



Police personnel stand guard in front of the Jatiyo Party central office in the capital's Kakrail to prevent any untoward situation. On Friday, Dhaka Metropolitan Police announced a ban on all meetings, gatherings, processions, and demonstrations in the area. On Thursday evening, a group of people marching under the banner of "Anti-fascist students, workers, and masses" vandalised and set fire to the ground floor of the five-storey building housing JP's office. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

GHATAIL UPAZILA

Residents suffer as bridge work stalls

MIRZA SHAKIL, Tangail

The renovation work of Khakuria Bridge in Deopara union of Tangail's Ghatail upazila has not been completed even in three years allegedly due to negligence of the contractor and authorities concerned, causing immense sufferings to around one lakh residents.

According to Local Government and Engineering Department in Ghatail upazila, after the 52-metre bridge on a waterbody in Khakuria area had partially collapsed, initiatives were taken to renovate it at a cost of Tk 4.21 crore. The work began on September 21, 2021, with a deadline to complete it by 2022.

A contractor firm, Dhaka SE Sadia & Samia Joint Venture, got the work order, but it appointed Saiful Isla, a local sub-contractor, to do the renovation work.

Locals alleged that the sub-contractor was inexperienced and failed to complete the work within



the stipulated deadline amid lax monitoring by the authorities concerned.

To allow vehicular movement during the bridge's renovation, the sub-contractor had constructed a diversion road, which collapsed within a short time. Later, a makeshift bridge was constructed with wood and bamboo to allow people cross the waterbody during

the bridge's renovation work.

The sub-contractor also suspended the work once, but resumed it shortly following pressure from locals, before halting it yet again.

"The renovation work has remained suspended for the last six months," said Shafiqul Islam, a resident of Khakuria village. Mohammad Ali, a local, said

farmers transporting their produce to markets have been facing a lot of trouble as the renovation work remains halted.

"People from around 41 villages have been sufferings amid the situation," said Sumon Miah of Ghunipara village.

Asked about the matter, Saiful Islam, the sub-contractor, said only the works for the bridge's guardrails and approach roads now remain incomplete.

He said the work has remained suspended at present over dispute with his partner. He said he would complete the rest of the work as soon as possible.

Contacted, Fazlur Rahman, upazila engineer of LGED in Ghatail, said he had visited the bridge recently and directed the sub-contractor to complete the work immediately.

"Now only around 10 percent work remains pending, which can be completed with a couple of weeks once resumed," he added.

Reforms underway

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corruption to a tolerable limit.

"We have not ascended to power; we assumed the responsibility," he noted, saying, "So every project should be considered based on people's interests, not for the vested group," he said.

The previous government implemented various projects for the interests of their nexus, so that vested groups, relatives, and individuals could grab a huge amount of money from those, he added.

Pointing out the government's plan to increase use of renewable energy, the adviser said the ongoing activities under the Quick Enhancement

of Electricity and Energy Supply (Special Provisions) Act 2010 (Amended 2021) were suspended along with the government power to fix electricity and gas prices under.

He said the government has a plan to excavate 50 exploration wells by 2025, adding, "Henceforth all purchases in the energy sector will be through the open tender method rather than negotiations."

He also said the energy ministry has taken the initiative to install a substation to supply electricity smoothly.

Regarding energy price, Fouzul Kabir said the Bangladesh Energy Regulatory Commission (BERC) will decide on fuel and energy price.

73pc graduates earn SSC exams

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an action plan to create a modern, efficient technical and vocational education system," he said.

He suggested that the government take three months for assessment and four months to implement this transformation by ensuring necessary funding and guidelines in the 2025-26 budget.

Prof Mustafizur Rahman, another CPD distinguished fellow, questioned the effectiveness of new investments in technical education unless existing institutional issues are addressed.

"The employment landscape will change significantly in the next 15 years. We need to prepare the curriculum, trainers, and infrastructure accordingly," he said, adding that foundational technical education initiatives should start at the primary level.

"Our resources are limited, but the demand is substantial. It's essential to allocate resources strategically to make the most impact," he said.

He also stressed the need for good governance, accountability, and transparency.

Md Maksudur Rahman, director (PIU) of the Directorate of Technical Education, admitted that only 18 percent of teaching positions in the technical education sector are filled.

"We are working to fill these vacancies through PSC and other means and hope to resolve this issue soon," he said.

A Matin Chowdhury, former president of UCEP Bangladesh and Bangladesh Textile Mills Association,

stressed that training should lead to employment. "Training is incomplete without ensuring job placements," he added.

Md Ruhul Amin, secretary of the Ministry of Expatriates' Welfare and Overseas Employment, said migration costs are rising due to middlemen.

He said a policy is underway to bring these intermediaries under legal regulation, with a platform launching in December to provide transparent information on overseas employment opportunities.

The event was also attended by Md Rakib Ullah, chairman of Bangladesh Technical Education Board, and Rubina Hossain, president of Bangladesh Federation of Women Entrepreneurs, among others.

