



## ARREST OF CHINMOY

# Lawyer killed amid clashes in Chattogram

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A lawyer was killed during clashes between police and followers of former ISKCON leader Chinmoy Krishna Das Brahmachari in the Chattogram Court Building area yesterday.

The clashes that left at least 10 people injured began shortly before midday when a court sent Chinmoy to jail, rejecting his bail plea in a sedition case.

The deceased, 32-year-old Saiful Islam, was a member of Chattogram District Bar Association.

Citing eyewitnesses, Nazim Uddin Chowdhury, president of Chattogram District Bar Association, said some people protesting over Chinmoy's arrest hacked Saiful to death in front of the main gate of the court premises around 3:30pm. He was pronounced dead upon arrival at Chittagong Medical College Hospital around 4:00pm.

Mohammad Didar, an employee of Golam Rasul Market, who along with some other locals rescued Saiful and took him to the hospital, told The Daily Star, "Some Chinmoy followers hacked the lawyer on the road next to Rangam Convention Hall."

CMCH director Taslim Uddin told AFP, "He had deep injuries on his head."

Chief Adviser Professor Muhammad Yunus has condemned the murder of the lawyer and ordered an investigation and appropriate legal course.

### BAIL REJECTED, CLASH

Chinmoy was taken to the court around 10:30am. Metropolitan Magistrate Kazi Shariful Islam sent him to jail, rejecting the prayer for his bail after over an hour-long hearing.

Following the court order, lawyers who support him and his followers burst into protests outside the courtroom and stopped the prison van that was taking Chinmoy to jail. They also punctured a tire of the vehicle.



Saiful Islam

Chinmoy followers clash with police and lawyers

Slain lawyer was an assistant public prosecutor

Lawyers to be on strike in Chattogram today



Followers of Chinmoy Krishna Das Brahmachari, spokesperson of Bangladesh Sammalita Sanatani Jagaran Jote and former ISKCON leader, blocking the movement of the prison van that was carrying him to jail yesterday. The photo was taken from the Chattogram Court Building area.

PHOTO: RAJIB RAIHAN

## Take strict action against mob justice

Editor's Council urges govt

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Editors' Council has called on the government to take strict action to suppress mob justice everywhere, including against the media, and requested all parties concerned to refrain from actions that undermine the freedom of the press.

In a statement issued yesterday, the council, pointing out the incidents of the sit-in, assault, and vandalism that

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## BNP unveils vision for 'rules-based' society

Submits 62-point recommendation to constitution reform commission

SAJJAD HOSSAIN

The BNP yesterday submitted to the constitution reform commission its 62 recommendations designed to establish a rules-based structure and ensure checks and balances of power.

"However, you need an elected parliament to amend the constitution - there is no other way," Salahuddin Ahmed, BNP standing committee

member, told The Daily Star.

Salahuddin handed over the 62-point proposal to Ali Riaz, chairman of the constitution reform commission.

The party, which was last in power about 18 years ago, have proposed extensive amendments to the constitution to make it more democratic and fulfil the aspirations of the people.

"We have essentially sought a

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### Keep calm, refrain from violence

### Urges Prof Yunus; student leaders call on all to be vigilant

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Chief Adviser Prof Muhammad Yunus yesterday condemned the murder of a lawyer in the port city of Chattogram.

He has ordered an investigation into the killing and appropriate legal course, read a Facebook post of his Press Secretary Shafiqul Alam.

The CA has urged people to keep calm and refrain from engaging in any untoward activities, it said.

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A train reaches the eastern end of the newly built Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Railway Bridge in Tangail's Bhupur during a trial run yesterday. The railway authorities conducted trial runs to evaluate the train's movement, speed, and key technical factors. The 4.8km bridge over the Jamuna is expected to be opened in January.

PHOTO: STAR

## CPJ for probe into threats against media houses

34 noted citizens voice concern over protests outside newspaper offices

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Committee to Protect Journalists, a US-based global media rights body, has called for a swift investigation into the recent threats and attacks targeting The Daily Star and Prothom Alo.

In a statement posted on X yesterday, formerly Twitter, it said, "CPJ calls for a swift investigation into the threats of violence against the staff of @ProthomAlo and @dailystarnews newspapers, as well as the vandalisation of the Prothom Alo office in Rajshahi city on Monday."

"While peaceful protest must be protected, journalists must not face violence and intimidation for their work."

Groups of people on Monday attacked the Prothom Alo office in Rajshahi and demonstrated in front of the Prothom Alo office in the capital on Sunday and elsewhere in the country.

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## Six killed as PTI activists clash with Pak security forces

30 injured; protesters demand release of Imran, resignation of govt

REUTERS, Islamabad

At least six people, including four paramilitary soldiers, were killed yesterday during clashes near Pakistan's parliament between security forces and protesters who are demanding the release of former prime minister Imran Khan.

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif blamed the protesters for the soldiers' deaths, accusing them of ramming the paramilitary troops with a convoy of vehicles.

Zulfiqar Bukhari, spokesman for Khan's Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI), said two protesters had also been killed and 30 injured in the clashes.

One of the protesters was shot dead and the other was run over by a vehicle, Bukhari said.

"It is not a peaceful protest. It is extremism," Sharif said in a statement, aimed at achieving "evil political designs". Sharif also said the violence was driving the law enforcement agencies to the "limits of restraint".

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PTI supporters will hold sit-in outside parliament

Imran says his supporters will not back down

Army deployed in parts of Islamabad



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### 3 STUDENTS' DEATHS IUT, BRTC, PBS to blame: Buet team

OUR CORRESPONDENT,  
Gazipur

The Buet team, formed to investigate the deaths of three Islamic University of Technology (IUT) students due to electrocution, has held the university authorities, BRTC, and Palli Bidyut Samity (PBS) responsible for the incident.

The incident occurred on Saturday in Udaykhali of Sreepur upazila, Gazipur, when the victims, along with 400 others, were traveling to Matir Maya Resort for a picnic.

During a site visit on Monday, Buet Prof Ziaur Rahman Khan told reporters, "The narrow road leading to Matir Maya Resort has been raised by three feet during its latest renovation, but the power transmission line, installed around 20 years ago, was not adjusted accordingly."

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A line of human haulers and buses is parked on both sides of the same road, leaving little space for vehicles to pass. This type of illegal parking remains a persistent issue plaguing the capital. The photo was taken at Golap Shah Mazar in Gulistan yesterday. PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

### Syeda Fawzia Ally passes away

STAR REPORT

Syeda Fawzia Ally, a renowned educationist and former principal of Chittagong College and Badrunnessa College, Dhaka, passed away on Monday at the age of 83.

Daughter of Syed Mustafa Ali, niece of the celebrated writer Syed Mujtaba Ali, and sister of the late SM Ali, founding editor of The Daily Star, she was deeply admired for her contributions to education and society.

She passed away at 4:30pm on November 25 while in hospice care, surrounded by loved ones. Her namaz-e-janaza was held yesterday after Zohr prayers at Azad Masjid in

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## They leave with big dreams, only to return broken

Bangladeshi workers face abuse abroad, leaving them physically and mentally scarred

MD ABBAS

Md Iman Mollah, 49, of Manikganj, left for Malaysia six months ago with a dream – to change his fate and secure a brighter future for his children, wife, and family.

But instead, he returned home broken, his dreams shattered. Imam was paralysed from the overwork. Moreover, not getting the promised salary left him mentally unstable.

On the night of October 25, a fragile Iman arrived at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport.

For his family, the sight was heartbreaking. The man who had once left with high hopes, now returned as a shadow of himself, carrying only the weight of unfulfilled dreams and a future that now seems more uncertain than ever.

"We don't know what would happen to my father. He stays silent

and cannot even recognise us sometimes," Iman's younger son Md Robin Mollah told The Daily Star.

Iman first left Bangladesh to seek better fortune in Malaysia 15 years ago. But he had to come back a year ago with physical ailments.

His family treated him with whatever savings they could with the money he sent home.

"As he got better, he decided to go back to Malaysia six months ago, this time on a construction worker visa. But now he returned in a more fragile condition," said Robin, a former madrasa student now desperately seeking work to support his family.

"My family now survives solely on my sister's income. She works at a kindergarten school. We struggle daily to put food on the table, and now we face the additional burden of my father's medical costs," he added.

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### Nahid urges media to play due role

BSS, Dhaka

Urging the media to play a responsible role in

resisting conspiracy, Information and Broadcasting Adviser Md Nahid Islam yesterday said the ousted fascist government has been hatching conspiracy continuously to create an unstable situation across the country.

"The government has given full freedom to the mass media so that journalism can flourish properly in the country," he said.

The adviser said this while exchanging views with the leaders of Dhaka Reporters Unity (DRU) at the seminar room of his ministry at the secretariat in Dhaka.



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### COURT CORNER

## SONADIA ISLAND Lease of forest land, 'ecologically critical area' stayed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday stayed the lease agreement for allocating 8001.70 acres of notified forest land and 2,712 acres of ecologically critical area (ECA) at Sonadia Island in Cox's Bazar.

The agreement was signed between Cox's Bazar district administration and Bangladesh Economic Zone Authority (BEZA) on May 27, 2017, allegedly for the purpose of setting up an eco tourism park in the island.

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## DEAL WITH ADANI Govt directed to conduct inquiry, form committee

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court, in the full text of an order, issued three directives over the government's electricity purchase deal with India's Adani Power Limited in 2017.

The four-page full text of the order, which was delivered by the HC bench of Justice Farah Mahub and Justice Debasish Roy Chowdhury on November 19, was released on Monday.

In the full text, the bench directed the government to enquire into the process of

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## HC questions govt inaction to install drug incinerators

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday issued a rule questioning the government's inaction and failure to install Drug Disposal Incinerator Machines, fitted with appropriate air pollution control devices, in every district to destroy seized drugs in order to protect public health.

In the rule, the court asked the respondents to explain why they should not be ordered to take immediate steps to install the devices in every district to comply with emission standards and ensure that such incineration is not be

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## Planning Week organised at Buet

STAR REPORT

The URP Students Association of BUET (USAB) organised Planning Week 2024 on the Buet campus from November 23 to 25. The event's theme was "Just Urban Transition".

Through the three day event, the Department of Urban and Regional Planning students emphasised the importance of inclusive, equitable, and justice-driven urban planning for all.

The event featured a seminar organised on November 25, where Environment Adviser Syeda Rizwana Hasan was the chief guest. The session was chaired by Buet Vice Chancellor Prof ABM Badruzzaman.

Three undergraduate research presentations were showcased at the session. Rizwana expressed her concerns about the encroachment on forests and the negligence of responsible authorities, saying, "We must make every effort to protect our water bodies in the expanding urban areas, especially in the Ashulia region. I urge Rajuk to take immediate actions."

Maj Gen (ret'd) Md Siddiqur Rahman, Chairman of Rajuk and Prof Adil Mohammad Khan, President of BIP were also present at the seminar.

The event concluded with remarks from Prof Asif-uz-Zaman Khan, head of the Department of Urban and Regional Planning (URP), Buet.



A group of boys plays football on an uneven field in the Khagail area of Companiganj upazila, Sylhet. Despite the lack of proper playing fields, they make do with this rough pitch, risking injuries to enjoy the game they love. The photo was taken recently.

PHOTO: SHEIKH NASTIR

## Trial run conducted on Bangabandhu Railway Bridge

STAR REPORT

The first trial runs of trains on the newly built Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Railway Bridge over the Jamuna River were conducted successfully yesterday.

A trial train with an engine and three coaches departed from the eastern side of the bridge in Tangail and travelled to the western side in Sirajganj. The train returned to the eastern side at 10:41am, said Al Fattah Masudur Rahman, project director of the Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Railway Bridge.

Another engine with three coaches departed from the Sirajganj side at

10:20am, reached the eastern side, and began its journey back to the western side at 10:29am, initially moving at 10 km/h before increasing to 40 km/h.

"The trial allowed us to monitor movement, speed, and various technical parameters to ensure the safety of train operations," said Birbal Mondol, Pakshi divisional railway engineer.

"We will conduct another trial at full speed (100 km/h) before commencing formal operations," he said.

The bridge is expected to open for formal operations in January 2025, although signalling systems will be fully completed by March 2025, he added.

## Nahid urges media to play due role

FROM PAGE 3

Nahid said, "We welcome constructive criticism. The government remains open to both positive and critical feedback from the media. Constructive criticism is beneficial for the government. The government can correct itself through constructive criticism."

The government has already formed media reform

commission to strengthen the mass media, he said, adding that the commission will submit a report to the government after holding discussions with all stakeholders concerned.

The adviser said the government will attempt to implement the report through consultations with various parties, and it wants to foster an environment where free and responsible journalism can flourish.

Mentioning the role of journalists in the Anti-Discrimination Student Movement, Nahid Islam said that many field-level journalists collected news of the movement.

However, due to the media authorities concerned, the news of the movement was not disseminated properly through their respective media outlets in all cases, he added.

Referring to the false

information published in some media recently, he said that people were confused and chaos was created in society due to the spread of false information and rumors in the media.

One of the responsibilities of the media is to present the truth to the people, he said, adding that there is no alternative to the media's responsible role in disseminating the truth.

## Govt directed to conduct

FROM PAGE 3

the deal and to submit a report in 60 days.

It also asked the energy and mineral resources secretary to form a committee with internationally acclaimed energy and legal experts within a month to give detailed reports on the agreement within 60 days of the committee's formation.

The HC also directed the chairman of Bangladesh Power Development Board (BPDB) to submit all the minutes of the negotiations, if any, that took place before the conclusion of the said agreement on November 5, 2017, within a month of receiving the order's copy.

On November 19, the bench gave the directives and issued a rule following a writ petition filed by Supreme Court lawyer Md Abdul Qaiyum challenging the legality of the power purchase agreement signed on November 5, 2017.

In the rule, HC asked the authorities concerned to show causes why the execution of the Power Purchase Agreement between BPDB and Adani Power (Jharkhand) Limited, with unconscionable, unfair, unequal terms that are against the public interest and public policy of Bangladesh, should not be declared illegal.

It also asked why they should not be directed to terminate the said agreement in case Adani Power does not agree to fair equal terms to uphold the national interest of Bangladesh, according to the full text of the order.

The High Court bench also fixed February 25 next year for further hearing of the matter.

## Lease of forest land

FROM PAGE 3

In response to a writ petition, the HC yesterday ordered the authorities concerned of the government to take effective steps to protect the forest land and ECA in the island.

The deputy commissioner of Cox's Bazar has been asked to immediately take steps to prevent cutting trees and making shrimp farms at the ECA.

