

## Jubeida Khatoon passes away

STAR REPORT

Dr Jubeida Khatoon, a renowned gynecologist and feminist social reformer, passed away on January 3, aged 95.

Born to educationist Osman Gani, she graduated from Lady Brabourne College, Kolkata, and became the first woman from East Pakistan to achieve MRCOG in London.

As a young student, she witnessed the communal riots of 1946, which deeply influenced her commitment to social justice.

Dr Khatoon began her career at Dhaka Medical College in 1957 and later served as a professor and surgeon at Rajshahi Medical College for decades.

She established the first private gynecological clinic in Rajshahi and trained generations of medical students. Beyond medicine, she chaired the Rajshahi Diabetic Association and served as a Rajshahi Municipality Commissioner. Her daughter, anthropologist Nehraz Mahmud, survives her. Dr Khatoon was laid to rest at Hatem Khan Graveyard in Rajshahi.

PRAYER  
TIMING  
JANUARY 8

Fazr	Zohr	Asr	Maghrib	Esha
AZAN 5:30	12:45	4:00	5:30	7:00
JAMAT 6:05	1:15	4:15	5:35	7:30

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

## Khaleda was convicted

FROM PAGE 3  
arguments before a five-member bench headed by Chief Justice Syed Rifaat Ahmed. The bench is hearing Khaleda's appeals against the 2018 High Court verdict that increased her sentence from five to ten years.

The former prime minister, aged 79, landed in jail on February 8, 2018, after a Dhaka special court sentenced her to five years in the case.

While five other accused, including her son Tarique Rahman, were given 10 years' imprisonment for misappropriating over

Tk 2.1 crore intended for orphans, the special court cited Khaleda's age and status to impose a lighter sentence.

On November 11, the Appellate Division stayed the High Court's decision and allowed Khaleda to file appeals challenging it. Her appeals seek to overturn the judgement and secure her acquittal.

Khaleda currently faces 37 cases, filed during the caretaker government (2007-08) and Sheikh Hasina's regime.

Of these, 12 cases were dismissed by the High Court last year, nine

defamation cases were scrapped by lower courts, and two sentences were overturned through presidential clemency.

The BNP chief is now on bail in the remaining cases.

Yesterday's hearing involved lawyers from both sides, including Kayser Kamal, AM Mahbub Uddin Khokon, and Zainul Abedin for Khaleda, while Additional Attorney General Aneek R Haque and lawyer Md Ashif Hassan represented the state and the Anti-Corruption Commission.

The court will continue hearing the appeals today.

## Police

FROM PAGE 3  
warnings, witnesses said. A chase and counter-chase ensued, with police using batons and stun grenades to disperse them.

Live broadcasts showed police charging at students, with some officers seen kicking a student who had fallen during the chaos.

Following the incident, former and current students expressed outrage on social media over the police action.

On August 26, Dhaka Metropolitan Police imposed an indefinite ban on protests near the Bangladesh Secretariat and the Chief Adviser's official residence at the Jamuna state guest house.

## Bangladesh

FROM PAGE 5  
Adviser Muhammad Fouzul Kabir Khan, Environment Adviser Syeda Rizwana Hasan, and Bangladesh Bank Governor Ahsan H Mansur, among others. She will also meet business leaders and development partners.

The EU remains Bangladesh's largest trading partner, with exports growing from €2.4 billion to €24 billion annually over the past two decades.

In October 2023, the EU, EIB, and Bangladesh signed €400 million in agreements for renewable energy projects to support climate goals.

Beer described her visit as an opportunity to hear from ministries, economic leaders, and citizens about the country's challenges and plans.

"The EU stands behind the interim government to serve Bangladeshi citizens, and the EIB will support investments," she said, adding that energy remains a critical focus of cooperation.

Discussions with Touhid Hossain included enhancing Bangladesh's regional standing. "We will provide support to strengthen the country's position," she said.

## 90pc of employees

FROM PAGE 3  
and opportunities for one-tenth of the employees -- those in high-ranking positions -- are considered, while the remaining 90 percent have not seen significant improvements even after 53 years of independence."

"In an independent country, inequality, frustration, and imbalance are increasing, surpassing the conditions during the British and Pakistani eras," he added.

He emphasised that employee representatives are never included in these commissions. "Their pain, sorrow, and logical demands are never taken into account," he said.

