

জুস ও নিরাপাদে রেমিটিয়ন্স পাঠান  
প্রিয়জনকে প্রসন্নকৃত...

যেকোনো শাখা থেকে রেমিটিয়ন্স গ্রহণ করলেই  
পাবেন সরকার নির্ধারিত ২.৫% প্রমোদনা

সাথে আরও আছে নিশ্চিত আকর্ষণীয় পুরস্কার

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ইসলামী ব্যাংকিং সেবা প্রদানে ‘ইসলামী ব্যাংকিং কর্ণার’ পূবালী ব্যাংকের প্রায় সকল শাখা এবং উপশাখায়



With Eid right around the corner, people across the country are busy shopping in preparation for the festival. Some have flocked to the markets to buy panjabis and sarees for their loved ones, while tailors are engaged in round-the-clock shifts making clothes for their customers. Clockwise from the left, the photos were taken from the New Market and Gulistan areas in the capital, and Barishal city, respectively, yesterday.



PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN, PALASH KHAN AND TITU DAS

DETAILED AREA PLAN

# Stop favouring business interests in amendments

## Urban planners urge govt

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government must take responsibility if the Detailed Area Plan and building regulations are amended in favour of business groups ignoring citizens’ interests, said urban planning experts yesterday.

The amendment to DAP, which is underway, should immediately be stopped as it aims to serve business interests, they said at a press conference at the Jatiya Press Club.

Any revision to DAP and building regulations must involve citizens, professionals, and community organisations to ensure overall public welfare and liveability of the city, they said.

They demanded that the interim government publishes a white paper after a thorough investigation into past amendments made to the DAP and other urban plans under business influence.

Several civil society, professional organisations and advocacy groups, including Bangladesh Institute of Planners, Center for Atmospheric Pollution Studies, Work for Better Bangladesh Trust, Bangladesh Urban Forum, Center for Housing and Building Research, and the Institute for Planning and Development, jointly organised the event.

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## Consensus commission to begin talks with parties tomorrow

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The National Consensus Commission (NCC) is set to begin discussions with political parties to form a national consensus on state reform tomorrow.

The first meeting in this series will be held with the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) at 3:00pm in the LD Hall of the National Parliament.

According to an NCC press release, schedules for discussions with other parties will be announced gradually.

Sources said the commission plans to continue its dialogue with political parties until March 24, before Eid. As per this schedule, the commission may hold discussions with two more parties next week.

As of yesterday, 15 out of 38 political parties have submitted their opinions to the NCC. The Jatiya Gono Front and Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal (JSD) submitted their opinions yesterday.

The commission also noted that 14 other parties, including BNP, Jamaat, and the National Citizen Party, are expected to submit their opinions in the coming days.

On March 6, the NCC sent spreadsheets with key recommendations from various reform commissions to 37 political parties. These parties were asked to respond by March 13.

# Enact practical law to curb false, vexatious cases

## Recommends Judiciary Reform Commission

ASHUTOSH SARKAR

The Judiciary Reform Commission has recommended enacting a practical law to prevent false and vexatious cases, citing that such cases and the resulting sufferings of the accused are common in Bangladesh’s legal system.

“The number of false cases increases with political changes. Additionally, various laws are often misused and misapplied. In reality, false information, exaggerated claims, and unexplained truths are present in almost all types of cases, both civil and criminal,” the commission stated.

“While the Penal Code and the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC) include provisions for punishing those who file false cases, these laws are rarely enforced. As a result, the judiciary bears the burden. To ensure an effective judicial system, immediate and practical steps are necessary, considering both past experiences and current realities,” said the commission in its 351-page final report, submitted to Chief Adviser Prof Muhammad Yunus on February 5.

The commission noted that creating a new general law or amending 15-16 existing laws separately would be complex and time-consuming. Therefore, a comprehensive and practical law should be formulated to prevent false and harassing cases after thorough examination and consultation with

stakeholders.

The report recommended that the home ministry direct the police not to arrest accused individuals if there is sufficient reason to suspect that the case is false or intended for harassment. Arrests should also be avoided if an unusually high number of accused are listed in the First Information Report (FIR) and no specific role of an accused is mentioned.

