



THE NATION'S
LARGEST ROD
MANUFACTURER

WITH MORE CAPACITY, WE ARE MORE READY
TO BUILD TOMORROW'S BANGLADESH

BSRM
building a safer nation

Terminal 3,
Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport

Proud
Construction
Partner



UN MISSIONS Those guilty of violating rights won't be picked

Army chief tells UN
peacekeeping officials

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Any member of the armed forces with records of proven human rights violations while in the Rapid Action Battalion on deputation will not be selected for UN peacekeeping missions, army chief General Waker-Uz-Zaman has said.

He made the remarks during a meeting with key officials related to UN Peacekeeping at the headquarters of the world body in New York, according to a press release by the Inter Services Public Relation Directorate (ISPR).

The army chief returned to Bangladesh yesterday after a visit to the United States and Canada.

During his trip, he met with Donald

SEE PAGE 2 COL 4



Waker-Uz-Zaman



Hundreds of people from the Hindu community gather at Chattogram's Laldighi Maidan yesterday to protest the recent attacks on their temples, homes, and businesses. This large-scale rally, organised by the Sanatan Jagaran Mancha, raised an eight-point demand, including justice for violence against minorities and ensuring their protection. Story on page 5.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

Start process of holding free, fair election

BNP urges govt, warns of
plot to destabilise country

UNB, Dhaka

Stating that conspiracies are afoot to destabilise the country, senior BNP leader Zainul Abidin Farroque yesterday called upon the interim government to promptly initiate the process of a fair election without delaying reforms.

"A conspiracy is afoot to weaken the interim government, and it is disrupting the reform process. I urge Chief Adviser Dr Muhammad Yunus to stay vigilant to this," he said.

Speaking at a sit-in programme, the BNP chairperson's advisory council member also said the government should complete reforms to the Election Commission urgently based on the opinions of the political parties to start the election process.

The Senbagh Forum in Dhaka arranged the programme in front of the Jatiya Press Club, demanding the withdrawal of all cases filed against BNP acting chairman Tarique Rahman.

Farroque also demanded that former prime minister Sheikh Hasina, who fled to India on August 5, be brought back home immediately.

SEE PAGE 6 COL 4

TV channels up in arms over govt's TRP system

The state-run mechanism keeps generating
unreliable ratings, says owners' platform

MAHMUDUL HASAN

On August 5 and 6, several TV channels including ATN News, Asian TV and Bijoy TV went off air as an angry mob vandalised its broadcasting centres.

And yet, the Bangladesh Satellite Company's (BSCL) Television Rating Point (TRP) system showed ATN News had 2.84 lakh viewers. Similarly, Asian TV and Bijoy TV also generated ratings.

It was this anomaly that made the TV channel owners lose their patience with the unreliable TRP system, which cost the state about Tk 5.7 crore, and call for abandoning it entirely. The Daily Star has learnt from stakeholders, who spoke on the condition of anonymity.

The TRP system measures the viewership of different channels, enabling advertisers to allocate more ad money to support popular programmes. In other words, good quality programmes would be rewarded with more ads

BSCL'S FAULTY TRP SYSTEM

➤ Taken up on ex-info minister Hasan Mahmud's wish

➤ Public procurement rules violated

➤ Running on losses

➤ Failing to meet projected revenue

➤ TV channels call for scrapping the system

and vice versa.

Before the BSCL-built TRP system began commercial operation in April this year, the service was provided by one of the multinational market research firms, as is practice globally.

But on the request of Hasan Mahmud, the former information minister, BSCL took up the project to develop a homegrown TRP system, with some of the purchases for the project made on 'personal connection'.

The episode is yet another instance of how the previous Awami League regime misused public funds at will, disregarding business case for a project.

During the project, BSCL said it will generate revenues of Tk 50 lakh to Tk 70 lakh per month.

However, it is now earning only about Tk 45.1 lakh per month from 32 TV channels and two advertising agencies, while incurring expenses of approximately Tk 28 lakh per month.

SEE PAGE 6 COL 5

DU official dies falling down lift shaft

DU CORRESPONDENT

An official of Dhaka University died yesterday morning after falling down a lift shaft from the seventh floor at the Centre for Advanced Research in Sciences (CARS) building.

