

# Fishermen return to Bay as 58-day fishing ban ends

STAR REPORT

The government's 58 day fishing ban in the Bay of Bengal came to an end at midnight yesterday, paving the way for a resumption of marine fishing after nearly two months.

The Department of Fisheries said it expects a surge in supply and a likely drop in fish prices, including hilsa, as trawlers return to the sea.

The ban, which began on April 15, was aimed at allowing safe breeding and the replenishment of fish stocks in Bangladesh's maritime waters.

Officials say it is part of a broader effort to preserve marine biodiversity and ensure the long-term sustainability of the fisheries sector.

Since 2015, a 65 day ban had been in force from May 20 to July 23 each year.

However, this year, based on feedback from researchers, fishing communities, and industry representatives, the government revised the duration to 58 days -- from April 15 to June 11. The change also aligned the timeline with India's fishing ban schedule.

Md Alfaz Uddin Sheikh, director of the Divisional Fisheries Office in Barishal, said fish supply is expected to rise sharply now that the ban is over.

Barishal Division has 4,21,093 registered fishermen, of whom

1,46,029 are engaged in sea fishing. Around 7,405 boats operate from this region, according to the fisheries office.

During the ban, the government distributed food assistance for 42 days to affected fishing families.

The rest will be provided once it becomes available, Alfaz said.

Israi Pandit, president of the Khudro Mossajobi Jele Samity, said fishermen had demanded 100kg of rice per family during the ban period, but the full allocation was not delivered in time.

Meanwhile, the coastal upazilas of Kalapara and Rangabali in Patuakhali also rejoiced at the end of the ban, as thousands of fishermen headed back out to sea at midnight yesterday.

The bustling fish landing stations of Mohipur and Alipur -- home to one of the country's largest wholesale fish markets -- have once again come alive with activity.

Starting this evening, nearly 200 fishing trawlers and around 20,000 fishermen are expected to leave the Mohipur Alipur ghat for the open sea, hoping for a good catch of hilsa and other marine fish.

Alfaz Hossain, a fisherman with 15 years of experience, said, "This time we sincerely followed the ban. We are ready to go to sea to hunt fish, including hilsa."

Raju Ahmed Raja Mia, acting

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LAKUTIA ZAMINDAR PALACE

## Restoration effort underway

SUSHANTA GHOSH, Barishal

The Department of Archaeology has initiated restoring the iconic Lakutia Zamindar Palace in Barishal Sadar upazila to its former glory.

The restoration work for the severely dilapidated two-storey mansion commenced on May 4, according to the Barishal Divisional Museum authority.

Visiting the site recently, this correspondent observed that brick pillars were being erected to reinforce the building's structure, while preparations were underway to construct a roof using clay tiles brought from Satkhira.

Arifur Rahman, assistant custodian of the Barishal Divisional Museum, confirmed

that the project is being implemented under a Tk 60 lakh tender. The current phase covers brickwork and roof tiling. In phases, issues with the palace's doors, windows, floors, and lighting will also be addressed.

"We are trying to restore the palace to its former self, exactly as it appears in historical photographs," said Lovely Yasmin, regional director (Khulna and Barishal divisions) of DoA.

According to the museum authority, the palace is 25.40 metres in length, 9.20 metres in width, and 8.20 metres in height. It has a total of nine rooms.

According to historical records and confirmation by the museum authority,

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## Children among 5 drown in 3 dists

STAR REPORT

At least five people, including two children, drowned in Kishoreganj, Sylhet, and Tangail districts yesterday.

In Kishoreganj, two children drowned in a pool near their house at Pitua village in Karimganj upazila in the afternoon.

The deceased are Yasmin Akhter, 8, daughter of Shafiqul Islam, and her cousin Taiyiba Akhter, 9, daughter of Russell Mia of the same village. They were both third-grade students at a local primary school.

Yasmin and Taiyiba went to bathe in the pool around 12:30pm. As they were late returning home, family members went to the spot and found them stuck in the mud under the water.

They were rescued and taken to Karimganj Upazila Health Complex, where the doctors declared them dead, said Dr Riyad Shahed, upazila health and family planning officer.

In Sylhet, a teenage tourist drowned while bathing in a waterbody at Jaflong Zero Point under Gowainghat upazila in the afternoon.

The deceased was identified as Mahi, 15, son of Jamil Ahmed of the Shahidpara area under Bayezid Police Station in Chattogram.

Sarkar Mohammad Toufayel Ahmed, officer-in-charge of Gowainghat Police Station, said Mahi drowned around 1:45pm while visiting the spot with his friends.

His body was recovered at around 2:00pm and sent to Sylhet MAG Osmani Medical College Hospital for autopsy. His family has been informed, the OC added.

In Tangail, two youths drowned in separate incidents in Gopalpur and Basail upazilas in the afternoon.

The deceased were identified as Mustafa Shaharyal Nehal, 22, a student of BRAC University and resident of Dhaka's Rampura, and Jahidul Islam, 17, of Bhaua village under Saturia upazila in Manikganj.

