

13 years on, justice

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"We want the identity of the killers to be disclosed through a fair investigation. We hope the incumbent government cracks the real mystery of this incident at least," Roman told this newspaper.

We now see some glimmers of hope after the new investigating agency took charge of the probe. There is a time frame of six months to submit the report. How optimistic we are about getting justice will be understood from that report," he said.

Sagar Sarowar was a news editor at Mastranga TV and his wife Meherun Rumi was a senior reporter at ATN Bangla. They were killed in the early hours of February 11, 2012, at their rented flat in the capital's West Rajabazar.

Their only child Mahir Sarowar Megh, only five at the time, was in the apartment.

After the killings, eight suspects – Kamrul Islam alias Arun, Abu Sayeed, Rafiqul Islam, Bakul Miah, Masum Mintu, Palash Rudra Paul, Anamul Haque alias Humayun Kabir and Tanveer Rahman Khan – were arrested. Tanveer and Palash are now out of jail, while the others are behind bars.

THE CASE

After the case was filed, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar Police Station was tasked with the investigation, which was handed over to the Detective Branch (DB) of police three days later on February 16, 2012. The DB conducted an investigation till April 18 that year.

The case was transferred to Rab in April



Participants at a press conference at BPGMEA conference room yesterday, ahead of the 17th International Plastic Fair-2025 which will be held at the International Convention City Bashundhara, Dhaka from February 12 to 15.

PHOTO: COURTESY

Canada to help return laundered money

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"We are working hard to eliminate corruption, as it exists everywhere," he told the Canadian minister who arrived in Bangladesh yesterday on a two-day visit.

According to Transparency International Bangladesh, US \$12.15 billion has been siphoned out of the country annually over the last 15 years.

During the meeting, Hussen reaffirmed Canada's support for Bangladesh's interim government and reform efforts. They also discussed the upcoming general election and the Rohingya refugee crisis.

Hussen emphasised Canada's support for democratic reforms, human rights, and fair elections.

He also urged signing the Foreign Investment Promotion and Protection Agreement (FIPA) to boost

trade and investment between the two countries.

In response, Prof Yunus invited Canada to relocate manufacturing factories to Bangladesh, leveraging its young workforce.

According to a statement of Canadian High Commission in Dhaka, bilateral trade between the two countries stood at \$3.5 billion in 2023, with potential for expansion in sectors like clean technology and aerospace.

Prof Yunus also requested faster visa processing for Bangladeshi students. Hussen clarified that visa cuts were not specific to Bangladesh and assured that legitimate students are always welcome.

During a separate meeting with Foreign Adviser Touhid Hossain, the Canadian minister discussed strengthening

bilateral ties.

Touhid highlighted Bangladesh's challenges in hosting over one million Rohingya refugees and urged Canada's support for

sustainable repatriation.

Hussen reaffirmed Canada's commitment to advocating for Rohingya repatriation in global forums.

CID collects evidence

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CID team includes a piece of bone, a dress, and a pair of shoes.

On Sunday, fire service officials drained water from the basement of a building adjacent to the demolished residence of Bangabandhu, addressing speculation about the existence of secret detention centres, commonly referred to as Aynagar.

They confirmed that the space was intended for an elevator in the basement. People visiting the site yesterday said they found a piece of bone from the area.

The protest and subsequent demolition

Police swoop on

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Witnesses said protesters began gathering at Shahbagh around 11:00am and staged demonstrations by noon. Around 2:00pm, police intervened with force, including baton charges and tear gas. Female officers were seen removing women protesters, but many continued their sit-in.

Police eventually cleared the road by 4:30pm, pushing demonstrators towards the National Museum, where they continued their protest as of filing this report.

"We had been protesting peacefully since midday when police suddenly attacked us," said Mustafa Kamal, a protester from Narayanganj, claiming around 50 people were injured and several detained.

Four individuals, including two protesters, sought treatment at Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

The government recommended our recruitment but then cancelled it. We belong in classrooms, not on the streets," said another protester, urging authorities to overturn the verdict and finalise their appointments.

Shahbagh Traffic Assistant Commissioner Mehedi Hasan said police action caused protesters to split and gather on either side of the road, worsening traffic congestion.

Protesters claimed the recruitment process, conducted in three phases, had seen appointments made in the first two phases. However, no decision was taken for the third phase, affecting 6,531 candidates included in the

final merit list.

The High Court on February 6 scrapped the government's decision to appoint these candidates, ruling that their recruitment was based on the now-abolished 84 percent quota system. "We urge the authorities to resolve this issue immediately," read a statement from the protesters.

MATS STUDENTS PROTEST FOR FOUR-POINT DEMANDS

Meanwhile, students of Medical Assistant Training Schools (MATS) held a sit-in at the Jatiya Press Club yesterday to press for four demands, including recruitment to vacant 10th grade positions and creation of more job opportunities.

The protest, organised by the General MATS Student Unity Council, began at 6:00am and continued until 4:00pm.

Ahmad Ullah Mansur, a council coordinator, said, "We will wait 72 hours. After that, we will announce our next course of action."

Other demands include abolishing the Health Professionals Board, forming a Medical Education Board, providing higher education opportunities aligned with the MATS curriculum, and renaming MATS to Medical Institute.

The health ministry issued a statement urging students to remain patient and focus on their studies.

Meanwhile, Delwar Hossain, in-charge of Shahbagh Police Station said, 29 protesters were detained from the spot.

Ensure six-month paid maternity

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"11-Point Demands, Including 6-Month Maternity Leave, Sexual Harassment Policy, and Trade Union Rights," organised by the Outraged Women Community at the capital's Shahbagh, in front of the National Museum.

Speakers noted that a new labour law ordinance is being drafted, with recommendations from the Labour Commission, Women's Commission, and Tripartite Consultative Committee (TCC).

They stressed the importance of addressing inconsistencies in existing laws and prioritising women's rights in labour regulations while implementing necessary revisions to safeguard the rights.

They highlighted that despite long-standing demands, six months of maternity leave is yet to be

ensured. Given the physical challenges women face in labour-intensive and professional sectors, they called for special care and urgent action.

The speakers also urged the proper implementation of sexual harassment prevention policies and grievance cells in workplaces and called for the inclusion of women experts, beyond factory and employer representatives, in investigation committees.

Additionally, they urged the rewriting of Section 332 to replace "woman" (mohila) with "female" (nari) in all relevant sections.

They also called for ensuring the national minimum wage and legal recognition for all men and women workers, both formal and informal.

The demands also include relaxing conditions for forming trade unions and safeguarding freedom

of expression.

They also called for establishing effective day-care facilities at workplaces and affordable canteens and laundries in communities, recognising women as agricultural and fisheries workers, and enacting laws to protect domestic workers and prevent harassment of sexual minorities.

Furthermore, the speakers demanded implementing measures to safeguard migrant women workers and provide necessary training for their labour market participation, while ensuring fair treatment for all workers.

The rally was attended by Seema Das Simu, president of Outraged Women Community, along with Rowshan Ara of Naripokkho, BILS Director Kohinoor Mahmud, and Labour Commission member Tasleema Akhter, among others.

"We are in talks with the Asian Development Bank and other development partners to save these rivers," she added.

Stressing the need for improved waste management at municipal and union levels, Rizwana said, "We have already initiated the removal of 4,500 outdated buses to curb air pollution. Decentralising

governance and delegating waste management responsibilities to local governments is crucial."

Air Commodore Md Mahbubur Rahman Talukder, chief waste management officer of DSCL, noted that the city corporation has introduced a "health card" initiative for sanitation workers. He underscored that without adequate financial and

human resources, poor waste management would pose greater health risks.

Speakers at the dialogue emphasised the need to ensure the professional safety and protection of waste management workers. They called for collaborative efforts to turn waste into resources and comprehensive measures to prevent illegal land and river encroachment using solid waste.

Lessons from union-level waste management initiatives could provide solutions to existing challenges, they said.

Additionally, they stressed the importance of awareness campaigns, housing facilities for sanitation workers, and employment opportunities through coordinated government and private sector efforts.

Participants also recommended converting abandoned land into agricultural fields through proper waste disposal, reviving dying rivers affected by liquid waste, and incorporating community service into the legal system as part of probation measures.

The event was presided over by BLAST honorary executive director Sara Hossain.

Panelists included

Govt working to clean four major

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Rizwana acknowledged that a river cleanup is a time-consuming process but stressed the importance of persistence.

"Saving the Buriganga from pollution is making the impossible possible, as the oxygen level in its water is less than zero," she said.

