

CHEMISTRY THAT MATTERS™

سابك
sabic

কলাবোরেশন এটি স্মার্ট ডিভাইসগুলিকে আরও স্মার্ট করতে সাহায্য করছে।

SABIC দ্বারা প্রদত্ত উপাদানের ব্যবহার 5G-তে হাই-স্পীড
ডেটা ট্রান্সমিশন সক্ষম করে, যা পরবর্তী প্রজন্মের ডিভাইসের
জন্য প্রয়োজনীয়।

বিশ্বের অন্যতম শীর্ষস্থানীয় রাসায়নিক সংস্থার সাথে
SABIC.com/collaboration -এতে আলাপ করুন



CHEMISTRY THAT MATTERS™

سابك
sabic

ইনোভেশন

আমরা ফর্মুলা E-কে তাদের
নিজস্ব ট্র্যাক রেকর্ড ভাঙার
জন্য আমাদের ট্র্যাক রেকর্ড
ব্যবহার করেছি।

কাটিং-এজ মেটিরিয়াল সলিউশন তৈরির ক্ষেত্রে SABIC-এর
ট্র্যাক রেকর্ড, জেনেটিক কনসেপ্ট কার ওয়ার্ল্ড রেকর্ড ব্রেকিং
পারফরম্যান্সে গুরুত্বপূর্ণ ভূমিকা পালন করেছে।

বিশ্বের অন্যতম শীর্ষস্থানীয় রাসায়নিক সংস্থার সাথে
[SABIC.com/collaboration](https://www.sabic.com/collaboration) -এতে আলাপ করুন



FORMULA E

سابك
sabic

Principal Partner



Submarine Cables cuts bandwidth prices by 10%
B1



Hamza's role in Bangladesh's tactical rebirth
P13



Potato farmers' plights need long-term solutions
P11



Put fresh pressure on Moscow to end war: Zelensky
P7

REFORM PROPOSALS

BNP opposes two-term cap on prime minister

Suggests one cannot be PM for three consecutive terms, submits feedback to consensus commission

WASIM BIN HABIB, MOHAMMAD AL-MASUM MOLLA and SAJJAD HOSSAIN

The BNP does not agree with the reform proposal that an individual cannot be the prime minister more than twice.

In the comment section of the spreadsheet provided by the National Consensus Commission, the party wrote, "We disagree. Regarding the prime minister's tenure, it would be enough to have a rule stipulating that one person will not be deemed eligible to be the prime minister for three consecutive times."

The proposal sent by the commission says, "An individual can be the prime minister two times at most. Consecutively or through any other means, the individual cannot be the prime minister more than twice."

The BNP's reply seems to imply that a person can serve more than two terms as the PM, as long as there is a break after two consecutive terms.

It also disagrees with the commission's proposal that one cannot be the PM, leader of house, and the chief of a political party at the same time. It says this matter is something for the party concerned to decide.

"Imposing constitutional restrictions on political parties is contrary to the core essence of parliamentary democracy," reads the party's feedback on the reform proposals.

The consensus commission on March 6 wrote to the BNP and 36 other parties, seeking their feedback on 166 key reform proposals relating to



Dejected Palestinians amid the rubble and debris at the site of Israeli strikes in the previous night at the Nuseirat refugee camp in the central Gaza Strip yesterday. Story on page 14.

PHOTO: AFP

THE FEEDBACK

- ➔ No need for National Constitution Commission
- ➔ Agrees with proposal for bicameral legislature
- ➔ Agrees with increasing women's reserved seat to 100
- ➔ Disagrees with lowering minimum age to run for office
- ➔ Disagrees with proposed fundamental principles

the constitution, election system, public administration, Anti-Corruption Commission, and judiciary.

The parties were asked to come up with their feedback by March 13.

The BNP submitted its feedback yesterday. So far, 15 other parties have submitted theirs.

BNP Standing Committee member Salahuddin Ahmed handed over the feedback to Prof Ali Riaz, co-chairman of the National Consensus Commission, at the Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban.

Salahuddin afterwards told reporters that BNP submitted its feedback as well as detailed opinions on five reform commission's proposals. "We will submit detailed feedback on the remaining reform proposals in a few days," he said.

The party does not deem it necessary to form a National Constitutional Council to handle the appointments to the Anti-Corruption Commission and Election Commission, and the posts of the chiefs of the army, navy, and air force.

It agrees with the reform commission's proposal for an interim government and its tenure, opining that an elected parliament should make amendments to the constitution to this end.

In principle, the BNP also agrees with the recommendation for a bicameral legislature with a 400-seat lower house, or the National Assembly, and a 105-seat upper house or Senate, and the four-year tenure of both houses. But this matter too must be discussed by elected MPs.

The BNP also supports the proposal for increasing reserved seats for

SEE PAGE 2 COL 4

Unease at NCP over Hasnat, Sarjis's posts

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A sense of unease prevails within the National Citizen Party (NCP) over the differing statements coming from its leaders regarding a meeting with the army chief on March 11.

The disclosure of such "confidential" matters on social media without prior discussion at party forum has irked many leaders, while some view the Facebook posts as attempts to gain "personal popularity", said insiders.

In a Facebook post early Friday, NCP leader Hasnat Abdullah alleged a conspiracy was afoot to bring the Awami League back into politics at the behest of India. A proposal for accommodating a "refined" AL was pitched to them at a meeting in the cantonment.

Hasnat's remarks touched off an intense political debate and also demonstrations for a ban on the AL.

Against this backdrop, NCP Chief Coordinator Nasiruddin Patwary at an event in Sylhet on Saturday said Hasnat's statement should not have appeared on social media, saying it was "inappropriate".

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1

CONSENSUS COMMISSION NCP presses on for constituent assembly

Agrees with 113 of 166 proposals; CPB objects to changes in preamble

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The National Citizen Party (NCP) has agreed to 113 of the 166 key reform proposals that the National Consensus Commission has collated from various reform commissions.

The newly formed party stated that recommendations unrelated to the constitution could be implemented through ordinances, while constitutional matters would require a constituent assembly election.

Around 2:00pm yesterday, the party submitted its written opinions to the consensus commission at the LD Hall inside the parliament. Sarwar Tushar, NCP joint convener and coordinator of its reform coordination committee, later briefed

journalists.

The NCP partially agreed with 29 proposals, recording their opinions in the consensus commission's spreadsheet and providing explanations on their disagreements.

"A July charter will be prepared based on consensus. However, some vital proposals will be excluded. Our question is, what will the commission's stance be on those proposals?"

— NCP Joint Convener Sarwar Tushar

Speaking to journalists, Tushar raised three key questions.

"A July charter will be prepared based on consensus. However, some vital proposals will be excluded. Our question is, what will the commission's stance be on those proposals?"

The NCP also questioned why 111 proposals were classified by the government as not requiring dialogue. "On what basis was this determined?" he asked.

SEE PAGE 2 COL 4

India knew of anti-Hasina wave but could not interfere Says Jaishankar

STAR DESK

India was aware of an anti-Hasina wave building up in Bangladesh ahead of the overthrow of her government on August 5, India's External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar told the Consultative Committee on External Affairs.

But India was not in a position to do much as it lacked the necessary leverage over Hasina, who could only be "advised", he told members of parliament on Saturday, reports The Hindu.

Jaishankar cited the UN Human Rights Chief Volker Türk's recent remarks about the UN warning the Bangladesh army against a confrontation with unarmed protesters during

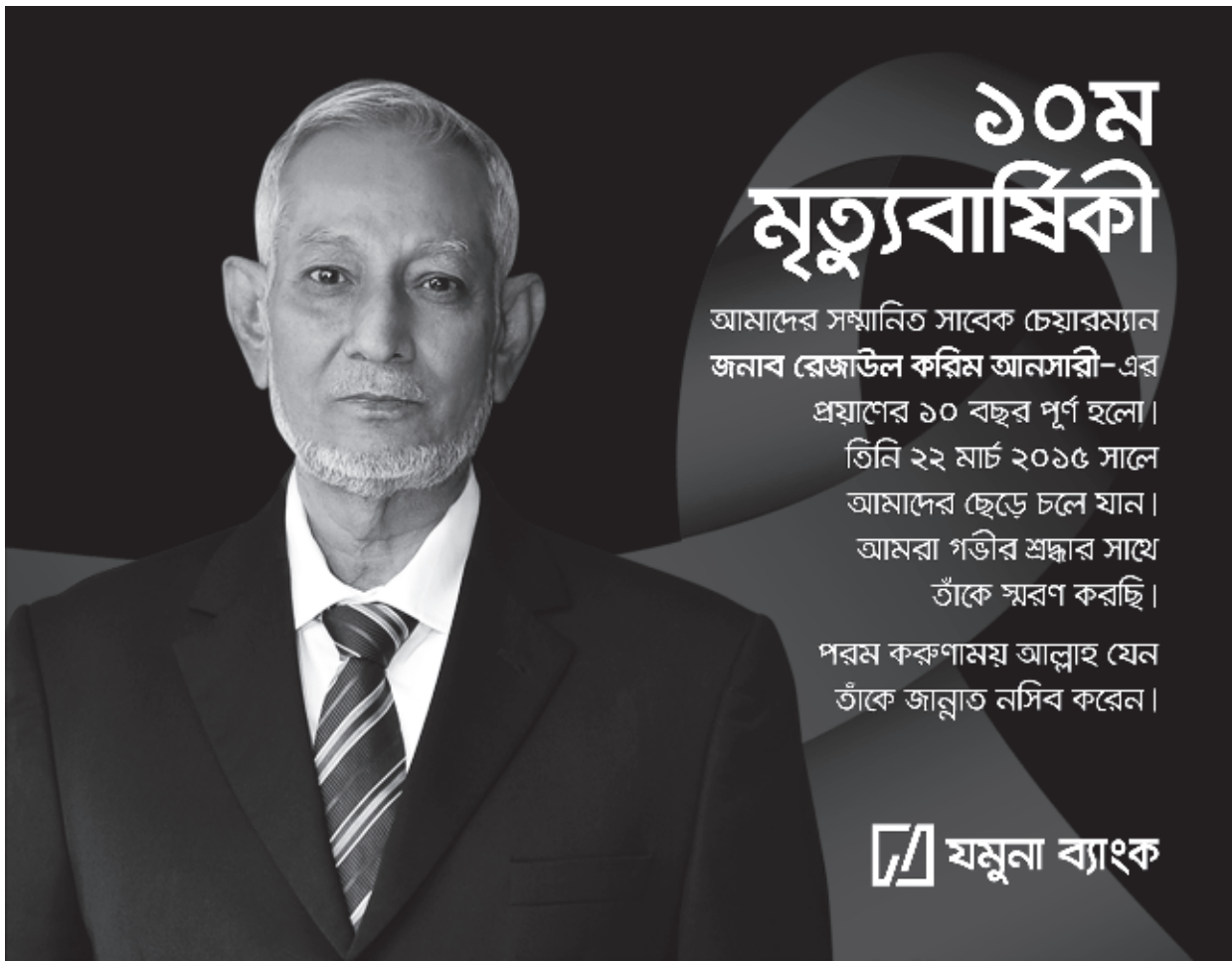


SEE PAGE 2 COL 4



Dhaka police began installing wheel-locking traps at entry points of key roads yesterday to stop rickshaws from causing traffic jams on major thoroughfares. The photo shows a rickshaw stuck on one such trap installed near Ramna Police Station on Shaheed Captain Mansur Ali Sarani.

PHOTO: PRABIR DAS



We will always stand by you

Army chief tells students injured in July uprising

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Addressing the students injured during the July uprising, Chief of Army Staff General Waker Uz Zaman yesterday assured them that the army would always be by their side and advised them never to lose morale.

The army chief made this remark while speaking at an iftar event organised by the Bangladesh Army at Sena Malancha in Dhaka Cantonment in honour of the students injured during the July uprising.

Waker exchanged greetings with the injured students and inquired about their well-being.

During his address, he emphasised that the primary purpose of the event was to remind the injured individuals that the army would always stand by them.

“Many of them are severely injured, some cannot move, and some have lost their eyesight. I assure you that we will always be by your side,” said the army chief.

He further mentioned that financial aid and other forms of

SEE PAGE 6 COL 1



Chief of Army Staff General Waker-Uz-Zaman shakes hands with one of the students injured during the July uprising at an iftar event held in their honour at the Sena Malancha in Dhaka Cantonment yesterday.

PHOTO: ISPR

Unease at NCP over Hasnat, Sarjis’s posts

FROM PAGE 1

Sarjis Alam, NCP’s chief organiser (north), then fuelled the debate further with a statement on Facebook just after noon yesterday.

While reaffirming solidarity with Hasnat as a fellow activist, Sarjis warned that publicly disclosing details of such discussion “might create trust issues in future critical dialogues with any stakeholder”.

Clarifying that they were not summoned, Sarjis said they went to the cantonment to discuss with army chief General Waker Uz Zaman whether his National Martyred Army Day speech signalled any concerning developments. In the speech, Gen Waker warned against “mudslinging and fighting”.

“Regarding the subject of exerting ‘pressure’ on a ‘refined Awami League’, I did not sense that there was any pressure. Instead, the army chief confidently said that if a refined version of the Awami League didn’t emerge, it would create long-term issues for the country and political parties,” Sarjis said.

“The tone portrayed in Hasnat’s post seemed more extreme than the actual conversation, though certainly more straightforward and so confident than usual. It was clearly stated that the participation of a refined Awami League in elections is essential for national stability.

“I didn’t feel the chief was angry; rather, he spoke from the perspective of someone senior, emphasising his long experience compared to us juniors.”

He also criticised attempts to

endorse any narrative pitting the army chief against Hasnat. “Their positions and contexts are entirely different ... Also, statements in some quarters calling for the army chief’s resignation do not reflect our position.”

Meanwhile, Abdul Hannan Masud, senior joint chief coordinator of NCP, slammed both Hasnat and Sarjis in the comment section of Sarjis’s post on Facebook. Their actions were “dragging the NCP into controversy,” Hannan wrote.

“What is this, brother!! I’m saying this publicly—one of you is lying. This cannot continue,” he added.

At least three NCP leaders told The Daily Star that Hasnat and Sarjis’s Facebook posts, along with Hannan’s comments, caused discomfort within the party.

Many central committee members have expressed their resentment in the party’s internal social media group, criticising the practice of holding meetings with various figures and publicly disclosing those without consulting the NCP leadership.

“Majority of the NCP leaders were unaware of Hasnat and Sarjis’s meeting with the army chief. When Hasnat publicly revealed on Facebook that the army had proposed rehabilitating the Awami League, reactions within the party were mixed. While many praised Hasnat for his firm stance against the Awami League, questions arose after Sarjis’s post that disclosed further details of the meeting,” an NCP leader told The Daily Star.

Requesting anonymity, the leader also said that as a newly formed political party, the NCP would likely have to engage in both formal and

informal discussions with various figures in the future.

“However, Hasnat and Sarjis’s decision to disclose details of an informal conversation on Facebook may discourage others from engaging in off-the-record discussions with NCP leaders, which could harm the party.”

Another senior leader pointed out that many within the NCP were still involved in social media activism, and they were yet to fully embrace the political identity.

“The party forum would soon discuss the issue of leaders making political statements on Facebook and work toward establishing internal discipline on such matters,” he said.

The party’s Chief Coordinator Nasiruddin denied any “distance or a lack of understanding” among the leaders. “Many students involved in the uprising are transitioning into the political sphere. If any mistakes have occurred in this process, I urge the people to view them with a forgiving attitude,” he said at a programme in the capital yesterday.

He also said the party would soon address the matter in a press release.

Sweden-based Netra News early yesterday reported that the army, in response to its query, confirmed the March 11 meeting. The report said the army dismissed Hasnat’s claims as “absolutely laughable”, calling his post “nothing but a complete political stunt”.

Contacted by The Daily Star yesterday, the Inter-Services Public Relations Directorate (ISPR) said that they were not aware of the Army Headquarters comment and Netra News report.

Trade and investment top priority

FROM PAGE 14

interest,” he said.

Indeed, Dhaka is more interested in enhancing economic cooperation and discussing regional challenges, including Rohingyas, The Daily Star has learnt from foreign ministry officials informed with the proceedings.

Dhaka and Beijing have been working on signing at least eight memoranda of understanding, including on trade, culture, modernisation of Mongla Port and water management during the four-day tour that begins on March 26.

“This would be a very successful, productive, and milestone visit with some announcements,” Chinese Ambassador to Bangladesh Yao Wen told the media after a meeting with Foreign Secretary Jashim Uddin at the foreign ministry yesterday.

Dhaka will be making the same proposals as it did during Foreign Adviser Touhid Hossain’s visit to China in January, said Mahfuz Kabir, research director at the Bangladesh Institute of International and Strategic Studies (BIISS).

During Touhid’s January visit, he had requested lowering the interest rate on Chinese loans from 2.3 percent to 1 percent, waiving the commitment and management fees and extending the loan repayment period from 20 years to 30 years for both the preferential buyer’s credit and government concessional loans.

The Chinese side had agreed in principle to extend the repayment period for Chinese loans and assured Dhaka of looking into the request to lower the interest rate.

However, it all depends on the strength of the negotiations, Kabir said.

“There could be some MoUs signed, but substantial boost in trade and investment or concessions

in loans will largely depend on political stability, even though China maintains relations with any government of the time,” said Imtiaz Ahmed, also a former professor of Dhaka University’s international relations department.

Attracting Chinese investment to Bangladesh’s Special Economic Zone in Chattogram will be a major agenda, said foreign ministry officials.

Bangladesh will encourage Chinese companies to relocate their factories to Bangladesh, especially the sunset companies as China faces global trade barriers, Chief Adviser’s Press Secretary Shafiqul Alam told the media last week.

If these companies manufacture in Bangladesh, they can export without restrictions, he said.

China is the Bangladesh’s largest trading partner, with the volume being \$25 billion a year. However, Bangladesh’s exports to China amount to less than \$1 billion, though China provides Bangladesh with zero-tariff market access.

As part of the efforts to narrow the trade gap, China will be importing mango, guava, and jackfruit in big quantities, Yao said.

A new area of cooperation began with China since Touhid’s visit in medical tourism, at a time when India has substantially tightened visas for Bangladeshis.

He had requested China to dedicate hospitals for Bangladeshi patients in Kunming. The first batch of 14 patients went to China in early March this year.

Dhaka has also proposed that China should set up a high-quality hospital chain in Bangladesh, a proposal that is being positively considered by China, a foreign ministry official said.

The establishment of high-quality

hospitals in Bangladesh will be a milestone in Sino-Bangla relations, Prof said.

River water management will be another agenda during Yunus’ visit, according to foreign ministry officials.

In 2023, China proposed implementing the Teesta river management project in phases, but Bangladesh did not go ahead with it.

Yao recently told the media that China was ready to implement the project.

Dhaka may also raise the issue of China’s plan to build a mega-hydropower dam across the Yarlung Tsangpo River in Tibet, which can have implications on the lower riparian countries, including India and Bangladesh.

According to the officials concerned, China will propose that Bangladesh should join the Global Development Initiative and Global Security Initiative.

Dhaka may not go for any project that stoke geopolitical tension, said Kabir of BIISS.

“Also, the fact that this is an interim government, it may think twice before going for any such issue,” he added.

Dhaka will definitely seek China’s strong role in addressing the Rohingya crisis that has become complicated with the Arakan Army taking control of about 90 percent of Rakhine state, said a foreign ministry official.

“Something like the Marshall Plan is required for addressing the Rohingya crisis, and a global or regional approach would work better towards this end. Similarly, there may be a consortium of different countries to address the Teesta water issue,” Prof Imtiaz said.

BNP opposes two-term cap on PM

FROM PAGE 1

women to 100 but sees no need to change the current election system for women candidates.

The party rejects the proposal of nominating 10 percent youth candidates in the lower house, saying choosing candidates should be up to the parties.

It also rejected the proposal to nominate the PM by the majority of the lower house members.

The BNP dismisses the proposal to lower the minimum age to run for office to 21 years.

However, it supports the recommendation of having two deputy speakers, one of whom will be from the opposition.

The BNP disagrees with the proposal of constitutional amendments based on two-thirds majority in both lower and upper houses followed by a referendum.

It is not realistic to make all constitutional amendments through referendums, says the party. The BNP thinks it is unnecessary to change the name, The People’s Republic of Bangladesh.

It disagrees with the commission’s recommendation to adopt – equality, human dignity, social justice, pluralism and democracy – as fundamental principles; and rejects the proposal that the state must

ensure pluralism, multiple religions, multiple languages and multiple cultures and the coexistence of all communities.

The party suggests that the articles of the constitution that outline the fundamental principles of nationalism, socialism, democracy, and secularism, should be restored to the pre-15th amendment form.

BNP leader Salahuddin Ahmed told reporters that it was not right to equate the 1971 Liberation War and the 2024 mass uprising.

“One of the most important parts of the constitution, which appears on the very first page, is the preamble. There is a proposal to completely change it... In this, the 1971 Liberation War has been equated with the mass uprising of 2024, which we do not consider appropriate,” he said.

The preamble is a vital part of the constitution and the commission’s suggestion to completely alter or revise it is akin to rewriting it.

PROPOSALS ON OTHER REFORMS
The BNP thinks the independence of the Election Commission will be harmed if some of the recommendations of the Electoral Reform Commission are implemented.

The BNP believes that the power to draw the boundaries of parliamentary constituencies and the national identity card service should remain

with the EC.

If the NID is handed over to a separate independent institution, then the EC will have to rely on that institution repeatedly, said Salahuddin.

About public administration reform, Salahuddin said there were 26 proposals. “We agree with nearly half of them, and for the remaining half, we have our opinions and comments. Through detailed discussions, we can reach a consensus on these matters.”

About the Judiciary Reform Commission’s proposals, he said their party agreed with almost all the proposals.

The BNP does not agree with the proposal to grant the parliamentary standing committee the power to hold the EC accountable, he said.

Answering a question, he said the interim government should focus on the national election, not a referendum.

“We think the national parliamentary election should be held first.”

The BNP does not believe a constituent assembly is necessary for the extensive reform of the constitution.

Regarding the Anti-Corruption Commission reforms, he said there were about 20 proposals, of which the party agreed with 11.

NCP presses on for constituent assembly

FROM PAGE 1

“The third issue concerns two significant reform proposals by the Police Reform Commission and the Local Government Reform Commission. We were unable to give opinions on these [as they were not in the spreadsheet]. We want to know the commission’s stance in this regard.”

Tushar added that the NCP wants Bangla recognised as the official language, and constitutional recognition for all communities.

The party also believes the protection of life and nature should be a fundamental right.

It said that since a deputy speaker would be from the opposition, there would now be no need for two.

Tushar said that aside from the finance bill, MPs should be restricted from voting against a no-confidence motion against their own parties.

The NCP supports a bicameral parliament and suggests political parties announce their upper house candidates before elections.

“Since voters will cast only one vote, they have the right to know who will be appointed to the upper house,” Tushar said.

The party opposed dividing the country into provinces and the educational qualification

requirement for Senate candidates, arguing it would exclude marginalised communities.

It proposed that while the prime minister could advise the president, it should not be mandatory.

Regarding the interim government, the NCP said it should function as an election-time government for 70–75 days.

“Eventually, such a government may no longer be necessary, and the proposed Constitutional Council could take over,” Tushar added.

Meanwhile, the Communist Party of Bangladesh opposed certain constitutional reform proposals, such as removing fundamental principles from the constitution’s preamble and changing the country’s name.

“After reviewing the proposed preamble, it seems there is an attempt to equate the great Liberation War with the recent mass uprising. A dialogue among parties is needed,” said CPB General Secretary Ruhin Hossain Prince after submitting his party’s opinions.

The CPB also criticised the commission’s spreadsheet, saying most questions were unclear, incomplete, and one-sided, requiring further explanation.

“Simply marking responses without discussions would not be

India knew of anti-Hasina wave

FROM PAGE 1

the uprising, as such an action would prompt the UN to ban the army from peacekeeping operations, the report said.

The Consultative Committee on External Affairs members met Jaishankar for a discussion on India’s foreign policy where Bangladesh, Myanmar, the Maldives, Sri Lanka and Pakistan issues dominated.

Meanwhile, Chief Adviser Prof Muhammad Yunus, who has hosted a series of international dignitaries, is scheduled to visit China, where the two countries are expected to sign multiple agreements, including ones

on aviation links that will increase connectivity between Chittagong and Dhaka and Chinese destinations.

Jaishankar highlighted the role of “external actors” in Bangladesh and mentioned that China was “not an adversary but a competitor”.

He also discussed the future of Saarc, which has not met since November 2014, The Hindu report said.

Islamabad was supposed to host the 19th Saarc summit in November 2016, but the event was called off after India withdrew its participation following the terror attack on its military installation in Uri on

September 18, 2016.

Since then, India has supported the cooperation at the BIMSTEC (Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation), raising questions about the scope of Saarc’s revival.

However, Jaishankar hinted that “Saarc is not off the table” and that the regional grouping has been “paused”.

The MPs also sought an explanation about India’s move to counter China’s growing influence in the Maldives, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, and Nepal, added the report.

ICT investigators submit report on killing of 6 protesters in Ashulia

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The investigation agency of the International Crimes Tribunal (ICT) has submitted its probe report in the case filed over the shooting of six protesters and the subsequent burning of their bodies in Dhaka’s Ashulia on August 5, 2024.

This is the first investigation report submitted in one of the many cases filed over crimes against humanity committed during last year’s mass uprising.

ICT Chief Prosecutor Mohammad Tajul Islam shared the development with journalists at his office yesterday afternoon.

He said, “We’ve received the investigation report for one [Ashulia] case. In addition, the investigation reports for three to four other cases are being finalised. We expect to receive those reports after Eid vacation, at which point we will begin reviewing all findings before proceeding with filing formal charges. The trial will commence following the framing of these charges.”

