

## GERMAN ELECTION

Far-right surge  
'last warning'  
for parties

Says polls winner Merz

AFP, Berlin

Germany's conservative election winner Friedrich Merz said yesterday that the surge of the far-right AfD to 20 percent voter support was "the last warning" to the country's mainstream parties.

The anti-immigration Alternative for Germany (AfD) scored its best-ever result in Sunday's election after a campaign marred by a spate of deadly car-ramping and stabbing attacks blamed on migrants.

Merz, of the centre-right Christian Democrats (CDU), has vowed a crackdown on immigration and a "zero tolerance" law and order drive to ease public fears and win back voters drifting to the far-right party.

"This is really the last warning to the political parties of the democratic centre in Germany to come to joint solutions," Merz said at a Berlin press conference.

Merz pointed to the especially strong gains of the far-right party in the ex-communist east, the AfD's heartland.



Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelensky with his wife Olena, European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen, European Council President Antonio Costa, Canada's PM Justin Trudeau, Spanish PM Pedro Sanchez, and other leaders from European countries visit a makeshift memorial place displaying Ukrainian flags with the names of fallen service members at the Independence Square in Kyiv, Ukraine, yesterday.

PHOTO: REUTERS

Era of 'dictators'  
could return

Warns UN rights chief as global system undergoing 'tectonic shift'

AFP, Geneva

The international system is in upheaval with human rights being "suffocated", the United Nations said yesterday, warning that an era of "dictators" could return.

During an opening address at the UN Human Rights Council's main annual session, UN rights chief Volker Turk painted a dark picture of a "very dangerous" situation in a world increasingly dominated by authoritarians.

He did not mention any country -- even as the world grapples with the Russia-Ukraine war, dramatic changes in the United States and a more assertive China.

It was clear, he said though, that "the international system is going through a tectonic shift".

"The human rights edifice we have built up so painstakingly over decades has never been under so much strain."

UN 'gravely concerned'  
by violence in West Bank

Gaza truce in doubt as first phase nears end

AGENCIES

The UN chief yesterday voiced alarm at rising violence by Israeli settlers in the West Bank and calls for annexation after Israel announced expanded military operations in the occupied Palestinian territory.

Israel on Sunday said its troops would remain for many months in refugee camps in the occupied West Bank. Tens of thousands of Palestinians living there have been displaced by an intensifying military operation.

"I am gravely concerned by the rising violence in the occupied West Bank by Israeli settlers and other violations, as well as calls for annexation," Antonio Guterres told the United Nations Human Rights Council in Geneva.

He also stressed the importance of the fragile ceasefire in place in Gaza since January 19, reports AFP.

As the first phase of the ceasefire between

Israel and Hamas in Gaza is meant to be drawing to an end, it has once again been put in doubt.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said later on Sunday that Israel was prepared to resume fighting against Hamas after the Palestinian group accused it of endangering a five-week-old Gaza truce by suspending prisoner releases.

Hamis says talks with  
Israel depends on  
release of prisoners

Hamas official Basem Naim said talks with Israel through mediators on further steps in a ceasefire agreement are conditional on Palestinian prisoners being released as agreed, reports Reuters.

The White House on Sunday backed Israel's decision to delay releasing the Palestinian prisoners, citing the "barbaric treatment" of Israeli hostages by Hamas.

The delay was an "appropriate response" to the Palestinian group's treatment of the hostages, a statement from National Security Council spokesman Brian Hughes said.

## UKRAINE WAR

Xi hails Russia's  
'positive efforts'

AFP, Beijing

Chinese President Xi Jinping yesterday hailed Moscow's "positive efforts to defuse" the Ukraine crisis in a call with his Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin.

Xinhua news agency reported Xi as saying "China is happy to see Russia and relevant parties make positive efforts to defuse" the crisis in Ukraine.

Third party to reevaluate  
ongoing mega projects

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resources, transport infrastructure, environment, and climate change.

It recommended that only the firms approved by the Central Procurement Technical Unit will conduct feasibility studies of the transport infrastructure, and the Planning Commission will publish the reports.

It also recommended appointing efficient project directors, reducing land acquisition time, improving interchange facilities on the roads and highways, removing marketplaces along the roads and maintaining navigation facilities in building bridges.

For economic stability, the task force recommended the amount of foreign loans be kept at a tolerable level, taking soft loans instead of loans with high interest rates, reducing dependence on RMG for exports, removing logistics and infrastructure challenges, and forming

a high level committee to review incentives for exports.

For the power and energy sector, the task force suggested sustainable and alternative ways of power production instead of quick rental plants and independent power producers and adopting a "no electricity, no pay" policy instead of making "capacity payments" under the deals of independent power producers.

The task force suggested ensuring a fair wage structure in the industries, making administrative reforms to improve the ease of doing business, launching high-speed trains connecting the industrial parks, creating scopes for supporting the small and medium industries and improving the startups.

