Resign from govt

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president of the party, said to maintain neutrality, the two advisers, who were former student leaders, must step down immediately.

"If they do not resign, we will announce a strict programme in coordination with other political parties and pro-revolution forces," he declared.

He criticised the interim government for what he called an imbalance in representation, saying, "This is a people's government, yet instead of fulfilling public aspirations, it is favouring a particular political party. This raises doubts and suspicions."

He warned that if the government fails to meet public expectations, people will stand against it as well.

The party also criticised the remarks made by US Director of National Intelligence Tulsi Gabbard, who, during a media interview in Delhi, said the Trump administration is "deeply concerned" about the situation in Bangladesh, particularly regarding Islamic terrorism and the persecution of minorities.

Gono Odhikar Parishad dismissed these claims, asserting that no such issues exist in the country.

Calling for meaningful reforms, the party emphasised the need to restructure the Advisory Council under the chief adviser's leadership, as it currently includes controversial figures. They cited a High Court ruling, stressing that elections must be held under a caretaker government to ensure fairness.

The group reiterated its demands for trials for genocide, state reforms, and a clear roadmap forward.

"We agree with the chief adviser's statement that state reforms are needed before the December elections. However, achieving this requires national consensus. Unfortunately, the advisers' statements are only deepening national divisions," they said.

Freeze accounts

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needed to prevent them from doing so," said the ACC official in the application.

Earlier, on February 25, the same court issued a travel ban on Nayeemul Islam Khan and his family in connection with the allegations.

Meanwhile, the ACC has filed two separate cases against former lawmaker Mrinal Kanti Das and his wife Nilima Das for illegally acquiring assets worth over Tk 3 crore.

ACC director general Akhtar Hossain confirmed the information at the commission's headquarters in Dhaka's Segunbagicha yesterday.

Mrinal has been named as an accused in both cases.

Allegations against him include acquiring illegal wealth worth Tk 1.55 crore and conducting suspicious transactions worth Tk 2.41 crore in his eight bank accounts.

Nilima has been accused of acquiring illegal wealth worth Tk 1.45 crore and conducting suspicious transactions worth Tk 16.19 crore in 30 bank accounts under her name.

It's in high

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the recommendations from the report," he said.

University Grants Commission Chairman Prof SMA Faiz praised the British Council's commitment to fostering collaboration between universities in Bangladesh and the UK. He noted that such efforts create opportunities for academic excellence and institutional capacity-building.

Salvador Carbajal Lopez, Director of Education for South Asia at the British Council, shared key findings from the report. He revealed that in the 2022-23 academic year, approximately 2,145 Bangladeshi students were studying for UK higher education qualifications in Bangladesh.

However, this number remains relatively low compared to countries like India and Sri Lanka, which have around 15,000 and 54,000 UK TNE students, respectively.

The University of London is the largest UK TNE provider in Bangladesh, accounting for about 75 percent of all UK TNE students in the country. These students are primarily enrolled as 'distance learning' students, although the university's TNE model operates differently from other distance learning institutions.

The report also added that Australian and Malaysian universities have offered TNE in Bangladesh over the past few decades.

To further support TNE, the report recommended streamlining regulatory processes, providing clear guidelines for TNE providers, addressing linguistic barriers through language bridging programmes, and enhancing digital infrastructure to support remote and online learning.

Should DC offices stay?

FROM PAGE 5

non-partisan manner, what will be the role of a shadow council leader? Will it merely be a symbolic opposition post?" he asked.

A significant point of contention was whether local government members would be willing to serve without remuneration.

"When elected representatives at all levels demand increased allowances, would anyone be interested in contesting elections without payment?" questioned Samor Roy, executive director of Media Professional Group.

The debate over maintaining deputy commissioner offices also gained momentum, with governance experts arguing that fully empowered district councils could eliminate the need for separate deputy commissioner offices.

"Rather than maintaining redundant administrative structures, district councils could be transformed into district-based economic hubs," suggested Mohammad Mahbub Alam Firoz, executive director of SHIELD.

Speakers also stressed the need for an inclusive governance system, with Raushan Ara from Naripokkho emphasising the importance of diverse representation across gender, profession, age, and ethnicity in local government committees.

Responding to journalists' questions, the Governance Advocacy Forum acknowledged the role of political parties in implementing these reforms.

