

Illegal canal

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students, and villagers alike. "If it collapses entirely, it will cause major disruptions for us all," he said.

Contacted, Ferdous, one of the fish farmers involved, said he was in Dhaka and claimed, "I'm collecting what I'm owed from Sani, so I went ahead with the fish harvest. But I don't know if this is what's causing the road to collapse."

Sani, however, disagreed, saying, "I advised against draining the canal, but Ferdous ignored me and continued. He is responsible for this damage." Kalapara Upazila Assistant Commissioner (Land), Kaushik Ahmed, visited the site after being informed of the situation.

He confirmed that the canal soil was indeed excavated illegally last year, and that water removal from the canal this year has further weakened the road's structure.

"We estimate the damage to the road at Tk 50 crore. We are initiating legal action against those responsible for these unlawful activities," he said.

Allocation

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This forest, covering 2,145 acres, contains native trees like Garjan and Chapalish and supports wildlife including elephants and wild boars. Reforestation was conducted here in 2011-12 to counter climate change impacts.

In 1999, Jhilanja union area was declared an environmentally critical zone, prohibiting activities such as tree felling and landscape alterations.

This cancellation is further supported by Article 18A of Bangladesh's Constitution and the UN Biodiversity Convention, underscoring the government's commitment to forest conservation amidst Bangladesh's limited forest cover.



An excavator demolishing an illegal structure beside the Barishal-Patuakhali Highway yesterday. The Roads and Highways department conducted the drive. The photo was taken in Barishal city's Rupatoli area.

PHOTO: TITU DAS

Railway cancels lease of 24 privately-run trains

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BR, amid a huge crisis of manpower, started a private sector association of its commercial and other activities in 1997.

Under the arrangement, a private company, through competitive bidding, will earn the job of selling train tickets as fixed by BR and checking those on board.

The company will give a fixed amount to BR yearly and take the rest of the money they will earn from selling tickets to passengers.

Currently, 37 trains are now being operated by private operators, with

most of them operated by four companies - LR Trading, TM Trading, SR Trading, and NL Trading - reportedly owned by Ripan and his family, sources said.

In the letter, the ministry also said the railway authority in April 2019 decided not to lease out any more trains on private operation due to different complexities.

As per the contracts, the authority can cancel the contract for violations of conditions like carrying people on the trains' rooftops and overcharging passengers.

The letter, however, did

not mention any particular reason behind the cancellation of the lease of 24 trains.

BR sources, however, said Ripan has established a monopoly in private operators of railways by opening several companies.

He managed some previous ministers and top officials to continue the jobs without any fresh bidding, they said.

However, the BR DG could not give details on the fate of the rest of the 13 trains that are also operated by private operators.

Meanwhile, a BR official

said several petitions are now pending with the High Court over the 13 trains, and that's why the ministry did not take any decision about them.

The ministry, however, asked a joint secretary of the ministry to talk with the Attorney General's Office so that petitions could be disposed of soon, he said, wishing anonymity.

Both zones have already started the process to cancel the contracts and initiate a fresh bidding process soon, BR sources said.

The Daily Star could not reach Ripan over the phone for comments.

All Dhaka

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Asked about the launching of Nagar Paribahan buses, he said bus operators have until November 30 to apply to be included in the new system. Later, the routes (starting and ending points) will be determined through the companies.

Additionally, another meeting in this regard will be held on December 11, and recommendations will be made before that, he said.

Nazrul said based on the recommendations, final decisions will be taken, and effective measures will be implemented.

To prevent competition among drivers and helpers, a system of payment via rapid pass or online for bus fares will be introduced.

Govt's intention

FROM PAGE 3
Muktijoddha Dal to commemorate National Revolution and Solidarity Day, marking the civil-military uprising of November 7, 1975.

Hafiz, a BNP standing committee member, said the Awami League's fascist government under the leadership of Sheikh Hasina has destroyed all the country's institutions, including the police. "They turned the police into a killer force."

He said Sheikh Hasina's government enacted a dangerous law like the Digital Security Act to suppress the voice of the people and dissent.