Chief Adviser's Senior Assistant Press Secretary Foyez Ahammad and Assistant Press Secretary Suchishmita Tihi were also present at the media briefing.

## Stay alert, don't let

FROM PAGE 2

activists were killed or became victims of enforced disappearance.

The BNP acting chairman said the blood of 2,000 students and ordinary people who sacrificed their lives during the July-August 2024 uprising must be valued and honoured.

Urging everyone to work together to ensure food, education, communication and healthcare for all, he

alleged that the AL has destroyed the country, which must now be rebuilt.

Presided over by Khulna city unit BNP convener Shafiqul Alam Mona, BNP chairperson's advisory council member Amanullah Aman, Party Vice-Chairman Nitai Roy Chowdhury, Organising Secretary Aninda Islam Amit, Student Affairs Secretary Rakibul Islam Bakul, among others, spoke at the event.

**Office of the Bhandaria Paurashava**  
Upazila: Bhandaria, District: Pirojpur.  
www.bhandariapourashava.pirojpur.gov.bd

Memo No.Bha/poura/engr/2024-25/993. Date: 24/02/2025

**e-GP Notice No: 07/2024-25 (OTM)**

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

Tender ID & Package No.	Name of works	Last selling	Closing & Opening date
1079490 ADP/BHAN/POU/2024-25/16	Construction of RCC wall Railing & Electricity with Beatification of Kalima Chottar, In ward no # 03 & 04, under Bhandaria Pourashava, Pirojpur.	Date: 12/03/2025 Time:17:00	Date: 13/03/2025 Time:12:00

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 National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) required. The fees for downloading the e-Tender document from the National e-GP System portal have to be deposited online through any registered banks branches. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk ([helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd](mailto:helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd))

(Gazi Nazrul Islam)  
Assistant Engineer  
Bhandaria Paurashava, Pirojpur.

GD-511

**Bangladesh Parjatan Corporation**  
Works Division  
Parjatan Bhaban,  
Plot No-E-5-C/1, West Agargaon  
Sher-e-Bangla Nagar Administrative Area, Dhaka-1207.  
Website : [www.parjatan.gov.bd](http://www.parjatan.gov.bd)

File No.30.32.0000.060.14.001.25 Date: 19-02-2024

**Tender Notice No.01/2024-2025**

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP Portal ([www.eprocure.gov.bd](http://www.eprocure.gov.bd)) for the Procurement of following works. Details are given below :

Sl. No.	Tender ID	Name of work	Procurement Method	Closing Date & Time
1	1075376	Construction of Main & Internal Surface Drain, Supplying & placing of C.C. Block & Geo-Text and Construction of Boundary wall etc. work under the project of Creation of Tourism Facilities (2nd Revised) at Parki, Anowara, Chattogram.	OTM (NCT)	13.03.2025 14:00

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 National e-GP portal ([www.eprocure.gov.bd](http://www.eprocure.gov.bd)) is required.

The fees for downloading the e-Tender Documents from the National e-GP portal have to be deposited online through any registered Bank's branches up to the IFT mentioned date & time.

Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP Portal and at e-GP help desk ([helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd](mailto:helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd)).

(Srejan Bikash Barua)  
General Manager (Works)

GD-503

## 'Lauded' judge

FROM PAGE 12

Saifuzzaman Chowdhury of Aramit Group; Ashikur Rahman Lashkar of Maheen Enterprise; Habib Group, the parent company of Regent Airways; Messrs Elias Brothers, and others over the past four years.

Bank officials, who are plaintiffs in various cases pending in the Chattogram Money Loan Court, have expressed their dissatisfaction over the judge's sudden transfer.

Speaking to The Daily Star on condition of anonymity, a senior bank official said, "The appointment of receivers, seizure of properties, travel bans, passport confiscations, and arrest warrants over the past few years have significantly improved loan recovery rates. These actions also agitated many defaulters. Instead of transferring him, he should've been given a broader scope to work more effectively.

"This [transfer] order might create the impression that he was transferred due to misconduct, whereas he played a crucial role in recovering defaulted loans under the previous government."

According to court sources, over the past four years, banks have recovered around Tk 5,000 crore in defaulted loans, while ownership of at least Tk 20,000 crore worth of mortgaged properties has been transferred to banks.

Court data shows that several major business conglomerates have also recently cleared their

defaulted loans -- S Alam Group has repaid Tk 440 crore, Mostafa Group Tk 295 crore, and Western Marine Shipyard Tk 114 crore in the last 18 months. Additionally, a director of KDS Group has settled Tk 105 crore in outstanding loans.

The Chattogram Money Loan Court appointed a receiver for the first time in 2022 against loan defaulters.