Critically injured, Mohammad Abdullah, senior assistant director (accounts) of the Fine Arts Faculty, died while undergoing treatment at Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

According to campus sources, admission tests for Bangladesh Agricultural University (BAU) were being held at the CARS building in the morning.

Abdullah had gone to the dean's office on the seventh floor of the CARS building to collect honorariums to be given to the invigilators.

DU Proctor Saifuddin Ahmed, said, "After collecting the money,

SEE PAGE 6 COL 4

Israeli strike kills 3 journos in Lebanon

Beirut terms the strike a 'war crime'

REUTERS, Beirut

An Israeli strike killed at least three journalists and wounded several others as they slept in guesthouses in southern Lebanon yesterday, Lebanon's health ministry said, in what Beirut declared a "war crime".

US Secretary of State Antony Blinken said there was an urgency to get a diplomatic resolution to the conflict in Lebanon, a day after he said Washington did not want to see a protracted campaign there by its ally Israel.

Beirut authorities say the offensive has killed more than 2,500 people and displaced more than 1.2 million people, the majority of them over the last month, creating a humanitarian crisis.

"We have a sense of real urgency in getting to a diplomatic resolution and the full implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1701, such that there can be real security along border between Israel and Lebanon," Blinken said in London.

He said it was important so "people at both sides of the border can have the confidence to... return to their homes".

The journalists killed were camera operator Ghassan Najjar and engineer Mohamed Reda of the pro-Iranian news outlet Al-Mayadeen and camera operator Wissam Qassem, who worked for Hezbollah's Al-Manar, the outlets said in separate statements.

Many fake coordinators popping up since Aug 5

Says Sarjis

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Many fake coordinators have appeared like chameleons since August 5, said Sarjis

Alam, one of the central coordinators of the Anti-Discrimination Student Movement.

"We need to differentiate ourselves from them. They have always been opportunistic, and that hasn't changed; it won't change in the future. If we don't separate ourselves from them, they will tarnish our image under the guise of coordinators," Sarjis said.

He made these comments during a meeting with students and families of those killed and injured in Madaripur

SEE PAGE 6 COL 5



A Palestinian man looks on in silence as he holds his grandchild, who was killed in an Israeli strike that targetted an area in Khan Yunis, at the European Gaza Hospital in the Gaza Strip yesterday. Inset, a man inspects the damage at the site of the Israeli strike that targetted the area in Khan Yunis.

PHOTO: AFP

ICT gets five more prosecutors

BSS, Dhaka

The government has appointed five more prosecutors to the International Crimes Tribunal (ICT), bringing the total number of prosecutors to nine.

The newly-appointed five prosecutors are -- SM Moinul Karim, Md Nure Ershad Siddiqui, Shaikh Mahdi, Tarek Abdullah, and Tanvir Hasan Joha.

Of the five, SM Moinul Karim and Md Nure Ershad have been appointed with the status of deputy attorney general, while the rest except Tanvir Hasan Joha will get the status of assistant attorney general. Joha is a digital forensic expert.

The solicitor wing of the Law and Justice Division issued a gazette notification in this regard on Thursday, mentioning that the order comes into effect immediately.

The government on September 7 appointed four prosecutors, with Supreme Court Advocate Muhammad Tajul Islam

SEE PAGE 6 COL 4

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার
নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলী, সড়ক এর কার্যালয়
নরসিংদী সড়ক বিভাগ, নরসিংদী
eenar@rhd.gov.bd

