

NEWS

DMC suspends all

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instead of complying with the directive to vacate the halls.

The old academic building, Dr Fazle Rabbi Hostel for male students, and Dr Alim Chowdhury Women's Hostel are in a dire state and no longer suitable for academic or residential use. However, despite repeated demands for renovation, no step has yet been taken," he said.

On May 27, a portion of the ceiling of the anatomy museum collapsed, prompting students to boycott classes from May 28, he mentioned.

"We are also demanding students' involvement in the renovation process to ensure transparency," he added.

According to the DMC press release, the Academic Council agreed with the students' demands and said the college has been working regularly with the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, with some effective steps already taken.

However, it stated that despite repeated notices and

arrangements for alternative accommodation, students from various batches have refused to cooperate, making it impossible to vacate the fourth floor of Dr Fazle Rabbi Hostel.

The floor has been declared abandoned by the Public Works Department, as it poses a serious threat to students' safety, it added.

The authorities also said that newly admitted students of the K-82 batch, either on their own or under influence, boycotted their orientation programme -- an event of critical academic importance. The college described this as a dark chapter in its history.

Noman, however, rejected the allegation of non-cooperation and claimed that students were not provided with viable alternatives for relocation.

Established in 1946, Dhaka Medical College and Hospital stands as one of the leading institutions in the country for medical education and tertiary healthcare.

Surge in Swiss

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The total deposits jumped to around 590 million Swiss francs in 2024, compared with only 17.7 million francs in 2023, said the latest annual report by the Swiss National Bank (SNB), published on Thursday.

Fakhruddin alleged that they [AL] destroyed the electoral system, state institutions, the judiciary, bureaucracy, and almost every other sector. "Now, the current [interim] government is trying to restore and fix all these sectors."

High-level BNP

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Roy, Selima Rahman, and AZM Zahid Hossain.

BNP Chairperson's Advisory Council members Zahir Uddin Swapon, Ismail Jabiullah, and Prof Sukomal Barua, along with BNP Media Cell Convener Maudud Ahmed Pavel, will also join them.

Party sources said the visit aims to facilitate discussions on political developments in Bangladesh, reforms, and regional cooperation.

UIU revokes student

FROM PAGE 3
a single lane between Rampura and Badda.

"We will not leave until our demands are met. We've tried to raise our voices peacefully many times, but no one listened," said a protester.

The students alleged that the university expelled 26 of their peers without prior notice or explanation, calling the decision arbitrary and authoritarian.

They vowed to continue protesting until the expulsions are withdrawn and those responsible are held accountable.

Additional police were deployed to the area, and law enforcers began discussions with the university authorities to resolve the matter.

Later in the day, Dhaka Metropolitan Police (DMP) issued a statement saying efforts were underway to settle the issue peacefully. It also dismissed social media posts regarding the protest as "completely baseless" and urged the public not to spread confusion.

The DMP also said traffic on one side of the Badda-Kuril road remained unaffected.

In the evening, after withdrawing the blockade, the protesting students entered the Bhaban Police Station and demanded punishment of the policemen who charged batons and took action against the protesters, said Ishtiaq Ahmed, a student of the Electrical and Electronic Engineering department at UIU.

Later, Inspector (Investigation) Shujon Haque was withdrawn from the police station last night, OC Rakibul Hasan told The Daily Star.

The protesting students had placed a five-point demand -- unconditional withdrawal of the expulsion orders; a fair investigation and punishment of those responsible; reforms to address long-standing irregularities at UIU; formation of an independent reform commission for private universities; and scrapping the 15 percent tax imposed on private universities.

US pledges

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that US Deputy Secretary of State Christopher Landau met with Bangladesh's National Security Adviser Khalilur Rahman in Washington on Wednesday to discuss the interim government's preparations for the upcoming national elections. "They discussed the US-Bangladesh relationship, including expanding trade and commercial ties," she said.

Most discussants supported a two-thirds threshold in the lower house and 51 percent in the upper house for practical reasons.

On the proposed National Constitution Council, some said a parliamentary body from the upper house may play the role. They recommended excluding the President and chief justice from the committee.

One speaker proposed an advisory body to assist the President in appointing heads of key constitutional institutions, including the Anti-Corruption Commission, Human Rights Commission, and Bangladesh Public Service Commission, alongside posts like the Comptroller and Auditor General.