Nehal, who had gone to attend a wedding, drowned while trying to save his cousin while

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## MADHABKUNDA WATERFALL AND ECOPARK

# Portion of access road collapses after heavy downpour

Visitor number drops over safety concern



MINTU DESHWARA,  
Moulibazar

A portion of the access road to the scenic Madhabkunda Waterfall and Ecopark collapsed recently following incessant rains over past few days, prompting fresh calls for long-term solutions.

Local residents and tourism operators alleged that mismanagement and lack of regular maintenance have turned the road hazardous.

With more rainfall expected during monsoon, further collapses, flooding, and broader structural failure will likely happen unless prompt steps are taken, they added.

Heavy downpours and landslides between May 27

and June 1 severely damaged nearly one-kilometre stretch of the internal road. In many spots, the road has sunk to around three feet depth," said Shifat Mia, a local resident.

Visiting the tourist site recently, this correspondent observed that the soil beneath the road in front of a restaurant had been washed away, giving way to large cracks. Several other sections have also subsided similarly, and the surrounding railings and security walls have sustained heavy damage.

Around 31 metres of the access road collapsed, while the guide wall adjacent to the road has also developed cracks, said Md Rezaul Mridha, assistant conservator of forests, Barlekha Range.

In response, the Forest Department conducted emergency repairs using sandbags to restore limited access. Red flags have been placed along hazardous

stretches of the road to warn visitors, he added.

"This is not the first time such damage has occurred. A similar collapse happened in 2017 following landslides triggered by heavy rainfall," the official said.

"We came to visit here for the first time. The natural beauty of the waterfall is breathtaking, but we had no idea that the road was in such a sorry state," said Abdul Alim, a student from Sirajganj who came to visit with three friends.

"This is peak season for us, especially during Eid, but visitor numbers have dropped significantly as the access road collapsed," Jewel Ahmed, a local videographer.

"Despite the damage, there have been no untoward incidents so far. We are prioritising visitor safety," said Suman Singh, a sub-inspector of Madhabkunda Tourism Police.

### Speeding

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"We are looking into potential solutions and will consult with environmental experts and the environment adviser to explore what can be done within legal frameworks," the DFO added.

Zakir Hosain, executive engineer of Roads and Highways in Habiganj, said, "We have installed signs in the forest area, encouraging drivers to slow down and avoid honking."

"While we do have specific policies regarding installation of speed breakers, the Forest Department has not formally consulted or communicated with us on this matter. If they reach out, we will certainly look into it."

## Invitation to Bid for Worldwide Media Rights

(Of All Bilateral International Home Series(s) involving the Bangladesh National Cricket Team (Men) from 12th July 2025 to 15th June 2027)



Bangladesh Cricket Board

Date: 12th June 2025

Ref: BCB/ World Media Rights / 2025/365

The Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) hereby invites Bid from the reputable TV Broadcasters, Digital Platforms, and Marketing Agencies/Consortiums/Firms for acquiring the following Worldwide Media Rights of all Bilateral International Home Series(s) involving the Bangladesh National Cricket Team (Men) from 12th July 2025 to 15th June 2027:

### Categories of Media Rights:

1. Satellite TV (Linear) Rights - Worldwide including Bangladesh
2. Digital OTT Right - Worldwide including Bangladesh
3. Direct-To-Home (DTH) Rights - Bangladesh only

### Area of Rights :

A detailed Bid document has been developed incorporating all necessary Bid details and documents for acquiring the above-mentioned Media Rights of all Bilateral International Home Series(s) involving the Bangladesh National Cricket Team (Men).

### Eligibility Criteria:

- a) Television broadcasters, digital platforms, and marketing agencies, consortiums, or firms with a minimum of three (03) years of operational experience in the broadcasting or sports marketing industry, and demonstrable expertise in marketing or broadcasting international-standard cricket events, shall be given preference in the bidding process.
- b) The requisite qualifications of bidders for acquiring the aforesaid Worldwide Media Rights from BCB through Open Tendering Method (OTM) shall be determined as per relevant Rules, Policies and Guidelines of BCB.

### Document Purchasing Procedure:

- a) Interested parties need to obtain a copy of the Bid Document from BCB Management Office (Marketing & Commercial Department) on payment of the Non-Refundable fees of USD 3,000 (Dollar Three Thousand Only) or BDT 3,68,000 (Taka Three Lakh Sixty-Eight Thousand Only) in the form of Pay-Order/ Bank Draft shall be issued in favour of 'Bangladesh Cricket Board' (Account No. 02-7537131-01, Account Name : Bangladesh Cricket Board, Bank : Standard Chartered Bank, Dhaka, Bangladesh for transaction in Bangladeshi Taka or to be remitted to BCB (Account No. 01-7537131-01, Account Name : Bangladesh Cricket Board, Bank : Standard Chartered Bank, Dhaka, Bangladesh, SWIFT : SCBLBDDX) for transaction in US Dollar. Please send your request for the Bid Document (Soft copy or printed version) along with the evidence of Bank Transfer /Payment receipt referred to above at the following email address: sponsorship.rights@bcb-cricket.com
- b) The details of the Bidding process, Tentative tour Itinerary, Bank Guarantee Format etc. are set out in the Bid Document. Bid documents will be available from June 15, 2025 to July 6, 2025 during working hours (10.00 AM to 5.00 PM except Friday and Government Holiday).