The HC also ordered the government to assess the loss of 4,916 hectares of ECA and 8001.70 acres of notified forest land of Sonadia Island and to form a plan to recover them and to submit a report in this regard in six months.

Secretary at the ministry of environment, forest and climate change, chief conservator of forest and director general of department of

environment have been asked to comply with this directive.

At the same time, HC issued a rule asking the respondents to explain why the lease agreement for allocating 8001.7 acres of notified forest land and 2,712 acres of ECA at Sonadia and Ghatibhanga Mouza should not be declared illegal and unconstitutional.

The court also asked them to show causes why their failure to protect the ECA the notified forest land from destruction, alongside commercial and anti-forest uses, should not be declared illegal, unconstitutional and against the public interest.

The court in the rule asked them to explain why they should not be directed to hand over the forest land and ECA to the department of forest.

Secretaries at the

ministries of environment, forest and climate change; and land; chairman of BEZA; chief conservator of forest; director general of department of environment (DoE); deputy commissioner and superintendent of police of Cox's Bazar; divisional forest officer of Chattogram coastal forest department; director of Cox's Bazar's DoE; Maheshkhali upazila nirbahi officer, assistant commissioner of land and officer in charge of its police station have been made respondents to the rule.

The HC bench of Justice Farah Mahbub and Justice Debashis Roy Chowdhury issued the order and rule following a writ petition filed by Bangladesh Environmental Lawyers Association (BELA) seeking necessary directives to protect the forest and ECA at Sonadia Island.

## They leave with big dreams

FROM PAGE 3

Iman is not alone.

Over the past five years, BRAC has supported at least 104 Bangladeshi workers, mostly women, who returned from the Gulf, Malaysia, and Turkey after facing abuse. These workers endured physical injuries, mental torture, or sexual exploitation, and many now suffer from severe trauma caused by overwork and underpayment.

Among the returnees, 87 were women and 18 were men, BRAC data shows.

Saudi Arabia accounted for the highest number of cases with 79 returnees, followed by Oman with 12, Qatar with five, and two each from Jordan, the UAE, and Malaysia, as well as one each from Libya, Kuwait, and Turkey.

Layek Miah, 24, from Sylhet's Fenchuganj, is one such tragic case. He went to Oman five years ago, hoping for a better life as a hotel worker.

However, he returned mentally unstable just three days ago.

BRAC helped reunite him with his family. "He went in good health but now needs constant help just to move," said Siddiq Ahmed, his younger brother. "We don't know how he will survive in this condition," he added.

Female returnees often face the worst conditions. Many have endured severe trauma due to physical and sexual abuse.

A relative of one such woman said her sister returned with multiple health issues, including reproductive complications. "She faced relentless abuse and is now mentally unstable. She can barely work," she added.

Shariful Hasan, associate director of BRAC's Migration Programme, said the actual number of returnees could be four to five times higher.

"Some returnees are mentally unstable, face physical complications, or are pregnant. Many deal with complex issues," he said.

Shariful said there is a lack of structured support

for returnees at the airport and called for standard operating procedures (SOPs) to define the roles of government offices.

"It is painful that we cannot provide adequate support for such vulnerable returnees," he added.

Prof Tasneem Siddiqui, founding chair of RMMRU, called the situation heartbreaking.

She urged embassies to collaborate with local Bangladeshi communities abroad to monitor migrant workers and assist them before conditions worsen.

She recommended setting up more shelter homes in host countries for mental health support, ensuring employment for those unable to return to family, and raising international recognition for workers' rights and the children born abroad.

Prof Siddiqui also suggested using the Wage Earners' Welfare Board funds to support these returnees. "We must ensure safe migration and address these challenges urgently," she said.

## HC questions govt

FROM PAGE 3

hazardous to health, or pollute the air.

Secretaries at the ministries of law, home, and environment; Supreme Court registrar general; director general of Department of Environment; and director general of Department of Narcotics Control have been made respondents to

the rule, writ petitioner's lawyer Mahfujur Rahman told The Daily Star.

The HC bench of Justice Fatema Najib and Justice Sikder Mahmudur Razi issued the rule after the petition was filed by SC lawyer Abdullah Al Ashik, challenging the government's inaction and failure to install those devices.

## Syeda Fawzia Ally

FROM PAGE 3

Gulshan. She was laid to rest at Banani graveyard.

Syeda Fawzia Ally is survived by her only daughter Rahnuma Islam Emma, son-in-law Shafiq, and granddaughter Khushnuma, along with her extended family who mourn her loss. Her family remembers her as a source of strength, wisdom, and

love.

Her qulqhwani will be held on Friday after the Asr prayers at Baitul Atik Kendriya Jame Masjid in Baridhara.

The family requests prayers for her departed soul and extends their gratitude to everyone who has offered support during this time of grief.

## Six killed in separate road accidents

FROM PAGE 5

service personnel and taken to the Habiganj 250-bed Modern District Hospital, where they received primary treatment and were later released.

In Habiganj Sadar upazila,

an auto-rickshaw driver, who sustained injuries in a road accident three days earlier, died while undergoing treatment in Sylhet MAG Osmani Medical College Hospital yesterday afternoon.

The deceased, Selim Mia,

50, Ratanpur village in the upazila, was injured when his auto-rickshaw collided with another vehicle near a bridge on Paikpara Road on November 23, said Alamgir Kabir, OC of Habiganj Police Station.

## IUT, BRTC

FROM PAGE 3

He added, "I also observed loosened power transmission lines in some areas, which is concerning. I fail to understand why students were being transported on a double-decker bus along such a narrow road under hazardous electrical wiring."

The Buet team will submit a detailed report to the relevant authorities upon completing their investigation, he said.

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**PRAYER TIMING**

**NOVEMBER 27**

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01	WD-301	Re-excavation of 7 Nos Pond With 7 Stair Matikata, Basudebpur, Gogram, Dewpara, Rishikul Union, Godagari, Rajshahi.	Open Tendering Method (OTM)	27.11.2024	11.12.2024 17:00	12.12.2024 14:00	12.12.2024 14:30

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**A F M Iftekar Hossain**  
Director, Admin and HR Division  
WAVE Foundation

**গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার**

বাংলাদেশ পুলিশ

উপ-পুলিশ কমিশনার (সরবরাহ) এর কার্যালয়

চট্টগ্রাম মেট্রোপলিটন পুলিশ, চট্টগ্রাম

**উন্মুক্ত দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি: ০৪/২০২৪-২৫**

এতদ্বারা সিএমপিএর রেশন স্টোরে ২০২৪-২০২৫ অর্থ বছরের ৩য় কোয়ার্টার (০১লা জানুয়ারি/২০২৫খ্রি: হতে ৩১শে মার্চ/২০২৫খ্রি: পর্যন্ত)-এর জন্য (ক) দেশীয় ছোট দানার উন্নতমানের ১,৩৫,০০০ (এক লক্ষ ত্রিশ হাজার) কেজি "মস্তর ডাল" ক্রয় ও (খ) প্রাস্টিক কন্টেইনার/প্যাকেজ মাধ্যমে উন্নত ব্রান্ডের ১,৩০,০০০ (এক লক্ষ ত্রিশ হাজার) লিটার "সয়াবিন তেল" ক্রয় এবং (গ) রেশন স্টোরে ব্যবহৃত/রক্ষিত খালি চট ও প্রাস্টিক বস্তা বিক্রয়ের জন্য প্রয়োজনীয় যোগাযোগসম্পন্ন দরপত্রদাতাগণের নিকট হতে সিলমোহরকৃত খামে দরপত্র আহ্বান করা যাচ্ছে-

সং	মন্তব্য/বিভাগ	স্বরাষ্ট্র মন্ত্রণালয়/জননিরাপত্তা বিভাগ
১	মন্তব্য/বিভাগ	স্বরাষ্ট্র মন্ত্রণালয়/জননিরাপত্তা বিভাগ
২	সংস্থা	বাংলাদেশ পুলিশ
৩	মাল্যমাল ক্রয়কারী কর্তৃপক্ষ	পুলিশ কমিশনার, সিএমপি, চট্টগ্রাম
৪	দরপত্র বিক্রয়ের সর্বশেষ তারিখ	১৮/১২/২০২৪খ্রি., বিকাল ১৭.০০ টা পর্যন্ত
৫	দরপত্র গ্রহণের সর্বশেষ তারিখ ও সময়	১৯/১২/২০২৪খ্রি., সময়- দুপুর ১২.০০ টা পর্যন্ত
৬	দরপত্র খোলার তারিখ ও সময়	১৯/১২/২০২৪খ্রি., সময়- দুপুর ১২.৩০ টা
৭	বাজেট ও অর্ধের উৎস	জিওবি (রাজস্ব)
৮	দরপত্র আহ্বানকারী কর্তৃপক্ষের নাম ও ঠিকানা	মোঃ তারেক আহমেদ, উপ-পুলিশ কমিশনার (সরবরাহ), সিএমপি, চট্টগ্রাম
৯	দরপত্র খোলার দপ্তর	উপ-পুলিশ কমিশনার (সরবরাহ), সিএমপি, চট্টগ্রাম-এর দামপাড়া পুলিশ লাইন্স অফিস কক্ষ
১০	দরপত্রের যোগ্যতা ও দরপত্রের সাথে সংযুক্ত প্রয়োজনীয় কাগজপত্রাদি	দরপত্রের সাথে হালনাগাদ নিম্নবর্ণিত কাগজপত্রাদির সত্যায়িত ফটোকপি দাখিল করতে হবে- ক) ব্যবসায়িক ট্রেড লাইসেন্স, খ) আয়কর পরিশোধের সনদপত্র, গ) ভ্যাট রেজিস্ট্রেশনসহ পরিশোধের হালনাগাদ সনদপত্র, ঘ) ব্যাংক কর্তৃক আর্থিক স্বচ্ছতার প্রত্যয়নপত্রসহ দরপত্র দাখিলের পূর্ববর্তী ০৬ (ছয়) মাসের ব্যালেন্স সাথে সেনসেনের স্টেটমেন্ট, ঙ) এনআইডি কার্ড, চ) ছবিসহ ফার্মের মালিকানা হস্তাক্ষরিত কপি এবং প্রতিনিধির ক্ষেত্রে ছবিসহ প্রাধিকারপত্র, ছ) মস্তর ডালের ক্ষেত্রে এগ্রিকালচারাল লাইসেন্স, (জ) সিডিউলের বর্ণিত অন্যান্য যোগ্যতা বা কাগজপত্রাদি। উল্লেখ্য যে, খালি বস্তার সিডিউল ক্রয়ের ক্ষেত্রে শুধু এনআইডি কার্ড, ট্রেড লাইসেন্স, আয়কর ও ভ্যাট সনদপত্র লাগবে।
১১	সিডিউল প্রাপ্তির স্থান	(ক) সিএমপি রেশন স্টোর, প্রশাসনিক ভবন, রিজার্ভ অফিস, নীচ তলা, দামপাড়া পুলিশ লাইন্স, চট্টগ্রাম (খ) পুলিশ সুপার, চট্টগ্রাম-এর মোলশহরস্থ কার্যালয় (গ) জেলা প্রশাসক, চট্টগ্রাম-এর কার্যালয়
১২	দরপত্র গ্রহণকারী অফিসের নাম ও ঠিকানা	(ক) উপ-পুলিশ কমিশনার (সরবরাহ), সিএমপি, চট্টগ্রাম-এর দামপাড়া পুলিশ লাইন্স কার্যালয় (খ) পুলিশ সুপার, চট্টগ্রাম-এর মোলশহরস্থ কার্যালয়
১৩	দরপত্র গ্রহণ/মূল্যায়ন	পিপিএ-২০০৬ ও পিপিআর-২০০৮ এর সর্বশেষ সংশোধনসহ সর্বশ্রেষ্ঠ আইন ও দরপত্র দলিল অনুযায়ী
১৪	ক্রয়/বিক্রয়ের বিবরণ	

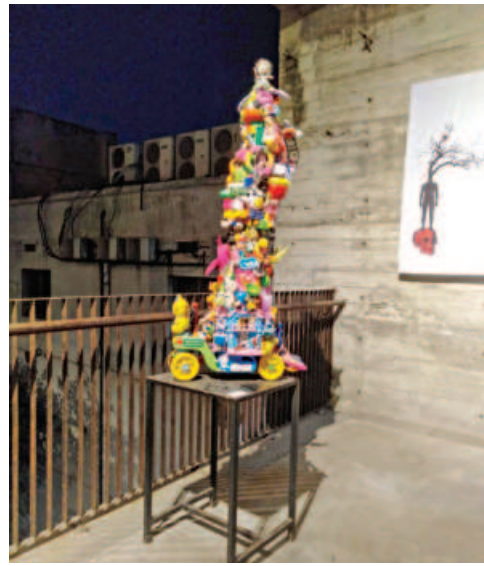
স্ট	দরপত্রের বিষয়	দরপত্র সিডিউলের মূল্য (অফারযোগ্য)	দরপত্রের সাথে দরপত্র জামানত (ফেরতযোগ্য)	সময়সীমা
১	উন্নতমানের ছোট দানার "মস্তর ডাল" ক্রয়	১,৫০০/- (এক হাজার পাঁচশত) টাকা মাত্র	৫,০০,০০০/- (পাঁচ লক্ষ) টাকা	০১/০১/২০২৫খ্রি: হতে ৩১/০৩/২০২৫খ্রি: পর্যন্ত (০৩ মাস)
২	উৎকৃষ্টমানের সয়াবিন তেল (ব্রান্ডের) ক্রয়	১,৫০০/- (এক হাজার পাঁচশত) টাকা মাত্র	৬,০০,০০০/- (ছয় লক্ষ) টাকা	০১/০১/২০২৫খ্রি: হতে ৩১/০৩/২০২৫খ্রি: পর্যন্ত (০৩ মাস)
৩	রেশন স্টোরে ব্যবহৃত/রক্ষিত খালি চট ও প্রাস্টিক বা সর্বোচ্চ দরে বিক্রয়	৫০০/- (পাঁচশত) টাকা মাত্র	২৫,০০০/- (পঁচিশ হাজার) টাকা	০১/০১/২০২৫খ্রি: হতে ৩১/০৩/২০২৫খ্রি: পর্যন্ত (০৩ মাস)

বি.দ্র.: দরপত্র আহ্বানকারী কর্তৃপক্ষ কোন কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতিরেকে যে কোন দরপত্র গ্রহণ বা বাতিল করার অধিকার সংরক্ষণ করেন। উল্লেখ্য যে, কোন কারণে দরপত্র উন্মুক্তকরণের দিন অফিস বন্ধ থাকলে পরবর্তী অফিস খোলার দিন যথাসময়ে টেন্ডার উন্মুক্ত করা হবে।

(মোঃ তারেক আহমেদ)  
বিপি-৭২০৫১২৪২৯৮  
উপ-পুলিশ কমিশনার (সরবরাহ)  
অতিরিক্ত ডিআইজি পদে পদোন্নতিপ্রাপ্ত  
পক্ষে পুলিশ কমিশনার  
চট্টগ্রাম মেট্রোপলিটন পুলিশ  
চট্টগ্রাম

GD-1050





PHOTOS: AISHWARYA RAIHAN

## 'BODY AND THE MAP'

### Stories of chaos, trauma, and scars through art

AISHWARYA RAIHAN

Bengal Shilpalay is currently hosting **Body and the Map**, a contemporary art exhibition illustrating stories of violence, destruction, injustice, pain, and loss of humanity. Our bodies bear testimony to the resistance against societal darkness, the trauma inflicted upon us, and the generational scars.

