

A horn-free Dhaka from Dec: Rizwana

UNB, Dhaka



The government is set to implement a gradual ban on vehicle honking across Dhaka city by December, with the goal of making the entire capital a "quiet zone" by early next year, said Syeda Rizwana Hasan, adviser to the environment ministry.

This initiative is part of a larger effort to combat noise pollution, which will later expand to other major cities in Bangladesh.

While talking to UNB, Rizwana revealed that steps are already underway, starting with key areas of Dhaka.

She emphasised that the government is prioritising public awareness campaigns before enforcing penalties.

Starting in December, drivers caught honking without cause will face a Tk 500 fine for the first violation, with increased penalties for repeat offences, she added.



After the "Silent Zone" initiative at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport came into effect on October 1, activists were seen holding placards and signs raising awareness on the matter near the Uttara flyover area yesterday. The initiative, which will slowly be rolled out throughout Dhaka, aims to reduce noise pollution in the capital by banning the use of horns in the airport area.

PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN

ARSON CASE

Fakhrul, Rizvi cleared of charges

BSS, Dhaka

A Dhaka court yesterday exempted eight individuals, including BNP Secretary General Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir and Senior Joint Secretary General Ruhul Kabir Rizvi, from the charges in a case lodged over vandalising and torching a garbage truck of DSCC.

The others - Jamaat leader Muhammad Shafikul Islam Masud, BNP leaders Saiful Alam Nirob, Azizul Bari Helal, Moazzem Hossain Babu, Qazi Rezaul Haque Babu, and Khandaker Enamul Haque Enam.

"The case was at the stage of testimony for long. No witnesses were turning up before the court to testify in the case. Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Ziadur Rahman today [Wednesday] relieved the accused from the charges," said defence counsel Syed Joyntul Abedin Mesbah.

DSCC staff Md Ainal filed the case on October 9, 2012. Police filed a charge sheet in the case on October 23, 2017.

Ninety-six percent of respondents support limiting the prime minister's term. Forty-six percent batted for constitutional changes, while 16 percent called for a new constitution.

INTERIM GOVERNMENT

Its tenure shouldn't exceed two years

Say 53pc respondents of a survey

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The tenure of the interim government should not exceed two years, said 53 percent of 1,869 respondents in a new study.

The remaining 47 percent believed the current government should be in office for three years or more, according to the study titled "Citizens' Expectations from the Interim Government of Bangladesh," conducted by the South Asian Institute of Policy and Governance of North South University. Its findings were disclosed yesterday at a press meet in Jatiya Press Club.

According to a press release, Akram Hossain, assistant professor at NSU, said the surveys were conducted from September 9-19 across 17 districts of eight divisions.

Sixty-three percent of respondents were aged 28-50 years, 14 percent were aged above 50, while 22 percent were aged 18-27 years. Around 54 percent of respondents were urban residents, while the remaining hail from rural regions.

An overwhelming 96 percent of respondents support limiting the prime minister's term. Forty-six percent batted

for significant constitutional changes, while 16 percent called for a completely new constitution.

However, 46 percent of respondents were undecided about their political affiliation, while 54 percent expressed interest in mainstream politics.

The surveyed citizens expressed satisfaction with the interim government, lauding their flood management in August and September.

Speaking as chief guest, Badiul Alam Majumdar, secretary of Shushashoner Jonno Nagorik, said fulfilling people's expectations is the interim government's biggest challenge.

"Fair elections have been held in our country before. However, we need to change our political structure and culture to reap the benefits of a fair election. Politicians, as main stakeholders in running the country, need to be more democratic and responsible," added Majumdar, also head of Electoral System Reform Commission.

Speaking at the event, SIPG Adviser Prof Salahuddin M Aminuzzaman said the people's expectations are not unrealistic.

Shibir's DU unit declares 14-member committee

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Ten days after the identities of the top two leaders of Islami Chhatra Shibir's Dhaka University unit were revealed, the organisation yesterday introduced its full 14-member DU committee.

The announcement was made on the Facebook page of the university's branch of the organisation in the afternoon.

Md Abu Shadik Kayem has been made the president, with SM Farhad serving as the general secretary.

