

Form an independent police commission

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Also at the meeting, Constable Samia Shorna from Dhaka district demanded a compensatory allowance equal to one month's basic salary.

In response, Chief Adviser Yunus assured the attendees that the issues raised would be further discussed.

Inspector General of Police Baharul Alam said Police Week aims to connect policymakers with frontline officers to modernise the force and boost their morale. Acknowledging past tensions with the public, particularly during the student protests, he said steps had been taken to rebuild trust.

Since the interim government assumed office in August 2024, restoring law and order has been a priority, he noted.

Coordinated efforts have re-established command and lifted the morale."

The IGP thanked the chief adviser for initiatives, including lifting the cap on risk allowances, halting non-essential procurement, and facilitating motorcycle loans for officers.

"We aim to be a humane, transparent, and accountable force, committed to justice and human rights," he said.

Meanwhile, 62 officers

were awarded the Bangladesh Police Medal and President Police Medal for outstanding service.

WORKSHOP ON POLLS PREPAREDNESS

Senior officials also held a workshop with field-level officers at the Rajarbagh Police Lines yesterday, focusing on restoring public trust, improving the force's image, and maintaining law and order amid evolving national challenges.

Md Kamrul Ahsan, deputy inspector general of the PHQ, led the session, assigning field officers with six key tasks.

These included restoring a stable work environment, enforcing the law, countering propaganda and subversive activities, removing poor leadership influences, and rebuilding public confidence.

Officers were directed to act strictly by the law and resist all forms of pressure ahead of the national election. They were also instructed to combat misinformation and share accurate information with the public.

"Many leave their families behind but later request to reunite with them, disrupting the training process," a meeting source quoted the principal as saying.

Zillur added that most trainees later seek transfers to Dhaka.

He also raised concerns about physical standards, particularly height. "Although minimum height is required, it's often overlooked during medical

interim and political governments; intra party conflict; mob violence, and protests.

Other threats discussed were inmate escapes, terrorist bailouts, growing extremism in the southwest, and the Rohingya and Arakan crises destabilising the borders.

'RECRUIT UNMARRIED ASPS'

On the first day of Police Week 2025, high-ranking officers also met Home Adviser Lt Gen (retd) Jahangir Alam Chowdhury and placed several demands, including the recruitment of unmarried assistant superintendents of police.

Barrister Zillur Rahman, principal of the Police Academy, noted that around 70 percent of probationary ASPs are married, which creates challenges during training.

"Many leave their families behind but later request to reunite with them, disrupting the training process," a meeting source quoted the principal as saying.

Zillur added that most trainees later seek transfers to Dhaka.

He also raised concerns about physical standards, particularly height. "Although minimum height is required, it's often overlooked during medical

exams."

He recommended ensuring recruits meet height and weight standards and prioritising unmarried candidates.

Officials also proposed a special allowance for training academy staff and improved services at divisional police hospitals.

Addressing the high officials, the home adviser said, "You only focus on your own matters. That's not right. First, address how lower-level officials are living and performing. Fix those issues first."

He emphasised genuine concern for lower-ranking officers, especially regarding housing, duty schedules, workload, and overall well-being.

"Sincere attention should also be paid to their food and nutrition," Jahangir added.

He said the government is considering allowing junior officers to be posted within their home districts and, where possible, posting police spouses in the same district as well.

In this context, it becomes evident that such cases are being filed with the intent to harass, which could have far-reaching consequences," it said, while urging utmost caution in accepting such cases.

The HRFB demanded withdrawal of cases, including the one filed against Zaker along with other professionals, non-

Rights bodies worried

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ensure trial of the actual perpetrators.

"It is essential to ensure justice in the killing of Sharban, and at the same time, necessary and appropriate measures must be taken to ensure that those responsible don't go unpunished. Besides, the government is being urged to take effective steps to prevent anyone from being harassed through cases lodged with malicious intent," HRFB said.

Implicating a large number of people in the cases will hinder both the investigation and the judicial process and delay the investigation reports, it added.

In this context, it becomes evident that such cases are being filed with the intent to harass, which could have far-reaching consequences," it said, while urging utmost caution in accepting such cases.

The HRFB demanded withdrawal of cases, including the one filed against Zaker along with other professionals, non-

political individuals, and ordinary people, following proper investigations.

