



This large pile of waste takes up a portion of the road in the Siddique Bazar area of the capital. The photo was taken yesterday. PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON

## A road never paved

2km earthen road lies dilapidated for decades

SOHRAB HOSSAIN, Patuakhali

Barely five kilometres away from Patuakhali district town, an earthen road lies neglected for decades.

The 2km road from Muchir Pool in Sharikkhali area under Patuakhali Sadar upazila connects to the Patuakhali-Kuakata regional highway, and is considered an important road for commuters travelling to the district town.

Around 5,000 people from eight villages in three unions use this road.

Despite its importance in rural connectivity, the road has remained unpaved for years.

Residents of Auliapur, Kalikapur and Madarbania union regularly commute to the upazila headquarters and district town using this road. Also, many students use it to attend classes in several educational institutions in the locality. Yet, over the years, even bricks were not laid on the road, let alone



getting it paved," said Hanif Mridha, 55, a local resident. Visiting the area recently, this correspondent saw that the entire stretch of the road is in a dilapidated condition. Students were seen tucking their trousers up to knee while using the road, while their uniforms are smeared with droplets of mud and dirty water from potholes and puddles.

"As no union parishad chairmen and members live in this area, they never took any initiative to renovate the road," alleged Deen Islam, a college student. Md Altaf Hossain, a local, called for urgent steps to renovate the road. Contacted, Mir Hussain Ali, executive engineer of Local Government Engineering Department in Patuakhali, said they were unaware about the road's condition. "We will take necessary measures after an inquiry," he added.

## Probe into indigenous deaths

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The statement further urged the government to implement a time-bound roadmap for the full enforcement of the Chittagong Hill Tracts Accord.

The activists also called for the home ministry to organise a roundtable discussion with representatives from the indigenous communities and civil society to prevent further violence, and immediately implement any recommendations resulting from the dialogue.

The violence erupted on September 18 in Pankhaya Para, Khagrachhari, when Mohammad Mamun, 30, was killed by a mob over allegations of theft.

His wife later filed a case against three Bangalees

and other unidentified individuals.

The following day, clashes in Dighinala between Bangalees and indigenous people resulted in the deaths of Junan Chakma, 20, Dhananjay Chakma, 50, and Rubel Chakma, 20, as well as the torching of 37 indigenous homes and shops.

On September 20, 17-year-old Anik Chakma was beaten to death in Rangamati. Despite video evidence, no arrests have been made, the statement noted.

The activists expressed concern that on September 21, three interim government advisers, including the home affairs adviser, visited Khagrachhari and Rangamati but did not

meet the victims' families or visit the affected areas.

Despite assurances that the perpetrators would be brought to justice, no arrests have been made, said the statement.

The statement also raised concerns over historical and systemic discrimination faced by indigenous communities in the hill districts, particularly in matters of security and justice, which it said contradicts the government's stated objectives.

The signatories of the statement include rights activist Sultana Kamal; Khushi Kabir, coordinator of Nijera Kori; senior advocate ZI Khan Panna; and Iftekharuzzaman, executive director of Transparency International Bangladesh.

## July revolution

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same investment, the university can initiate PhD programmes, where the supervisors and teachers can be brought from abroad.

At the discussion, DU Sociology teacher Samina Luthfa said Ducusu election is the only way to protect the rights of students on the campus, and it should be incorporated into the academic calendar.

"You [students] have broader responsibilities now. You need to fight for your rights and while you fight for your rights, you also need to understand whether you are taking away or oppressing the rights of others."

Cultural activities across the campus can create a democratic environment, she said. She suggested increasing the authority of departments and the academic council, while curtailing the vice chancellor's authority and reducing the government's intervention.

Two DU students, Spandan Tahsan and Sakir Ilfaz, presented the keynote paper in the discussion, organised by Siren -- a student-run quarterly magazine on campus.

They proposed turning DU completely residential and autonomous, holding Ducusu elections every year, and ensuring a democratic environment on the campus.

## Unified ministry key

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The policy brief proposed significant reforms at five levels -- pre-primary, primary, secondary and higher secondary, higher education, and education administration, management, and investment.

Speakers also suggested restructuring the University Grants Commission.

BRAC University's Emeritus Professor Manzoor Ahmed said a permanent education

commission was included in the 2010 policy, but the previous government did not pursue it.

He emphasised the need for it now, stressing that current measures must be legally transformed into permanent solutions.

The speakers also called for establishing a comprehensive national teacher development framework to ensure sustainable development for quality teachers.

