	Lalmonirhat	100 Set
3	Expanding Livelihoods and Increasing Resilience to Flooding and River Erosion of 5000 Poor Island Households in Gaibandha District	Gaibandha	50 Set
Total			450 Set

Detail Terms and conditions will be mentioned in the schedule. A schedule will be collected from SKS Head Office, College Road, Uttar Harin Singha, Gaibandha (Admin Department) from 23/04/2024 to 29/04/2024 (Last time-12:00 pm on 29/04/2024). Rate of schedule: 500/- (Not returnable). It is requested to drop the schedule in the tender box on mentioned dates and the tender will open at 1:00 pm on 29/04/2024 in the presence of the bidder (if anybody is present). Authority reserves the right to accept or cancel fully/partially all the schedules without assigning any reasons.

Convener-Procurement Committee
SKS Foundation, Gaibandha.

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PRICE SENSITIVE INFORMATION

This is for kind information of all concerned that the Board of Directors of the Company in its 190th meeting held on Monday 22 April 2024, commencing from 3:30 p.m., has taken the following decision(s)/ recommendation(s)/ declaration(s), which may be considered as price sensitive information:

Date & Time of 25 th AGM	: Monday, 24 June 2024 at 11:00 a.m.
Recommended Dividend for the year ended 31 st December 2023	: The Board of Directors recommended for declaration of Cash Dividend @ 10% for the year ended 31 st December 2023.
Record Date for 25 th AGM	: Sunday, 26 May 2024.
Venue of 25 th AGM	: Meeting to be arranged virtually by using "Digital Platform" in pursuant to the Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission's Letter No. BSEC/ICAD/SRIC/2024/318/87 dated 27 March 2024.

Comparative Statement

Particulars	Consolidated (BDT)		Solo (BDT)	
	31 Dec 2023	31 Dec 2022	31 Dec 2023	31 Dec 2022
Net Asset Value (NAV)	: 33,291,371,374	31,868,083,224	32,700,579,109	31,440,419,545
Net Asset Value (NAV) per share	: 23.00	22.02	22.59	21.72
Earnings Per Share (EPS)	: 2.33	2.57	2.23	2.47
Net Operating Cash Flow Per Share (NOCFPS)	: 5.94	(13.20)	5.88	(13.15)

By order of the Board of Directors
Sd/-
Md. Monirul Islam
Company Secretary

Dated, Dhaka
22 April 2024

- Notes:**
- 1) The Members' (Shareholders') names appearing in the Register of Members of the Company on the Record Date Sunday, 26 May 2024, will be entitled to Dividend and to attend the Annual General Meeting.
 - 2) The Members are requested to update the particulars of their Bank Account (Bank & Branch Name, Account Number, Branch Routing Number), Name, signature and Mailing Address including mobile phone, land phone number, e-mail address etc. through their respective Depository Participant (DP) before the 'Record Date'.
 - 3) Please update your BO Account providing 12-digit e-TIN for tax deduction of 10% instead of 15%.
 - 4) Merchant Banks and Depository Participants (DPs) are requested to provide the Company a statement with details (Shareholder Name, BO ID, Client-wise shareholding position and applicable tax rate) of their margin loan holders who held shares of the Company as on 'Record Date' along with the Bank Account Name & number, routing number etc. of the Merchant Banks & DPs within 02 June 2024 including name of the contact person otherwise dividend to be credited to the bank account of the respective shareholders.