

Ensure Your Retirement Financial Security
at the End of Working Life

PEOPLES PUBALI PENSION SCHEME (PPPS)

✓ Attractive Interest Rate / Profit
[6 Months FDR rate plus 1% p.a.]

✓ Monthly compounding interest / profit on a daily basis.

AAA
Rated Bank



পূবালী ব্যাংক পিএলসি
PUBALI BANK PLC.

Open your
Account
from anywhere

PI a PUBALI BANK
apps

Islamic Banking services are provided through online from all our branches and sub-branches

Yunus now heading 6 ministries

Portfolios of four other advisers redistributed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Chief Adviser Muhammad Yunus is now in charge of six ministries or divisions as the portfolios of five advisers were redistributed yesterday.

The Cabinet Division has issued a circular in this regard.

Yunus, the head of the interim government, was in charge of 10 ministries and divisions, but as per the circular he has given up charge of the land, science and technology, shipping, and women and children affairs ministries.

According to the new decision, Adviser Salehuddin Ahmed has been given the charge of the science and technology, and finance and commerce ministries.

Hasan Arif has been given charge of the

SEE PAGE 4 COL 2



The road beside the Jurain Railway Market in the capital's Jurain area goes under water even after minimal rainfall, causing suffering for commuters and vehicles. With the road's numerous potholes remaining invisible due to the water, it gets risky for vehicles to ply the road amid the situation. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

UN RIGHTS DELEGATION Bangladesh assures full cooperation

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh is committed to providing full cooperation to the United Nations, Home Affairs Adviser Lt Gen (ret'd) Jahangir Alam Chowdhury said yesterday following a meeting with a visiting UN delegation at the Secretariat.

The three-member delegation, led by Rory Mungoven, Chief of the Asia-Pacific Section of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), arrived in Bangladesh on August 22 to investigate human rights violations that occurred between July 1 and August 15.

The team also included Livia Consenza and Alexander James Amir El Jundi, both human rights officers at OHCHR.

During the meeting, the home adviser requested the UN to consider including more Bangladeshi personnel from the army, police, and other forces in UN peacekeeping missions.

Rory Mungoven described the meeting as positive, saying, "We are in Bangladesh to discuss how the UN could conduct an investigation and fact-finding mission regarding the events of the past two months, as requested by the interim government."

He added that the delegation is also exploring other areas where they can assist and support the interim government and the people of Bangladesh.

"We are halfway through our visit, and the discussions have been very positive. We are inspired by the efforts of the students and people of Bangladesh, and we want to support them in the best way possible," Mungoven told reporters at the Secretariat.

APPOINTMENTS OF CECs, ECs

HC asks why indemnity of search bodies not illegal

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday issued a rule questioning the legality of a provision that provides indemnity to president-appointed search committees that recommend appointments of CECs and other ECs for holding polls in the country.

In the rule, the court asked the respondents to explain why Section 9 of the Chief Election Commissioners and Other Election Commissioners Appointment Act, 2022, which has given such impunity to search committees, should not be declared illegal and contradictory to the constitution.

The law secretary and the election commission have named respondents to the rule, which is returnable in four weeks.

The HC bench of AKM Asaduzzaman and Justice Muhammad Mahubul Islam issued the rule following a writ petition challenging the legality of the provision, which was filed by 10 Supreme Court lawyers on August 18.

Section 9 states that the appointments of CECs and other ECs based on the recommendations of the search committees previously formed by the president and their activities will be deemed as valid and no question shall be raised in any court in this regard, said the petition.

Advocate Mohammad Shishir Manir appeared for the petitioners during the hearing of the petition.

He told the HC that Section 9 of the act has taken away the jurisdiction of the judiciary, as it has been said that any question cannot be raised in any court of the country.

Such impunity is totally unconstitutional, he added.

Earlier, Shishir Manir told The Daily Star that his clients have challenged the impunity given to the search committees formed in 2017 and 2022, headed respectively by Justice Syed Mahmud Hossain and Justice Obaidul Hassan, judges of the Supreme Court's Appellate Division, to recommend appointing the CECs and ECs for holding the elections in 2014 and 2018.

Together, they work tirelessly to repair a dyke

A breach in the embankment has flooded over 35 villages in Sylhet

MINTU DESHWARA

A breach in the Manu River embankment in Moulvibazar's Kulaura upazila has led to widespread flooding, submerging over 35 villages and causing significant damage to crop fields, houses, and roads.

