

RANGAMATI, KHAGRACHHARI Students protest removal of graffiti

STAR REPORT

Students in Rangamati and Khagrachhari held rallies yesterday, protesting the removal of graffiti created in support of the Anti-Discrimination Student Movement.

They argued that while discrimination has lessened nationwide, it has yet to reach the Chittagong Hill Tracts. They demanded indigenous rights in Bangladesh.

"We want liberty from militarisation," said Kiko Dewan, a Rangamati Government College student.

Kiko also said conspiracies against indigenous people continue, as their land is being taken in the name of tourism.

He also called for creating voter lists that include only residents of the region.

Hundreds of students from various upazilas participated in the protests.

They criticised law enforcement authorities for obstructing their efforts to repaint the graffiti, which had previously been removed.

Meanwhile, people from the indigenous community brought out a procession in the Dhaka University area yesterday, demanding protection of their land rights and constitutional recognition.

They also sought justice for the killings of indigenous persons.



Protesting the removal of graffiti created in support of the Anti-Discrimination Student Movement, students in Rangamati hold a rally yesterday. Similar rally was held in Khagrachhari. Students also criticised the law enforcement authorities for obstructing their efforts to repaint the graffiti.

PHOTO: STAR

Inaugurated but inaccessible

Ctg elevated expressway still not open after 8 months

SIFAYET ULLAH, Ctg

The first elevated expressway in Chattogram city has yet to open to traffic, even though over eight months have passed since its inauguration in November last year.

The delay has been a disappointment to commuters in the port city, as they keep waiting for a respite from unbearable traffic congestion.

When the expressway was inaugurated, city dwellers hoped that their suffering would finally come to an end. However, the reality has been a far cry.

"We are still suffering from traffic jams and don't know how much longer this will go on," said Abdul

Khalek, a private job holder who commutes regularly from the city's GEC intersection to Customs area.

The Chattogram Development Authority constructed the



16-kilometre-long expressway, from Lalkhan Bazar to Patenga, at a cost of Tk 4,298.95 crore, to smooth communication and boost the economy.

Even though the construction work was incomplete, former Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina inaugurated the expressway last year, a decision that drew flak from city planners, who termed it a bid to show off the development achieved by the then-ruling party ahead of the election.

Delwar Hossain Mazumdar, executive member of Forum for Planned Chattogram, earlier said the CDA failed to fulfil people's expectations.

The Executive Committee of the National Economic Council approved the government-funded Chattogram Elevated Expressway project in July 2017, scheduled to be completed by June 2020.

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50 more hospitalised with dengue

UNB, Dhaka

Fifty people were hospitalised with dengue fever in 24 hours till yesterday morning.

Of the new patients, 14 were hospitalised in Dhaka, said DGHS. Some 901 patients are receiving treatment in different hospitals across the country.

A total of 8,980 dengue cases and 74 deaths have been reported since January 1, 2024.

Last year, a total of 1,705 people lost their lives due to dengue, making it the deadliest year on record.

More than just NUMBERS

A 17-year-old student died with bullet wounds in Dhaka. A 38-year-old rickshaw puller fatally shot in Dhaka. A 24-year-old service holder shot dead in Habiganj. At least 400 lives (the actual number could be much higher) were lost when law enforcers opened fire on protesters during the recent unrest. But these victims are not just statistics; they are children, parents, and friends. In this report, we try to know the stories of three such names among these tragic numbers.



'They shot my boy six times'
Says mother of Raihan, 17, who died of bullet wounds

SOHRAB HOSSAIN, Patuakhali

"My son did nothing wrong; why was he shot dead? I demand justice for my son's death," said Rehena, mother of Raihan, 17, who died after being shot in Dhaka's Badda on August 5.

Raihan had been visiting his cousin's house in Badda since early July, where he got involved in the quota-reform protests and opted not to return home in Chaulabunia village in Patuakhali Sadar upazila until the students' demands were met.

