



The 35th annual general meeting of BAPEx, chaired by Istiaque Ahmad, chairman of BAPEx Board and former secretary, was held on December 12 at BAPEx Bhaban, Dhaka. At the AGM, shareholders approved the financial statements for FY 2023-2024. PHOTO: COURTESY

JCD president

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outrage. "Many are still in the dormitories and participating in rallies," he claimed.

He warned that failing to bring the perpetrators, including members of Chhatra League, Juba League, Awami League, and police officers involved in the violence, to justice would betray the sacrifices made by students and citizens during the protests. "Failure to act will leave an indelible stain on history," he concluded.

Sweeping

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Additionally, they stressed that all educational institutions must ensure women's participation in all educational committees.

They further demanded that national climate, forest, and environmental policies include explicit goals for gender equality and women's empowerment.

"The fall of the Sheikh Hasina-led government has created an opportune moment to execute the reforms needed for gender equality," said the platform.

The press conference was chaired by Naripokkho President Gita Das and moderated by Maheen Sultan.

VICTORY DAY CELEBRATIONS

12 AL leaders arrested over sabotage plot

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gazipur

Police have arrested 12 leaders and activists of the Awami League on charges of planning to carry out sabotage activities during the Victory Day celebrations in Gazipur.

A Gazipur court sent them to jail yesterday after Solaiman Molla, president of BNP's Kapasia Durgapur union, filed a case against them with Kapasia Police Station on Friday night, said Kamal Hossain, officer-in-charge of Kapasia Police Station. In the case, the plaintiff named 59 individuals.

Quoting locals, the OC said the suspects were planning to carry out sabotage activities in the isolated Dhadhar Char area around 2:30pm on Friday. They were detained by local residents and later handed over to police.

The arrested individuals include Afzal Hossain alias Rinkon, 30, of Ghagtia Union, former organising secretary of the Upazila Chhatra League; Maruf, 25, from the same village and vice president of Ward-4 Juba League; Abul Kalam Azad, 45, a member of Ward-6 Awami League; and Ilias Ahmed, 45, from Khirati village and social welfare secretary of Ghagtia Union Awami League.

Don't waste

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He urged the nation to work towards a democratic and inclusive society in honour of the martyrs.

Meanwhile, Shafiqul Alam, press secretary to the chief adviser, paid tribute to the martyred intellectuals

and highlighted their lasting legacy. "The 'new Bangladesh' being built today is a continuation of their vision," he said, drawing parallels between the July uprising and the 1971 abductions of intellectuals.

Organic

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15kg of earthworms every month at home, which she sells profitably.

"I also grow vegetables in my yard year-round using some of the vermicompost I produce," she added.

Mobarak Hossain, 60, from Panchagram village in Lalmonirhat Sadar upazila, said, "I produce vermicompost at home, keep a portion for my own vegetable cultivation, and sell the rest to local fertiliser dealers, who then sell it to other farmers."

When contacted, Abdullah Al Mamun, deputy director of the DAE in Kurigram, emphasised that the use of vermicompost is essential for producing toxin-free vegetables and maintaining soil fertility.

"We have been encouraging farmers to use vermicompost for cultivation. In recent years, its use has increased significantly, benefiting many marginal farmers in the region," he added.

Tribute paid to Helal

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Mohammad Azam also paid tribute to the poet.

"To my knowledge, he never received the Independence Award or the Ekushey Padak. Many of his writings remain unpublished. If there's anything the Ministry of Culture can do to preserve his legacy, we will ensure it is done," said Farooki.

Born on October 7, 1948 in Netrokona, Helal Hafiz rose to prominence with his debut poetry collection, "Je Jale Agun Jwole (The Water That Burns)", published in 1986.

Indo-Bangla ties

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He acknowledged the demands of those who ousted the oppressive regime, noting that reforms would take time. "We urge everyone to remain patient," he added.

Touhid also called on political parties to work towards a future where students no longer feel compelled to protest on the streets.