According to curator Sharmille Rahman, the body reflects the endeavour to belong in a place with a broken, anarchic political system. Following this notion, 10 emerging local artists have given shape to their imagination and interpretation of the current political instability, moral decay, and indifference towards these—that is caused by the economy, not just in our nation, but also worldwide.

**Body and the Map** features artists A Asan, Afsana Sharmin, Ashang Mong, Farzana Ahmed, Mong Mong Shay, Niazuddin Ahmmed, Palash Bhattacharjee, Rasel Rana, Razib Datta, and Ripon Saha, each with a collection of their artwork.

Reaching the 3rd level of Bengal Shilpalay, the first art piece greeting me in the lift lobby with its unique appearance was **Ria Moni**, a tower constructed with children's toys. Created by Afsana Sharmin, this sculpture is a memorial for the mother

who was shot dead in her apartment during the Student Against Discrimination (SAD) Movement, leaving behind her infant Ria Moni. An intimidating installation with bamboo, sharp objects, water lilies, and severed doll parts is her way of visualising the movement.

The next artwork with enormous volume was Rasel Rana's installation, a part of his **Desire Peace** series. Made with cotton and fabric, this piece symbolises the ascending of the martyrs of the movement to the sky, a pain that we who are still alive are carrying. Pages from his memoir during these horrific incidents are also on display.

Mong Mong Shay, through his digital manipulation, depicted the savagery committed via the abuse of power, including the silhouette of Tofazzal Hossain, an innocent man mocked, bullied, and beaten to death by a group of students at Dhaka University. **In the Field of Duality** is a combination of five brightly painted panels put together, all of which are Shay's way of saying, "Something is wrong with whatever is happening around us."

A Asan painted a being on a gabardine cloth, begging for bullets so it could end the hatred, terror, and violence that are prevalent in the world. Her small woodcut prints are her way of showing that there is still a ray of hope amidst this chaos and that

we should always hold onto it just like she does.

Niazuddin Ahmmed summarised the injustice on protesters as a 'fall' of conscience, compassion, empathy, and morals. His minimalistic watercolour drawings are the remembrance of the events. The video and installation together symbolise the never-changing venom of political power that corrupts anyone who claims it.

Not only during the July Uprising, but the attacks on students and their supporters, the hate crimes against minority groups, the injustice in the mountains, the political instability, and even the genocide in the land of Palestine have shaken Farzana Ahmed to her core, resulting in her creating massive scrolls of overwhelming images. She has also made a sculpture to portray the horror of being injured by a chopper, reminding us of the murder of Biswajit Das in 2012.

Ashang Mong's humongous bird with white plumage had its head stuck in the roof—a unique depiction of our current political and economic instability, unpredictable future, and declining mental health. His **Here, There, and Elsewhere** series focuses on various intriguing elements of our mind, such as horror, imprisonment, awareness of the presence of lives around us, differences in spaces, etc.

Razib Datta sought refuge in satirical expressions with minimalistic execution, illustrating the effects of radical nationalism developed in recent years, generating the July Uprising. His installation connects with the fear, aggression, and irregularity we feel at present.

Ripon Saha's drawings on canvas and single-channel video, **Birth of a Content**, show his aversion to politics. For him, everything around us, including love and hatred, war and peace, education and administration, business, and economy, is just content, and there would be a world in the future revolutionised by content. Those five days of internet shutdown in July prompted Palash Bhattacharjee to create a tiny journal with pieces from a newspaper, accompanied by a video. This piece is called **The Days of Log Out**. His **Broken Glass** speaks the story of his experience during a halted cultural gathering.

It requires immense strength to be an artist. To be able to represent sensitive issues thoughtfully is a skill that requires years of patience, practice, and honesty, and these virtues are vividly present in all the artworks in **Body and the Map**.

Inaugurated on November 15, Bengal Shilpalay will run this open-to-all exhibition till December 28.

## NEWS

### WI hammer Tigers in Antigua Test

FROM PAGE 12  
had overnight batter Hasan Mahmud (0 off 12) edge one back to the wicketkeeper in just the second over before following it up soon by trapping in front Jaker Ali (31 off 58), the only recognised batter left.

Joseph welcomed the last batter Shoriful Islam (1 off 4) with a bouncer that hit the right-hander on his shoulder, eventually rendering him unable to continue batting as he had to go off as retired hurt in the following over—ending the Tigers' misery.

"That 140 run partnership, I think that was the turning point," Mehedi Hasan Miraz, Bangladesh's stand-in skipper in place of injured Najmul

Hossain Shanto, pointed out the record eighth-wicket stand between Kumar Roach and Justin Greaves in the first innings as the game changer.

Roach and Greaves' stand—now the highest ever for the wicket in Tests against Bangladesh—helped the Windies pile up a mammoth 450/9d in the first innings from the depths of 261 for seven.

Miraz, meanwhile, credited the pacers' efforts that gave the Tigers a glimmer of hope by bundling the hosts out for just 152 in the second innings, leaving the visitors to score 334 to win the contest.

"I think we bowled well. Taskin got

six wickets. We have good pacers in our attack, they bowl really well. In these conditions, we have some good spinners as well," Miraz added.

However, at the end of the day, as it so often happens, it was the batters' failure that made the Tigers pay in yet another match. None of the Bangladesh batters were able to get to a century in the game while a shaky 45-run knock from skipper Miraz remained the highest in the second innings.

"In this Test, we didn't bat well in both the innings. We'll see how to get better," Miraz hoped to get things in order for the second and final Test, beginning from November 30 in Jamaica.

### Nationwide BBS survey

FROM PAGE 12  
formulate recommendations through discussions based on the proposals we receive from different stakeholders."

Prof Riaz expressed optimism about the commission submitting the recommendations within the specified timeframe.

Clarifying the commission's role, he said, "The Constitution Reform Commission's duty is to submit recommendations to the interim government. The commission began its journey on October 6. We are hopeful of working until January 5, although it is being suggested that the time might end by December 30."

He emphasised, "The constitution is not solely about elections. We will prepare recommendations based on the opinions received regarding elections in the constitution. However, specifics such as when the election will be held and the process for conducting it are matters for the government to decide, not the commission."

Referring to the commission's website, which has received over 50,000 opinions, Prof Riaz added, "We are continuing discussions with stakeholders. We'll also consult more organisations and prominent individuals."

### Statement of India goes against spirit

FROM PAGE 12  
Sammilita Sanatani Jagaran Jote, in Dhaka on Monday on charges of disrespecting Bangladesh's national flag in Chattogram's New Market area during a rally of the Hindu community on October 25.

Earlier yesterday, Indian Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) issued a statement, expressing concern over Chinmoy's arrest and denial of bail.

It said the MEA has noted with deep concern the arrest and denial of bail to Chinmoy, which follows "multiple attacks on Hindus and other minorities by extremist elements" in Bangladesh.

According to the statement, there are several documented cases of arson and looting of minorities' homes and business establishments, as well as theft and vandalism and desecration of deities and temples.

"It is unfortunate that while the perpetrators of these incidents remain at large, charges should be pressed against a religious leader presenting

legitimate demands through peaceful gatherings."

The MEA said India notes with concern the attacks on minorities protesting peacefully against the arrest of Chinmoy, and urged the Bangladesh authorities to ensure the safety and security of Hindus and all minorities, and their right of freedom of peaceful assembly and expression.

The Bangladesh foreign ministry said the government took note of the MEA statement on a matter concerning the country's internal affairs.

"[MEA statement] also completely disregards that the Government of Bangladesh is determined to conclusively end the culture of impunity to the perpetrators of gross human rights violations against the people of Bangladesh, thus treating the religious majority and minorities alike."

It said Bangladesh reaffirms in the strongest terms that every Bangladeshi, regardless of his or her religious identity, has the right to establish, maintain or

### Israel, Hezbollah

FROM PAGE 12  
evacuation warning yet, telling civilians to leave 20 locations.

Lebanon reported three deaths in the Israeli strikes. The Iran-backed Hezbollah has kept up rocket fire into Israel.

The UN rights chief voiced concern about the escalation of bloodshed in Lebanon and his office said nearly 100 people had been reported killed by Israeli airstrikes in recent days, including women, children and medics.

Israel's security cabinet under Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu was due to start meeting at 1400 GMT for up to three hours to discuss the ceasefire deal, which a senior Israeli official said was likely to be approved.

perform respective religious rituals and practices or express views without hindrance.

"Ensuring safety and security of all citizens, particularly the members of religious minorities remains a duty of the Government of Bangladesh. This was yet again vindicated by the peaceful observance of Durga Puja throughout Bangladesh only last month."

The Bangladesh government reiterated that the country's judiciary is fully independent and it does not interfere in the work of the judiciary. The matter under question is at present being dealt with by the court of law.

It is also committed to upholding communal harmony in the country, the foreign ministry said.

Expressing deep concern over the brutal killing of lawyer Saiful Islam Alif yesterday afternoon in Chattogram, the ministry said the authorities have stepped up security in the port city to ensure that religious harmony is maintained at any cost.

### Members split over ex-Shibir leader joining

FROM PAGE 12  
Zonaed, a former student of Women and Gender Studies department of DU, led the DU unit's activities underground in 2019. He was one of the secretariat members of Shibir's central committee before he joined the Nagorik committee, said a source.

Samantha Sharmin, spokesperson for the Nagorik committee, said, "No one has been included because of their post or position in any other parties. All are equal here and have been incorporated for their contributions in anti-fascist movement."

She denied that there were any divisions among the members on the inclusion of any particular person.

"The decision of the extension was unanimous," she said, adding that it was not the time for divisions and that they wanted to include all anti-fascist groups.

There is no denying that Shibir men played an important role during the anti-fascist movement, she said.

She, however, said the Nagorik committee has a stance that Jamaat-

Shibir as parties must make it abundantly clear their role in 1971 if they want to be in politics henceforth.

"People are only being included in our committee after they have resigned from their previous party posts," she added.

She said they included all sorts of people in the extended committee irrespective of their ideologies, including people from Chattra Dal, Chattra Shibir, Chattra Federation, Chattra Union, independent candidates of the 2019 election to Dhaka University Central Students' Union, journalists, female representatives, and indigenous communities.

Insiders said Zonaed played a key role in the quota reforms protest from behind the scenes. He was one of those who joined Prof Muhammad Yunus' swearing in ceremony.

Contacted, Zonaed said he left Shibir in 2020 and joined a research firm.

"We had contacts with key organisers of the quota reforms protest in July and I joined in person when it turned into an

anti-government protest," he said.

About conducting underground politics during the Awami League regime, he said they were forced to do so as the then government created an atmosphere of fear by putting their leaders behind bars and torturing them out of vengeance.

The extended Nagorik committee now has 107 members and around 8-10 of them are former Shibir leaders.

Most of the people included in the committee on Monday were known faces.

Sarjis Alam was one of the faces of the Anti-Discrimination Student Movement; Sk Tasnim Afroz Emi is a former vice-president of DU's Shamsunnahar Hall union; Umme Habiba Benojir is a former Chattra Federation president of DU unit; Aurore Semonti Khan is a former independent VP candidate of DUCSU; Mir Arshadul Hoque is a former VP of Dhaka University Journalists' Association; Debashish Chakrabarty is an artist; and Syeda Nilima Dola is a cultural activist.

### Vested group out to destabilise

FROM PAGE 12  
urge everyone to refrain from such self-destructive activities. Please support efforts to institutionalise democracy," he said.

The BNP believes that the government has failed to control the recent protests in the capital.

Party leaders said an electoral roadmap could have prevented the deterioration in law and order. They warned that delaying the announcement of the roadmap would only worsen the situation.

Wishing anonymity, a senior BNP leader said, "Despite concerns over conspiracies and potential violence, the government did not take strong measures, leading to a crisis."

A BNP standing committee member said targeting the offices of media

outlets is unacceptable.

"While differences of opinion are natural, harassing media outlets in such a way is truly embarrassing," he said.

He also pointed out that seeing things from only one perspective is risky, suggesting that a vested quarter was trying to portray Bangladesh as a "radical" nation.

"This is a dangerous game. The BNP believes in liberalism and we are really worried about it."

Fakhrul yesterday said a dreadful activity is going on—attack on the press, attack on freedom of expression.

"We need to have patience. This is an interim government, and it cannot achieve everything all at once. We are not against reforms, but challenges like these cannot be addressed without

elections."

He said that seeing the current situation in the country, many are feeling a little worried.

"You [people] must understand that our enemies, who have left the forefront, are now trying to destabilise the country from behind the scene. We need to remain extremely vigilant for this."

In another development, the BNP has decided to form grassroots committees, from union to district levels, within 90 days, party leaders said.

Organisational teams have been tasked with overseeing the formation of the committees.

The BNP has made the move to revitalise the party by picking dedicated leaders who are capable of leading the organisation effectively.

### Seven killed as train hits auto-rickshaw

FROM PAGE 12  
to Comilla Medical College Hospital, said Mostafa Kamal, sub-inspector of Cumilla Railway Police Outpost.

Locals and witnesses said the autorickshaw was heading towards Fakirbazar from Bakshimul village. It was hit by the train just as it got onto the rail tracks in Kalikapur, where the level crossing had no barriers or a guard.

After the collision, the train dragged the mangled autorickshaw for about

1.5km from Kalikapur towards Razapur railway station, said police.

ABM Kamruzzaman, divisional railway manager of Chattogram, confirmed that the rail crossing where the incident took place was unauthorised.

He said his department was not responsible for appointing guards or setting up barriers at unauthorised level crossings.

When asked how there was an illegal level crossing at the spot, he said it

could have been set up by another government agency.

When asked who is in charge of hiring a guard to protect such an unauthorised level crossing, the railway officer did not make a comment.

Burichang Upazila Nirbahi Officer (UNO) Shahida Akter could not be reached for a comment.

