

COMMUNITY CLINICS IN BAGERHAT

Healthcare relief
for rural residents

PARTHA CHAKRABORTY, Bagerhat

Bagerhat's 205 community clinics are making a significant impact on rural healthcare by offering free essential medicines, including treatments for chronic conditions like high blood pressure and diabetes.

This programme is designed to support low-income and vulnerable residents in remote areas, providing 23 types of medicines to address various health needs.

Clinics such as those in Tangrakhal, Malipatan, Pingoria, Bilkul, and Baroikhari in Kachua upazila are actively dispensing these medications, though Community Healthcare Providers (CHCPs) report occasional shortages due to high patient demand.

Sahida Begum, a resident of Tangrakhal, said, "Accessing these medicines for free is a lifesaver. I couldn't afford them otherwise."

Jalal Sheikh, another patient who now receives blood pressure medication at no

cost, echoed her relief, as he previously had to buy these medicines from private pharmacies.

Altaf Sheikh, also from Tangrakhal, highlighted the importance of these services, especially in rural areas. "These clinics are indispensable," he said.

Raisul Islam, a CHCP at Tangrakhal Clinic, pointed out the need for more frequent medicine supplies to keep up with demand.

"We treat 23 different conditions, but we often run short. Expanding our supply would help us serve everyone more effectively."

He urged the government to consider nationalising CHCP jobs to provide stability for healthcare workers and continuity for patients. Dr Md Habibur Rahman, deputy civil surgeon of Bagerhat, said medicines are delivered to each clinic on a set schedule, with redistribution from nearby clinics if shortages arise.

This coordination helps manage resources effectively, ensuring that clinics can meet community needs, he said.



PHOTO: HABIBUR RAHMAN

Locals throw their nets into the Mahananda river, hoping to catch some fish. Amid the rising prices of fish in the market, many like them wade into the river every morning in hopes of finding their dinner. The photo was taken in Tentulia area of Panchagarh yesterday.

Protect journos,
uphold press
freedom: CPJ

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ) has called on Dr Muhammad Yunus, chief adviser to Bangladesh's interim government, to urgently address press freedom in the country.

In a letter sent yesterday, following a recent meeting at the 2024 UN General Assembly, CPJ outlined 10 key actions for the interim government to protect journalists and uphold freedom of expression.

Among the top priorities, CPJ urged a moratorium on repressive media laws, specifically following the announced repeal of the controversial Cyber Security Act 2023. This law, which replaced the much-criticised Digital Security Act, has been used to target journalists under previous administrations.

CPJ also called for the dismissal of hundreds of retaliatory criminal cases against journalists, many of whom face police investigations or imprisonment.

The letter emphasised the need to address the ongoing detention of four pro-Awami League journalists, urging the government to uphold their rights to a fair trial.

It also demanded investigations into the recent attacks on journalists, including fatal shootings in July 2024, unsolved murders, and numerous reports of custodial violence, torture, and abductions.

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KALAPARA-DHANKHALI ROAD

Illegal canal excavation
triggers road collapse

SOHRAB HOSSAIN, Patuakhali

The Kalapara-Dhankhali road in Patuakhali's Kalapara upazila has begun collapsing in several areas, with cracks forming in many sections.

The poor condition of the road is due to illegal soil excavation from the nearby Rajpara canal, which flows parallel to the road. This has put locals at risk, forcing them to navigate the damaged road with caution.

According to the upazila administration, the total estimated damage to the road is around Tk 50 crore.

Last year, a local group illegally excavated soil from the Rajpara canal to sell to a brick kiln, significantly deepening the canal with the use of heavy machinery.

Recently, two influential fish farmers, Md Sani and Ferdous, took



advantage of the deepened canal to cultivate fish. For several days, Ferdous has been draining the canal to harvest his fish stock, which sparked a dispute between him and Sani over financial transactions.

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NATIONAL ADAPTATION PLAN

Rizwana seeks
UK support

UNB, Dhaka



Syeda Rizwana Hasan, adviser to the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change and the Ministry of Water Resources, yesterday emphasised the need for expanded support from the UK to implement the National Adaptation Plan (NAP).

She also sought potential grant assistance from the British High Commission for the Department of Environment's (DoE) efforts to combat noise pollution.

Rizwana expressed these views during a meeting with Sarah Cooke, British High Commissioner to Bangladesh, held at Secretariat.

The adviser highlighted the ministry's interest in collaborating with the UK to enhance its capacity for accessing and utilising Digital Sequencing Information (DSI) for environmental conservation. This engagement reaffirms the Ministry's high regard for the British High Commission's partnership and support.

Their discussion focused on key areas of cooperation between Bangladesh and the

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BANGLADESH DEVELOPMENT BANK PLC.
HEAD OFFICE, BDBL BHABAN
8 RAJUK AVENUE, DHAKA - 1000.

IT OPERATION DEPARTMENT

INVITATION FOR TENDER

Reference: 11.2/311/ Date: 10/11/2024

The Tender is invited for Annual Maintenance Contract (AMC) for the Equipment/Accessories of Data Center (DC) at Motijheel and Disaster Recovery Site (DRS) at Karwanbazar for 03 (Three) Years. Necessary information is given below:

01. Procuring Entity	IT Operation Department, Bangladesh Development Bank PLC (BDBPLC), Head Office, BDBL Bhaban, 8 Rajuk Avenue, Motijheel, Dhaka - 1000.
02. Procurement Method	Through Open Tendering Method (OTM) of Public Procurement Rules, 2008 and The Public Procurement Act, 2006.
03. Invitation for Tender No.	BDBPLC/ITOD/OTM/02
04. Source of Fund	BDBPLC Own Fund.
05. Work Description	- Maintenance of Comfort Air Conditioner, CCTV, VESDA System, Fire Detection, Auto Fire Suppression, Online UPS, AVR, Power Monitoring, Environment Monitoring etc.
06. Name & Address of Receiving Tender Document	IT Operation Department, Bangladesh Development Bank PLC (BDBPLC), Head Office, BDBL Bhaban (Level-06), 8, Rajuk Avenue, Motijheel, Dhaka-1000.
07. Last Date and Time for Selling Tender Schedule	27/11/2024 up to Office Hour.
08. Last Date and Time for Submission	28/11/2024 up to 03.00 PM
09. Date, Time and Place for Tender Opening	All Tenders will be opened at IT Operation Department, Head Office, Dhaka on 28/11/2024 at 03.30 PM. Intending Tenderers or their authorized representatives are allowed to attend at the time of opening of Tender.
10. Eligibility of Tenderer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The bidder must have minimum 5 (Five) years of experience in Data Center Passive part's maintenance. The bidder must have strong presence and support office in Dhaka City. The bidder must have Certified Data Center Professional in their team (CV to be submitted). The bidder must have experience at least on 3 Data Center AMC in Banking Sector in last 3 years where one from Govt. Bank's. The bidder who has been black listed/ barred by any Govt. Dept./Bank shall be disqualified.
11. Tender Security	Tk. 45,000.00 (Forty-five Thousand) Tender Security Money only will be required in the form of Pay Order (refundable) in favor of Bangladesh Development Bank PLC, Head Office, Dhaka.
12. Price of Tender Schedule	Tk. 1,000 (One Thousand) will be required (Non-refundable).

BDBPLC reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tender either in part or full without assigning any reason whatsoever. If occur any government holiday, then the tender opening date will be shifted to next working day.

Saifuddin Ahmad
Deputy General Manager
IT Operation Department
☎ : 57160451

GD-932

BARRING JUDGES FROM DUTIES
Lawyer wants info
from SC under RTI

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A lawyer yesterday submitted an application to the Supreme Court (SC) registrar general under the Right to Information (RTI) Act to know why 15 High Court judges have been kept away from judicial functions.

SC lawyer Md Eunus Ali Akond placed the application to the SC registrar general with the names of 15 HC judges who are not being allowed to perform judicial activities.

The 15 judges are Justice Salma Masud Chowdhury, Justice Quazi Reza-Ul Hoque, Justice AKM Zahirul Hoque, Justice Md Ataur Rahman Khan, Justice Naima Haider, Justice Sheikh Hassan Arif, Justice Muhammad Khurshid Alam Sarkar, Justice Ashish Ranjan Das, Justice Khizir Hayat, Justice SM Maniruzzaman, Justice Khandaker Diliruzzaman, Justice Md Akhtaruzzaman, Justice Shahed Nuruddin, Justice Md Aminul Islam, and Justice SM Masud Hossain Dolon.

Among them, Justice Salma and Justice Ataur have been appointed during the regime of the BNP-led alliance government, and the rest were appointed during the Sheikh Hasina-led government.

Eunus told The Daily Star that the SC registrar general is supposed to give him the information in 21 days under the Right to Information Act.

"If the Supreme Court registrar general does not respond to my application, I will move a writ petition before the High Court seeking necessary directives on this issue," he said.

However, Justice Salma, Justice Reza-Ul Hoque, and Justice Zahirul have been kept away from bench functions for five years in the wake of an inquiry against them.

The others have been excluded from judicial proceedings from October 20 amid the demand from the agitating students.

The SC administration has not yet disclosed the details of the reasons behind keeping the judges away from the judicial activities.

The administration recently, in a press release, said the information about some of the judges is being scrutinised, as the Supreme Judicial Council led by the chief justice has been formed after the SC delivered its verdict on the constitution's 16th amendment case on October 20.

Only Chief Justice Syed Refaat Ahmed has the authority to constitute the benches of the Appellate and High Court Division under the constitution.

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Application Last Date: 21 November, 2024. Office Hours: 2:00 pm to 9:00 pm
Test Date: 22 November, 2024 at 2:30 pm (Written) & 4:00 pm (Viva Voce)

Address: Room: 5058, MBA Building (Fee Tk.1,500) Cell: 01912146788; 01922478641
Website: mpa-ais-du.com; facebook.com/duaismpa; Form link: cutt.ly/mpaform

ACCREDITED PROGRAMME

Government of the people's Republic of Bangladesh
Ministry of Road Transport & Bridge
Bangladesh Bridge Authority
Setu Bhaban
New Airport Road, Banani, Dhaka.
www.bba.gov.bd

e-Tender Notice

Memo No: 50.01.0000.405.99.002.24-163

Date: 11/11/2024

e-Tenders are invited in e-GP System Portal (<http://eprocure.gov.bd>) by Chief Engineer, Bangladesh Bridge Authority, Setu Bhaban, New Airport Road, Banani, Dhaka for the Procurement of:

SI No	Tender ID	Name of the works
1	1033781	"Supply and Installation of Multi Colour Variable message signboard Over Bangabandhu Bridge Toll Canopy."

This is an Online tender, where only e-Tenders will be accepted in e-GP Portal and no off-line/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, please register on e-GP System Portal (<http://eprocure.gov.bd>).

e-Tender details can be downloaded from 12/11/2024 & time 12:00 to 26/11/2024 & time 17:00 on e-GP System Portal (<http://eprocure.gov.bd>) for pursue.

e-Tender will be closed at 27/11/2024 & time 12:00. Accepted tenders will be opened immediately after 27/11/2024 & time 12:00.

(Md. Tofazzel Hossain)
Superintending Engineer
Ph: 55040323
Email: tofabb@gmail.com

GD-929