



## 21 dists now without DC

Extra burden on ADCs as interim govt yet to finalise list for appointing DCs

BAHRAM KHAN

The government is yet to appoint deputy commissioners in 25 districts even though 13 days have gone by since the DCs from those districts were withdrawn.

The DCs are the heads of civil administration in districts. They play a pivotal role in overseeing local governance and ensuring effective delivery of public services. The DCs now have additional workload as they are in charge of zilla parishads and municipalities.

Additional deputy commissioners are now filling in for the DCs withdrawn from 21 districts while four DCs, who have been transferred, had to stay at their previous stations as their districts were affected by floods.

Sources said the public administration ministry cannot immediately appoint DCs to the districts as it needs time to make a list of officials fit for the job.

Preferring anonymity, a joint secretary at the Cabinet Division told The Daily Star that the interim government does not want to use the list of officials prepared by the previous government to appoint new DCs.

The official said the list made by the Hasina-led government is deemed full of officials close to the previous regime.

Usually, the government first appoints new DCs before transferring the existing ones. Sometimes, the two are done concurrently.

"However, the interim government has ordered the transfer of nearly half of the district DCs without preparing a list of replacements," the official said.

The government on August 20 withdrew the DCs from the districts, including Dhaka, Gazipur, Chattogram, Mymensingh and Cox's Bazar, and attached them to different ministries, directorates, and other offices.

The DCs of Chandpur, Cumilla, Noakhali, and Moulvibazar stayed at their stations because of the floods.

Following the fall of Hasina's government on August 5, many DC and UNO offices were attacked. Some officials even had to flee their stations fearing for their lives.

Right after the interim government was formed, many DCs sought

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Bangladesh pacer Hasan Mahmud (2nd from L) celebrates with teammates after one of his five wickets during Pakistan's second innings in the second Test at the Rawalpindi Cricket Stadium yesterday.

PHOTO: AFP

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## BTRC's curious U-turn on Summit Comms

MAHMUDUL HASAN

The telecom regulator has walked back on its decision just two months ago to allow Summit Communications to transfer its shares without any fee, in a development that raises questions about the extent of benefits the company received during the 15 years of the previous Awami League government.

Muhammad Farid Khan, chairman of Summit Communications, is the younger brother of AL presidium member Faruk Khan, also a five-time member of parliament from the Gopalganj-1. Farid is also a close friend of Sajeeb Wazed Joy, the

son and ICT affairs adviser of former prime minister Sheikh Hasina.

As per rules, when a company transfers shares, it has to furnish 5.5 percent of the selling price as a fee to the state coffer.

In April 2021, Kirtankhola Tower Bangladesh had to pay Tk 5.7 crore to the Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission (BTRC) for share transfer to new companies through issuing new shares.

However, for Summit Communications, which became the largest infrastructure company in the telecom and internet sector after debuting in 2009, the fee was

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## Series sweep beckons Tigers

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

For the first time since 2009 an away Test series sweep beckons Bangladesh in Rawalpindi on Day 5 of the second Test against Pakistan, but chances of rain playing spoilsport -- as it had done on Monday to wipe out the third session -- can dampen the tourists' party, with Tigers needing 143 more runs to win.

It has been a remarkable tale of fightback from the Tigers this match. Having bowled Pakistan out for 274 in the first innings, Bangladesh were reduced to 26 for six in their first innings before Liton Das and Mehedi Hasan Miraz's rescue act saw them fall just 12 runs short. Then with the ball, Bangladesh completely dominated proceedings yesterday.

Pace sells and Bangladesh capitalised with the three pacers taking all 10 wickets in Pakistan's second innings, the first time that Bangladesh pacers have attained the feat in Test cricket. Mehedi had written his

## Unrest hits industries

Workers' protests flare up; nearly 100 factories in Ashulia, Gazipur shut

JAGARAN CHAKMA and AKLAKUR RAHMAN AKASH

Workers from different sectors continued their demonstrations in Ashulia, Savar, Dhamrai, and Gazipur yesterday demanding equal rights in jobs, increase in salaries, and regularisation of contractual workers.

The protests spread to the agro-processing and shoe

industries yesterday, a day after workers from pharmaceuticals and readymade garment factories staged demonstrations.

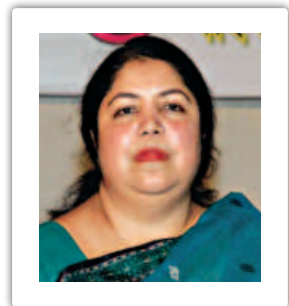
The workers' other demands include stopping of layoffs and payment of "attendance bonus".

For the second day in a row, workers of Bata Shoe Company (Bangladesh) Ltd staged demonstrations

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## Shirin steps down as JS speaker

President accepts her resignation



STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury, the speaker of the recently dissolved 12th Jatiya Sangsad, resigned yesterday.

She sent her resignation letter to President Mohammed Shahabuddin, confirmed sources at the Bangabhaban.

The move came 27 days after former prime minister Sheikh Hasina on August 5 stepped down and fled to India in the face of a mass uprising.

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## BB's strange bid to save Orion plant

The central bank relaxed rules allowing state-run banks to approve Tk 10,579cr loans

MD MEHEDI HASAN

Three state-run banks far exceeded their limits to salvage a coal-fired power plant project of an Orion Group subsidiary, which was stalled for six years, with Tk 10,579 crore in loans thanks to policy relaxation by the Bangladesh Bank under the now-ousted Sheikh Hasina government.