The Public Administration Reform Commission was established by the interim government, led by Chief Adviser Prof. Yunus, in October last year as part

of initiatives to implement reforms across various sectors in the country.

The commission was initially tasked with submitting a report by January 3, 2025, but its tenure has been extended until January 15.

In the meantime, the commission has held multiple meetings with representatives from 26 cadre-based employee groups. However, the absence of any meetings with lower-grade employee representatives has left them feeling neglected.

Asked, Dr Mokhes Ur Rahman, secretary to the Public Administration Ministry and member secretary of the reform commission, told The Daily Star, "We consider all employees equally, and the issue is important. However, I cannot say at

this moment whether there will be discussions with them. I will consult with the commission's chairman on this matter."

On January 5, an organisation called Non-Cadre Employees Against Discrimination submitted an application to the chairman of the Public Administration Reform Commission.

Rashidul Islam, an assistant director at the Immigration and Passport Department and secretary of the organisation, said in the application they said non-cadre employees are continually overlooked, despite constitutional guarantees of equal opportunity.

The organisation urged the commission to engage with this substantial segment of the workforce, emphasising that their feedback is essential for meaningful reforms.

## 47 citizens condemn attack

FROM PAGE 5  
woman, Philomina Hansda, and the arson attack on the house of British Soren, as well as strict punishment for the perpetrators."

The signatories of the statement are: Prof Anu Muhammad; rights activist Sultana Kamal;

Iftekharuzzaman, executive director of Transparency International Bangladesh; Khushi Kabir, coordinator of Nijera Kori; Swapan Adnan, visiting research fellow at University of Oxford; Advocate Z I Khan Panna, chairperson of Ain O Salish Kendra; Meghna

Guhathakurta, executive director of Research Initiatives Bangladesh; Barrister Sara Hossain, honorary executive director of BLAST; Shireen Parveen Huq; founder of Naripokkho; Dr Samina Luthfa, associate professor at Dhaka University, and others.

## Govt justification for excluding

FROM PAGE 3  
of Public Administration's justification for excluding gazetted candidates, as stated in its notice, to be baseless. We interpret this notice as a continuation of the discriminatory culture within the republic, which is deeply disappointing. This notice highlights a lack of administrative accountability," it added.

The statement said in October of last year, during the tenure of the current government, 252 trainee sub-inspectors undergoing basic training at the Bangladesh Police Academy in Sardah,

Rajshahi, were dismissed on grounds of a "breach of discipline."

"Yet, the government and the relevant ministry have not provided the nation with any detailed explanation regarding this matter to date," it also said.

"We have observed efforts to prioritise identity over performance, bypassing due process, while certain groups and communities are being deemed ineligible. This politics of identity is divisive and, therefore, unjust. Our position remains firm against all forms of injustice," said the

network.

The signatories of the statement include Dhaka University teachers Gitara Nasreen, Kamrul Hasan Mamun, Rushad Faridi, Tasneem Siraj Mahboob, and Kajalie Shehreen Islam; former Jahangirnagar University teacher Anu Muhammad and incumbent teachers Swadhin Sen and Sharmin Neelormi; Jashore University of Science and Technology teacher Ovinu Kibria Islam; Jagannath University teacher Shehreen Ataur Khan; and Chittagong University teacher Khadija Mitu.

## No longer

FROM PAGE 5  
Helal Uddin, president of the Ashighar Village Conservation Committee, said efforts are underway to ensure the safety of migratory birds arriving this winter.

Inam Al Haque, a bird expert, highlighted the loss of biodiversity in the haor, citing environmental pollution, drying waterbodies, hunting, food scarcity, and increased

human activities as key factors behind the decline.

"In the 2023 bird census, no rare or endangered species were found, indicating that these migratory birds may have forgotten the path to Hakaluki Haor," he said.

Md Mahi Uddin, upazila nirbahi officer of Kulara, said the local administration has a strict stance against bird hunting and will soon conduct raids against poachers in the haor areas.

## Where did Tk 10.77cr

FROM PAGE 3  
35.71 crore, of which Tk 35.3 crore was withdrawn over time.

Investigators said nearly all accounts were opened in Iqbal's name or under his businesses.

