

JULY UPRISING Constable opened fire on protesters on August 5 Prosecution tells ICT

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Constable Sujon Hossain opened fire on a peaceful procession at Chankharpool, Dhaka, on August 5 last year. He was seen firing while lying on the ground, kneeling, and standing in the middle of the road as police shot at protesters, leading to seven deaths that morning.

The prosecution presented this account yesterday to the International Crimes Tribunal (ICT) while Sujon, a member of the Armed Police Battalion (APBn), was produced before the court.

"A video capturing Sujon's actions went viral on social media, where he appeared very arrogant and fired numerous shots," Prosecutor BM Sultan Mahmud told the tribunal.

The prosecutor submitted evidence suggesting that Sujon carried out the attacks on student-led protests.

Sujon was shown arrested in a case on charges of crimes against humanity.

The tribunal directed the prosecution to submit the investigation report by February 23 and ordered that Sujon remain in detention until then.

The three-member bench, led by Justice Md Golam Mortuza Majumdar, chairman of the ICT, issued the order.

Hours before Sheikh Hasina fled on August 5, many students and people gathered at Chankharpool to march toward Shahbagh. However, police blocked their path, and members of the police and APBn opened fire to disperse the crowd, as shown in videos that went viral on social media.

Tea workers deserve better: Sarjis Alam

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

Tea workers are living in dire conditions, said Sarjis Alam, chief organiser of the Jatiya Nagorik Committee, yesterday.

"I am speechless seeing the tea workers' houses, especially as mothers and sisters live in such conditions," he said at a rally in Kamalganj, Moulvibazar.

After visiting several tea gardens, Sarjis questioned the Awami League government's commitment to tea workers. "Did Sheikh Hasina's attention ever reach the tea gardens, from Gopalganj to Kamalganj? Have the brothers and sisters working here been forgotten?"

He criticised the inadequate weekly rations of 3.5kg of flour provided by garden management, calling it insufficient for families. "Just look at the workers' faces to understand their struggles," he added.

He also addressed the lack of healthcare. "Garden hospitals have empty beds and no medicine. How can doctors provide treatment without resources?"

Sarjis announced plans for a national rally this month to demand justice for tea workers.

"We will not stop until their demands are met," he said.



Students and faculties of Jahangirnagar University bring out a procession on the campus to celebrate the institution's 55th anniversary yesterday. They marched carrying colourful banners and placards, honouring the university's rich history.

PHOTO: AURITRO SATTAR

Lawyer sues

FROM PAGE 3

City Corporation mayor Fazle Noor Taposh, former Detective Branch of Police chief Harun Or Rashid and DMP joint commissioner Biplob Kumar Sarker are also among the accused.

In her complaint, Nurpur said she took part in the student movement at Mohammadpur around 3:00pm on August 4 last year, where she was shot.

Later, she was admitted to Shaheed Suhrawardy Medical College and Hospital.

Hasina is now facing 235 cases, including 205 for murders, 18 for crimes against humanity and genocide, three for abduction, 12 for attempted murder, and one for attack on a BNP procession.

38pc faced harassment

FROM PAGE 3

Students' Expectations and Reform Proposals."

Students highlighted police officers' tendency to favour individuals based on social and economic status, with many respondents accusing police of being a political tool for the ruling party.

Around 70 percent of respondents recommended enacting and implementing laws to ensure police remain free from political interference.

Another 63.09 percent emphasised the importance of police ethics training, focusing on responsibility, political neutrality, and good practices.

Additionally, 68.5 percent suggested establishing anonymous public complaint centres, while 8 percent advocated increasing police manpower.

Nearly 70 percent urged the publication of weekly updates on complaint and investigation progress on

police station websites. About 25 percent suggested arranging monthly public hearings at police stations to improve accountability.

A significant 80 percent of respondents called for a politics-free, independent police commission, while 50 percent proposed establishing such a commission to oversee recruitment processes.

Respondents recommended the commission manage recruitment exams, handle human resources issues, and ensure police accountability.

Moreover, 42.79 percent advocated conducting recruitment exams through the Public Service Commission, while 40.93 percent called for regular salary increases, especially for lower-ranked officers.

To modernise police services, 31 percent of participants suggested installing body cameras on uniforms, while 30 percent advised digitising services.

Now is the time

FROM PAGE 3

Press Institute Bangladesh Director General Faruk Wasif said it is time to question whether inequalities have increased under the Awami League in the name of development.

"The so-called development narrative of past years failed to ensure freedom, serving instead to establish authoritarianism," he said.

Swedish Ambassador Nicolas Weeks highlighted the challenge of misinformation but pledged Sweden's support for good journalism in Bangladesh.

"Media can promote social justice and be the voice of the underrepresented," he added.

Oxfam Bangladesh Country Director Ashish

Damle said the organisation aims to enhance knowledge sharing and bridge local and global perspectives for better reporting on key issues, including climate change, gender equality, and social justice.

The event featured journalists, development practitioners, and diplomats discussing the media's role in fostering sustainable development and public debate.

PRAYER TIMING JANUARY 13

Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha

AZAN 5:30 12:45 4:00 5:36 7:00

JAMAAT 6:05 1:15 4:15 5:40 7:30

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

VAT hike to improve

FROM PAGE 1

have collected around Tk 1,26,000 crore, meaning a shortfall of Tk 42,000 crore.

"In this situation, we may not be able to meet payments for debt servicing."

As such, Shafiqul added, the government has decided to increase VAT on some products.

