

### BRAC Univ celebrates 83 graduates of AWE event

STAR REPORT  
BRAC University recently hosted the closing ceremony of the Academy for Women Entrepreneurs (AWE) programme, celebrating the success of 83 women entrepreneurs who completed this transformative initiative.

Guests, including Megan Bouldin, Chargé d'Affaires at the US Embassy in Dhaka; Scott Hartmann, director, public engagement from the US Embassy; Prof Syed Mahfuzul Aziz, pro vice-chancellor of BRAC University; and David Dowland, registrar of BRAC University, attended the event.

Matin Saad Abdullah, professor at Department of Computer Science and Engineering and Adviser to Centre for Entrepreneurship Development (CED); Khairul Bashar, Director at Office of Communications, and Alshana Choudhury, Joint Director at CED were also present.

The AWE programme, supported by the US Federal Government's Department of State, equips aspiring women entrepreneurs with essential business skills, fosters inclusivity, and promotes peer learning and mentorship.

PRAYER TIMING  
NOVEMBER 21  
Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha  
AZAN 5:05 12:45 3:45 5:21 7:00  
JAMAAT 5:40 1:15 4:00 5:24 7:30  
SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

### Committee to design

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their infrastructure, and establish a cohesive institutional identity," he added.

Wahiduddin Mahmud said the name of this independent identity will be decided through discussions with all stakeholders, including students.

Whatever the name may be, the ultimate goal is to improve education quality and eliminate inequality in the education system, he added.

"We will start implementing necessary steps gradually, observing the situation, to ensure the most respectful situation

for you all," the adviser told the students.

He clarified that the current Honours and Master's programs under this system will not face any disruptions due to the process. Instead, existing issues will be addressed through discussions with DU.

He also said, "Whatever steps we take now, the next elected government will need to give them legitimacy. We hope that legitimacy will be granted."

Regarding the recent road blockades by students, he urged the students to avoid road blockades and chaos.



This tea garden in Sylhet has become overgrown with weeds, after being left uncared for during the ongoing tea workers' strike. Tea gardens from nearby all estates are overripe or experiencing overgrowth. If the tea leaves are not cared for or picked within the next week, there will likely be losses for the owners. The photo was taken from the Lakkatura tea garden yesterday. PHOTO: SHEIKH NASIR

### Yet another dam

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movement demanding necessary steps to rejuvenate the river.

"BWDB killed Kumlai river at its origin by constructing the dam and diverting its flow through the canals. We have placed 10-point demand to save the country's rivers. We urge the locals to unite for saving Kumlai," said

Tuhin Wadud, director of Riverine People, and also a professor of Begum Rokeya University, Rangpur.

Mahbubur Rahman, chief engineer (Northern Zone) of BWDB in Rangpur, said, "We're working closely with relevant departments to recover the river. We've also sent a proposal for excavating it."

### Foster creativity

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The chief adviser chaired his first Cabinet meeting at the Secretariat and later visited the Education Ministry.

He said Bangladesh should not create an education system that emphasises only test scores. "The perception that test score is everything must go," he added.

Prof Yunus also called for narrowing generational gaps in Bangladeshi society, saying the country must understand the thought process and aspirations of

the new generation. "We must understand the language and the thought process of the youth. We need to know how the older generation can share their experience with the younger generation," he said.

"If the distance between young and old generations gets bigger, it will create troubles. We must minimise the idea gaps between generations," the chief adviser said.

He also stressed the need to foster family values in our national curriculum.

### HC suggests death penalty

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ordered the investigation officer to submit a supplementary charge sheet to the trial court concerned against Selim and other offenders in connection with the case.

Kushtia's Hanif Shah filed the case with Bheramara Police Station on November 4 last year against Selim Khan on the charge of hurting religious values and sensibilities with the intention of organising riots, insulting the Islamic religious belief, and seriously hurting their sensibilities by making lecherous comments on Facebook about "Hazrat

Muhammad Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam", in reply to a Facebook post of one Nafisa Chowdhury.

Investigating officer Inspector Sheikh Lutfar Rahman submitted a charge sheet to the trial court on December 31 last year in connection with the case.

In the full-text verdict, the HC said, "Bangladesh is a country of people of all religions. At the same time, it is essential to ensure the safety, peaceful living, honour and dignity of people of all religions and stability in society."