Judge me

FROM PAGE 3
When asked about the criticism from student movement leaders, the cultural adviser replied, "My position, what I do, what I've done - if you check my Facebook activity over the last 15 years, you will understand. Don't just look at a few posts, look at all of it. You can also understand my position by watching my films."

He continued, "To say that I support fascists is unbelievable. There is no need to respond to this. Read my writing - 'What shall we do with this consciousness?', which I wrote in 2014, the day fascism began at Shahbagh. Also, in 2015, I wrote an article titled 'In Search of Buds and IIs'."

"Whether I stood against fascism or not - I did not come to take this ministerial position as a reward for that. What matters is whether I can do this job. Those who believe in me, think I can do it. Then I thought, yes, maybe I can. So, judge me by my work," Farooki said.

'Research key to advancing a nation' 2-day int'l conference ends at Green University



CITY DESK

The third international conference titled "Innovation and Transformation for Development" concluded at Green University of Bangladesh on Sunday night.

Speakers emphasised the importance of creating new knowledge, fostering innovation, and driving intellectual transformation to achieve sustainable development. They said research plays the most significant role in advancing a nation, and the stronger the research, the greater the progress a nation will make.

Scholars and researchers from the US, Australia, Bangladesh, and many other nations delivered lectures at the event. Organised by the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, the conference took place at the university's permanent campus in Purbachal, American City.

The conference was chaired by Prof M Shahidullah, dean of the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, with speeches delivered by the Vice-Chancellor Prof Mohammad Shorif Uddin, Pro-VC Prof Dr Khawza Iftekhar Uddin Ahmed, Treasurer Prof Md Fayzur Rahman, and others.

Bangabandhu's photo

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democratic '72 constitution to famine, laundering of billions [of takas], and extrajudicial killings of thousands of dissidents and opponents (1972-75, 2009-2024). Then, we can talk about pre-'71 Sheikh Mujib. Without apologies and trials of fascists, there won't be any kind of reconciliation."

When contacted, the president's press secretary, Joyal Abedin, did not respond.

However, a press wing official said the photo of Bangabandhu was present on Sunday night when three new advisers took their oath in Darbar Hall.

"They went home after the oath programme; I have no knowledge about the

incident," he added.

According to Article 4A of Bangladesh's Constitution, "The Portrait of the Father of the Nation, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman shall be preserved and displayed" in key government offices, including those of the president, prime minister, Speaker, and chief justice, as well as in government and semi-government offices, educational institutions, and embassies."

In 2000, the Awami League government passed a law making it obligatory for all government offices to display Bangabandhu's portrait. However, this law was repealed in 2001 when the BNP-led government took office.

Give timeline for phasing out fossil fuel

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During COP15 in Copenhagen, a global fund was promised, in which developed countries were supposed to deposit \$100 billion a year to help underdeveloped nations battle climate change. Even though COP-29 is about to start, the first \$100 billion for the fund has yet to be raised.

Civil society groups said 300 million people are suffering from food insecurity around the world and need to adapt to climate change impacts.

"The existing climate financing system is

extremely unfair and debt-driven. So, the New Collective Quantified Goal on Climate Change [NCQG] must be designed through ensuring a percentage of Gross National Income of developed countries," said Aminul Hoque, who represents Bangladeshi NGO EquityBD.

Thaikk Kariyawan, from Sri Lanka, said to get global temperatures back to pre-industrial levels, the global annual greenhouse gas emissions gap must be narrowed, and this will be possible by relentlessly strengthening mitigation action for this decade.

"So, COP29 must deliver a clear timeline for transitioning away from fossil fuels, leading to complete phase out," he said.

Tetet Neura Lauron, of from Philippines and representing the Rosa Luxemburg Foundation, said international financial institutions and the industrialised countries must stop their overreliance on private sector and plan in a participatory manner.

"We urgently need public finance policies, priorities, and governance to push a 1.5-degree aligned, just transition, rooted in collective wellbeing

following global and local equity," she added.

Soumya Datta of India said Azerbaijan has an opportunity to show genuine climate leadership, learning from previous COP events by focusing the debate on the decarbonisation dilemmas of Petro-states.