The purpose of the law is to protect the rights of citizens. However, the use of law to harass innocent people through such politically motivated cases is unacceptable, it added.

Echoing similar concerns, BLAST said politically motivated cases and mass arrests are undermining justice and called for urgent reforms to ensure fair investigations based on credible evidence. It also urged swift justice for genocide and gross human rights violations during the July-August uprising.

Referring to the murder case of Sharban where 408 individuals, including Zaker and several journalists, were accused, the rights body criticised the filing of such a first information report without credible evidence or specific links to the incident.

The rights body also warned that similar practices were seen during previous governments, where accountability was lacking, and called for an urgent reform of such procedures.

17 actors sued

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told The Daily Star yesterday, "We received a copy of the court's order today [yesterday]. Action is being taken accordingly."

Meanwhile, actor Siddiquur Rahman Siddique was assaulted yesterday afternoon on the capital's Bailey Road by a group of youths who alleged he had ties to the Awami League. The group later handed him over to police.

Siddique, who was in custody at Ramna Police Station, was seen with torn clothes and bruises in a video that went viral on social media. A voice in the video can be heard calling him "a supporter of the fascist regime".

In another video, an attacker was heard saying, "We are Habibullah Bahar [unit of] Chhatra Dal [the student wing of BNP]".

Siddique had earlier collected a nomination form from the AL to contest the Dhaka 17 by-election in 2023, following the death of actor Farooque, but did not receive the party's nomination.

Talebir Rahman, deputy commissioner (media) of Dhaka Metropolitan Police, said Siddique was handed over to Gulshan Police Station, where a case had previously been filed against him. He was shown arrested in that case.

Trump threats help Liberals win

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a wide lead in the polls that evaporated after Trump slapped tariffs on Canada and threatened to annex the country. Canadians are shunning U.S. goods and trips in response.

While Carney remains prime minister, his Liberals appeared to win only a minority of seats in the House of Commons, making the government more fragile and dependent on smaller parties to stay in power.

Australia holds an election on May 3, and the major parties have closely watched the polling surge towards Carney, Australian political strategists said. As in Canada, voter concern over the global fallout from Trump's policies has tilted support toward the center-left Labor Party.

Former Canadian diplomat Colin Robertson, who knew Carney when he worked at the Finance Ministry, said Carney is Canada's best-equipped prime minister since the 1960s, given his experience leading the Bank of England and Bank of Canada.

"He goes in extremely well prepared, with a superb Rolodex, and people will take his call and look to him because their challenges are economic right now," he said.

Carney will likely start by expanding Canadian trade with Europe, Australia and Asian democracies such as Japan, Robertson said, blunting some of the economic damage from newly imposed U.S. tariffs on cars, steel and aluminum.

Fortifying Canada's economy is expected to be Carney's immediate priority, including by advancing infrastructure projects to make Canada less dependent on the United States, which buys 90% of Canada's oil exports.

Leading the smallest G7 nation, Carney will then need to muster his global coalition "without waving a giant red flag in front of Donald Trump," said Roland Paris, a former adviser to ex-Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and now professor of international affairs at University of Ottawa.

"It will be a difficult tightrope or balancing act for him," Paris said. "He and Canada have an interest in coordinating with other like-minded countries, but without necessarily setting up Canada as the organizer of an opposition. Why turn Canada into that kind of target?"

Paris said Carney's calm demeanor and financial experience may elicit a more constructive response from Trump than the president directed at Trudeau, whom he belittled as "governor."

Robertson, a senior adviser at the Canadian Global Affairs Institute think tank, expects Carney to try to work collaboratively with Trump, possibly as early as the June G7 Leaders' Summit in Alberta, where he predicted Carney may arrange a trade meeting with Trump and Mexican President Claudia Sheinbaum.

PUBALI BANK PLC.