According to Bangladesh Railway data as of August 2022, there were 3,111 level crossings in the country. Of those, 1,225 were unauthorised.

## US aircraft flies over Taiwan Strait China deploys air, naval forces

AFP, Taipei

Beijing said yesterday it deployed air and naval forces to monitor a US military plane as it flew over politically sensitive waters separating China and Taiwan.

"A US Navy P-8A Poseidon transited the Taiwan Strait in international airspace on November 26, 2024 (local time)," the US Navy's 7th Fleet said in a statement.

"The aircraft's transit of the Taiwan Strait demonstrates the United States' commitment to a free and open Indo-Pacific." China said it had monitored the aircraft and condemned the flight for being "openly hyped".

"US remarks distort legal principles, confuse the public and mislead international perception," said Cao Jun, a senior colonel for China's Eastern Theatre Air Force.



Lebanese first responders arrive at the site of an Israeli airstrike that targeted a building in the capital Beirut yesterday, amid the ongoing war between Israel and Hezbollah.

PHOTO: AFP

## Social media, AI fuelling 'worst human impulses'

Warns UN chief

AFP, Cascais

Uncontrolled social media networks and artificial intelligence amplify the worst human impulses, allowing hate speech to spread like wildfire and ignite violence, UN secretary general Antonio Guterres said yesterday.

"We must reign in hate speech and disinformation spreading online," Guterres told a top-level meeting of the United Nations' Alliance of Civilisations (UNAOC) in Portugal.

"Unchecked digital platforms and Artificial Intelligence have endowed hate speech with a speed and reach unseen before," he told UNAOC's 10th global forum in Cascais, near Lisbon.

"The worst impulses of humanity are given a megaphone, and many times they lead to violence," he told a session at the gathering on "upending hate".

The proliferation of deepfakes online allowed "the impossible and the unverified (to) become credible in an instant", Guterres said.

"Misinformation and outright lies are fuelling repulsive anti-semitism, anti-Muslim bigotry and attacks on minority Christian communities, among others," Guterres said.

Social media and AI offered a "new medium" for these "old tactics".

The UN leader reiterated his pleas for peace in Gaza, Lebanon, Ukraine and Sudan.

## Russia hits Ukraine with 'record' drone barrage

### Western region hit by power outage

REUTERS, Kyiv

Russian forces staged their largest ever drone attack on Ukraine overnight, cutting power to much of the western region of Ternopil and damaging residential buildings in Kyiv region, Ukraine's officials said yesterday.

Intensified nightly drone attacks on Ukrainian cities are coinciding with a major push by Russia along frontlines in Ukraine's east, where Russian forces have made some of the largest monthly territorial gains since 2022.

Of 188 drones used overnight, Ukraine shot down 76 and lost track of 96, likely due to active electronic warfare, the air force said. Five drones headed towards Belarus.

"The enemy launched a record number of Shahed attack UAVs and unidentified drones ...," it said, in addition to using four Iskander-M ballistic missiles. Russia uses cheaply-produced "suicide" drones and low-cost "decoy" drones, which tie up Ukrainian air defences.

"Unfortunately, there were hits to critical infrastructure facilities, and private and apartment buildings were damaged in several regions due to the massive drone attack," an air force statement said, adding that no casualties had been reported.

The attack damaged the power grid in Ternopil, a major city in western Ukraine, and cut power to around 70 percent of the region, governor Vyacheslav Nehoda said on national television.

Ternopil, some 220 km (134 miles) east of Nato-member Poland, and the surrounding region had a population of more than a million before the February 2022 Russian invasion, which drove many Ukrainians west.

"The consequences are bad because the facility was significantly affected and this will have impact on the power supply of the entire region for a long time," Nehoda said.

The attack also cut off water and disrupted heat supplies, the head of the regional defence headquarters Serhiy Nadal said via the Telegram messaging app.

## 300 Afghan reporters suffer rights breaches: UN

AFP, Kabul

More than 300 Afghan journalists have suffered rights breaches since the Taliban surged back to power in 2021, a United Nations report said yesterday, documenting dozens of cases of torture and arbitrary arrest.

Afghanistan's media sector has shrunk under three years of Taliban rule, while monitors criticised Kabul for allegedly trampling reporters' rights.

Research by the UN Assistance Mission in Afghanistan and its Geneva-based Human Rights Office said journalists and media outlets "operate under an environment of censorship and tight restrictions".

Between the Taliban's return in August 2021 and this September the UN team "documented instances of human rights violations affecting 336 journalists and media workers", the report said. It recounted 256 instances of "arbitrary arrest and detention", 130 of "torture and ill-treatment" and 75 of "threats or intimidation".

UNAMA chief Roza Otunbayeva said journalists "often face unclear rules on what they can and cannot report, running the risk of intimidation and arbitrary detention for perceived criticism".

## 11 Palestinians killed in Israeli strikes, shelling

Says Gaza's civil defence, warns rescue vehicles not working in north of enclave for lack of fuel

AFP, Gaza City

Gaza's civil defence agency said yesterday that 11 people were killed in nighttime Israeli air strikes and artillery shelling across the Palestinian territory.

In the northern city of Jabalia, seven people were killed and several others wounded in an air strike on a residential building, civil defence spokesman Mahmud Bassal told AFP.

Another person was killed in a strike on a house in nearby Beit Lahia, which along with Jabalia has been the site of an intensive Israeli military operation since October 6.

Two people were killed by artillery

shelling on Nuseirat camp in central Gaza, Bassal said. In the southern city of Rafah, an air strike killed one and wounded several, he added.

Israel's campaign has killed 44,249 people in Gaza, according to figures from the Hamas-run territory's health ministry that the United Nations considers reliable.

Meanwhile, Gaza's civil defence agency warned yesterday that its vehicles had stopped working in the Palestinian territory's north due to a lack of fuel, warning it could not respond to emergencies.

"All our fire, rescue, and ambulance vehicles have stopped

working in Gaza governorate due to the Israeli occupation's continued refusal to provide the necessary diesel to operate them," the rescue agency said in a statement.

"Our crews will not be able to respond to citizens' calls until the Israeli occupation allows humanitarian organisations to bring in the necessary quantities of diesel," it added.

The UN rights chief is gravely concerned over the escalating conflict between Israel and Hezbollah in Lebanon and wants a "permanent ceasefire" there and in war-ravaged Gaza, his spokesman said yesterday.

"The high commissioner reiterates his call for an immediate ceasefire to put an end to the killings and the destruction," Jeremy Laurence, a spokesman for Volker Turk, told reporters in Geneva.



**Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh**  
Local Government Engineering Department  
Office of the Executive Engineer  
District: Kishoreganj.  
www.lged.gov.bd


Memo No. 46.02.4800.000.07.012.24-3918 Date: 26/11/2024

### e-Tender Notice No: 40/2024-2025

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

Sl No	Package No & Name of Scheme	Tender ID No	Last selling and Opening date and time
01	MRRIDP/24/KISH/SADR/MAINT/UNR/264 Widening and Maintenance of Boulai Pura bazar to Jasodal UP via Madunagar Rd (Ch.00-3140m) by BC under Upazila: Kishoreganj-S, Dist.: Kishoreganj. [Road ID: 348493011]	1038115 (OTM)	17-Dec-2024, 17:00 18-Dec-2024, 15:00
02	MRRIDP/24/KISH/KARI/VR/265 Improvement of Pura Chamta (H/O Hashem)-Haluaghat road (Ch.00-1800m) and School Connecting Road (Ch.00-97.2m) by RCC With Protective Works Under Upazila: Karimganj, Dist. Kishoreganj. [Road ID: 348425191]	1038116 (OTM)	17-Dec-2024, 17:00 18-Dec-2024, 15:00

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 through on line at any branches of registered banks' branches. Detail notice, further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System portal and from e-GP help desk ([helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd](mailto:helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd) or [egphelpdesk@lged.gov.bd](mailto:egphelpdesk@lged.gov.bd)).

  
 (Md. Amirul Islam)  
 Executive Engineer  
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GD-1054

**Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh**  
Higher Education Acceleration And Transformation (HEAT) Project  
Secondary and Higher Education Division, Ministry of Education  
UGC Bhaban, Agargaon, Dhaka

Memo No.: HEAT/PMU/Outsourcing-55/2024-203 Date: 27/11/2024

### Invitation for Tenders

1	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Education
2	Agency	University Grants Commission of Bangladesh
3	Procuring Entity Name	Higher Education Acceleration And Transformation (HEAT)Project
4	Procuring Entity District	Dhaka
5	Invitation for	Outsourcing of Support Staffs (Data Entry Operator and Office Shohayok ) for HEAT
6	Invitation Ref No	HEAT/PMU/Outsourcing-55/2024-203
7	Date	27.11.2024
<b>KEY INFORMATION</b>		
8	Procurement Method	Open Tendering Method (National)
<b>FUNDING INFORMATION</b>		
9	Budget and Source of Funds	GoB
<b>PARTICULAR INFORMATION</b>		
10	Project Code	224386600
11	Project Name	Higher Education Acceleration And Transformation (HEAT)Project
12	Tender Package No.	NCS-1
13	Tender Package Name	Outsourcing of Support Staffs (Data Entry Operator and Office Shohayok) for HEAT
14	Tender Publication Date	27.11.2024
15	Tender Last Selling Date	18.12.2024 12 pm
16	Tender Closing Date and Time	19.12.2024 at 2.30 pm
17	Tender Opening Date and Time	19.12.2024 at 3.00 pm
18	Name & Address of the office	Higher Education Acceleration And Transformation (HEAT) Project Secondary and Higher Education Division, Ministry of Education
	Selling Tender Document	
	Receiving Tender Document	
19	Place /Date/Time of Pre - Tender Meeting (Optional)	N/A
<b>INFORMATION FOR TENDERER</b>		
20	Eligibility of Tenderer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minimum three (3) years' experience as Prime Contractor/Sub Contractor/ Management Contractor.</li> <li>Shall have at least one (1) contract of similar nature with a value of at least of BDT 70,00,000/- (Seventy lac) only.</li> <li>Minimum amount of liquid assets i.e. working capital or credit line(s) of the Tenderer is BDT 20,00,000/- (twenty lac) only.</li> <li>Details of Eligibility &amp; others requirements are mentioned in Tender Documents.</li> </ul>
21	Tender Document Price	BDT 1,000/- (One Thousand) only
22	Tender Name	Location
	Outsourcing of Support Staffs (Data Entry Operator -6 and Office Shohayok -9) for HEAT	Dhaka
		Tender Security Amount(Tk) BDT 3,00,000/- (three lac) only
23	Name of Official Inviting Tender	Professor Dr. Assaduzzaman
24	Designation of Official Inviting Tender	Project Director
25	Address of Official Inviting Tender	Higher Education Acceleration And Transformation (HEAT) Project Secondary and Higher Education Division, Ministry of Education UGC Bhaban, Agargaon, Dhaka.
26	Contact Details of Official Inviting Tender	Phone: 01938534828 Fax: N/A E-mail <a href="mailto:heat.ugc@gmail.com">heat.ugc@gmail.com</a>
27	Special Instructions:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tenderer Information Form PSN-2 must be submitted properly.</li> <li>Personnel Information must be submitted properly according to Form PSN-3 (CV).</li> <li>The remuneration of manpower shall be fixed as consolidated payment as per government circular plus applicable Tax &amp; VAT.</li> <li>Tenderer's quoting rate of service commission of the Tender less the specific threshold specified in TDS &amp; Section 6: Activity schedule of the Tender Document as stated under ITT Sub 22.6, shall be rejected.</li> </ol>
28	The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.	

**Professor Dr. Assaduzzaman**  
Project Director

GD-1055

# The Daily Star

FOUNDER EDITOR: LATE S. M. ALI

## Assaults on free press deeply alarming

### Authorities must act decisively to protect press freedom

We're deeply concerned about the ongoing threats to press freedom as epitomised by the spate of attacks, vandalism, hostile mobilisations, and inflammatory rhetoric targeting *Prothom Alo* and *The Daily Star*. This is a rude awakening for those who expected the culture of intimidation and repression against journalists to recede with the ouster of an autocratic regime—which, over 14 years, saw Bangladesh's position plummet 42 notches on the World Press Freedom Index. Instead, threats to the media appear to be intensifying in the current political climate, with coordinated campaigns aiming to stoke hostility against media houses that have long stood as pillars of independent journalism. This raises troubling questions about the future of the press in Bangladesh.

The campaign against *Prothom Alo* has been particularly vociferous since October 25, when a group announced plans to siege its head office in Karwan Bazar but failed to mobilise. Later, starting Thursday, protesters held sit-ins and caused disorder outside the office for several days, prompting law enforcement to intervene. On Monday, two of the paper's regional offices came under attack: masked individuals vandalised its signboard and windows in Bogura, while in Rajshahi, a group attempted to break into its office, destroyed its signboard, and burned copies of *Prothom Alo* and *The Daily Star*. Hostile gatherings against both papers were also reported in Chattogram, Sylhet, Barishal, Chandpur, Munshiganj, and at Savar's Jahangirnagar University. On Friday, a group also demonstrated in front of *The Daily Star*'s head office.

While we welcome and indeed look forward to any constructive criticism of the media—which can be a learning experience for journalists—the current campaign, rooted in neither truth nor reason, offers no such opportunity. No credible grievances or evidence have been presented to justify these attacks and disruptions. Instead, they appear driven by an agenda to discredit independent media and deter it from fulfilling its watchdog role, exploiting the fluid security situation. As the Editors' Council and the Newspaper Owners' Association of Bangladesh (Noab) have rightly pointed out, any objections to the news or editorial policy of a newspaper can be expressed constructively, through writing. There are also legal means available to anyone feeling aggrieved. Even peaceful protests are permissible. But intimidation or violence targeting newspapers—and by extension their staff—are not only unacceptable but also a disservice to the democratic aspirations of the July uprising.

We are, however, encouraged by the solidarity shown by various platforms amid ongoing assaults. Government officials, including the information adviser, have also condemned this wave of aggression, vowing to prevent any unlawful activities to silence the media. We hope these assurances will be matched by swift action to create a secure environment for journalists, and that those behind ongoing assaults will be held accountable. The anti-media campaign coincides with the ongoing trend of disruptive activities by various errant groups, highlighting the complex challenges facing the pro-uprising forces. It is, therefore, imperative that civil society, political leaders, and the public stand united in protecting our hard-earned freedoms.