PRAYER TIMING
NOVEMBER 12

Fazr	Zohr	Asr	Maghrib	Esha
AZAN 5:00	12:45	3:45	5:22	7:00
JAMAAT 5:35	1:15	4:00	5:25	7:30

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

People forced No need to change

FROM PAGE 3
organisation just to help your business."

"We have seen that politics was taken away from politicians and went to business people who are, I am sorry to say, actually a bunch of criminals. They did not keep the dignity the community deserves. I think the community deserves better, and we have respectable people."

To the business community, he said "I will utilise every power in my capacity to make your cost of doing business easy."

FROM PAGE 3
and election commissioners. If they are not qualified, there would be many obstacles in the way of holding fair elections," he said.

Abu Hena said the political parties need to pick qualified persons as their candidates for the elections.

"The selection process of the party's candidates should be fairer. The candidates should be selected by the grassroots, not the high-ups, he said.

In response to a question over the amendment of the Representation of People Order (RPO), he stressed enforcement of laws rather than bringing amendments to these.

Noting that it is the Election Commission that enforces the laws, the former CEC said, "If there

are qualified people, they can conduct good elections even during the regime of political governments."

Meanwhile, Electoral System Reform Commission's chief Dr Badiul Alam Majumdar said they are reviewing all laws and rules and have identified many issues.

"We hope that we will place our proposals in time," he said.

Dr Majumdar said they have received many proposals from political parties, formally and informally.

"Hopefully we will receive more proposals. I will present recommendations based on everyone's opinions. We hope it will pave the way for fair and impartial elections," said the chief of the electoral system reform commission.

Tuition
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Death Anniversary

Today is the 25th death anniversary of Mrs Hasna Hena Qadir W/O (Shaheed) Lt. Col. M.A. Qadir. We miss her every second. Plz keep her in your prayers.

Children-
Rubina Qadir Hussain (Jhuma)
Naweed Qadir (Arum)
Nadeem Qadir (Antu)
And Grandchildren's

Employment Opportunity - Legal Officer

Karnaphuli Fertilizer Company Limited (KAFCO) is a leading international joint-venture Ammonia & Urea Fertilizer manufacturing company in Bangladesh. The Plant is located at Rangadia, Anowara, Chattogram with its Corporate Office at Dhaka. KAFCO is inviting applications from eligible candidates for filling up a vacant position in its Legal Department at the Corporate Office in Dhaka.

The ideal candidate should possess a Bachelor of Laws or Masters of Laws degree(s) from a reputed institution and be registered with the Bangladesh Bar Council.

The candidate should have minimum 5 years of experience in the legal practice and/or have working experience as an in-house counsel, particularly, in the areas of laws on land, labor, drafting of deeds and contracts, company matters, shipping, customs, VAT etc. in a large manufacturing organization / group. Having the capacity to serve in the company secretariat would be an added advantage.

S/he should be of maximum 40 years of age as of 30 November 2024 and be honest, sincere, self-motivated and be able to work under pressure and also at late hours, and be dedicated to the company goals.

Interested candidates are advised to submit their CV, attested copies of all Academic Certificates & Mark Sheets and Experience Certificates, NID and a recent passport size photograph (these are mandatory documents) to HR Department, KAFCO, IDB Bhaban (13th Floor), E/8-A, Rokeya Sharani, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka 1207 at the latest by 30 November 2024.

Only short-listed candidates will be invited for interview.

ইনস্টিটিউট অব বাংলাদেশ স্টাডিজ
রাজশাহী বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়