"To discourage any such inflammatory speech or

act which is likely to offend the minds of people of any religion, or to cause fear, terror, discomfort or apprehension in any of them, enhancing the punishment for such offences and to make them non-bailable must be considered," said the HC bench.

The HC judges also said, "If the offenders who are involved in the respective links of the charge sheet are not brought under the law, in every case the main culprit or the main conspirator or the main source will remain out of touch. Hence, there needs to be an appropriate order in this regard."

### JU students block

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university medical centre, banning unregistered vehicles, ensuring mandatory training for auto-rickshaw drivers, replacing unskilled security personnel, and immediately activating all campus CCTV cameras.

"We are categorising this [death] as a case of

structural homicide," said Happy Akter Shila, a first-year student of the philosophy department, adding that they will intensify their movement and call for the vice chancellor's resignation if the demands were not met within 24 hours.

Durbar Adi, a first-year student of the archaeology

department, said Afsana did not receive necessary treatment on campus following the accident.

"Thus, we are demanding a safer campus," he said.

On Tuesday night, the university authorities suspended four officials, including deputy registrar Abdur Rahman, citing negligence of duty.

### Drivers clash with cops during

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rickshaw drivers were detained.

Md Saleh Uddin, deputy commissioner of Dhaka Metropolitan Police (Wari Division), said the police requested the protesters to clear the road to restore normal traffic flow. However, the drivers ignored the request and clashed with the police. Three drivers have been taken into custody from the site of the incident.

Officer-in-Charge (OC) of Jatrabari Police Station, Md Faruk Ahmed, said, "When severe traffic congestion developed, we urged the drivers to withdraw the blockade. Instead, they attacked the police."

"The injured officers have been hospitalised and given primary treatment," he added.

Meanwhile, protesters in Agargaon also announced a gathering in front of the Election Commission Office Building today at 9:00am, followed by a blockade of the Mirpur 10 intersection.

FEAR OF LOSING LIVELIHOODS

The protesters said their livelihoods depend on their vehicles. They and their families will be in great trouble if the vehicles are restricted without a proper transition plan.

Faruk Hossain, a battery-rickshaw driver from the Agargaon BNP Bazar area, said he drives a rickshaw to support his seven-member family, including his elderly mother, who has heart disease, and his two sons, who suffer from thalassaemia.

"I earn Tk 1200 daily, which helps cover medical

expenses for my family members. I also took a loan of Tk 70,000 to buy the rickshaw, and I need to repay Tk 2,500 taka weekly. If my rickshaw is stopped, I won't be able to pay back the loan or support my family," Faruk said.

Shafiqul Islam, another driver, shared a similar plight.

Md Hashem, a battery-rickshaw driver from Gandaria, said, "The sudden ban on auto-rickshaws has left us in a dire situation. It is inhumane to impose such restrictions without providing any alternative solutions."

The protesters have vowed to continue their programme if their demands are not addressed.

### Govt to amend Metro

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existing law is not clear about how the right of the land, under which the trains will run, would be settled. Thus the amendment is needed.

Settling this issue, through the amendment of the law, was a condition of JICA, the financier of both projects, another DMTCL official said.

Besides, some other issues like penalties linked with the operation of metro rail will be added in the amended law, he added.

Nafiuul Hasan, additional secretary (urban transport wing) of the Road Transport and Highways Division, said "We have received a proposal, but are yet to review it. We will take the next step upon review."

The Uttara-Motijheel section of the MRT Line-6, which is being implemented at a cost of Tk 33,472 crores, was opened to the public in November last year and the Motijheel-Kamalapur section is now under construction.

The physical work on MRT Line-1 and Line-5 (northern

route) began in March and July last year respectively, more than three years after the projects were approved in October 2019.

The project authorities of MRT Line-1, the country's first underground metro rail line, have so far been able to hire contractors for only one out of 12 packages. The project deadline is set for December 2026.

Under the Tk 52,561 crore project, the authority will build a 19.87km underground line from Dhaka airport to Kamalapur and an 11.37km elevated line from Dhaka's Natunbazar to Narayangan's Pitalganj.

Similarly, the project authority of MRT Line-5 (northern route) has so far hired contractors for only one out of 10 packages. The 20km line stretching from Hemayetpur to Bhataria will have underground and elevated sections. The deadline for the Tk 41,239 crore project is December 2028.