## Senseless violence at DMRC by students

### Those responsible for the mayhem, looting must face justice

We are shocked by the mindless violence that erupted at the Dr Mahbubur Rahman Mollah College (DMRC) on Monday, as students from Suhrawardy College and Kabi Nazrul College clashed with DMRC students for hours, leaving around 100 injured. Reportedly, hundreds of students from the two colleges, armed with various weapons, stormed DMRC around noon and damaged everything in their path, setting fire to furniture, destroying documents, and looting cash and computers. According to the DMRC principal, the estimated damage to the institution could be around Tk 60-70 crore. Such senseless acts of violence and destruction, especially by students, are completely unacceptable.

In recent days, we have observed a troubling trend of students resorting to violence at the slightest provocation. On November 20, students from Dhaka College and City College clashed in the Science Lab area for no apparent reason. About a week ago, students from Titumir College blocked roads and railways, hurling stones at train commuters and injuring many, in a demand to upgrade their college to university status. And now this violence involving students from three colleges. Reportedly, the unrest began after a DMRC student passed away at Dhaka National Medical College Hospital on November 18. When students from DMRC went to vandalise the hospital alleging medical negligence, students from the other two colleges joined, eventually sparking a clash.

It is disheartening to see such divisions and petty conflicts when, over three months ago, students played a significant role in the fall of an autocratic regime through their united efforts. Why can't they stand united now at this crucial moment of nation rebuilding? It defies logic that the death of a fellow student would lead to violence among students themselves, rather than a unified, peaceful protest against any perceived medical negligence. Some, including the DMRC principal, believe that outside forces may be instigating such violence to create unrest in the country. While the possibility of external instigation cannot be dismissed, nothing justifies the violence and vandalism carried out by the students.

As citizens of this country, students must abide by its laws. The government and college authorities must ensure that this message is clear to them. The government's strong stance against these actions is commendable, but words alone are not enough. We urge the authorities to take swift legal action against those involved in the attacks, vandalism, and looting, after conducting a thorough investigation. Incidents like these cannot be taken lightly.

# Dhaka, a Gotham caught in the crossfire of conspiracies



HM Nazmul Alam is lecturer at the Department of English and Modern Languages in the International University of Business, Agriculture and Technology (IUBAT). He can be reached at nazmulalam.rijohn@gmail.com.

HM NAZMUL ALAM

Dhaka, once teeming with the promise of progress, now finds itself trapped in a coordinated maelstrom of unrest. Blocked roads, clashing students, and rickshaw drivers paralysing neighbourhoods have become the new norm. The chaos is obvious, but is it organic? Or is it the result of something more insidious—an intricate conspiracy aimed at destabilising the nation? As the capital begins to resemble Gotham City, we are left to wonder: who are the shadowy figures pulling the strings, and why does it feel like there's no Batman, no Commissioner Gordon, to save us?

"You'll hunt me. You'll condemn me. Set the dogs on me," Batman says in *The Dark Knight*. Bangladesh's interim government, led by Professor Muhammad Yunus, now faces this grim reality as forces both internal and external conspire to bring it to its knees. At the heart of this chaos lies the spectre of the Bangladesh Awami League, a political juggernaut seemingly unwilling to surrender its grip on power. After 15 years of unchecked dominance, its ousting has not led to reflection but vengeance—a desperate gambit to sabotage the nation's fragile stability and prove that no leadership other than its own is viable.

But the AL is not acting alone. Rogue journalists and political influencers, both domestic and foreign, have taken to amplifying discontent under the guise of championing religion and rights. Through provocative rhetoric and selective narratives, they ignite the common people, turning genuine grievances into tools of disruption. Social media, once a platform for connection, has become a battleground where misinformation spreads like wildfire, feeding the flames of chaos.

In Gotham, the Joker's philosophy was simple: "Introduce a little anarchy. Upset the established order, and everything becomes chaos." Similarly, the former ruling party and its accomplices seem intent on engineering crises to discredit the interim government. The protests by



PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN

**Around 100 people were injured when students of Government Suhrawardy College and Kabi Nazrul Government College launched an attack on the Mahbubur Rahman Mollah College in Dhaka's Jatrabari on November 25.**

battery-operated rickshaw drivers and the violent clashes among students across Dhaka don't appear to be isolated events—they seem like pieces of a broader conspiracy, a strategy to hold the city hostage to fear and uncertainty.

Adding to the storm are whispers of meddling by intelligence agencies from neighbouring countries. These covert operatives, with their vested interest in destabilising Bangladesh, have allegedly penetrated protests and fanned the flames of discord. Their tactics are subtle yet effective—exploiting existing divisions, amplifying religious tensions, and quietly manipulating the public discourse. Dhaka becomes a chessboard, its citizens pawns in a game organised beyond their understanding.

Consider the clashes at Newmarket between Dhaka College and City College students. What began as a petty quarrel escalated into a

battlefield, with lives disrupted and property destroyed. Or the protests by Titumir College students, whose so-called demands for university status devolved into roadblocks and rail disruptions. These incidents are not anomalies—they are symptoms of a city caught in a manufactured storm, where every grievance is magnified, every conflict exploited.

enforcement, appears overwhelmed. Their assurances of action ring hollow as unrest continues to spread. Meanwhile, the interim government's pleas for dialogue and order are drowned out by the cacophony of chaos.

"The night is darkest just before the dawn," Harvey Dent declares in *The Dark Knight*. For Dhaka, this darkness feels unending. But it also presents a choice: to surrender to the manufactured chaos or to rise above it. The responsibility lies not with mythical heroes but with the people themselves.

Citizens must confront the forces exploiting their grievances, whether they are rogue journalists twisting narratives, political influencers inciting division, or foreign agencies interloping in their sovereignty. Responsibility cannot be abdicated to leaders or institutions; it must be claimed by individuals refusing to be manipulated.

In *Batman Begins*, Bruce Wayne reminds us, "It's not who I am underneath, but what I do that defines me." Dhaka's residents must ask themselves what defines them in this critical moment. Will they continue to be pawns in a sinister game, or will they demand accountability—from their leaders, their media, and themselves?

The AL now finds itself accused of conspiring to undermine the very nation it helped liberate. Its alliances with rogue actors and foreign entities betray desperation to reclaim power at any cost. But as Alfred, Bruce Wayne's loyal butler, observes, "Some men aren't looking for anything logical... They just want to watch the world burn."

Dhaka is no stranger to struggle, but this moment demands more than endurance. It requires vigilance, integrity, and unity. The city may feel like Gotham today, but it need not share its fate. There is no Batman to save Dhaka, no billionaire vigilante to fight its battles. What it has, instead, are millions of ordinary heroes—people who can choose to reject chaos, to question the narratives fed to them, and to demand better from those in power.

As Batman himself says in *The Dark Knight Rises*, "A hero can be anyone." In Dhaka's darkest hour, heroism lies not in capes or masks but in the courage to see through the conspiracy, to resist manipulation, and to rebuild trust in each other. Only then can the city rise, not as a pawn in someone else's game, but as a beacon of resilience and hope.

## 16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM

# Bridging evidence gaps to end gender-based violence



Elizabeth Dartnall is executive director of Sexual Violence Research Initiative, based in South Africa.

ELIZABETH DARTNALL

As the world observes the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence (GBV), the spotlight falls on tackling violence against women and children. Despite its profound impact efforts still remain underfunded and under-researched. Thus, it is crucial to push for stronger policies to combat gender-based violence. With that goal, over 1,500 participants from 111 countries gathered at the Sexual Violence Research Initiative (SVRI) Forum in Cape Town, South Africa in October to share strategies and close knowledge gaps on the issue, some of which are presented here.

Globally, one in three women experiences physical or sexual violence in her lifetime, and every day, 137 women are killed by a family member. The far-reaching effects of violence against women and children extend beyond immediate harm, profoundly affecting their health, well-being, and long-term opportunities. These impacts can ripple across generations, perpetuating cycles of trauma and inequality. Economically, the costs are staggering—gender-based violence is estimated to cause a global loss of \$1.5 trillion annually—comparable to the economies of Indonesia, Australia

and Spain. Yet, global development assistance allocates less than 0.2 percent to GBV prevention, and an even smaller fraction is directed toward research and evaluation.

This mismatch between the scale of the problem and the resources dedicated to addressing it highlights the need for stronger evidence-based interventions.

The evidence base faces several critical gaps in GBV research. Comprehensive national prevalence data is lacking, particularly in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs), where the burden of violence is often highest. In many cases, research remains narrowly focused on specific populations, leaving many population groups—including children with disabilities, youth, and Indigenous children—underrepresented in the research.

Additionally, humanitarian settings pose unique challenges. The heightened risks of violence in situations of displacement, instability, and militarised environments are well-documented, yet research in these contexts often focuses on immediate responses rather than long-term solutions. Emerging issues

such as technology-facilitated gender-based violence (TFGBV), artificial intelligence (AI) and the intersection of climate change and GBV also remain underexplored.

Discussions at the forum emphasised survivor-centred programme design. Programmes that are guided by the experiences and needs of—both adult and child survivors—such as by asking them to define what recovery means—are more likely to be impactful and meaningful. Ways to extend services to more survivors and victims were also shared. In Brazil and Uganda, for example, online platforms are used to improve access to services for survivors. Community-led programmes, such as those in Uganda and Colombia, demonstrate the power of grassroots activism to fill gaps left by strained public services. The forum also spotlighted initiatives like Rwanda's Indashyikirwa programme, which uses community activism to reduce intimate partner violence (IPV).

National policies may also serve as powerful levers for the reduction of gender-based violence. Evidence from Turkey and Peru shows how policy shifts, such as extending compulsory education, can significantly reduce violence by challenging harmful societal norms. Cash transfer and economic empowerment programmes, such as those implemented in Bangladesh, were also highlighted as powerful levers for reducing family and IPV. To ensure programmes can be scaled sustainably, partnerships with governments and capacity building for service providers are critical.

A comprehensive approach is needed to build and use evidence. This includes addressing fragmentation in the field, promoting collaboration, and investing in capacity strengthening for researchers in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs). Initiatives like the development of shared research agendas, play a critical role in identifying evidence gaps and guiding funding priorities.

Another key takeaway from the forum was the need to "decolonise" research by supporting local researchers from affected communities to lead studies. This approach helps ensure the findings are both practical and culturally relevant. The SVRI Research Grant, though modest in size, is one of the few funding mechanisms prioritising locally-led research in LMICs. Long-term funding and collaborative partnerships between funders and grantees were highlighted as critical for scaling interventions and effectively addressing research gaps. The SVRI has co-created guidelines promoting long-term funding and equitable funder-grantee relationships to reduce barriers and support impactful, context-specific research.

The RESPECT framework provides a valuable guide for designing and implementing interventions that transform harmful norms, strengthen relationship skills, and create safer, more equitable societies. As the world reflects on these 16 days, the message is clear: collaboration, investment, and survivor-centred solutions are essential to breaking cycles of violence and building safer, more equitable societies.



## ICC ARREST WARRANTS FOR NETANYAHU AND GALLANT

# The West's Pandora's box is starting to crack



**Yousef SY Ramadan**  
 is the Palestinian  
 Ambassador to Bangladesh.

**YUSEF SY RAMADAN**

After over a year of atrocities perpetrated on the people of Gaza and the West Bank, with the Israeli apartheid machine in full force, the International Criminal Court (ICC) issued arrest warrants for Benjamin Netanyahu and his Defence Minister Yoav Gallant, whom he fired a fortnight before the arrest. Netanyahu, referred to as a "serial killer of peace" by a member of his own Knesset, is now a wanted man globally for committing crimes against humanity. Symbolically, from now on, Netanyahu and Gallant cannot set foot in 124 countries.

Israel's angry response to the arrest warrant, and its predictable gaslighting by misusing the term "anti-Semitism," was unsurprising. Netanyahu's office called the warrants "an anti-Semitic decision...equivalent to the modern Dreyfus trial," referring to the 1894 political scandal where a French artillery captain of Jewish descent was wrongfully convicted of treason. Netanyahu and his office are adept at citing historical and biblical references to dismiss valid rulings, even from the ICC. There is simply no parallel between Alfred Dreyfus and Benjamin Netanyahu, who has openly pursued policies that kill Palestinians and outlined plans to annex Palestine, effectively erasing it from the map and cutting off its people from the world.

The Israeli government, with the support of the US, has distorted the term "anti-Semitism" to the point where real anti-Semitism is almost indistinguishable. There are two kinds of anti-Semitism: actual hatred toward Jews or Israelis simply because they are Jewish, and harmful rhetoric used to justify the killing of innocent Palestinians, which in turn enables more instances of actual anti-Semitism worldwide.

But it's not just rhetoric and mind games;

the Israeli government has employed every tool, from open killings to censorship, to evade accountability for mass murder. The international media reporting on the ICC arrest warrants marked a historic moment—they noted that this is the first time leaders in a "democracy" and a "Western-aligned" country have faced arrest. How long will the world continue calling Israel a democracy? What kind of democracy reacts with such fury to ICC arrest warrants? What kind of democracy mercilessly kills its neighbouring population?

Following the warrant, the Israeli government approved a resolution to ban government funding for advertisements in Haaretz, a renowned independent newspaper that has fairly criticised Netanyahu. Despite historic protests demanding his resignation, Netanyahu continues to wield his power to silence dissent. According to the government, the sanctions against Haaretz were due to "many articles that have hurt the legitimacy of the state of Israel and its right to self-defense," particularly after Haaretz publisher Amos Schocken called for sanctioning the Israeli government in London.

It has long been evident that Israel is not a democracy. This sentiment is felt internally as Netanyahu's power-hungry actions, from judicial overhauls to his refusal to reach a ceasefire, demonstrate his disregard for justice.

What is most shameful, however, is the unwavering support of the United States for an apartheid state led by a man who exhibits fascist tendencies daily. In March 2023, before Israel's genocide in Gaza, the Biden administration welcomed the ICC's decision to issue an arrest warrant for Vladimir Putin for similar war crimes in Ukraine. It was the same prosecutor, Karim Khan, who issued warrants

for both Putin and Netanyahu. Putin had called the ICC's warrants outrageous, and now Biden has used the same term. President-elect Trump's pick for National Security Adviser denounced it as an "anti-Semitic bias." When Khan had earlier announced his intent to seek arrest warrants, US officials even threatened to sanction him and his family.

Despite this opposition, the ICC's decision is historic. It marks the first time the US must

even among allies. The Rome Statute, which established the ICC, obligates its 124 state parties to enforce these arrest warrants. However, enforcement depends on the cooperation of a country's government.

Canada, France, the Netherlands, and other European nations, except Germany, have cautiously stated they will act in line with ICC statutes. Italy's Defence Minister Guido Crosetto, while critical of the decision,

countries are obligated to act on the warrants, many of which maintain strong ties with the US. Yet, the US cannot indefinitely pressure its allies to unconditionally support Israel.