When reporters queried if it would drive up inflation, he replied that higher revenue was needed to ensure that the value of taka does not go down.

He also said the tax revenue would be spent on people's welfare.

"We are not saying this will not impact the standard of living. We are saying that it will be minimal," said the press secretary.

He said there were different rates of VAT, and the government is trying to bring those to a simplified 15 percent rate to cut the

tax leakage.

The interim government has also been trying to cut public expenditure to offset the widespread misuse of public money during the ousted regime, the press secretary said.

He said the government is communicating with other countries about bringing back wealth lost to capital flight, but it is a time-consuming process. He called it the government's top priority.

When asked why the government is bowing down to the International Monetary Fund's pressures to increase taxation, the press secretary said that getting the IMF loan will open doors to loans from other development partners.

At the press briefing, Shafiqul was joined by the Chief Adviser's Deputy Press Secretaries Apurba Jahangir and Abul Kalam Azad Majumder and Assistant Press Secretary Shuchismita Tithi.

3 arrested

FROM PAGE 2

CCTV footage showed the criminals broke the lock of the shop, stole the ornaments and exited it in just eight minutes when the employees went out for Friday prayers at around 1:00pm.

Following the incident, shop owner Kazi Akash filed a case with the Dhammandi Model Police Station, stating that unidentified burglars had broken the locks of the showroom and stolen gold ornaments weighing 159 tola, valued at approximately Tk 2.50 crore.

Rubel was apprehended on Thursday while travelling home to Cox's Bazar. His confession led to the subsequent arrests.

Further interrogation revealed the location of the stolen gold, which was traced to a jewellery shop in Companyganj Bazaar. There, 28.14 tola of gold ornaments and 21 tola of melted gold were recovered.

"In total, 50.8 tola of stolen gold, valued at approximately Tk 70 lakh, have been recovered. We have identified the those involved in the heist. Efforts are underway to apprehend the rest of the culprits and recover the rest of the stolen gold," said Nasirul.

Polls by this year vital

FROM PAGE 3

consensus should be implemented immediately. There is no justification for delaying such measures."

Khasru also expressed BNP's willingness to support any economic initiatives taken by an interim government that benefits the country.

"BNP has its own economic programmes,

which we will implement if we are elected by the people," he said.

In response to questions from the reporters, he said, "Everyone understands that there is no way out of the current situation without elections. That is why the subject of elections is being repeatedly brought up in discussions."

Request for Information: Data Center Consultancy Services

BRAC Bank PLC. delivers a full array of banking services to individuals as well as business entities with a network of 187 Branches, 74 Sub-branches, 329 ATMs, 446 SME Unit Offices and 1,114 Agent Banking Outlets. Currently the bank is seeking for vendor(s) to provide Data Center Consultancy Services.

A Request for Information (RFI) for Technical Offer Submission is issued for the mentioned purpose. The RFI along with details of the bidding process can be found on the bank's website <https://www.bracbank.com/en/information/e-tender>

Interested eligible bidders are requested to submit the technical offer as per the mentioned bidding process.

BRAC BANK

অসম আওয়াজ

১। প্রতিষ্ঠানের নাম

২। কাজের বিবরণ

৩। দরপত্র এহানের তারিখ

৪। দরপত্র এহানের শেষ তারিখ

৫। দরপত্র খোলার তারিখ

১। প্রতিষ্ঠানের নাম

২। কাজের বিবরণ

৩। দরপত্র এহানের তারিখ

৪। দরপত্র এহানের শেষ তারিখ

৫। দরপত্র খোলার তারিখ

আইএসপিআর/সেনা/১৮

১২/০১/২৫

GD-125



Janata Bank PLC.

Head Office

IT Procurement, Security, Compliance and Maintenance Department

110, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka-1000

Tel: +8802-9564644, Telex: 675840 JBD BJ

Website: www.jbd.com.bd

Invitation for e-Tender

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

Tender ID	Invitation Reference No.	Tender Description	Tender Publish Date & Time	Tender Closing Date & Time
1061265	JBPLC/ITPS/CM/Proc-21/OTM/UPS Battery/2024	Tender for Procurement of Online UPS Battery with other equipment for CDC of Janata Bank PLC, following Open Tendering Method (OTM).	09/01/2025 17:30 PM	27/01/2025 12:30 PM

This is an online Tender, where only e-Tenders will be accepted in the national e-GP portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. Ready stock will be preferable and goods must be delivered after 05 days from contract sign.

To submit e-Tender, registration in the national e-GP System portal (<https://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required. Further information and guidelines are available in the national e-GP portal and e-GP Help Desk (Email: helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

(Mohammed Shakhawat Mousain)

Deputy General Manager

GD-126

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh District Primary Education Office

Chittagong
dpe.chittagong.gov.bd

আরকন নং: ৩৫.০১.৮৬৬৬.৮৬৬৮.০৭.০০২.২৪-৬৫

তারিখ: ০৮/০১/২০২৫

Invitation for Tender

1	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Primary and Mass Education
2	Implementing Agency	District Primary Education Office
3	Project/program name	NBNINGPSP1 Project
4	e-Tender IDs	1059595
5	Description of works	Supply of Furniture under NBNINGPSP1 Project at different Schools at different Upazilas in Chattogram District. FY 2024-2025
6	Name, designation & address of official inviting tender	S. M. Abdur Rahman, District Primary Education Officer, District Primary Education Office, Chattogram
7	This is online tender, where only e-Tenders will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. Interested persons/Firms can see details in the website: <a href="https	