A candidate for Dakhil examination in 2025 from a madrasa in Patuakhali, Raihan hailed from a poor family. His father Kamal Akon works as a day labourer, while his mother Rehena is a homemaker. His younger sister Jannati is only five years old.

On the morning of August 5, Raihan joined a protest in the Badda area when he was hit by six bullets in his chest and legs during a firing at the student protesters.

He was taken to DMCH, where the on-duty doctor declared him dead.

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'Had to beg for money to take his body home'
Says son of Goni Miah, a rickshaw-puller who was shot dead

NILIMA JAHAN

Six months ago, 38-year-old Goni Miah left his home in Sreebordi, Sherpur, with hopes of changing his family's fortune.

A former rice mill worker, Goni believed that pulling a rickshaw in Dhaka would provide the financial stability his family desperately needed.

However, instead of returning with the promise of a better future, Goni's lifeless



body returned home in a coffin, plunging his family into deeper despair.

Goni lived in the Nakhhalpara area of Tejgaon. On the evening

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No parent should bear this loss
Says mother of Mostak, 24, who was fatally shot



MINTU DESHWARA, Moulvibazar

Maya Khatun, 65, was relieved when her youngest son, Md Mostak Mia, 24, got a job as a lineman under a contractor of

Bangladesh Power Development Board in Habiganj.

After his two elder brothers started living separately following their marriages, Mostak had become her only hope. However, everything changed on August 2 when Mostak, who went outside to buy shoes in the afternoon, got hit by a bullet amid a clash between protesters and law enforcers in Habiganj town.

