

Akon, Sohnel new DRU president, GS



STAR REPORT

Abu Saleh Akon of Daily Nayadiganta and Mynul Hasan Sohnel of Daily Inqilab have been elected president and general secretary of the Dhaka Reporters Unity (DRU) respectively.

Akon bagged 801 votes, while his nearest rivals Mursalin Nomani and Shariful Islam Bilu won 496 and 102 votes respectively in the election held yesterday.

Mynul secured 548 votes to defeat his nearest rival Shahnaz Sharmeen who bagged 364 votes contesting for the post of general secretary. Other contenders for the general secretary post Abdullah Al Kafi and Mahamudul Hasan secured 289 and 210 votes respectively.

Gazi Anwar was elected vice president with 698 votes and Nadia Sharmeen joint secretary with 723 votes.

Other elected office bearers are Finance Secretary Shakhawat Hossain Suman (uncontested), Organising Secretary Abdul Hai Tuhin, Office Secretary Rafiq Rafi, Women Affairs Secretary Rozina Rozi, Publicity and Publication Secretary Mizan Chowdhury, ICT and Training Secretary Shariful Islam, Sports Secretary Md Muzibur Rahman, Cultural Secretary Emdatul Haque Khan (uncontested), Hospitality Secretary Mohammad Salim Ullah (uncontested), and Welfare Secretary Rafique Mridha (uncontested).

The seven elected members of the new DRU executive committee are Junaid Hossain Shishir, Akhtaruzzaman, Borhan Uddin, Aminul Haque Bhuiyan, Faruk Alam, Suman Chowdhury, and Salim Ullah.

A total of 36 candidates contested for 20 posts in the DRU election. The voting began at 9:00am yesterday and continued till 5:00pm without any break.

PRAYER TIMING
DECEMBER 1

Fazr	Zohr	Asr	Maghrib	Esha
JANAT 5-15	12-45	3-45	5-19	7-00
AZAMAT 5-50	1-15	4-00	5-22	7-30

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

TO-LET
3280 SFT Commercial Space for Rent. Uttara Sector # 04, Opposite of Rajlaxmi Kusal Center.
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Job Circular
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Designation: Jewellery Machine Operator/Technician, Age-Minimum 30 Years, Salary-Negotiable, Qualification: J.S.C Equivalent (Experience Person Priority First), 3 Years Experience. Willing Candidate must be submitted to 01 copy pp size color photo, CV, NID with Educational certificate.
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A farmer clears out all the dead plants and branches to prepare this land for planting IRI seeds. The photo was taken from Dhamsar village in Barishal recently.

PHOTO: TITU DAS

Canal's land grabbed

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sufferings with their paddy cultivation.

"The dams remain closed all year round. During dry season, we don't get any water in the canal, while in the monsoon, the dams cause waterlogging in the adjacent croplands. As such, we face difficulties to cultivate paddy on our lands," said Shahid Farazi, a local farmer.

According to locals, Kalam was among those on the forefront demanding construction of the dams. He did so in a planned move to eventually grab the canal's land, they alleged.

Mahbubur Rahman, another local, alleged that Kalam used his political influence during the then Awami League government to get the dam constructed with a motive to grab the canal's land.

"After the dam's construction, Kalam began grabbing land on the embankment by planting betel nut and timber trees. Now he has taken hold of a good chunk of land to set up a market," he also alleged.

Omar Faruq, another local, echoed him.

Kalam, who had previously claimed his madrasa will sustain damages due to erosion unless the dams are constructed, later changed his tone after the fall of the AL government.

Acknowledging the fact that many people are facing trouble for the dam,

Political parties

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Speakers also said that colonial-era police laws must be urgently updated.

Supreme Court Registrar Ikhtedar Ahmed criticised the low conviction rate in Bangladesh, which remains below 5%. He attributed this to weaknesses in investigations, which are hampered by political interference.

He said that Public Prosecutors and judges are often appointed based on political recommendations, undermining impartiality in the justice system.

Zakia Shishir, the grandmother of Mir Mughdho, a martyr of the July-August mass uprising, questioned the reasons behind the police's perceived poor behaviour.

"Has there been any internal research to address these issues?" she asked.

Dr Mazharul Islam, a history professor at Jahangirnagar University, called for a change in Bangladesh's political culture to end the concentration of power.

"This has led to the promotion of incompetent people in key positions to maintain control," he said.

