

Hit by train, 3 die in Cumilla

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Cumilla

Three boys died after being hit by a train in Madhabpur area of Cumilla's Burichang upazila early yesterday.

The victims were struck by a train on the Chattogram bound line, said Sohel Molla, a sub-inspector and in-charge of Cumilla Sadar Railway Police Outpost.

Two of the deceased were identified as Saiful Islam, 18, and Md Tuhin, 17. The identity of the other deceased could not be known immediately, he said.

Prasanjit Chakrabarty, station master of Sadar Rasulpur Rail Station, said the incident occurred between 3:45am and 4:00am when the Chattogram-bound Udayan Express hit the three.

Railway police said bodies will be handed over to families after legal procedures.



PHOTO: AZAHAR UDDIN

Children enjoying a playful bath in a pond using banana stems as floats in Rajshahi's Tanore upazila. Scorching heat has been sweeping across various upazilas of the district for the past few days. Yesterday, the temperature in Rajshahi reached 39 degrees Celsius.

Neonatal mortality still high at 20 per 1,000 births

Study suggests better care, community-level intervention

TAHIRA SHAMSI UTSA

Although Bangladesh has made significant progress in reducing mortality in children under five over the past decade, saving newborns – especially in the first weeks of life – remains a major challenge.

A key factor behind the progress has been the introduction of Special Care Newborn Units (SCANUs) by the health ministry in 2009. These units, focused on treating vulnerable infants, have saved countless lives.

However, a recent study has raised concerns about their current condition, revealing operational issues that could threaten future progress.

While most medical equipment in SCANUs and Newborn Stabiliser Units (NSUs) is still functional, around 25 percent is either non-functional but repairable or beyond repair.



According to the UN Inter-agency Group for Child Mortality Estimation (UN IGME), over 100,000 children in Bangladesh died before age five in 2023 – nearly two-thirds of them within the first 28 days of life.

This was found in a study titled “Strengthening Special Care Newborn Units in Bangladesh: An Extensive Assessment and Improvement Strategies.”

The study – conducted by Pyae Phyto Then Chao, Zahid Hassan, and

Dewan Md Emdadul Hoque of Unicef Bangladesh – was presented at a conference titled “Quality Newborn Care at Facility and Home: A Pathway to Healthier Future” yesterday.

The event, focused on future strategies for improving newborn care, was organised by the Bangladesh Neonatal Forum (BNF) with support from Unicef at the Bangladesh China Friendship Conference Center in Dhaka.

According to the study, ageing infrastructure is a major concern, with 38 percent of SCANUs and 42.8 percent of NSUs using equipment that is over 10 years old.

The study also revealed that 32.1 percent of ventilators and 42.8 percent of infant incubators are repairable. However, functionality remains low for critical devices like pulse oximeters (71.7 percent) and infant incubators (57.1 percent).

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COX'S BAZAR-MAHESHKHALI Ferry service begins today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Cox's Bazar

The long anticipated regular sea truck service on the Cox's Bazar-Maheshkhali waterway will begin from today, according to the Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority (BIWTA).

The 250-seat sea truck will operate three times a day in both directions.

Passengers boarding from Jetty No 6 in Cox's Bazar will pay a fare of Tk 50, while those boarding from Nuniachhara Ghat will pay Tk 40, said BIWTA officials.

Residents of Maheshkhali expressed excitement over the launch, saying it will ease travel difficulties and reduce the influence of syndicates that have long controlled the route. Due to tourist attractions like the Adinath Temple, the island sees visitors year-round.

BIWTA Assistant Director at Cox's Bazar Md Khairuzzaman said, “A trial run was conducted from last Friday, and the decision to run the service regularly from Thursday has now been finalised.”



SINHA MURDER HC starts hearing death reference and appeals

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday started hearing on the death reference and appeals filed by the convicts in Major (ret'd) Sinha Md Rashed Khan murder case.

The bench of Justice Md Mostafizur Rahman and Justice Md Sagir Hossain began the hearing with Deputy Attorney Generals Shamima Sultana Dipti and Md Jashim Sarker read out from the FIR, charge sheet and verdict.

On January 31, 2022, Cox's Bazar District and Sessions Judge Mohammad Ismail sentenced Pradeep Kunar Das, suspended OC of Teknaf Police Station, and suspended SI Liaquat Ali to death and also six others to life term imprisonment.