"My youngest son Mostak

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প্রাকৃতিক গ্যাস অফুরন্ত নয়, এর অপচয় রোধ করুন।		গ্যাসের অবৈধ সংযোগ গ্রহণ ও ব্যবহার শাস্তিযোগ্য অপরাধ।	
Titas Gas Transmission and Distribution PLC Titas Gas Bhaban, 105 Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Kawran Bazar C/A, Dhaka-1215			
Invitation for Tenders (OTM-NCT)			
1	Ministry/Division	:	Ministry of Power, Energy & Mineral Resources/Energy & Mineral Resources Division (EMRD)
2	Agency	:	Bangladesh Oil, Gas & Mineral Corporation (Petrobangla)
3	Procuring Entity Name	:	Titas Gas Transmission & Distribution Public Limited Company (TGTDPLC)
4	Procuring Entity District	:	Dhaka
5	Invitation for Tenders	:	Procurement of Information Technology Products and Services
6	Invitation Ref. No.	:	TGTDPLC/SMEEIP-ADB/GD-2(SI-02)/2024
7	Date	:	15/08/2024
KEY INFORMATION			
8	Procurement Method	:	Single-Stage Two-Envelope (Open Tendering Method-NCT)
FUNDING INFORMATION			
9	Budget & Source of Fund	:	Development & Asian Development Bank (ADB) [Loan No. 4386-BAN]
PARTICULAR INFORMATION			
10	Project Name	:	Smart Metering Energy Efficiency Improvement Project [Installation of Prepaid Gas Meter for TGTDCL]
11	Tender Package No.	:	GD-2(SI-02)
12	Tender Package Name	:	Supply, Installation and Commissioning of Unified Web System and Automated Grievance Redress Center (Hardware & Software)
13	Tender Publication Date	:	15.08.2024
14	Tender Last Selling Date	:	18.09.2024 14:00 (GMT+6) local time
15	Tender Submission Date & Time	:	19.09.2024 14:00 (GMT+6) local time
16	Tender Opening Date & Time	:	19.09.2024 14:30 (GMT+6) local time
17	Name & Address of the Offices:	:	
	• Selling Tender Document	:	Office of Project Director, Smart Metering Energy Efficiency Improvement Project [Installation of Prepaid Gas Meter for TGTDCL], Titas Gas Bhaban (9 th Floor), 105 Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Kawran Bazar C/A, Dhaka-1215
	• Receiving Tender Document	:	Same As
	• Opening Tender Document	:	Same As
18	Pre-Tender Meeting Place, Date & Time	:	Office of Project Director, Smart Metering Energy Efficiency Improvement Project [Installation of Prepaid Gas Meter for TGTDCL], Titas Gas Bhaban (9 th Floor), 105 Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Kawran Bazar C/A, Dhaka-1215 01/09/2024 & 11:00 AM
INFORMATION FOR TENDERER			
19	Eligibility of Tenderer	:	1. Successful completion of minimum three (3) contracts as main supplier within the last ten (10) years of which at least one (1) contract valued minimum of BDT37.0 (Thirty-Seven) Crore and two (2) other contracts value of no less than BDT10.0 (Ten) Crore with feature, functions, nature, and complexity as described in Section 6 (Schedule of Requirements) 2. Minimum average of best 3 years over the last five (5) annual turnover of BDT60.0 (Sixty) Crore calculated as total payments received by the Bidder. 3. Details in the Tender Documents
20	Brief Description of Goods	:	Supply of Hardware and Accessories for Unified Web System and Automated Grievance Redress Center. Details in Tender Documents
21	Brief Description of Services	:	Installation and Commissioning of Unified Web System and Automated Grievance Redress Center (Software). Details in Tender Documents
22	Price of the Tender Document	:	BDT10,000.00 (Ten Thousand Bangladeshi Taka)
	Lot No.	Identification of Lot	Location
	1	Single	Southern part of Titas Franchise Area (Dhaka, Narayanganj and so on)
			Tender Security Amount
			BDT90.00 (Ninety) Lac in favor of TGTDPLC
			Completion Time
			38 (Thirty-Eight) months
PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS			
23	Name of Official Inviting Tender	:	Engr. Muhammad Abul Kawser
24	Designation of Official Inviting Tender	:	Project Director, Smart Metering Energy Efficiency Improvement Project [Installation of Prepaid Gas Meter for TGTDCL]
25	Address of Official Inviting Tender	:	Planning Department, Titas Gas Bhaban (10 th Floor), 105 Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Kawran Bazar C/A, Dhaka-1215
26	Contact Details of Official Inviting Tender	:	Cell No.: +8801712816739, E-mail: pd.ipgm.adb@gmail.com
27	The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject Tender as well as whole procedure.		
Titas/PR-37/2024-25			
 (Engr. Muhammad Abul Kawser) Project Director			
GD-193			

Safety, equal rights for all

Demands Manabadhikar Shongskriti Foundation

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The previous government's inaction regarding past incidents of violence against minority communities has encouraged communal extremist groups to continue their attacks and oppression on minorities, said the Manabadhikar Shongskriti Foundation.

The foundation also demanded the protection and equal rights be ensured for all, regardless of religion or ethnicity. In a press statement, they also condemned the recent violence and oppression against minorities across the country.

The statement said during the anti-discrimination student movement, students and the public spoke for the establishment of a non-communal, democratic state and society by eliminating discrimination.

However, after Sheikh Hasina's resignation, a certain group of people expressed their accumulated anger by attacking, vandalising, and setting fire to government and private establishments, as well as the homes and properties of many leaders of the then ruling party, including ministers and MPs.

Additionally, there were at least 205 incidents of attacks on the homes and religious sites of Hindu minorities in 52 districts, posing a threat to the security of minorities.

The Foundation expressed condemnation and outrage against these incidents, according to the statement.

They said during any political transition, religious and ethnic minorities are often the victims of attacks. Minorities flee their homes in the face of such violence, and some even leave the country.

Although it did not happen this time, many are attempting to label the recent attacks on minorities as politically motivated, which is seen as an effort to sidestep the real situation and create excuses, they said.

The statement said the Foundation believes it is

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