While the arrest warrants will not immediately alleviate the suffering of Palestinians in Gaza, the West Bank, or southern Lebanon, they are a step toward accountability. As ceasefire negotiations unfold, the US continues to assure Israel of



**Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Defence Minister Yoav Gallant attend a press conference in the Kirya military base in Tel Aviv on October 28, 2023.**

PHOTO: AFP

confront its blatant double standards, as the same laws that apply to Russia do not seem to apply to Israel, simply because the latter is a US ally. This reaction erodes the US's legitimacy to claim moral superiority over other nations.

Though hope remains slim for an immediate cessation of Israel's violence, this decision symbolises a shift. For now, the US and Israel find themselves more isolated,

acknowledged that Italy would "have to arrest" Netanyahu and Gallant if required. EU foreign policy chief Josep Borrell has emphasised that the ICC's decision is binding for all state parties, including EU members. This puts Germany in a difficult position, as its historical guilt complicates its stance.

The US now finds itself increasingly isolated in its staunch support for Israel. More than 120

military support, showing it has yet to learn that its control over Israel is waning.

The fight for justice persists. Figures like Netanyahu eventually fall, as all oppressive regimes do. This decision is only one step toward ending this struggle of the persecuted people of Palestine and Lebanon. They will continue to fight and the fight will slowly change the world.

# Could Biden's gambit lead to a larger catastrophe?



**Dr Sayeed Ahmed**  
 is a consulting engineer and the CEO of Bayside  
 Analytix, a technology-focused strategy and  
 management consulting organisation.

**SAYEED AHMED**

A group of US Air Force personnel is busy at an ATACMS (Army Tactical Missile System) facility. They have just launched a strike targeting a weapons depot near the town of Karachev in Russia's Bryansk region, about 70 miles from Ukraine. Crews perform around-the-clock alert duty in the launch control centre. A specially configured E-6B airborne aircraft with fully qualified missile combat crews hovers nearby, ready to assume control if the ground team is incapacitated. The missiles come from the US, paid for by its taxpayers, use American software and satnav guiding systems, and hit Russian targets. Located in Ukraine, this ATACMS facility can hit 225 Russian military installations within its 300 km range. The stakes are high as US President Joe Biden has authorised the use of ATACMS against Russia.

The ramifications of this policy shift could be disastrous for humanity, potentially leading to wider wars. How could a president who has already lost a public mandate against the president-elect promising to end the war make such a significant policy decision in his final months? This controversial move could alter the course of the war in Ukraine, with impacts extending far beyond Eastern Europe's battlefields, and it raises complex questions.

**A strategic legacy or a political statement?**

Supporters may consider this an effort to leave a lasting foreign policy legacy. While his presidency is nearing its end, Biden may attempt to bolster Ukraine's military strength before any likely policy shift by the incoming administration. However, this move could complicate Trump's approach to Ukraine, as he often leaned toward reducing American involvement in the conflict. He could find himself in a position where reversing Biden's policies becomes a politically fraught



**Ukraine fired long-range US missiles inside Russia for the first time despite Moscow's threats of retaliation.**

PHOTO: AFP

endeavour. Though there is no clear indication that Biden is trying to undermine his successor, the timing and scale of this decision suggest a desire to lock in US support for Ukraine that could prove difficult to undo.

Could the defence contractors' financial interests be at play? Lockheed Martin, which manufactures the ATACMS, stands to gain from the continued flow of military aid to Ukraine. The billions of dollars spent on military aid—much of it directed toward defence companies—raise legitimate concerns about their influence on the policies of both political parties.

**Risks of escalation and Europe's role**

While Biden's decision may appear to be a calculated effort to disrupt Russia's military operations and bolster Ukraine's position in future negotiations, the risks are enormous. Moscow has already signalled that it would consider such strikes an escalation, potentially opening the door to more aggressive Russian retaliation. This could lead to a broader conflict, one that could spill over into NATO countries or

Ukraine's right to defend itself. On the other, many European leaders are wary of escalating the conflict further, fearing confrontation with Russia or destabilisation of the region. The war has strained Europe's energy security, economic stability, and political cohesion. Energy prices have surged, inflation is hitting consumers hard, and the spectre of rising military tensions looms large. The recent uptick in hybrid warfare tactics, including cyberattacks and disinformation campaigns, only adds to the uncertainty. Future hybrid attacks could include expanding Moscow's campaign of sabotage and assassinations in Europe or further arming US adversaries in the Middle East and Indo-Pacific regions. With suspected Russian support, two undersea fibre-optic communication cables in the Baltic Sea have already been sabotaged.

**Is Biden desperate?**  
 The legacy of his presidency—one marked by global challenges, economic turbulence, and the rise of authoritarianism—will, in part, be defined by how the war in Ukraine unfolds. It was Joe Biden who decided to hurriedly withdraw

from Afghanistan, leaving it to the Taliban in August 2021 after two decades of futile attempts and the loss of many American lives and money to stamp them out. That was when the Ukraine crisis was about to surface, probably timed to salvage American credibility lost in Afghanistan. Biden wouldn't want to leave a similar legacy in Ukraine.

**The future of US support for Ukraine**

With ATACMS in hand, Ukraine now has a tool to strike at Russia's military infrastructure, disrupting supply lines and potentially shifting the balance of power. However, that doesn't mean Kyiv can use them at will. The facilities are controlled, managed, and operated by US personnel, who have the final say on when and how the missiles are used. This means that the US has a significant degree of control over the situation and can potentially prevent Ukraine from using the missiles in ways that could escalate the conflict. However, the presence of the missiles also increases the possibility of more destructive Russian attacks, as they may see the US as directly involved in the conflict.

For Russia, the situation is fraught with danger. The Kremlin's response could involve a ramping up of military operations—with the ever-present threat of cyber warfare and the use of unconventional weapons.

As President Trump prepares to take office, the question remains: Will he seek to reverse Biden's policy or adopt a different strategy? Trump's previous comments suggest he may push for a swift end to the conflict, potentially at the expense of Ukrainian territorial integrity. If he succeeds in scaling back US military aid, Ukraine could be at a disadvantage, with a weakened negotiating position against a more aggressive Russia.

The world will be watching closely in the months ahead. Biden's decision may reshape the course of the war, the future of US-Russian relations, the stability of Europe, and the global balance of power.

Russia launched a barrage of hypersonic missiles at Ukraine in retaliation within days after Ukraine's strike (after notifying Washington 30 minutes prior). The world holds its breath, hoping the risks don't spiral into something far worse.

## CROSSWORD BY THOMAS JOSEPH

### ACROSS

- 1 Ticked off
- 5 Fancy ties
- 11 Motor sound
- 12 Singer Twain
- 13 "Bus Stop" playwright
- 14 Galileo's crime
- 15 Night light
- 17 Singer Reed
- 18 Museum piece
- 22 Ship staffs
- 24 Sleep sound
- 25 Poker prize
- 26 Solo in space
- 27 "luck!"
- 30 Fragrance
- 32 Toasting word
- 33 Coffee dispenser

### DOWN

- 1 Do some laps
- 2 "Dear me!"
- 3 Verdi opera
- 4 Before, poetically
- 5 Tennis great Arthur
- 6 Clipping need
- 7 Bizet opera
- 8 Early hour
- 9 Frank McCourt book

- 10 Utter
- 16 Tour carrier
- 19 Wagner opera
- 20 Persia, today
- 21 Minimal change
- 22 NCOs with two stripes
- 23 Corner piece
- 28 Strauss opera
- 29 Singer Morissette
- 30 Minivan alternative
- 31 Dream up
- 35 Splinter group
- 36 Mature
- 37 Supplies with turf
- 38 Fire
- 39 Eroded
- 40 Punch sound

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44							45		

3-30

## SATURDAY'S ANSWERS

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Write for us. Send us your opinion pieces to [dsopinion@gmail.com](mailto:dsopinion@gmail.com)



GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH  
BANGLADESH TELEVISION  
CHATTogram CENTER  
CHATTogram

Invitation for National Tender

01.	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Information and Broadcasting
02.	Agency	Bangladesh Television
03.	Procuring Entity Name	General Manager, Bangladesh Television, Chattogram Center, Khulshi, Chattogram.
04.	Procuring Entity District	Chattogram.
05.	Invitation for	"Supply of goods for the purpose of building the sets of programs for Bangladesh Television Chattogram Center"
06.	Procurement Method	Open Tendering Method (OTM) National Competitive Tender (NCT)
FUNDING INFORMATION		
07.	Budget and Source of Funds	GOVT. Annual revenue budget of BTV
08.	Tender Package No.	Single
09.	Invitation ref.no.	15.54.1543.029.07.002.24.538
10.	Tender Publication Date	27/11/2024
11.	Tender Last selling Date	11/12/2024 (During office Hours)
12.	Tender Closing Date and Time	12/12/2024, 11:00 hrs BST
13.	Tender Opening Date and Time	12/12/2024, 12:00 hrs BST
14.	Name & Address of the Selling of Tender Document	Office of the Assistant Director (Finance), Room No-101, Bangladesh Television, Chattogram Center, Khulshi, Chattogram. (During office Hours)
15.	Receiving Tender Document	Room No-224 (2 <sup>nd</sup> floor), Bangladesh Television, Chattogram Center, Khulshi, Chattogram.
16.	Opening Tender Document	Conference Room (3 <sup>rd</sup> floor), Bangladesh Television, Chattogram Center, Khulshi, Chattogram.
INFORMATION FOR TENDERER		
17.	Eligibility of Tenderer	As Per Tender Document Schedule (TDS)
18.	Brief Description of Goods & Related service	"Supply of goods for the purpose of building the sets of programs for Bangladesh Television Chattogram Center"
19.	Price of Tender Document (Tk.)	Tk. 1000.00 (One Thousand) Taka Only
20.	Lot No	Identification of Lot Location Tender Security Amount (Tk) in the form of Pay Order/Bank Draft/BG Completion Time in Days/Weeks /Months
	01	"Supply of goods for the purpose of building the sets of programs for Bangladesh Television Chattogram Center". Bangladesh Television, Chattogram Center. Tk. 32,000.00 (Thirty Two Thousand) Only in favor of Drawing & Disbursing Officer, Bangladesh Television, Chattogram. 60 days
PURCHASER DETAILS		
21.	Name of official inviting Tender	Joydev Biswas
22.	Designation of official Inviting Tender	Art Director
23.	Address of official Inviting Tender	Bangladesh Television, Chattogram Center, Khulshi, Chattogram.
24.	Contact details of official Inviting Tender	Tel: +880233379321
25.	The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders.	

(Joydev Biswas)  
Art Director (Grade-2)

Bangladesh Television, Chattogram Center  
On behalf of General Manager  
Bangladesh Television, Chattogram Center.

GD- 1059

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh  
Roads and Highways Department  
Office of the Project Director (ACE, RHD)  
Sylhet-Charkhai-Sheola Highway Improvement Project  
Foreign Aided Projects Bhaban  
Road No. 27, Block-A, Banani, Dhaka-1213

Memo No: 35.01.2607.077.07.086.24-554

Date: 26 November 2024

Request for Bids  
Works

(Two-envelope Bidding Process with application of Rated Criteria Without Prequalification)

**Employer** : Roads and Highways Department (RHD)  
**Project** : Sylhet-Charkhai-Sheola Highway Improvement Project under Accelerating Transport and Trade Connectivity in Eastern South Asia – Bangladesh Phase 1 Project (ACCESS)  
**Contract Title** : Improvement of Sylhet-Charkhai-Sheola Highway into 4-Lane Highway from Sylhet (Kadamtali) - Golapganj - Sheola Bridge - Sheola Landport (Ch. 00+000 to 42+985 km) (Length: 42.985 km)  
**Lot-1:** Improvement of Sylhet-Charkhai-Sheola Highway into 4-Lane Highway with Service Lanes on Both Sides from Sylhet (Kadamtali) to Golapganj (Ch. 00+000 to 18+900 km) (Length: 18.90 km)  
**Phase-I: Construction Phase**  
**Phase-II: Performance Based Maintenance Phase**  
**Lot-2:** Improvement of Sylhet-Charkhai-Sheola Highway into 4-Lane Highway from Golapganj to Sheola Bridge (Ch. 18+900 to 36+900 km) (Length: 18.00 km)  
**Phase-I: Construction Phase**  
**Phase-II: Performance Based Maintenance Phase**  
**Lot-3:** Improvement of Sylhet-Charkhai-Sheola Highway into 4-Lane Highway from Sheola Bridge to Sheola Landport (Ch. 36+900 to 42+985 km) (Length: 6.085 km)  
**Phase-I: Construction Phase**  
**Phase-II: Performance Based Maintenance Phase**  
**Country** : Bangladesh  
**Credit No.** : IDA Credit No. 7166-BD  
**RFB No.** : WP-1 (Lot-1, Lot-2, Lot-3)  
**Issued On** : November 26, 2024

- The Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh has received financing from the World Bank toward the cost of the Sylhet-Charkhai-Sheola Highway Improvement Project under Accelerating Transport and Trade Connectivity in Eastern South Asia – Bangladesh Phase 1 Project (ACCESS), and intends to apply part of the proceeds toward payments under the contracts for "Improvement of Sylhet-Charkhai-Sheola Highway into 4-Lane Highway".
- The Roads and Highways Department (RHD) now invites sealed Bids from eligible Bidders for:

Brief Description of Works including required Components:

The scope of works mainly comprises of Improvement of Sylhet-Charkhai-Sheola Highway into 4-Lane Highway (Lot-1, Lot-2, Lot-3).

**Lot - 1: Phase-I: Construction Phase:** Construction of Road Pavement with Service Lane (17.9 km), Culvert (11 Nos.), Flyover (1 No.), Vehicular Overpass (VOP) (3 Nos.), Pedestrian Crossing (1 No.), Foot Over Bridge (FOB) (4 Nos.) and **Phase-II: Performance Based Maintenance.**

**Lot - 2: Phase-I: Construction Phase:** Construction of Road Pavement (18.0 km), Bridge (1 No.), Culvert (15 Nos.), Vehicular Overpass (VOP) (3 Nos.), Pedestrian Crossing (6 Nos.) and **Phase-II: Performance Based Maintenance.**

**Lot - 3: Phase-I: Construction Phase:** Construction of Road Pavement (6.085 km), Bridge (2 nos.), Culvert (5 Nos.), Vehicular Underpass (VUP) (2 Nos.) and **Phase-II: Performance Based Maintenance.**

Phase-I is consisting of 36 (Thirty-Six) months of Construction Period from the date of commencement and 12 (Twelve) months of Defects Notification Period (DNP). Phase-II: Performance Based Maintenance will be 72 (Seventy-Two) months and 12 (Twelve) months of Defects Notification Period (DNP). This Phase (Phase-II) shall start at the end of the DNP for Phase-I.