They urged the government to engage with political parties more effectively and reduce dependence on bureaucracy to accelerate reform decisions.

"Decentralisation will only work if elected representatives are genuinely empowered to make decisions and implement policies," they added.

The event, moderated by Kaniz Fatema, deputy executive director of WAVE Foundation, was attended by experts including Firoz Nurun Nabi Jugol, programme director of Democracywatch, Mohammad Mohsin Kabir, programme manager of Manusher Jonno Foundation, as well as representatives from the media, civil society, youth groups, and marginalised communities.

Enact practical

FROM PAGE 3

It also recommended increasing fines and compensation mentioned in Section 250.

Furthermore, the Supreme Court could issue a practice direction under Chapter IIIB of the High Court Division Rules. If a complaint is brought before a Magistrate's Court under Section 200 of the CrPC, in which the majority of the accused indivisuals are not explicitly linked to the alleged incident, the magistrate should ensure a proper investigation before taking cognisance of the case.

To prevent real culprits from being spared due to collusion with the police, the commission proposed forming a high-powered task force in every division to oversee such matters.

Govt employees

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An additional secretary from the ministry said extended holidays help ease travel challenges for people returning to their hometowns for Eid. If April 3 is declared a holiday, employees could potentially enjoy a nine-day break from March 28 to April 5.

Government officials may not take casual leave between holidays, as it would be considered an extension of the break, but they can apply for earned leave.

Stop favouring

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Speakers called upon government agencies like Rajuk and city corporations to swiftly implement area-based action plans for establishing essential civic facilities such as schools, hospitals, parks, and playgrounds as outlined in the DAP.

Professor Adil Mohammed Khan, president of BIP, said while significant constitutional reforms took place following the July Uprising, no substantial reforms have been made to urban planning, construction laws, or environmental policies to ensure sustainable and inclusive development.

"Instead, vested groups have persistently spread misinformation about the DAP," he said.

The review committees formed after previous DAP ultimately weakened their implementation, prioritising business interests over the public good, he alleged.

Prof Khan highlighted that the uncertainty with DAP has discouraged property owners from constructing buildings, as professionals in the sector advised clients against proceeding with designs aligned with the new regulations.

He also pointed out the alarming modifications in the proposed building regulations, including a drastic increase to the Floor Area Ratio (FAR) for residential buildings in Dhaka, placing excessive pressure on an already overburdened city.

Increasing population density in certain areas without enhanced infrastructure and civic amenities would severely impact Dhaka's liveability, he said.

Prof Ahmad Kamruzzaman Majumder, dean of science at Stamford University, stated that poor urban planning has made Dhaka nearly uninhabitable.

Sheikh Muhammad Mehedi Ahsan, general secretary of BIP, said instead of prioritising effective building regulations, public health, and welfare, the recent amendments appear to be driven by business interests.

Prof Shayer Gafur of architecture department at Buet said increasing building heights and FAR indiscriminately is exacerbating congestion and environmental degradation.

Engineer Abu Sadeq, executive director of Center for Housing and Building Research, urged Rajuk and relevant ministries to involve all stakeholders, including professionals and citizens in the urban policy amendment process.

HC questions legality

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Abeda Gulrukh, told The Daily Star that following the HC order, the EC's notification will not apply to Rastra Sangskar Andolon, allowing the party to continue its activities.

She argued that the notification contradicts the constitutional definition of political parties and the Election Reform Commission's recommendations.

According to the EC law, a political party must have committees in at least 22 districts and 100 upazilas for registration. However, the three hill districts have only 20 upazilas, preventing hill communities from forming political or regional parties despite their interest.

As a result, the current law, under which the notification was issued, deprives the hill population of the right to establish political parties, the lawyer added.

Deputy Attorney General Golam Rahman Bhuiyan represented the state during the hearing.

Bodies

FROM PAGE 3

and efforts are underway to arrest those responsible for provoking the suicides, the inspector added.

Meanwhile, two men were sent to jail yesterday in Munshiganj and Gazipur on charges of molesting two children.

In Munshiganj, Md Yasin, 45, allegedly molested a six-year-old girl near her home in Gazaria upazila on Monday evening.

Locals rescued the girl as she screamed, but Yasin managed to flee.

