

## Toxic PFAS found

FROM PAGE 3  
in a programme organised by ESDO in the capital yesterday.

Particularly alarming was the level of contamination in the Karnatali river, where PFAS concentrations reached 1,152.2 nanograms per litre, more than 300 times the proposed EU limit.

The study further revealed that PFAS levels were also found in Tongi river water and Ashulia lake water, well above the currently proposed EU limit. Another sample from Hatirjheel Lake showed PFAS levels to be 185 times higher than the current Dutch advisory limit.

The presence of PFAS in drinking water is particularly alarming, as three out of four (75 percent) tap water samples from the study contained PFAS, with some exceeding both US and EU regulatory limits.

The water was analysed in laboratories of Brown University and the University of Chemistry and Technology in Prague.

Since there are currently no rules in Bangladesh regarding the use of PFAS, the chemical is widely used without any obstruction, the study said.

However, the textile industry, responsible for about 50 percent of global PFAS usage, is identified as a major contributor to this contamination, it added.

"Bangladesh is an international textile manufacturing hub, and the prevalence of toxic chemical emissions from this sector puts our

residents at higher risk," said Siddika Sultana, ESDO's executive director.

The study claims that PFAS has negative consequences for the environment and human health.

These include negative effects on fertility, fetal development, thyroid hormone function, and increased risks of liver damage and cancer. It can cause high cholesterol and reduce vaccine effectiveness, posing major health risks.

**ACTION REQUIRED AGAINST PFAS USAGE**  
Jitka Straková urged the textile industry to phase out PFAS use and be transparent about the chemicals in their products.

The textile industry is a major user of PFAS, accounting for over half of global consumption. Despite this, safer alternatives to PFAS in textiles exist, making its ongoing usage unnecessary, the study emphasised.

Textile makers in Bangladesh near areas where water was found with high PFAS levels produce products for major global brands. These brand name companies have tremendous market influence and should demand PFAS-free products, the study also said.

Shahriar Hossain, a lead author of the study, said, "PFAS in our waterways, tap water, and clothing pose serious health and environmental threats, yet industries and policymakers have been slow to respond."

"This needs to be controlled urgently," he added.

When Mohiuddin apologised and attempted to leave, a group of 7 to 8 people surrounded him, beating him severely and blinding him with a substance before making off with the bag of money.

Following the incident, Akidul Islam, the owner of the jewellery store, filed a robbery case on April 27. Earlier, the DMP's Kotwali police had arrested two other suspects in connection with the case.

"Bailla Khokon, the mastermind, resides in Old Dhaka and has knowledge about local financial transactions. Rezaul Karim, who once operated a business in Old Dhaka, orchestrated the attack by assembling a team of robbers from various districts," said Mashiur.

The arrestees have multiple robbery and theft cases against them and are currently being interrogated under police remand, he added.

## DEWANDIGHI-PALPUR ROAD IN MOULVIBAZAR

# Pothole plight worsens in Rajnagar

MINTU DESHWARA, Moulvibazar

Vehicular movement on Dewandighi Palpur road in Rajnagar upazila of Moulvibazar has become risky due to numerous potholes on the five-kilometre stretch between Tengra and Tarapasha areas.

The road sustained significant damage due to being frequented by heavy trucks transporting sand extracted from Tarapasha Balumahal in the Manu river.

"Around 50-60 sand-laden trucks use the road daily," said Faisal Mia, a truck driver.

As a result, lighter vehicles such as auto-rickshaws carrying commuters find it difficult to use the road and have been doing so amid the risk of accidents.

Hundreds of locals -- including students, women and elderly people -- from Kamarchak union of Rajnagar upazila, Patanushar union of Kamalganj upazila, and Hajipur union of Kulaura upazila, use the road daily.

Visiting the Tengra-Tarapasha section of the road recently, this correspondent found it in a dilapidated state, with numerous potholes at different places on a five-kilometre stretch across Kartal, Salon, Haripasa, Kachari and Tarapasha Bazar areas.

"Auto-rickshaw drivers charge extra fares on the road, causing sufferings to commuters," said Shah Alam, a trader at Tarapasha Bazar.

Sources at Moulvibazar district administration said the government earns Tk 1.46 crore revenue from Tarapasha Balumahal, and it will be leased again this year.

Contacted, Dr Urmi Binte Salam, deputy commissioner of Moulvibazar, said, "The tender process to lease the balumahal is at the final stage. We will take measures to ensure no overloaded trucks ply this road."

Ahmed Abdullah, executive engineer of LGED in Moulvibazar, said, "Tender process to repair the 10.5-km stretch of Tengra-Dewandighi-Tarapasha road at a cost of Tk 12 crore is at final stage."



## 3 of a robber

FROM PAGE 5  
carrying Tk 60 lakh in a bag. Around 4:50pm, near the entrance of Naba Narayan Lane in Islampur, a person shoved him, falsely accusing him of causing the collision.

When Mohiuddin apologised and attempted to leave, a group of 7 to 8 people surrounded him, beating him severely and blinding him with a substance before making off with the bag of money.

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## Media needs

FROM PAGE 3  
spirit. We want to see the media as a supportive force of the government. I want to assure you that if you publish any report based on factual and authentic information identifying the government's mistakes, we will welcome those and recognise with award."

Referring to German broadcaster Deutsche Welle's (DW) recent documentary on Bangladesh's human rights issue, he said, "If you

watch the documentary attentively, you will see it was not against any individual or the government, but against the country and its important institution -- Bangladesh Army."

The DW made an ill-motivated, malicious and misleading documentary to tarnish the reputation of Bangladesh Army, which has gained fame for its extraordinary role in the UN peacekeeping missions, the state minister added.

**13<sup>th</sup> Certificate Course**  
on  
**Genocide and Justice**

Center for the Study of Genocide and Justice (CSGJ), Liberation War Museum (LWM), Bangladesh invites interested individuals to apply for the 13th Certificate Course on Genocide and Justice to be held from 28 June to 27 July 2024. The month-long certificate course will take place at the LWM premises on every Friday and Saturday afternoon. As part of the Certificate Course, the participants will be taken on a field trip to one of the memorial sites of the 1971 Liberation War. Academics and experts from both home and abroad will conduct the sessions.

University students as well as professionals of any discipline from Bangladesh are eligible to apply.

A maximum number of 40 individuals will be accepted for admission to the certificate course. Selected participants will be required to pay a fee of TK. 3500 before the commencement of the course. The concessional course fee for the students is TK. 2500.

The deadline for applying for the 13th Certificate Course is 10 June 2024.

To do so, please scan the QR code or visit the link given here: [shorturl.at/ovN3I](https://shorturl.at/ovN3I)

**Liberation War Museum**  
Agargaon, Dhaka.  
e-mail: [csgj.bangladesh@gmail.com](mailto:csgj.bangladesh@gmail.com)

website: [www.liberationwarmuseumbd.org](http://www.liberationwarmuseumbd.org)

**TENDER NOTICE**

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Sub-Office in Cox's Bazar hereby announces the launch of the following tenders:

TENDER REFERENCE NUMBER	ITEM DESCRIPTION
RFP/HCR/CXB/2024/008	FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A FRAME AGREEMENT FOR CONSTRUCTION OF DIFFERENT TYPE SHELTER AND FOR THE PROVISION OF ASSORTED CONSTRUCTION WORKS, AND RELATED SERVICES
ONLINE PRE-BID CONFERENCE	Date and time: 04 June 2024 at 11:00 AM BST.

Interested and potential vendors are invited to participate in this Request for Proposal (RFP) by accessing and downloading the tender documents at the following web link: <https://www.unhcr.org/Public/Notice/235104>

**Bids to be submitted:**  
Bids should be submitted as per the guidance in section 2.6 of the RFP document via the URL below:  
<http://etenderbox.unhcr.org>  
Bid submission deadline: 25 June 2024 - 17:00 hrs Bangladesh time.  
Kindly note that no hard copy is acceptable. The offer will be acceptable who submit only in the above link.

**Hiring Freight Forwarder for Microbiota Directed Food (MDF) Shipment to West Africa**

Tender Ref. No. icddr.b/SCM/OTM/2024/05 Date: May 30, 2024

Sealed tenders are invited by icddr.b for Hiring Freight Forwarder for Microbiota Directed Food (MDF) Shipment to West Africa. The service provider must be BAFA member and shall have 5 years' experience of freight forwarding. Details terms and conditions of the tender are available in the ITB document and the bid document can be downloaded from <https://www.icddr.org/work-with-us/tender-notices>

Pre-tender meeting will be held on June 05, 2024, from 11.00 am to 12.00 pm; at SCM Conference Room, Chiller Building 1st Floor, Mohakhali, Dhaka.

Tender will be closed on June 13, 2024, by 3.00 pm and will be opened on the same day at icddr.b premises.

**Special Instructions:**

- if it is not possible to receive & open the tender on the scheduled date for any unavoidable circumstances, the same will be received and opened on the following working date at same time and same place.
- icddr.b reserves the right to accept or reject all/part tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever. This tender notice will also form a part of the contract and will be binding upon the tenderer.

**icddr.b** Senior Manager, Supply Chain Management  
Tel: 9827001-10, Ext.# 4409/4403/4400

**BAF SHAHEEN ENGLISH MEDIUM COLLEGE (SEMC)**  
TEJGAON, DHAKA

**ADMISSIONS AVAILABLE**  
in AS and A Level for 2024-2025 Session

Limited seats are available in AS and A Level for 2024-2025 academic session. Admission forms are available in college website and SEMC Accounts Office from 30 May to 13 June 2024.  
Visit: [www.bafsemc.edu.bd](http://www.bafsemc.edu.bd) for details.  
Contact: Tel: 55060000 Ext: 5568, 5579. Principal

**জরুরী বিজ্ঞপ্তি**

সমানিত গ্রাহক,  
আমাদের সেবার মান আরও সহজ, স্বচ্ছন্দময় ও নিরাপদ করার লক্ষ্যে ব্যাংকিং ব্যবস্থার উন্নয়ন কার্যক্রম চলছে। সিস্টেম উন্নয়ন ও রক্ষণাবেক্ষণ এর জন্য সব ধরনের আর্থিক লেনদেন ও সেবা (ক্রেডিট কার্ড ব্যতীত) ৩০ মে রাত ১৯:৩০ থেকে ০৯ জুন, ২০২৪ রাত ১৯:৩০ পর্যন্ত স্থগিত থাকবে। আপনারদের সাময়িক অসুবিধার জন্য আমরা আন্তরিকভাবে দুঃখিত।

বিস্তারিত জানতে ৯৬৭৪২ অথবা ০৯৬৯০০০৬৬৭৮ এ কল করুন। অথবা ভিজিট করুন [www.jamunabankbd.com](http://www.jamunabankbd.com)

আমাদের সাথে থাকার জন্য যমুনা ব্যাংকের সকল গ্রাহক, পৃষ্ঠপোষক ও শুভাকাঙ্খীদের জানাই কৃতজ্ঞতা ও আন্তরিক ধন্যবাদ।

**যমুনা ব্যাংক**

**Employment Opportunity**

Following position is vacant for immediate appointment in Savar Sweaters Ltd. (100% export-oriented sweater factory), 12P-13P, Kalurghat Heavy I/A, Chattogram, Bangladesh.

Vacancy : 01  
Position : Head of Technical  
Age : Minimum 40 Years  
Education : Minimum A Level/Graduate  
Experience : Minimum 15 Years in the relevant field.  
Language : Fluent in Bengali & English.  
Salary : Negotiable

**Responsibilities:**

- Keen to handle all operational management, Planning & technical activities in Sweater manufacturing company. Also to have sound knowledge in sample development, quality assurance and Industrial engineering in sweater industries.
- Must having knowledge about Modern management concept with Standard operational procedures (SOP).
- Experienced on working in computerized machines: Jacquard/Linking/Winding etc. Good technical skill in sweater knitting (jacquard) assembling and finishing area.
- Good knowledge about setting the target, solve the problem & performance review.
- Sound knowledge to reduce cost of production. Develop & execute long-term strategies in order to improve overall productivity of the plant & ability to lead and manage team towards the management goal.
- Excellent communication skill, strong leadership, quick decision making and good analytical skill with self-disciplined personality.

Interested candidates are advised to apply (within 10th June, 2024) along with their CV to the following email address:  
[hrd@azimswr.com](mailto:hrd@azimswr.com) or send CV to :  
AGM (HR & Admin)  
Address: Azim Group (Sweater Complex)  
12P-13P, Kalurghat Heavy I/A, Chandgaon- 4212, Chattogram.

## Gender

FROM PAGE 3  
Prasenjit Chakma, UNDP's assistant country director in Bangladesh, opined that overall development of a country is not possible if half of its population is left behind.

Addressing as chief guest, Prakash Kanti Chowdhury, joint secretary (development) of the Ministry of Women and Children Affairs, shared that recent financial years have seen gender budget allocations across three thematic areas: increasing women's access to government services, empowering women and enhancing their social status, and increasing women's participation in production, labour markets, and income-generating activities.

UN Women's programme manager Tapati Saha, programme officer Noor Ali Shah, and UNDP's Mohammad Razur Rahman, presented draft guidelines for gender-sensitive planning and budgeting, while gender budget expert Nilufar Ahmed Karim conducted a question-answer session.

Humaira Binte Farooq, UN Women's programme officer, moderated the event, while Mushfiqua Zaman Satiar, senior policy adviser of the Embassy of the Netherlands, also spoke.

