

Keep AC temperature at 25°C

Govt issues circular

BSS, Dhaka

The government yesterday asked all to keep the minimum temperature level of air conditioners at public and private offices and households at 25 degrees Celsius as part of its power-saving campaign during the upcoming summer.

According to a Cabinet Division circular, the electricity demand will largely increase this year as the summer will coincide with the month of Ramadan and irrigation season.

“The (increased) demand could be controlled through using AC thermostat at a fixed temperature,” the circular read.



Hemayet Fakir, 60, spreads bay leaves (tejpata) for drying in front of his home. Collected from trees in various villages, he sells the dried leaves to grocery stores in Barishal for Tk 120 per kg, earning between Tk 10,000 and 15,000 each month. The photo was taken in Rasulpur area of the city yesterday.

PHOTO: TITU DAS

ESCAPE OF MILITANTS

Former DMP DC cleared of charges

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Jasim Uddin, former deputy commissioner of Dhaka Metropolitan Police's Prosecution Division, has been cleared of departmental charges related to negligence in duty following the 2022 escape of two convicted militants from court premises.

A home ministry notification issued yesterday, signed by Senior Secretary Nasimul Ghani, stated that Jasim was relieved of charges after reviewing the allegations, his written response, statements from both parties, the investigation report, and other relevant documents.

Death penalty may hinder

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see a scenario where, years later, another regime overturns these proceedings?” she asked.

Referencing the protracted struggle for justice following the 1971 Liberation War, she said, “One major reason justice was not fully served is our failure as a state to uphold international legal standards. If we want to break from past practices, we must reconsider whether capital punishment is the best course of action.”

Meanwhile, Rashna Imam said key amendments were made to the ICT Act, particularly in evidence admission, to align it with global norms.

However, she said, “One crucial issue remains unaddressed – the presence of the death penalty. Neither the interim government nor public discussions have

confronted this reality.”

She said unless Bangladesh abolishes or imposes a moratorium on the death penalty, the UN and European Union will not provide crucial evidence or legal support.

“During the Awami League's tenure, the ICT process faced widespread criticism. To avoid a repeat, we need international cooperation,” she said. “The UN has made it clear they will not share evidence if trials could result in execution.”

She also cautioned against rushing the judicial process, pointing to past mistakes.

“The previous government tried to complete war crimes trials within two or three years, leading to significant procedural flaws. We must not repeat that.”

‘JUSTICE MUST REFLECT PEOPLE'S DEMANDS’

Despite concerns from legal

experts, Jatiya Nagorik Committee member secretary Akhter Hossen said those responsible for the July killings must face the highest penalty under Bangladesh's laws.

“We understand the international debate on the death penalty, but the people of Bangladesh have endured extreme brutality. They watched their brothers gunned down in their homes and fired upon from helicopters. A mere prison sentence or fine is insufficient justice,” he said.

Akhter said while international legal standards are important, they should not override the people's demand for justice.

“Weurge the government to engage with the UN, EU, and International Criminal Court to explain Bangladesh's unique circumstances. The people's expectations must be clearly communicated.”

Three killed, six hurt in road crashes

STAR REPORT

Three people were killed and six others injured in road accidents in two districts during the last two days, according to reports from our correspondents.

In Sherpur, two motorcyclists were killed and six others injured when a microbus hit two battery-run auto-rickshaws and a motorbike in the town's Sheripara early yesterday.

The deceased were identified as Gaurob Chandra Das, 25, and Rony Mia, 12, from Sherpur town, said Jubaidul Alam, officer-in-charge of Sherpur Sadar Police Station.

They were declared dead at Sherpur General Hospital.

Police seized the microbus but its driver managed to flee the scene.

In Chuadanga, an imam of a mosque was killed in a collision between two motorcycles in Alamdanga upazila on Saturday night.

The accident occurred around 8:00pm at Khadimpur village, said police. The deceased – Jahangir Alam, 36, – was an imam at a mosque in Khadimpur.

Sara Mahmud

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She will be laid to rest today after Zohr prayers at Banani graveyard, said her daughter Shawan Mahmud.

Altaf Mahmud, a musician, cultural activist, Language Movement activist and a freedom fighter, was picked up by the Pakistan army from his residence on August 30, in 1971.

He never returned home.

Uncertainty looms as work stalls

BNP Khulna city

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rooms, and a sewerage treatment plant. These changes have reduced project costs to Tk 150 crore.

“The original project timeline has expired, but an extension has been approved for one year, with a possible

further extension until 2027.

The Indian contractors have arrived in Dhaka and are expected to return to Rangpur soon,” Haque said.

Dr Abdullah Al Mahbub, associate professor at Begum Rokeya University, said, “This project is crucial

for empowering our youth in the ICT sector. Further delays could hinder the region's economic and technological growth.”