Earlier, on September 21, following a meeting between student organisations and the university administration, Shadik Kayem identified himself as the president of Shibir's DU unit. He is a political science student from the 2016-17 academic session.

The next day, SM Farhad's identity as general secretary was disclosed. He is a student of the 2017-18 academic session at the Institute of Social Welfare and Research and a former resident of Kabi Jasimuddin Hall.

Shadik and Farhad enrolled at DU after completing their Alim from madrasas in Chattogram.

Shadik, who has been active in student movement, said their committee had been ready since January but could not be revealed earlier due to what he described as "oppression from the fascist government".

RANA PLAZA SC stays HC bail of Sohel Rana

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court chamber judge yesterday stayed a High Court order that granted ad-interim bail to Rana Plaza owner Sohel Rana in a case filed over deaths during the collapse of the plaza in April 2013.

Justice Md Rezaul Haque, the chamber judge of the Appellate Division of the SC, passed the order following a challenge petition filed by the state.

The chamber judge also sent the state's petition to the full bench of the Appellate Division for its further hearing on October 21.

Sohel Rana cannot get released from jail following the SC chamber judge's order.

Travel ban on ex-AL MP Golap, 4 others

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday issued travel bans on five individuals, including former Awami League lawmaker Abdus Sobhan Golap and current Rajuk Chief Engineer Ujjwal Mallick, in connection with corruption allegations.

The three others are former deputy governor Shitangshu Kumar Sur Chowdhury, his wife Suparna Sur Chowdhury, and their daughter Nandita Sur Chowdhury.

Judge Mohammed Ash-Shams Jgjlul Hossain of the Metropolitan Senior Special Judge's Court in Dhaka passed the orders.

The ACC said inquiries are underway into the graft allegations against the five and therefore, a travel ban is necessary to prevent them from leaving the country.

Six promoted to additional IGP

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government has promoted six senior police officers to the rank of additional inspector general of police.

The Public Security Division of the home ministry issued a notification in this regard yesterday.

The promoted officers are Matuur Rahman Sheikh of Police Staff College, Alamgir Alam and Delwar Hossain of Police Headquarters, Sarder Tamiz Uddin Ahmed and Shah Alam of Special Branch of police and Abdullah Al Mahmud of Bangladesh Police Academy.

The order will come into effect from the date of their joining, the notification added.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Roads and Highways Department Office of the Additional Chief Engineer Sylhet Zone, Sylhet. e-Tender Notice (NCT, OSTETM) Memo No. 35.01.9100.010.07.102255724-5592 Date: 30/09/2024

North-West Power Generation Company Ltd. ISO 9001:2015, ISO 14001:2015 & ISO 45001:2018 Certified (An Enterprise of Bangladesh Power Development Board) Office of the Plant Manager (Superintending Engineer) Sirajganj 225 MW Combined Cycle Power Plant (Unit-1) Soytabad, Sirajganj

e-Tender Notice The following e-Tenders have been invited in the National e-GP System Portal (www.eprocure.gov.bd): Table with columns: Sl. No., Tender ID, Brief description of tender, Publication date, Last selling date & time, Opening date. Includes signature of Engr. Brojendra Kumar Sarker.

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার উপজেলা স্বাস্থ্য ও পঃ পঃ কর্মকর্তার কার্যালয় গাংনী, মেহেরপুর. হমেইলঃ gangni@uhfpo.dghs.gov.bd তারিখঃ ৩০/৯/২০২৪ইং. পথ্য, টেশনারী ও কাপড় ধোলাই সামগ্রী দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি. ২০২৪-২০২৫ অর্থ বৎসরে উপজেলা স্বাস্থ্য কমপ্লেক্স, গাংনী, মেহেরপুরের জন্য পথ্য, টেশনারী ও কাপড় ধোলাই সামগ্রী সরবরাহের নিমিত্তে পিপিএ ২০০৬, পিপিআর ২০০৮ এবং সংশোধিত সকল বিধিবিধান মোতাবেক অগ্রাহী দরপত্রাদাতা (দরদাতা/প্রকৃত ব্যবসায়ী/সরবরাহকারী) ঠিকাদারের নিকট হতে গ্রুপ ওয়ারী পৃথক পৃথকভাবে সীলমোহরকৃত খামে দরপত্র আহ্বান করা যাচ্ছে।