It appointed the receiver for the mortgaged commercial property "Forum Central Building", owned by Hillview Enterprise, following a lawsuit filed by City Bank. As a result, the company was able to repay over Tk 23 crore.

A receiver is court-appointed individual who takes control of a borrower's assets, typically property secured by a loan, when the borrower defaults on their loan payments; their primary responsibility is to manage and sell the asset to recover as much of the outstanding debt owed to the lender as possible.

In another significant case in 2023, a settlement was reached regarding the mortgaged property of Mahal Market, leading to the repayment of Tk 60 crore, of which Tk 51 crore has already been paid.

Multiple court officials noted that the judge's strict enforcement of arrest warrants and property seizures had compelled many defaulters to settle their dues. The officials fear that such a sudden transfer might demoralise other judges and negatively impact the overall loan recovery process.

## Condemned killer

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On October 7, 2019, Abrar, a second-year student at Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology, was beaten to death by a group of now-banned Chhatra League activists in a dormitory.

On December 8, 2021, a Dhaka court sentenced 20

Buet students to death for their direct involvement in the murder, while five others were given life imprisonment.

The case documents reached the HC on January 6, 2022, for a mandatory review of the death sentences, and hearings began on November 28 last year.

ঢাকার গ্রাথ করিডোরে  
সম্পূর্ণ ব্রেডি আবাসিক/বানিজ্যিক

**প্লটে বিনিয়োগ করুন**  
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পূর্বাচল (এশিয়ান হাইওয়ে সলভার) ২০ বিঘা

৩০০ ফিট (জেলসিটি সেন্টার ২য় পর্যায় সুবাস সংলগ্ন) ২০ বিঘা

০১৮৪১৪১৩১২০, ০১৮৪১৪১৩১৭৭, ০১৭১৩৮৫৯২৯৯, ০১৭০৯২৪৩৪২, ০১৭৩৩৮৫৮০৩, ০১৭৩৩৮৫৮৫৬৭, ০১৩২২৮৫৪২৫৮

**Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh**  
Office of the Executive Engineer, RHD  
Road Division, Faridpur  
Phone/Fax: 0631/63256-66367  
Email: [eerhdfaridpur@gmail.com](mailto:eerhdfaridpur@gmail.com)

**RHD Quotation for Toll Collection**  
Sealed Quotation are hereby invited for the following work:

1	Leasing Quotation No.	: FRD-01/2023-24 (16th call)
2	Description of Toll	: Leasing out for collection of Toll from Different Vehicular Traffic Crossing the Gorai Bridge at 66th km of Daulatdia-Faridpur (Goalchamot)- Magura- Jhenidah-Jessore- Khulna Mongla (Digraj) (N-7) Highway Road Under Road Division, Faridpur during the year 2024-25, 2025-26, 2026-27 (3 Financial years).
3	Lease Period	: 03 (Three) financial years
4	Price of Quotation Scheduled	: Tk. 5000/- (Five Thousand) only (Non-Refundable)
5	Earnest Money	: 10% of Total Quoted Rate (with VAT and IT) in form of B.D. or P.O from any scheduled bank of Bangladesh in favor of Executive Engineer, RHD, Road Division, Faridpur.
6	Last Date & Time for Selling Leasing Quotation Document	: 09/03/2025 upto 5:00 pm
7	Last Date & Time for Receiving Quotation	: 10/03/2025 up to 12:00 pm
8	Eligibility of Quotationer	: Contractors in RHD or in any department/ any person or firm in Bangladesh (who possesses Nationality of Bangladesh, VAT Certificate and upto Date Trade License and Income Tax Certificate)
9	Name of Offices where Leasing Quotation will be Available	: Divisional Commissioner, Dhaka Division, Dhaka/ Deputy Commissioner, Faridpur/Executive Engineer, RHD, Road Division, Faridpur/ Madaripur/ Shariatpur/ Gopalganj/ Rajbari/ Planning Division- 1, Sarak Bhaban, Tejgaon, Dhaka/Upazilla Nirbahi Officer, Modhukhali, Faridpur/ Sub-Divisional Engineer, RHD, Road Sub-Division 1/2/1st Line Workshop, Faridpur
10	Name of the Offices where Leasing Quotation will be received	: a) Executive Engineer, RHD, Road Division, Faridpur. b) Gopalganj Road Zone, Gopalganj. c) Superintending Engineer, RHD, Road Circle, Faridpur. d) Deputy Commissioner, Faridpur. e) Superintendent of Police, Faridpur.
11	Date, Time & Place for Opening the Quotation	: Place: Office of the Executive Engineer, RHD Road Division, Faridpur Date: 10/03/2025 Time: 03:00 pm

The undersigned reserves the right to accept or reject any/all quotations without assigning any reason thereof.

(Khalid Saifullah Sardar)  
ID No-602287  
Executive Engineer (c.c.), RHD  
Road Division, Faridpur.

GD-508