Meanwhile, Rangpur Deputy Commissioner Mohammad Rabiul Faisal assured that efforts were being made to restart the project soon.

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in 2009, with Nazrul Islam Monju as president and Md. Moniruzzaman as general secretary.

On December 9, 2021, the BNP central leadership dissolved the previous committee and appointed a convening committee, which was later expanded to a 71-member committee on March 1, 2022, with Advocate Shafiqul Alam Mona appointed as convener and former Jubo Dal leader Shafiqul Alam Tuhin as member secretary.

Shafiqul Alam Mona, Tariqul Islam Zohir, and

Sahaji Kamal Tipu are contesting for president post in the council today, while Shafiqul Alam Tuhin, Kazi Mahmud Ali, and Nazmul Huda Chowdhury Sagar are vying for general secretary post.

Contacted, Shafiqul Alam expressed optimism that the party men will recognise his dedication and contributions to the party despite facing political repression in the past 15 years.

Tariqul Islam Zohir accused the current convener and member secretary of manipulating the councillor selection process to favour their preferred candidates.

Rakibul Islam Bokul, student affairs secretary of BNP's National Executive Committee, who is overseeing the overall arrangements for the council, said around 10,000 party members are expected to attend it.

Ban politics on campus

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gathered at the Central Shaheed Minar to elaborate on their demands.

The students accused the VC of attempting to introduce politics on campus, failing to ensure security during the February 18 attack, refusing to take responsibility for over 150 injured students, denying the involvement of Chhatra Dal and BNP activists despite evidence, and not fully accepting their six-point demand.

Students claimed that tensions escalated when they protested the distribution of Chhatra Dal membership forms, leading to a four-hour-long assault by Chhatra Dal and BNP

activists.

Instead of arresting the identified perpetrators, the authorities filed a case against 500 unnamed individuals, which students fear could be used against them.

The memorandum reiterated the students' six demands, including the immediate resignation of the VC and pro-VC, swift punishment for the attackers, a ban on political activities on campus, ensuring student safety, withdrawal of the “ghost” case, and the appointment of a new VC to resume academic activities.

Earlier in the day, 80 students travelled from Kuet to Dhaka on two buses.

Defeated

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Mazhar further said the mass uprising on August 5 was aimed at drafting a new constitution and rebuilding Bangladesh.

He praised the patience shown by young activists involved in the anti-discrimination movement, despite not being allowed to declare their manifesto regarding the August 5 uprising.

Highlighting the youth's efforts to form a new political party, he said, “They demand a Constituent Assembly election before the national polls, allowing elected representatives to peacefully draft a new constitution for Bangladesh.”

Draft renewable policy

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17 percent in the next five to six years and another 10 percent over the following decade, which is unrealistic,” said Shahriar Ahmed Chowdhury, director of the Centre for Energy Research at United International University.

“Additionally, the policy lacks a clear roadmap on increasing renewable energy generation and does not provide tax incentives for importing solar panels, inverters, and batteries,” he added.

Khondaker Golam Moazzem, research director of the Centre for Policy Dialogue, criticised the draft policy as “irresponsible” and a “false solution.”

“A well-defined energy policy, underpinned by a clear strategy and coordinated planning, is urgently needed,” he said, warning that the draft creates imbalances that will confuse long-term investors. “While the fossil fuel plan remains highly

coherent, renewable energy policies lack such clarity.”

Moazzem also pointed out that the policy overlooks the crucial role of foreign direct investment in the renewable energy sector. He urged the government to first revise the Integrated Energy and Power Master Plan 2023 to ensure accurate power demand estimates.

In his keynote presentation, Hasan Mehedi, chief executive of CLEAN, highlighted that the policy lacks a coordination plan among ministries, an implementation strategy, and a financing or investment framework.

Barceesh Hasan Chowdhury, coordinator of Friends of the Earth Asia Pacific, said the policy's definitions were often vague and failed to present a clear vision for the country's energy transition.

“Without concrete targets, this policy is like a rudderless boat – unlikely to deliver meaningful results,” he said.

Jubo Dal

FROM PAGE 5

In the footage, over a hundred young men – with red towels wrapped around their heads and faces – were seen brandishing machetes, causing panic among locals.

Standing on a road divider of the Dhaka-Mymensingh Highway, Jahangir was heard saying, “From today, I will control this market. I will call all the shots here. From now on, all traders must pay tolls. If anyone tries to resist, we will retaliate.”

As the footage spread across social media, the Jubo Dal central committee took swift action, expelling Jahangir from the party.

The decision was announced through an official letter signed by Minhajul Islam Bhuiyan, assistant office secretary of the BNP's youth wing, yesterday.

However, Jahangir denied any wrongdoing and claimed he did not extort money from anyone. He further alleged that the incident was orchestrated to discredit him.