Additionally, the law ministry could

**The home ministry should direct the police not to arrest accused individuals if there is sufficient reason to suspect that the case is false or intended for harassment. Arrests should also be avoided if an unusually high number of accused are listed in the FIR and no specific role of an accused is mentioned.**

instruct public prosecutors, court inspectors, and sub-inspectors not to oppose bail for accused individuals in cases suspected to be false or harassing, the commission also said.

The commission suggested inserting a provision similar to Section 250 of the CrPC, which deals with false and frivolous accusations, into Chapter 23 of the code.

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## POLITICAL PARTY REGISTRATION

## HC questions legality of EC notification

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday questioned the legality of the Election Commission’s (EC) public notification regarding the registration of new political parties.

The court issued a rule asking the EC and the Election Reform Commission to explain why the notification, which set an April 20 deadline for party registration applications, should not be declared illegal and unconstitutional.

The HC bench of Justice Md Akram Hossain Chowdhury and Justice KM Rasheduzzaman Raja issued the rule following a writ petition filed by Hasnat Quaiyum, chief coordinator of Rastra Sangskar Andolon, challenging the notification’s legality.

The court also stayed the notification concerning the petitioner’s party.

The petitioner’s lawyer,

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## Bangladeshis can still obtain Umrah visas: adviser

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Saudi Arabia has not suspended Umrah visas for Bangladeshis citizens, said Religious Affairs Adviser AFM Khalid Hossain yesterday.

He said the Saudi ambassador in Dhaka had confirmed this to the religious affairs secretary.

The Saudi ambassador advised Bangladeshi agencies to contact the Saudi Ministry of Hajj and Umrah through authorised Saudi Umrah companies or agents, submitting the necessary documents, including air tickets and hotel

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## Resign from govt within 15 days

## Gono Odhikar Parishad calls upon advisers Asif, Mahfuj

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Gono Odhikar Parishad yesterday called for the resignation of interim government advisers Asif Mahmud Shojib Bhuiyan and Mahfuj Alam within 15 days, accusing them of compromising the government’s neutrality.

They made the demand at a press conference held at the party’s Bijoynagar office.

At the press conference, Faruk Hasan, vice

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## Bodies of mother, daughter found hanging in Dinajpur

## Four detained in four districts over rape, molestation

STAR REPORT

Police recovered the hanging bodies of a woman and her six-year-old daughter yesterday, who reportedly died by suicide fearing social humiliation over allegations of an extramarital affair in Dinajpur.

The deceased were identified as Lucky Akter, 28, and her daughter Morium Akter of Lichupara village under Phulbari upazila.

According to locals and police, some villagers on Monday accused Lucky of having an extramarital relationship. A social arbitration was scheduled for Tuesday night to determine a penalty for her.

However, a group of people suddenly attacked Lucky’s husband, Mohorom Ali, near their home on Tuesday afternoon.

“Seeing the attack, Lucky broke down emotionally, fearing public humiliation during the arbitration,” said Saidul Islam, a member of the local union parishad.

Shortly afterwards, Lucky and her daughter were found hanging from the ceiling of their residence.

Police recovered the bodies around 5:30pm, said Abdullah Al Mamun, inspector (investigation) of Phulbari Police Station.

The husband has been detained for investigation,

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This road in the Khilgaon area was cut by Titas Gas to set up gas lines in the area. As a result, pedestrians or speeding vehicles could fall into this gap by accident at any time. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

## Govt employees to get extended Eid holidays

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Government employees are set to enjoy a prolonged holiday during Eid-ul-Fitr, with at least six consecutive days off, according to the public administration.

The official Eid holiday is from March 29 to April 2, with March 31 likely to be the Eid day, subject to moon sighting. The break includes the two days before and two days after Eid, declared as government holidays by executive order.

Additionally, March 28 marks Shab-e-Qadr, a public holiday, and is a Friday – a weekend day in Bangladesh. Earlier, March 26 is a public holiday for Independence Day, making March 27 the only working day before the extended Eid holiday. Offices will reopen on April 3 (Thursday) but close again for the weekend on April 4 and 5.

This results in government offices remaining open for just two days – March 27 and April 3 – between March 26 and April 5, effectively creating an 11-day span with minimal working days.

A source from the cabinet division said a summary regarding the holiday extension might be presented at the next Advisory Council meeting. If approved, the Ministry of Public Administration will issue a notification.

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