Govt forms committee

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Jagannath University; Nurul Momen Bhuiyan, an anthropology teacher at National University; Tanzim Wahab, a photographer and research director at the Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy; Sahul Ahmed Munna, writer and researcher; Marina Tabassum, an architect; and senior representatives from several government departments, including the Bangladesh National Museum, Archives and Libraries, and the Department of Archaeology.

One or two student representatives will also join the committee.

The museum is set to

SSC exams

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routine in 2020, leading to a scheduling backlog.

In 2023, the SSC exams started on April 30.

This year, the exams started on February 15, returning to the traditional schedule for the first time after Covid pandemic.

However, the timeline for this public exam is now being pushed back once again.

Mentionable, Eid-ul-Fitr next year is expected toward the end of March.

The Dhaka Education Board earlier said the upcoming SSC exams will be held covering the full syllabus, with full marks and time allocations for all subjects.

Meanwhile, the 2025 HSC exams will be held on a revised syllabus similar to 2023 but with full marks across all subjects.

memorialise the struggles and victories of Bangladesh over the past 16 years, particularly focusing on the resistance against fascism.

Speaking on the event, Nahid Islam said the museum will preserve artefacts of oppression and victories, while serving as a centre for research.

The museum will be an international landmark, open to visitors from around the world, symbolising the public's resilience and their triumph over authoritarian rule, said Mahfuz Alam.

The committee is expected to begin work on the project later this week, he added.

Need unity among the cooperatives

Says Hassan Ariff

BSS, Dhaka

Calling for working together to strengthen cooperative movement in the country, Local Government Adviser AF Hassan Ariff yesterday said unity is the driving force of cooperative movement.

"The main purpose of cooperatives is to work together. But dispute over issuance of membership of the cooperative is not desirable," he said while distributing National Cooperative Prize among the winners marking the 53rd National Cooperatives Day at the Department of Cooperatives in Agargaon.

Women and Children and Social Welfare Adviser Sharmeen Murshid addressed the event as special guest while Rural Development and Co-operatives Division Secretary Mosammat Shahanara Khatun was in the chair.

Drop cases under

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as a measure of reform, the substance of the criminal provisions remained the same, read the statement.

The statement noted that while Section 57 of the ICT Act and the DSA have been repealed, over 1,000 "speech-related" cases initiated under them are still ongoing, as per figures released by the interim government.

"While it is important to prosecute cybercrimes such as hacking, sexual harassment, and other serious offences, Bangladesh's cybersecurity laws have been draconian, and we urge the repeal of cases filed under them," said Zillur Rahman, executive director of CGS.

According to the statement, the joint report concluded that the principle of legality requires the dismissal of all cases pending under the ICT Act since there is no legal basis for those to continue.

When a law is repealed, the general rule under common law is that it is as if it never existed. The DSA, however, had a "savings clause", which "kept alive" the cases pending under the ICT Act when the DSA was adopted, the report mentioned, adding that

while the CSA also has a "savings clause", it explicitly applies only to DSA cases and not to ICT Act cases.

"There is no basis for cases under the ICT Act to continue. Even in the case of ambiguity, the principle of constraining criminal laws narrowly and in favour of accused persons should mean that ICT Act cases stand terminated. Resurrection of old cases under the draconian law, especially against journalists, activists, and political opponents, is an abuse of the process of law," said Rebecca Mammen John, TrialWatch expert and senior advocate at the Supreme Court of India.

More generally, provisions relating to "offensive" information, "fake news", or information that "deteriorates law and order", likewise, cannot survive scrutiny. As such, courts in different countries across the world are striking down laws that have long been used to criminalise speech.

Bangladesh's interim government has a historic opportunity to restore the rule of law in the country in line with its human rights obligations by immediately terminating all pending cases under the ICT Act, the statement added.

Minorities matter

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and prosperity. Let's secure everyone's rights in the country," said Nirmal Rozario.

Nim Chanda Bhowmik, another president of the Oikya Parishad, said, "All false cases against the minority community must be withdrawn. We demand that no further malicious lawsuits be filed against us."

Addressing US presidential candidate Donald Trump, Advocate Subrata Chowdhury said, "Solve the problems in your own country. We do not need your help to solve the issues of minorities in Bangladesh. We will resolve our problems ourselves."

Charu Chandra Das Brahmachari, general secretary of ISKCON Bangladesh, said, "ISKCON operates in every country in the world. Still, Amar Desh Editor Mahmudur Rahman has demanded that ISKCON be banned. He must apologise within the next seven days."

Bhikkhu Sunandapriya, general secretary of Buddhist Federation, said, "This government is forming various reform committees, but no minority representatives are being included. People from minority communities are being

forcibly dismissed, made OSD (Officers on Special Duty), and transferred from government jobs. We have suffered enough discrimination; we don't want to suffer any more."

The rally concluded with a protest march, which proceeded from Shaheed Minar to Doyel Chattar and ended at the Raju Memorial Sculpture.

