

# Barguna's only govt-run fish hatchery closed for 20 years

SOHRAB HOSSAIN, Patuakhali

The only government-run fish hatchery in Barguna, located in Amtali upazila, has been closed for nearly 20 years.

As such, local fish farmers have been compelled to procure quality fish fry from distant areas including Khulna, Jashore, Bagerhat, and often fall prey to fraud and incur financial losses.

The fisheries department set up the fish hatchery in Amtali in 1991 at a cost of Tk 9.5 lakh. To facilitate its operations, an overhead water tank was installed, and four ponds were excavated for keeping fish fry. In the same year, brood fish were collected, and the hatchery started producing fish fry. Till 2004, the hatchery supplied approximately 9 million rohu and katla fish fry annually to local fish farmers.

In 2004, the hatchery ceased operations following a malfunction in the electric pump used to lift water to the overhead tank. Since then, no initiatives have been taken to resolve the issue and resume the



hatchery's operations.

Visiting the hatchery recently, this correspondent found its infrastructure in a state of neglect and dilapidated. The room housing the water pump is in ruins, while walls and ceiling are crumbling.

Local fish farmers have long been demanding the government steps to revive the hatchery to alleviate their struggles in procuring quality fish fry locally.

"Sourcing fish fry from as far as Khulna, Bagerhat and Jashore is difficult and expensive. Also, some

fry die during transporting those, escalating our costs and often resulting in losses. If the hatchery is reopened, it would be highly beneficial to us," said Saiful Shikdar, a local fish farmer.

Abdul Jalil Howlader, another fish farmer, echoed him.

Md Mohsin, district fisheries officer in Barguna, acknowledged the issue.

"We are currently in discussions with higher authorities to reconstruct the hatchery under a new project," he said.

## Women's leadership Patient falls

FROM PAGE 3

the highest number, six DCs, is in Dhaka, followed by four in Rajshahi, and two each in Chattogram, Mymensingh, Rangpur, and Khulna. However, there are currently no female DCs in Barishal and Sylhet divisions.

In terms of female UNOs, Chattogram has the highest number, with 33, followed by Dhaka (32), Khulna (28), Rajshahi (25), Sylhet (13), Mymensingh (11), and Barishal and Rangpur (8 each).

Despite this progress, female officers continue to face challenges in leadership roles. Netrokona DC Banani Biswas said, "Serving as a DC is a challenge for both male and female officers, but as a woman, it's even more challenging. To tackle this, we need to improve the skills of women and also work towards changing the societal mindset."

Faizul Wasima Nahat, UNO of Kalmakanda upazila, Netrokona, shared her struggles, "As a female officer, I face double the challenges. People are still not accustomed to seeing women in the UNO's chair. Acceptance is different for

male officers. It's tougher for women in this role."

However, Farida Yesmin, deputy secretary of the Ministry of Public Works, offered a different perspective, saying that her experience as a former UNO was mostly positive. "While working in the field, I received respect from most people, which made the pressure of the job more enjoyable. However, carrying out development work was difficult due to local vested interest groups. If one works with integrity and courage, no one belittles a female officer. On the contrary, the general public encourages her."

Women are also making their mark in the highest administrative roles. Zaheda Parveen, secretary (coordination and reforms) of the Cabinet Division, emphasised the role of family support in achieving success. "For a woman to be successful, the most important thing is family support. My parents raised me not as a girl, but as a child, which helped in my education and career development. Support from my husband was also crucial after marriage."

FROM PAGE 5

of the hospital's surgery department as no bed was found due to overcrowding. A bed was later managed for him, but it was right next to an opening on the corridor without wall or any protective barrier. As a result, while trying to lean on the back of his bed, he fell to the ground through the opening and died.

Witnesses said they heard a loud noise and then found Gani lying lifeless on

the ground floor.

Kohinoor Begum, wife of the deceased, alleged, "My husband died due to the negligence of the hospital authority. They shouldn't have given him a bed in such a dangerous spot."

Dr Masud Parvez, director of the hospital, could not be reached for comment over phone.

Police said if the family files a complaint, they will take necessary action after investigation.

## 58pc want elections

FROM PAGE 3

information on candidates before deciding, while 33.9 percent were waiting to see how the political situation evolved. Uncertainty was notably higher among Gen Z voters, with 33.6 percent still undecided. Additionally, 33.77 percent of female respondents had yet to make up their minds, compared to 25.81 percent of males.