However, Tajul did not disclose any details about the other cases. When asked, he expressed hope that one of them would include a case against ousted prime minister Sheikh Hasina.

Regarding the Ashulia incident, he explained that after killing six people on August 5, their bodies were placed on a rickshaw van before being transferred to a police van and taken near Ashulia Police Station. There, the police poured petrol over the bodies and set them on fire.

SEE PAGE 6 COL 4

জন ও নিরাপদে রেসিটিয়ান্স পাঠান
প্রিয়জনদের প্রয়োজনে...

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

সাথে আরও আছে নিশ্চিত আকর্ষণীয় পুরস্কার
 * শর্ত প্রযোজ্য

পূবালী ব্যাংক পিএলসি.
PUBALI BANK PLC.

Best Financial Institution
 DHL-The Daily Star Business Awards.

AAA
 Rated Bank

ISO/IEC
27001:2022

ঘরে বসেই
ব্যাংক
অ্যাকাউন্ট
খুলুন

পাই ব্যাংকিং (PI Banking) -
 একটি পূবালী ব্যাংক অ্যাপস

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

NID CORRECTION

EC fails to meet three-month target

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Election Commission has failed to complete National Identity Card (NID) corrections within the promised three-month timeframe, with officials now stating that the backlog of applications will take at least another six months to clear.

Last December, ASM Humayun Kabir, director general of the National Identity Registration Wing at the EC, had assured that all correction applications would be resolved within three months.

However, after three months and five days, he admitted that the process has not been completed on time.

Speaking to reporters at the EC headquarters in Dhaka yesterday, he cited the ongoing voter list update as the primary reason for the delay.

Currently, 4 lakh

SEE PAGE 4 COL 6

DGHS former driver Malek jailed for 13yrs in graft case

COURT CORRESPONDENT

Abdul Malek, a former driver of Directorate General of Health Service, was sentenced to 13 years' imprisonment yesterday for amassing wealth worth Tk 1.5 crore illegally and concealing wealth statement of Tk 93 lakh to the Anti-Corruption Commission.

Judge Md Jakaria Hossain of Dhaka Special Judge's Court 6 handed down the sentence in presence of Malek, the lone accused.

The judge also fined him Tk 2,00,000, in default of which he will have to stay one more year in jail.

In the judgement, the judge said the prosecution was able to prove the charges brought against the convict undoubtedly and he was given the

SEE PAGE 4 COL 7



PHOTO: STAR

Families of the nine female martyrs hold portraits of their loved ones lost in the July uprising, at an event at The Daily Star Centre yesterday. The newspaper organised the event to honour the martyrs, marking International Women's Day. At the event, Adviser to the Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock Farida Akhter and The Daily Star Editor and Publisher Mahfuz Anam handed over the portraits to the families.

Remembering the women who fought for change

Families share stories of loved ones martyred in July uprising

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

They were shot dead on the streets. Some took their last breaths in makeshift clinics, their bloodied bodies carried by strangers. Others called home in their final moments, whispering words of love and fear before falling silent.

They were young, hopeful, and defiant — demanding

would not have been possible without them.

Today, the families of these women struggle to survive in a country that still refuses them justice. Cases remain stalled in many instances.

The family members of the nine female martyrs of the July uprising gathered at The Daily Star Centre yesterday to share their grief.

However, she continued to participate in demonstrations there.

On August 5, Nafisa joined a long march towards Dhaka. At around 2:30pm, she called her father, overjoyed, saying, "Hasina has fled." Moments later, she was shot.

"She called me, saying she was dying and to come and take her body. I started from Tongi, 35km

These martyrs are not just numbers. They were daughters, wives, and sisters.

Shaheed Meherun Nesa Tanha, a university student, loved eating pulao and meat. Since her death, her mother has not cooked those dishes again. "Without my daughter, my house is dark," said Asma Akter, tears in her eyes. "During Eid, she would cook everything herself. She would



She called me, saying she was dying and to come and take her body. I started from Tongi, 35km away, but there were no buses, rickshaws, or vehicles. I reached Savar on foot in the evening.

Abul Hossen
 Father of Nafisa Hossen Marwa



Without my daughter, my house is dark. During Eid, she would cook everything herself. She would prepare the semai the night before. But now my daughter is gone. What Eid do we have left?

Asma Akter
 Mother of Meherun Nesa Tanha

change in a country that had long crushed dissent. When the bullets came, they did not discriminate between men and women.

Yet the stories of the fallen women — who stood shoulder to shoulder with men in the fight for freedom — have been overlooked.

The regime fell, but their names are already fading. And yet, toppling a regressive regime

The event — How are the families of female martyrs of July uprising doing? — was organised marking International Women's Day.

Abul Hossen, father of martyr Nafisa Hossen Marwa, who ran a tea shop in Tongi, said he had sent his daughter to his in-laws' home in Savar on July 28 after learning she had been regularly joining protests.

away, but there were no buses, rickshaws, or vehicles. I reached Savar on foot in the evening," he said.

Abul Hossen filed a case in Savar after several days of struggle. However, police removed the names of certain officials and Awami League leaders, he alleged. "As I live in Tongi, I have no updates on the case," he added.

prepare the semai the night before. But now my daughter is gone. What Eid do we have left?"

Naima Sultana, a 16-year-old schoolgirl, used to wake her mother up every Eid morning with a hug. "Ma, you look beautiful. I love you so much," she would say. Her mother, Ainun Nahar, now dreads the silence that awaits her this Eid morning.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 2

Govt to tackle misinfo with own narrative

Rizwana tells seminar

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government will combat misinformation and disinformation through its actions and by establishing its own narrative, said Environment Adviser Syeda Rizwana Hasan.

Simply enacting laws will not stop the spread of false information, she said, adding that people must reflect on their role, and media outlets must determine how to channel their efforts effectively.

Rizwana made these remarks at a programme titled "Media in the Age of Misinformation and Disinformation — Challenges, Responsibilities, and the Path Forward for Development," organised by the Press Institute Bangladesh (PIB) and Oxfam in Bangladesh.

The event was held at PIB office in the capital.

The adviser stressed the media's responsibility to present accurate information. However, she pointed out that in many cases, misleading information is being spread, which creates misconceptions in society. She said, some news outlets publish stories just to increase views, often hiding the truth in the process.

Rizwana said over the past 20-25 years, the media landscape has changed dramatically. "If we

SEE PAGE 4 COL 7

'A threat to travel sector'

Travel agents protest draft law banning ticket sales between agencies

RASHIDUL HASAN

The Civil Aviation Ministry's draft directive prohibiting travel agencies from buying or selling tickets through other agencies has sparked criticism, with industry leaders warning of severe business disruptions.

The Association of Travel Agents of Bangladesh (ATAB), which represents around 4,000 travel agencies, has strongly opposed the move, calling it a threat to the sector.

"If the ministry enforces this anti-business decision, we will not accept it," ATAB President Abdus Salam Aref told The Daily Star.

The ministry recently drafted guidelines aimed at enhancing transparency and preventing customer harassment in the travel agency sector.

However, a clause of the draft, which states, "A travel agency shall not buy or sell tickets through another travel agency," has drawn opposition from stakeholders.

Industry leaders argue that such a restriction would force thousands of agencies out of business and increase

difficulties for customers.

SN Manzur Murshed, former ATAB president, said it undermines the globally accepted agent-to-agent (B2B) model.

"If Bangladesh deviates from this norm, local agencies will struggle to compete internationally, impacting millions of people," he said. "If the ministry approves this draft, it will mark a black chapter for the industry."

Murshed also highlighted the impracticality of the clause, pointing out that General Sales Agents (GSAs) of airlines, which function as travel agencies, would be unable to sell tickets to other agencies.

Currently, Bangladesh has around 5,700 licensed travel agencies, but only 970 are accredited by the International Air Transport Association (IATA).

Among these, just 350 agencies have ticket-selling authorisation for major airlines such as Emirates, Qatar Airways, Singapore Airlines, and Saudi Arabian Airlines.

As a result, over 5,000 licensed agencies rely on these 350 for ticket procurement.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 2

If the ministry enforces this anti-business decision, we will not accept it.

ABDUS SALAM AREF
 ATAB President

The ministry will not take any measures that create difficulties for travel agencies.

MOHAMMAD ATAUR RAHMAN
 Joint Secretary
 Civil Aviation Ministry



A craftsman busy embroidering a Benarasi saree with colourful patterns, beads, and stones on a wooden frame. As Eid draws closer, artisans are working day and night to deliver their products, which are currently in high demand. The photo was taken at Ambagan Bihari Colony of Chattogram city recently.

PHOTO: RAJIB RAIHAN

Parveen Mahmud new chair of MJF

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Parveen Mahmud has been elected as the chairperson of Manusher Jonno



Foundation (MJF), a leading organisation dedicated to promoting human rights and good governance.

Parveen, a trailblazer in financial and development sectors, assumed office on March 23. Earlier, she served as member of the MJF governing body.

She will succeed industrialist Syed Manzur Elahi, who served as the chairperson of MJF for a long time. He passed away on March 12.

Parveen is the first woman to become president of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Bangladesh (ICAB) in 2011 and the first female president and board member of the South Asian Federation of Accountants.

She founded the CA Female Forum – Women in Leadership Committee, ICAB in 2017, and served as vice chairperson of SAFE's Women in Leadership Committee until 2019.

She began her professional journey with BRAC and later served as partner at ACNABIN & Co.

She also served as deputy managing director of Palli Karma-Sahayak Foundation (PKSF), and founding managing director of Grameen Telecom Trust.

She is currently the managing director of Shasha Garments Ltd and chairperson of RDRS Bangladesh.

Parveen also holds leadership roles on numerous boards including BRAC International, Centre for Policy Dialogue, and Bishsho Shahitto Kendro.

She also serves as an independent director at Marico Bangladesh, Apex Footwear Ltd, and Berger Paints Bangladesh Ltd.

Recently, she was honoured with the Top 50 Professional and Career Women Award 2023 – Sri Lanka (Leadership in Finance and Accounting category).



Children sift through the muddy waters, trying to catch fish. This waterbody is home to a variety of local fish, including koi, shing, tengra, and taki. The photo was taken in the Kuriana area of Swarupkathi upazila in Pirojpur yesterday.

PHOTO: TITU DAS

Remembering the women who fought

FROM PAGE 3

Eighteen-year-old Mosammat Liza worked as a house help in Dhaka's Shantinagar and taught Arabic at a madrasa to support her ailing parents. She was shot while working, dying three days later in hospital. Her father, Md Zaynal, could barely speak through his tears.

Shahina Begum, a fish seller in Jatrabari, was raising her children alone. When she was shot, an unknown man used her phone to call her family, desperately trying to reach someone.

Her daughter, Mosammat Hafiza, was in their village. "When I found out, I ran into the street. I had no money. Someone gave me Tk 500, and I

managed to get to Dhaka Medical College Hospital."

"There was an ICU shortage," she continued. "After four days of pleading, they arranged one. But in the end, we couldn't save my mother."

For Shahina's children and grandchildren, Eid is incomplete.

Md Solaiman, brother of martyr Nasima Akter, recounted how a helicopter gunshot pierced his son's chest before hitting Nasima in the neck. "My sister is gone, but my son survived. We couldn't even file a case, fearing the consequences."

His son still wakes up screaming from pain.

At yesterday's event, Farida Akhter, adviser to the Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock, and Mahfuz

Anam, editor and publisher of The Daily Star, handed the family members portraits of their loved ones. The newspaper also gave each family a cheque for Tk 50,000.

Speaking at the programme, Farida Akhter said, "We consider the martyrs of the July uprising our greatest assets. Without them, we have no value. We will never betray their sacrifices."

She condemned the fallen regime, saying that while most fascist rulers are men, Bangladesh's tragedy was that this dictator was a woman. "It was her will that led to the deaths of so many people, just to stay in power," she said. "The killers must face justice."

Prof Sayeed Ferdous, vice-

chancellor of Bangladesh Open University, questioned why so many families still cannot file cases. "How can this be possible?" he asked, criticising political parties for prioritising power struggles over justice.

Assistant Attorney General Arif Khan assured the families that investigations into the killings are ongoing.

"The lesson of civilisation is that murder cannot be avenged by more murder," he said. "The killer may take a life in an instant, but justice requires many steps."

Hosted by journalist Emran Mahfuz, the event concluded with performances by Amirul Momenin Manik, who sang self-composed songs honouring the fallen.

EC fails

FROM PAGE 3
pending NID correction applications remain unresolved, with a new target set for completion by September.

On December 19 last year, the NID director general had told journalists that 3,75,000 pending correction applications would be processed within three months.

However, during a briefing yesterday, he said although the crash programme was planned for an early January start, actual processing did not start until December 29, leading to further delays.

"As of March 16, we have completed 2,78,000 applications, but an additional 3,02,000 new applications have been submitted in the meantime," Humayun said.

He said voter registration is currently the EC's priority, with 47,54,000 new voters registered as of March 22.

Due to this, officials have been unable to focus on processing NID applications.

"The voter registration process will continue until May 5. Once the workload decreases, we will be able to prioritise NID corrections," he said.

Protect

FROM PAGE 5
mismanagement, public suffering, casualties, and corruption linked to the expressway project. They also urged a review of the contract to ensure national interests were protected.

Professor Anu Muhammad, chairing the event, criticised the government's reliance on costly, foreign loan-driven projects, advocating for sustainable, public transport-focused solutions instead. Professor Adil Muhammad Khan, president of Bangladesh Institute of Planners, highlighted that modern cities have moved away from flyovers as a solution to urban transport issues, especially those centred on private vehicles. However, Bangladesh still follows a flyover-focused approach, which encourages private car dependency.

Amirul Rajiv, the movement's coordinator, urged authorities to publicly disclose the project's technical design, feasibility reports, and environmental and social impact assessments.

DGHS former driver

FROM PAGE 3
highest punishment for committing such offences.

The judge ordered the authorities concerned to confiscate his Tk 1,50,31,810 earned illegally in favour of the state.

Earlier the prosecution and the defence completed their arguments and the court recorded statements of 16 prosecution witnesses.

The court framed charges against Malek on May 11, 2022.

Malek was arrested on

September 20, 2020 along with a foreign-made pistol, a magazine, five rounds of bullets, Tk 1.5 lakh in fake currency, a laptop and a mobile phone.

Later, two cases – one for possessing arms and ammunition and the other for fake currencies – were filed against him with Turag Police Station.

On September 20 of 2021, Malek was sentenced to 30 years' rigorous imprisonment for possessing firearms and ammunition.

Govt to tackle misinfo

FROM PAGE 3
look at media ownership today, who actually owns it? The people genuinely interested in informing the public don't own newspapers. Instead, those who want to protect their own business interests – or harm their competitors – are the ones running media outlets," she said.

On the media's role in spreading misinformation, Rizwana said, "Over the past 15 years, we have promoted narratives that we never should have. Instead of digging deep for the truth and informing the public, we allowed misinformation to thrive. Many media outlets failed to report on the July-August mass uprising, remaining silent until the very last moment."

She said, "For years, it wasn't just a political regime that deceived us – many media outlets played their part as well. They cannot claim to be above blame. And yet, where is the remorse? Why does this cycle continue?"

Mohammad Mamun Or Rashid, assistant professor at Jahangirnagar University and consultant at the ICT Division, gave a presentation on the impact of misinformation, disinformation, and development.

Kamal Hossain, head of the Media Reform Commission, mentioned that Chief Adviser Dr Muhammad Yunus has requested a list of immediate recommendations. Some of these will be sent to him, and Dr Yunus has committed to implementing them.

He also highlighted the need for media houses to establish fact checking desks, saying that many media outlets had been

reluctant to do so out of fear of losing favour with those in power.

PIB's Director-General Faruk Wasif said during the previous government's tenure, misinformation or exaggerated information was provided on every issue, especially regarding the country's progress toward becoming a middle income nation. "However, the real state of the economy is now becoming clear, which will pose a problem for us, and we are heading into difficulties because of it," he said.

Prof Rashed Al Mahmud from Dhaka University echoed the need for political action to address misinformation.

Firdous Azim, chairperson of PIB; Mohammad Azaz, administrator of DNCC; Ashish Damble of Oxfam Bangladesh; Kabita Bose of Plan International; Suman Rahman of FactWatch; Fahim Ahmed, CEO of Jamuna TV; spoke, among others, while Sariful Islam moderated the event.

Mid-day meal

FROM PAGE 3
it was difficult for management to arrange cooked meals.

He said the government will make sure that the provided dry food ensures enough protein for half a day for a student as per Unicef standards.

He said UNOs and upazila education officers will be asked to monitor the programme to ensure transparency in the distribution of food items.

The planning adviser said once the programme is launched, he will visit the field level to ensure whether it is running properly.

House for Rent

8800sqft. 4-storied building at House-2, Road-11, Pisciculture Housing, Block-KHA, Adabor, Dhaka. Full house or 2 floors separately with garage to be rented. Bank, Insurance, Office, Business farm, NGO, Clinic, Kindergarten etc. may be preferred.

Contact-01711531948

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Department of Public Health Engineering
Office of the Executive Engineer
Sunamganj District, Sunamganj
E-mail: ee.sunamganj@dphe.gov.bd

Memo No. 46.03.9000.000.14.061.20-306 Date: 23.03.2025

Invitation for e-Tender Notice

1	Ministry/Division	Local Government Division
2	Implementing Agency	Department of Public Health Engineering
3	Project name	Project for Safe Water Supply Throughout the Country.
4	e-Tender IDs	1088608, 1088609, 1088610, 1088611, 1088612, 1088613, 1088614, 1088615, 1088616, 1088617, 1088618, 1088619
5	Description of works	Installation of Water Point at Different Upazilla in Sunamganj district.
6	This is online tender, where only e-Tenders will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hardcopies will be accepted. Interested persons/firms can see details in the website: www.eprocure.gov.bd	
7	Tel: 2996600757 e-mail: ee.sunamganj@dphe.gov.bd	

Syed Khaleelul Islam
Executive Engineer, DPHE
Sunamganj District

GD-733

পাওয়ার গ্রিড বাংলাদেশ পিএলসি
POWER GRID BANGLADESH PLC
(An Enterprise of Bangladesh Power Development Board)

Grid Bhaban, Avenue-3, Jahurul Islam City, Aftabnagar, Badda, Dhaka-1212 www.powergrid.gov.bd
স্মারক নং- ২৭.২১.০০০০.৬৫৮.১৮.০১৬.২৩.৫৪৮ তারিখঃ ২০/০৩/২০২৫ খ্রিঃ

e-Tender বিজ্ঞপ্তি

পাওয়ার গ্রিডের জিএমডি, ঢাকা (দক্ষিণ) দপ্তরের আওতাধীন নিম্নলিখিত দরপত্র e-GP পোর্টালে প্রকাশিত হয়েছে।

ID	Package	Title of Works	Closing & Opening Date and Time
1086487	GMDDS: 2024-2025/15	Repair and Maintenance of Barbed Wire at Hasnabad 230/132 kV Grid Substation under GMD, Dhaka-South, Power Grid Bangladesh PLC.	09 Apr 2025 at 12:30

আগ্রহী তিকাদারী প্রতিষ্ঠানকে www.eprocure.gov.bd সাইটের মাধ্যমে দরপত্র অংশগ্রহণের জন্য অনুরোধ করা যাচ্ছে।

মোঃ মোস্তাফিজুর রহমান
নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলী (অঃ দাঃ) জিএমডি, ঢাকা (দক্ষিণ)

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Paikgachha Govt. Technical School and College, Paikgachha, Khulna
Mail: tscpaikgachha@gmail.com

Memo No: 57.03.0000.500.18.001.2021-0780 Date: 23-03-2025

e-Tender Notice (OTM)

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

Tender ID	Description of Goods	Tender opening date & time
1089813	Supply of Raw Materials & Spare Parts (Code: 3256105)	08/04/2025 Time: 15.00

This is online Tender, where only e-tenders will be accepted in the National e-GP System Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted.

Md Moazzam Hossain Sikder
Principal
Paikgachha Govt. Technical School and College, Paikgachha, Khulna, Phone: 01714-901888

নোটিশ

মোকামঃ বাংলাদেশ সুপ্রীম কোর্ট
হাইকোর্ট বিভাগ
(সেবিসিবিজ্ঞ আদিনি এখতিয়ার)
কোশানী মাস্টার নং-৩৯৫/২০২৫

সোঃ আদালতময়
-সদস্য-
আর.জো.এস.সি. এবং অন্যান্য
-পিটিশনার।
-সেসপন্ডেন্টস।


সংশ্লিষ্ট সকলের অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, অনার মোঃ আদালতময় পিটিশনার ইয়া ২০২১, ২০২২ এবং ২০২৩ গণিকা বর্ষের বার্ষিক সাধারণ সভা অনুষ্ঠানের আদিনি মওকুফের নিমিত্তে ১৯৯৪ সালের কোশানী আইনের ৮১(২) সেক্ট ৮৫(৩) এবং ৩৯৬ ধারা অনুযায়ী একতরফা আদেশ দাখিল করিয়াছেন। বিগত ১১ মার্চ ২০২৫ ইং তারিখে মহামান্য হাইকোর্ট বিভাগের মাননীয় বিচারপতি জনাব আহমেদ সোহেল গ্রাহমিক কমানী অক্রে সন্তুষ্টি ইয়া আদেশনাটি গ্রহণ করিয়া আদেশ প্রদান করিয়াছেন এবং সেসপন্ডেন্টদের প্রতি নোটিশ জারি করিয়াছেন। উক্ত পিটিশনের কমানীতে বার্ষিকগতির ক্রেহ অংশ নিচে চাইলে ব্যক্তিগতভাবে অথবা আইনজীবীর মাধ্যমে তাহা করিতে পারিবেন। পিটিশনের কপি আদেশের অন্তর্গত ইক্রে সন্তুষ্টি করা যাইবে।

আবুল বাশার টুল
আজ্ঞাধিকারী, আদিনি বিভাগ
দিয়াস স্টেপস, বাসা নং-১০/১ (৩য় তলা), নয়াপল্টন, মঙ্গল গলি,
বালুর মার্গ, ঢাকা-১০০০, মোবাইলঃ ০১৭৭৭৭০২৪৬।


REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)

International Labour Organization (ILO) Dhaka invites proposals from interested Technical Organization for Developing a Roadmap for the National Social Insurance Scheme (NSIS) in Bangladesh. The bidding documents can be downloaded from the **United Nations Global Market Place (UNGM)** at **<https://www.ungm.org/Public/Notice/262101>**

The deadline for submission of proposal is **Sunday, April 20, 2025, by 04:30 PM (BST time).**


চট্টগ্রাম সিটি কর্পোরেশন
নগর ভবন, বাটালি হিল,
টাইগারপাস, চট্টগ্রাম, বাংলাদেশ।
www.ccc.gov.bd

“আপনার শহর
পরিচ্ছন্ন ও সুবুজ রাখুন”

স্মারক নং-৪৬.১১.১৬০০.০০৬.০০.০০.২৫-৬২ তারিখঃ ২৩/০৩/২০২৫ ইং

বিজ্ঞপ্তি

চট্টগ্রাম সিটি কর্পোরেশন এর আওতাধীন ৪১ টি ওয়ার্ডের বর্জ্য ব্যবস্থাপনা কাজে গতিশীলতা আনয়ন ও মানোন্নয়নের লক্ষ্যে প্রাথমিক বর্জ্য সংগ্রহ সেবা প্রদানকারী প্রতিষ্ঠান (পিসিএসপি) নিবন্ধন ও নিয়োগের কার্যক্রম গ্রহণ করা হয়েছে। সে লক্ষ্যে আগ্রহী প্রতিষ্ঠানসমূহকে প্রধান পরিচ্ছন্ন কর্মকর্তার দপ্তর হতে ৫০০০/- (পাঁচ হাজার টাকা মাত্র) মেয়র, চট্টগ্রাম সিটি কর্পোরেশন ব্যাবর পে-অর্ডার (অফিসরতায়োগ্য) জমা প্রদানপূর্বক আগামী ১৩ই এপ্রিল ২০২৫ইং তারিখ দুপুর ৩:০০ ঘটিকার মধ্যে আবেদনপত্র সংগ্রহ ও আনুষ্ঠানিক কাগজপত্রাদিসহ উক্ত তারিখের মধ্যেই জমা প্রদানের জন্য অনুরোধ করা হলো। উল্লেখ্য প্রত্যেক ওয়ার্ডে একটি পিসিএসপি প্রতিষ্ঠান বাৎসরিক ভিত্তিতে নিবন্ধন এবং নিয়োজিত করা হবে, যা প্রত্যেক বছর নতুন ভাবে নির্বাচিত হবে। একটি প্রতিষ্ঠান একাধিক ওয়ার্ডে আবেদন করতে পারবে। প্রতিষ্ঠানসমূহের সক্ষমতা যাচাইয়ের জন্য কর্পোরেশন কর্তৃক নিযুক্ত “ঘাটাই কমিটি” প্রাথমিক বর্জ্য সংগ্রহ সেবা প্রদানকারী প্রতিষ্ঠানের (পিসিএসপি) মনোনয়ন চূড়ান্ত করবে। মনোনয়ন সংক্রান্ত যে কোনো বিষয়ে কর্তৃপক্ষের সিদ্ধান্তই চূড়ান্ত বলে গণ্য হবে।

চসিক/জস-৬৫/২৪-২৫

আই ইউ এ টৌথ্রী
কমান্ডার বিএন
প্রধান পরিচ্ছন্ন কর্মকর্তা
চট্টগ্রাম সিটি কর্পোরেশন

GD-747


Fire breaks out in Sundarbans again

SEE PAGE 4 COL 6

A black and white photograph of a narrow, cluttered alleyway in a slum. The ground is covered with various items, including large plastic jugs, pots, and bags. The walls are made of corrugated metal and are covered with posters and notices. A person is visible in the background, and a bicycle is parked on the right side.

PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON

Tea workers, children particularly affected



Tuberculosis

A fire broke out around 9:00pm on Saturday near Kolomteji Camp in the Sundarbans East Division and was brought under control yesterday morning after an overnight effort by forest officials and over 100 local volunteers. Fire service teams and forest staff remained on-site to monitor for possible reignition.

BANGLADESH RURAL ELECTRIFICATION BOARD
POWER DIVISION, MINISTRY OF POWER, ENERGY AND MINERAL RESOURCES.
GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLES' REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH

Memo No. 27.12.2637.225.02.015.24/512,

Date: 17-03-2025

e-Tender Notice (LTM)

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for Procurement of following Electrical Line Construction/ Up-gradation Works. Tender submission deadlines are mentioned below:

e-Tender ID	Description of Works	Online (e-GP System) Tender Publication Date & Time	Tender Document Last Selling Date and Time	Tender Closing Date and Time
1086424	Installation of 9.76 KM Insulated Conductor, Conversion of 5.140 KM LT to HT & 3.555 KM HT 1ph to 3ph line along with testing commissioning etc. at Dhaka PBS-4 under MCE(DMD) Project. Sub-Package: MCEP/BREB/DMD-W-196-3-Ins-LT-HT-HT 1P-3P	25-Mar-2025 15:00 (BST)	15-Apr-2025 15:00	16-Apr-2025 09:00
1086423	Installation of 9.79 KM Insulated Conductor, Conversion of 5.06 KM LT to HT & 5.402 KM HT 1ph to 3ph line along with testing commissioning etc. at Dhaka PBS-4 under MCE(DMD) Project. Sub-Package: MCEP/BREB/DMD-W-196-4-Ins-LT-HT-HT 1P-3P	25-Mar-2025 15:00 (BST)	15-Apr-2025 15:00	16-Apr-2025 09:15
1086422	Installation of 8.417 KM Insulated Conductor, Conversion of 6.921 KM LT to HT & 4.930 KM HT 1ph to 3ph line along with testing commissioning etc. at Dhaka PBS-4 under MCE(DMD) Project. Sub-Package: MCEP/BREB/DMD-W-195-1-Ins-LT-HT-HT 1Ph-3Ph	25-Mar-2025 15:00 (BST)	15-Apr-2025 15:00	16-Apr-2025 09:30
1086421	Installation of 7.353 KM Insulated Conductor, Conversion of 7.100 KM LT to HT & 5.608 KM HT 1ph to 3ph line along with testing commissioning etc. at Dhaka PBS-4 under MCE(DMD) Project. Sub-Package: MCEP/BREB/DMD/W-195-2-Ins-LT-HT-HT 1P-3P	25-Mar-2025 15:00 (BST)	15-Apr-2025 15:00	16-Apr-2025 09:45
1086420	Installation of 7.613 KM Insulated Conductor, Conversion of 7.006 KM LT to HT & 5.728 KM HT 1ph to 3ph line along with testing commissioning etc. at Narayanganj PBS-1 under MCE(DMD) Project. Sub-Package: MCEP/BREB/DMD-W-260-3-Ins-LT-HT-HT 1P-3P	25-Mar-2025 15:00 (BST)	15-Apr-2025 15:00	16-Apr-2025 10:00
1086419	Installation of 7.60 KM Insulated Conductor, Conversion of 7.199 KM LT to HT & 6.029 KM HT 1ph to 3ph line along with testing commissioning etc. at Narayanganj PBS-1 under MCE(DMD) Project. MCEP/BREB/DMD-W-259-5-Ins-LT-HT and HT 1Ph-3Ph	25-Mar-2025 15:00 (BST)	15-Apr-2025 15:00	16-Apr-2025 10:30
1086417	Installation of 6.179 KM Insulated Conductor, Conversion of 8.244 KM LT to HT & 5.970 KM HT 1ph to 3ph line along with testing commissioning etc. at Narayanganj PBS-1 under MCE(DMD) Project. Sub-Package: MCEP/BREB/DMD-W-262-2-INS-LT-HT and HT 1P-3PH	25-Mar-2025 15:00 (BST)	15-Apr-2025 15:00	16-Apr-2025 11:00
1086415	Installation of 7.012 KM Insulated Conductor, Conversion of 7.378 KM LT to HT & 5.947 KM HT 1ph to 3ph line along with testing commissioning etc. at Narayanganj PBS-1 under MCE(DMD) Project. Sub-Package: MCEP/BREB/DMD/W-262-1-Ins-LT-HT-HT 1Ph-3Ph	25-Mar-2025 15:00 (BST)	15-Apr-2025 15:00	16-Apr-2025 11:30
1086414	Installation of 7.826 KM Insulated Conductor, Conversion of 5.752 KM LT to HT & 6.556 KM HT 1ph to 3ph line along with testing commissioning etc. at Narayanganj PBS-1 under MCE(DMD) Project. Sub-Package: MCEP/BREB/DMD-W-261-1-INS-LT-HT and HT 1Ph-3Ph	25-Mar-2025 15:00 (BST)	15-Apr-2025 15:00	16-Apr-2025 12:00
1086412	Installation of 7.735 KM Insulated Conductor, Conversion of 6.987 KM LT to HT & 5.750 KM HT 1ph to 3ph line along with testing commissioning etc. at Narayanganj PBS-1 under MCE(DMD) Project. Sub-Package: MCEP/BREB/DMD-W-261-2-INS-LT-HT and HT 1Ph-3Ph	25-Mar-2025 15:00 (BST)	15-Apr-2025 15:00	16-Apr-2025 12:30
1086411	Installation of 7.526 KM Insulated Conductor, Conversion of 7.159 KM LT to HT & 6.061 KM HT 1ph to 3ph line along with testing commissioning etc. at Narayanganj PBS-1 under MCE(DMD) Project. Sub-Package: MCEP/BREB/DMD-W-260-5-Ins-LT-HT and HT 1P to 3P	25-Mar-2025 15:00 (BST)	15-Apr-2025 15:00	16-Apr-2025 13:00
1086410	Installation of 6.769 KM Insulated Conductor, Conversion of 7.843 KM LT to HT & 5.646 KM HT 1ph to 3ph line along with testing commissioning etc. at Narayanganj PBS-1 under MCE(DMD) Project. Sub-Package: MCEP/BREB/DMD-W-260-2-INS-LT to HT and HT 1P to 3P	25-Mar-2025 15:00 (BST)	15-Apr-2025 15:00	16-Apr-2025 13:30
1086409	Installation of 7.697 KM Insulated Conductor, Conversion of 7.168 KM LT to HT & 5.384 KM HT 1ph to 3ph line along with testing commissioning etc. at Narayanganj PBS-1 under MCE(DMD) Project. Sub-Package: MCEP/BREB/DMD-W-260-4-INS-LT to HT-HT 1P to 3P	25-Mar-2025 15:00 (BST)	16-Apr-2025 15:00	17-Apr-2025 09:00
1086408	Installation of 7.18 KM Insulated Conductor, Conversion of 7.46 KM LT to HT & 6.252 KM HT 1ph to 3ph line along with testing commissioning etc. at Narayanganj PBS-1 under MCE(DMD) Project. Sub-Package: MCEP/BREB/DMD-W-259-4-Ins-LT to HT and HT-1P to 3P	25-Mar-2025 15:00 (BST)	16-Apr-2025 15:00	17-Apr-2025 09:15
1086407	Installation of 7.221 KM Insulated Conductor, Conversion of 7.215 KM LT to HT & 5.739 KM HT 1ph to 3ph line along with testing commissioning etc. at Narayanganj PBS-1 under MCE(DMD) Project. Sub-Package: MCEP/BREB/DMD-W-260-1-Ins-LT to HT and HT 1P to 3P	25-Mar-2025 15:00 (BST)	16-Apr-2025 15:00	17-Apr-2025 09:30
1086406	Installation of 7.039 KM Insulated Conductor, Conversion of 7.393 KM LT to HT & 6.046 KM HT 1ph to 3ph line along with testing commissioning etc. at Narayanganj PBS-1 under MCE(DMD) Project. Sub-Package: MCEP/BREB/DMD-W-259-3-Ins-LT-HT-HT 1P-3P	25-Mar-2025 15:00 (BST)	16-Apr-2025 15:00	17-Apr-2025 09:45
1086405	Installation of 6.554 KM Insulated Conductor, Conversion of 4.659 KM LT to HT & 5.387 KM HT 1ph to 3ph line along with testing commissioning etc. at Narayanganj PBS-1 under MCE(DMD) Project. Sub-Package: MCEP/BREB/DMD-W-262-5-Ins-LT-HT and HT 1P to 3P	25-Mar-2025 15:00 (BST)	16-Apr-2025 15:00	17-Apr-2025 10:00
1086404	Installation of 5.802 KM Insulated Conductor, Conversion of 7.539 KM LT to HT & 5.413 KM HT 1ph to 3ph line along with testing commissioning etc. at Narayanganj PBS-1 under MCE(DMD) Project. Package: MCEP/BREB/DMD/W-262-4-Ins-LT-HT and HT 1P to 3P	25-Mar-2025 15:00 (BST)	16-Apr-2025 15:00	17-Apr-2025 10:30
1086403	Installation of 5.796 KM Insulated Conductor, Conversion of 6.099 KM LT to HT & 6.204 KM HT 1ph to 3ph line along with testing commissioning etc. at Narayanganj PBS-1 under MCE(DMD) Project. Sub-Package: MCEP/BREB/DMD-W-262-3-Ins-LT to HT-HT 1P to 3P	25-Mar-2025 15:00 (BST)	16-Apr-2025 15:00	17-Apr-2025 11:00
1086401	Installation of 7.199 KM Insulated Conductor, Conversion of 7.359 KM LT to HT & 6.353 KM HT 1ph to 3ph line along with testing commissioning etc. at Narayanganj PBS-1 under MCE(DMD) Project. Sub-Package: MCEP/BREB/DMD/W-261-4-Ins-LT to HT and 1p to 3p	25-Mar-2025 15:00 (BST)	16-Apr-2025 15:00	17-Apr-2025 11:30
1086400	Installation of 6.798 KM Insulated Conductor, Conversion of 7.342 KM LT to HT & 5.417 KM HT 1ph to 3ph line along with testing commissioning etc. at Narayanganj PBS-1 under MCE(DMD) Project. Sub-Package: MCEP/BREB/DMD-W-261-3-Ins-LT to HT and HT 1P to 3P	25-Mar-2025 15:00 (BST)	16-Apr-2025 15:00	17-Apr-2025 12:00
1086399	Installation of 9.948 KM Insulated Conductor and Conversion of 9.20 KM LT to HT along with testing commissioning etc. at Narayanganj PBS-2 under MCE(DMD) Project. Sub-Package: MCEP/BREB/DMD-W-268-5-Ins and LT to HT	25-Mar-2025 15:00 (BST)	16-Apr-2025 15:00	17-Apr-2025 12:30
1086398	Installation of 10.155 KM Insulated Conductor and Conversion of 8.852 KM LT to HT along with testing commissioning etc. at Narayanganj PBS-2 under MCE(DMD) Project. Sub-Package: MCEP/BREB/DMD-W-268-4-Ins and LT to HT	25-Mar-2025 15:00 (BST)	16-Apr-2025 15:00	17-Apr-2025 13:00
1086397	Installation of 9.65 KM Insulated Conductor and Conversion of 11.518 KM LT to HT along with testing commissioning etc. at Narayanganj PBS-2 under MCE(DMD) Project. Sub-Package: MCEP/BREB/DMD-W-268-3-Ins and LT to HT	25-Mar-2025 15:00 (BST)	16-Apr-2025 15:00	17-Apr-2025 13:30

This is 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>) is required. The fees for downloading the e-Tender Documents from the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through any e-GP registered bank's branches. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP helpdesk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

বাংলাদেশ পল্লী বিদ্যুতায়ন বোর্ড
Bangladesh Rural Electrification Board
১৫০৩-১৭২) ২০২৪-২৫

(MD. Golam Mortoza)
Superintending Engineer
Bangladesh Rural Electrification Board
Dhaka Zone (South), Executive Building, Nikunja-02,
Khilkhet, Dhaka-1229.
E-mail : sebrebdkhsouth@gmail.com



Tawsif-Bubly will perform together in ‘Ityadi’

The magazine show *Ityadi* highlights various social irregularities and inconsistencies. This time, the theme of the group song revolves around the concept of seeing through one's eyes and conscience. Our culture is our roots, yet many things are now being distorted and accepted as the norm. This group song has been created to address such issues.

This episode features popular television actor Tawsif Mahbub and well-known film actress Shobnom Bubly. They will be accompanied by *Ityadi's* regular dance troupe. The song's lyrics were penned by renowned lyricist Mohammad Rafiquzzaman, with musical arrangement by Mehedi. It is performed by vocalists Tanzina Ruma, Rajib, and Kheya. The dance is performed by *Ityadi's* regular dance group and choreographed by its dance director Mamun.

The special *Ityadi* episode for Eid will be aired on Bangladesh Television on the night following Eid day, right after the 8pm Bengali news. *Ityadi* is written, directed, and hosted by Hanif Sanket and produced by Fagun Audio Vision.

Runa Laila to return for Eid Anondomela

Legendary singer Runa Laila will be performing on Bangladesh Television's (BTV) magazine programme *Eid Anondomela* for the second consecutive year.

Last year, Runa Laila made her debut on the show and was accompanied by four contemporary singers—Dilshad Nahar Kona, Imran Mahmudul, Zanita Ahmed Zhilik, and Sabbir Zaman.

However, this time, she will perform solo, singing the popular song *Shilpi Ami Tomader Gaan Shonabo*.

According to a source, the recording for *Anondomela* will take place today (March 24) at BTV's own auditorium. It has been reported that this year's programme will be hosted by Masuma Rahman Nabila and Mamnun Emon. *Eid Anondomela* will be aired on Eid day.

Taylor Swift breaks Instagram silence to praise Selena Gomez's new album

After a 100-day break from Instagram, Taylor Swift returned online to show support for her friend Selena Gomez's new album *I Said I Love You First*.

Swift shared her excitement on Instagram Stories, praising Gomez and fiancé Benny Blanco for their work on the project.

"I love this album so much oh my God," Swift wrote, linking to the album.

This marked Swift's first post since December when she celebrated the conclusion of her record-breaking *Eras Tour*.

I Said I Love You First features collaborations with GloRilla, J Balvin, Tainy, and others, and marks Gomez's first major release since *Rare* in 2020.

WHAT'S THE HAPS?

'A Place of Stories: Designing The Stall'

The exhibition *A Place of Stories: Designing The Stall* is all set to showcase reimaginings of the traditional tea stall, transforming it into a dynamic community hub and cultural icon.

The selected 30 designs for this event were shortlisted from over 400 entries submitted worldwide, with participation from more than 1,000 individuals.

Visit to explore this creative evolution of a cherished space.

Date: Monday-Thursday | March 24-27, 2025
Time: 12pm-9pm
Venue: Alliance Française de Dhaka, Dhanmondi

Pakistani singer Aima Baig to perform in Bangladesh for the first time

Renowned Pakistani singer Aima Baig is set to perform in Bangladesh for the first time at the *One True Sound Grand* concert, scheduled for April 12 at Sena Malancha, Dhaka.

The concert, organised by Yamaha Music Bangladesh, was officially announced on their Facebook page yesterday.

According to Al Shahrar, senior executive at the organisation, the event will feature Aima Baig alongside prominent Bangladeshi musicians.

Baig, known for her hit songs in films like *Lahore Se Aagey* and *Baaz i*, has also gained fame for her performances on Coke Studio Pakistan.

Further event details, including ticket information, will be released soon.

CBI closes investigation into Sushant Singh Rajput's death

The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has officially closed its investigation into the death of actor Sushant Singh Rajput, confirming no foul play was involved.

Rajput was found dead in his Mumbai apartment on June 14, 2020, sparking widespread speculation. After four years of forensic analysis and expert consultations, the CBI ruled the actor died by suicide.

The probe also cleared actress Rhea Chakraborty and her family of accusations made by Rajput's father, including embezzlement and abetment to suicide.

The investigation, which involved technical data and consultations with a medical board, found no evidence to support conspiracy claims. Rajput's family has yet to comment on the closure.

NEWS

WHO's 2025 targets remain a far cry

FROM PAGE 14

case notifications has risen over the years.

"But still, we need to intensify efforts to detect the missing cases, and to do so, the government must invest more. Unless the missing cases are detected, they will continue to spread the disease among others," he added.

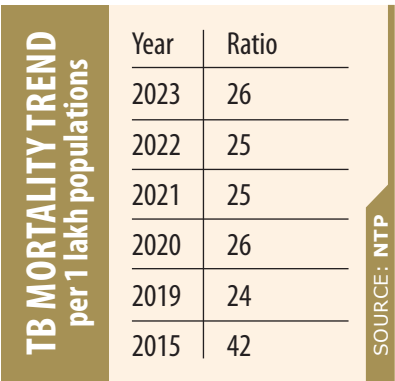
The expert said the estimation process of WHO also should be reviewed to get the actual picture.

Meanwhile, the Trump administration's abrupt suspension of the USAID programme in January has dealt a blow to Bangladesh's efforts to stave off tuberculosis.

For instance, the icddr.b's Alliance for Combating Tuberculosis, aimed at improving tuberculosis case detection by strengthening the health system, has ground to a halt after USAID stopped funding the programme.

Initiated in March 2020 with a \$30 million grant, the project received a three-year extension to March 2027 with a total of \$74.9 million, shows icddr.b's annual report for 2023.

The project's focus was to increase



tuberculosis detection among children, drug-resistant tuberculosis patients and high-risk groups.

In 2023, ultra-portable X-ray machines with AI were introduced in remote areas under the programme with the view to enhancing tuberculosis diagnosis. A total of 47,845 individuals were screened, of which 226 were detected with tuberculosis.

The USAID funding was used for accelerating the work of the National Tuberculosis Control Programme

(NTP), so the abrupt suspension is posing a major challenge, said two of its officials.

However, Nasreen begged to differ. "It would pose a little bit of challenge for them, but the impact won't be that much," she said.

Currently, the NTP operates under the health ministry and is primarily funded by the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria.

A network of 17 non-governmental organisations led by BRAC also collaborates on the programme with the Global Fund.

While the tuberculosis mortality rate has decreased, socio-economic conditions such as malnutrition, poverty, climate change and population density have seen little improvement, leaving room for the further spread of the disease, said Akramul Islam, senior director of Brac Health Programme.

Improving these socio-economic indicators remains a major challenge, he said.

"Therefore, the number of tests and the coverage of preventive measures must be expanded," he added.

We will always stand by you

FROM PAGE 2

assistance would continue in the future.

"Today's iftar arrangement and financial support will not be a one-time initiative. Business entrepreneurs, bankers, and other contributors have come together to make this happen. The Directorate General of Forces Intelligence (DGFI), Special Security Force (SSF), and

banks have also provided financial contributions. The army has already spent significant funds on treatment, and to date, we have provided medical care to over 4,200 injured individuals," he said.

Waker reaffirmed efforts toward the rehabilitation of the injured.

"You are the nation's pride. You have sacrificed a lot for the country and the people. I congratulate you

and assure you that we will always be there for you," he said.

Senior army officials, distinguished civilians, and directors of various government hospitals attended the event.

After the programme, Eid gifts were distributed to injured students on behalf of the army, according to a release from Inter-Services Public Relations.

Israeli strikes on Gaza

FROM PAGE 14

several targets in those areas in what witnesses said was an escalation of the attack that began on Tuesday.

Israeli military spokesperson Avichay Adraee issued an evacuation warning on X for residents in the Tel Al-Sultan neighbourhood in western Rafah in the south of the strip, saying the military was launching an onslaught there to eradicate "terrorist organizations".

In a statement, Hamas accused Israel of assassinating Bardaweil,

who it said was praying along with his wife when an Israeli missile struck their tent shelter in Khan Younis.

"His blood, that of his wife and martyrs, will remain fuelling the battle of liberation and independence. The criminal enemy will not break our determination and will," said the group.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has repeatedly said the main aim of the war is to destroy Hamas as a military and governing entity. He has said the aim of the new

campaign is to force the group to give up remaining hostages.

Israel's security cabinet approved a plan to separate 13 Jewish settlements in the Israeli-occupied West Bank from their neighbouring communities, Finance Minister Bezalel Smotrich said yesterday.

The settlements will ultimately be recognised as independent, he posted on X about the move, which follows the approval of tens of thousands of housing units across the West Bank.

Tarique urges parties to prioritise public issues

FROM PAGE 14

said, if people have the scope and power to determine who should run the country then political parties must focus on the hopes and expectations of the public.

He said Bangladesh gained independence through the sacrifices of millions, but the country's democracy has been hindered on different occasions, including the introduction of the one-party Baksal rule and the establishment of autocratic rule over the past 15 years.

The BNP leader said the July-August mass uprising succeeded because the people stood by the

political parties with their support.

"A mafia-like autocrat [Sheikh Hasina] could be driven out of the country, as people from all walks of life took to the streets and stood by the political parties with an expectation for change. People must have had an expectation for seeking change... I think people's desire for the political parties is to start working for them and address their issues," he observed.

"But what are our thoughts on the people, who are our main capital in politics? Shouldn't we talk about and think about their issues? Of course, we should, because it's

our politics, and the people are our greatest capital," Tarique said.

"Why did we present the 31-point proposal? The reason was simple. We saw how the fleeing autocrat destroyed every institution in the country. Whether it's the education system, healthcare, employment, judiciary, civil administration, police administration, or the power sector, they destroyed every institution," he said.

The BNP leader said the first institution the previous autocratic regime destroyed was Bangladesh's electoral system, which they made controversial and destroyed.

ICT investigators submit report

FROM PAGE 2

"This was one of the most heinous crimes in history," he remarked.

In connection to the incident, two separate complaints were filed with the ICT on September 11, 2024. One case was filed over the two complaints since they were identical.

An arrest warrant was issued against former local MP Saiful Islam and several others in this case on December 24, 2024. Saiful remains absconding in the case.

However, Abdullalil Kafi, former

additional superintendent of police (crime and ops) of Dhaka district, Shahidul Islam, former additional superintendent of police, Dhaka district (Savar circle), AFM Sayed, then officer-in-charge of Ashulia Police Station, Arafat Hossain, an inspector in the detective branch of police, SI Malek, and Constable Mukul were arrested in the case, reports BSS.

Tajul denied claims that their investigations were moving at a slow pace, claiming that they finished their work in a tenth of the time

typically needed to look into a crime against humanity case.

"Six months is, by no means, a sufficient time to investigate such cases. However, as part of our commitment to the nation, our investigation agency has been working tirelessly to complete the probes."

He acknowledged the lack of expert investigators, noting that police officials had no prior experience conducting such inquiries.

"They needed time to gain the necessary expertise."

Ecuador ministry says new Amazon fuel leak an 'attack'

AFP, Quito

Ecuador found a new leak in a fuel pipeline in the Amazon region on Saturday and dubbed it an "attack," days after another spill affected hundreds of thousands of people.

The energy ministry did not report the size of the new spill nor say whether it extended to the Coca River, where the country's main hydroelectric plant is located.

In a statement, the ministry said "a leak of oil derivatives" had happened in the eastern province of Napo. It attributed the leak to sabotage.

On Tuesday, he country's state-owned oil company declared an

emergency over the earlier spill in the northwest, which polluted several rivers and left hundreds of thousands without clean drinking water.

Authorities also denounced that spill as being an act of sabotage.

The energy ministry said a decision would be made whether or not to take the nearby Coca Codo Sinclair hydroelectric power plant -- which provides 1,100 MW to the national grid -- offline to protect its machinery.

The ministry said a plant shutdown would not lead to power cuts, as supplies would be "guaranteed" to the entire country.

Iran unveils missile systems

FROM PAGE 14

described Trump's letter as "more of a threat" but said it appeared to offer opportunities and noted that Tehran would respond "in the coming days".

In remarks broadcast on Friday, US Middle East envoy Steve Witkoff said Trump was trying to head off armed conflict with Iran by building trust with Tehran.

He said the president's letter was not intended as a threat.

Iran has controlled the three Gulf islands since 1971, despite their sovereignty being disputed with the United Arab Emirates for decades.

In September, Tangsir said Iran was "expanding" its defence capabilities on the islands.

Houthis
accuse US
of attacking
airport

Israel intercepts
missile launched
from Yemen

AFP, Sana'a

Houthi rebel media in Yemen accused the United States Saturday of attacking the airport in Hodeida, the latest such claim since Washington announced heavy strikes against the rebels one week ago.

Al-Masirah TV, blaming “American aggression”, said three attacks had targeted the airport in Hodeida on the Red Sea coast.

Meanwhile, Israel said yesterday it had intercepted a missile launched from Yemen after air raid sirens sounded in several areas across the country.

The Houthis’ fresh attacks come under a pledge to expand their range of targets in retaliation for renewed Israeli strikes in Gaza that killed hundreds after weeks of relative calm.



A protester flashes a victory sign as pro-Palestinian demonstrators participate in a rally against Israel's operations in Gaza and Lebanon, outside the Israeli embassy in Athens, Greece, yesterday.

PHOTO: REUTERS

GRAFT INVESTIGATION
Turkish court
jails Istanbul
mayor pending
trial

REUTERS, Istanbul

A Turkish court yesterday jailed President Tayyip Erdogan’s main political rival, Istanbul Mayor Ekrem Imamoglu, pending trial on graft charges, in a move likely to stoke the country’s biggest protests against the government in more than a decade.

The decision to send Imamoglu to jail comes after the main opposition party, European leaders and tens of thousands of protesters criticised the actions against him as politicised and undemocratic.

Imamoglu has denied the charges, calling them “unimaginable accusations and slanders”.

“I am standing tall, I will never bow down,” Imamoglu said on X, calling on supporters not to lose hope. “We will rip away this coup, this dark stain on our democracy all together.”

The government denies that investigations are politically motivated and says courts are independent. Interior Ministry said that Istanbul Imamoglu has been removed from duty after the court formally arrested him on graft charges.

As the courtroom developments unfolded early yesterday, members of Imamoglu’s Republican People’s Party (CHP), the main opposition against Erdogan’s ruling alliance, were preparing to anoint Imamoglu as its candidate for the next presidential election.

He is the only nominee and hundreds of people had flocked to polling stations for the election to show support after the court ruling, and skirmishes with police continued through the night in major cities.

No general election is scheduled until 2028. But if Erdogan is to run again, parliament would need to back an earlier election since the president will have reached his limit by that date. Imamoglu is leading Erdogan in some opinion polls.

Put fresh pressure on
Moscow to end war

Zelensky urges allies as Russian strikes on Kyiv kill three people ; Ukraine, US teams to hold talks in KSA



AFP, Kyiv

President Volodymyr Zelensky yesterday urged Ukraine’s allies to put fresh pressure on Moscow to end the war, after Russian drones targeted Kyiv overnight, killing at least three people, according to local authorities.

“New decisions and new pressure on Moscow are needed to bring an end to these strikes and this war,” Zelensky posted on social media on the eve of parallel talks between the two sides with US officials on a partial truce.

“According to the available information, three people died, including a five-year-old child. Another 10 people were wounded,” the Kyiv city military administration said on Telegram.

Among the wounded, “the youngest victim was... only 11 months old”, it said.

The drones targeted several districts of Kyiv, mainly hitting residential buildings and causing large fires, according to footage circulating on social media.

Ukraine’s air force also said Russia had launched 147 drones overnight targeting several parts of the country. The military

said air defence units had destroyed 97 of the drones, with 25 failing to reach their targets.

Russian and Ukrainian delegations are due to hold parallel ceasefire talks with US representatives in Saudi Arabia today.

Moscow is hoping to achieve “some progress” at the talks, a Russian negotiator told state media before the United States meets Ukrainian and Russian delegations separately in a bid to halt the three-year conflict.

US envoy Keith Kellogg described the effort as “shuttle diplomacy” between hotel rooms.

Ukraine will meet the US mediators first, with Zelensky saying he was “prepared” for yesterday’s talks.

Moscow has rejected a joint US-Ukraine proposal for a full and unconditional 30-day ceasefire, countering with a suggested pause on aerial attacks on energy facilities.

Meanwhile, British Prime Minister Keir Starmer said US President Donald Trump has a point that European countries must bear a greater burden for their collective self-defence, the New York Times said yesterday. “We need to think about defence and security in a more immediate way,” he told the newspaper.

SOUTH LEBANON

One dead
as Israel
resumes
drone strike

AFP, Beirut

Lebanon’s health ministry said one person was killed yesterday in an Israeli drone strike, a day after the most intense escalation since a November ceasefire in the war with Hezbollah.

“The Israeli enemy raid with a drone on a car in Aita al Shaab led to the death of one citizen,” the health ministry said, after the official National News Agency (NNA) had reported the strike on the southern village.

The NNA also reported separate Israeli strikes yesterday on Naqurah, Shihin and Labbouneh in the south, near the Israeli border.

The Lebanese health ministry said seven people were killed on Saturday, including in an attack on Tyre which a security source told AFP targeted a Hezbollah official.

Pakistan army
kills 16 militants
on Afghan border

AGENCIES

Pakistan’s army has killed 16 Islamist militants along the country’s western border with Afghanistan, a statement said yesterday.

It said border troops killed all the militants in an exchange of fire during the night between March 22 and 23 in North Waziristan district. “Own troops effectively engaged and thwarted their attempt to infiltrate,” the army statement said.

Islamabad says that Islamist militants who attack inside Pakistan, and against the army have safe havens in Afghanistan, a charge Kabul denies, reports Reuters.

Meanwhile, gunmen shot dead four ethnic Punjabi labourers and four policemen in southwestern Pakistan on Saturday, officials said.

Attacks on labourers from other parts of the country have increased in Balochistan, with militants accusing them of profiting from the region, reports AFP.

The incident took place in Mangocher town of Kalat district in Balochistan province, which borders Afghanistan and Iran.

“The militants arriving on motorcycles shot dead four Punjabi labourers who were operators of borewell drilling equipment,” Ali Gul Imrani, a local administration official, told AFP.

A local police official, Muhammad Asghar, also confirmed the details to AFP.

In a separate incident, four policemen were killed in an ambush in Nushki district of the same province.

MEET WITH US SENATOR
Chinese premier
calls for ‘dialogue’
with Washington

AFP, Beijing



China’s number two leader yesterday called for “dialogue” with Washington, during a meeting in Beijing attended by prominent US business executives and a key congressional ally of President Donald Trump.

Relations between the world’s two largest economies have plunged in recent weeks, as blanket tariffs imposed by Trump threaten China’s trade prospects.

Premier Li Qiang’s comments came during a meeting with Trump supporter Steve Daines, a Republican senator from Montana.

His visit has been viewed as a bid to ease strained relations, with an eye toward setting up a summit between Trump and Chinese President Xi Jinping.

“Our two sides need to choose dialogue over confrontation, win-win cooperation over zero-sum competition,” Li told Daines.

CEOs of major firms including FedEx, Pfizer and Qualcomm were also present.

Li said he hoped Washington would “work together with China to promote the steady, sound and sustainable development” of relations.

Government of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh

Office of the Principal

Bhola Govt. Technical School and College

Bhola

Website: www.tsc.bhola.gov.bd

E-mail: tsc.bhola@gmail.com

Reference No. 57.03.0918.501.07.14.25.569

Date: 23/03/2025

e-GP Tender Notice

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

Tender ID	Package No.	Name of package description	Tender publishing date & time	Last selling date & time	Closing and opening date & time
1089119	Bhola/TSC/2024-25/Raw/GR1	Supply of Raw Materials and Spare parts	24-Mar-2025 17:00	09-Apr-2025 17:00	10-Apr-2025 11:00
1089633	Bhola/TSC/2024-25/Eng/GR2	Supply of Engineering Equipment	24-Mar-2025 17:00	09-Apr-2025 17:00	10-Apr-2025 11:05
1089636	Bhola/TSC/2024-25/Teach/GR3	Supply of Teaching Materials	24-Mar-2025 17:00	09-Apr-2025 17:00	10-Apr-2025 11:15
1089640	Bhola/TSC/2024-25/Office/GR4	Supply of Office Equipment	24-Mar-2025 17:00	09-Apr-2025 17:00	10-Apr-2025 11:20
1089644	Bhola/TSC/2024-25/Fur/GR5	Supply of Furniture	24-Mar-2025 17:00	09-Apr-2025 17:00	10-Apr-2025 11:25
1089647	Bhola/TSC/2024-25/Clean/GR6	Supply of Cleaning Materials	24-Mar-2025 17:00	09-Apr-2025 17:00	10-Apr-2025 11:30
1089649	Bhola/TSC/2024-25/Mono/GR7	Supply of Monohary Materials for office	24-Mar-2025 17:00	09-Apr-2025 17:00	10-Apr-2025 11:35

These are online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be not accepted. To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP helpdesk(helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

Md. Sufier Rahman

Principal (In Charge)

Bhola Govt. Technical School & College

Bhola

GD- 744

Trump targets
lawyers in
immigration cases

REUTERS, Washington

Legal advocacy groups sounded alarms on Saturday after US President Donald Trump threatened new actions against lawyers and law firms that bring immigration lawsuits and other cases against the government that he deems unethical.

In a memorandum to US Attorney General Pam Bondi late on Friday, Trump said lawyers were helping to fuel “rampant fraud and meritless claims” in the immigration system, and directed the Justice Department to seek sanctions against attorneys for professional misconduct.

The order also took aim at law firms that sue the administration in what Trump, a Republican, called “baseless partisan” lawsuits. He asked Bondi to refer such firms to the White House to be stripped of security clearances, and for federal contracts they worked on to be terminated.

Ben Wizner, a senior lawyer at the American Civil Liberties Union, said the new directive sought to “chill and intimidate” lawyers who challenge the president’s agenda. Trump has separately mounted attacks on law firms over their internal diversity policies and their ties to his political adversaries.

“Courts have been the only institution so far that have stood up to Trump’s onslaught,” Wizner said.

Government of the Peoples Republic of Bangladesh

Office of the Chief Controller of Stores

Bangladesh Railway

Pahartali, Chittagong-4202

Telephone: 031-659604 E-mail: ccspt@railway.gov.bd

No.: CCS/eGP Notice/2025

Date:- 20/03/2025

e-Tender Notice

Notice No. 2025/07

e-Tender is invited in the National eGP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) by Chief Controller of Stores, Bangladesh Railway, Pahartali, Chattogram for the Procurement of Goods as stated below:

SL No	Tender/ Proposal ID	Tender/Proposal Package No. and Description	Procurement Nature, Type & Method	Tender/ Proposal Closing Date & Time
1.	1081880	54.01.1543.331.23.008.25 Procurement of Industrial Paint Jie Wild Lilac Finishing.	Goods NCT OTM	15-Apr-2025 12:00
2.	1075881	54.01.1543.335.10.001.25 Procurement of Electrodes Rods Class 'M-8' SWG (Curting)s Electrodes Rods Class 'B-12 SWG'	Goods NCT OTM	16-Apr-2025 12:00
3.	1081984	54.01.1543.335.08.001.25 Procurement of Hose Sleeve Size : (As100-200), Main Lock Bolt With bush and lever (Twist) & Brake Beam Hanger.	Goods NCT OTM	24-Apr-2025 13:00
4.	1081780	54.01.1543.331.23.009.25 Procurement of Paint Enamel Red Post Office.	Goods NCT OTM	23-Apr-2025 13:00
5.	1081891	54.01.1543.331.23.001.25 Procurement of Industrial Paint Jie Wild Lilac Under Coat .	Goods NCT OTM	21-Apr-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 System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required. The fees for downloading the e-Tender Documents for the National eGP System Portal have to be deposited online branches of any registered bank branches.

Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from eGP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd)

এস(২৫)(৩৬৭)

(Md. Mizanur Rahman)
Assistant Controller of Stores/P1
On the behalf of CCS/PHT

GD-746

বাংলাদেশ পল্লী উন্নয়ন বোর্ড

৫, কাওরান বাজার, ঢাকা

www.brdb.gov.bd

নং-৪৭.৬২.০০০০.২০৫.১১.০০৪.২৪. ২৯৫৪

তারিখ: ০৯ চৈত্র ১৪৩১
২৩ মার্চ ২০২৫

নিয়োগ বিজ্ঞপ্তি

বাংলাদেশ পল্লী উন্নয়ন বোর্ডের রাজস্ব বাজেটভুক্ত শূন্য পদে অস্থায়ী ভিত্তিতে বিধি মোতাবেক সরাসরি জনবল নিয়োগের জন্য নিম্নবর্ণিত পদসমূহে বাংলাদেশের স্থায়ী নাগরিকদের নিকট থেকে নিম্নোক্ত শর্তে <http://brdb.teletalk.com.bd> ওয়েবসাইটে নির্ধারিত সময়ের মধ্যে অনলাইনে (online) আবেদন আহ্বান করা হচ্ছে। অনলাইন ব্যতীত কোনো প্রকার আবেদন গ্রহণ করা হবে না।

ক্র. নং	পদের নাম	গ্রেড ও বেতন স্কেল	পদ সংখ্যা	ন্যূনতম শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতা ও অভিজ্ঞতা
১	২	৩	৪	৫
০১	হিসাবরক্ষক	১১ গ্রেড ১২৫০০-৩০২৩০/-	১৭৭	২টি দ্বিতীয় বিভাগসহ বিকম পাশ।
০২	সহকারী আর্টিস্ট	১১ গ্রেড ১২৫০০-৩০২৩০/-	০১	শিল্পকলায় স্নাতক ডিগ্রি।
০৩	স্টোনোগ্রাফার-কাম-কম্পিউটার অপারেটর	১৩ গ্রেড ১১০০০-২৬৫৯০/-	০৫	কম্পিউটার ব্যবহার সংক্রান্ত ওয়ার্ড প্রসেসিং, ডাটা এন্ট্রি ও টাইপিং ইত্যাদির সর্বনিম্ন গতি ইংরেজি ও বাংলায় যথাক্রমে প্রতি মিনিটে ৩০ ও ২৫ শব্দ এবং চাকরির ১ (এক) বছরের অভিজ্ঞতাসহ উচ্চ মাধ্যমিক সার্টিফিকেট পরীক্ষায় পাশ।
০৪	অফিস সহকারী/উচ্চমান সহকারী	১৩ গ্রেড ১১০০০-২৬৫৯০/-	০৬	২টি দ্বিতীয় বিভাগসহ স্নাতক ডিগ্রি।
০৫	গবেষণা অনুসন্ধানকারী	১৩ গ্রেড ১১০০০-২৬৫৯০/-	০৩	অর্থনীতি/পরিসংখ্যানসহ ২টি ২য় বিভাগসহ স্নাতক ডিগ্রি।
০৬	পরিসংখ্যান সহকারী	১৩ গ্রেড ১১০০০-২৬৫৯০/-	০২	অর্থনীতি/পরিসংখ্যানসহ ২টি ২য় বিভাগসহ স্নাতক ডিগ্রি।
০৭	নিরীক্ষা সহকারী	১৩ গ্রেড ১১০০০-২৬৫৯০/-	০৭	২টি দ্বিতীয় বিভাগসহ বিকম পাশ।
০৮	হিসাব সহকারী	১৩ গ্রেড ১১০০০-২৬৫৯০/-	৩৬	২টি দ্বিতীয় বিভাগসহ বিকম পাশ।
০৯	ক্যাশিয়ার	১৩ গ্রেড ১১০০০-২৬৫৯০/-	০২	২টি দ্বিতীয় বিভাগসহ বিকম পাশ।
১০	স্টোনোগ্রাফার-কাম-কম্পিউটার অপারেটর	১৪ গ্রেড ১০২০০-২৪৬৮০/-	০৭	কম্পিউটার ব্যবহার সংক্রান্ত ওয়ার্ড প্রসেসিং, ডাটা এন্ট্রি ও টাইপিং ইত্যাদির সর্বনিম্ন গতি ইংরেজি ও বাংলায় যথাক্রমে প্রতি মিনিটে ৩০ ও ২৫ শব্দসহ উচ্চ মাধ্যমিক সার্টিফিকেট বা সমমান পরীক্ষায় পাশ।
১১	প্রশিক্ষক	১৫ গ্রেড ৯৭০০-২৩৪৯০/-	০১	উচ্চ মাধ্যমিক স্কুল সার্টিফিকেট বা সমমানের পরীক্ষায় উত্তীর্ণ এবং সংশ্লিষ্ট ট্রেড কোর্সে ০২ বছরের ডিপ্লোমা সার্টিফিকেট।
১২	ড্রাফটসম্যান	১৫ গ্রেড ৯৭০০-২৩৪৯০/-	০১	ড্রাফটসম্যানশীপ এ সার্টিফিকেটসহ উচ্চ মাধ্যমিক সার্টিফিকেট পাশ।
১৩	অফসেট প্রিন্টিং অপারেটর	১৫ গ্রেড ৯৭০০-২৩৪৯০/-	০১	অপসেট লিথো ইলেকট্রিক স্টেনসিল কাটা ও ডুপ্লিকেটিং মেশিন চালনায় ০২ বছরের অভিজ্ঞতাসহ বিজ্ঞান বিভাগে উচ্চ মাধ্যমিক সার্টিফিকেট পাশ।
১৪	অফিস সহকারী-কাম-কম্পিউটার অপারেটর	১৬ গ্রেড ৯৩০০-২২৪৯০/-	৩০	এসএসসি পাশ। কম্পিউটার ব্যবহার সংক্রান্ত ওয়ার্ড প্রসেসিং, ডাটা এন্ট্রি ও টাইপিং ইত্যাদির সর্বনিম্ন গতি ইংরেজি ও বাংলায় প্রতি মিনিটে যথাক্রমে ৩০ ও ২৫ শব্দ।
১৫	ডাটা এন্ট্রি অপারেটর	১৬ গ্রেড ৯৩০০-২২৪৯০/-	০৩	(ক) কোনো স্বীকৃত বোর্ড হতে উচ্চ মাধ্যমিক সার্টিফিকেট বা সমমানের পরীক্ষায় উত্তীর্ণ; এবং (খ) কম্পিউটার মুদ্রাক্ষরে প্রতি মিনিটে বাংলায় ২০ শব্দ এবং ইংরেজিতে ২০ শব্দের গতিসহ সংশ্লিষ্ট বিষয়ে Standard Aptitude Test এ উত্তীর্ণ হতে হবে।
১৬	পুফরিডার	১৬ গ্রেড ৯৩০০-২২৪৯০/-	০১	পুফরিডিং এ ০২ বছরের অভিজ্ঞতাসহ এসএসসি পাশ।
১৭	স্টোর কিপার	১৬ গ্রেড ৯৩০০-২২৪৯০/-	০১	স্টোর কিপার হিসেবে ০২ বছরের অভিজ্ঞতাসহ এসএসসি পাশ।
১৮	অফিস সহায়ক	২০ গ্রেড ৮২৫০-২০০১০/-	৫০	অষ্টম শ্রেণি পাশ।

শর্ত ও নিয়মাবলি:

- ০১। অনলাইনে আবেদনপত্র পূরণ এবং পরীক্ষার ফি জমাদান পদ্ধতি:
- ক.

আবেদন <http://brdb.teletalk.com.bd> ওয়েবসাইটে সরাসরি দাখিল করতে হবে। আবেদনের সময়সীমা নিম্নবৃত্ত:

i) Online-এ আবেদনপত্র পূরণ ও ফি জমাদান শুরুর তারিখ ও সময়: ২৫.০৩.২০২৫ খ্রিষ্টাব্দ, সকাল ১০:০০ ঘটিকা।
ii) Online-এ আবেদনপত্র জমাদানের শেষ তারিখ ও সময়: ০৪.০৫.২০২৫ খ্রিষ্টাব্দ, বিকাল ০৫:০০ ঘটিকা।
iii) আবেদনপত্র জমাদানের শেষ তারিখ অর্থাৎ ০৪.০৫.২০২৫ খ্রিষ্টাব্দ, বিকাল ০৫:০০ ঘটিকার মধ্যে কেবল User ID প্রাপ্ত প্রার্থীগণ উক্ত সময়ের পরবর্তী ৭২ (বাহাত্তর) ঘণ্টার মধ্যে SMS এর মাধ্যমে বিজ্ঞপ্তিতে বর্ণিত নির্ধারিত পদ্ধতি অনুসরণ করে পরীক্ষার ফি জমা দিতে পারবেন। নির্ধারিত তারিখ ও সময়ের পর কোনো আবেদনপত্র গৃহীত হবে না।
iv) শেষ তারিখ ও সময়ের জন্য অপেক্ষা না করে হাতে পর্যাপ্ত সময় নিয়ে আবেদন প্রক্রিয়া সম্পন্ন করতে প্রার্থীগণকে পরামর্শ প্রদান করা হচ্ছে।

খ.

Online আবেদনপত্রে প্রার্থী তীর রঙিন ছবি (দৈর্ঘ্য ৩০০x প্রস্থ ৩০০ Pixel) ও স্বাক্ষর (দৈর্ঘ্য ৩০০x প্রস্থ ৮০ Pixel) স্ক্যান করে নির্ধারিত স্থানে Upload করবেন। ছবির সাইজ সর্বোচ্চ ১০০ KB ও স্বাক্ষরের সাইজ সর্বোচ্চ ৬০ KB হতে হবে।

গ.

Online আবেদনপত্রে পূরণকৃত তথ্যই যেহেতু পরবর্তী সকল কার্যক্রমে ব্যবহৃত হবে, সেহেতু Online-এ আবেদনপত্র Submit করার পূর্বেই পূরণকৃত সকল তথ্যের সঠিকতা সম্পর্কে প্রার্থী নিজে শতভাগ নিশ্চিত হবেন।

ঘ.

প্রার্থী Online-এ পূরণকৃত আবেদনপত্রের একটি রঙিন প্রিন্ট কপি পরীক্ষা সংক্রান্ত যে কোনো প্রয়োজনে সহায়ক হিসেবে সংরক্ষণ করবেন এবং মৌখিক পরীক্ষার সময় এক কপি জমা দিবেন।

ঙ.

SMS প্রেরণের নিয়মাবলি ও পরীক্ষার ফি প্রদান:

i) Online-এ আবেদনপত্র (Application Form) যথাযথভাবে পূরণ করে নির্দেশনা মোতাবেক ছবি এবং Signature Upload করে আবেদনপত্র Submit করা সম্পন্ন হলে কম্পিউটারে ছবিসহ Application Preview দেখা যাবে। আবেদনপত্র Submit করা সম্পন্ন প্রার্থী একটি User ID, ছবি এবং স্বাক্ষরযুক্ত একটি Applicant's Copy পাবেন। যদি Applicant's Copy-তে কোনো তথ্য ভুল থাকে বা অস্পষ্ট ছবি (সম্পূর্ণ কালো/ সম্পূর্ণ সাদা/খোলা) বা ছবি/স্বাক্ষর সঠিক না থাকে তাহলে পুনরায় আবেদন করতে পারবেন। তবে আবেদন ফি জমাদানের পরে আর কোনো পরিবর্তন/পরিমার্জন/পরিবর্ধন গ্রহণযোগ্য নয় বিধায় আবেদন ফি জমাদানের পূর্বে প্রার্থী অবশ্যই উক্ত Applicant's Copy-তে তীর সাম্প্রতিক তোলা রঙিন ছবি, নির্ভুল তথ্য ও স্বাক্ষর সংযুক্ত থাকা ও এর সঠিকতার বিষয়টি PDF Copy ডাউনলোডপূর্বক নিশ্চিত হয়ে রঙিন প্রিন্ট করে সংরক্ষণ করবেন।
ii) Applicant's Copy-তে একটি User ID থাকবে এবং User ID ব্যবহার করে প্রার্থী নিম্নোক্ত পদ্ধতিতে যে কোনো Teletalk pre-paid mobile নম্বরের মাধ্যমে দুটি SMS করে নিয়োগ বিজ্ঞপ্তির ০১ ও ০২ নং ক্রমিকে বর্ণিত পদের জন্য পরীক্ষার ফি বাবদ ১৫০ টাকা এবং অনলাইন ফি বা Teletalk এর সার্ভিস চার্জ বাবদ ১৮ টাকাসহ অফেরতযোগ্য সর্বমোট ১৬৮ (একশত আটষট্টি) টাকা, ০৩ থেকে ১৭ নং ক্রমিকে বর্ণিত পদের জন্য পরীক্ষার ফি বাবদ ১০০ টাকা এবং অনলাইন ফি বা Teletalk এর সার্ভিস চার্জ বাবদ ১২ টাকাসহ অফেরতযোগ্য সর্বমোট ১১২ (একশত বারো) টাকা এবং ১৮ নং ক্রমিকে বর্ণিত পদের জন্য পরীক্ষার ফি বাবদ ৫০ টাকা এবং অনলাইন ফি বা Teletalk এর সার্ভিস চার্জ বাবদ ৬ টাকাসহ অফেরতযোগ্য সর্বমোট ৫৬ (ছাণ্ডান) টাকা অনধিক ৭২ ঘণ্টার মধ্যে জমা দিবেন। এছাড়া, অনগ্রসর নাগরিকগণ (স্ক্রুড নৃ-গোষ্ঠী, শারীরিক প্রতিবন্ধী ও তৃতীয় লিঙ্গ) বিজ্ঞপ্তিতে উল্লিখিত সকল পদের জন্য পরীক্ষার ফি বাবদ ৫০ টাকা এবং অনলাইন ফি বা Teletalk এর সার্ভিস চার্জ বাবদ ৬ টাকাসহ অফেরতযোগ্য সর্বমোট ৫৬ (ছাণ্ডান) টাকা অনধিক ৭২ ঘণ্টার মধ্যে জমা দিবেন। এখানে বিশেষভাবে উল্লেখ্য যে, Online এ আবেদনপত্রের সকল অংশ পূরণ করে Submit করা হলেও পরীক্ষার ফি জমা না দেয়া পর্যন্ত Online এ আবেদনপত্র কোনো অবস্থায় গৃহীত হবে না।

প্রথম SMS: BRDB<Space>User ID লিখে Send করতে হবে 16222 নম্বরে।
Example: BRDB ABCDEF & send to 16222
Reply: Applicant's Name, TK-168/112/56 will be charged as application fee. Your PIN is 12345678, to pay fee Type BRDB<space>Yes<space>PIN and Send to 16222 নম্বরে।
- দ্বিতীয় SMS: BRDB<Space>Yes<Space>PIN লিখে Send করতে হবে 16222 নম্বরে।
Example: BRDB Yes 12345678
Reply: Congratulations Applicant's Name. Payment Completed Successfully for BRDB Application for (Post Name) User ID is (ABCDE F) and Password (xxxxxxxxx).

চ. প্রবেশপত্র প্রাপ্তির বিষয়টি <http://brdb.teletalk.com.bd> এই ওয়েবসাইটে এবং প্রার্থীর মোবাইল ফোনে SMS-এর মাধ্যমে (শুধুমাত্র যোগ্য প্রার্থীদের) যথাসময়ে জানানো হবে। Online-এ আবেদনপত্রে প্রার্থীর প্রদত্ত মোবাইল ফোনে পরীক্ষা সংক্রান্ত যাবতীয় যোগাযোগ সম্পন্ন করা হবে বিধায় উক্ত নম্বরটি সার্বক্ষণিক সচল রাখা এবং প্রাপ্ত নির্দেশনা তাৎক্ষণিকভাবে অনুসরণ করা বাঞ্ছনীয়।

ছ. SMS-এ প্রেরিত User ID এবং Password ব্যবহার করে পরবর্তীতে রোল নম্বর, পদের নাম, ছবি, পরীক্ষার তারিখ, সময় ও পরীক্ষার স্থান/কেন্দ্রের নাম ইত্যাদি তথ্য সম্বলিত প্রবেশপত্র প্রার্থী ডাউনলোডপূর্বক রঙিন প্রিন্ট করে নিবেন। প্রার্থী এই প্রবেশ পত্রটি লিখিত পরীক্ষায় অংশগ্রহণের সময়ে এবং উত্তীর্ণ হলে মৌখিক পরীক্ষার সময়ে অবশ্যই প্রদর্শন করবেন।

জ. শুধুমাত্র Teletalk pre-paid মোবাইল ফোন থেকে প্রার্থীগণ নিম্নবর্ণিত SMS পদ্ধতি অনুসরণ করে নিজ নিজ User ID, Serial এবং PIN পুনরুদ্ধার করতে পারবেন:
i) User ID জানা থাকলে BRDB<Space>Help<Space>User<Space>User ID লিখে Send করতে হবে 16222 নম্বরে।
Example: BRDB Help User ABCDEF & Send to 16222
ii) PIN Number জানা থাকলে BRDB<Space>Help<Space>PIN<Space>PIN No লিখে Send করতে হবে 16222 নম্বরে।
Example: BRDB Help PIN 1234567 & Send to 16222

ঝ. বাংলাদেশ পল্লী উন্নয়ন বোর্ড এর ওয়েবসাইটে (www.brdb.gov.bd) নিয়োগ পরীক্ষার বিজ্ঞপ্তিসহ নিয়োগ পরীক্ষা সংক্রান্ত যাবতীয় তথ্যাদি পাওয়া যাবে।

ঞ. অনলাইনে আবেদন এবং টাকা জমার কাজটি প্রার্থী নিজে করবেন। এক্ষেত্রে অন্য কোনো মাধ্যম থেকে উক্ত কাজটি সম্পন্ন করে প্রার্থী প্রভারিত হলে কর্তৃপক্ষ দায়ী থাকবে না।

ট. Online আবেদন করতে কোনো সমস্যা হলে যে কোনো টেলিটক মোবাইল নম্বর থেকে ১২১ নম্বরে কল করে সহযোগিতা নেয়া যাবে। এছাড়াও alljobs.query@teletalk.com.bd, vas.query@teletalk.com.bd, ddadmn1@brdb.gov.bd এবং adper3@brdb.gov.bd ই-মেইলে যোগাযোগ করা যাবে। (Mail-এর Subject-এ Organization Name: BRDB, Post Name:*****, Applicant's User ID ও Contact Number অবশ্যই উল্লেখ করতে হবে)।

০২। সকল পদে প্রার্থীর বয়স ২৫.০৩.২০২৫ খ্রিষ্টাব্দ তারিখে সর্বোচ্চ ৩২ বছর এবং সর্বনিম্ন ১৮ বছর হতে হবে। বয়স সম্পর্কিত কোনো এফিডেভিট গ্রহণযোগ্য হবে না।

০৩। সরকারি, আধাসরকারি, স্বায়ত্তশাসিত ও সংবিধিবদ্ধ সংস্থায় কর্মরত প্রার্থীদের অবশ্যই যথাযথ কর্তৃপক্ষের অনুমতিক্রমে আবেদন করতে হবে। এক্ষেত্রে বয়সসীমা শিথিলযোগ্য নয়। প্রার্থীদেরকে অবশ্যই মৌখিক পরীক্ষার সময় সংশ্লিষ্ট নিয়োগকারী কর্তৃপক্ষ কর্তৃক প্রদত্ত অনাপত্তি ছাড়পত্রের মূলকপি জমা দিতে হবে।

০৪। বাংলাদেশ পল্লী উন্নয়ন বোর্ড কর্তৃক বাস্তবায়নধীন/বাস্তবায়িত প্রকল্প/কর্মসূচি/ইউসিসিএ'তে বর্তমানে কর্মরত কর্মচারীগণ যথাযথ কর্তৃপক্ষের মাধ্যমে আবেদন করতে পারবেন এবং এক্ষেত্রে তাদের বয়সসীমা শিথিলযোগ্য হবে। তবে তাদের বয়স অবশ্যই সরকারি অবসর গমনের বয়স অপেক্ষা কম হতে হবে এবং চূড়ান্ত নির্বাচনের ক্ষেত্রে প্রার্থীদের দাপ্তরিক তথ্য যাচাই করা হবে। এক্ষেত্রে তীরা চূড়ান্তভাবে নির্বাচিত হয়ে নিয়োগপ্রাপ্ত হলে তাদের প্রকল্প/কর্মসূচি/ইউসিসিএ'র চাকরিকাল গণনায় আসবে না। উল্লেখ্য, আউটসোর্সিং প্রক্রিয়ায় নিয়োগপ্রাপ্ত কর্মচারীগণের ক্ষেত্রে বর্ণিত বয়স শিথিলের বিষয়টি প্রযোজ্য নয়।

০৫। মৌখিক পরীক্ষার সময় নিম্নবর্ণিত কাগজপত্রাদির মূল কপি প্রদর্শনপূর্বক প্রতিটির ০১ (এক) টি করে সত্যায়িত (প্রথম শ্রেণির গেজেটেড কর্মকর্তা কর্তৃক) কপি দাখিল করতে হবে:
ক. অনলাইনে দাখিলকৃত আবেদনপত্র ও প্রবেশপত্রের রঙিন কপি;
খ. সদ্য তোলা ০২ (দুই) কপি পাসপোর্ট সাইজের রঙিন ছবি;
গ. অনলাইন আবেদনে দাখিলকৃত সকল শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতার সনদ, অভিজ্ঞতা সনদ (যদি থাকে) ও যথাযথ কর্তৃপক্ষের অনুমতিপত্র (প্রযোজ্য ক্ষেত্রে);
ঘ. জেলার স্থায়ী বাসিন্দার প্রমাণক হিসেবে ইউনিয়ন পরিষদ/পৌরসভা/সিটি কর্পোরেশন কর্তৃক প্রদত্ত সনদ ও জাতীয় পরিচয়পত্র;
ঙ. আবেদনকারী মুক্তিযোদ্ধা, শহিদ মুক্তিযোদ্ধা ও বীরোক্তার সন্তান হলে আবেদনকারী যে মুক্তিযোদ্ধা, শহিদ মুক্তিযোদ্ধা ও বীরোক্তার সন্তান এ মর্মে সংশ্লিষ্ট ইউনিয়ন পরিষদের চেয়ারম্যান/সিটি কর্পোরেশনের ওয়ার্ড কাউন্সিলর/পৌরসভার মেয়র/কাউন্সিলর/প্রশাসক কর্তৃক প্রদত্ত প্রত্যয়নসহ এ সংক্রান্ত উপযুক্ত কর্তৃপক্ষ কর্তৃক প্রদত্ত সনদ;
চ. ক্ষুদ্র নৃ-গোষ্ঠী/শারীরিক প্রতিবন্ধী/তৃতীয় লিঙ্গের প্রার্থীদের ক্ষেত্রে সরকারের সর্বশেষ জারীকৃত পরিপত্র/নীতিমালা অনুযায়ী উপযুক্ত কর্তৃপক্ষ কর্তৃক প্রদত্ত সনদ।

০৬। প্রাপ্ত আবেদনসমূহ প্রাথমিক বাছাইয়ের পর কেবলমাত্র উপযুক্ত প্রার্থীদের লিখিত/ব্যবহারিক/মৌখিক পরীক্ষার জন্য বিআরডিবি'র ওয়েবসাইট (www.brdb.gov.bd) এবং SMS-এর মাধ্যমে (শুধুমাত্র যোগ্য প্রার্থীদের) মোবাইল নম্বরে যথাসময়ে জানানো হবে। নিয়োগ পরীক্ষায় অংশগ্রহণের জন্য কোনো প্রকার টিএ/ডিএ প্রদান করা হবে না।

০৭। বিজ্ঞপ্তি পত্রিকা ছাড়াও www.brdb.gov.bd ও www.rdc.gov.bd ওয়েবসাইটে এবং <http://brdb.teletalk.com.bd> অথবা QR Code স্ক্যান এর মাধ্যমে বাংলাদেশের একমাত্র রাষ্ট্রীয় মোবাইল অপারেটর টেলিটকের জবপোর্টাল <https://alljobs.teletalk.com.bd> ওয়েবসাইটে সরাসরি প্রবেশ করেও পাওয়া যাবে।

০৮। **ডিক্লারেশন:** প্রার্থীকে অনলাইন আবেদনপত্রের ডিক্লারেশন অংশে এই মর্মে ঘোষণা দিতে হবে যে প্রার্থী কর্তৃক আবেদনপত্রে প্রদত্ত সকল তথ্য সঠিক ও সত্য। প্রদত্ত তথ্য অসত্য বা মিথ্যা প্রমাণিত হলে অথবা কোনো অযোগ্যতা ধরা পড়লে বা কোনো প্রতারণা বা দুর্নীতির আশ্রয় গ্রহণ করলে কিংবা পরীক্ষায় নকল বা অসদুপায় অবলম্বন করলে, পরীক্ষার পূর্বে বা পরে এমনকি নিয়োগের পরে যে কোনো পর্যায়ে প্রার্থীতা বাতিল করা হবে এবং সংশ্লিষ্ট প্রার্থীর বিরুদ্ধে আইনগত ব্যবস্থা গ্রহণ করা যাবে।

০৯। **প্রার্থীর যোগ্যতা যাচাই:** আবেদনের সময় নামের বানান সত্যকতার সাথে শিক্ষা সনদের সাথে মিলিয়ে লিখতে হবে এবং শিক্ষা সনদে উল্লিখিত নামের বানানের বাইরে পদবি/মৃত ইত্যাদি উল্লেখ করা যাবে না। স্থায়ী ঠিকানা সঠিকভাবে লিখতে হবে। প্রার্থী কর্তৃক প্রদত্ত কোনো তথ্য বা দাখিলকৃত কাগজপত্র জাল, মিথ্যা বা বিজ্ঞপ্তিতে চাওয়া ন্যূনতম শর্তের সাথে গরমিল/অসামঞ্জস্য পাওয়া গেলে, ভুয়া প্রমাণিত হলে কিংবা পরীক্ষায় নকল বা অসদুপায় অবলম্বন করলে সংশ্লিষ্ট প্রার্থীর প্রার্থীতা বাতিল করা হবে এবং তার বিরুদ্ধে যথাযথ আইনানুগ ব্যবস্থা গ্রহণ করা হবে। প্রার্থী কর্তৃক প্রদত্ত কোনো তথ্য নিয়োগ কার্যক্রমের যে কোনো পর্যায়ে বা নিয়োগদানের পরেও অসত্য/ত্রুটিপূর্ণ/ভুয়া প্রমাণিত হলে তার দরখাস্ত/নির্বাচন বা নিয়োগ সরাসরি বাতিল করার ক্ষমতা কর্তৃপক্ষ সংরক্ষণ করে। এছাড়া নিয়োগের পূর্বে ভোপ টেস্টে কাউকে মাদকাসক্ত পাওয়া গেলে তীর দরখাস্ত/নির্বাচন বাতিল বলে গণ্য হবে।

১০। এক জেলার বাসিন্দা অন্য জেলার বাসিন্দা হিসেবে আবেদন করতে পারবেন না এবং আবেদনকারী নিয়োগ লাভের পর বাংলাদেশের যে কোনো স্থানে চাকরি করতে বাধ্য থাকবেন।

১১। **ক) বিআরডিবি'র স্মারক নং-৪৭.৬২.০০০০.২০৫.১১.০০৩.২১.৮০২ তারিখ: ৩০.০১.২০২২ খ্রি. মূলে বিপণত ৩১.০১.২০২২ খ্রি. তারিখে 'দৈনিক ইত্তেফাক' ও 'প্রতিদিনের সংবাদ' পত্রিকায় প্রকাশিত বিজ্ঞপ্তিতে হিসাব সহকারী, স্টোনোগ্রাফার-কাম-কম্পিউটার অপারেটর, অফিস সহকারী-কাম-কম্পিউটার অপারেটর, ডাটা এন্ট্রি অপারেটর ও অফিস সহায়ক পদে এবং বিআরডিবি'র স্মারক নং-৪৭.৬২.০০০০.২০৫.১১.০০৩.২১.৮০৩ তারিখ: ৩০.০১.২০২২ খ্রি. মূলে বিপণত ৩১.০১.২০২২ খ্রি. তারিখে 'দৈনিক জনকণ্ঠ' পত্রিকায় প্রকাশিত বিজ্ঞপ্তিতে সহকারী আর্টিস্ট, গবেষণা অনুসন্ধানকারী, পরিসংখ্যান সহকারী, নিরীক্ষা সহকারী, ক্যাশিয়ার, প্রশিক্ষক, ড্রাফটসম্যান, অফসেট প্রিন্টিং অপারেটর, পুফরিডার ও স্টোরকিপার পদে বৈধ আবেদনকারীদের আবেদন বহাল থাকবে। তাদের পুনরায় আবেদন করার প্রয়োজন নেই।
খ) এছাড়া, বিআরডিবি'র ১১.০৭.২০২৪ তারিখের ৪৭.৬২.০০০০.২০৫.১১.০০৪.২৪.৭২৫২ নং স্মারকে গত ১২.০৭.২০২৪ খ্রি. তারিখে 'প্রতিদিনের সংবাদ' এবং ১০.০৭.২০২৪ খ্রি. তারিখে 'দৈনিক ইত্তেফাক' ও 'ডেইলি অবজারভার' পত্রিকায় প্রকাশিত বিজ্ঞপ্তিতে বর্ণিত পদসমূহে বৈধ আবেদনকারীদের আবেদন বহাল থাকবে। তাদের পুনরায় আবেদন করার প্রয়োজন নেই।**

১২। নিয়োগের ক্ষেত্রে সরকারের প্রচলিত বিধি-বিধান এবং কোটা সংক্রান্ত জনপ্রশাসন মন্ত্রণালয়ের ২৩.০৭.২০২৪ তারিখে জারীকৃত ০৫.০০.০০০০.১৭০.১১.০১৪.২৪-১৪১ নং প্রজ্ঞাপনে বর্ণিত নির্দেশনা অনুসরণ করা হবে এবং পরবর্তীতে সংশ্লিষ্ট বিধি-বিধানে কোনো সংশোধন হলে তা অনুসরণ করা হবে। এ বিজ্ঞপ্তিতে উল্লেখ করা হয়নি এমন ক্ষেত্রে সরকারের সর্বশেষ জারীকৃত বিধি-বিধান প্রযোজ্য হবে।

১৩। নিয়োগ সংক্রান্ত সকল বিষয়ে নিয়োগকারী কর্তৃপক্ষের সিদ্ধান্তই চূড়ান্ত বলে গণ্য হবে। নিয়োগকারী কর্তৃপক্ষ বিজ্ঞপ্তিতে উল্লিখিত শূন্য পদের সংখ্যা হ্রাস/বৃদ্ধি এবং অনিবার্য কারণে নিয়োগ প্রক্রিয়া স্থগিত/বাতিল/প্রত্যাহার করার ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করে।

বাংলাদেশ পল্লী উন্নয়ন বোর্ড,
ঢাকার ওয়েবসাইটে
প্রবেশ এর QR Code

বাংলাদেশ পল্লী উন্নয়ন
বোর্ড, ঢাকা এর টেলিটক
পোর্টালের QR Code

মোঃ তাজ-উল ইসলাম
যুগ্মপরিচালক (প্রশাসন)

ও
সদস্য সচিব
০২ নম্বর নিয়োগ ও পদোন্নতি কমিটি
বাংলাদেশ পল্লী উন্নয়ন বোর্ড, ঢাকা।
ফোন: ০২-৪১০১০৩২৪

GD-748



ESSENTIAL DRUGS COMPANY LIMITED

395-397, Tejgaon Industrial Area

Dhaka-1208

INTERNATIONAL TENDER NOTICE

EDCL invite an International Press Tender for Importation of following Machine for Khulna Essential Latex Plant (KELP) on C&F© Chittagong by Sea basis:-

S.L No.	Tender No. Date	Name of the Item	Cost of Tender Schedule	Last date of Closing & opening
01.	IMP/Machine/KELP/03 /2024-2025 Dated 23/03/2025	Water Chiller ---01(one) Unit Capacity --- 40Ton (Details as per Tender Schedule)	Tk. 1500.00/set Equivalent to US\$ 13.00 Non-refundable	Closing : 23/04/2025 at 11.00 AM Opening : 23/04/2025 at 11.30 AM

Tender schedule will be sold from the Accounts Department of Essential Drugs Company Limited, Dhaka on payment as stated above during office hours on all working days (except Friday, Saturday and Govt. Holidays). No tender schedule will be sold on the opening date of the tender.

The Tender will be accompanied by a amount of Earnest Money mentioned above in the form of Bank Draft/Pay order from any schedule Bank of Bangladesh in favour of " Essential Drugs Company Ltd" without which the Tender will be considered as non-responsive.

EDCL authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever

N.B: This Information is also available at our Website: www.edcl.gov.bd

General Manager (CC)
Procurement Deptt.
For: Managing Director.

(5" X 4)

রেজিস্ট্রার দপ্তর

যশোর বিজ্ঞান ও প্রযুক্তি বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়

যশোর-৭৪০৮, বাংলাদেশ।



Office of the Registrar

Jashore University of Science and Technology

Jashore-7408, Bangladesh

তারিখঃ ২২/০৩/২০২৫খ্রিঃ

তারিখঃ ২২/০৩/২০২৫খ্রিঃ

যশোর বিজ্ঞান ও প্রযুক্তি বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের ডেপুটি রেজিস্ট্রার মেডিসিন অনুষদের নিম্নোক্ত পদগুলো পূরণের নিমিত্তে বর্ণিত শর্তসাপেক্ষে বাংলাদেশের স্থায়ী নাগরিকদের নিকট হতে দরখাস্ত আহ্বান করা যাচ্ছে।

ক্রঃ নং	পদের নাম, পদসংখ্যা ও স্কেল	ডেপুটি রেজিস্ট্রার মেডিসিন অনুষদের আওতাধীন বিভাগসমূহ	শর্তাবলী
০১	অধ্যাপক, ০১টি স্থায়ী পদ (যোগ্য প্রার্থী অগ্রাপ্যতার ক্ষেত্রে উক্ত পদের বিপরীতে প্রত্যেক নিয়োগ দেওয়া হবে) বেতন স্কেলঃ ৫৬৫০০-৭৪৪০০/- (৩য় গ্রেড)	০১. Medicine, Surgery and Theriogenology ০২. Microbiology and Hygiene ০৩. Anatomy and Histology ০৪. Pharmacology ০৫. Physiology and Biochemistry ০৬. Animal Breeding and Genetics ০৭. Dairy and Poultry Science	আবেদনকারীকে বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের নির্ধারিত আবেদন ফরমে প্রয়োজনীয় সকল কাগজপত্রসহ ত্রিমিক নং ০১ ও ০২ এর জন্য ০৭ সেট আবেদন এবং ত্রিমিক নং ০৩ ও ০৪ এর জন্য ০৪ সেট আবেদন রেজিস্ট্রার, যশোর বিজ্ঞান ও প্রযুক্তি বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়, যশোর-৭৪০৮ সরাসরি আদায়ী ২৩/০৪/২০২৫খ্রিঃ তারিখ অফিস চাকাকালীন সময়ের মধ্যে পৌছাতে হবে। রেজিস্ট্রার, যশোর বিজ্ঞান ও প্রযুক্তি বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের ওয়েবসাইটে www.just.edu.bd হতে আবেদন ফরম ও যোগ্যতার বিবরণিত বিবরণ সন্নিবেহ করা যাবে। প্রার্থীকে আবেদনপত্রের সাথে নিম্নলিখিত কাগজপত্রের ছায়াছবিপত্র সংযুক্ত করতে হবে- (ক) শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতা, অভিজ্ঞতা (যদি থাকে), প্রশিক্ষণ সনদসহ ও অন্যান্য সকল প্রকার মূল/সাময়িক সনদপত্র ও নথ্যপত্র (খ) সদ্য তোলা পাসপোর্ট সাইজের ০৩ কপি ছবি (গ) জাতীয় পরিচয়পত্র (ঘ) নিজ নিজ এলাকার ইউনিয়ন পরিষদের চেয়ারম্যান/পৌর মেয়র/ওয়ার্ড কাউন্সিলর প্রদত্ত নাগরিকত্ব সনদপত্র। চাকুরীতে নিয়োজিত প্রার্থীদের যথাযথ কর্তৃপক্ষের মাধ্যমে আবেদন করতে হবে। জটিলপূর্ণ/অসম্পূর্ণ এবং ক্রিয়াকলাপে প্রাপ্ত আবেদনপত্র (নির্ধারিত সময়ের পর) গ্রহণ করা হবে না। দরখাস্তের সাথে "রেজিস্ট্রার, যশোর বিজ্ঞান ও প্রযুক্তি বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়" এর অনুমোদিত অফিসি বাক্য লিখি এর যে কোন শাখা হতে ২০০/- টাকা মূল্যের পে-অর্ডার/ ব্যাংক ড্রাফট (অফিসহযোগ্য) অবশ্যই সংযুক্ত করতে হবে। এছাড়া প্রার্থীকে তার প্রার্থীত পদের নাম, দপ্তর/বিভাগের নামসহ যাদের উপর স্পষ্টিকারে লিখতে হবে। প্রার্থীর যোগাযোগের বর্তমান ঠিকানা লিখিত ১০/- (দশ) টাকার ডাকটিকেট সম্বলিত দুইটি ফেরত খাম আবেদনপত্রের সাথে সংযোজন করতে হবে।
০২	সহযোগী অধ্যাপক, ০২টি স্থায়ী পদ (যোগ্য প্রার্থী পাওয়া না গেলে উক্ত পদের বিপরীতে প্রত্যেক নিয়োগ দেওয়া হবে) বেতন স্কেলঃ ৫০০০০-৭২০০০/- (৪র্থ গ্রেড)	০৬. Pathology and Parasitology ০৭. Animal Science and Nutrition ১০. Agricultural Economics	
০৩	সহকারী অধ্যাপক, ০৪টি স্থায়ী পদ বেতন স্কেলঃ ৩৫৫০০-৬৭০১০/- (৬ষ্ঠ গ্রেড)		
০৪	প্রভাষক, ১০টি পদ (০৭টি স্থায়ী পদ এবং ০৩টি অস্থায়ী পদ) বেতন স্কেলঃ ২২০০০-৫০০৮০/- (৪র্থ গ্রেড)		

GD- 743

বাংলাদেশ পল্লী উন্নয়ন বোর্ড

৫, কাওরান বাজার, ঢাকা

www.brdb.gov.bd

নং-৪৭.৬২.০০০০.২০৫.১১.০০৩.২৪-২৪৫৩

তারিখ: ০৯ চৈত্র ১৪৩১
২৩ মার্চ ২০২৫

নিয়োগ বিজ্ঞপ্তি

বাংলাদেশ পল্লী উন্নয়ন বোর্ডের রাজস্ব বাজেটভুক্ত শূন্য পদে অস্থায়ী ভিত্তিতে বিধি মোতাবেক সরাসরি জনবল নিয়োগের জন্য নিম্নবর্ণিত পদসমূহে বাংলাদেশের স্থায়ী নাগরিকদের নিকট থেকে নিম্নোক্ত শর্তে <http://brdb.teletalk.com.bd> ওয়েবসাইটে নির্ধারিত সময়ের মধ্যে অনলাইনে (online) আবেদন আহ্বান করা হচ্ছে। অনলাইন ব্যতীত কোনো প্রকার আবেদন গ্রহণ করা হবে না।

ক্র.নং	পদের নাম	গ্রেড ও বেতন স্কেল	পদ সংখ্যা	ন্যূনতম শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতা ও অভিজ্ঞতা
১	২	৩	৪	৫
০১	উপজেলা পল্লী উন্নয়ন কর্মকর্তা	৯ম গ্রেড ২২০০০-৫৩০৬০/-	২৩	১ম শ্রেণির স্নাতকোত্তর ডিগ্রি অথবা ২য় শ্রেণির স্নাতক (সম্মান)সহ স্নাতকোত্তর ডিগ্রি অথবা ২য় শ্রেণির ০৪ বছর মেয়াদের স্নাতক (সম্মান) ডিগ্রি
০২	সহকারী পল্লী উন্নয়ন কর্মকর্তা	১০ম গ্রেড ১৬০০০-৩৮৬৪০/-	৬৫	স্নাতকোত্তর ডিগ্রি অথবা ৪ বছর মেয়াদের স্নাতক (সম্মান) ডিগ্রি।
০৩	গবেষণা কর্মকর্তা	১০ গ্রেড ১৬০০০-৩৮৬৪০/-	০২	অর্থনীতি বা পরিসংখ্যানে মাস্টার্স ডিগ্রি।

শর্ত ও নিয়মাবলি:

০১। অনলাইনে আবেদনপত্র পূরণ এবং পরীক্ষার ফি জমাদান পদ্ধতি:

ক. আবেদন <http://brdb.teletalk.com.bd> ওয়েবসাইটে সরাসরি দাখিল করতে হবে। আবেদনের সময়সীমা নিম্নরূপ:

i) Online-এ আবেদনপত্র পূরণ ও ফি জমাদান শুরুর তারিখ ও সময়: ২৫.০৩.২০২৫ খ্রিষ্টাব্দ, সকাল ১০:০০ ঘটিকা।

ii) Online-এ আবেদনপত্র জমাদানের শেষ তারিখ ও সময়: ০৪.০৫.২০২৫ খ্রিষ্টাব্দ, বিকাল ০৫:০০ ঘটিকা।

iii) আবেদনপত্র জমাদানের শেষ তারিখ অর্থাৎ ০৪.০৫.২০২৫ খ্রিষ্টাব্দ, বিকাল ০৫:০০ ঘটিকার মধ্যে কেবল User ID প্রাপ্ত প্রার্থীগণ উক্ত সময়ের পরবর্তী ৭২ (বাহাতর) ঘণ্টার মধ্যে SMS এর মাধ্যমে বিজ্ঞপ্তিতে বর্ণিত নির্ধারিত পদ্ধতি অনুসরণ করে পরীক্ষার ফি জমা দিতে পারবেন। নির্ধারিত তারিখ ও সময়ের পর কোনো আবেদনপত্র গ্রহণ করা হবে না।

iv) শেষ তারিখ ও সময়ের জন্য অপেক্ষা না করে হাতে পর্যাপ্ত সময় নিয়ে আবেদন প্রক্রিয়া সম্পন্ন করতে প্রার্থীগণকে পরামর্শ প্রদান করা হচ্ছে।

খ. Online আবেদনপত্রে প্রার্থী তীর রঙিন ছবি (দৈর্ঘ্য ৩০০x প্রস্থ ৩০০ Pixel) ও স্বাক্ষর (দৈর্ঘ্য ৩০০x প্রস্থ ৮০ Pixel) স্ক্যান করে নির্ধারিত স্থানে Upload করবেন। ছবির সাইজ সর্বোচ্চ ১০০ KB ও স্বাক্ষরের সাইজ সর্বোচ্চ ৬০ KB হতে হবে।

গ. Online আবেদনপত্রে পূরণকৃত তথ্যই যেহেতু পরবর্তী সকল কার্যক্রমে ব্যবহৃত হবে, সেহেতু Online-এ আবেদনপত্র Submit করার পূর্বেই পূরণকৃত সকল তথ্যের সঠিকতা সম্পর্কে প্রার্থী নিজে শতভাগ নিশ্চিত হবেন।

ঘ. প্রার্থী Online-এ পূরণকৃত আবেদনপত্রের একটি রঙিন প্রিন্ট কপি পরীক্ষা সংক্রান্ত যে কোনো প্রয়োজনে সহায়ক হিসেবে সংরক্ষণ করবেন এবং মৌখিক পরীক্ষার সময় এক কপি জমা দিবেন।

ঙ. SMS প্রেরণের নিয়মাবলি ও পরীক্ষার ফি প্রদান:

i) Online-এ আবেদনপত্র (Application Form) যথাযথভাবে পূরণ করে নির্দেশনা মোতাবেক ছবি এবং Signature Upload করে আবেদনপত্র Submit করা সম্পন্ন হলে কম্পিউটারে ছবিসহ Application Preview দেখা যাবে। আবেদনপত্র Submit করা সম্পন্ন প্রার্থী একটি User ID, ছবি এবং স্বাক্ষরযুক্ত একটি Applicant's Copy পাবেন। যদি Applicant's Copy-তে কোনো তথ্য ভুল থাকে বা অস্পষ্ট ছবি (সম্পূর্ণ কালো/ সম্পূর্ণ সাদা/ঘোলা) বা ছবি/স্বাক্ষর সঠিক না থাকে তাহলে পুনরায় আবেদন করতে পারবেন। তবে আবেদন ফি জমাদানের পরে আর কোনো পরিবর্তন/পরিমার্জন/পরিবর্ধন গ্রহণযোগ্য নয় বিধায় আবেদন ফি জমাদানের পূর্বে প্রার্থী অবশ্যই উক্ত Applicant's Copy-তে তীর সাম্প্রতিক তোলা রঙিন ছবি, নির্ভুল তথ্য ও স্বাক্ষর সংযুক্ত থাকা ও এর সঠিকতার বিষয়টি PDF Copy ডাউনলোডপূর্বক নিশ্চিত হয়ে রঙিন প্রিন্ট করে সংরক্ষণ করবেন।

ii) Applicant's Copy-তে একটি User ID নম্বর দেয়া থাকবে। উক্ত User ID নম্বর ব্যবহার করে প্রার্থী নিম্নোক্ত পদ্ধতিতে যে কোনো Teletalk pre-paid mobile নম্বরের মাধ্যমে দুটি SMS করে নিয়োগ বিজ্ঞপ্তির ১, ২ ও ৩ নং ক্রমিক বর্ণিত পদসমূহের জন্য পরীক্ষার ফি বাবদ ২০০ টাকা এবং অনলাইন ফি বা Teletalk এর সার্ভিস চার্জ বাবদ ২৩ টাকাসহ অফেরতযোগ্য সর্বমোট ২২৩ (দুইশত তেইশ) টাকা অনধিক ৭২ ঘণ্টার মধ্যে জমা দিবেন। এছাড়া, অনগ্রসর নাগরিকগণ (ক্ষুদ্র নৃ-গোষ্ঠী, শারীরিক প্রতিবন্ধী ও তৃতীয় লিঙ্গ) বিজ্ঞপ্তিতে উল্লিখিত সকল পদের জন্য পরীক্ষার ফি বাবদ ৫০ টাকা এবং অনলাইন ফি বা Teletalk এর সার্ভিস চার্জ বাবদ ৬ টাকাসহ অফেরতযোগ্য সর্বমোট ৫৬ (ছাষাট) টাকা অনধিক ৭২ ঘণ্টার মধ্যে জমা দিবেন। এখানে বিশেষভাবে উল্লেখ্য যে, Online-এ আবেদনপত্রের সকল অংশ পূরণ করে Submit করা হলেও পরীক্ষার ফি জমা না দেয়া পর্যন্ত Online আবেদনপত্র কোনো অবস্থায় গৃহীত হবে না।

প্রথম SMS: BRDB<Space>User ID লিখে Send করতে হবে 16222 নম্বরে।

Example: BRDB ABCDEF & send to 16222

Reply: Applicant's Name, TK-223/56 will be charged as application fee. Your PIN is 12345678, to pay fee Type BRDB<space>Yes<space>PIN and Send to 16222 নম্বরে।

দ্বিতীয় SMS: BRDB<Space>Yes<Space>PIN লিখে Send করতে হবে 16222 নম্বরে।

Example: BRDB Yes 12345678

Reply: Congratulations Applicant's Name. Payment Completed Successfully for the BRDB Application for (Post Name) User ID is (ABCDEF) and Password (xxxxxxxx).

চ. প্রবেশপত্র প্রাপ্তির বিষয়টি <http://brdb.teletalk.com.bd> এই ওয়েবসাইটে এবং প্রার্থীর মোবাইল ফোনে SMS-এর মাধ্যমে (শুধুমাত্র যোগ্য প্রার্থীদের) যথাসময়ে জানানো হবে। Online-এ আবেদনপত্রে প্রার্থীর প্রদত্ত মোবাইল ফোনে পরীক্ষা সংক্রান্ত যাবতীয় যোগাযোগ সম্পন্ন করা হবে বিধায় উক্ত নম্বরটি সার্বক্ষণিক সচল রাখা এবং প্রাপ্ত নির্দেশনা তাৎক্ষণিকভাবে অনুসরণ করা বাঞ্ছনীয়।

ছ. SMS-এ প্রেরিত User ID এবং Password ব্যবহার করে পরবর্তীতে রোল নম্বর, পদের নাম, ছবি, পরীক্ষার তারিখ, সময় ও পরীক্ষার স্থান/কেন্দ্রের নাম ইত্যাদি তথ্য সম্বলিত প্রবেশপত্র প্রার্থী ডাউনলোডপূর্বক রঙিন প্রিন্ট করে নিবেন। প্রার্থী এই প্রবেশ পত্রটি লিখিত পরীক্ষায় অংশগ্রহণের সময়ে এবং উত্তীর্ণ হলে মৌখিক/ব্যবহারিক পরীক্ষার সময়ে অবশ্যই প্রদর্শন করবেন।

জ. শুধুমাত্র Teletalk pre-paid মোবাইল ফোন থেকে প্রার্থীগণ নিম্নবর্ণিত SMS পদ্ধতি অনুসরণ করে নিজ নিজ User ID, Serial এবং PIN পুনরুদ্ধার করতে পারবেন:

i) User ID জানা থাকলে BRDB<Space>Help<Space>User<Space>User ID লিখে Send করতে হবে 16222 নম্বরে।

Example: BRDB Help User ABCDEF & Send to 16222

ii) PIN Number জানা থাকলে BRDB<Space>Help<Space>PIN <Space>PIN No লিখে Send করতে হবে 16222 নম্বরে।

Example: BRDB Help PIN 1234567 & Send to 16222

ঝ. বাংলাদেশ পল্লী উন্নয়ন বোর্ড এর ওয়েবসাইটে (www.brdb.gov.bd) নিয়োগ পরীক্ষার বিজ্ঞপ্তিসহ নিয়োগ পরীক্ষা সংক্রান্ত যাবতীয় তথ্যাদি পাওয়া যাবে।

ঞ. অনলাইনে আবেদন এবং টাকা জমার কাজটি প্রার্থী নিজে করবেন। এক্ষেত্রে অন্য কোনো মাধ্যম থেকে উক্ত কাজটি সম্পন্ন করে প্রার্থী প্রত্যাহারিত হলে কর্তৃপক্ষ দায়ী থাকবে না।

ট. Online আবেদন করতে কোনো সমস্যা হলে যে কোনো টেলিটক মোবাইল নম্বর থেকে ১২১ নম্বরে কল করে সহযোগিতা নেয়া যাবে। এছাড়াও alljobs.query@teletalk.com.bd, vas.query@teletalk.com.bd, ddadmn1@brdb.gov.bd এবং adper3@brdb.gov.bd এই ই-মেইলে যোগাযোগ করা যাবে। (Mail-এর Subject-এ Organization Name: BRDB, Post Name:*****, Applicant's User ID ও Contact Number অবশ্যই উল্লেখ করতে হবে)।

০২। সকল পদে প্রার্থীর বয়স ২৫.০৩.২০২৫ খ্রিষ্টাব্দ তারিখে সর্বোচ্চ ৩২ বছর এবং সর্বনিম্ন ১৮ বছর হতে হবে। বয়স সম্পর্কিত কোনো এফিডেভিট গ্রহণযোগ্য হবে না।

০৩। সরকারি, আধাসরকারি, স্বায়ত্তশাসিত ও সংবিধিবদ্ধ সংস্থায় কর্মরত প্রার্থীদের অবশ্যই যথাযথ কর্তৃপক্ষের অনুমতিক্রমে আবেদন করতে হবে। এক্ষেত্রে বয়সসীমা শিথিলযোগ্য নয়। প্রার্থীদেরকে অবশ্যই মৌখিক পরীক্ষার সময় সংশ্লিষ্ট নিয়োগকারী কর্তৃপক্ষ কর্তৃক প্রদত্ত অনাপত্তি ছাড়পত্রের মূলকপি জমা দিতে হবে।

০৪। বাংলাদেশ পল্লী উন্নয়ন বোর্ড কর্তৃক বাস্তবায়নধীন/বাস্তবায়িত প্রকল্প/কর্মসূচি/ইউসিসিএ'তে বর্তমানে কর্মরত কর্মচারীগণ যথাযথ কর্তৃপক্ষের অনুমোদনক্রমে আবেদন করতে পারবেন এবং এক্ষেত্রে তাদের বয়সসীমা শিথিলযোগ্য হবে। তবে তাদের বয়স অবশ্যই সরকারি অবসর গমনের বয়স অপেক্ষা কম হতে হবে এবং চূড়ান্ত নির্বাচনের ক্ষেত্রে প্রার্থীদের দায়িত্বিক তথ্য যাচাই করা হবে। এক্ষেত্রে তীরা চূড়ান্তভাবে নির্বাচিত হয়ে নিয়োগপ্রাপ্ত হলে তাদের প্রকল্প/কর্মসূচি/ইউসিসিএ'র চাকরিকাল গণনায় আসবে না। উল্লেখ্য, আউটসোর্সিং প্রক্রিয়ায় নিয়োগপ্রাপ্ত কর্মচারীগণের ক্ষেত্রে বর্ণিত বয়স শিথিলের বিষয়টি প্রযোজ্য নয়।

০৫। মৌখিক পরীক্ষার সময় নিম্নবর্ণিত কাগজপত্রাদির মূল কপি প্রদর্শনপূর্বক প্রতিটির ০১ (এক) টি করে সত্যায়িত (প্রথম শ্রেণির গেজেটেড কর্মকর্তা কর্তৃক) কপি দাখিল করতে হবে:

ক. অনলাইনে দাখিলকৃত আবেদনপত্র ও প্রবেশপত্রের রঙিন কপি;

খ. সদ্য তোলা ০২ (দুই) কপি পাসপোর্ট সাইজের রঙিন ছবি;

গ. অনলাইন আবেদনে দাখিলকৃত সকল শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতার সনদ, অভিজ্ঞতা সনদ (যদি থাকে) ও যথাযথ কর্তৃপক্ষের অনুমতিপত্র (প্রযোজ্য ক্ষেত্রে);

ঘ. জেলার স্থায়ী বাসিন্দার প্রমাণক হিসেবে ইউনিয়ন পরিষদ/পৌরসভা/সিটি কর্পোরেশন কর্তৃক প্রদত্ত সনদ ও জাতীয় পরিচয়পত্র;

ঙ. আবেদনকারী মুক্তিযোদ্ধা, শহিদ মুক্তিযোদ্ধা ও বীরোক্তার সন্তান হলে আবেদনকারী যে মুক্তিযোদ্ধা, শহিদ মুক্তিযোদ্ধা ও বীরোক্তার সন্তান এ মর্মে সংশ্লিষ্ট ইউনিয়ন পরিষদের চেয়ারম্যান/সিটি কর্পোরেশনের ওয়ার্ড কাউন্সিলর/পৌরসভার মেয়র/কাউন্সিলর/প্রাসিক কর্তৃক প্রদত্ত প্রত্যয়নসহ এ সংক্রান্ত উপযুক্ত কর্তৃপক্ষ কর্তৃক প্রদত্ত সনদ;

চ. ক্ষুদ্র নৃ-গোষ্ঠী/শারীরিক প্রতিবন্ধী/তৃতীয় লিঙ্গের প্রার্থীদের ক্ষেত্রে সরকারের সর্বশেষ জারীকৃত পরিপত্র/নীতিমালা অনুযায়ী উপযুক্ত কর্তৃপক্ষ কর্তৃক প্রদত্ত সনদ।

০৬। প্রাপ্ত আবেদনসমূহ প্রাথমিক বাছাইয়ের পর কেবলমাত্র উপযুক্ত প্রার্থীদের লিখিত/ব্যবহারিক/মৌখিক পরীক্ষার জন্য বিআরডিবি'র ওয়েবসাইট (www.brdb.gov.bd) এবং SMS-এর মাধ্যমে (শুধুমাত্র যোগ্য প্রার্থীদের) মোবাইল নম্বরে যথাসময়ে জানানো হবে। নিয়োগ পরীক্ষায় অংশগ্রহণের জন্য কোনো প্রকার টিএ/ডিএ প্রদান করা হবে না।

০৭। বিজ্ঞপ্তি পত্রিকা ছাড়াও www.brdb.gov.bd ও www.rdc.gov.bd ওয়েবসাইটে এবং <http://brdb.teletalk.com.bd> অথবা QR Code স্ক্যান এর মাধ্যমে বাংলাদেশের একমাত্র রাষ্ট্রীয় মোবাইল অপারেটর টেলিটকের জবপোর্টাল <https://alljobs.teletalk.com.bd> ওয়েবসাইটে সরাসরি প্রবেশ করেও পাওয়া যাবে।

০৮। ডিক্লারেশন: প্রার্থীকে অনলাইন আবেদনপত্রের ডিক্লারেশন অংশে এই মর্মে ঘোষণা দিতে হবে যে প্রার্থী কর্তৃক আবেদনপত্রে প্রদত্ত সকল তথ্য সঠিক ও সত্য। প্রদত্ত তথ্য অসত্য বা মিথ্যা প্রমাণিত হলে অথবা কোনো অযোগ্যতা ধরা পড়লে বা কোনো প্রতারণা বা দুর্নীতির আশ্রয় গ্রহণ করলে কিংবা পরীক্ষায় নকল বা অসদুপায় অবলম্বন করলে, পরীক্ষার পূর্বে বা পরে এমনকি নিয়োগের পরে যে কোনো পর্যায়ে প্রার্থিতা বাতিল করা হবে এবং সংশ্লিষ্ট প্রার্থীর বিরুদ্ধে আইনগত ব্যবস্থা গ্রহণ করা যাবে।

০৯। প্রার্থীর যোগ্যতা যাচাই: আবেদনের সময় নামের বানান সতর্কতার সাথে শিক্ষা সনদের সাথে মিলিয়ে লিখতে হবে এবং শিক্ষা সনদে উল্লিখিত নামের বানানের বাইরে পদবি/মৃত ইত্যাদি উল্লেখ করা যাবে না। স্থায়ী ঠিকানা সঠিকভাবে লিখতে হবে। প্রার্থী কর্তৃক প্রদত্ত কোনো তথ্য বা দাখিলকৃত কাগজপত্র জাল, মিথ্যা বা বিজ্ঞপ্তিতে চাওয়া ন্যূনতম শর্তের সাথে গরমিল/অসামঞ্জস্য পাওয়া গেলে, ভুল প্রমাণিত হলে কিংবা পরীক্ষায় নকল বা অসদুপায় অবলম্বন করলে সংশ্লিষ্ট প্রার্থীর প্রার্থিতা বাতিল করা হবে এবং তার বিরুদ্ধে যথাযথ আইনানুগ ব্যবস্থা গ্রহণ করা হবে। প্রার্থী কর্তৃক প্রদত্ত কোনো তথ্য নিয়োগ কার্যক্রমের যে কোনো পর্যায়ে বা নিয়োগদানের পরেও অসত্য/ভুল/ভুল/ভুল প্রমাণিত হলে তার দরখাস্ত/নির্বাচন বা নিয়োগ সরাসরি বাতিল করার ক্ষমতা কর্তৃপক্ষ সংরক্ষণ করে। এছাড়াও নিয়োগের পূর্বে ডোপ টেস্টে কাউকে মাদকাসক্ত পাওয়া গেলে তীর দরখাস্ত/নির্বাচন বাতিল বলে গণ্য হবে।

১০। এক জেলার বাসিন্দা অন্য জেলার বাসিন্দা হিসেবে আবেদন করতে পারবেন না এবং আবেদনকারী নিয়োগ লাভের পর বাংলাদেশের যে কোনো স্থানে চাকরি করতে বাধ্য থাকবেন।

১১। বিআরডিবি'র ১১.০৭.২০২৪ তারিখের ৪৭.৬২.০০০০.২০৫.১১.০০৩.২৪.৭২৫১ নং স্মারকে পৃষ্ঠা ১২.০৭.২০২৪ খ্রি. তারিখে 'প্রতিদিনের সংবাদ' এবং ১৩.০৭.২০২৪ খ্রি. তারিখে 'দৈনিক ইত্তেফাক' ও 'ডেইলি অবজারভার' পত্রিকায় প্রকাশিত বিজ্ঞপ্তিতে বর্ণিত পদসমূহে বৈধ আবেদনকারীদের আবেদন বাতিল থাকবে। তাদের পুনরায় আবেদন করার প্রয়োজন নেই।

১২। নিয়োগের ক্ষেত্রে সরকারের প্রচলিত বিধি-বিধান এবং কোটা সংক্রান্ত জনপ্রশাসন মন্ত্রণালয়ের ২৩.০৭.২০২৪ তারিখে জারীকৃত ০৫.০০.০০০০.১৭০.১১.০১৪.২৪-১৪১ নং প্রজ্ঞাপনে বর্ণিত নির্দেশনা অনুসরণ করা হবে এবং পরবর্তীতে সংশ্লিষ্ট বিধি-বিধানে কোনো সংশোধন হলে তা অনুসরণ করা হবে। এ বিজ্ঞপ্তিতে উল্লেখ করা হয়নি এমন ক্ষেত্রে সরকারের সর্বশেষ জারীকৃত বিধি-বিধান প্রযোজ্য হবে।

১৩। নিয়োগ সংক্রান্ত সকল বিষয়ে নিয়োগকারী কর্তৃপক্ষের সিদ্ধান্তই চূড়ান্ত বলে গণ্য হবে। নিয়োগকারী কর্তৃপক্ষ বিজ্ঞপ্তিতে উল্লিখিত শূন্য পদের সংখ্যা হ্রাস/বৃদ্ধি এবং অনিবার্য কারণে নিয়োগ প্রক্রিয়া স্থগিত/বাতিল/প্রত্যাহার করার ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করে।



বাংলাদেশ পল্লী উন্নয়ন বোর্ড,
ঢাকার ওয়েবসাইটে
প্রবেশ এর QR Code



বাংলাদেশ পল্লী উন্নয়ন
বোর্ড, ঢাকা এর টেলিটক
পোর্টালের QR Code

২৩/০৬/২০২৫
মুহাম্মদ ইকবাল হোসাইন
পরিচালক (প্রশাসন)
ও
সদস্য সচিব
০১ নং নিয়োগ ও পদোন্নতি কমিটি
বাংলাদেশ পল্লী উন্নয়ন বোর্ড, ঢাকা।
ফোন: ০২-৫৫০১১৬৯৭

GD-749

An unfortunate turn of events

Questions over Awami League’s future must not lead to fresh chaos

Ever since the July uprising, the nation has been rocked by wave after wave of protests, both online and offline, over various issues and developments. While this is but a natural consequence of the heightened exposure to, and awareness of, long-festering injustices and divisions, the recent flare-up over the question of Awami League’s rehabilitation following alleged exchanges between some leaders of the National Citizen Party (NCP) and the army chief has the potential to plunge the country into fresh chaos, if not properly addressed. The explosiveness of the situation owes as much to the alleged content of said exchanges, and the manner in which they were revealed, as to the sway involved parties hold over the post-uprising society.

On the assumption that these developments are known to all, we are not delving into details. To sum up, in a Facebook post on Friday, NCP leader Hasnat Abdullah claimed that he had been presented with an “Indian plan” at the cantonment to rehabilitate Awami League. It involves a “refined” version of the party, led by leaders without questionable reputations, which would publicly renounce Sheikh Hasina’s legacy and pledge to restore the ideals of “Bangabandhu’s Awami League.” In exchange, Hasnat wrote, politicians who endorse this new faction would receive parliamentary seats and other concessions. The justification for the move, he added, was that “it is better to have several opposition parties, including a weak Awami League, than just one party in opposition.”

After the post went viral, it caused heated debate and also demonstrations. Later, the veracity of Hasnat’s version of the event was contested by his NCP colleague Sarjis Alam, who accompanied him during the meeting with army chief General Waqar-uz-Zaman, while another, Nasiruddin Patwary, called the post “inappropriate”. Meanwhile, the army called it “laughable” and “immature” in comments shared with the Netra News. However, what’s clear from these statements is that said meeting did take place, whether pre-planned or not, and Awami League’s rehabilitation was indeed discussed, even if its intent and other relevant details remain disputed. This development brings to the fore the critical importance of transparency in any process involving the future of Awami League to prevent confusion, foul play, or politicisation. It also shows, once again, the significance of Sheikh Hasina and other leaders facing accountability for the atrocities they committed before a new chapter can be opened.

The potential for chaos is real if this issue is mishandled. The people are still grappling with the consequences of the ousted regime that left deep scars in society. The last thing we need now is further instability. We agree with the NCP that political decisions should be left to the political entities. But the need for broader consensus in such matters cannot be ruled out either. At the same time, we must be careful that the army is not pulled into any controversies that do not concern it. The chief adviser has already said that the interim government had no plan to ban the AL—that doesn’t mean AL’s future is decided. As the trial process for its crimes continues, politicians may, and should, continue to engage in discussions about it but this must not lead to further turmoil. All stakeholders of the July uprising must act with greater caution and restraint.

Eid journeys should be safe and easy

Take steps to increase highway safety, minimise gridlocks

With the Eid holidays around the corner, more than one crore people are reportedly preparing to travel back home to spend time with their families. Like every other year, this journey is not expected to be smooth this time either, given our inadequate transport system, dilapidated road conditions, and rising instances of highway robberies of late.

According to a 2022 survey, 1.18 crore people leave Dhaka during the last four days before Eid using road, river, and rail transport. Due to the inadequacy of trains and launches, most people travel by road in buses, private cars, trucks, motorcycles, and even autorickshaws. This year, despite the government holiday extending over nine days, the strain of road journeys is unlikely to lessen much, according to a *Prothom Alo* report. One reason behind this forewarning is the condition of highways, particularly the ongoing expansion work on two major routes—Dhaka-Sylhet and Tangail-Rangpur—used for travel to at least 30 districts.

The four-lane expansion work currently taking place between Narayanganj and Narsingdi on the Dhaka-Sylhet route has already become a nuisance for commuters due to dust, large potholes on roads, and a total disregard for traffic rules. Travel time on this route is already twice the normal, and one can only imagine what the gridlock would look like in the days before Eid. Illegal autorickshaw stands and hawkers occupying both sides of major intersections on highways are another set of problems that should be addressed for uninterrupted traffic flow.

Another major concern is the increase in highway robberies. Compared to last year’s figures, highway robberies during the January-February period have more than doubled. In response, the government has promised to install CCTV cameras in all bus, rail, and launch terminals and increase police presence on highways. We sincerely hope such moves will curb the threat of robberies as well as help control road rage and traffic violations. However, strict monitoring of vehicle overcapacity and road rules must be enforced, with increased supervision by patrol teams. This should include checking the number of trips by transport drivers and restricting the entry of slow-moving vehicles like *Nasimon* on highways. Such pre-emptive actions can also prevent the loss of lives. Also, temporarily halting road work several days before and after Eid may help ease gridlocks.

The more BNP talks about reforms, the less interested it seems in them



OF MAGIC
& MADNESS

Badiuzzaman Bay
is assistant editor at The Daily Star.

BADIUZZAMAN BAY

Going solely by its public statements, an interesting aspect of BNP’s activities since the July uprising has been its search for—and interaction with—new adversaries, in the absence of the one it fought against for so long. As new forces emerge on the scene, BNP, driven partly by post-uprising realities and partly by an abiding sense of victimhood, has increasingly found itself at odds with former allies, new parties, student leaders, the chief adviser and his cabinet colleagues, and even media voices critical of its unruly activists. And it has sought to use these moments to come out stronger. What’s interesting about it is how unchanged BNP’s manner of engagement has remained despite the political changeover in August, often adopting an adversarial tone that feels too eager at times.

In his seminal work on the politics of enemies, Canadian historian Michael Ignatieff explains that when politicians target their adversaries using inflammatory rhetoric, it is not necessarily true that they are merely representing their constituents’ feelings or responding to injustices and societal divisions. “The truth may be darker: it may be a language game not to represent grievance, but to create it, and to polarise for the sake of political advantage.” However, as the largest party at present—and one many expect to win the next national election—BNP’s adversarial politics hurts more because it was expected to lead a new culture of politics, with a new political language that seeks mediation rather than confrontation.

Be that as it may, where it gets particularly disturbing is when BNP brings its combative approach to the state reform drive, which the nation hopes will be the catalyst for transformational change in the country. BNP’s stance on reforms has long been one of confusion and mixed messages. On March 16, however, it seemed to take it a step too far. Speaking at an iftar programme at Dhaka Medical College, senior BNP leader Mirza Abbas said, rather ominously, “We will not easily accept any reforms dictated by their [interim government’s] hands or pens. If they carry out reforms, we will make corrections. BNP, in collaboration with



VISUAL: SALMAN SAKIB SHAHRYAR

other political parties, will determine those corrections and present them to the nation. We will not accept the so-called reforms led by the so-called intellectuals who are not even citizens of this country.”

This statement is striking for two reasons. First, it outright dismisses the proposals from various reform commissions which, by the way, are with the political parties for review. Second, it openly questions the legitimacy of those who prepared the proposals and are in talks with stakeholders, including the BNP, to achieve consensus on the nature and extent of reforms. But if this is how BNP wants to navigate this crucial phase—by pre-emptively rejecting expert proposals, disparaging those involved, or accusing the “unelected” government of trying to favour certain parties—what was the point of all the efforts over the last seven months? The non-citizen jibe, likely aimed at the National Consensus Commission Vice-Chairman Ali Riaz, who also heads the Constitution Reform Commission, was particularly insensitive. Despite BNP being very much on the inside and having the ability to impact outcome through

documented. The party has itself complained that its commitment to reforms is being unfairly questioned, but stopped short of considering whether it is somehow contributing to this perception. Instead, it appears more interested in its own 31-point charter, which largely consists of broad visions. All this suggests BNP’s growing alienation from the aspirations for structural change through the ongoing reform drive. While acting chairman Tarique Rahman’s statement on Wednesday—warning that extremists and fascists could again “bury democracy” and expressing BNP’s commitment to maintaining the country’s secular character—is laudable, it’s the grunt work of reform-making where its commitment, and support, are most needed. Right now, its critical stance isn’t helping. Ali Riaz appeared to hint as much on Thursday when he stated that both internal and external forces are trying to “obstruct the reform process.”

BNP must recognise that, besides electoral changes, there are other reforms that deserve equal priority. Our painful history of political violence and corruption demands

faithful past ruling parties were to their manifestos. There must be at least some binding mechanisms or safeguards in place to ensure that the reform drive does not derail after elections. One way, as suggested by a columnist in this daily, would be for political parties to “thrash out a common minimum reform programme (CMRP)—a set of core reforms based on the maximum principle, where the maximum number of parties agree on a minimum set of urgent measures.” This is precisely what the National Consensus Commission can help achieve, if given proper support.

If the BNP really wants to be seen as a pro-reform force, it should engage in these discussions with greater sincerity, sending an undiluted message of solidarity with whatever outcome this process yields. At the same time, it should balance its political aspirations with the broader national interest. That goes for all other parties as well. Any attempt to politicise the reform drive—whether by questioning and obstructing the process or by selectively endorsing reforms that suit their interests—will serve neither the parties nor the country in the long run.

Let women thrive both online and offline



Promiti Prova Chowdhury
is project manager at Voices for Interactive Choice and Empowerment. She can be reached at promiti.voice@gmail.com.

PROMITI PROVA CHOWDHURY

The world celebrated this year’s International Women’s Day (IWD) with the theme “For ALL Women and Girls: Rights. Equality. Empowerment.” While the global message envisions a future where women and girls lead as changemakers, our nation’s reality remains far from this vision. The promise of equality is overshadowed by the harsh realities on the ground. Our governance and law-and-order systems are in a state of constant disruption, increasingly influenced by violent groups who see women as easy targets—both online and offline.

The recent spate of crimes against women has been more than troubling. Digital space has become a breeding ground for gendered violence which is not contained within the digital sphere. It is affecting women and adolescent girls in offline spaces. It seeps into their daily lives, affecting their psychological and physical well-being and resulting in paranoia, shame, isolation, and even death. Take the tragic example of a 17-year-old girl who died by suicide after her ex-husband circulated private photos of her online. When the images spread, she faced immense social pressure and shame, ultimately leading to her death.

Even accomplished and well-known women are not spared. National-level footballer Matsushima Sumaya received rape and death threats after speaking out against the team coach.

Environment, Forest and Climate Change Adviser Syeda Rizwana Hasan and well-known actress Mehazabien Chowdhury were targeted with AI-generated images.

Similarly, a video was falsely linked to Nusrat Tabassum, a Dhaka University student and a central executive committee member of the Anti-Discrimination Student Movement. The daughter of Shafiqul Alam, chief adviser’s press secretary, also became a victim of deepfake images.

Hate speech targeting women and marginalised communities in Bangladesh is now a pervasive issue. Social media spaces often serve as breeding grounds for misogynistic content. For instance, there are Facebook groups which actively spread misogynistic messages aimed at undermining feminist movements and silencing women’s voices.

Women professionals also face relentless character assassinations. Many incidents illustrate how irresponsible reporting fuels misogyny and shifts focus away from professional allegations to personal slander, amplifying gender stereotypes.

Porimoni, a popular Bangladeshi actress, often faces online harassment rooted in deep-seated sexism. The abusive comments reflect a broader cultural problem where women in the public eye are judged harshly for their

personal lives and professional choices. This pattern of online abuse highlights the widespread misogyny female public figures encounter, exposing the challenges they face in maintaining their presence and voice in a hostile digital environment.

Such behaviour underscores the urgent need for enhanced media literacy, accountability, and measures to curb online harassment, especially

Digital space has become a breeding ground for gendered violence which is not contained within the digital sphere. It is affecting women and adolescent girls in offline spaces. It seeps into their daily lives, affecting their psychological and physical well-being and resulting in paranoia, shame, isolation, and even death.

in Bangladesh’s social media landscape.

Addressing this crisis requires immediate and comprehensive action. The government must enforce clear and robust regulations to combat cyber harassment and digital violence. Legal provisions should address online sexual exploitation, image-based abuse, and misinformation, ensuring swift judicial processes and strict penalties for offenders. Protecting victims must be a priority, with legal assistance, counselling, and financial support readily available.

Law enforcement agencies also need targeted training on digital rights, cybercrime, and gender sensitivity. Specialised cybercrime units focused on technology-facilitated gender-based violence (TFGBV) should be established to handle these cases with the urgency and expertise they require. Teachers should be trained to educate students about digital ethics and responsible online behaviour, equipping them to navigate the digital world safely and respectfully.

Moreover, fostering a culture of respect and empathy must begin in childhood. Schools should incorporate lessons on digital manners and ethics alongside traditional moral education. Children must learn that online behaviour carries real-world consequences and that respect for others extends beyond face-to-face interactions. Parents and educators should work together to instil values of kindness, accountability, and digital responsibility.

Addressing TFGBV is not just about protecting women—it’s about upholding human rights and fostering just, inclusive societies. This fight aligns directly with Sustainable Development Goal 5 (Gender Equality) and SDG 16.10 (Ensuring public access to information and protecting fundamental freedoms). By creating safe digital spaces where women and marginalised communities can express themselves freely and participate fully in society, we move closer to a more equitable and peaceful world.

Let us remember that the journey towards equality requires collective effort. We must challenge patriarchal norms, demand responsible media practices, and push for stronger legal protections. Only then can we ensure a future where every woman and girl can thrive, both online and offline.

Netanyahu’s war and the human cost



Sarzah Yeasmin
is a contributor to The Daily Star and works on the intersections of education and public policy. She is an alumna of Harvard University.

SARZAH YEASMIN

It is clear as daylight that Benjamin Netanyahu never wanted the war in Gaza to stop. This is the highlight of his career as a politician, a star on his resume. The ceasefire was never a real one, and his government had no intention of keeping it. A continued genocide, the killing of women and children—unfortunately, we are witnessing a classic case of striking a Faustian bargain in real time. The Netanyahu government spent approximately \$31 billion on the war in Gaza (and Lebanon) in 2024. Additionally, the country has received substantial military aid and grants from its biggest ally, the United States. Despite the massive support received, Israel’s budget deficit and defence expenditure are on the rise. Is this a war against Hamas, or is this a well-funded war against humanity, with the most vulnerable—children and women—overwhelmingly represented in the number of deaths?

We have heard about the vision of beachfront villas and real estate in Gaza, turning the rubble into a “paradise” for whoever can afford to go on a holiday on the strip. Perhaps ethnic cleansing is more economic than forced relocation and displacement of people. This barbaric modern-day, high-tech genocide has capitalistic goals. Policymakers and deal-breakers are already counting their return on investment. There are talks about moving Palestinians to Sudan and other countries, but this has not materialised. That begs

the question: should Israel be moved elsewhere, perhaps to a country with more land mass? Since its “modern democracy” is such an anomaly in the Middle East, perhaps a safer continent would reduce the need for so much defence expenditure and chaos.

Now let’s look at the legal basis for breaking a ceasefire. A ceasefire can be broken if one party is acting in self-defence. Under international law, specifically under Article 51 of the United Nations Charter, a state has the right to defend itself against armed attacks. A party may decide to unilaterally break a ceasefire if they feel that the other side is not adhering to its commitments, such as stopping hostilities, allowing humanitarian aid or returning prisoners. This decision may lead to the breakdown of the ceasefire agreement, depending on the circumstances. In some cases, a party may break a ceasefire due to the need to address urgent humanitarian concerns or violations of human rights. For instance, if one side is blocking essential humanitarian aid or committing atrocities, the other side may decide to act in response, breaking the ceasefire in the process.

The problem with such broad strokes within international law is that the country breaking the ceasefire can act based on “feelings” and hunches—much like a false alarm that is allowed to echo through the halls of diplomacy unchecked. Why did Israel cry wolf this time, raising

the spectre of a threat so vast that it justified the resumption of violence? Was it truly a threat, or was it merely the latest note in a symphony of pretext, a calculated narrative spun to justify what was already in motion? We may never know, not until the real intelligence is laid bare, if it ever is. This ongoing barbarism has shown us that international law and UN bodies

world.

B’Tselem, an Israeli human rights organisation, reported that at the end of December 2024, the Israel Prison Service was holding 9,619 Palestinians on “security” grounds. Following the Hamas-led attack on October 7, 2023, approximately 251 individuals, including Israelis, were taken hostage to Gaza. As of

approximately 59 hostages still held in Gaza, according to Israeli sources. Hamas’s refusal to release hostages was cited by Israeli officials as a contributing factor to the collapse of the two-month truce. Netanyahu declared that Israel had “resumed combat in full force” against Hamas, with the March 18 strikes described as “just the beginning.” How many

be postponed; interestingly, it was scheduled for the same day as the attack. The question is: who is trying to hide under the rubble of the war to escape the hearing? The Israeli prime minister is undergoing a corruption trial involving charges of bribery, fraud, and breach of trust. His scheduled testimony was cancelled due to the Israeli military’s “surprise” attack on Gaza, which ended the ceasefire. Strategic and well-thought-out decisions and their implementations are not surprises. If this is just the beginning, as Netanyahu declares, then it will only get worse from what has happened so far.

There are no human rights violations that have not happened in this genocide, and nothing comes as a surprise. What is surprising is that no international pressure has been enough to put a stop to this mayhem. In fact, human rights violations from this genocide have spilled over the borders of Gaza to the neighbouring countries and across oceans and continents, where fear has been steered in marginalised communities for speaking out for human rights. A shadow keeps looming over people just for exercising their basic human right of speech.

What can global citizens do? We can continue to advocate, provide essential aid, and support Palestinians in writing their own history, in building their own capacity—whether it’s through education, arts or innovation. We keep sharing across borders. Let’s also not forget the routine human rights violations that occur in Ramallah, Hebron, Bethlehem, and Nablus. If the US is wise enough, it will also recognise that the return on the investment in death machines won’t be much, and that losing its foreign policy acumen to a foreign power won’t bode well in the long run.



Palestinians inspect the site of an Israeli strike on a residential building in Jabalia in the northern Gaza Strip on March 18, 2025.

FILE PHOTO: REUTERS

are mere tools of aspiration; there is much less accountability if it’s the very powerful against the powerless because the arbiters operate within the colonial framework. International law’s role, unfortunately, is only limited to diplomacy. It can only penalise countries in the subaltern

late February 2025, as many as 147 hostages have been returned alive to Israel, with 105 released in a prisoner exchange in 2023, four unilaterally by Hamas, eight rescued by the Israel Defense Forces (IDF), and 30 in a 2025 exchange. Bodies of 44 hostages have also been repatriated. This leaves

Hamas members were actually killed out of the many women and children brutally maimed, already worn out from war, loss and hunger?

Let’s take a sneak peek inside Israel. There are protests outside of Netanyahu’s house. The court hearing on his corruption had to

Potato farmers’ plight needs long-term solutions



Gawher Nayeem Wahra
is a researcher and writer. He can be reached at wahragawher@gmail.com

GAWHER NAYEEM WAHRA

While living in the cities, attending rallies and back-to-back meetings on “*sangskar*” (reform), it is hard to feel the heat of the ongoing crisis potato farmers are facing. Moreover, we, the self-declared “opinion builders,” can’t see any immediate change in potato prices, as they remain very low at present.

Potatoes are Bangladesh’s second biggest crop after rice. They are regarded as a safe crop in our low-lying South Asian country as it is planted in October and harvested by the end of February when the land is still dry.

It also contributes to our food security basket. Experts see potatoes as a potential antidote to hunger caused by higher food prices, global population growth rate, climbing costs of fertiliser, and reduced cropland. United Nations termed potatoes a “hidden treasure” and proclaimed 2008 the “International Year of the Potato.” Asian countries are seeing potatoes as a possible salvation as they scramble to feed their people at reasonable prices in the near future.

The per-person annual consumption of potatoes has increased in Bangladesh also, although it is still consumed as a side dish or just a vegetable. According to agriculture officials, the consumption of potatoes has risen from an average of seven kilos per capita in 1991 to 24 kilos in 2007 and 53 kilos in 2022.

In April 2008, the then army chief General Moeen U Ahmed, started preaching—“think potato, grow potato and eat potato.”. With his patronage and enthusiasm Dhaka experienced a grand three days’ potato festival.

Bangladesh experienced crop failure that year and rice prices went up every day if not every hour. A significant number of people had to skip one or two meals a day because they could



Potato farmers can build their storages if they get loans on easy terms.

PHOTO: COURTESY

not afford to buy rice which forms the bulk of their diet.

So, he and his civilian entourage started a potato campaign. The aim of the campaign was to convince millions of Bangladeshis to embrace potatoes as a staple food instead of high-priced rice and wheat. Fortunately, that year we had an unusually good crop of potatoes, which needed to be eaten quickly before they rot.

This year Bangladesh is facing almost the same scenario. Rice prices are going “up above the world so high” and the crop is gradually becoming the “diamond in the sky.” In recent weeks, the price of the most popular rice (Miniket) has increased by about Tk 5 per kg. In Kushtia, the price

embargos. According to the Agricultural Marketing Act, 2018, the rent of cold storage must be increased or determined through a government gazette in consultation with the director general of the Department of Agricultural Marketing. However, the BCSA announced an increase in potato storage fees in a press conference on February 8 without any gazette. The storage fee was set at Tk 8 per kg, up from Tk 5. Farmers also have been asked to keep the sacks at a maximum of 50 kg. Earlier, farmers used to keep 70 kg sacks in cold storage for Tk 350.

The cold storage owners are also giving priority to businessmen

over farmers when it comes to storing. Farmers are harassed when it comes to obtaining so-called booking slips which are permits to store potatoes. Most farmers are worried about how much produce can ultimately be saved from rotting by storing potatoes in cold storage. Farmers are now selling their potatoes right from the field at a low price due to a lack of storage opportunities. While farmers spent Tk 22 to 25 on producing one kg of potatoes, now they have to sell the crop for just Tk 14 per kg or less directly from the fields. If the government does not anticipate the *ashoni songket* (bad news) i.e. the imminent danger to the food security situation and the farmers’ losses in one crop after another, the nation will head nowhere. Should thousands of farmers face losses due to the syndicate of cold storage owners?

In several countries of Southeast Asia and different states of India, special types of houses are built in farmers’ homes to store potatoes for long periods. With the active interest of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations, the Department of Agricultural Marketing built several such houses in the potato-producing areas in the 2023-24 fiscal year. According to the department, it is a scientific mini-cold storage. Storing 25 to 30 metric tonnes of potatoes in such houses will save the farmers about Tk 1.5 lakh per year. I have visited and talked with some users and found that these houses serve as dependable alternatives.

If you build such a storehouse, you can use it for up to 15 years. Each house costs Tk 1.5 lakh to build. Potatoes can be stored in these houses for four to six months. If the government doesn’t have money, FAO can invest more in this successful project. The farmers said that if they get loans on easy terms, they will build their own houses. Can microfinance organisations not come forward?

The Indian state of West Bengal also faces a similar crisis but they have taken several initiatives to protect the farmers. We need to examine those initiatives for the sake of our food security.

CROSSWORD BY THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
1 Barbershop needs
7 Tater
11 Brewing need
12 Florence’s river
13 Blood line
14 Bridge fee
15 Peace goddess
16 Said with a twang
17 Be bold
18 Give
19 Paper pack
21 Quite cold
22 Yeti’s cousin
25 Chips buy
26 Take apart
27 Draw out
29 Make lots
- 33 Costume
34 Jacket flap
35 Seize
36 Harry Potter, for one
37 Pot starter
38 Come into view
39 Old World deer
40 Fragrance counter bottle
- DOWN**
1 Solemn
2 Caesar’s land
3 Critic, at times
4 Starting bids
5 Tiny opening
6 Sow’s place
7 “Paradise Lost” figure
8 Mundane
9 Open, as a gate
10 First lady of 1812
16 Wanderer
18 Dismay
20 Rig
22 Italian port
23 Stir up
24 Yellow gems
25 Handout seeker
28 Dice, e.g.
30 Set off
31 Brink
32 Church leader
34 Green hue
36 Soaked

1	2	3	4	5	6		7	8	9	10
11							12			
13							14			
15							16			
17						18				
			19	20					21	
	22	23					24			
25				26						
27			28				29	30	31	32
33						34				
35						36				
37						38				
39					40					

5-20

SATURDAY’S ANSWERS

A	P	A	R	T		W	E	L	D	S
S	O	N	A	R		O	V	E	R	T
S	I	G	M	A		M	E	T	O	O
E	R	E		P	T	A		I	N	K
S	O	L		P	U	N		T	E	E
S	T	A	T	E	N		G	I	R	D
		B	A	R	I	S	T	A		
A	R	A	B			S	H	O	W	M
P	O	S		P	I	E		R	A	N
L	O	S		H	A	L		I	N	C
O	M	E	G	A			V	I	G	G
M	I	T	E	S			E	T	H	E
B	E	T	T	E			D	E	T	R

Write for us. Send us your opinion pieces to dsopinion@gmail.com

THE POLITICS OF RECOGNITION

How Bangladesh gained GLOBAL LEGITIMACY

The fact that Bangladesh gained international recognition at all is remarkable. In modern times, it is rare for a secessionist state to achieve international legitimacy without the assent of the home state. In fact, it has happened only twice in the past three hundred years.

RACHEL STEVENS

When Bangladesh defeated Pakistan on 16 December 1971, one could be forgiven for assuming that the international community automatically recognised Bangladesh's independence. However, my current research into how Western states responded reveals that this assumption could not be further from the truth.

A brief history of recognition practices

The fact that Bangladesh gained international recognition at all is remarkable. In modern times, it is rare for a secessionist state to achieve international legitimacy without the assent of the home state. In fact, it has happened only twice in the past three hundred years: Belgium, which began its secessionist movement in 1830, waited nine years for recognition, and Ireland, which began its independence war from the UK in 1919 but was not recognised as a republic until 1949. Generally, unilateral acts of secession without support from the home state



Figure 4. After presenting his credentials to Australian Governor-General Sir Paul Hasluck, High Commissioner Ali enjoys a formal reception at Government House, Canberra. Source: NAA. A6180, 12/5/72/93.



Figure 3. Hossain Ali, Bangladesh High Commissioner to Australia, inspects a guard of honour, Canberra, 18 April 1972. Source: NAA. A6180, 12/5/72/88.



Figure 1. Timeline of recognition. SOURCE: CREATED BY THE AUTHOR.

Arguably, Australian diplomats had been preparing for an independent Bangladesh throughout 1971, even if they never publicly declared it. With few exceptions, the Australian government sided with Bangladesh's aspirations for statehood.

result in international silence if not explicit condemnation.

Why is it so difficult for secessionist movements to gain international recognition?

The main reason is states fear setting a precedent for other disgruntled minority groups within their midst to declare independence. Globally, states are comprised of multi-ethnic populations, some of which have made claims for secession. From Quebec in Canada to Transnistria in Moldova, such calls for independence undermine state authority. It is therefore in the interests of governments to dissuade independence movements as they pose an existential threat.

There are other, more practical, reasons to deny statehood to secessionist groups. Economic factors loom large. As was the case with East Timor, home states can use the presence of natural resources as a bargaining chip to secure international support. The international community oftentimes expresses concern that supporting one secessionist group could trigger regional conflicts and undo accepted international borders, as is the case with Kurdistan.

Legally, the issue of international recognition of breakaway states is unclear. The United Nations (UN) is often lauded for spearheading decolonisation. This is true. But what is also true is that the UN applies a "decolonisation only once" principle.

Comprised of (and funded by) states, the UN has a vested interest in protecting the existing territorial borders of its members. Furthermore, in international law there is no agreed-upon mechanism under which state recognition must occur, nor is there any widely accepted legal definition of statehood.

In short, the act of state recognition is a political behaviour rather than an impartial legal decision. The decision if and when to recognise a newly formed state is driven primarily by self-interest and cost-benefit analysis. The lofty ideals of freedom and self-determination rarely rate a mention.

Despite its ambiguous process, the decision to recognise a secessionist state does matter. It has been said that without international recognition, a declaration of independence by a breakaway territory is like one hand clapping: it is pointless. International recognition has the power to turn an isolated, emerging nation into a fully-fledged member of the international community and all the benefits that it entails: including access to trade agreements, establishment of diplomatic missions, freedom of movement across international borders, and access to membership of global and regional organisations.

Timeline of recognition

As is well-known, India and its ally Bhutan recognised Bangladesh before the Liberation War ended. But for the rest of the international community, recognition was not considered a viable option until Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman was released from Pakistani custody. The next bloc of countries to recognise Bangladesh came from communist Europe: East Germany, Poland and Bulgaria. Australian diplomatic cables state that these communist states were used as "Soviet pathfinders to recognition". That is, Moscow ordered these states to recognise Bangladesh early to assess the reaction of Pakistan.

Once the USSR was satisfied that Pakistan's threats of retaliation were hollow, it recognised Bangladesh on 25 January, followed the next day by Czechoslovakia and Hungary. Diplomatic cables document why Communist Europe was keen to recognise Bangladesh early. Legitimising the young nation offered the communists a "propaganda win" by "beating the west", and marginalising Maoism in the region.

On the surface, this timeline suggests that the western world was slow to recognise Bangladesh. However, Australian archival evidence indicates a more complicated story.

It is true that the United States, under the leadership of Richard Nixon, delayed recognition of Bangladesh until April, if only to punish India for a perceived lack of gratitude for American aid. At the same time, the Nixon Administration was planning its historic visit to the People's Republic of China in February 1972 to normalise relations between the two adversaries. Pakistan was a crucial intermediary in this process and the US was loth to insult its ally so close to the Beijing trip.

The other great power, the UK, was torn on multiple fronts: it feared that recognising Bangladesh may trigger Pakistan to withdraw from the Commonwealth yet failure to recognise Bangladesh could jeopardise access to a profitable trading partner. With memories of British imperialism still fresh, the UK government was reluctant to intervene in its former colony.

Moreover, in 1971 the UK was focused on gaining admission to the European Community (EC) and had famously withdrawn its troops "east of Suez" in 1971.

With the US preoccupied and the UK uncertain how to act, a vacuum was left for so-called middle powers such as Australia to fill the void.

Australia leading the West

Although Australia formally recognised Bangladesh on 31 January—as the first Western nation to do so, along with allies New Zealand and Fiji—Australian diplomats had been actively advocating for Bangladesh's recognition behind the scenes since 24 December, eight days after the ceasefire.

Even before the war commenced on 25 March 1971, the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) began preparing staff for the disintegration of Pakistan. Then, on 24 April 1971, Vice President of the Bangladesh government-in-exile,

same characteristic of risk-aversion, even if that meant stymieing the possibility of Bangladesh to stabilise and prosper in the post-Liberation War period.

The Australian position was markedly different from its western and Asian allies. Arguably, Australian diplomats had been preparing for an independent Bangladesh throughout 1971, even if they never publicly declared it. With few exceptions, the Australian government sided with Bangladesh's aspirations for statehood. On 11 December 1971, Australian High Commissioner to India, Patrick Shaw, cabled to DFA: "As for your fears that 'premature recognition would have adverse effects on Australian relations in Islamabad', it is more important to consider Australian relations with Dhaka and with New Delhi. Leading Australian diplomat Sir James Plimsoll concurred, stating

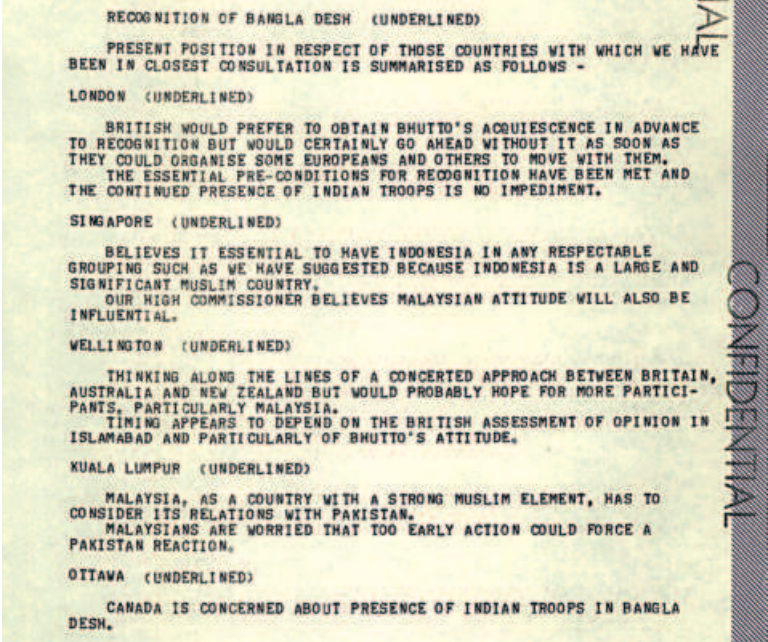


Figure 2. Cable from Australian Department of Foreign Affairs to Australian embassies and High Commissions, summarising state of thinking among its allies, 18 January 1972. Source: NAA: A1838, 144/10/1/1/PART3.

Syed Nazrul Islam, wrote to the Australian government. In his letter, Nazrul Islam attached the Bangladeshi Proclamation of Independence and asserted, "the people of Bangladesh, by their heroism, bravery and revolutionary fervour have established effective control over the territories of Bangladesh". The Australian government did not respond to this letter as it would have been deemed inappropriate to communicate directly with the government-in-exile. However, unofficially, as early as June 1971 the Australian Prime Minister William McMahon lobbied for the release of Mujib from Pakistani custody as a first step to a political solution to the conflict and a step towards autonomy.

By December 1971, it was clear to Australians that a ceasefire was imminent, and they needed to determine their allegiance: to recognise Bangladesh early and risk a severance of diplomatic relations with Pakistan, or to acquiesce to Pakistani demands and refrain from formal recognition of Bangladesh.

For many western and Asian nations, the second option was most appealing as it offered the least risk in the short-term. Figure 2 shows the positions of the UK, Singapore, New Zealand, Malaysia and Canada. All Commonwealth countries shared the

"I agree with Shaw too that we should not create obstacles to our establishing some relationship with Bangladesh before too long". These opinions informed the position of the DFA, which urged the Australian Foreign Minister Nigel Bowen on 13 December: "Australia should move to recognise Bangladesh as soon as practicable after the installation of a new government in Dhaka".

With the ceasefire on 16 December, Australian deliberations shifted from whether to how to recognise Bangladesh. The Australian government employed multilateral diplomacy to persuade like-minded nations to join Australia and recognise Bangladeshi independence quickly and as a bloc. The reasons for wanting to recognise Bangladesh collectively were based on practical advantages. Oftentimes, acts of contemporaneous state recognition create momentum and stimulate other nations to follow suit. When a group of nations act simultaneously, it bestows greater legitimacy on the country being recognised.

From 24 December, Australian diplomats across the globe were instructed by the DFA to "sound out" western and Asian governments on their willingness to recognise Bangladesh. While the response was positive, none was ready to act.

After the release of Mujib from Pakistani custody on 8 January 1972 and his arrival in Dhaka on 10 January, the Australian government commenced a second round of negotiations. From 11 to 17 January, Australian diplomats sought to persuade other governments to recognise collectively on 19 January. Although Bangladesh had demonstrated it fulfilled all criteria for recognition, some states were still hesitant. Typically, each state that Australia approached may have supported in principle recognition of Bangladesh yet opposed to acting early for fear of retaliation from Pakistan or offending Muslims in the Middle East. Indeed, in January Saudi Arabia warned the international community that recognition of Bangladesh would be viewed as a "hostile act", a threat that spooked Western Europe.

Like its December effort, Australia's endeavour in mid-January to secure a coalition to recognise Bangladesh was unsuccessful. But the Australian government remained undeterred and continued negotiations through January. Socialist Yugoslavia proved an unlikely ally, and in the end it recognised Bangladesh on 22 January, before Australia. In the third round of negotiations, Australia continued to lobby south-east Asian nations, Japan, Canada and western European states. Australian diplomats in Latin America contacted their counterparts in Argentina and Mexico, although these approaches failed completely.

In the final week of January, Western European governments agreed they would recognise Bangladesh at some point. But by now, the Australian government was unwilling to wait, having had their plans thwarted twice within four weeks. In the end, Australia recognised Bangladesh on 31 January, one week after Australian Cabinet approval and five weeks since Australian diplomats began mobilising western support for recognition. On 14 April 1972, the Australian government accredited Hossain Ali as Bangladesh's High Commissioner—the first OECD country to open a diplomatic mission. See Figures 3 and 4.

Australia's position on recognition of Bangladesh was unusual in that it was not entirely focused on self-interest, such as trade implications. Australian diplomats believed that early recognition was important to "help Bangladesh get on its feet" and show "that the communists are not its only friends". Numerous Australian diplomats argued that early recognition was vital to cement the leadership of Mujib and foster moderate politics. Peculiarly, Australian diplomats viewed Bangladesh as a Southeast Asian nation. While geographically inaccurate, the fact that they situated Bangladesh within Australia's neighbourhood reveals an imagined closeness between the two nations.

That Australia was the first Western nation to recognise Bangladesh, and that its diplomats lobbied both Western and Asian governments to do the same, represents a rare moment in Australian foreign policy that was independent of the UK. It also demonstrates the potential of middle-power diplomacy to offset American obstinance, offering a pathway to help Bangladesh realise its aspirations of independence.

Rachel Stevens is a Lecturer in History at the Institute for Humanities and Social Sciences, Australian Catholic University in Melbourne.

Hamza’s role in Bangladesh’s TACTICAL REBIRTH

RIFAT MASUD

In a national team ranked 185th in the world, the arrival of a midfielder with Premier League experience doesn't merely represent a symbolic gesture -- it marks a fundamental reorientation of the team's tactical approach and identity. Hamza Choudhury's integration into the Bangladesh national team isn't about star power or reputation; it's about the system-wide evolution his presence enables.

Hamza is not a traditional midfielder, nor is he merely a destroyer of opposition attacks. He occupies a hybrid role -- part defensive anchor, part deep-lying playmaker.

In early training sessions -- ahead of Bangladesh's Asian Cup qualifiers fixture against India in Shillong on March 25 -- he has displayed a keen understanding of responsibilities that transcend simple defensive duties. Hamza appears to be adept at reading the game, identifying probable passing lanes, stepping into space to disrupt attacking movements, and communicating proactively to ensure defensive cohesion. His positional awareness and discipline provide



PHOTO: BFF

Bangladesh's midfield with a level of structure rarely seen.

Without possession, his focus shifts to anticipation and spatial control. Against a player like India's Sunil Chhetri, who thrives in the half-spaces and operates between the lines, Hamza's role will be to not just shield the defence but also enable them to maintain their shape. It's this

quality, more than any individual flair, that will elevate Bangladesh's defensive organisation.

Hamza's tactical freedom within the team structure is perhaps the most striking aspect of his role. While comparisons with players like Lionel Messi are often emotionally charged and tactically misguided, a more fitting

comparison might be someone like Spain's Sergio Busquets or Joshua Kimmich of Germany. These are players who don't seek the spotlight but dominate through their understanding of structure, their anticipation, and their ability to dictate tempo.

This is not a story of one player single-handedly transforming a team; it is about one player providing a blueprint for tactical evolution. Hamza's true impact will not be measured in goals or assists but in his ability to shape the team's rhythm, structure, and control of the game.

If those around him can rise to the tactical demands his presence implies -- if the federation, coaches, and supporters understand the potential now within their grasp -- then Bangladesh football could embark on a new era. Not one of sudden miracles, but one of steady, mature growth.

The real question is not whether Hamza can carry this team forward. The question is whether the team is prepared to move forward with him -- tactically, intelligently, and with renewed purpose.

Rifat Masud is a sports journalist, currently working for T Sports

BCB to hold key meeting today

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) will sit down for a meeting today with several immediate agendas, particularly those related to the coach and captaincy.

Taskin Ahmed and Liton Das were the names being considered for the T20I captaincy once speculation regarding Najmul Hossain Shanto started to gain ground. Liton, too, had claimed, after the 3-0 series sweep in the West Indies, that he was ready to take over if BCB wanted.

As it stands, Liton -- who was left out of the Champions Trophy -- is the front-runner to take over the T20I captaincy, sources inside the board have claimed. The national team has been without a selector since Hannan Sarkar's resignation; thus, the vacant spot on the selection panel is also on the agenda.

"Some proposals will be made, and they will be discussed. Shipon [Sazzad Ahmed] is being considered as one of the proposed names," a BCB source informed.

BCB has been positive about head coach Phil Simmons, and while the official decision to extend his contract has not been announced, the board is likely to finalise the matter in the coming days.

"Simmons has already been confirmed, according to information in the board, but the decision would be discussed in the board meeting," a source said.

CWAB ad-hoc committee brings new hope for players

SPORTS REPORTER

Past and present cricketers gathered in Mirpur yesterday to hold a Cricketers Welfare Association of Bangladesh (CWAB) meeting and after 11 years, CWAB's leadership changed with president Naimur Rahman and general secretary Debobroto Paul stepping down.

CWAB formed an ad-hoc committee of 13 members with former cricketer Saleem Shahed as the convener during the meeting attended by around 50 players.

Cricketers such as national team captain Najmul Hossain have been named in the committee as representatives of divisions. The committee will now consider the organisation's constitution amendments and form an election commission for upcoming elections, slated to take place tentatively within three months' time.

In 2019, cricketers of the country went on strike, feeling undermined by the board and unrepresented by the cricketers' welfare organisation. In 2023, in CWAB's first Annual General Meeting in 10 years, no other candidates challenged the leadership even as it did not mean cricketers had been happy with all that had gone on.

This DPL is being played on reduced budget with CWAB not having any say over the players' plight. Sources informed that one national team player is playing for a newly promoted club where his contractual salary has been halved from previous years for participating in seven games.

When asked whether CWAB has done anything to fulfil players' wishes in recent years, one cricketer pointed out that DPL



was being played under reduced salaries.

"I have seen nothing of that sort [positive changes to help players]. At least 50-60 percent of the payment has been reduced this DPL from previous years," he said.

The cricketers have requested that first-class contracts and match fees be improved. Currently, there are three categories (A, B, C) receiving monthly salaries of Tk 35,000, Tk 25,000 and Tk 15,000 respectively. A discussion took place yesterday to bump those figures up to Tk 100,000, Tk 80,000 and Tk 60,000 respectively.

"For 15 years, there has been no real activities seen in CWAB," another cricketer said.

"Since everything has started afresh, let's see what happens. Now the players representing the divisions will sit down

with players from their respective divisions and discuss the changes in rules and regulations (proposed by the ad-hoc committee)," he added.

Avoiding conflicts of interest has also been on the agenda in forming the ad hoc committee. Those representing the board as directors were not named in the committee and once the ad-hoc committee completes its work in forming election commission, members can also partake in elections.

"We will consider these issues [conflict of interest] in a more complete manner so that a transparent system grows. We have to keep in mind that those that are players, are directly or indirectly involved with the board. So we will try to formulate the policy and then abide by it," Saleem, convener of the committee, told reporters.

Piastri hails 'mega' McLaren

AFP, Shanghai

Oscar Piastri hailed his "mega" McLaren after winning a Chinese Grand Prix on Sunday later overshadowed by the disqualifications of Ferrari's Lewis Hamilton and Charles Leclerc for technical infringements.

Alpine's Pierre Gasly was also kicked out after Piastri led a McLaren one-two from pole position with Lando Norris second.

Almost three hours after the chequered flag, stewards ruled that Leclerc and Gasly had cars that weighed less than the 800 kilogram minimum, while Hamilton was found to have excessive plank wear underneath his car.

Leclerc had finished fifth and Hamilton sixth. Their points have been stripped with all the drivers below them gaining places. It was a disastrous end to a weekend that had started so brilliantly for Ferrari when Hamilton took his maiden win for his new team in Saturday's sprint.

On the other hand, it was McLaren's 50th one-two finish in their long history.

"It's been an incredible weekend, the car has been pretty mega," said Piastri, 23, after McLaren made a one-stop strategy work to perfection. "Very, very happy. The hard was a much better tyre than everyone expected so to go all the way to the end was a bit of a surprise, but a happy surprise."

Red Bull's world champion Max Verstappen snatched fourth place after a thrilling late pass on Leclerc.



NZ hand Pakistan biggest defeat

New Zealand clinched the five-match T20I series 3-1, with a game in hand, against Pakistan in style after thrashing the visitors by a record margin at Bay Oval in Mount Maunganui yesterday. Having posted a mammoth total of 220 for six, New Zealand bundled out Pakistan for just 105 in 16.2 overs.

The 115-run defeat for Pakistan is their biggest loss in terms of runs in the format, eclipsing a 95-run defeat, also against New Zealand in Wellington nine years ago.

It was New Zealand's second biggest T20I win by runs, nearly surpassing their 119-run drubbing of the West Indies in 2018 at the same Bay Oval venue.

New Zealand pacer Jacob Duffy claimed 4-20 and fellow seamer Zak Foulkes ended with figures of 3-25 to dismantle the Pakistan lineup.



Sunrisers Hyderabad's Ishan Kishan celebrates after scoring his maiden Indian Premier League century against Rajasthan Royals in Hyderabad yesterday. Hyderabad piled up 286 for six -- just a run short of the best-ever tournament total of 287 for three, also scored by Hyderabad in a game against Royal Challengers Bengaluru in the previous edition. Kishan remained unbeaten for a 47-ball 106 in a game that saw England and Rajasthan fast bowler Jofra Archer return figures of none for 76 in four overs -- the most expensive bowling figures in IPL history.

PHOTO: AFP

ASIAN CUP QUALIFIERS Bangladesh women set sights on uncharted territory

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh women's football team are gearing up for the AFC Women's Asian Cup qualifiers, with preparations set to begin on April 6.

The qualifiers will take place from June 23 to July 5, marking a historic opportunity for Bangladesh to compete on Asia's biggest stage for the first time.

A revamped format for the tournament's 21st edition has opened the door for their long-awaited debut. A total of 34 nations, divided into eight groups, will battle for eight spots in the 12-team final round, set to be held in Australia in 2026.

The draw for the qualifying round is scheduled for March 27, with matches to be played across eight host nations -- Vietnam, Thailand, Uzbekistan, Myanmar, Jordan, Indonesia, Cambodia and Tajikistan.

Placed in the third pot, Bangladesh will likely face some of Asia's strongest sides such as Philippines, Chinese Taipei, and Iran.

To stand a chance, the women in red and green will need rigorous training and a unified squad, putting past disputes between senior players and the coach behind them.



Head coach Peter Butler, who is returning to Dhaka from England on April 6, had a bitter experience in the last training camp. Eighteen senior players refused to train under the British coach, citing various concerns, which led to the formation of a probe committee to resolve the issue.

Bangladesh Football Federation's women's committee chairman, Mahfuza Akter Kiran, informed yesterday: "We have called up nearly 50 players, including 18 who weren't part of the squad for our last two FIFA friendlies against the United Arab Emirates, as well as U-20 players.

"This is because we have two major commitments coming up -- the AFC Women's Asian Cup qualifiers and the SAFF U-20 Women's Championship [from July 1 to 11]."

Before departing for Dubai for two matches with a squad of junior players, those 18 senior players were released from camp with instructions to rejoin after the Eid break.

Asked about the situation, Kiran remained optimistic. "We haven't spoken to Peter yet, but we're hopeful that everything will be fine. Let's get the camp started."

THE BEST QUALITY

EVERY TIME GUARANTEED

BSRM

THE NATION'S LARGEST ROD MANUFACTURER

★★★★★

BSRM

building a safer nation

COMPLETE

GUIDANCE APP FOR

HOME BUILDING

নির্মাণে আঁশ

GET IT ON Google Play

Download on the App Store

QR CODE

Tarique urges parties to prioritise public issues

UNB, Dhaka

Stating that people are the “real capital of politicians”, BNP acting chairman Tarique Rahman yesterday urged political parties to focus on public issues and demands alongside state reforms.

“The people of Bangladesh have many expectations from political parties and politicians. We are discussing various issues of reform, including who should hold what authority. Alongside this, let us begin discussions on what the people’s expectations, demands, and key goals are,” he said while virtually addressing an iftar party.

Jatiyatabadi Somomona Jote hosted the programme in honour of politicians and prominent citizens of the country at a city hotel.

In a democratic state or system, Tarique

SEE PAGE 6 COL 4



Fishermen catching jatka (hilsa fry) using nets at Tulatoli point in the Meghna sanctuary in Bhola Sadar upazila although a two-month ban on fishing, which began from March 1, is on. The ban is imposed to increase the production of hilsa. Those who violate the ban can be sentenced to a maximum of two years imprisonment and fined Tk 5,000. The photo was taken on Saturday.

PHOTO: MONIR UDDIN ANIK

YUNUS’ CHINA TOUR

Trade and investment top priority

Rohingya repatriation also on agenda

PORIMOL PALMA

Bangladesh is expecting to boost exports and bring investment and development support from China during Chief Adviser Prof Muhammad Yunus’ first bilateral visit that will be watched closely by regional powers in the light of the changed Indo-Bangla ties.

Yunus’ visit to China this year, which marks the 50th anniversary of China-Bangladesh diplomatic relations, was due and has symbolic significance, said Imtiaz Ahmed, executive director for Centre for Alternatives.

“There is no doubt that many would be watching Yunus’ China visit from a geopolitical perspective, but we should look at it through the lens of our national

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1



Astronomers find 128 new moons orbiting Saturn

INDEPENDENT.CO.UK

Earlier this week, Saturn gained a whopping 128 new official moons, as the International Astronomical Union recognised discoveries from a team of astronomers led by Edward Ashton at the Academia Sinica in Taiwan.

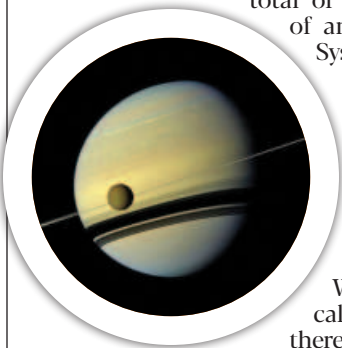
The sixth planet from the Sun now has a grand total of 274 moons, the most of any planet in the Solar System.

The discovery has raised a lot of questions. How do you spot moons, and why hadn’t anybody seen these ones already? Doesn’t Jupiter have the most moons? What are they going to call all these moons? Are there more out there? And what exactly makes something a moon, anyway?

These new discoveries cement Saturn’s place as the winner of the Solar System’s moon competition, with more confirmed moons than all of the other planets combined. But it hasn’t always been this way.

Jupiter’s four largest moons – Io, Europa, Ganymede and Callisto – were the first ever discovered orbiting another planet. They were spotted by Galileo Galilei more than 400 years ago, in 1610. Saturn’s first known moon, Titan, was discovered by Dutch astronomer Christiaan Huygens 45 years later.

The new batch of 128 moons was discovered by stacking images from the Canada France Hawaii telescope. Some of Saturn’s other moons were discovered by space voyages, and some during what are called “ring-plane crossings”.



TUBERCULOSIS INCIDENCE IN BANGLADESH

WHO’s 2025 targets remain a far cry

TUHIN SHUBHRA ADHIKARY

Bangladesh is unlikely to meet its 2025 targets adopted under the WHO’s End TB Strategy in 2015 as the country is struggling to reduce the incidence rate of the contagious bacterial disease, said officials and experts.

TB incidence rate is the number of new and relapse tuberculosis cases arising in a year, expressed as a rate per 1 lakh population.

The target for 2025 is a 50 percent reduction in tuberculosis incidence rate compared to that of 2015.

In 2015, the World Health Organisation’s estimated incidence rate for all forms of tuberculosis in Bangladesh was 225 per 1 lakh population. In 2023, the estimated incidence rate was 221 per 1 lakh population, indicating very little progress here.

Surprisingly, the incidence rate (221 per 1 lakh population) remained same for six years from 2018.

Bangladesh was also supposed to reduce tuberculosis deaths by 75 percent from its 2015 number. In 2023, 44,000 died from tuberculosis, reflecting around a 60



TUBERCULOSIS Case notification trend	Year	Number
	2024	3.13 lakh
	2023	3.01 lakh
	2022	2.61 lakh
	2021	3.06 lakh
	2020	2.30 lakh
	2015	2.09 lakh

SOURCE: NTP

Tuberculosis Control Programme shows that the number of people detected with the disease last year increased compared to the previous year.

According to NTP, 3.13 lakh people tested positive for TB last year after around 30 lakh people with tuberculosis symptoms underwent the test. The number of patients detected in 2023 was 3.01

lakh, the data shows.

Against this backdrop, Bangladesh, one of the 30 countries with a high number of tuberculosis patients, is observing World Tuberculosis Day today. This year’s theme is “A TB-free Bangladesh can be achieved through commitment, investment, and service delivery”.

“We are hopeful of meeting the target regarding reducing mortality rate,” said Zubaida Nasreen, line director for Tuberculosis-Leprosy and AIDS STD Programme.

She said they have started Tuberculosis Preventive Therapy from 2022. Last year, 1.77 lakh people were given the therapy.

“However, we are lagging in terms of reducing the rate. It’s not possible to say now when we can achieve the target,” Nasreen added.

The incidence rate is unlikely to decrease until the country can reduce the number of missing cases (undetected tuberculosis patients), said a public health expert, who asked not to be named.

The WHO estimated the number of patients to be 3.79 lakh in 2023, while 3.01 lakh patients were detected, meaning around 78,000 cases remained undetected, he said.

Once the number of missing cases is addressed, the incidence rate would start to decrease, he said.

He, however, said the number of

SEE PAGE 6 COL 1

Israeli strikes on Gaza kill 30 Palestinians

Top Hamas official among dead

REUTERS, Cairo

An Israeli airstrike in southern Gaza killed Hamas political leader Salah al-Bardaweel yesterday, officials of the group said, as residents reported an escalation in Israel’s six-day-old military campaign.

At least 30 Palestinians had been killed in Israeli strikes on Rafah and Khan Younis so far, health authorities said. Those killed included three municipal employees, medics said.

At least 50,021 Palestinians have been killed and 113,274 wounded since the beginning of the war, the health ministry said in a statement yesterday.

Pro-Hamas media said the airstrike on Khan Younis killed Bardaweel, a member of the Palestinian group’s political office, and his wife. Israeli officials had no immediate comment.

Taher Al-Nono, the media adviser of the Hamas leadership, mourned Bardaweel’s death in a post on his Facebook page.

After two months of relative calm in the offensive that began more than 17 months ago, Gaza civilians were again fleeing for their lives after Israel effectively abandoned a ceasefire, launching a new all-out air and ground campaign on Tuesday against Hamas.

Explosions echoed throughout the north, central and southern Gaza Strip early yesterday, as Israeli planes hit

SEE PAGE 6 COL 1

- » Gaza residents report escalation in Israel’s campaign
- » Israeli official orders evacuation in Rafah
- » Death toll in Gaza surpasses 50,000

Iran unveils missile systems on Gulf islands

AFP, Tehran

Iran’s Revolutionary Guards have unveiled new missile systems on three strategic islands in the Gulf, saying they can target nearby “enemy bases, vessels, and assets”, state media reported Saturday.

The weapons were deployed on Greater Tunb, Lesser Tunb, and Abu Musa near the Strait of Hormuz, a globally vital shipping lane.

The Guards recently held military manoeuvres in the area.

Saturday’s announcement comes with Iran poised to respond to a letter from US President Donald Trump urging a resumption of nuclear talks and warning of possible military action if Iran refuses.

“We have a tactic that we must arm” the island group “and make it operative”, said Alireza Tangsiri, naval commander of the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps, the ideological branch of Iran’s military.

“We are capable of attacking enemy bases, vessels, and assets in the region,” he told state television.

The new systems “can completely destroy any target within 600 kilometres (370 miles)”.

On Friday, supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei said US threats against Iran “will get them nowhere”, and warned that “if they do anything malign to the Iranian nation, they will get a hard slap”.

On Thursday, Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi

SEE PAGE 6 COL 6



Workers of Apparel Plus Eco Ltd in Gazipur demonstrating in front of Labour Bhaban in the capital’s Bijaynagar yesterday, demanding payment of three-month arrears and Eid bonus.

PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

The more BNP talks about reforms, the less interested it seems in them

P8

Prime Bank

KASABALI

PRAYER TIMING

MARCH 24

Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha

AZAN 4-43 12-45 4-45 6-11 7-45

JAMAAT 4-53 1-15 5-00 6-26 8-15

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

SEHRI, IFTAR TIMING

RAMADAN MARCH SEHRI IFTAR

23 24 6:11

24 25 4:41 6:12

25 26 4:40 6:12