The event was chaired

Cold wave hits

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According to meteorological classifications, temperatures between 8 and 10 degrees Celsius signify a mild cold wave, 6 to 8 degrees Celsius a moderate one, and below 6 degrees Celsius a severe cold wave.

The cold has led to a surge in cold-related illnesses.

Dr Rakibul Alam, resident medical officer at the 250-bed Thakurgaon Modern Hospital, confirmed an increased influx of patients suffering from respiratory and other cold-induced ailments.

District administrations in Thakurgaon and Panchagarh have initiated warm clothing distribution among the cold-affected, but the demand far outweighs the supply.

Md Saded Ali, deputy commissioner of Panchagarh, urged non-governmental organisations and affluent individuals to step forward and support the vulnerable population during this crisis.

A treasure under

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I'm just a poor man trying to support my family through this work, and I never expected to be in this situation."

Jamil Mohammad Khan, Assistant Conservator of Forests for the Wildlife and Nature Conservation Department, said, "We have successfully recovered about 4 acres of forest land. However, we did not encounter anyone during the operation, and no one came forward to claim the land."

Nurul Muhaimin Milton, general secretary of Bangladesh Poribesh Sangbadik Samitee in Moulvibazar, said local environmental activists are calling for the forest department to reclaim the land, highlighting that 250 acres are still occupied by various parties, including a resort that should be prioritised for recovery. But

the forest department has stayed silent regarding the whole issue.

According to the Wildlife Management and Nature Conservation Department, the Sylhet Divisional Office has communicated with higher authorities and the Directorate of Survey regarding the need for a survey, but no initiatives have been launched yet.

Jahangir Alam, the Sylhet Divisional Forest Officer, said, "There has never been a survey of Lawachhara. The situation remains unchanged, and conflicts have arisen over certain areas. Many occupants lack proper documentation. We only reclaim land once we are fairly certain it belongs to us. A survey is crucial, and I will continue to advocate for one. Without a survey, we cannot ascertain how much land is under illegal possession."

Priorities primary

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Md Sarwar Bari, Secretary of the Medical Education and Family Welfare Division, said meaningful changes within the ministry often require external pressure. "This 'push' can come from civil society, sector experts, NGOs, and other relevant stakeholders," he said.

Professor Dr Liaquat Ali, a member of the Health Reform Commission, emphasised the importance of prioritising primary healthcare in budgeting. "Allocating more funds to primary healthcare, rather than secondary and tertiary care, is crucial to ensuring equitable access for all," he said.

Dr Naila Z Khan, another commission member, advocated for a citizen-centred approach.

"We need to focus on people's strengths and build on them, rather than just addressing weaknesses

in a disease-oriented health system," she said.

Dr Md Akramul Islam, Senior Director of BRAC's Health Programme and Humanitarian Crisis Management Programme, called for community participation in decision-making. "For the health system to truly thrive, we must empower communities to actively engage at all stages and levels," he said.

Hossain Zillur Rahman, convener of the UHC Forum and Chairperson of BRAC, underscored the need for patient-centred quality services while addressing health finance, human resources, and sectoral capacity.

Professor Dr Syed A Hamid, of the Institute of Health Economics at Dhaka University, also spoke at the programme.

Hossain Zillur Rahman delivered the welcome address.

DUTA office vandalised

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"We have also informed both the vice-chancellor and the proctor's office," she added.

Contacted, DU Proctor Prof Saifuddin Ahmed said the VC visited the scene.

Necessary steps will be

taken, he said.

On December 8, a group of Chhatra Dal men removed the photos of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and ousted former PM Sheikh Hasina from the DUTA office.