When asked about priorities for the interim government, 69.6 percent identified controlling price hikes as their top concern, followed by improving law and order (45.2 percent) and job creation (29.1 percent). Additionally, 21.8 percent stressed the need to reduce corruption in public services.

However, widespread dissatisfaction was evident in the survey results. A majority—55.05 percent—believed the interim government had failed to control price hikes, while 42.33 percent thought the issue had only been partially addressed.

Similarly, 58.2 percent felt the government had not met expectations in maintaining law and order, while 40.33 percent said the situation had improved slightly.

Regarding extortion, 41 percent believed incidents had increased, while 29.8 percent thought the problem had decreased, and 17.8 percent saw no change.

Despite discussions on institutional and constitutional reforms, only 9.3 percent of respondents prioritised political reform, and just 5.3 percent demanded constitutional changes.

Fahim Mashroor, CEO of BDJOBS, and Kazi Shahed H. Ferdous, country director of Innovision Consulting Bangladesh, also spoke at the event.

## I draw

FROM PAGE 3

and freely express themselves without fear.

He also outlined BNP's initiatives, including the "family card" programme, SME loans for women entrepreneurs, and academic and vocational schemes for young girls.

Concluding with a call for collective action, he said: "Together, let's continue to champion women's economic empowerment, political participation, and personal aspirations."

## Six arrested over

FROM PAGE 3

them yesterday in multiple operations across Dhaka, Gazipur, Narayanganj, Barishal, Pirojpur, and Madaripur.

A Targeted Attack

The victim, Md Anwar Hossain (45), is a jewellery trader and owner of Alankar Jewellers in Rampura's Avenue Road 5.

On the night of 23 February, at around 10:45pm, Anwar was returning home after closing his shop, carrying 160 tolas of gold (worth approximately Tk 2.47 crore) and Tk one lakh in cash.

As he reached his rented home in Banasree's D Block, six to seven armed robbers on three motorcycles intercepted him at the gate. When he resisted their attempt to snatch his gold and money, they shot him multiple times, hitting his left knee and thigh.

The attackers also struck him with sharp weapons, causing severe injuries before fleeing with

the stolen valuables.

Anwar was initially taken to a local hospital in Rampura and later transferred to Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) for advanced treatment.

His wife filed a case with Rampura Police Station the following day.

Addressing the press, Commissioner Sazzat Ali said, "This was a meticulously planned robbery. The gang held a preparatory meeting before carrying out the crime."

He added that DB teams worked relentlessly, analysing past robbery patterns, CCTV footage, and using technology to track the perpetrators.

"One suspect was first arrested in Barishal, and his confession led to further arrests," he said.

All six arrestees have a history of robbery and multiple cases against them.

"Legal proceedings are underway, and our crackdown on criminal networks will continue," the commissioner added.

## Prioritising polls

FROM PAGE 3

elections and their timeline instead of ensuring lasting political reforms."

The caretaker government had initially pushed for reforms, but once it prioritised holding elections and stepping down, it lost leverage with political parties, he explained.

Agreements between the caretaker government and political leaders were made in secret, leaving uncertainty about commitments from figures such as Sheikh Hasina.

"Our perception was that the Awami League and Sheikh Hasina had learned lessons and were committed to reforms," he said. "As history turned out, we were wrong. That miscalculation contributed to the gradual decline, culminating in the summer of 2024."

Danilowicz believes the current interim government, led by Chief Adviser Prof Yunus, has learned from past mistakes and is now pursuing genuine reforms. The US supports this agenda while refraining from setting an arbitrary election date.

Asked about Awami League's participation in the next election, he said, "That decision rests solely with the people of Bangladesh."

On accountability, he stressed that elections alone do not ensure it.

"The International Crimes Tribunal process and legal mechanisms are also critical in holding individuals accountable."

Former US ambassador William B Milam also spoke at the event, moderated by CGS Executive Director Zillur Rahman.

Milam reaffirmed Washington's commitment to democracy and human rights in Bangladesh, regardless of which party holds power.

He said that while Donald Trump's foreign policy may have had some deviations, the US generally supports democracies, not autocrats.

Milam said his organisation has been working for five years to raise awareness among the American public about Bangladesh's democratic trajectory and secure funding to continue this effort.