Former DIG Mejbahunnabi expressed concerns over the Rapid Action Battalion's training, saying many officers receive less than the six months of training required by UN standards.

He also pointed to an increase in extrajudicial killings since RAB's formation.

DIG Golam Rasul called for a system to ensure state accountability, referring to a recent incident during the mass uprising where those responsible for ordering the shooting of protesters did not keep any written record of their decision.

The speakers said comprehensive reforms are necessary across the entire justice system to restore public trust.

Panchagarh

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However, the biting cold has also brought a surge in winter-related illnesses.

Local hospitals, including Tentulia Upazila Health Complex and Adhunik Sadar Hospital, Panchagarh, are witnessing a rise in cases of fever, cold, asthma, and pneumonia, especially among children and the elderly.

Jitendra Nath, assistant officer at the Tentulia Weather Observatory, said that the temperature had dropped from 11.4 degrees Celsius recorded on Friday morning.

"As winter deepens, temperatures are expected to drop further," he added.

Elsewhere in the region, Dinajpur recorded the country's second-lowest temperature yesterday, at 12.5 degrees Celsius, according to the Dinajpur Met Office.

Construction yet to begin 6yrs on

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fulfill her commitment to voters.

The NCC's Tk 590.75 crore project to construct the 1,385-metre bridge with 3.5km approach road was approved in the ECNEC meeting on October 9, 2018. It was decided that the bridge would be named Kadamrasul Bridge, after the Kadamrasul Dargah in Bandar upazila.

The stipulated deadline to complete the project was June 2022. However, the construction did even start after six years passed since the project's approval. The deadline was eventually extended, while the cost also went up, but the work simply did not begin.

"The project has become a difficult one to implement due to numerous obstacles that emerged, including land acquisition. By the time the complications were resolved, the deadline had expired. Even the design of the project had to be changed eventually," said Abdul Aziz, superintendent engineer of NCC.

Lands owned by the Railway and BIWTA on the west side of the river stood in the way of the project. Also, a part of land owned by Kumudini Welfare Trust of Bengal Ltd was another

obstacle. Complications also emerged with acquisition of land previously owned by food ministry on the river's east side, said sources at NCC's Engineering Department.

NCC officials said they recently managed to overcome these complications, and a new deadline of June 30, 2026, has been decided for the project's completion. Meanwhile, the cost of the project went up by 28 percent.

Local residents, however, grew skeptical as the construction of Kadamrasul Bridge failed to start multiple times.

"My hair has turned grey since I first started hearing about this bridge over the Shitalakshya. They just promise it every time an election approaches, then forget about it altogether once they get elected," said Md Kabir, 55, who runs a tea stall on the river bank.

Earlier, during BNP's tenure two decades back, a project was taken to construct a bridge on the river at Nabiganj area, but it never saw the light of day.

Meanwhile, the third Shitalakshya Bridge, named after late AKM Nasim Osman, a freedom fighter and former MP of Narayanganj-5, connects

Job scarcity, climate

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due to rising temperatures, floods, and heavy rainfall.

Moreover, 80 percent of migrants at their destination face wage loss, with 41 percent experiencing wage cuts and 20 percent losing their jobs entirely.

In response to these challenges, the study calls for the identification of vulnerable communities and the creation of targeted action plans, including social protection programmes to mitigate the effects of extreme weather.

Experts at the event emphasised the need for further academic and

practical dialogue on the intersection of climate change and migration. They called for more collaboration among experts to address the growing challenges posed by climate-related migration and urged proactive measures to support affected communities.

Subrata Paul, Project Coordinator of ACD; Prof Chowdhury Sarwar Jahan from Rajshahi University; Md Anwar Hossain of the NGO Affairs Bureau, and representatives from Winrock International, IOM, and the Ministry of Social Welfare were also present among others.

Cyclone 'Fengal' over

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1,530km southwest of Mongla port, and 1,545km southwest of Payra port.

It is likely to move in the westerly direction further and cross North Tamil Nadu Coast.

The maximum sustained wind speed within 54km of the cyclone centre is about 62kmph, rising to 88kmph in gusts-squalls. The sea

will remain very rough near the centre of the cyclone.

BMD advised maritime ports of Chattogram, Cox's Bazar, Mongla, and Payra to keep hoisted Distant Warning Signal 2.

