

জন্য ও নিরাপত্তা রক্ষিত্যন্ত পাঠান  
প্রিয়জনকে প্রয়োজনে...

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সাথে আরও আছে নিশ্চিত আকর্ষণীয় পুরস্কার

\* শর্ত প্রযোজ্য



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**ইসলামী ব্যাংকিং সেবা প্রদানে 'ইসলামী ব্যাংকিং কর্ণার' পূবালী ব্যাংকের প্রায় সকল শাখা এবং উপশাখায়**

## 'Ban politics on campus, remove VC'

**Demand Kuet students; submits memo to CA**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Students of Khulna University of Engineering & Technology (Kuet) yesterday submitted a memorandum to Chief Adviser Prof Muhammad Yunus, demanding removal of the vice-chancellor and pro-VC, alongside swift action against those responsible for the February 18 attack on students.

A five-member student delegation handed over the memorandum at the chief adviser's residence yesterday. On behalf of the chief adviser, his assistant personal secretary, Shabbir Ahmad, received the memorandum and assured the students that their concerns would be conveyed.

Later, the students  
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With a demand for banning politics on campus and resignation of the vice chancellor, Kuet students hold a rally at the Central Shaheed Minar in Dhaka yesterday. Earlier, they submitted a letter to the chief adviser in this regard.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

## Draft renewable policy lacks clarity

**Speakers tell seminar**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The draft Renewable Energy Policy 2025 is too narrow to ensure energy security and will increase dependence on fossil fuels while allowing businesses to maximise profits at the public's expense, speakers said at a press conference yesterday.

They said the draft was formulated without coordinating with key stakeholders.

Moreover, it sets ambitious targets without a clear roadmap, raising concerns that it may fail like previous unaligned policies.

The press conference was organised by the Coastal Livelihood and Environmental Action Network (CLEAN) and Bangladesh Working Group on Ecology and Development (BWGED) at a city hotel.

The country's first renewable energy policy, introduced in 2008, aimed to generate five percent of total power demand from renewable sources by 2015 and 10 percent by 2020. However, in 2025, renewables still account for only three percent of the total power mix.

The new draft policy targets 20 percent or 6,145 megawatts (MW) by 2030 and 30 percent or 17,470 MW by 2041.

"This means the government expects to install 16-  
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### JULY TRIALS

## Death penalty may hinder UN support: experts

**Nagorik Committee member secy says people want capital punishment for perpetrators**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

No United Nations body will be able to assist Bangladesh in prosecuting those responsible for the brutal crackdown on the July uprising unless the trials adhere to international legal standards, two eminent lawyers said yesterday.

Supreme Court advocate and Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust (BLAST) honorary executive director Barrister Sara Hossain and fellow SC lawyer Rashna Imam made these remarks at a discussion organised by Jatiya Nagorik Committee at Jatiya Press Club.

The discussion, titled, "UN Fact-Finding Report: Analysis of the July Killings -- Responsibility and Justice," highlighted concerns over judicial transparency and international cooperation.

**DEATH PENALTY HURDLE** Sara Hossain emphasised that while the UN has not publicly disclosed the names of perpetrators, it has expressed willingness to share this

information with Bangladesh's judicial system, including the International Crimes Tribunal (ICT), provided the trials meet international standards.

"A transparent trial is one that is conducted in full compliance

**A critical issue here is the presence of the death penalty in our legal system. If capital punishment remains, the UN will be unable to cooperate.**

BARRISTER SARA HOSSAIN  
Supreme Court Lawyer

with international law," she said. "A critical issue here is the presence of the death penalty in our legal system. If capital punishment remains, the UN will be unable to cooperate."

She questioned the assumption that Bangladeshis broadly support

the death penalty, saying, "We have never held a referendum on this issue. If the people want to retain it, they must also accept the consequence -- limited global support in ensuring justice."

Sara Hossain further warned

**We understand the international debate on the death penalty, but the people of Bangladesh have endured extreme brutality. A mere prison sentence or fine is insufficient justice.**

AKHTER HOSSAIN  
Member secretary of Nagorik Committee

that bypassing international legal norms could have long-term repercussions.