The authorities of MRT Lines 1 and 5 are now developing land for setting up depots.

### Bring proportional

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The PR system would allow them to get 40 percent of the seats in parliament.

Rouf also advocated for permanent polling stations and a new formula for local government elections under which the party with the most votes in the parliamentary elections in a locality will govern its Union Parishad.

Badiul Alam Majumdar, chief of the Electoral Reform Commission, said they will review the

opinions while preparing their recommendations.

Earlier in the afternoon, EC officials exchanged views with the reform commission and said powers given to the EC in line with the constitution and law should be exercised properly.

They also recommended that the election commissioners and EC officials shall not be obstructed by any authority while they are enforcing the law.

### Female Ansar

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On October 29, the victim and her brother, who is also an Ansar member, were dismissed from their jobs as they protested the incident. The victim initially refrained from legal action in fear of losing her job.

Khaled, the officer in question, denied the accusations. He asserted that no Ansar member could claim that he had behaved improperly.

He alleged that the

woman had gotten into a sudden argument with party leader Ilias Ali in his office.

Asked about the issue, Ansar VDP Habiganj District Commander Mirza Sifat e-Khoda claimed that the female member "damaged her own reputation" by approaching the army with a complaint rather than filing a formal grievance.

He stated that she was dismissed due to various allegations against her.

### Ex-minister Anisul

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and whereabouts of others responsible for committing such offences.

Later, the magistrate placed him on remand.

On August 21, the victim's brother Anwar Hossain Aynal filed the murder case with Uttara East Police Station against 40 individuals, including

former prime minister Sheikh Hasina.

According to the case statement, Fazlul Karim took part in the anti-discrimination student movement on August 5 on Uttara's Jashim Uddin Road, where the victim was shot. Later, he was rushed to a local hospital, where doctors declared him dead.

কমল ত্রয়ের জন্য দরপত্র আহ্বান  
সিএসআর কার্যক্রমের আওতায় দেশের দুই শীতাত্তর মানুষের জন্য কমল প্রদানের উদ্দেশ্যে প্রকৃত সরবরাহকারীদের কাছ থেকে দরপত্র আহ্বান করছেঃ  
সিএসআর কার্যক্রমের আওতায় দেশের দুই শীতাত্তর মানুষের জন্য কমল প্রদানের উদ্দেশ্যে প্রকৃত সরবরাহকারীদের কাছ থেকে দরপত্র আহ্বান করছেঃ  
দরপত্র বিক্রয়ের তারিখ ও সময় : ২১/১১/২০২৪ ইং হতে ২৮/১১/২০২৪ ইং (সরকারী ছুটির দিন ব্যতিত) সকাল ১০:৩০ ঘটিকা হতে বিকাল ০৩:৩০ ঘটিকা।  
তফসিলের মূল্য : ৫,০০০/= (পাঁচ হাজার টাকা) মাত্র "সিএসআর কার্যক্রমের আওতায় দেশের দুই শীতাত্তর মানুষের জন্য কমল প্রদানের উদ্দেশ্যে প্রকৃত সরবরাহকারীদের কাছ থেকে দরপত্র আহ্বান করছেঃ"  
নিরাপত্তা জামানত : মোট কমলের মূল্যের ১০% হারে "সিএসআর কার্যক্রমের আওতায় দেশের দুই শীতাত্তর মানুষের জন্য কমল প্রদানের উদ্দেশ্যে প্রকৃত সরবরাহকারীদের কাছ থেকে দরপত্র আহ্বান করছেঃ"  
দরপত্র উন্মুক্তকরণের তারিখ ও সময় : ২৮/১১/২০২৪ ইং বিকাল ০৪:০০ ঘটিকা। সকল দরদাতাগণের সামনে (যদি কেউ উপস্থিত থাকেন)।  
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Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh  
Office of the Divisional Forest Officer  
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Tender ID Name of works Last Selling Date & Time Closing Date & Time Opening Date & Time  
1038819 Renovation of Office Building in Dakop SFPC. 04-Dec-2024 13:00 05-Dec-2024 13:00 05-Dec-2024 13:00  
1038818 Repair of Office Building at Mathbaria SFPC. 08-Dec-2024 14:30 09-Dec-2024 12:30 09-Dec-2024 12:30  
1038766 Barbed Wire Boundary at Morrelganj SFPC & Dakop SFPC AND Renovation of Boundary Wall in DFOs office Campus, Bagerhat. 04-Dec-2024 14:00 05-Dec-2024 12:30 05-Dec-2024 12:30  
This is an online tender, where only e-tenders 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 (https://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 (https://www.eprocure.gov.bd)  
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socialforest.bagerhat@gmail.com  
GD-1003

### 15 injured as students

FROM PAGE 3  
around 2:30pm. When three buses reached the Science Laboratory intersection, City College students stopped them and attacked the Dhaka College students.