### Technical Offer Submission:

- a) The Technical Document/Offer along with Security Deposit (prepared in accordance with the Bid Document) must be submitted by the TV Broadcaster, Digital Platform, or Marketing Agency/Consortium/Firm on its own accord to the BCB Management Office situated at Sher-e-Bangla National Cricket Stadium, Mirpur-2, Dhaka-1216, Bangladesh, during office hours (between BST 1000 to BST 1700) in a sealed envelope on or before Monday, July 7 , 2025.
- b) The technical offer must include the following:
  - 1) Company Profile and Individual Directors / Owners' Profile.
  - 2) Updated auditor's report on financial statements (In case of consortium, each party's auditor's report needs to submit individually)
  - 3) Bank Solvency Certificate along with Bank Statement.
  - 4) Certified copy of Memorandum and Articles of Association along with certificate of Incorporation or similar constitutional documents.
  - 5) Updated VAT Registration Certificate, Trade License and Tax Identification Number (TIN) Certificate or similar documents.
  - 6) In case of Consortium, notarized consortium Agreement.

- c) The qualified bidders shall be invited to participate in an "Open Bidding Process" scheduled on Thursday, July 10, 2025.

### Participation in the Bidding Process:

- a) The "Open Bidding Process" will be held on Thursday, July 10, 2025 & Bid submission process will start at BST 1200 hrs onwards in the BCB Management Office, Sher-e-Bangla National Cricket Stadium, Mirpur-2, Dhaka 1216.
- b) A multiple rounds of close envelope Bidding process will take place. The detail bidding process shall be determined by the BCB at its sole discretion.
- c) Only authorized representative of the participating TV Broadcaster or Marketing agent is allowed to submit financial bid i.e. Representative must carry official authorization letter from the participating TV Broadcaster or Marketing agents.

### Security Deposit:

The technical offers must include a security deposit of an amount of USD 1,000,000 (One Million US Dollars), or its equivalent in Bangladeshi Taka calculated at the prevailing exchange rate on the date of payment, shall be required for qualified bidders. The security deposit shall be submitted in the form of Bank draft or pay order or unconditional and irrevocable bank guarantee or bank transfer. Any bank guarantee originated from an overseas country has to be confirmed by a local scheduled bank.

It is mandatory to submit a security deposit prior to the start of the bidding process i.e. before BST 1200 hrs on Tuesday, July 8, 2025.

### Floor Price:

The floor price for bidding of the Worldwide Media Rights of all Bilateral International Home Series(s) involving the Bangladesh National Cricket Team (Men) from 12th July 2025 to 15th June 2027 will be available in the Bid Document.

### Financial Offer Specifications:

All bidders are required to submit their financial proposals in the following two formats:

#### Option A: Worldwide Media Rights Fee (Inclusive of TV Production Expenses, VAT, and Tax)

- Bidders shall quote the gross fee for Worldwide Media Rights, inclusive of all TV production expenses and applicable Value Added Tax (VAT) and Tax totaling 35%.

#### Option B: Worldwide Media Rights Net Fee (Exclusive of TV Production Expenses, VAT, and Tax)

- Bidders shall quote the net fee for Worldwide Media Rights only, exclusive of TV production costs.
- Under this option, the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) shall be solely responsible for the execution of TV production, including but not limited to the deployment of DRS (Decision Review System), Spider Cameras, and other advanced broadcast technologies, in accordance with the Minimum TV Production Standards prescribed by BCB.

(Detailed production requirements, Bidding process, Tentative tour Itinerary, Bank Guarantee Format etc. are set out in the Bid Document)

### Note:

- a) The successful bidder shall be responsible for ensuring the live broadcast of all matches in the territory of all the visiting team for any bilateral home series conducted during the contractual period.
- b) The successful TV Broadcaster / Marketing Agency must provide free LIVE feed to the National Broadcaster, i.e. Bangladesh Television (BTV) as per the National Broadcast Policy set out by the Government of Bangladesh.
- c) All subsequent Agreements/Memorandum of Understanding made in pursuance to this 'Invitation for Bid' shall be enforceable upon approval of the same by the Board of Directors of BCB.

The BCB reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids at its sole discretion at any time without assigning any reason whatsoever. The BCB also reserves the right to amend, postpone or cancel the entire bidding process and / or modify, add or alter the terms of the document and/ or the conditions for bidding process by issuing an addendum(s) at any time prior to the commencement of the bidding process on July 10, 2025.

Authority  
Bangladesh Cricket Board

Management Office: Sher-e-Bangla National Cricket Stadium, Mirpur-2, Dhaka 1216, Bangladesh