২০২৫-২০২৬ শিক্ষাবর্ষে এমফিল ও পিএইচডি প্রোগ্রামে ভর্তির বিজ্ঞপ্তি

ইনস্টিটিউট অব বাংলাদেশ স্টাডিজ (আইবিএস)-এ এমফিল ও পিএইচডি প্রোগ্রামে ভর্তির জন্য দরখাস্ত আহ্বান করা যাচ্ছে। কলা, সমাজিক বিজ্ঞান, আইন ও বাণিজ্য অনুষদের যে কোনো বিষয়; পরিসংখ্যান, জনবিজ্ঞান ও মানব সম্পদ উন্নয়ন, মনোবিজ্ঞান, সূচনাল ও পরিবেশবিদ্যা; এবং বাংলাদেশের জীবন, সমাজ, সংস্কৃতি, পরিবেশ ও উন্নয়নের সঙ্গে যে কোনো বিষয়ে স্নাতক (সম্মান) ও স্নাতকোত্তর ডিগ্রিপ্রাপ্ত ব্যক্তিগণ এমফিল ও পিএইচডি প্রোগ্রামে আবেদন করতে পারবেন। ভর্তিপ্রাপ্ত গবেষক রাজশাহী বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের বিধি মোতাবেক পিএইচডি প্রোগ্রামে তিন বছর মেয়াদে ২০,০০০/- এবং এমফিল প্রোগ্রামে দুই বছর মেয়াদে ১৫,০০০/- টাকা হারে মাসিক ফেলোশিপ, আবাসিক ও অন্যান্য সুবিধা পাবেন।

আবেদনকারীদের যোগ্যতা সম্পর্কে বিস্তারিত তথ্য এবং প্রাথমিক আবেদনপত্র <https://www.iu.ac.bd/ibs/admission-2025-26/> থেকে ডাউনলোড করা যাবে, অথবা ২০/- টাকার ডাকটিকিট সংযুক্ত নিজ ঠিকানা সবেলিত নাম সচিব আইবিএস, রাবি বারাবার পাঠিয়ে ডাকযোগে সংগ্রহ করা যাবে। প্রয়োজনে যোগাযোগ-ফোন: ০২৫৮৮৬৬৭৫৩; ইমেইল: ibs@iu.ac.bd। আবেদন পত্র জমাদানের শেষ তারিখ ৩০ জানুয়ারি ২০২৫।

এমফিল ও পিএইচডি প্রোগ্রামে ভর্তিপ্রার্থীদের জন্য ২২ ফেব্রুয়ারি ২০২৫ লিখিত পরীক্ষা এবং লিখিত পরীক্ষার উত্তীর্ণ প্রার্থীদের মৌখিক পরীক্ষার তারিখ পরবর্তীতে জানানো হবে।

ড. এম. মোস্তফা কামাল
প্রফেসর ও পরিচালক

GD-025

Social Development Foundation (SDF)
(An autonomous organization under the Financial Institutions Division, Ministry of Finance)

Career Opportunity

Social Development Foundation (SDF) invites applications for the following position:

Name of the Position : Managing Director (Contractual)

Educational Qualifications : Must hold minimum master's degree from any reputed university.

Age : age must be minimum 55 years and not more than 62 years.

For details, please visit SDF's website (www.sdfbd.org).

Application deadline : 25 November 2024 (up to 05:00pm).

National Tubes Limited
(An Enterprise of Bangladesh Steel & Engineering Corporation)
131-142, Tongi Industrial Area, Tongi, Gazipur-1710. Date: 11-11-2024

PRICE SENSITIVE INFORMATION

Financial position for the 1st quarter Ended on 30 September, 2024

In compliance with the Gazette Notification No. BSEC/CMRRCD/2006-158/208/ Admin/81 dated June 20, 2018 of the Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission. The Board has approved in its 561th Board Meeting held on 11 November, 2024 the Provisional & Un-audited Financial Statements for the 1st Quarter (Q-1) ended on 30 September 2024.

Summarized Financial Position are as follows :

Particulars	30 Sep, 2024 (Taka)	30 June, 2024 (Taka)
Net Assets Value	474,98,97,823	474,54,20,054
Net Assets Value (NAV)	136.41	136.28
Per Share		
Particulars	July'24-September, 2024 (Taka)	July'23-September, 2023 (Taka)
Net sales	10,17,88,197	7,64,80,223
Net Profit/(Loss) after tax	43,48,211	(36,25,245)
Earning per share (EPS)	0.12	(0.10)
Net operating cash flow (NOCFPS) per share	(0.08)	(1.12)

By Order of the Board,
Date: 11-11-2024

(Pranjit Paul)
Company Secretary

"The details of the published quarterly (Q1) financial statements are available in the website of the company. The address of the website is www.ntl.gov.bd."