Rasheda K Choudhury

pointed to confusion arising from decisions such as the cancellation of postponed HSC exams at the demand

of a few candidates, the sudden reversion to the 2012 curriculum, and the establishment of a coordination committee for textbook revisions, which was later cancelled.

To ensure and sustain transformation in education, they demanded an investment of at least four percent of GDP.



**Palli Karma-Sahayak Foundation (PKSF)**

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Memo No: 53.23.0000.043.03.005.24.6131

Date: 02 October 2024

### REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (CONSULTING SERVICES – FIRM SELECTION)

**Country:** The People's Republic of Bangladesh

**Name of the project:** Sustainable Microenterprise and Resilient Transformation (SMART)

**Credit No.:** IDA-7300

**Assignment Title:** Selection of Firm for Resource Efficient and Cleaner Production (RECP) Assessment and Capacity Building under SMART Project

**Reference No.** PKSF/SMART/S-03

- The Palli Karma-Sahayak Foundation (PKSF) has received financing from the World Bank toward the cost of the Sustainable Microenterprise and Resilient Transformation (SMART) and intends to apply part of the proceeds for consulting services.
- The consulting services ("the Services") include (but not limited to) evaluating current RECP practices of sampled MEs for feasibility & operationalization and recommend business and engineering RECP models for sub-sectors with implementation mechanism, developing RECP practices for cluster level as well as for common service (Revenue and Non-revenue) facilities of selected 21 sub-sectors, providing technical & engineering assistance to help operationalization of RECP practices at ME and cluster level, recommending on adoption of smart technology-based solution for automated capturing of climate-resilient RECP key performance indicators, building capacity of targeted microenterprises, Partner Organizations (POs), PKSF in validating, implementing and monitoring environment and climate-resilient RECP practices, monitoring and tracking environment and climate-resilient RECP practices adopted by MEs of 21 sub-sectors.

The assignment will require an estimated of 180 professional staff-months as per the assignment requirement mentioned in the Terms of Reference (TOR). The assignment will require work for 38 (thirty-eight) months. The assignment is expected to be started from May 2025.

- The detailed Terms of Reference (TOR) for the assignment can be obtained from the PKSF website ([www.pksf.org.bd/tender](http://www.pksf.org.bd/tender)).

The Palli Karma-Sahayak Foundation (PKSF) now invites eligible consulting firms ("Consultants") to indicate their interest in providing the Services. Interested Consultants should provide information demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the Services. The shortlisting criteria are: General experience (years in business), Experience in similar assignments (RECP implementation and capacity building), Experience of implementing RECP projects or programs in manufacturing/agriculture sectors, and Experience of performing similar assignments under The World Bank/ UN agencies funded projects.

**Consultants are requested to submit the following supporting documents in support of the above-mentioned criteria:**

- Up-to-date relevant registration papers of the firm(s);
  - JV agreement or letter of intent along with the proposed JV agreement (if applicable);
  - Firm's brochure including staffing;
  - Record of relevant experience in last ten (10) years (including name of the assignment, scope, contract amount, name of the client, total input in terms of man-month, period of contract (date of contract signing to date of completion), location of the services, name of the development partner etc.)
  - Any other item necessary to substantiate satisfaction of the shortlisting criteria listed above; Notably, Key Experts will not be evaluated at the shortlisting stage;
- The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to Section III, paragraphs, 3.14, 3.16, and 3.17 of the World Bank "Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers" September 2023 setting forth the World Bank's policy on conflict of interest.
  - Consultants may associate with other firms to enhance their qualifications, but should indicate clearly whether the association is in the form of a joint-venture or a sub-consultancy. In the case of a joint venture, all the partners in the joint venture shall be jointly and severally liable for the entire contract, if selected. In case of an association, all members of such "association" must have real and well-defined inputs to the assignment and in such "association" it is preferable to limit the total number of firms including the associates to a maximum of 04 (four). Notably, the qualifications of sub-consultants will not be considered in the EOI evaluation and shortlisting process.

7. A Consultant will be selected in accordance with the **Quality and Cost Based Selection (QCBS)** method (Open-International market approach) set out in the World Bank Procurement Regulations.

8. Further information can be obtained at the address below either by e-mail or in person during office hours: 10:00 to 14:00 hours.

9. Expression of Interest (EOI) must be delivered in a written form (Hard copy along with a soft copy through flash-drive) to the address of the undersigned (in person, or by courier mail) **by 24 October 2024 on or before 13:00 hours** Bangladesh Standard Time (BST).