Besides, all fishing boats and trawlers over North Bay and deep sea have been advised to remain close to the coast and proceed with caution till further notice.

HC to deliver

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Then opposition leader Sheikh Hasina, who later ran the country for 15 years as prime minister and was forced to resign and flee on August 5 this year following a mass uprising, narrowly escaped the attack on August 21, 2004.

A Dhaka court on October 10, 2018, sentenced 19 people, including former BNP state minister for home Lutfozzaman Babar to death in the two cases filed in connection with the grenade attacks.

Nineteen others including BNP acting chairman Tarique Rahman, now in London, were given life imprisonment and 11 were handed different terms in prison.

Eighteen of the convicted accused are absconding and 31 are in jail.

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Executive Development Center (EDC), East West University (EWU)
Skills for Industry Competitiveness and Innovation Program (SICIP)

Call for Applications
Graduate Diploma in Leather, Leather Goods, and Footwear Management

Program Context
The leather and footwear sector in Bangladesh holds significant growth potential, driven by the country's abundant raw material supply, competitive labor costs, and increasing global demand for quality leather products. To facilitate the sector, the Government of Bangladesh has taken initiatives to produce a group of mid-level managers which will minimize the dependencies on the foreign experts. In compliance with this initiative, the Executive Development Center (EDC) of East West University (EWU) is offering a Graduate Diploma in Leather, Leather Goods, and Footwear management under the Skills for Industry Competitiveness and Innovation Program (SICIP), Ministry of Finance, Government of Bangladesh.

Program Objectives

- Enhance the technology-driven skilled workforce within the sector focusing on climate-resilient practices and green technologies.
- Cultivate world-class, mid and high-level industry-fit managers.
- Reduce reliance on foreign managers by encouraging industry-university collaborations.

Program Features

- The tuition fee is fully waived and additional allowances will be provided after successful completion.
- The nine-month long program.
- Industry Attachment is mandatory.
- Experienced resource persons from both industry and academia.
- Classes will be held on weekends and/or evenings of weekdays.

Eligibility Criteria

- A Bachelor's degree or its equivalent in any discipline from a UGC approved university or an institution.
- Applicant must have a minimum of 5 points in total based on past examination results. The calculation of the points is as follows:

SSC		HSC		Bachelor	
Div./ GPA	Point	Div./ GPA	Point	Div./ CGPA	Point
1 st / >=4.0	3	1 st / >=4.0	3	1 st / >=3.0	3
2 nd / >=3.0 & <4.0	2	2 nd / >=3.0 & <4.0	2	2 nd / >=2.5 & <3.0	2
3 rd / >=2.0 & <3.0	1	3 rd / >=2.0 & <3.0	1	3 rd / >=2.0 & <2.5	1

- Applicant's age must be less than 50 years as of the last date of application.
- Those who were enrolled in any programs under SEIP for two weeks or above during the last year, need not to apply.
- Females and Ethnic groups are encouraged to apply.

Application Procedure

- Application Link: <https://forms.gle/RwTkrPcqR6Vh6vBn6>
- It is also possible to collect and drop the form from the EDC-SICIP office, which opens every day from 11:00 am to 4:30 pm.

Last Date of Application: 12 Dec 2024

Selection Procedure

- Written Test: There will be a Written Test on 21 December 2024 (Saturday) at 11:00 am.
- Viva Voce: Applicants passing the written test will appear for Viva Voce.

Contact Details
EDC-SICIP Office, Room # 269, East West University, Aftabnagar, Dhaka-1212, Bangladesh.

Supreme Court of Bangladesh

High Court Division
www.supremecourt.gov.bd

e-Tender Notice

Re-Tender Notice No. 32/2024-25
Open Tendering Method (OTM)

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

Sl. No.	Tender ID	Package No.	Name of the work	Last Selling Date & Time	Tender Closing Date & Time
1	1042287	32/2024-25 BSC/Purchase -03/2024-25	Purchase of Desktop Computer Core 13 (500 Nos.)	22/12/2024 03:00 PM	23/12/2024 12:00 PM

This is an online tender, where only e-Tenderers will be accepted in e-GP portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, please register on e-GP system portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>). The fees for downloading the e-Tender documents can be deposited online through any bank's branch as per tender notice.



(Meftahul Jannath)
Assistant Registrar (Finance)
Supreme Court of Bangladesh
High Court Division, Dhaka.