তারিখ: ২০-১০-২০২৪ খ্রিঃ।

স্মারক নং-৩৫.০১.৬৮০০.৪৫২.০৭.০০০.২৪-১৩১২

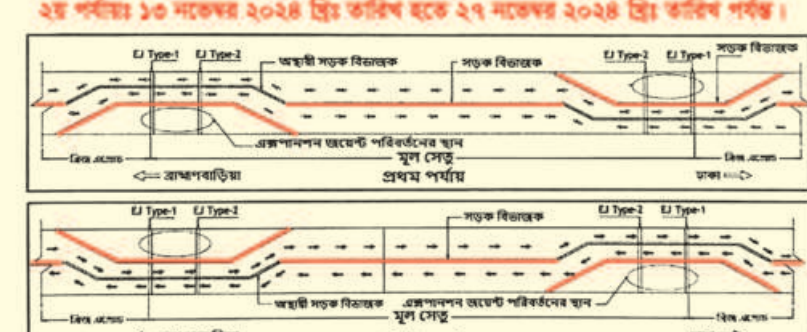
গণবিজ্ঞপ্তি

"সড়ক সীমিত আধীন মহাসড়কের (এন-২) ৭২তম কিলোমিটারে অবস্থিত সৈয়দ নজরুল ইসলাম (ভৈরব সেতু) সেতুর ক্ষতিগ্রস্ত এলাকায় প্রসারিত জয়েন্ট (Expansion Joint) প্রতিস্থাপন কাজ প্রসারিত"

এতদ্বারা সকলের অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, আগামী ২৮ অক্টোবর ২০২৪ খ্রিঃ তারিখ হতে নরসিংদী সড়ক বিভাগাধীন ঢাকা-সিলেট জাতীয় মহাসড়কের (এন-২) ৭২তম কিলোমিটারে অবস্থিত সৈয়দ নজরুল ইসলাম (ভৈরব সেতু) সেতুর ক্ষতিগ্রস্ত এলাকায় প্রসারিত জয়েন্ট (Expansion Joint) প্রতিস্থাপন কাজ শুরু করা হবে এবং কাজটি দুইটি পর্যায়ে বাস্তবায়ন করা হবে।

উক্ত প্রসারিত জয়েন্ট (Expansion Joint) প্রতিস্থাপনকালীন সময়ে সেতুটির উপর দিয়ে সার্বজনিক যান চলাচল অব্যাহত থাকবে। তবে উক্ত সময়ে সেতুর ওয়াকিং জোনে ৪-সেনের পরিবর্তে ২-সেনে (উভমুখী) যান চলাচল করবে বিধায় যানবাহনের গতি বাতাবিকের চেয়ে মন্থর হতে পারে। কাজটি বাস্তবায়নকালীন সময়ে সড়ক ও জনপথ অধিদপ্তর, ঠিকাদার প্রতিষ্ঠানের নিয়োগিত জনবল, হাইওয়ে পুলিশ, স্থানীয় পুলিশ এবং প্রশাসনের সহযোগীতায় যান চলাচল যথাসম্ভব বাতাবিক রাখার জন্য যথাযথ ট্রাফিক ব্যবস্থাপনা নিশ্চিত করা হবে। উক্ত মেরামতকালীন সময়ে মহাসড়কটিতে চলাচলকারী সকল যানবাহনকে নির্দেশিত লেন এবং গতিসীমা মেনে সেতু পারাপারের জন্য অনুরোধ করা হলো। সাময়িক অসুবিধার জন্য কৃতপক্ষ আন্তরিকভাবে দুঃখিত।

১ম পর্যায় ২৮ অক্টোবর ২০২৪ খ্রিঃ তারিখ হতে ১১ নভেম্বর ২০২৪ খ্রিঃ তারিখ পর্যন্ত।
২য় পর্যায় ১০ নভেম্বর ২০২৪ খ্রিঃ তারিখ হতে ২৭ নভেম্বর ২০২৪ খ্রিঃ তারিখ পর্যন্ত।



চিত্র অনুযায়ী প্রথম এবং দ্বিতীয় পর্যায়ের যান চলাচল অব্যাহত থাকবে। সেতুর দুই প্রান্তে দুই বিপরীত পার্শ্বের প্রসারিত জয়েন্ট (Expansion Joint) প্রতিস্থাপন কাজ চলমান থাকবে এবং এ সময় মেরামত কাজের বিপরীত পার্শ্ব দিয়ে এক লেন করে উভমুখী যান চলাচল অব্যাহত থাকবে।

মো: হামিদুল ইসলাম
পরিচিতি নং-৬০২২৪০
নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলী, সড়ক
নরসিংদী সড়ক বিভাগ, নরসিংদী

GD-793