## PBI plea to scrap bail

FROM PAGE 3  
The lawyers who represented the Transcom executives and officials at yesterday's hearing include senior lawyer Kazi Md Nazib Ullah Hiru, Abdur Rahman Howlader, president of Dhaka Bar Association; Mizanur Rahman Mamun, former president of the association; Sheikh Baharul Islam, Mohammad Shaheenoor Islam, Abdullah Al-Mamun and Mohammad Siddique Ullah Miah.

Yesterday, senior lawyer Ahsanul Karim represented the complainant in the hearing, among others.

On February 22, Simeen's younger sister Shahzreh Huq filed three cases with Gulshan Police Station, accusing Transcom

Group Chairman Shahnaz Rahman, Simeen, Zariaf and six other officials of fraud and breach of trust with regard to the company's shares and properties.

On April 3, the court granted bail to Shahnaz, Simeen and Zariaf until submission of the probe report.

On the same day, the three executives surrendered before the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's Court hours after they returned to the country and sought bail, following the directives of the Supreme Court.

According to their lawyers, Shahnaz, Simeen, and Zariaf were abroad when the cases were filed.

The other accused in the cases are on bail now.

## Policy actions can

FROM PAGE 3  
service centres, a separate database for registering women returnee migrants, and the immediate approval of the "Draft National Rehabilitation Policy" formulated in 2022 for all returning migrant workers.

Speaking at the event, Mohammad Ikram Hossain, adviser at Alliance for Returnee Women Migrants, emphasised the need for female staff

at the Expatriate Welfare Desk at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport to address issues faced by female migrants.

"Immigration police used to send data on returnee female migrants to the International Organization for Migration. It can also provide it to the government and NGOs to create a database for smoother services for migrant workers," he added.

বাউরি নীচা: সবার জন্য উন্মুক্ত কর্মসূচী, পদার্থী ও জীবনব্যাপী শিক্ষা  
"শিক্ষা নিয়ে গড়ব দেশ শেখ হাসিনার বাংলাদেশ"

**বাংলাদেশ উন্মুক্ত বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়**  
BANGLADESH OPEN UNIVERSITY  
স্কুল অব সায়েন্স এন্ড টেকনোলজি

**ভর্তি বিজ্ঞপ্তি**

বি.এসসি (অনার্স) ইন ফুড সায়েন্স এন্ড নিউট্রিশন প্রোগ্রাম  
২০২৪ শিক্ষাবর্ষ (৫য় ব্যাচ)

কিছুর কোর্সে নাম করে সকল তথ্য জানা যাবে।

উন্মুক্ত ও দূরশিক্ষণ  
আবেদনের তারিখ: ২৬ মে থেকে ১৯ আগস্ট ২০২৪  
<https://www.facebook.com/Bdopenuniversity/>

বিস্তারিত জানতে  
[www.bou.ac.bd](http://www.bou.ac.bd)

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh  
office of the Executive Engineer  
PWD Division, Barguna.  
Tel & Fax No: 02479930040  
[www.pwd.gov.bd](http://www.pwd.gov.bd)

Memo No-25.36.0400.140-1378 Date: 28.05.2024

**e-Tender Notice**

e-Tenders are invited in e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) by Executive Engineer, PWD Division, Barguna for the Procurement of:

Tender ID No	Type, Method	Publishing Date & Time	Last Selling Date & Time	Closing Date & Time	Opening Date & Time
990053, 991933, 992841	NCT OTM	28-May-2024 22:00	09-Jun-2024 12:00	09-Jun-2024 15:30	09-Jun-2024 15:30

This is an online Tender where only e-Tenders will be accepted in 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 schedule bank.

Further information and guide lines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk.

([helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd](mailto:helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd))

**Subrata Biswas**  
Executive Engineer  
PWD Division, Barguna.

**Livestock Officer**  
Animal Feed Mill, Savar, Dhaka

Memo No. 33.01.0000.360.07.001.23-453 Date: 29/05/2024

**Invitation for Tender**

This is online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no hard copies will be accepted. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP Portal and from e-GP helpdesk ([helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd](mailto:helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd)).

SL No.	Tender/proposal Id No.	Name of tender	Closing date & time	Opening date & time
1	981260 AFM/Gr-01/2024-25	Goods, GR- Lot 1 to 5, Whole Maize, Wheat Bran and others procurement of Whole Maize, Wheat Bran, Whole Khashari, Soyabean Meal and Salt with Iodine under the Office of the Livestock Officer, Animal Feed Mill, Savar, Dhaka.	13-June-2024 at 12.30 Hour	13-June-2024 at 15.20 Hour

**Dr. Mohammad Mojibur Rahman**  
Livestock Officer  
Animal Feed Mill, Savar, Dhaka  
Email address: [mojibur\\_vet@yahoo.com](mailto:mojibur_vet@yahoo.com)