However, the loans, on top of Tk 6,244 crore liabilities of Orion companies with the banks, were not disbursed and the conglomerate decided to turn the project into a solar power plant.

Orion Group companies have borrowed a total of Tk 8,457 crore from banks, including Tk 616 crore from Mercantile Bank, Tk 357 crore from Social Islami Bank and Tk 1,240 crore from AB Bank as of June this year.

The group looked to Agrani, Janata

and Rupali banks for the syndicated loan approved last year for the project at Moheshkhali in Cox's Bazar under Orion Power Dhaka-2 Limited (OPDL-2) after its bid for foreign funds had failed, officials of the banks and Orion said.

Awami League's pick Abdur Rouf Talukder was the governor when the central bank had in November 2022 relaxed section 26-kha (I) of the Bank Company Act-1991, which states loans given by a bank to a single borrower shall not exceed 25 percent of the bank's capital.

The central bank relaxed the rule for coal-based power companies for the next five years. It gave the no-objection certificates (NOCs) for the OPDL-2 loans from August to October last year.

Bangladesh Bank spokesman Md Mezbaul Haque has recently told The Daily Star that the banks, not the

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### LOANS APPROVED FOR OPDL-2

BANK	APPROVED AMOUNT
Janata	5,078cr
Agrani	2,856cr
Rupali	2,645cr



## নতুনরূপে ইসলামী ব্যাংক

মায়ের মতো রাষ্ট্র যখন  
নিলো ব্যাংকের ভার  
ইসলামী ব্যাংক এগিয়ে যাবে  
রুখবে সাধ্য কার

গ্রাহকের আস্থা ও ভালোবাসায় ইসলামী ব্যাংক দেশের শীর্ষ ব্যাংক। বিগত কয়েক বছরে আমাদের এই পথচলা মসৃণ ছিলো না। তবে বৈষম্যবিরোধী ছাত্র-জনতার গণ-অভ্যুত্থানের ফলে আমাদের সুযোগ এসেছে নতুনভাবে এগিয়ে যাওয়ার। সম্পূর্ণ রাষ্ট্রীয় ব্যবস্থাপনায় গঠিত হয়েছে নতুন পরিচালনা পর্ষদ। দল, মত, শ্রেণি, পেশা নির্বিশেষে কোটি ধর্মপ্রাণ গ্রাহকের আমানত দীর্ঘমেয়াদী সুরক্ষার আবেগে ঢেকে দিতে মহান রাবুল আলামিন আমাদের সহায় হোন।

নতুন বাংলাদেশ গড়ার এই অভিযাত্রায় ইসলামী ব্যাংকের সাথে থাকুন।



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সত্য জানুন, পাশে থাকুন

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সম্মানিত গ্রাহক ও শুভানুধ্যায়ীদের কোন প্রকার অপপ্রচারে বিশ্বাস না হওয়ার অনুরোধ জানানো হচ্ছে।

অসত্য তথ্য ও অপপ্রচারের বিরুদ্ধে ডায়মন্ড ওয়ার্ল্ড-এর প্রতিবাদ

ডায়মন্ড ওয়ার্ল্ড এর সম্মানিত গ্রাহক ও শুভানুধ্যায়ীদের প্রতি আন্তরিক শুভেচ্ছা। আমরা অতীব উদ্বেগের সাথে লক্ষ্য করছি যে, ডায়মন্ড ওয়ার্ল্ডের অবিস্মরণীয় সাফল্যে ঈর্ষান্বিত হয়ে একটি কূচক্রীমহল উদ্দেশ্যমূলক ভাবে নানারকম অপপ্রচার করে যাচ্ছে। তাদের বিরুদ্ধে ইতিমধ্যে কঠোর আইনগত ব্যবস্থা গ্রহণ করা হয়েছে।

২০০৫ সালে যাত্রা শুরু করা বাংলাদেশের জুয়েলারি শিল্পে ISO সার্টিফাইড কোম্পানি ডায়মন্ড ওয়ার্ল্ড, আন্তর্জাতিক স্ট্যান্ডার্ড অনুযায়ী শতভাগ প্রাকৃতিক ও সার্টিফাইড ডায়মন্ড এবং হলমার্ক গোল্ড জুয়েলারি বিক্রয় করে থাকে। গ্রাহকবৃন্দ আমাদের সকল প্রোডাক্টের সারাজীবন বিক্রয়োত্তর সেবা (এক্সচেঞ্জ, রিফান্ড ও ফ্রী সার্ভিসিং) উপভোগ করছেন। আমরা বিভিন্ন সংস্থা কর্তৃক বারবার সেরা ব্র্যান্ডের স্বীকৃতি পেয়েছি। এছাড়া আমরা বিগত নয় বছর যাবত সেরা করদাতা হিসেবে রাষ্ট্র গঠনে ভূমিকা রেখে চলেছি। পাশাপাশি সামাজিক দায়বদ্ধতার অংশ হিসেবে সকল দুর্যোগে বিপন্ন মানবতার পাশে দাঁড়ানো সহ, সারা বছর জুড়ে আমাদের সামাজিক উন্নয়নমূলক কর্মকান্ড চলমান থাকে। ডায়মন্ড ওয়ার্ল্ড তার গ্রাহকদের স্বার্থ সংরক্ষণ সহ দেশ-মাতৃকার উন্নয়নে ভূমিকা রাখতে সদা দৃঢ় প্রতিজ্ঞ।

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