PRAYER TIMING
DECEMBER 15

Fazr	Zohr	Asr	Maghrib	Esha
AMAZ 5:20	12:45	3:45	5:22	7:00
JAMAAT 5:55	1:15	4:00	5:25	7:30

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

Bangladesh Parliament Secretariat Administration Section Sher-E-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1225

Invitation for Tender under Framework Contract

1. Ministry/Division	Bangladesh Parliament Secretariat
2. Procuring entity name	Deputy Secretary, Administration Section, Bangladesh Parliament Secretariat.
3. Invitation for	Supply of Photocopier Toner & Developer; Computer Printer Toner, Computer Spare Parts/Accessories & Uniform under Framework Contract.
4. Invitation Ref. No.	11.00.0000.604.07.006.23/142, Date: 12/12/2024
5. Procurement method	Open Tendering Method (National) Under Framework Contract
6. Budget and Source of funds	Revenue Budget
7. Tender package name and short description of goods	Package-6 (Lot-2)- Photocopier Toner & Developer Package-9 (Lot-1)-Computer Printer Toner (HP Brand). Package-9 (Lot-3)-Computer Spare Parts (Supply & Installation) & Others Accessories. Package-13 (Lot-2)-Uniform (For Parliament Security Personnel).
8. Tender selling place	Administration Section, Block: North-East, Ground Floor, Room No-131, Parliament Secretariat.
9. Tender selling date	17/12/2024 - 31/12/2024.
10. Tender submission & opening date and time	Package-6-(Lot-2), Package-9(Lot-1) Submission date: 01/01/2025, Time: 9:30AM-12:00AM Opening date: 01/01/2025, Opening Time: Package-6-Lot-2: 12:05 PM, Package-9-Lot-1: 12:20 PM Package-9(Lot-2) & Package-13(Lot-1) Submission date: 02/01/2025, Time: 9:00AM-12:00AM Opening date: 02/01/2025, Opening Time: Package-9-Lot-2: 12:05PM, Package-13-Lot-1: 12:20 PM
11. Tender submission & opening place	Deputy Secretary (Admin-1), Level-7, Block-East, Room No-7, (Lift-13,14,15 & 16)
12. Brief eligibility and qualification of tenderer	(a) Reputed supplier firms having valid trade license (2024-2025), Income Tax clearance Certificate (2024-2025) (for company 2023-2024), BIN, Experience Certificate & Authorization Letter. (b) Detailed terms & conditions will be mentioned in tender schedule.
13. Price of tender schedule	Price of schedule TK.2000/- only (As mentioned in the schedule).
14. Tender security & Tender Validity Period	Package-6-Lot-2: 70,000/- Package-9-Lot-1: 1,10,000/-, Package-9-Lot-3: 2,00,000/- & Package-13-Lot-1: 1,70,000/- Validity period: 120 days.
15. Name designation, address & Phone number of official inviting tender	Md. Mahub Jamil, Deputy Secretary (Administration), Block: North-East, Ground Floor, Room No-131, Parliament Secretariat. (55667711-55667722-2794/2188/2307, 55029007).
16. Special instructions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contract will be for 1(One) year initially and it may be renewed for next 2(Two) years, subject to satisfactory supply of goods. Lot based lowest bidders will be selected. The procuring entity reserves the right to reject all tenders or annul the tender proceedings.

GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
EDUCATION ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT
Dhaka
eed1.dhaka.gov.bd

Memo No.37.07.2600.009.34.011.24-480 Date: 12-12-2024

e-Tender Notice: 11/2024-2025
(Open Tendering Method)

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

SL No.	Tender ID	Name of woks	Online Tender Publishing Date (On/After)	Online Tender Opening & Closing (Date & Time)
01.	1044292	CONSTRUCTION OF 10-STORIED MAIN BUILDING WITH SINGLE BASEMENT INCLUDING ADMIN, ACADEMIC, TRAINING CENTER, MEDICAL CENTER, LIBRARY, RESEARCH CENTER, CAFETERIA, BANK, POST OFFICE & TRANSPORTATION POOL ETC. ALONG WITH SANITARY, WATER SUPPLY & ELECTRIFICATION WORKS AT ISLAMIC ARABIC UNIVERSITY, KERANIGANJ UPAZILA, DHAKA DISTRICT.	15-Dec.-2024	Please visit the Tender Notice on the e-GP Website

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 of following Package from the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through any registered Banks branches. Further information and guidelines are available in the Procuring Entity Office, National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

(Signature)
22/12/2024
(Mujahidul Islam Alif)
Executive Engineer
ee.dhak.eed@gmail.com

GD- 1186