The location of Site is Sylhet District, Bangladesh.

Margin of Preference is not applicable. The Price will be subject to Price Adjustment.

Detailed qualifications requirements (including Construction experience in the key activities) are defined in Section III – Evaluation and Qualification Criteria of bidding document. General Specifications, Specific Specifications and Drawings of Works are available in Volume – 4/5 & 5/5 of Bidding document respectively.

- Bidders may Bid for one or several lots, as further defined in the bidding document. Cross discounts for award of multiple lots will not be considered.
- Bidding will be conducted through international competitive procurement using Request for Bids (RFB) as specified in the World Bank's "Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers - Procurement in Investment Projects Financing" July 2016 and updated in September 2023 ("Procurement Regulations"), and is open to all eligible Bidders as defined in the Procurement Regulations.
- Interested eligible Bidders may obtain further information from Roads and Highways Department (RHD), Represented by the Project Director (ACE, RHD), Sylhet-Charkhai-Sheola Highway Improvement Project, e-Mail Address: [pd.sship@gmail.com](mailto:pd.sship@gmail.com) and inspect the Bidding document during office hours [Local Time: 0900 to 1700 hours] at the address given below.
- The Bidding document in English may be purchased by interested eligible Bidders upon the submission of a written application to the address below and upon payment of a nonrefundable fee of BDT 30,000.00 (Thirty Thousand Bangladesh Taka) or US\$ 250.00 (Two Hundred Fifty US Dollar). The method of payment will be cash or pay order in favor of "Project Manager-1 (EE), RHD, SCSHIP". The documents will be delivered by hand.
- Bids must be delivered to the address below on or before 02.00 PM local time (GMT+6 hrs.), January 28, 2025. Electronic Bidding will not be permitted. Late Bids will be rejected. The outer Bid envelopes marked "ORIGINAL BID", and the inner envelopes marked "TECHNICAL PART" will be publicly opened in the presence of the Bidders' designated representatives and anyone who chooses to attend, at the address below on 02.30 PM local time (GMT+6 hrs.), January 28, 2025. All envelopes marked "FINANCIAL PART" shall remain unopened and will be held in safe custody of the Employer until the second public Bid opening. The bid opening meeting of Technical Part will also be connected virtually through live video conference, for which the connection details will be sent by the Employer through email at least 7 (Seven) calendar days before the Opening Meeting date to all the Bidders who purchased the bidding documents.
- All Bids must be accompanied by a Bid Security. The amount and currency of the Bid Security are as follows:  
**Lot-1:** BDT 240.0 Million (In Words: Taka Two Hundred Forty Million) or USD 2.0 Million (In Words: US Dollar Two Million) or equivalent amount in any freely convertible currency.  
**Lot-2:** BDT 180.0 Million (In Words: Taka One Hundred Eighty Million) or USD 1.5 Million (In Words: US Dollar One Point Five Million) or equivalent amount in any freely convertible currency.  
**Lot-3:** BDT 144.0 Million (In Words: Taka One Hundred Forty-Four Million) or USD 1.2 Million (In Words: US Dollar One Point Two Million) or equivalent amount in any freely convertible currency.
- A Pre-Bid meeting will be held at 11.00 AM local time (GMT+6 hrs.) on December 23, 2024 at the office of the undersigned.
- Attention is drawn to the Procurement Regulations requiring the Borrower to disclose information on the successful bidder's beneficial ownership, as part of the Contract Award Notice, using the Beneficial Ownership Disclosure Form as included in the bidding document.
- The address referred to above is: Office of the Project Director (ACE, RHD), Sylhet-Charkhai-Sheola Highway Improvement Project, Address: RHD-Foreign Aided Projects Bhaban, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Road No. 27, Block-A, Banani, Dhaka-1213, Bangladesh, Phone: +880241080504, e-Mail: [pd.sship@gmail.com](mailto:pd.sship@gmail.com), Web Address: <https://rhd.portal.gov.bd/>

(Khan Md. Kamrul Ahsan)  
ID No. 005081  
Project Director (ACE, RHD)  
Sylhet-Charkhai-Sheola Highway Improvement Project

GD-1057



Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh  
Dhaka South City Corporation  
Office of the Project Director, PIU  
Dhaka City Neighborhood Upgrading Project (DCNUP)- IDA Cr 6361 BD  
Nagar Bhaban (Level 10), Fulbaria, Dhaka – 1000

Memo: 46.207.014.09.10.342.2024/877

Date: 24.11.2024

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (REOI) (CONSULTING SERVICES - FIRMS SELECTION)

**Country** : Bangladesh  
**Name of Project** : Dhaka City Neighborhood Upgrading Project (DCNUP)  
**Assignment Title** : Consulting Services for supporting the enhancement of Own Source Revenue (OSR) of DSCC (Firm), Package-DCNUP/S-02D  
**Reference No:** : 46.207.014.09.10.342.2024, Date: 11.11.2024

1. The People's Republic of Bangladesh has received credit SDR 72.80M (USD 75.50M equivalent) financing from the World Bank toward the cost of Dhaka City Neighborhood Upgrading Project (DCNUP) to be implemented by Dhaka South City Corporation (DSCC) and intends to apply part of the proceeds for consulting services.

2. This consulting assignment primarily aims to: a) Examine the baseline conditions and trends in OSR generation and management by DSCC and determine current and emerging challenges; b) Propose priority and time-bound actions to address the identified challenges; c) Develop the design and scope of the OSR strengthening component of the DCNUP successor project.

3. The consulting services ("the Services") includes, not limited to: (Detail scope of services are mentioned in the terms of reference):

- Activity 1. Baseline Analysis.
- Activity 2. Development of DSCC OSR Strategies and Action Plans.
- Activity 3. Development of Scope and Design of OSR Strengthening Component.

4. Project Implementation Unit (PIU), DCNUP now invites you as eligible consulting firms ("Consultants") to indicate your interest in providing the services. As an Interested Consultants you have to provide information demonstrating that you have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the Services. The short-listing criteria are:

- General experience of the Firm(s);
- The consultancy Firm to essentially have relevant expertise on:
  - Experience in Public Financial Management (PFM);
  - Municipal finance, property tax and revenue enhancements;
  - Strategic Planning and Policy Development;
  - Urban Infrastructure and Asset Management;
- Financial soundness of the firm; and
- Staffing and logistics of the firm.

You are requested to submit the following supporting documents in support of the above-mentioned Criteria:

(a) Registration paper of the firm (s); (b) JV agreement/letter of intent (if applicable); (c) Firm's brochure; (d) Audited financial reports for last three years; (e) service experience record (including nature, total cost, total input in terms of man month, employer, location of service etc.)

5. Your attention is drawn to Section III, paragraphs, 3.14, 3.16, and 3.17 of the World Bank's "Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers" July 2016 ("Procurement Regulations") updated in September 2023, setting forth the World Bank's policy on conflict of interest.

6. You may associate to enhance your qualification but should mention whether the association is in the form of a "joint-venture" or of "sub-consultancy". In the case of such "joint-venture" or of "sub-consultancy", it should have real and well-defined inputs to the assignment and it is preferable to limit the total number of firms including the associates to a maximum of three.

7. The selection method will be 'Consultant Quality-based Selection (CQS)-Open' as per World Bank Procurement Regulation, 2016 updated in September 2023.

8. It is expected that the services will be commenced tentatively in December 2024. A term of Reference (ToR) is attached herewith for your kind information. Moreover these you may obtain further information from the office of the undersigned from 09:00 to 17:00 hours (Except holidays).

9. Expression of Interest must be delivered to the address below (in person or by mail) by 5.00 PM on or before 10 December, 2024. The authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all EOIs without assigning any reason, whatsoever.

24.11.2024

(Rajib Khadem)  
Project Director, PIU  
Dhaka City Neighborhood Upgrading Project (DCNUP)  
Dhaka South City Corporation,  
Tel: 880-2223350461  
Email: [pddcnupdscc24@gmail.com](mailto:pddcnupdscc24@gmail.com)

DSCC/PRD/134/2024-2025

## From Perth to Antigua, a visible gulf in quality

ABDULLAH AL MEHDI

This week, what Yashasvi Jaiswal did at Perth and what the Bangladesh batters failed to do in Antigua could be enough to realise why the two countries are on opposite sides of the spectrum in Test cricket.

After edging a Mitchell Star delivery to gully to be dismissed for an eight-ball naught in the first innings of the opening Border-Gavaskar Trophy Test against Australia, Jaiswal realised what he had done wrong – driving on the up at a rising delivery – and amended his methods in the space of just one innings in such a way that the left-handed opener went on to score a brilliant 161 in the second innings.

On the other hand, three of Bangladesh's top-order batters – Zakir Hasan, Mahmudul Hasan Joy, and Shahadat Hossain – fell victim to identical set-ups or similar pace plays of the West Indies pacers in both innings in the first of the two Tests.



Top-order was the biggest concern heading into the Antigua Test and the second innings in particular saw a familiar lack of application on foreign conditions against quality fast bowling.

Zakir had struggled in the first innings but was able to contend with the new ball till the 10th over. The one going across him from Jayden Seales seamed in just enough to produce the bottom edge and crash onto his stumps in that innings. On Day 4, with the Tigers beginning an uphill task of chasing 334, Zakir was done by a similar shot in the very first over – this time by Kemar Roach from around the wicket.

Zakir's bat once again came down at an angle which led to yet another inside edge crashing onto his stumps.

The case was similar for Zakir's opening partner Joy. The right-hander edged short of a length deliveries to the slip cordon in both innings, either due to poking at the cherry or

not being able to contend with the bounce.

Shahadat, meanwhile, fell to a ball that went away from the body in the first innings and then to an angled-in delivery in the second – but the similarity in his failure lies in the fact that he failed to figure out a way to survive longer against pacers who were constantly using similar lengths, trying to generate movement and bounce off the pitch.

The inability of at least one of the top-order batters to come up with some resistance put the pressure squarely back on the middle order, just like it did in the first innings. And, without the experienced Mushfiqur Rahim and Najmul Hossain Shanto, the Windies attack came hard at the rest.

However, unlike the first innings, Mominul and Liton in the middle order could not survive for long. In the second innings, the Windies created chance after chance and

Mominul fell to a straight drive, caught and bowled by Roach.

Liton, meanwhile, was favouring the pull shot, and the trap was once again set for him with short deliveries. A fielder at backward square leg was put there for a particular shot and another short arm pull resulted in Liton's dismissal on Day 4.

Run-scoring had been difficult in the first innings too but cooler heads had prevailed after the shine was taken off a bit by Mominul and Co which allowed the Tigers to play 98 overs.

A declaration with a wicket remaining, just 10 minutes before the start of play on the fourth day, might have caught Windies batters a bit off guard but with such batting resistance as was showcased in the second innings, Bangladesh's Test merits have once again come under the cosh despite bowlers' impressive performance to bowl Windies out for 152 in the second innings.

## IPL snub a reminder of Bangladesh's talent drought

Observing IPL's propensity to bring the best T20 talents from across the world, the question the cricket authorities in Bangladesh should ponder is why have no IPL franchise ever plucked a talent from over here. This year, 12 Bangladeshi cricketers had registered for the IPL auction and of them only two – Rishad Hossain and Mustafizur Rahman – went under the hammer, but remained unsold.

\*Read full story on The Daily Star's website



Batsmen Martin Crowe and Graham Thorpe will be honoured by New Zealand and England playing for a trophy named after them during all future Test series between the sides. The Crowe-Thorpe Trophy, a collaboration with the men's families, is made from wood sourced from their bats. England will be searching for redemption after their series loss in Pakistan when they face a buoyant New Zealand in three Tests starting in Christchurch on Thursday. England have not won a Test series in New Zealand since 2008. Meanwhile, New Zealand are full of confidence after a rare 3-0 Test series sweep in India, ending their hosts' 12-year unbeaten streak at home.

PHOTO: AFP

## 'Many trolled me, but I stuck to my principles'

Despite lacking star power, particularly in the batting unit, Sylhet Division secured their maiden National Cricket League (NCL) title with a match to spare yesterday, beating Barishal Division by five wickets in their sixth-round match at the Sylhet International Cricket Stadium. Head coach Rajin Saleh, who represented Sylhet for nearly 20 years but never won the NCL as a player, shared his thoughts on the achievement, the team's journey and future plans in an interview with The Daily Star's Samsul Arefin Khan. Excerpts from the interview are as follows:

**The Daily Star (DS): Your feelings after this achievement. Rajin Saleh (RS):** Championship has always had a different taste. Many of us national players have played the NCL together for such a long time for Sylhet, but we couldn't win the tournament. Today, Enamul Haque Jnr called me [after the title win] and said that we had tried for 20 years to secure the trophy but couldn't achieve the feat.

**DS: What differences do you see in this Sylhet team compared to the ones in your playing days?**

**RS:** With all respect to the previous coaches, I think there was a lack of team bonding previously. For that reason, I feel that such results didn't come to light... In the last three to four years, I worked really hard. Many people from Sylhet criticised me and trolled me because they often wanted their



favorite players to get match opportunities, but I stuck to my principles and did what was best for the team in the selection of the playing eleven.

**DS: You must've had specific plan for batting, which was an area of concern for Sylhet.**

**RS:** If you do quality work, your result will be great... This year, some young players played for us. For example, I picked an 18-year-old player, Bishal, from the YCL [Youth Cricket League]. I tried to be tough with that player, who needed strong words. And for those who didn't take pressure, I gave them full freedom. We focused on the process initially, which is very important in cricket.

**DS: How do you manage senior players who refuse to leave their places?**

**RS:** Those who are in the national team were really supportive throughout the season, possessing the mindset to play rotation-wise.

**DS: Your plan for the upcoming NCL T20?**

**RS:** For T20s, it will be a different tournament. There are many players in our squad who are yet to be mature enough to play such tournaments, especially our batters... [but] hopefully, we will fight for the championship there as well.

**DS: Having operated as a coach with Bangladesh Cricket Board on a short-term basis, are you willing to work again?**

**RS:** I don't want to work for a short time anywhere. I was hired as a fielding coach in the national team for two series. But after one series, I was dropped. If such things happen in the future as well, neither can I teach them anything nor will I learn anything... I think it's a matter of pride to work for the Bangladesh team. I played for the national team and also captained the side. If I get any good offer, I will consider it.