Hasnat Qayum, chief coordinator of Rastra Sanskar Andolan, criticised the constitutional reform process for overlooking the

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Proportional

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option of a referendum. "We act as if parliament is sovereign, but it's the people who are. Their representatives must act according to the constitution," he said.

He said a PR system would ensure no votes are wasted.

AB Party Chief Mojibur Rahman Monju said the BNP has been acting as though it were in power and fears the PR system could reduce its dominance.

Zonayed Saki, chief coordinator of Ganosamhati Andolan,

opposed a proposed rule requiring a party to get at least one percent of total votes to secure a seat in the upper house. He argued a party could win several seats in the lower house without crossing that threshold.

"This would discourage small parties, while the system is intended to empower them," he said.

Nagorik Coalition Coordinator Shahidul Alam presided over the discussion.

Teachers with mild

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for recommendations of honest and competent individuals for education sector appointments.

"I requested Fakhruddin, setting aside all party considerations, to suggest honest and capable people from his circles, since they had previously run the government and had a large pool of members," he said.

According to Prof Wahiduddin, Fakhruddin responded candidly, saying, "None of our people have been able to rise to senior positions in the past 15 years. How do I know if any of them are honest or competent?"

Nevertheless, Prof Wahiduddin said he eventually did receive a list from BNP, though not strictly through party channels.

On the selection process, the adviser said, "I made it clear to those assisting with recommendations that no Awami League affiliates would be considered. The acceptable candidates were those with only mild or inactive links to BNP."

He acknowledged that, despite efforts to ensure neutrality, there had been

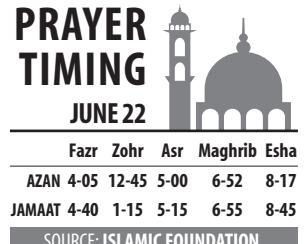
public debate and media scrutiny about the political backgrounds of the appointees.

"Major newspapers have investigated and reported on the political affiliations of appointees -- whether anyone had links with BNP, for example. In reality, almost every university teacher has some tag: white panel, blue panel, or rose. Is anyone truly neutral?" he asked.

He also noted this approach had become a joke within BNP circles, who say, "He (Prof Wahiduddin) never selects our active people, only the mild or inactive ones."

Prof Wahiduddin also reflected on the history of vice-chancellor appointments, saying from the Pakistan era to present-day Bangladesh, the focus was rarely on academic achievements like international publications and citations.

"This is the first time such standards have been seriously discussed and implemented. Earlier, these matters were never part of the conversation; instead, political background was



Protect heritage

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"systematically demolished with the cooperation of the vice chancellor".

A few days earlier, an under-construction sculpture of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman was vandalised in Kushtia. Two days prior to that, part of the "Madhusudan Dey Memorial Sculpture" in front of Madhur Canteen at Dhaka University was destroyed.

Previously, various incidents took place across the country -- stalls were vandalised at the Ekushey Book Fair in Dhaka, cultural organisation Udichi's stalls were attacked and banners burned at the Satchira Book Fair, flower shops were damaged in Tangail, and the Lalor Festival was shut down. The Dhaka Metropolitan Theatre Festival was postponed, and spring festivals in Dhaka's Uttara and Chattogram were called off following attacks.

In addition, several other fairs and cultural events have

been closed. Shrines have been demolished, and music and dance performances have been banned.

Naripokkho noted that during and immediately after last year's July uprising, protesters vandalised and ransacked several government and historical establishments linked to the ousted prime minister Sheikh Hasina.

If those were reactions of the oppressed people who suffered immensely during Hasina's misrule, the vandalism and attacks on heritage sites continued across the country afterwards, even though the interim government is nearing completion of its one-year term, it said, raising serious concerns about government inaction in this regard.

The organisation urged the government to continue working toward building a just and discrimination-free Bangladesh, rising above political influence and pressure from vested groups.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Local Government Engineering Department
Office of the Executive Engineer

Jhalakathi.

www.lged.gov.bd

Memo: 46.02.4200.000.07.027.25.1007

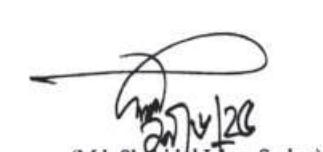
Date: 19/06/2025

Tender Notice No- 28/2024-25 (OTM: 133-140)

e-Tender is hereby invited in the National e-GP system portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of following work.