10. The Procuring Entity (PE) reserves the right to accept or reject any or all EOIs without assigning any reason whatsoever.

**(Dr. Md. Jashim Uddin), Additional Managing Director**

Palli Karma-Sahayak Foundation (PKSF), PKSF Bhaban, Plot: E-4/B, Agargaon Administrative Area, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207, Tel: 88-02-222218331-33; E-mail: [smartprocure.pksf@gmail.com](mailto:smartprocure.pksf@gmail.com)

## Price of 12kg LPG cylinder



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marketed by state-owned LP Gas Company, will remain the same as it is locally produced with a market share of less than 5 percent.

Bangladeshi LPG operators normally import their products from the Middle Eastern market based on Saudi CP.

LPG witnessed the highest price at Tk 1,498 (per 12kg cylinder) in the local market in February last year.

## PRAYER TIMING OCTOBER 3

	Fazr	Zohr	Asr	Maghrib	Esha
AZAN	4-45	12-45	4-15	5-53	7-30
JAMAAT	5-20	1-15	4-30	5-56	8-00

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

## বাড়ি বিক্রয়

গুলশান-২ এ ৫ কাঠা জমির উপর ৬ তলা কমার্শিয়াল বিল্ডিং এবং মহাবালী ডিওএইচএস ৫ কাঠা জমির উপর ৬ তলা আবাসিক বাড়ি বিক্রয় হবে।  
**+8801712021072**

## LOST

I AM MOHAMMED ABBAS UDDIN, MOBILE NO. 01819385474 WAS HAVING 04 NOS OF ORIGINAL SHANCHAYPATRA CERTIFICATES NO. 0685133, 0685134, 0685135, 0685136, REGISTRATION NO. BSP 2008/6200489, DATED 10/11/2008, STANDARD CHARTERED BANK, AGRABAD BRANCH, CHATTOGRAM, WAS LOST ON SEPTEMBER 27, 2024. MEANWHILE, I HAVE DONE A GD ENTRY NO. 39 IN POLICE STATION, DOUBLE MOORING, CHATTOGRAM. D-20



**Pashchimanchal Gas Company Limited**  
(A Company of Petrobangla)  
Head Office: Nalka, Sirajganj.

### Tender Notice

Ref. No: 28.18.0000.066.45.001.24/CP-Implementation Date: 01/10/2024  
E-Tender has been invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) on dated 03/10/2024 for procurement of following works:

Tender ID No.	Package No.	Name of the Works	Last Selling (date & time)	Closing and Opening (date & time)
1021891	28.18.0000.066.45.001.24/CP-Implementation	Implementation of CP System for Newly Shifted Pipeline from Majira to Matidhali and Nalka to Hatikumul at PGCL Franchise Area.	16-October-2024, 16:00 pm	17-October-2024, 11:30 am

This is an online Tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the 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 last selling/downloading the e-Tender Documents from the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through any registered bank's branches.

Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk ([helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd](mailto:helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd)).

PGPR-10/2024-2025

*M. Saïdul Islam*  
(Engr. Md. Saïdul Islam)  
General Manager (Operation)  
Pashchimanchal Gas Company Ltd.,  
Nalka, Sirajganj.

GD-601



**COMMONWEALTH  
SCHOLARSHIPS**



Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

## University Grants Commission of Bangladesh

UGC Bhaban, Plot # E-18/A, Agargaon Administrative Area  
Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207  
[www.ugc.gov.bd](http://www.ugc.gov.bd)

### Viva-Voce Announcement for the Commonwealth Scholarships tenable in the UK (MS & PhD) from September/October-2025

The viva-voce of the Commonwealth Scholarships tenable in the UK (MS & PhD) from September/October-2025 will be held on **06 and 07 October 2024 at UGC Bhaban, Agargaon, Dhaka**. The applicants are requested to check the UGC website ([www.ugc.gov.bd](http://www.ugc.gov.bd)) for the purpose of finding short list(s), viva-voce date(s) with time, result(s) etc. All the relevant information and directions will be timely uploaded at the UGC website under the heading of "Notice Board/International Collaboration, Scholarship and Fellowship Box". The applicants must check and collect all the information and directions from the UGC website by their own responsibilities. Any attempt of persuasion regarding the viva-voce will disqualify the applicant(s). No communication will be done with the applicant(s) from UGC side.

Secretary  
UGC