"Without any provocation, students of City College first attacked buses of Dhaka College and following the incident then a clash broke out after spreading the news on the campus," said Sajib Uddin, a student of Dhaka College.

The Dhaka College students also vandalised

the City College building by throwing brick chunks.

Members of the police and army rushed there to bring the situation under control.

Police were seen firing several rounds of tear shells and sound grenades towards both sides of the clash.

Tarikul Islam, assistant commissioner of Dhanmondi Zone, told The Daily Star around 4:00pm that they came to know that the clash ensued over vandalising a bus of Dhaka College.

এসএসআর কার্যক্রমের আওতায় দেশের দুই শীতাত্তর মানুষের জন্য কমল প্রদানের উদ্দেশ্যে প্রকৃত সরবরাহকারীদের কাছ থেকে দরপত্র আহ্বান করছেঃ  
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(An Autonomous Organization under Financial Institutions Division, Ministry of Finance, GoB)  
House No. 22/22, Khilji Road, Mohammadpur, Dhaka-1207  
Resilience, Entrepreneurship and Livelihood Improvement (RELI) Project  
IDA Credit No. 6876-BD  
Memo No. SDF/Proc./Service/S-39/40;41;42;43(RELIP)/2024/3734 Date: 20.11.2024  
Re-Request for Expression of Interest (Re-REOI)  
Re-Request for Expression of Interest (Re-REOI) for Hiring firm for Conducting Skill Development and Employment Generation Training (TPOs) on different trade for RELI Project of SDF. The previous EoIs for hiring TPOs for the mentioned procurement packages have been cancelled. The details Re-EoI and Terms of References, TPOs are available in the website of SDF (www.sdfbd.org) and BPPA (www.bppa.gov.bd). The brief information of the Re-REOI are as follow:  
SI Package ID Package description Procurement method Re-EoI closing date and time Re-EoI opening date & time  
1 BD-SDF-392681-CS-QCBS-S-39-0 (RELIP) Hiring firm for Conducting Skill Development and Employment Generation Training on RMG & Leather Products for RELI Project of SDF. Quality and Cost Based Selection (QCBS) Date: 05.12.2024 Time: 3:00pm Date: 05.12.2024 Time: 3:30pm  
2 BD-SDF-412798-CS-QCBS-S-40-0 (RELIP) Hiring firm for Conducting Skill Development and Employment Generation Training on Electrical and Electronics Support Servicing. Quality and Cost Based Selection (QCBS) Date: 05.12.2024 Time: 12:00pm Date: 05.12.2024 Time: 12:30pm  
3 BD-SDF-412802-CS-QCBS-S-41-0 (RELIP) Hiring firm for Conducting Skill Development and Employment Generation Training on Apprenticeship Model (Factory Based). Quality and Cost Based Selection (QCBS) Date: 07.12.2024 Time: 2:00pm Date: 07.12.2024 Time: 2:30pm  
4 BD-SDF-412806-CS-QCBS-S-42-0 (RELIP) Hiring firm for Conducting Skill Development and Employment Generation Training on Motor Driving. Quality and Cost Based Selection (QCBS) Date: 07.12.2024 Time: 3:00pm Date: 07.12.2024 Time: 3:30pm  
5 BD-SDF-412810-CS-QCBS-S-43-0 (RELIP) Hiring firm for Conducting Skill Development and Employment Generation Training on ICT & Computer application. Quality and Cost Based Selection (QCBS) Date: 07.12.2024 Time: 1:00pm Date: 07.12.2024 Time: 1:30pm  
The procuring entity reserve the right to accept or reject any/all EoI.  
Md. Mahbubul Alam, FCMA  
Managing Director (Acting)