Danilowicz highlighted the lack of accountability among Bangladesh's ruling parties as a major political challenge and warned that the country is facing an "information warfare" threat, much of it originating from India.

He urged Washington to engage with Bangladesh independently rather than viewing it solely through the lens of India.

## Equal rights

FROM PAGE 3

Indigenous Women Network Coordinator Falguni Tripura emphasised that when any woman -- regardless of race, ethnicity, or social class -- faces violence, society must unite in protest without discrimination.

Mahila Parishad General Secretary Maleka Banu said that while Bangladeshi women are progressing, marginalised and indigenous women continue to face discrimination.

The programme began with a protest song by Sanoara Jahan Nitu, followed by a dance performance by Mukta Thakur and her troupe. Following the speeches, Kazi Gulshan Ara Deepa read out a declaration consisting of 14 demands.

The event concluded with a protest rally from the Central Shaheed Minar to Jatiya Press Club.

Around 500 participants, including representatives from the Social Resistance Committee, journalists, and members of various organisations, attended the event.

Meanwhile, prominent economist Prof Anu Muhammad emphasised the need for greater female representation across various sectors during a discussion marking International Women's Day 2025.

The event, held at Bishwo Shahitto Kendro in the capital yesterday, was organised by Nari Sanghati, commemorating their 20th anniversary.

The session, titled "The Aspiration for Women's Liberation: The Reality after the Mass Uprising", highlighted the pressing issues surrounding women's rights in Bangladesh.

"Without the active

participation of women, there will be no real change in Bangladesh. Women's issues, including violence and discrimination, have long existed in our society, but the state has failed to take substantial action to address them. There is also growing concern that the interim government has not been adequately addressing these problems," said Anu Muhammad.

He further said that societal norms play a major role in perpetuating gender-based violence. "Boys are often raised with the idea that they hold authority over women, which contributes to gender inequality and violence. This mentality is nurtured in families and is a critical factor in the problem."

He also pointed to religious education as a contributing factor to societal attitudes towards women.

Muhammad concluded by stressing the importance of women's presence in all sectors.

Dr Fatama Sultana Suvra, an associate professor in the Department of Anthropology, noted the deeply entrenched patriarchal structures in Bangladesh.

"Women's rights should not be seen as privileges, but as inherent entitlements that must be protected by the state," she said.

Reetu Sattar, an artist and cultural worker, said, "Moral policies are often used to suppress women and keep them marginalised."

Shyamoli Shil, president of Nari Sanghati, said, "Women are the most vulnerable group facing mob justice. The interim government must prioritise the safety of women in our society."

## Dev projects worsen

FROM PAGE 5

Based on traffic counts in 2009, about 20,000–25,000 motorised vehicles, up to 40 percent of them trucks, used the highway daily. The number of motorised vehicles was expected to grow to at least 35,000 by 2020, with further increases anticipated by 2025 due to the city's expanding activities.

Speaking to The Daily Star, CMP Traffic North Zone Deputy Commissioner (DC) Joyrul Abedin Tito said, "We have spoken to schools, colleges, markets, and hospital

authorities to ensure that traffic congestion remains at a tolerable level."

"The market authorities have been asked to arrange parking spaces for their customers so that buyers do not leave their vehicles on the roads, causing gridlocks," he added.

CMP West Division Deputy Commissioner Niskriti Chakma said footpath vendors and illegal battery-run rickshaws are significantly contributing to traffic congestion.

"Sometimes, untoward situations arise when we try to enforce the law against them," she said.

**LEGAL NOTICE**  
IN THE SUPREME COURT OF BANGLADESH  
HIGH COURT DIVISION (Statutory Original Jurisdiction)  
**Company Matter No 260 of 2025**  
In the matter of An application under section 81(2) and 85(3) Read Section 396 of the Companies Act, 1994, Gobindo Kumar Biswas, Managing Director of **One Piece Fashion Ltd.** Reg No:- C-146853 having its Office at Address:: Plot-09, Road-05, Block-F, Basila Garden City, Mohammadpur, P.O: 1207, Dhaka. ....Petitioner,  
-Versus-  
The Registrar of joint Stock Companies and Firms, 1, Kawran Bazar, Dhaka....Respondents.  
Notice is hereby given that upon an application filed by the petitioner under Section 81(2)and 85(3) read with section 396 of the Companies Act, 1994 for obtaining permission for Increase of the Annual General Meeting (AGM) OF **One Piece Fashion Ltd.** The Company Bench of the Hon'ble High Court Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh presided over by **Mr. Justice Ahmed Sohel** was pleased to admit the same on 16.02.2025 and the said Hon'ble Court has fixed the matter for hearing on 20.03.2025.  
If any one is interested to oppose the said application he may do so by an Advocate or in person Copy of the same may be obtained from the undersigned upon payment of prescribed fees.  
**Ripon Chandara Biswas**, Advocate  
Supreme Court of Bangladesh  
Advocate, Membership No. 6059, Hall Room No. 1, Supreme Court Bar Association Bhuvan, Shahbag, Dhaka-1000. **Mobile: 01712052513.**

