

Finish BCS process

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The party further proposed that candidates be allowed to reshuffle their cadre choices after the written results are announced but before the viva voce. It also called for reinstatement of the non-cadre system, as seen in the 38th BCS, with the highest number of appointments given to non-cadres who pass the viva.

Meanwhile, the Public Service Commission has released the schedule for the 46th BCS written exams, which will begin on May 8 and take place at centres across Dhaka, Rajshahi, Chattogram, Khulna, Barishal, Sylhet, Rangpur, and Mymensingh

divisions.

This comes amid protests by job seekers demanding a postponement of the exams.

Moreover, joint forces yesterday dispersed some protesters with batons around 3:00pm after they attempted to march towards the PSC office demanding postponement of the written exams.

Several protesters were detained during the incident.

Earlier on Tuesday, the protesters broke into the PSC premises over the same demands, and gave the commission a three-day ultimatum to postpone the exam date.

Raise your voice

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Speaking as chief guest, Mirza Abbas said, "Had the Muslim world remained united and raised their voices collectively, Israel would not have dared to continue this genocide."

He warned that without effective action from the United Nations and Muslim countries, such oppression would continue.

Salahuddin Ahmed, said, "The genocide in Palestine began long ago, with both direct and indirect support from global powers. Yet the leaders of the Muslim world have failed to take a firm stand."

"On behalf of the BNP,

we strongly condemn this brutality and demand an immediate end to the genocide," he said.

Gayeshwar Chandra Roy said, "The killings in Palestine have continued for generations. Yet we see no stance from our civil society or intellectuals. Why this silence?"

He also criticised the UN for its continued inaction and questioned the current government's silence on the issue.

The rally was presided over by Rafiqul Alam Majnu, convener of BNP Dhaka South City unit.

Similar rallies were held in major cities across the country.

SSC exams begin

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This year, around 19.28 lakh students registered for the exams, over one lakh less compared to previous year.

Of them, a total 14,90,142 registered under nine general education boards, while 2,94,726 under the Madrasa Education Board, and 1,43,313 under the Technical Education Board.

The exams are being held at 2,291 centres across 18,084 institutions.

Meanwhile, around 700 examinees at Jharbari Dwi Mukhi High School centre in Dinajpur's Birganj upazila had to use candlelight while taking their test yesterday due to

power cut following heavy rain and strong winds that began just before the exam.

Md Zahedul Islam, secretary of the centre, said, "Just before the exam began, the storm caused power outage. We arranged for candles immediately so students could continue. Fortunately, power was restored within 20-25 minutes."

The inclement weather left many students and guardians distressed as they made their way to exam centres getting drenched in rain. Several centres had to conduct the exams in near darkness, our Dinajpur correspondent reported.

Police Week finally confirmed

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commissioners -- have been named in murder cases related to the crackdowns.

"Some officers have gone into hiding or fled the country. We are now reshaping the force with new leadership in key positions. A new uniform is also in the works," said an official.

A senior DMP officer said political instability had put the event in doubt, but the appointment of a new inspector general cleared the way. "The government delayed its approval, but now the focus is on a more low-key, meaningful event."

A deputy inspector general said guidance may be given during the week ahead of the expected December elections. "But whether we can truly break free from political influence

remains uncertain -- and that's a concern we hope to raise."

Sources allege that BPM and PPM awards have previously been influenced by political considerations. On February 24, the home ministry revoked medals from 103 officers who received them in 2018 for their roles in the controversial 10th national election.

Fresh allegations suggest lobbying is again taking place, with some officers reportedly using administrative pressure to get on the medal list.

However, Police Headquarters has pledged transparency. "Only deserving candidates will receive the medals," said a senior officer. "Those lobbying for recognition will be excluded."

Fewer than 50 medals

are expected to be awarded this year.

There will be no ceremonial parade or presidential meeting this year, according to PHQ sources. The event will begin with an address by the chief adviser.

On April 30 and May 1, various units -- including the Special Branch, CID, RAB, Tourist Police, Railway Police, and Industrial Police -- will give presentations. Meetings with the home adviser, home secretary, and ministry officials will also take place.

Additional events include a PUNAK fair, a citizen dialogue, the annual Police Service Association meeting, and a reunion with retired officers.

The week will conclude with a formal dinner on May 1.

Probe into four major cases

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a small number currently handling the workload.

Prosecutors said they have already visited 20 districts -- some multiple times -- to collect evidence.

The ICT prosecution team currently has 17 prosecutors, including three who joined last month, while the Investigation Agency has 24 investigators, with seven joining this month.

Several accused individuals have reportedly fled the country despite arrest warrants. Authorities said efforts to bring them back are ongoing through legal and diplomatic channels, though the process is time-consuming. They are also facing difficulties in detaining the accused who are on the run, added the prosecutors.