10th DEATH ANNIVERSARY OF MD. RAFIUDDIN (BABLU)

Today the **24th** February is the **10th** death anniversary of late **Md. Rafiuddin (Bablu)**, Managing Director of **Modhumita Group** and youngest son of late Md. Sirajuddin founder of Modhumita Group.

Though he is not in this world he lives in our hearts, in our minds and in our memory.

All friends relatives and well wishers are requested to pray for salvation of the departed soul.

All Members of Modhumita Family

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১২৫.৬৩১ বিঘা জমি বিক্রি

ঢাকা-ময়মনসিংহ হাইওয়ে থেকে ৭ কিঃমিঃ দূরত্বে ২৪ ফিট রাস্তার পাশে ভালুকার কাচিনা মৌজায় মাটি ভরাটকৃত পাইল ফাউন্ডেশনসহ দেয়াল দিয়ে ঘেরা ১২৫.৬৩১ বিঘা জমি বিক্রি করা হবে। গার্মেন্টস্, কারখানা, রিসোর্ট বা বানিজ্যিক শেইড করার জন্য এখনই উপযুক্ত।

যোগাযোগ : ০১৭১২-৮৬০৮৭২

PRAYER TIMING
FEBRUARY 24

Fazr	Zohr	Asr	Maghrib	Esha
AZAN 5:20	12:45	4:30	6:03	7:30
JAMAAT 5:55	1:15	4:45	6:07	8:00

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Ministry of Industries
Bangladesh Industrial Technical Assistance Center (BITAC)
116(kha), Tejgaon Industrial Area, Dhaka-1208.
Website: <http://www.bitac.gov.bd>

Ref: No: 36.06.2692.026.07.018.25/447

Date: 07 Falgun, 1431 Bn.
20 February, 2025 En.

e-Tender Notice (OTM)

Following tenders are invited in the National e-GP system portal (<https://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of goods details in the table.

Tender ID No	Package No.	Description of Goods	Last Selling & Time	Closing Date & Time	Opening Date & Time
1078665	BITAC-PUR-2024-25 GR-17 LOT-03	Procurement of Desktop Computer.	09-03-2025 11:59 pm	10-03-2025 12:00 pm	10-03-2025 12:00 pm

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 e-GP system portal (<https://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required.

The fees for downloading the e-Tender Documents from the National e-GP system portal must be deposited online through any registered Bank branches.

Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP system portal and from e-GP-helpdesk (helpdesk: <https://www.eprocure.gov.bd>)

The procurement Entity reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders.

20-02-2025
(Md. Fazlul Karim)
Director
BITAC Headquarters
Phone: 02-55030052
E-mail: dir_ep@bitac.gov.bd

GD-494

বাংলাদেশ বিদ্যুৎ উন্নয়ন বোর্ড
BANGLADESH POWER DEVELOPMENT BOARD

বিদ্যুৎ বিতরণ ব্যবস্থার উন্নয়ন, ম্যাস্টার প্ল্যান (২য় পর্যায়)
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ফোননং- ০১৭০৮-১৬৮৮৩৮।
e-mail: pd.pdsd2.ctg@gmail.com

স্মারক নং-৯৮-পিডি/বিউবো/পিডিএসডি/চট্টঃ জোন (২য় পর্যায়)/২০২৫

তারিখঃ ২৩/০২/২০২৫ ইং।

"e-GP দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি"

এতদ্বারা সংশ্লিষ্ট সকলের অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, অত্র দপ্তরের আওতাধীন নিম্নবর্ণিত কাজটি গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকারের e-GP Portal এর মাধ্যমে আহবান করা হয়েছে, যা ইলেক্ট্রনিক পোর্টালে পাওয়া যাবে। e-GP Portal এ নিবন্ধিত যে কোন অগ্রহীণী টিকাদারী প্রতিষ্ঠানকে বিস্তারিত জানার নিমিত্ত উক্ত ওয়েবসাইটে www.eprocure.gov.bd ভিজিট করার জন্য অনুরোধ করা হলো।

Sl No	Tender ID	Procurement Title	Tender Publication Date & Time	Tender Last Selling Date & Time	Tender Opening Date & Time
01	1076634	Internal Carrying Under PDSO, Chattogram Zone (2nd Phase), BPDB, Chattgram. (RDPP Package No-WD-39, Lot-5)	Date: 02/03/2025 Time: 12:00	Date: 23/03/2025 Time: 12:30	Date: 24/03/2025 Time: 11:00

(প্রকৌ. মোঃ শামুদ্দিন)
পরিচিতি নং-১-১২০০

বিদ্যুৎ/জন-৮৩১(২)/২৩-০২-২৫

বিদ্যুৎ বিতরণ ব্যবস্থার উন্নয়ন
চট্টগ্রাম জোন (২য় পর্যায়)
বিউবো, চট্টগ্রাম।

GD-498