"If we insist on our current approach without external assistance, will we be able to sustain these trials? Or will we  
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### GRAFT CASE

## State, ACC challenge Khaleda's acquittal

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The state and the ACC have filed two appeals with the Supreme Court challenging the High Court verdict that acquitted BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia from the Zia Charitable Trust corruption case.

In the petitions, they prayed to the SC to stay the HC verdict, saying that they would move separate appeals before this court against the HC judgement.

The ACC submitted the petition yesterday, and the state filed its petition earlier this month.

Yesterday, the SC said both the petitions would be included in the cause list for hearing on March 2, according to a three-member bench headed by Justice Md Ashfaqul Islam.

## Feb 25 declared Nat'l Martyred Army Day

UNB, Dhaka

The government has decided to observe February 25 as National Martyred Army Day, honouring the sacrifice of army officers who lost their lives in the Palkhona incident.

A notification issued by the Cabinet Division yesterday instructed all ministries, divisions and organisations to comply with the observance annually. However, the day will not be marked as a public holiday.

## OPERATION DEVIL HUNT

### 585 more arrested across the country

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The joint forces arrested 585 more people across the country in the last 24 hours till yesterday afternoon as part of the "Operation Devil Hunt", according to the Police Headquarters.

With the latest arrests, the total number of people arrested in the operation since its launch on February 8 has risen to 8,664 in the past 16 days.

Additionally, 908 others, who were either accused or wanted in previous cases, were also arrested in the last 24 hours.

Law enforcers also recovered two firearms, 10 rounds of bullets and seven sharp weapons.

The government launched the operation on February 8 to restore law and order following an attack on "students and people" in Gazipur.

## 19 Dhaka canals to be restored: Rizwana

UNB, Dhaka

A master plan will be taken to restore 19 canals in Dhaka to resolve the waterlogging problem, said Environment Adviser Syeda Rizwana Hasan yesterday. The plan aims to mitigate waterlogging in different areas including Dhanmondi and Malibagh, she said at a meeting at Nagar Bhaban.

"The project will be implemented through a month-based action plan. Besides, owners of high-rise buildings must ensure proper waste management to prevent pollution," she said.



## Sara Mahmud passes away

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Sara Ara Mahmud, former director of the Department of Drama and Film at the Shilpakala Academy, passed away yesterday.

She breathed her last around 6:25pm at her Eskaton residence in Dhaka, said family members. She was 78.

Sara was the wife of Shaheed Altaf Mahmud, composer of the iconic song "Amar Bhai er Rokte Rangano Ekushe February".

Family members said Sara underwent a surgery a few days ago and was experiencing breathing difficulties over the last couple of days.

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## List of corrupt ex-DCs to be sent to ACC

**Says Senior Secretary Mokhles**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government will send a list of former deputy commissioners with specific allegations of "heinous financial irregularities" to the ACC for further investigation, said Public Administration Ministry Senior Secretary Mokhles Ur Rahman yesterday.

Rumors are circulating that some of our colleagues embezzled amounts ranging Tk 4-30 crore. "If these claims are substantiated through investigations by agencies and our own mechanisms, we will refer the specific cases to the Anti-Corruption Commission, not general ones," he told reporters at the Secretariat.

He said his ministry has already sent the case of those DCs who were responsible for overseeing the 2024 elections to intelligence agencies.

The interim government started taking disciplinary actions against the DCs who served as returning officers in three controversial national elections held under the Awami League rule. So far, 67 officials were either forced to retire or made OSD (Officer on Special Duty).

Mokhles said those who have been made OSD but were not involved in any wrongdoings will be able to lead a normal working life. "The government is not bias here. The government will be fair so that no innocent officer faces any punishment," he said.

Mentioning the committee on the public administration led by the finance adviser, the secretary said the committee will analyse these issues carefully. "No decision will be made based on emotions. Every decision will be made following proper rules and regulations."



A makeshift rickshaw-van repair hub has been set up on a footpath in the Karwan Bazar area of the capital, making life difficult for pedestrians. Such occupation continues to create challenges for commuters, forcing many to walk on busy roads instead. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON