

## Tarique acquitted in sedition case

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Benapole



A Jashore court yesterday acquitted BNP's acting chairman Tarique Rahman in a sedition case filed around 11 years ago. Jashore District and Sessions Judge Sheikh Nazmul Alam delivered the verdict on the case filed by Jashore District Awami League Organising Secretary SM Afzal Hossain on January 22, 2014.

Tarique was accused of making hateful and disrespectful statements about Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, which amounted to sedition.

Jashore Public Prosecutor and District BNP President Sved Saberul Haque Sabu stated that the case was initially filed for framing charges, but later, an application was submitted to withdraw it.

He said under the law, a sedition case can only be filed if the alleged victim held an official position in the state at the time of the offense. Since Sheikh Mujibur Rahman was not in any official state position at that time, the case was deemed inadmissible.

## BANGLADESH, INDO-PACIFIC

### Canada announces US \$272.1m for development projects

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Canada has announced US\$ 272.1 million for development projects in Bangladesh and the broader Indo-Pacific region amid major funding cuts by US President Donald Trump's administration.

Canadian Minister of International Development Ahmed Hussen, alongside Member of Parliament Parm Bains, made the announcement, the Global Affairs Canada said in a statement yesterday.

It remains unclear how much of the total fund will be allocated for Bangladesh.

Ahmed Hussen reiterated Canada's commitment to strengthening ties with Bangladesh and the Indo-Pacific, highlighting efforts in healthcare, women's empowerment, and climate action.

Support will prioritise gender equality, sexual and reproductive health rights, and improved access to inclusive education and workforce training, the Global Affairs Canada's statement said.

"These initiatives reflect Canada's core values, as outlined in its Feminist International Assistance Policy, which seeks to empower women and girls globally," it added.

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## Ctg elevated expressway fails to meet expectations

Limited entry and exit points, low usage, and revenue shortfall raise concerns

SIFAYET ULLAH, Ctg

The first elevated expressway in Chattogram is facing significant challenges in delivering benefits to commuters due to a lack of entry and exit points, as most of the ramps are still under construction.

Even more than a year after its inauguration, this lack of accessibility resulted in considerably low usage by commuters, as they deem the convenience brought by the expressway less than their expectations.

This, in turn, deprives the government of potential revenue from toll collections.

The Chattogram Development Authority constructed the expressway in the port city from Lalkhan Bazar to Patenga, at a cost of Tk 4,298.95 crore, aiming to reduce traffic congestion and boost economy.

According to a 2015 feasibility study by the Bureau of Research Testing and Consultancy

at Chittagong University of Engineering and Technology, the Chattogram expressway was projected to handle 39,793 motorised vehicles daily by 2025, accounting for 60 percent of traffic on the Lalkhan Bazar-Patenga route.

However, data from the project authority reveals an average of just 1,267 vehicles using the expressway daily since toll collection began on January 3 this year.

As such, the anticipated revenue from toll collection has not materialised yet.

In total, Tk 2.93 crore has been collected in tolls from 4,14,272 vehicles as of February 28, raising questions about the expressway's capacity to meet traffic and revenue expectations.

Meanwhile, commuters expressed frustration and criticised CDA for lacking the proper infrastructure for seamless movement using the expressway.

"The CDA makes the expressway

useless without constructing ramps for Patenga-bound vehicles in Lalkhan Bazar area," said Abdullah Ahad, a banker, who regularly drives a car to commute from GEC to Cement Crossing area.

The expressway, supposed to have 14 ramps at nine points, is ironically running with only an exit ramp in Tigerpass area, while CDA has postponed construction of six of the ramps.

"We failed to construct the designed ramps due to delays in land acquisition and issues surrounding possession of acquired land," said Mahfuzur Rahman, project director of the Chattogram Elevated Expressway.

Admitting that the expressway is yet to deliver benefits to commuters, he said, "We are trying, but several complexities leave us helpless."

"The expressway is not living up to expectations due to a lack of dedicated exit and entry ramps at several points," commented Md

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## Coast Guard vigilant to prevent hoarding during Ramadan

MOHAMMAD JAMIL KHAN

In an attempt to destabilise the market, a section of dishonest traders are allegedly hoarding essential commodities, food items, and edible oil in floating warehouses on bulkheads and lighter ships.

Their ultimate goal is to create an artificial crisis and drive up prices during Ramadan and ahead of Eid.

To counteract this, the Bangladesh Coast Guard (BCG) has intensified surveillance along river routes, particularly at the Chandpur point on the Dhaka-Chandpur route, to prevent market manipulation.

During a visit to the Chandpur station yesterday, Lt Commander Takiul Ahsan, station commander of the Coast Guard Chandpur station, highlighted their ongoing efforts.

"We are continuously monitoring and patrolling lighter ships to ensure that no one hoards food in floating warehouses to create instability in the market," Ahsan told The Daily Star.

He said the Coast Guard has increased vigilance on the Dhaka-Chandpur-Barishal route.

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**Lt Commander Takiul Ahsan**  
Station commander of Chandpur station

"Alongside inspecting bulkheads and lighter ships, we are also ensuring passenger launch security ahead of Eid. A special patrol system has been introduced during Ramadan and Eid to enhance security measures," he added.

Apart from securing river routes, the Coast Guard is also assisting the Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority (BIWTA) and the Ministry of Shipping by checking vessel registration and fitness.

Currently, the Chittagong Port Authority has restricted lighter, tanker, and edible oil-carrying ships from anchoring for more than 72 hours, according to officials at the BCG headquarters.

The Coast Guard is maintaining round-the-clock surveillance to ensure these ships reach their destinations without unnecessary delays.

Coast Guard Media Officer Lt Commander Siyam-Ul Haque revealed that since February 11, 2025, the Coast Guard has conducted joint operations on 1,085 commercial and lighter ships.

"Through these operations, we hope to prevent any edible oil crisis and stabilise market prices during Ramadan," he said.

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### Chittagong Medical University

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e-Tender is invited to the e-GP Portal for following procurement. Interested tenderers are requested to visit (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) website for details.

Sl. No	Tender ID	Name of the procurement	Tender publication date	Tender document last selling date and time	Tender opening date and time	Method
1	1084718	CMU/GR-05/2024-25 Framework Agreement of Procurement of Answer Paper, Bills & forms for different Exams under Controller of Examination of Chittagong Medical University	11-03-2025	25-03-2025 12:30pm	25-03-2025 1:00pm	OTM (Framework)

Dr. Md. Delwar Hossain

Controller of Examination  
Chittagong Medical University

BITD Building, Salimpur, Faujdarhat, Chattogram

GD-629

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার  
নির্বাচন পরিচালক কার্যালয়  
শিশু-মাতৃ-স্বাস্থ্য ইনসিটিউট  
মাতুয়াইল, ঢাকা-১৩৬২

Ref No. ICMH/Admin/2024-25/1431

Date 09/03/2025

### Re-Tender Notice

This is an online Tender, where only e-tenders will be accepted in e-GP Portal and no offline/ Hard copies will be accepted. To submit r-tender, please register on e-GP system portal (<https://www.eprocure.gov.bd>). For more details, please contact support desk contact numbers.

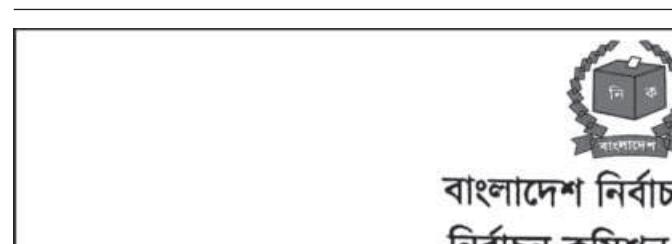
Re-Tender are invited in e-GP system portal ([www.eprocure.gov.bd](https://www.eprocure.gov.bd)) by Dr. Mohammad Ahsanul Haque, Joint Director, Institute of Child & Mother Health, Matuail, Dhaka-1362 for the Procurement of:

Tender Id	Name of Goods	Tender/Proposal Publication Date & Time	Tender/Proposal Last Selling Date & Time	Tender/Proposal Closing/Opening Date & Time
1084911	Procurement of Surgical Instrument for the F.Y 2024-2025 at Institute of Child & Mother Health, Matuail, Dhaka.	11-Mar-2025 12:00	23-Mar-2025 10:00	23-Mar-2025 12:00
1084912	Procurement of Radiology Items for the F.Y 2024-2025 at Institute of Child & Mother Health, Matuail, Dhaka.	11-Mar-2025 12:00	23-Mar-2025 10:00	23-Mar-2025 12:00

Re-Tender details can be downloaded on e-GP system portal (<https://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for pursuer.

Re-Tender will be accepted only as stated in above list; accepted tenders will be opened online immediate as stated in above list.

(Brig. Gen. Md. Emdadul Haque)  
Executive Director  
Institute of Child & Mother Health  
Matuail, Dhaka-1362.



বাংলাদেশ নির্বাচন কমিশন  
নির্বাচন কমিশন সচিবালয়

তারিখ: ২৫ ফেব্রুয়ারি ১৪৩১  
১০ মার্চ ২০২৫

### গণবিজ্ঞপ্তি

গণপ্রতিনিধিত্ব আদেশ, ১৯৭২-এর অনুচ্ছেদ ৯০ক এর অধীন রাজনৈতিক দল হিসেবে নির্বাচন করতে ইচ্ছুক এবং রাজনৈতিক দল নির্বাচন বিধিমালা, ২০০৮-এ উন্নিষিত শর্তাবলী প্রয়োগে সক্ষম রাজনৈতিক দলসমূহকে নির্বাচন কমিশন প্রদত্ত নির্দেশিকা যোতাবেক বিধিমালায় সংযোজিত ফরম-১ পুরণপূর্ণ আগামী ২০ এপ্রিল ২০২৫ তারিখের মধ্যে নির্বাচনের জন্য আবেদন করার আহ্বান জানানো যাচ্ছে।

০১। নিরবাচনে আগ্রহী রাজনৈতিক দলকে স্থীয় প্লটেরহেড প্যাডে দরখাত করতে হবে এবং দরখাতের সাথে নির্বাচিত আবশ্যিকীয় দলিলাদি সংযুক্ত করতে হবে, যথা-

- (ক) দলের পঠনতত্ত্ব;
- (খ) দলের নির্বাচন ইশতেহার, যদি থাকে;
- (গ) দলের বিধিমালা, যদি থাকে;
- (ঘ) দলের লোগো এবং পতাকার ছবি;
- (ঙ) দলের কেন্দ্রীয় নির্বাচী কমিটি বা সময়সূচীর পদক্ষেপ পদবীসহ নামের তালিকা;
- (চ) দলের নামে রঞ্জিত বাংক একাউন্ট নথর ও বাংকের নাম এবং উন্ট একাউন্টের সর্বশেষ খর্চি;
- (ছ) দলের নির্বাচনের দরখাত করার জন্য সংশ্লিষ্ট ব্যক্তিগত অনুকূলে প্রদত্ত ক্ষমতাগত;
- (জ) নির্বাচন ফি বাংল অফেরেটোরগাঁ পীচ হাজার টাকা সচিব, নির্বাচন কমিশন সচিবালয়ের বরাবরে জমাকৃত ট্রেজারী চালানের ক্ষেত্রে (**ট্রেজারীতে টাকা জমাদানের ক্ষেত্রে নথর-১০৬০১০১০১২৫-১১০০০০০০০০-১১০০০০০০০০-১৪২২১০৮**)
- (ঝ) দরখাত দাখিল দিন পর্যন্ত-

(অ) বাংলাদেশ স্বাধীন হবার পর হতে দরখাত দাখিল করার তারিখ পর্যন্ত সময়ের মধ্যে অনুষ্ঠিত সংসদ নির্বাচনের যে কোন একটিতে দলীয় নির্বাচন প্রতীক নথে কর্মসূচে একটি আসন লাভের সমর্থনে

প্রামাণিক দলিল; অথবা

(আ) বাংলাদেশ স্বাধীন হবার পর হতে দরখাত দাখিল করার তারিখ পর্যন্ত সময়ের মধ্যে অনুষ্ঠিত সংসদ নির্বাচনের যে কোন একটিতে দরখাতকারী দল কর্তৃক নির্বাচনে একাকার প্রদত্ত মোট প্লট সংখ্য