**NORTH SOUTH UNIVERSITY**  
*Center of Excellence in Higher Education*

**TENDER NOTICE**  
**Tender No. NSU/24-25-T08**

**North South University** is inviting sealed offers from bona fide/ reputed organisations/ distributors/ business partners/ agents for supplying desktop computer, digital podium for North South University as described in the tender schedule.

Detail of the items are mentioned below:  
Lot: 1- Core i5 desktop computer  
Lot: 2- Digital podium

Interested bidders may collect schedule of tender from **Southeast Bank Ltd. Bashundhara Branch, Dhaka-1229** within the banking hour on all working days till **March 23, 2025** by paying non-refundable amount of taka 1,000.00 (one thousand) in cash for each schedule.

The bidders must submit **earnest money @ 2.5%** of the quoted price in the form of Pay Order issued from any scheduled bank drawn in favor of **"North South University"** along with their offer. The sealed offer must be submitted on **March 24, 2025 by 2:15 p.m.** at the office of the undersigned. The offers will be opened at 2:30 p.m. on the same day. Representatives of the participating bidders may remain present at the time of opening the bids. NSU authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the tenders without showing any reason

Director, Internal Affairs  
**NORTH SOUTH UNIVERSITY**  
Bashundhara, Dhaka-1229  
Phone: +88-02-55668200, Ext. 1204, Fax: +88-02-55668202  
Email: [procurement@northsouth.edu](mailto:procurement@northsouth.edu), Web: [www.northsouth.edu](http://www.northsouth.edu)

**Office of the Kalai Pourashava**  
**District: Joypurhat**

Memo No. KPS/Eng:/2025/217  
Dated: 06-03-2025

**Tender Notice (e-GP)**  
**Notice No:-04/2024-2025**

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

Tender ID No.	Schemes/packages Name	Tender Document Last Selling Date & Time	Tender Closing Date & Time
1082268	Upgrading of RCC Road Package no-GPBMD/KALY /23/Rd-1 Under Kalai Pourashava, Joypurhat.	23 March, 2025 Time: 15.30	24 March, 2025 Time: 14.00
1082269	Upgrading of RCC Road Package no-GPBMD/KALY /25/Rd-10 Under Kalai Pourashava, Joypurhat.	23 March, 2025 Time: 15.30	24 March, 2025 Time: 14.00
1082274	Upgrading of RCC Road Package no-GPBMD/KALY /25/Rd-11 Under Kalai Pourashava, Joypurhat.	23 March, 2025 Time: 15.30	24 March, 2025 Time: 14.00
1082275	Upgrading of BC Road Package no-GPBMD/KALY /23/MT-1 Under Kalai Pourashava, Joypurhat.	23 March, 2025 Time: 15.30	24 March, 2025 Time: 14.00
1082276	Construction of Drain, Package no-GPBMD/KALY /23/DR-1 Under Kalai Pourashava, Joypurhat.	23 March, 2025 Time: 15.30	24 March, 2025 Time: 14.00
1082279	Construction of Drain, Package no-GPBMD/KALY /25/DR-2 Under Kalai Pourashava, Joypurhat.	23 March, 2025 Time: 15.30	24 March, 2025 Time: 14.00

These are an online Tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted upto 14.00 pm on 24March, 2025.

To Submit e-tender, registration in the National e-GP System portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required. The fees for downloading the e-Tender Documents from the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through any registered banks branches up to 12.00 pm on 24 March, 2025. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from help desk ([helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd](mailto:helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd)).

(A K M Saiful Islam)  
Executive Engineer  
Kalai Pourashava, Joypurhat.

GD- 604