She highlighted the presence of heavy metals like chromium, antibiotics, and 2-3 metres of polythene deposits at the riverbed.

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Amend Article 116

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Ishrat Shabnam, country director of Practical Action Bangladesh; S Hasanal Banna, senior lawyer at Bangladesh Environmental Lawyers Association; Ayub Karam Ali, chairman of Bridge Academy and Mohammad Sirajul Islam, senior academic coordinator at BRAC Institute of Governance and Development (BIGD). The dialogue was moderated by BLAST adviser Ahmed Ibrahim.

The report also

called for constitutional amendments to make the most senior judge of the Appellate Division the chief justice and to form a nine-member commission, led by the chief justice, for appointing Supreme Court

judges. It recommended fixing the number of Appellate Division judges at seven, raising the retirement age of judges from 67 to 70, setting the minimum age for judges at 48, and increasing the number of judges in both higher and lower courts.

Moreover, the commission proposed reducing the jurisdiction of mobile courts run by judicial magistrates to only impose financial penalties, not prison sentences.

পাওয়ার স্ট্রাইচ গ্রান্লেডেশ পিলিঙ্গ
POWER GRID BANGLADESH PLC
(An Enterprise of Bangladesh Power Development Board)

Grid Bhaban, Avenue-3, Jahanul Islam City, Aftabnagar, Badda, Dhaka-1212
www.powergrid.gov.bd
Ref No: 27.21.0000.101.43.000.25.719(1)
Date: 10 February 2025

Notice of 28th Annual General Meeting

The 28th Annual General Meeting of the Shareholders of Power Grid Bangladesh PLC will be held on 08 March 2025, Saturday at 10:00 am on the digital platform for consideration of the following agenda:

Ordinary Business:

- To receive, consider and approve the Audited Financial Statements of the company for the year ended on 30 June 2024 along with the report of the directors and the external auditors;
- To approve the recommended dividend by the board of directors for the year ended on 30 June 2024;
- To elect / re-elect the directors of the company;
- To approve the appointment of independent directors of the company;
- To approve the appointment of External Auditor of the company and determine the remuneration for the year ended on 30 June 2025 (until conclusion of the next Annual General Meeting);
- To approve the appointment of regular professionals for the purpose of obtaining Corporate Governance Code Compliance Certificate and determine the remuneration for the year ended on 30 June 2025 and
- To transact any other business with the permission of the Chairman.

Special Business:

- To approve the issuance of share from the Deposit for shares of Government and pass the following resolution as Special resolution, with and without modification:
"Issuance of 132,42,94,764 Irredeemable and Non-Cumulative Preference Shares of face value of Tk. 10 each as per the procedure described in Annexure-A in the name of the Secretary, Power Division against Tk. 1,324,29,47,640 provided as equity by the Government in Power Grid during the financial year 2023-24 subject to the consent of Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission."

All the shareholders of Power Grid Bangladesh PLC are being kindly requested to virtually connect to the Annual General Meeting on the mentioned date and time.

By the order of the board of directors,

Md. Jahangir Azad
Company Secretary

Note:

- The record date of the meeting is 06 February 2025. All the shareholders of the company whose name are in the member register and in the list of CDBL on record date are eligible to be virtually connected to the annual general meeting.
- The shareholder of the Company who is eligible to attend and vote at the meeting may appoint a proxy to get connected and vote on his behalf. Properly filled and signed proxy form attaching the Revenue Stamp of Tk. 20 must be submitted to the Company Head Office, Grid Bhaban, 2nd Floor, Avenue-3, Jahanul Islam City, Aftabnagar, Badda, Dhaka-1212 at least 48 hours before the commencement of the Annual General Meeting.
- To join the annual general meeting held through digital platform, to vote and to provide question/opinion, visit the link <https://powergrid28agm.digitalagmbd.net> (Web Page will be activated 72 hours before the start of the Annual General Meeting).
- The annual report containing the report of the respected directors and the financial report of the external auditors will be sent to all the shareholders by e-mail address mentioned into their BO account. Shareholders can also download the annual report by visiting Power Grid's website www.powergrid.gov.bd.

LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF BANGLADESH
HIGH COURT DIVISION

STATUTORY ORIGINAL JURISDICTION

Company Matter No. 146 of 2025

Md. Aminul Haque

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