Later, her father filed a case, leading to Yasin's arrest, said Mohammad Anwar Alam, OC of Gazaria Police Station.

In Gazipur, Shankar Chandra Shil, 50, a salon owner, was accused of molesting an eight-year-old girl near his shop in Pubail.

The child's mother later filed a case, and police arrested Shankar the same night, said SM Amirul Islam, OC of Pubail Police Station.

Both accused were produced before the court yesterday and sent to jail.

In Panchagrah, a madrasa teacher was sent to jail yesterday for sodomising his student.

Rezwan Parvez, 22, sodomised the 11-year-old student in the early hours of Sunday, according to the case statement.

Later, police arrested the accused following a case filed by the victim's father, said Md. Sohel Rana, OC of Debiganj Police Station.

The accused was produced before a court that sent him to jail yesterday, said Panchagrah Court Police Inspector Khan Md Shahriar.

In Kurigram, police yesterday detained a man on the charge of raping a 50-year-old intellectually disabled woman in Nageshwari, Kurigram.

The accused, Babar Ali, 30, raped the woman when she went to the riverbank yesterday afternoon.

The process of filing a case was going on till filing the report last night, said Nageshwari Police Station's OC Rezaul Karim Reza.

Bangladeshis

FROM PAGE 3

bookings, the adviser added.

Khalid shared this information during a press briefing at the conference room of the ministry.

Regarding the refund of air ticket costs for Umrah pilgrims, the adviser said that Biman Bangladesh Airlines is refunding ticketed pilgrims who are unable to travel due to visa issues as per regulations. Other airlines, including Saudia, have also been requested to refund fares to those affected by visa complications.

He further informed that the Saudi Ministry of Hajj and Umrah has assigned over 400 Saudi Umrah companies to coordinate Umrah operations with agencies from various countries. Each company has a specific quota for Umrah pilgrims annually. Once a company reaches its designated quota, visa issuance through that company is temporarily halted.

Besides the approved Umrah agencies in Bangladesh, individuals and institutions with ID and password access to Saudi Arabia's Nusuk app can also manage Umrah operations.

Khalid said that upon learning about the visa issue, the ministry promptly contacted the Saudi Embassy in Dhaka. Initially, a verbal request was made to maintain the visa issuance process, followed by a formal letter (DO letter) urging the continuation of Umrah visa issuance.

He added that Bangladesh's Hajj counsellor in Jeddah is in regular communication with relevant officials of the Saudi Ministry of Hajj and Umrah to ensure that ticketed pilgrims can perform Umrah during Ramadan.

Legal Notice

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF BANGLADESH
HIGH COURT DIVISION
(STATUTORY ORIGINAL JURISDICTION)
Company Matter No.452 of 2025

IN THE MATTER OF: An application under Section 81(2) read with Section 85 (3) of the Companies Act, 1994

AND IN THE MATTER OF:
Ahlers Holding GMBH & Co. KG ..... Petitioner

-VERSUS-

The Registrar of Joint Stock Companies and Firms and another. ..... Respondents

Notice is hereby given to all concerned that an application under Section 81(2) read with Section 85 (3) of the Companies Act, 1994 has been filed by the petitioner before the High Court Division of the Supreme Court to Bangladesh praying for condonation of delay for holding the **Annual General Meetings** of **Paddock's Jeans Limited** for the years 2023 and 2024. The Hon'ble High Court Division presided over by **Mr. Justice Ahmed Sohel** vide order dated **12.03.2025** was pleased to admit the said application and directed the petitioner to file the Affidavit-in-Compliance on or before **23.04.2025.** Any person interested in the said application may appear in the matter either personally or through his duly authorised Advocate. Copy of the application may be obtained from the undersigned on payment of prescribed charge.

Margub Kabir, Barrister-at Law
Advocate, Supreme Court of Bangladesh
Margub Kabir & Associates
House No. B-111, 1st Floor, Masjid Road, Mohakhali DOHS, Dhaka.
Mobile-01755506070.