The breach, which occurred on August 20, has left the region reeling as floodwaters continue to inundate the area.

The damage was particularly severe in the villages of Belartal, Alinagar, and Dhalia, where sections of the embankment gave way due to persistent rainfall and water flow from across the border.

Local residents and officials have pointed fingers at the Bangladesh Water Development Board, accusing it of using substandard materials in constructing the embankment, leading to its collapse.

Despite these challenges, the story has taken a hopeful turn as hundreds of local residents, students, and social organisations have come together to repair the damaged embankment themselves.

"The Manu river's breach has devastated our community, but we're not waiting for government aid. We've taken matters into our own hands," said Umar Ali, a student involved in the repairs.

Ali and other local youths were among the first to respond, quickly filling the breach with sandbags.

Soon after, they were joined by former UP member

Abbas Ali, social activist Dr Monirul Islam Sohag, and other villagers.

The repair effort, which began on the night of August 22, has become a community-wide endeavour. Men, women, and children have been working side by side, filling sacks with soil and stacking them to rebuild the embankment.

The scene is one of determination and unity, with villagers refusing to let the floodwaters defeat them.

"We've been working since dawn, every day, to protect our homes and crops," said Dr Sohag, who also contributed Tk 1 lakh to support the effort.

"Many of the embankments in this area are unstable, and we're doing everything we can to safeguard our land," he added.

Local youth Yasin Ali voiced frustration over unfulfilled promises by public representatives to build a permanent embankment, but he praised the community's

spirit. "The people here are incredible. They've come together to do what needs to be done. It's inspiring to see," said Yasin.

Abbas Ali echoed these sentiments, noting that while the situation is dire, the collective effort has brought the community closer together.

"We've been working at great personal risk, but it's worth it to protect our neighbours and our homes," he said.



PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

Volunteers load trucks with clothes and other relief materials to dispatch them to flood-affected areas. As the relief campaign continues at Dhaka University, students are working round the clock to collect relief funds and items and send them to the flood-affected people. The photo was taken at the DU Central Field yesterday.

Biman board of directors reformed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The interim government yesterday reconstituted the board of directors of Biman Bangladesh Airlines.

Civil Aviation and Tourism Affairs Ministry said this in a gazette notification in this regard.

Abdul Mueyed Chowdhury, a former adviser to the caretaker government, was made chairman of the board of directors of Biman.

On August 19, Chowdhury has been appointed as the new chairman of the national flag carrier.

Russia interested in exploring five more gas wells

Envoys of three countries call on chief adviser

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Russian state-owned energy company Gazprom has expressed interest in exploring five additional gas wells in Bhola, as well as further wells inland, Russian Ambassador to Bangladesh Alexander Mantyskiy revealed during a courtesy call on Chief Adviser Muhammad Yunus at the State Guest House Jamuna yesterday.

Mantyskiy also highlighted Russia's ongoing support for Bangladesh in international forums and discussed several key cooperation areas, including the Rooppur Nuclear Power Plant.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 6

'No flowers, no lavish arrangements'

Says Prof Niaz after taking charge as 30th DU VC

DU CORRESPONDENT

Professor Niaz Ahmed Khan took charge as the 30th vice chancellor of Dhaka University yesterday.

He was appointed "for the time being" by President Mohammed Shahabuddin, also the chancellor of the university.

After joining the office, Prof Niaz went to visit relief activities at TSC, where students are collecting relief items and funds for flood-affected people.

He also urged teachers, students, and other

SEE PAGE 4 COL 4

FOR CUSTOMERS' ATTENTION
TEMPORARY HALT OF IMPORT-EXPORT
& GUARANTEE SERVICES



In our continuous endeavor to serve you better, we will be carrying out a system upgradation of our trade services as per the time table below. All Import-Export & Guarantee related services will be suspended during this period.

Schedule Downtime	Suspended Services
Sunday, 1 September, 2024 to Tuesday, 3 September, 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All local and international Import-Export services All Guarantee related services

We regret any inconvenience caused. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

City Bank PLC
City Bank Center
28 Gulshan Avenue, Gulshan-1, Dhaka
www.citybankplc.com
Call Center: 10234