Sl. No.	Tender ID	Name of the work with Package No	Method of Procurement	Last Date of Selling	Last Date of Receiving Tender
133	1071360	IBRP/Jha/Sadar/Brg-69 Construction of 15.00m Long RCC Girder Bridge on Ponabalia UP office-Madhabpur bazar via Talukderhat Road at Ch.6434.00m (Road ID-542403001) Under Jhalokathi Sadar Upazila. District. Jhalokathi. Construction of 13.00m Long RCC Girder Bridge on Ponabalia UP office-Madhabpur bazar via Talukderhat Road at Ch.7200.00m (Road ID-542403001) Under Jhalokathi Sadar Upazila. District. Jhalokathi.	OTM	13-Jul-2025 17:00	14-Jul-2025 12:00
134	1071361	IBRP/Jha/Sadar/Brg-70 Construction of 12.00m Long RCC Girder Bridge on Ponabalia UP office-Madhabpur bazar via Talukderhat Road at Ch.7530.00m (Road ID-542403001) Under Jhalokathi Sadar Upazila. District. Jhalokathi. Construction of 19.00m Long RCC Girder Bridge on Ponabalia UP office-Madhabpur bazar via Talukderhat Road at Ch.9619.00m (Road ID-542403001) Under Jhalokathi Sadar Upazila. District. Jhalokathi.	OTM	13-Jul-2025 17:00	14-Jul-2025 12:00
135	1071362	IBRP/Jha/Sadar/Brg-71 Construction of 14.00m Long RCC Girder Bridge on Silarish Dhalu Fakir Bari-Bhoutita Govt.Pry. School Road at Ch.850.00m (Road ID-542405238) under Sadar Upazila District: Jhalokathi . Construction of 16.00m Long RCC Girder Bridge on Silarish Dhalu Fakir Bari-Bhoutita Govt.Pry. School Road at Ch.35.00m (Road ID-542405238) under Sadar Upazila District: Jhalokathi .	OTM	13-Jul-2025 17:00	14-Jul-2025 12:00
136	1117730	IBRP/Jha/Sadar/Brg-86 Construction of 40.00m Long RCC Girder Bridge on Kirtipasha LGED Road to Bidhan Mistry Bari Road at Ch.200m Road ID 542405316 Under Jhalokathi Sadar Upazila. District. Jhalokathi	OTM	20-Jul-2025 17:00	21-Jul-2025 12:00
137	1117731	IBRP/Jha/Sadar/Brg-87 Construction of 22.00m Long RCC Girder Bridge on Himanandokati-Satodaskati at Ch.2410m Road ID 542405027 Under Jhalokathi Sadar Upazila. District. Jhalokathi	OTM	13-Jul-2025 17:00	14-Jul-2025 12:00
138	1117732	IBRP/Jha/Sadar/Brg-88 Construction of 17.00m Long RCC Girder Bridge on Himanandokati-Satodaskati at Ch.1917m Road ID 542405027 Under Jhalokathi Sadar Upazila. District. Jhalokathi	OTM	13-Jul-2025 17:00	14-Jul-2025 12:00
139	1117733	IBRP/Jha/Sadar/Brg-89 Construction of 16.00m Long RCC Girder Bridge on Dogalchira-Betra khal at Ch.1610m Road ID 542405028 Under Jhalokathi Sadar Upazila. District. Jhalokathi	OTM	13-Jul-2025 17:00	14-Jul-2025 12:00
140	1117734	IBRP/Jha/Sadar/Brg-85 Construction of 18.00m Long RCC Girder Bridge on Deulkati Etimkhana-Deulkati G.School R.d at Ch.0.00m Road ID 542405095 Under Jhalokathi Sadar Upazila. District. Jhalokathi	OTM	13-Jul-2025 17:00	14-Jul-2025 12:00

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://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 registered bank's branches. Details information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System portal and from e-GP help Desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).


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Teesta irrigation

FROM PAGE 4

Water Development Board in Rangpur, said, "Of the 750km of canals in the project, about half are now clogged with silt and waste. We're dredging these canals, aiming to expand coverage to one lakh hectares by next year, which will benefit around two lakh farmers."

"Around 4.40 lakh tonnes of Boro paddy have been produced from 55,000 hectares of land within the project area this

year," he added.

Amitabh Chowdhury, executive engineer of the BWDB in Dalia, Nilphamari, said, "Farmers only pay 480 takas per acre for irrigation water annually under this project, but using groundwater it would cost them 14,000 to 15,000 takas."

The government plans to bring more land and farmers under the irrigation network in the coming years, he added.

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