

Fishers ready to set sail for hilsa

22-day fishing ban ends in the south

STAR REPORT

The 22-day ban on catching hilsa in rivers ended at midnight today, bringing relief to thousands of fishermen in the country's southern districts, who have been living amid much strain during this time.

Officials concerned of the Fisheries Department said the initiative to impose the ban during the hilsa spawning season was successfully implemented.

Visiting the fishing village in Shibpur union under Bhola Sadar upazila yesterday, our correspondent saw fishermen were busy preparing nets and boats to go to the river.

"At least 10,000 fishermen in the village have been eagerly waiting for the ban to end so we could go to the river for fishing. Finally, tomorrow [today] is the day," said Mokshed Majhi, a fisherman and resident of the village.

A similar situation was observed in the fishery ghat area of Cox's Bazar, with fishermen gearing to resume fishing soon after the ban is lifted.

Around 50,000 fishermen in the district have taken preparation to this end, said Mostak Ahmad, organising secretary of District Fishing Boat Owners' Association in Cox's Bazar.

"Before the ban was imposed, we did not catch a lot of fish due to inclement weather. Then, during the ban, we had no work and no money to remain afloat. The government assistance was inadequate to keep our families fed, so many had to take loans. We have only been hoping for better days to come," he added.

"Bhola is the main migration route of hilsa to the rivers. We had a target of harvesting 1.85 lakh tonnes between July and September, but only 38,367 tonnes were netted during this time," said Mohammad Anisuzzaman, senior assistant director of Barishal Divisional Fisheries Office.

He also said the fishing ban was successful, with more raids and better monitoring compared to before.

According to Barishal Divisional Fisheries Office sources, the migration of hilsa through the rivers was less, so fewer eggs might have been released compared to previous years, but it will take a few more days to fully learn the situation.

A total of 3,19,830 tonnes of rice was distributed among 4.21 lakh registered fishermen in Barishal division during the ban period as assistance under the VGF programme.



With the 22-day ban on catching hilsa being lifted, thousands of fishermen are busy preparing their nets and boats since yesterday morning. For many, the ban being lifted has left them with a sense of relief, as they were struggling to make ends meet during those 22 days. The photo was taken from Dhania union in Bhola.

PHOTO: STAR

Tabligh Jamaat calls for unity

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Tabligh Jamaat Bangladesh has called for a resolution to differences and disagreements regarding Tabligh issues.

In a press release signed by Imam Muhammad Azimuiddin of the Kakrail Markaz yesterday, it highlighted that divisions and discord among members can deprive them of Allah's blessings and can result in irreparable damages.

Following the "July Revolution", calls for unity have emerged from various Islamic circles, inspiring the nation and its people towards a renewed sense of purpose, the release added.

Azimuiddin said, "We hope that scholars and leaders within the Tabligh community will remain vigilant and refrain from actions that could create an atmosphere of division."

The press release also mentioned an upcoming gathering of scholars and leaders scheduled for November 5 at Suhrawardy Udyan and said all should remain cautious so that divisions and disagreements do not escalate.

Meanwhile, a meeting will be held this morning at the home ministry regarding the upcoming Bishwa Ijtema. The home adviser will preside over it, said a press release signed by Faisal Hasan, ministry's senior information officer.

The meeting will address matters related to setting the date for Ijtema, maintaining law and order, ensuring overall security, and other issues concerning the two groups of Tabligh Jamaat (Jubair and Saad).

Harmony in hard times

Music brings joy to underprivileged children



MOKAMMEL SHUVO, Cox's Bazar

In the Najirartek area of Cox's Bazar, 14-year-old Riya Moni finds solace and happiness in the tunes of her penny whistle, a small flute-like instrument.

Whenever she feels down, she plays to lift her spirits, ease her worries, and bring her peace.

"Playing music makes me forget the difficulties of our tiny home," she said. Her talent has sparked admiration among her classmates, who ask where she learned to play and even express interest in learning themselves.

Her mother, Fatema Begum, feels both pride and joy watching Riya perform. "We lost everything and had to leave Kutubdia after a cyclone," Fatema recalls, explaining how her family settled in Najirartek in search of stability. "Our house is small, and life is tough, but when Riya plays, it feels like our sorrows disperse away."

Supporting Riya and children like her, a local NGO, Yasid, in partnership with Peace Through Music International (PTMI), runs a music programme for children in Najirartek, as well as for orphans in Cox's Bazar.

According to Piai Kanti Shil, the programme coordinator, this "peace through music" initiative aims to empower vulnerable and

underprivileged children through music education.

In the heart of Najirartek, where nearly 10,000 climate refugees from Maheshkhali and Kutubdia have resettled over the past 34 years, the music school stands as a small haven.

Most of these families, who work as day labourers, fishermen, or rickshaw drivers, face daily struggles to make ends meet. For their children, the music school offers a rare escape.