Duplex House To-Let

6000 Sq.ft., 5 Bedroom, 6 Bathroom, Modern fittings. House No. 18, Road No 68, only for Embassy, Gulshan-2.
Contact : 01767870904

LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF BANGLADESH
HIGH COURT DIVISION
(STATUTORY ORIGINAL JURISDICTION)
COMPANY MATTER NO 418 OF 2025

IN THE MATTER OF: An application under Section-12 read with Section 13 of the Companies Act, 1994.
AND
IN THE MATTER OF: DRUTO FINTECH LIMITED of 144, Mia Para Road, Dakshinkhan, Dhaka represented by its **Managing Director Mr. Abdul Gaffar Sadi.** ---------**Petitioner**

-VERSUS-

The Registrar, Joint Stock Companies and Firms, TCB Bhaban (6th floor), 1, Kawran Bazar, Dhaka. --------**Respondent**

Take notice that an application under Section-12 read with Section 13 of the Companies Act, 1994 was filed before the Hon'ble High Court Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh on behalf of the above named Petitioner for alteration of the object clause of the Memorandum of Association of **DRUTO FINTECH LIMITED** Upon hearing of the application on 11-03-2025 the Hon'ble Company Judge **Mr. Justice Ahmed Sohel** has been pleased to admit the said application. If you are interested to oppose the said application you may appear before the Hon'ble Court either in person or through an advocate on or before the date fixed for hearing. Copy of the application may be obtained from the undersigned on payment of necessary cost.

Advocate Md. Anowar Hossain
Room No. 351 (Main), Supreme Court Bar Association Bhaban, Shabagh, Dhaka-1000. Mobile: 01913391551

UTTARA BANK PLC.
HEAD OFFICE
47, Shahid Bir Uttam Asfaqus Samad Sarak, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka-1000

PRICE SENSITIVE INFORMATION

This is for information as "Price Sensitive Information" of all concerned that the Board of Directors of the Company in its 829th meeting held at 2.00 p.m. on Tuesday, the 18 March, 2025 adopted the audited Financial Statements of the Bank for the year ended 31 December, 2024 and took the following decisions with regard to the forthcoming 42nd Annual General Meeting of the Bank and other related issues:-

Date and time of 42nd AGM	:	12 May 2025
Venue	:	Digital Platform
Dividend recommended for the year 2024	:	17.50% Stock and 17.50% cash
Record Date	:	20 April 2025

Comparative Statement

Particulars	2024		2023	
	Solo (Taka)	Consolidated (Taka)	Solo (Taka)	Consolidated (Taka)
Profit before Provision and Tax	10,972,917,433	10,988,686,663	6,944,585,676	6,927,574,587
Profit after Provision and Tax	4,880,056,822	4,784,338,150	3,203,850,214	3,172,845,598
Net Asset Value (NAV)	26,480,694,751	26,481,168,229	22,684,902,628	22,781,094,778
Net Asset Value (NAV) per Share	32.07	32.07	27.47	27.59
Earnings Per Share (EPS)	5.91	5.79	3.88	3.84
Net Operating Cash Flow Per Share (NOCFPS)	7.76	7.70	(12.80)	(12.83)

*Previous year's figures have been re-arranged wherever considered necessary.

Disclosure regarding for recommendation of Bonus Shares (Stock Dividend):

- Stock Dividend has been recommended to strengthen the capital base of the bank and to support business growth;
- Stock Dividend is recommended out of accumulated profit; and
- Stock Dividend is not recommended from capital reserve or revaluation reserve or any unrealized gain or out of profit earned prior to incorporation of the company or through reducing paid up capital or through doing anything so that the post-dividend retained earnings become negative or a debit balance.

Notes:

- The Shareholders whose names will appear in the Share Register of the Company or in the depository (CDBL) on the Record Date will be eligible to attend the meeting and entitled to the above Dividend.
- Members are requested to update their respective BO Account with 12 digits Taxpayer's Identification Number (e-TIN) through their respective Depository Participant (DP) before the Record Date. In case anyone fails to update e-TIN in BO Account before the Record Date, disbursement of respective dividend will be subject to deduction of Advance Income Tax (AIT) @15% instead of @10% (Individual) as per amended IT Ordinance # XXXVI of 1984 under Section 54.
- Pursuant to the Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) Notification No. BSEC/CMRRCD/2006-158/208/Admin/81 dated June 20, 2018 the Company will duly forward the Annual Report 2024 in soft copy to the email addresses of the Members available in their Beneficial Owner (BO) accounts maintained with the Depository. Members/Shareholders are requested to update their email addresses through their respective Depository Participant (DP). The soft form of the Annual Report 2024 will also be available in due course on the Company website at www.uttarabank-bd.com.

Date: Dhaka
18 March 2025

By order of the Board
Muhammad Khaled Bashar
General Manager & Secretary

Zimbabwe Team's Tour of Bangladesh 2025
Worldwide Media Rights

Bangladesh Cricket Board

Ref No: BCB/Media Rights / 2025/155 Date: 19th March, 2025

Expression of Interest (EOI)

The Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) invites Expression of Interest (EOI) along with financial offers from the TV Broadcasters or Marketing Agents for acquiring the following Media Rights of Zimbabwe Team's Tour of Bangladesh 2025 comprising of 02 Tests to be held from **20th of April 2025 to 2nd of May 2025.**

01. Satellite TV Channel Rights.
02. Digital OTT (Over-the-Top) Rights.
03. DTH (Direct-to-Home) Rights.

Area of Rights :

A detailed EOI document has been developed incorporating all necessary EOI details and documents for acquiring the above-mentioned Media Rights of Zimbabwe Team's Tour of Bangladesh 2025 involving Bangladesh National Cricket Team (Men).

Eligibility Criteria:

a) Companies related to Tobacco, Alcohol (surrogated and non-surrogated), Betting, Online Betting shall not be eligible to participate in the EOI process.
b) Any person(s) or entities with an existing unresolved dispute (i.e. Financial, Disciplinary and any other) with BCB or ICC on a point of law or fact shall be ineligible to acquire the aforementioned rights or to participate in the EOI Process.
c) The Broadcaster/ TV Channel must be in operation (on air) for at least 03 (Three) years.
d) Marketing agents must have the capability and reasonable experience in marketing of Worldwide Media Rights.

EOI Document Purchasing Procedure :

a) Interested parties need to obtain a copy of the EOI Document from BCB Management Office (Marketing & Commercial Department) on payment of the Non-Refundable fees of BDT 50,000 (Fifty Thousand Taka Only) in the form of Pay-Order/ Bank Draft/ Cash or for the Overseas participants USD 500 (Five Hundred US Dollar only) to be remitted to BCB (Account No. 01-7537131-01, Account Name : Bangladesh Cricket Board, Bank : Standard Chartered Bank, Dhaka, Bangladesh, SWIFT : SCBLBDDX). Please send your request for the EOI Document (Soft copy or printed version) along with the evidence of Bank Transfer /Payment receipt referred to above at the following email address: **sponsorship.rights@bcb-cricket.com.**
b) The details of the EOI process, Tentative Tour Itinerary, Bank Guarantee Format etc. are set out in the EOI Document. EOI document will be available from **20th of March 2025 to 06th of April 2025** during working hours (10.00 AM to 5.00 PM except Friday & Public Holidays in Bangladesh).

EOI Submission Procedure :

The EOI along with financial offer (prepared in accordance with the EOI Document) must be submitted at the BCB Management Office at Sher-e-Bangla National Cricket Stadium, Mirpur-2, Dhaka 1216, Bangladesh by **7th of April 2025** during office hours (between BST 1000 to BST 1700) and should be in a sealed envelope to be addressed to: Chief Executive Officer, Bangladesh Cricket Board.

The EOI needs to be accompanied with the following documents:

01. Company Profile and Individual Directors' / Owners' Profile.
02. Updated auditor's report on financial statements (In case of consortium, each party's auditor's report needs to submitted individually).
03. Bank Solvency Certificate along with bank Statement.
04. Certified copy of Memorandum and Articles of Association along with certificate of Incorporation or similar constitutional documents.
05. Updated VAT Registration Certificate, Trade License and Tax Identification Number (TIN) Certificate or similar documents.
06. In case of Consortium, notarized consortium Agreement.

The BCB reserves the right to accept or reject any or all offers at its sole discretion without assigning any reason. The BCB also reserves the right to cancel the entire EOI process and / or modify, add or alter the terms of the document and/ or the conditions for EOI process by issuing an addendum(s) at any time prior to the submission of the EOI.

Chief Executive Officer
Bangladesh Cricket Board
Sher-e-Bangla National Cricket Stadium, Mirpur-2, Dhaka-1216, Bangladesh