According to the organisation, rallies were also held in various districts across the country as part of the central programme.

The proposals presented at the rally – reading verses from all religious texts at the start of state events and parliamentary sessions; the abolishment of Article 2A, which designates Islam as the state religion and conflicts with Article 12A of the constitution; taking proper measures for the development and advancement of religious educational institutions for minority communities; eliminating discrimination in the religious budget and converting religious welfare trusts, which are currently operated with interest money, into foundations; taking appropriate measures against incitement of communal hostility and derogatory remarks; and eradicating religious discrimination

US polls

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transparent and compelling way possible," he said.

Alam said Bangladesh's relations with India are good, and Bangladesh wants to continue this good relationship with them.

"We received support from all over the world in the unprecedented mass uprising that took place in Bangladesh. No evil force can survive when the people wake up," he said.

Lack of national

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fascist rule in different countries around the world.

Capitalism, which has reached its peak, will be destroyed worldwide, and an era of socialism and joint ownership of property will be established, he hoped.

He said, "We encourage reading not just for acquiring knowledge but for understanding oneself, wellness, and personal growth."

The eminent columnist said the history is distorted as there's no national unity even after 53 years of independence.

Writer Sharmin Ahmed, young translator Mahin Haque and Oitijyo publisher Arifur Rahman Naeem, among others, addressed the event.



শোক বার্তা

আমরা অত্যন্ত দুঃখের সাথে জানাচ্ছি যে, গত ৩১/১০/২০২৪ ইং রোজ বৃহস্পতিবার অপরাহ্ন ৩:৪০ ঘটিকায় উপমহাদেশের প্রখ্যাত লিভার রোপ বিশেষজ্ঞ, বিশিষ্ট সমাজ সেবক ও বাংলাদেশের লিভার রোপ চিকিৎসার পথিকৃৎ-

অধ্যাপক ডাঃ মবিন খান

অসুস্থতা ও বার্ধক্যজনিত কারণে ইন্তেকাল করেছেন।

ইন্না লিল্লাহি ওয়া ইন্না ইলাইহি রাজিউন

হেপাটোলজি সোসাইটি, ঢাকা, বাংলাদেশ -এর সকল সদস্যদের পক্ষ থেকে মহান আল্লাহর নিকট মরহুমের বিদেহী আত্মার মাগফেরাত কামনা করছি এবং তার শোকসন্তপ্ত পরিবারের প্রতি গভীর সমবেদনা জ্ঞাপন করছি।

হেপাটোলজি সোসাইটি
ঢাকা, বাংলাদেশ

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Project Implementation Unit (PIU)
Establishment of 40 TTC & 01 IMT Project (2nd Revised)
Ministry of Expatriates' Welfare and Overseas Employment
Bureau of Manpower Employment & Training
89/2 Kakrail, Dhaka-1000.

Memo No.: 49.01.0000.337.07.013.22-215 Date: 31/10/2024

e-Tender Notice

e-Tender is invited in the e-GP portal for the procurement of the following goods:

Sl. No.	Tender ID	Description of Goods & Related Services	Tender Publishing, Tender Closing Date & Time
01.	1020582	Procurement of Electronics Trade Training Equipment and related services for 12 Technical Training Center (Invitation Ref. No. 49.01.0000.337.07.008.22-ENT-Lot-01).	03 November 2024, 09.00 am & 03 December 2024, 12.00 pm
02.	1020704	Procurement of Machine Tools Operation Trade training equipment and related services for 06 Technical Training Center (Invitation Ref. No. 49.01.0000.337.07.012.22-MTO-Lot-01).	03 November 2024, 09.00 am & 03 December 2024, 12.10 pm
03.	1023573	Procurement of Machine Tools Operation Trade training equipment and related services for 06 Technical Training Center (Invitation Ref. No. 49.01.0000.337.07.012.22-MTO-Lot-02).	03 November 2024, 09.00 am & 03 December 2024, 12.20 pm
04.	1023574	Procurement of Machine Tools Operation Trade training equipment and related services for 05 Technical Training Center (Invitation Ref. No. 49.01.0000.337.07.012.22-MTO-Lot-03).	03 November 2024, 09.00 am & 03 December 2024, 12.30 pm
05.	1023578	Procurement of Civil Construction Trade training equipment and related services for 13 Technical Training Center (Invitation Ref. No. 49.01.0000.337.07.013.22-Civil-Lot-01).	03 November 2024, 09.00 am & 03 December 2024, 12.40 pm
06.	1025355	Procurement of Civil Construction Trade training equipment and related services for 12 Technical Training Center (Invitation Ref. No. 49.01.0000.337.07.013.22-Civil-Lot-02).	03 November 2024, 09.00 am & 03 December 2024, 12.50 pm

This is an online tender where only e-Tender will be accepted in National e-GP portal <https://www.eprocure.gov.bd> and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP system portal is required.

Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP system portal and e-GP help desk (<https://www.eprocure.gov.bd/Helpdesk.jsp>).

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