During a recent visit, around 25 children, including 11-year-old Ashique, were seen immersed in learning musical techniques, scales, and rhythms.

"It feels incredible when I can play a tune on my flute," he said. Classes are held twice a week, and students often eagerly await their sessions, he added.

The programme's innovative approach also involves training local youth in instruments like the penny whistle and ukulele, who, once trained, become instructors for the children. This way, the children receive training on par with international standards, including how to read music notes and rhythms so they can play in harmony with others.

According to Shil, the programme has trained over 400 children and 100 volunteers in music.

CORRUPTION CASE HC allows Khaleda to prepare paper books for appeal

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday allowed BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia to prepare the paper books of Zia Charitable Trust corruption case at her own cost for moving the appeal that challenged her conviction and seven years' jail sentence in the case.

The paper books, which contain all the details of a case including trial proceedings, statements, evidence, verdicts and other documents, are needed for HC hearing of the appeal against any lower court verdict.

Yesterday, the HC bench of Justice AKM Asaduzzaman and Justice Syed Enayet Hossain passed the order following a prayer moved by Khaleda's lawyers Zainul Abedin and Kayser Kamal seeking its

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NOAKHALI RAPE CASE Jubo League leader acquitted

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Noakhali

A Noakhali court yesterday acquitted Jubo League leader Majibul Rahman Sharif in a case filed over the rape of a woman while holding her children hostage at knife-point on October 21, 2020.

Judge Abdur Rahim of the Women and Children Repression Prevention Tribunal-1 of the Noakhali District and Sessions Judge Court delivered the verdict, acquitting Sharif, 32, convener of the Noakhali Union Jubo League unit in Chatkhil upazila, said Public Prosecutor Harunur Rashid Lovelu.

According to the case, the 29-year-old victim lived with her two children. Around 5:00am on October 21, 2020, Sharif allegedly broke into her house, held her

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MUNSHIGANJ HOSPITAL Dengue patient's death leads to attack on staff

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Munshiganj

A dengue patient died at the 250-bed Munshiganj General Hospital yesterday, sparking allegations of negligence from her family.

Sixty-year-old Hajera Begum from Paschimpara village in Mirkadim Municipality passed away around noon.

Following her death, family members reportedly assaulted hospital nurses and staff, accusing them of negligence. Four people, including two nurses, sustained minor injuries.

Hajera's relatives allege that upon her admission on Saturday afternoon, hospital staff failed to provide adequate medical attention,

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Three killed in road accidents

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

Three motorcyclists were killed in separate road accidents in Kishoreganj and Mymensingh yesterday.

In Kishoreganj, two teenagers were killed when their motorbike hit a roadside tree in Mothkhola area of Pakundia upazila.

The victims – identified as Polash, 17, son of Kamal Hossain and Riad, 18, son of Asad Mia from Charkhama village in Pakundia – died on the spot, said Pakundia Police Station Officer-in-Charge Md Shakhawat Hossain.

In Mymensingh, a businessman was killed as his motorbike collided head-on with a Mymensingh-bound CNG-run auto-rickshaw on Mymensingh-Phulbaria road in Doshmile area under Phulbaria upazila.

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e-Tender Notice

বিষয়: Procurement of Stationary Items for Cotton Development Board, Headquarter

This is to notify that the following tender has published through e-GP portal (www.eprocure.gov.bd) as following:

Tender ID	Package No.	Name of the goods	Last selling date and time	Closing date and time
1031656	APP GR 05	Procurement of Stationary Items for Cotton Development Board, Headquarter	18/11/2024; 5:00 PM	19/11/2024; 11:00 AM

This is 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 Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required.

Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP system portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

কৃষিই সমৃদ্ধি

(জাফর আলী)

উপপরিচালক (স:দ:)
তুলা উন্নয়ন বোর্ড
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Re-Tender Notice-07/2024-2025

Re-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of the following goods:

Sl. No.	Tender ID	Package No. & Invitation Reference No.	Description of works	Tender/ proposal document last selling	Tender/ proposal closing date and time	Procurement method
1	1031813	e-Tender/GPP-15/2024-2025 No: 05.83.0000.010.07.014.20 24-2025/77, Date: 03-11-24	Supply of 5 items including Desk Top Computer.	17-Nov-2024 16:25	18-Nov-2024 11:25	OTM
2	1030977	e-Tender/GPP-07/2024-2025 No:05.83.0000.010.07.007.20 24-2025/78, Date: 03-11-24	Supply of 3 items including LD (For CTP Machine)	17-Nov-2024 16:53	18-Nov-2024 11:00	OTM

- 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 downloading the e-Tender documents from the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through any registered bank's branches up to particular date and time specified on the tender notice.
- Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).
- Samples must be submitted in the PE office during office time before opening date and time of the invited tender.

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GD-858