## Liverpool host Real Madrid in blockbuster clash

AGENCIES

The Champions League will boast perhaps its most mouth-watering fixture of the season so far as reigning champions Real Madrid will travel to Anfield on Wednesday to take on the hottest team in Europe Liverpool. The Reds top the table in the Premier League as well as the Champions League in which they are the only team to have won all four of their games and will be eager to test their credentials against 18th-placed Los Blancos under new boss Arne Slot.

\*Real Madrid are the team who Liverpool have lost most often against in European competitions, having being beaten by Los Blancos seven times, including heartbreaking Champions League final losses in 2018 and 2022.

\*The teams last faced off in the round of 16 in 2022-23, when



Madrid trounced Liverpool 5-2 at Anfield before sealing qualification with a 1-0 home win.

\*That away triumph made Madrid the first team in Champions League history to go two goals down but recover to win by a three-goal margin, as well as the first visitors to net five times at Anfield in a European fixture.

\*Liverpool could win their first five matches of a major European campaign for just the second time. They previously did so in 2021-22, losing to Real Madrid in the Champions

League final.

\*Across all competitions this season, Vinicius Jr has at least seven more goal involvements than any other Madrid player (12 goals, 6 assists), while also creating a team-high 43 chances.

\*However, Los Blancos have coped well without Vinicius in the past. Since the start of last season, they have won 41 of 57 games across all competitions with the Brazilian appearing (71.9%), but have won 75% of matches (12 of 16) when he's been absent. Madrid have also scored marginally more goals per game (2.4 to 2.3) without the winger.

\*Liverpool boss Arne Slot has won 16 of his 18 matches in all competitions.

\*Mohamed Salah has spearheaded the flying start with 12 goals and 10 assists in all competitions.

## Tigresses ready for Irish challenge

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh women's team will focus more on playing match by match rather than concentrating on direct qualification to the upcoming World Cup when they take on their Irish counterparts in the opening WODI of the three-match series at the Sher-e-Bangla National Cricket Stadium in Mirpur today.

The match is scheduled to start at 10:00am and will be telecast live on T Sports.

Bangladesh will start the crucial series knowing that only a 3-0 outcome in their favour will keep them in the hunt for a direct World Cup qualification place but skipper Nigar Sultana Joty claims she doesn't want to think too far and wants to dominate their opponents at their own backyard.

"World Cup thought is still far away. We need to give attention match by match. We have two bilateral series [now against Ireland and then West Indies]. It's important to take points," Joty told reporters in the pre-series press conference in Mirpur yesterday.

The Tigresses have had a forgetful year so far, especially



PHOTO: FIROZ AHMED

in the 50-over format where they lost all their three games. The hosts will be back in the format for the first time since a home series against Australia in March.

Bangladesh will look to end their misery against Ireland, with whom they have a 3-1 record

in this format. Knowing that a majority of the opposition players don't have the experience of playing in Bangladesh, Joty expressed her confidence of doing well in the series. However, she was concerned about their 'continuous batting failure'.

"As we will be playing on our home soil, we will be stronger... We will try to dominate them. Ireland are ranked below us. If we can't play against them dominantly, how can we fight keeping eye-on-eye against big teams?" Joty questioned.

Ireland have beaten England both in WODIs and WT20Is in recent months while having also defeated Sri Lanka 2-1 in the preceding ODI series.

Although the Irish side doesn't have much experience of playing in Bangladesh, skipper Gaby Lewis sounded confident about overcoming the hosts' challenge.

"I think Bangladesh are a team that we've been really competitive with over the years, and so, we're looking forward to coming up against them again. It's been a while since we've played them and we've taken great confidence from the summer with our success against Sri Lanka, England, and we're ready to dominate the series," she said, adding that they are ready for the spin challenge in Bangladesh.

"I think it's just about adapting. We obviously don't know how the pitch is going to play, but we predict a good bit of spin and judging by their team, they like to play a spin-heavy XI. So that's something that we have focused on and we've been working really hard on our spin game. And yeah, we're ready for tomorrow," she concluded.

## 7 killed as train hits electric rickshaw

Pregnant woman among them

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Cumilla

At least seven people were killed after a train hit a battery-run autorickshaw at an unauthorised level crossing in Burichang upazila of Cumilla yesterday.

The Dhaka-bound Chattala Express from Chattogram hit the autorickshaw in the Kalikapur area around 10:30am, said Azizul Haque, officer-in-charge of Burichang Police Station.

The deceased are the driver of the autorickshaw and its passengers.

They are Rafiz Ali, 65, and Hosne Ara, 60, of Khudaidhuli village; Lutfu Begum, 60, Saforjan, 65, Shahinur Akter Sanu, 33, and Ali Ahammad, 77, of Bakshimul village of Burichang upazila; and autorickshaw driver Shajahan Sazu, 40.

Sanu was pregnant and was going to see a doctor, said her family members.

Four people died on the spot, and three other injured died on the way

SEE PAGE 6 COL 4



Makeshift shops have been set up by traders along the road at the capital's Jatrabari intersection, reducing the available space for traffic. Rickshaws and auto-rickshaws are also parked in the area, which further worsens the situation. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

## CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES Nationwide BBS survey to begin next week

Says chief of constitution reform commission

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Constitution Reform Commission Chief Prof Ali Riaz yesterday said the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS) will conduct a nationwide survey on constitutional issues from next week.

The initiative aims to ensure the opinions from all demographics, including urban and rural populations, as well as the elderly and youth, are taken into consideration.

"This is our work. Progress is being made, and we are hopeful. Political parties and the civil society are cooperating with us," he told reporters following BNP's submission of reform proposals.

He mentioned that BNP had submitted a written proposals to the commission, but those have not yet been reviewed.

"Until we do, it's not possible to comment [on the proposals]. We've also received proposals from other parties, which will also be reviewed. Our responsibility is to

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Prof Ali Riaz

## CHINMOY'S ARREST Statement of India goes against spirit of friendship

Says foreign ministry

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

India's statement following the arrest of former ISKCON leader Chinmoy Krishna Das not only misrepresents facts but also stands contrary to the spirit of friendship and understanding between Dhaka and New Delhi, Bangladesh foreign ministry said.

"It is with utter dismay and deep sense of hurt that the Government of Bangladesh notes that the arrest of Sri Chinmoy Krishna Das has been misconstrued by certain quarters since Sri Chinmoy Krishna Das has been arrested on specific charges," said the ministry in a statement last night.

It said India's statement does not reflect the harmony that exists among the peoples of all faiths in Bangladesh and the commitment and the efforts of the government and the people in this regard.

Police arrested Chinmoy, spokesperson for the Bangladesh

SEE PAGE 6 COL 1

## Vested group out to destabilise the country

Believe BNP leaders; Fakhru says 'instigators' trying to destroy press freedom

MOHAMMAD AL-MASUM MOLLA

BNP leaders believe a vested quarter is intentionally trying to destabilise the country.

The party is deeply concerned over the current law and order situation in the capital and some other parts of the country.

In light of this, the BNP has decided to meet Chief Adviser Prof Muhammad Yunus to make its recommendations. It will urge the government to quickly announce an electoral roadmap, according to party leaders.

At a meeting on Monday night, the BNP standing committee, the party's highest policymaking body, thoroughly discussed these issues.

During the meeting, there was a heated discussion about the party's proposal to the Constitutional Reform Commission. After a few revisions, the proposal was passed.

Speaking at a programme in the capital, BNP Secretary General Mirza Fakhru Islam Alamgir yesterday said a group of "instigators" was trying to undermine press freedom in the country.

"No conscious or patriotic citizen should accept this in any way. I

SEE PAGE 6 COL 4

## NAGORIK COMMITTEE Members split over ex-Shibir leader joining

ASIFUR RAHMAN

Jatiya Nagorik Committee has included a former top leader of Islami Chhatra Shibir in its extended central committee, ignoring objections from a section of committee members.

During a general meeting on Friday, the committee members were divided on the inclusion of Ali Ahsan Zanaed, a former president of Shibir's Dhaka University unit.

"The general meeting [on Friday] decided to form a seven-member search committee to finalise the [central committee's] extension, but 45 names were announced [by the search committee on Monday] without any further discussion [at a general meeting]," said a member of the committee.

Multiple sources who attended the meeting on Friday said a group of members vehemently opposed Zanaed's inclusion.

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## Israel, Hezbollah trade fire ahead of truce deal

3 Lebanese killed; UN rights chief voices concern

REUTERS, Beirut

Israeli war planes hit Beirut's southern suburbs with a wave of airstrikes yesterday just before Israel's cabinet met to discuss a ceasefire deal with its Hezbollah foes.

A senior Israeli official and Lebanese Foreign Minister Abdallah Bou Habib appeared optimistic a deal could be reached, clearing the way for an end to a conflict that has killed thousands of people since it was ignited by

- » Barrage of strikes hit 20 targets in Beirut
- » Hezbollah to remain active after truce: Lebanon lawmaker

the Gaza war last year. Despite the possibility of an imminent diplomatic breakthrough, hostilities raged yesterday. Israeli strikes smashed more of Beirut's densely populated southern suburbs, a Hezbollah stronghold, with the Israeli military saying one barrage of strikes had hit 20 targets in the city in just 120 seconds. Israel had issued its biggest

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Policemen fire tear gas shells to disperse supporters of the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) party during a protest demanding the release of former prime minister Imran Khan, at the Red Zone area in Islamabad yesterday. Inset, PTI supporters attend a rally in Islamabad.

PHOTO: AFP, REUTERS



## WI hammer Tigers in Antigua Test

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

It took around 40 minutes for the West Indies to wrap things up on the fifth day morning of their first Test against Bangladesh as the hosts bundled out the Tigers for 132 in their second innings to register a massive 201-run victory at the Sir Vivian Richards Stadium in Antigua yesterday.

By margin of runs, it was the Windies' third largest win in the format against the Tigers as the hosts took a 1-0 lead in the two-match series, part of the World Test Championship.

The outcome, however, was inevitable. Bangladesh lost seven wickets in the final session on Day 4 following a spirited showing by pacers, led by Taskin Ahmed who claimed six wickets in the second innings to register his first Test filer.

Resuming the fifth day on 109 for seven in 31 overs, Bangladesh managed to survive just seven overs. Alzarri Joseph

SEE PAGE 6 COL 1

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার  
বাংলাদেশ ট্রেড এন্ড ট্যারিফ কমিশন  
১ম ১২ তলা সরকারি অফিস ভবন (১০ ও ১২ তলা)  
সেগুনবাগিচা, ঢাকা।

**গণবিজ্ঞপ্তি**

আমদানি ও রপ্তানিতে পণ্যের শুল্ক-কর পুনর্নির্ধারণ ও শুল্কায়ন সহজীকরণে প্রস্তাব আহ্বান

বাংলাদেশ ট্যারিফ কমিশন (সংশোধন) আইন, ২০২০ ও ন্যাশনাল ট্যারিফ পলিসি, ২০২৩ এর আলোকে দেশীয় শিল্পসমূহকে অসম প্রতিযোগিতা থেকে রক্ষা ও যথাযথ সংরক্ষণের লক্ষ্যে শুল্ক-কর যৌক্তিকীকরণ, প্রচলিত আমদানি ও রপ্তানি ব্যবস্থা সহজীকরণ, আমদানিকৃত উপকরণ (কাঁচামাল ও মধ্যবর্তী উপকরণ), মূলধনী পণ্য ও অত্যাৱশ্যকীয় পণ্যের ওপর প্রযোজ্য শুল্ককর হার পুনর্নির্ধারণসহ অন্যান্য বাণিজ্য স্বার্থ সংশ্লিষ্ট বিষয়ে সুপারিশমালা প্রণয়ন বাংলাদেশ ট্রেড এন্ড ট্যারিফ কমিশনের একটি চলমান কার্যক্রম। এর ধারাবাহিকতায় আগামী ২০২৫-২০২৬ অর্থবছরের জাতীয় বাজেটে প্রতিফলনের জন্য খাত-উপখাত ভিত্তিক আমদানি ও রপ্তানি সংক্রান্ত ট্যারিফ ও শুল্কায়ন কাঠামোতে সুপারিশমালা প্রণয়নের কাজ কমিশন কর্তৃক ইতোমধ্যে উদ্যোগ নেয়া হয়েছে।

০২। এখানে উল্লেখ্য যে, বাংলাদেশ ট্রেড এন্ড ট্যারিফ কমিশন (সংশোধন) আইন, ২০২০ এর ধারা ৭.১ (ক) অনুযায়ী শুল্কনীতি পর্যালোচনাক্রমে শুল্ক করহার যৌক্তিকীকরণ; ৭.১ (ছ) Protective Duties Act, 1950 (Act No. LXI of 1950) এর আলোকে সুনির্দিষ্ট মেয়াদে সংরক্ষণমূলক আমদানি শুল্ককর (Protective Duties of Customs) আরোপ; ৭.১ (জ) শিল্প সম্পদের সৃষ্টি ব্যবহার নিশ্চিতকরণপূর্বক দেশীয় পণ্য ও সেবার রপ্তানি বৃদ্ধি এবং ৭.১ (ঝ) আমদানি ও রপ্তানিযোগ্য পণ্য বা সেবাসমূহের হারমোনাইজড সিস্টেম কোড বিষয়ে কমিশন সরকারকে পরামর্শ প্রদান করবে এবং একই আইনের ধারা ৭.২.৪ অনুযায়ী কমিশন কর্তৃক পেশকৃত এসব "সুপারিশকে সরকার স্বীকৃতি দিবে এবং যথাযথভাবে বিবেচনা করবে" মর্মে বিধান রয়েছে।

০৩। এমতাবস্থায়, শিল্পায়ন, বিনিয়োগ ও ব্যবসার সার্বিক উন্নয়নের স্বার্থে শিল্প-কাঁচামাল, মূলধনী যন্ত্রপাতি, অত্যাৱশ্যকীয় পণ্যের আমদানিতে এবং অন্যান্য বাণিজ্যিক স্বার্থ রক্ষায় শুল্ককর পুনর্নির্ধারণ ও শুল্কায়নের ক্ষেত্রে কোন অসঙ্গতি দূর করার জন্য সংশ্লিষ্ট ব্যবসা প্রতিষ্ঠান ও সংগঠনসমূহকে প্রয়োজনীয় তথ্য ও উপাত্তসহ সুনির্দিষ্ট প্রস্তাব বাংলাদেশ ট্রেড এন্ড ট্যারিফ কমিশনে ১৫ ফেব্রুয়ারি ২০২৫ এর মধ্যে প্রেরণ করা জন্য অনুরোধ করা যাচ্ছে।

মোঃ মাহমুদুল হাসান  
উপ-প্রধান  
ফোনঃ ০২-৫৮৩১০৩২৩

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