Sinha was killed in police firing at Baharchhara police check post on Marine Drive road in Teknaf on July 31, 2020.

Hills more peaceful

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“During my service, I was posted in the hills three times, and the situation is now much more peaceful than it was before. Abductions are not only happening there; they are occurring in the plains as well. However, people tend to focus only on abductions in the hills.”

Responding to a question about a video allegedly featuring members of the Arakan Army in the CHT, he said, “The Arakan Army has been fighting [in this region] for a long time. Many of their members have married on this side [Bangladesh], and this cannot be denied. The way the videos present things is not entirely accurate. TikTok videos can be made in many ways, and not everything seen there is entirely true or false. It is important to maintain a balanced perspective.”

He added, “The Arakan Army has taken over the border [on Myanmar side]. If anything is imported from Myanmar, taxes must be paid to the Myanmar government, and at the same time, the Arakan Army also demands money. This

issue needs to be properly understood. We must work towards resolving it. Our borders are fully protected, but we require your [the media's] cooperation in maintaining that security.”

Referring to the recent shooting and killing in Raozan, the adviser said, “Raozan is a hilly area, and like Raozan, Fatikchhari, Patiya, Satkania, and Lohagara are also surrounded by both hills and plains. The situation is different there. After each incident, the armed criminals hide in the hills... We have discussed these issues, and action will be taken.”

To media members, he said, “When an incident occurs, you must report the facts – it helps us with our work. However, some individuals report false incidents. After we investigate [the claims in the report], we find it to be untrue, and that creates a problem. Journalists from neighbouring countries take advantage of this and publish false news... Some can [make mistakes]; I also make mistakes while working, but they should be addressed and rectified.”

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh  
Department of Immigration and Passports  
E-7, Agargaon, Sher-e-Banglanagar, Dhaka-1207  
www.dip.gov.bd

No. 58.01.0000.102.99.019.24-272 Date: 23/04/2025

**Corrigendum**

Subject: Amendment of DIP Tender No. 58.01.0000.102.99.019.24-570, 19-08-2024 for Selection of service provider for the supply of manpower

Tender No. & Date	Description	Existing	Amended As
58.01.0000.102.99.019.24-570, 19-08-2024	At Serial No. 14 Application Closing Date and Time	24/04/2025 at 1:00pm (BST).	29/04/2025 at 1:00pm (BST).
	Opening Date and Time	24/04/2025 at 2:00pm (BST).	29/04/2025 at 2:00pm (BST).
	Brief Description of Outsourcing Staff Recruitment at Serial No. 17	Type of category: Dispatch Rider Security Guard Cleaner Liftman Electrician Pump Operator	

- Outsourcing Recruitment Policy-2025 will be follow for this recruitment.
- All other terms and conditions shall remain unchanged.

23.04.2025  
Md Al Amin Mridha  
Deputy Director (Procurement)  
For Director General

GD-975

Government of The People's Republic of Bangladesh  
Office of the Executive Engineer  
Education Engineering Department  
Narail  
www.eed.narail.gov.bd

**e-Tender Notice No. 217-20/2024-2025 Date : 23/04/2025.**

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of the following works Under EED, Narail District as mentioned below.

SL No.	Tender ID No.	Package No.	Identification of Package	Procurement Method	Tender Document last selling/Downloading Date & Time	Tender Closing Date & Time
01	1101838	NARAIL/REP/SHED/GOVT./2023-24/WR-16	Overall Repair And Renovation Works Of Model Building At Kalia Govt. Pilot Model High School, Kalia, Narail.	LTM	12/05/2025 (16:00)	13/05/2025 (13:00)
02	1101828	NARAIL/REP/SHED/GOVT./2023-24/WR-15	Completion Of Remaining Repair & Renovation Works Of Main Building At Kalia Govt. Pilot Modwl High School, Kalia, Narail.	LTM	12/05/2025 (16:00)	13/05/2025 (13:00)
03	1101822	NARAIL/REP/SHED/GOVT./2023-24/WR-14	Repair & Renovation Works At Office of the Executive Engineer, Education Engineering Department, Sadar, Narail.	LTM	12/05/2025 (16:00)	13/05/2025 (13:00)
04	1101817	NARAIL/REP/SHED/GOVT./2020-21/WR-12	Repair And Renovation Works Of District Education Office, Sadar, Narail.	LTM	12/05/2025 (16:00)	13/05/2025 (13:00)

This is an online Tender where only e-Tender will be acceptable in the National e-GP system portal and No offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender A1 & A2 renewed upto **FY.2024-25** enlistment Category Contractor of Education Engineering Department under Narail District who are registered in the National e-GP system portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) will be eligible. The fees for downloading the e-Tender Document from the National e-GP system portal have to be deposited online through any registered Bank's branches up to **12:00 on 13/05/2025**. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP system portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk @ [eprocure.gov.bd](mailto:eprocure.gov.bd)). The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tender(s) without assigning any reason what so ever.

*(Signature)*  
Arunava Roy  
Executive Engineer  
Education Engineering Department  
Narail.

GD-976

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh  
Ministry of Power, Energy & Mineral Resources  
Power Division  
Power Cell  
Biddyt Bhaban (13<sup>th</sup> Floor), 1, Abdul Gani Road, Dhaka-1000

**REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI)  
FOR APPOINTMENT OF CONSULTING FIRM FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL IMPACT STUDY OF  
SOLAR PARK AT JAMALPUR CHAR AREA (Package S-34)**

No: 27.71.0000.003.03.010.25-310 Date: 22/04/2025

- The People's Republic of Bangladesh has received a fund from the International Development Agency (IDA) and it intends to apply a part of the proceeds of this credit to payment under the contracts for appointment of consulting firm for “**Environmental and Social Impact Study of Solar Park at Jamalpur Char Area**”. Power Cell, therefore, intends to appoint an internationally reputed consultancy firm to accomplish the mentioned services by using this fund under “TA for Strengthening and Development of Sustainable Power Sector in Bangladesh” project of Power Cell, Power Division, Ministry of Power, Energy and Mineral Resource.
- Interested consulting firms must provide information indicating the qualifications to perform the services. The short-listing criteria are:  
a) General experience of the firm;  
b) Experience in similar projects (especially RE generation projects).  
c) Financial soundness of the firm;  
d) Should have resources, key experts & support services of the firm.
- A consulting firm is allowed to submit the Expression of Interest (EOI) alone if it considers itself to be fully qualified on its own for the assignment, as it is not mandatory for a consulting firm to associate with any other firm(s), whether foreign or local. Alternatively, if the firm chooses to associate to enhance their qualifications and capability for the assignment, then such associations may either be as a Joint Venture (i.e., all members of the joint venture shall be jointly and severally responsible) and/or Sub-consultants (The Consultant will be responsible for the services of the sub-consultant, and the qualification and experience of the sub-consultants will not be evaluated). In case of an association, the Consultants must explain in the EOI submission (a) the rationale for forming the association and (b) the anticipated role and relevant qualifications of each member of the Joint Venture and/or of each sub-consultant for carrying out the assignment, to justify the proposed inclusion of the JV members and/or sub-consultants in the association. Failure to provide the above explanation in the EOI may risk the association not being shortlisted for the assignment.
- Consultants are requested to submit the following supporting documents against the above mentioned criteria: (a) The Firm's Incorporation/Trade/registration documents from the country of the firm; (b) JV agreement/letter of intent (if applicable); (c) Firm's brochure; (d) Description of similar consultancy contracts, including the scope, contract amount, name of Client, period of the contract (date of contract signing to date of completion), location/country of the services, etc.; (e) Service experience record (including nature, total cost, total inputs in terms of staff month, employer, location, scope of the service etc.); (f) Short biography of key professional; (g) Company's Income Tax certificate/Income Tax registration certificate. The experience of a parent company, subsidiary company, group company or associates (whatever the names) of the applicant (consulting firm) shall not be considered in evaluation.
- Detailed Scope of Work will be available in the Terms of Reference (TOR) which can be downloaded from the website of Power Division ([www.powerdivision.gov.bd](http://www.powerdivision.gov.bd)), Power Cell ([www.powercell.gov.bd](http://www.powercell.gov.bd)), and CPTU website from the date of publication of EOI.
- Interested Firms are requested to submit their EOI in 2 (Two) sets, (one original and one duplicate) with soft copy to the above mentioned address and clearly marked “*Request for Expression of Interest*” for “*Environmental and Social Impact Study of Solar Park at Jamalpur Char Area*” on or before the submission deadline of **May 29, 2025, 15:00 Hours (BST)**. Any submission received after the submission date & time will not be accepted.
- The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all tenders.

*(Signature)*  
22.4.25  
(A J M Ershad Ahsan Habib)  
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