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INFORMATION SENSITIVE TO SHARE PRICE

Recommendation for Cash Dividend & Stock Dividend for the year 2024

This is to notify for all concerned that the Board of Directors of **Pubali Bank PLC.** in its **1468th Board Meeting** held on **Tuesday, 29 April 2025** considered and approved the **Audited Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2024** and recommended for payment of Cash Dividend & issuance of Stock Dividend for the year ended 31 December 2024 to the Shareholders at 4.00 PM as given below:

- a) **Cash Dividend @ 12.50% (Twelve and Half Percent)**
- b) **Stock Dividend @ 12.50% (Twelve and Half Percent)**

1. The Board also disclosed the following information from the Audited Financial Statements for the Year 2024, comparing them to those of the previous year 2023:

Particulars	2024		2023	
	Solo	Consolidated	Solo	Consolidated
i) Earnings Per Share (EPS) (Taka)	6.59	6.74	*5.89	*6.01
ii) Net Asset Value (NAV) (Taka in Crore)	5,232.46	5,330.25	4,460.55	4,540.70
iii) NAV Per Share (Taka)	45.23	46.08	*38.56	*39.25
iv) Net Operating Cash Flow Per Share (NOCFPS)** (Taka)	61.00	61.01	*3.91	*3.06

* Restated

**NOCFPS indicates a positive trend during the year ended 2024 Tk. 61.00 (cons. Tk. 61.01) compared to same period of last year Tk. 3.91 (cons. Tk. 3.06), with notable growth. This significant improvement demonstrates bank's focus on high-yield lending, diversification of fees and commission income, cost optimization and digital transformation. Deposit collection from customers and increase in other liabilities result higher free cash flows which affecting NOCFPS positively during the year 2024.

Reasons for recommendation of stock dividend:

- a. Stock Dividend has been recommended to strengthen the capital base of the Bank in order to support projected business growth and to improve certain regulatory ratios.
- b. Stock Dividend is recommended out of profit; and
- c. Stock Dividend is not recommended from capital reserve or revaluation reserve or any unrealized gain or out of profit earned prior to incorporation of the Bank or through reducing paid-up capital or through doing anything so that the post dividend retained earnings become negative or a debit balance.

2. The Board also decided to hold the 42nd Annual General Meeting (AGM) of Pubali Bank PLC. using digital platform as per following schedule:

Day & Date	:	Wednesday, 18 June 2025.
Time	:	11.00 AM (Bangladesh Standard Time).
Record Date	:	Thursday, 22 May 2025.

By order of the Board of Directors

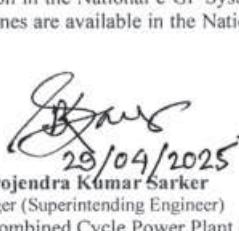
sd/-

Md. Anisur Rahman
General Manager &
Company Secretary

NOTES:

- The Shareholders whose names would appear in the Register of Members of the Company (Pubali Bank PLC.) and/or in the Depository Register on the Record Date (Thursday, 22 May 2025), will be entitled to receive the Dividends and to join the Annual General Meeting.
- The Shareholders under BO accounts are requested to update the particulars of their Bank Account (Bank & Branch Name, Account Number, Branch Routing Number), Name, Signature and Mailing Address including mobile/land phone number, E-mail address etc. through Depository Participant (DP) before the 'Record Date' i.e. 22 May 2025. The folio shareholders are also requested to update their Mobile No. through Share Department of Registered Office of the Bank before 'Record Date' i.e. 22 May 2025.
- The Members under BO Accounts are requested to update e-TIN in their BO Accounts through their respective Depository Participant (DP) and members under folio accounts are requested to submit e-TIN certificate to Share Department of Registered Office of the Bank before the 'Record Date'. If anyone fails to update e-TIN in his/her BO/Folio Accounts before the 'Record Date', disbursement of any cash dividend will be made (other than a company) after deduction of Advance Income Tax (AIT) @15% (fifteen percent) instead of 10% (ten percent) as per Income Tax Act, 2023.
- Merchant Banks and Depository Participants (DPs) are requested to provide the Company a statement with details (Shareholder Name, BO ID, Client-wise shareholding position and applicable tax rate) of their margin loan holders who held shares of the Company as on 'Record Date' along with the Bank Account name & number, routing number etc. of the Merchant Banks & DPs within 04 June 2025 including name of the contact person otherwise dividend to be credited to the bank account of the respective shareholders.

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 (www.eprocure.gov.bd) is required. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and e-GP Help Desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).


Engr. Brojendra Kumar Sarker
Plant Manager (Superintending Engineer)
Sirajganj 225 MW Combined Cycle Power Plant (Unit-1)
NWPGLC, Sylhet, Sirajganj.