Prosecutors also reported that crucial evidence has been destroyed -- including

deleted videos and audio recordings, burned or hidden documents from hospitals and other key locations, and erased digital data -- though some of it has been recovered.

Additionally, fugitive suspects are allegedly investing large sums of money to obstruct investigations and even attempting bomb attacks on investigators.

Some individuals linked to the previous administration are said to be hiring international lobbyists and spreading disinformation on social media to derail the trial process.

Despite these challenges, over 1,000 eyewitness testimonies have been collected so far, and investigators continue to analyse hours of video and audio footage related to the July uprising.

"We are doing everything

in our power to ensure a fair trial, based on digital evidence and in line with international standards," said Chief Prosecutor Tajul Islam.

In a significant development, several amendments have been made to the ICT Act of 1973. These include -- authorisation to bring charges against members of the army, navy, air force, Rab, BGB, and intelligence agencies; provision to compensate victims using confiscated assets of the accused; power for investigators to seize documents without prior tribunal approval; and authority for the tribunal to confiscate the accused's wealth to prevent escape and ensure justice.

The chief prosecutor said these amendments are in the final phase and are expected to come into effect within a week.

50 hurt

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vessels were FB Tarek 2 and FB Tufan-2, operated by Sagir Company, and FB Ma, owned by Selim Chowdhury.

Quoting a crew member, Selim Chowdhury said, "A group of armed robbers suddenly attacked while the fishermen were at sea. When the fishermen tried to resist, the armed robbers boarded the trawlers, beat them, and opened fire."

"Over 50 fishermen from around 10 trawlers were shot during the attack," he added. "We received the information through mobile phone calls from nearby trawlers that witnessed the incident. Many vessels have since left the area in fear."

He also noted that no communication could be established with the affected fishermen since the incident.

"We have informed both the superintendent of police and the Coast Guard. Efforts are underway to reach the stranded fishermen," said Golam Mostafa.

Barguna Superintendent of Police Md Ibrahim Khalil said the coast guard have been notified, and they have started rescue operations.

Sazzad's wife

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against her," she said.

Police arrested Sazzad on March 15 from Bashundhara City Shopping Mall in Dhaka. He was later produced before a Chattogram court on March 16.

After Sazzad was arrested, Sharmin posted a video on Facebook on March 16, threatening those involved in his capture.

"We will spend bundles of money to bring him back. Be prepared -- those responsible for his arrest won't be spared," she reportedly said in the video.

Lifesaver on the Meghna

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by Saidur Rahman, secretary of the Health Services Division.

Eighteen medical staff, including three MBBS doctors, provide services there.

This is the fifth and largest ship hospital operating under the "Medical Mobile Units for Healthcare in Rural Areas in Bangladesh" project, aimed at delivering healthcare to remote and riverine communities.

Funded by the King Abdullah Foundation through the King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz Programme for Charity Works (KAAP) of the Islamic Development Bank, the project is implemented by Friendship in collaboration with the Directorate General of Health Services.

Under the project, five floating hospitals offer comprehensive medical and diagnostic facilities, including eye and dental care, minor surgeries, maternal and child healthcare, and treatment of communicable and non-communicable diseases.

The initiative targets around 3.27 million people in 13 upazilas across 12 districts in southern coastal, north-western, and north-eastern riverine regions of Bangladesh.

HOW CHAR PEOPLE ARE BENEFITTING

Sufia Begum, 35, came from Mollahkandi, a neighbouring village of Siktterek, with a dental problem.

"I got relief after receiving treatment at the hospital in January. I came today for a follow-up. This hospital provides us with excellent service," she said.

She spent Tk 10 to cross the Meghna channel to reach the hospital. "But I would have to spend the entire day and a lot more money if I had to go to a hospital in Haimchar or

Chandpur town."

Jahanara Begum, 48, also from the same village, said, "If someone falls sick, we have no option but to go to local drug stores seeking medicine."

Ratan Chowkidar, a member of Nilkamal Union and resident of Majhikandi, said it takes over an hour by trawler to reach the Haimchar Upazila Health Complex.

"But a doctor is not always available there, often forcing people to travel to Chandpur, spending more money and time," he said. "So, the floating hospital is a huge benefit for us."

A Friendship official said around 150 to 170 patients receive treatment daily. Periodic camps are held focusing on specialised care such as eye, ENT, burn and plastic surgery, and gynaecology. Medicines are provided free of cost.

The mobile unit stays anchored at a location for about two and a half months before moving to the next.

With the hospital scheduled to leave in a few days, locals are calling for it to be made permanent.

"This hospital is providing an invaluable service, and we want it to continue," said Ratan.

Take measures

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He also called for the setting up of a specialised street newborn unit at Matuail Hospital to ensure proper medical care for abandoned infants.

Mozibur emphasised the need for a human milk storage facility for street newborns, noting that breast milk is vital for survival. Therefore, a facility must be established -- in accordance with relevant religious customs -- to safely collect and distribute breast milk, he stressed.

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For details, please visit <https://jobs.ucepbd.org> or www.bdjobs.com. The last date for submitting the application is **April 25, 2025**.
Applications without requisite qualifications and experience will not be considered.

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Investigative Journalism Awards 2025
Anti-Corruption
INVESTIGATIVE JOURNALISM AWARDS 2025
Transparency International Bangladesh (TIB) is inviting submissions of both print, online and electronic media reports for its Anti-Corruption Investigative Journalism Awards 2025. TIB will award the best investigative reports on corruption of all types in four categories selected by an independent committee of judges. Reports published or broadcast between 01 January to 31 December 2024 in print, online and electronic media owned and operated from Bangladesh will be considered for the awards. Reports must meet the basic requirements of investigative journalism to be eligible for assessment. For submission of reports and further details including relevant rules please visit: <https://ti-bangladesh.org/ija>
Last date for submission : 18 May 2025

INDEPENDENT UNIVERSITY, BANGLADESH
Purchase & Procurement Department
Plot 16, Block B, Aftabuddin Ahmed Road, Bashundhara Residential Area, Dhaka 1245
Hotline: 09612 939393, Extention: 1652 and 1653
TENDER FOR JANITORIAL/CLEANING SERVICE AT IUB CAMPUS
Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB) invites sealed offers from reputed janitorial service providers for deployment of janitors/cleaners at its campus in Bashundhara Residential Area, Dhaka.
The details of the service and other terms & conditions are mentioned in the tender documents. Interested service providers are requested to collect tender documents from the Purchase & Procurement Department on cash payment of Tk.2,000/- (non-refundable) to the Finance & Accounts Department of Independent University, Bangladesh during the office hours between 9.30 am to 4.00 pm (Sunday through Thursday) till **April 24, 2025**.
The sealed bids (technical and financial) will be submitted by the bidders in two separate envelopes to the Purchase & Procurement Department. **The bids will be received up to April 30, 2025, on or before 3:00 pm following a pre-bid meeting to be held on April 27, 2025, at 11:30 am.** The financial bid must accompany an earnest money (2.5% of the yearly cost) in the form of Pay Order from any scheduled bank in favor of Independent University, Bangladesh. The university authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all of the bids without assigning any reason.

INDEPENDENT UNIVERSITY, BANGLADESH
Planning & Development Department
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
For Appointment of Architect/Architectural Firm
1. Sealed bids are hereby invited from bona fide architect/architectural firm for consultancy services for design and supervision of five-storied student dormitory building including a semi-basement, at 12 katha Uttara Land of IUB, Dhaka. The bidders shall be required to submit a complete offer in two separate envelopes, one for the Technical Offer while the second envelope shall contain the sealed Financial Offer.
2. Interested bidders shall apply in their official letter heads to the undersigned along with the following documents:
i) Updated Trade License, Income Tax Clearance Certificate, VAT Registration Certificates & Ownership evidence of the Company / Firm.
ii) Experience certificate of similar type of work (with minimum Tk. 3.00 crore in single Work Order).
iii) Certificate of General Experience.
3. Interested bidders are requested to collect the Bid Documents from the Office of the Dy. Director and Head, P&D, IUB, between 10:30 AM to 3:00 PM up to Wednesday, 23rd April 2025 on payment of a non-refundable amount of Tk. 1,000/- (Taka one thousand) only in cash.
4. A Pre-bid Meeting with the intended bidders will be held on Sunday, April 20, 2025, at 11:30 AM at the Office of the Dy. Director and Head, P&D.
5. The Tenders will be received at the Office of the Dy. Director and Head, P&D up to 02:00 PM of Monday, 28th April, 2025 and the Technical Offers shall be opened at 02:30 PM on the same day and at the same place, in presence of the bidders who may wish to attend the Tender Opening.
6. The Financial Offers of the technically responsive firms shall be opened separately with due notification to the respective bidders.
7. All bidders should mention their contact number, email address & website address (if any) clearly in the forwarding letter of the Tender.
8. IUB Authority reserves the right to accept only the technically responsive tenders without any consideration of the lowest bid and shall have the right to reject any or all tender without assigning any reasons whatsoever.
Engr. Kazi Din Muhammed
Dy. Director and Head, Planning & Development
Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB)
Plot 16, Block B, Aftabuddin Ahmed Road, Bashundhara Residential Area, Dhaka 1245