In addition to the bank transactions, Rahim's assets include a house on five katha of land in Bashundhara's N Block, a property in Uttara Model Town, a 2,500-square foot flat in Dhanmondi, and two vehicles. INVESTIGATION PROGRESS  
The ACC has imposed a travel ban on Iqbal and his wife, effective from October 28.

However, he reportedly

fled the country on August 5, following the fall of AL.

The investigation team, led by ACC Director Syed Tahsinul Haque and including Assistant Director Muhammad Jafar Sadeq Shibli and Deputy Assistant Director Atikur Rahman Khan, is verifying documents collected from 91 banks, financial institutions, and over 150 public and private organisations.

ACC Deputy Director (Public Relations) Md Akhtarul Islam said, "The investigation is ongoing. The process of collecting and verifying documents is underway. Once the investigation team submits its report, the commission will take a decision as per the law."

Job Opportunity

We're looking for a Managing Director/CEO of a middle east based Non-Banking Financial Institutions in Bangladesh :  
**Position :** Managing Director/CEO  
**Salary :** Negotiable  
**Experiences :** 20 years of relevant experience in financial institution/Bank, etc.  
**Education:** Masters/MBA in Business Administration/Finance/Banking  
About the Company : It's a Middle East based joint venture Industrial Finance and Investment Company operating for around 40 years.

**Key Responsibilities :**

- Strategic Leadership : Develop and implement the institution's strategic vision and goals.
- Operational Management : Oversee daily operations, ensuring efficiency and compliance.
- Financial Oversight : Manage financial performance, including budgeting and reporting.
- Team Development : Lead and mentor the executive team and staff.
- Stakeholder Engagement : Build and maintain relationships with key stakeholders.
- Risk Management : Ensure robust risk management and regulatory compliance.

**Qualifications :**

- Proven senior executive experience in the financial sector.
- Deep understanding of NBFI markets and regulations
- Strong leadership, strategic and problem-solving skills
- Advanced degree in finance, Business or related field
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills

"Candidates who meet all the conditions of and agree to comply with Bangladesh Bank's Circular (DFIM Circular No. 03, dated 25 March 2024) are requested to send their application with CV to [hrdepartmentdac@gmail.com](mailto:hrdepartmentdac@gmail.com) by 14 January 2025."

Government of the Peoples Republic of Bangladesh  
Office of the Executive Engineer (RHD)  
Road Division, Bhola.  
Phone-02-4799-66160  
E-mail: [eebho@rhd.gov.bd](mailto:eebho@rhd.gov.bd)

Memo No. 35.01.0918.404.34.001.20-27  
Date: - 07/01/2025

Invitation for e-Tender (LTM)

e-Tender is invited in the national e-GP system portal for the following works:

Tender ID	1059812
Name of Tender	Bullah Palisiding Work at 11th km(p), 13th km(p), 14th km(p) & 15th km(p) of Borhanuddin (Udaypur-Tazumuddin-Monpura-Shikderhat (Z8905) under Bhola Road Division During the year 2024-2025. Package No-14/e-GP/Bho/Min/LTM/2024-25
Tender Last Selling Date and Time	21-Jan-2025 17:00
Tender Closing & Opening Date and Time	22-Jan-2025 12:45
Tender ID	1059813
Name of Tender	Repair of Pavement with Premix Bituminous Carpeting, Sealcoat work at Ch. 9+00 to 11+000km of Guingarhat-Charpata-Dalikhharhat-Daulatkhon Helipad- Daulatkhon Bazar Road. (Z-8916) under Bhola Road Division during the year 2024-2025. Package No-15/e-GP/Bho/Min/LTM/2024-25
Tender Last Selling Date and Time	21-Jan-2025 17:00
Tender Closing & Opening Date and Time	22-Jan-2025 12:15
Tender ID	1059814
Name of Tender	Estimate for Painting work of Divisional & Sub-Divisional Office Of RHD, Bhola in the year of 2024-25. Package No-16/e-GP/Bho/OB/LTM/2024-25
Tender Last Selling Date and Time	21-Jan-2025 17:00
Tender Closing & Opening Date and Time	22-Jan-2025 12:55

This is an online tender, where only e-tender will be accepted in e-GP portal and no offline /hard copy will be accepted. To submit e-tender, please register on e-GP system. (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>). For more details please contact e-gp help desk. ([helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd](mailto:helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd))