

## Tarique invited

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During the meeting, both sides talked about improving political relations, increasing party-to-party cooperation, and working together for peace and stability in the region, said the leaders.

The CPC expressed hope that the meeting would usher in a new chapter in China-Bangladesh ties. Fakhru praised China's regional role and said the talks would deepen party and bilateral relations.

Earlier in the day at 2:00pm, a nine-member high-level BNP delegation, visited China Railway Group Limited, where they learned about China's progress in railway and infrastructure

development.  
The delegation included senior BNP leaders Mirza Abbas, Gayeshwar Chandra Roy, Selima Rahman, and Chairperson's Advisers Zahir Uddin Swapan, Ismail Zabiullah, Professor Sukomal Barua, party's media cell convener Moudud Hossain Alamgir Pavel and Chairperson's Personal Secretary ABM Abdus Sattar.

Party sources say this trip shows BNP's wish to build stronger ties with China, a major development partner for Bangladesh.

Earlier this year, on February 24, a group of leaders from eight political parties – including the BNP – visited China for 11 days.

## Floating seedbeds

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Another worker, Mohammad Rasel, said they earn around Tk 800-850 after working round the clock for a day.

Even though the floating seedbed technique has been recognised by the UN's Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) as one of the Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems (GIAHS), the dham makers said they receive no support for their work.

"Sometimes, people from different organisations

come and talk to us, take photographs, and record videos of our work, and then leave. No one supports us, even though our work contributes to sustaining agriculture in this region," said Shohag.

Contacted, Nazirpur Upazila Agriculture Officer Esratunnesa Easha said a project on growing vegetables on floating seedbeds ended two years ago. "Once any project is approved again, we will be able to help the farmers," she said.

## Coast Guard to receive

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The Coast Guard also received several operational items from Australia, including helmets, boarding vests, self-inflatable life jackets, knee and elbow pads, and tactical gloves.

"They will also support us with modern technologies. We expect to receive drones soon to enhance maritime surveillance," said the DG.

Rear Admiral Ziaul emphasised the importance of boosting regional maritime awareness, joint training, intelligence sharing, and strategic coordination to combat maritime threats.

He said Australian support has already enhanced the Coast Guard's operational capacity.

Rear Admiral Brett Sontner noted that a memorandum titled "Civil Maritime Security and Maritime Safety" was signed in 2024 to support cooperation on maritime threats.

"As part of that agreement, we are working together to counter illegal fishing, drug smuggling, human trafficking, and people smuggling. We have already conducted multiple training sessions," he said.

"We want to take this relationship to the next level. As Indian Ocean neighbours, it's crucial to address shared challenges," he added.

**NO SECURITY THREAT IN ST MARTIN'S**  
There is no security threat on St Martin's Island, said the Coast Guard chief.

"Everything is normal in St Martin's. Just as we live peacefully in Dhaka, people in St Martin's are also living peacefully," he told reporters.

He said members of the Coast Guard, Navy, police, and other law enforcement agencies are always stationed on the island, so there is no cause for concern.

On the issue of push-in incidents from India, he confirmed one such case on the eastern side of the maritime boundary, but added that due to strong vigilance, no further incidents have occurred.

Regarding the Myanmar maritime border, he said the Coast Guard maintains a working understanding with rebel groups to ensure security.

Commenting on recent incidents involving Bangladeshi fishermen, he said those captured by the Arakan Army had crossed into foreign waters. "There has been no incident of rebel groups entering our waters to abduct fishermen," he added.

## Houseboats

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Contacted, Mohammad Rezaul Karim said, "We are not restricting houseboats from Tanguar Haor entirely, but from entering certain areas to conserve the biodiversity and environment. When numerous boats gather at the watchtower, it disrupts the ecosystem of this particular part of the Ramsar Conservation Site."

Over the years, Tanguar Haor has become a popular tourist destination, with hundreds of houseboats navigating its waters during summer and monsoon. Environmentalists have raised concerns as the haor's biodiversity is increasingly under threat.

## Secretariat staff

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Md Nurul Islam, another co-chairman of the forum, described the government initiative as "a controversial and black ordinance" and said if it is not withdrawn immediately, a larger unified movement will be launched nationwide.

Meanwhile, around 4:00pm yesterday, Law Adviser Prof Asif Nazrul and Energy Adviser Muhammad Fouzul Kabir Khan held a meeting with forum leaders at the Secretariat.

During the discussion, the employee leaders

reportedly highlighted the reasons behind the resentment among public servants regarding the ordinance.

Later, in a press release, the forum announced that their public outreach programme would continue today and tomorrow (Wednesday). They also affirmed that the movement would continue until the ordinance is repealed.

Since May 24, officials and employees across ministries and divisions have been protesting inside the Secretariat against the ordinance.

## Help build a better

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remember that you can create the world of the future with your scouting experience," he said.

He also said it is an opportunity for the young people to depict the path of the future, taking advantage of their involvement in scouting.

The chief adviser presented the highest award of the Cub Scouts, the "Shapla Cub Award", and the "Gallantry Award" of Bangladesh Scouts to the

family members of eight scouts who were martyred in the July movement for their bravery.

This carnival has started simultaneously in 527 places across the country.

Funded by the Ministry of Primary and Mass Education, the Cub Carnival is being implemented simultaneously in all upazilas and special districts of Bangladesh under the management of the Bangladesh Scouts Program Department.

## Freedom of expression

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human rights defenders, civil society actors, and media professionals across all eight divisions of Bangladesh – promoting a more inclusive and participatory digital democracy.

Speaking as chief guest, Dr Michal Krejza, head of development cooperation and minister-counsellor at the EU Delegation to Bangladesh, said, "All of us here understand the special importance of a free society. By enhancing digital literacy – particularly among youth, human rights defenders, and media professionals – this project will help build a more informed civic space."

He also stressed the importance of defending democracy and freedom of expression, both online and offline.

Shaheen Anam, executive director of MJF, said, "We believe that freedom of thought and expression is the bedrock of an inclusive and democratic society – where every individual, regardless of gender, class, religion, physical ability or ethnicity, has the right to access services and live with dignity and security."

She added that the Swadhinata project is based on the belief that democracy can only thrive when freedom of expression is actively protected.

Speaking as a special guest, Faruk Wasif, director general of the Press Institute Bangladesh (PIB), emphasised the need for a digital fact-checking database and the importance of equipping youth, women, and marginalised communities with the tools to access accurate information.

In her closing remarks, Kabita Bose, country director of Plan International Bangladesh, highlighted the need to counter misinformation and promote justice.

"We must shield ourselves from misinformation and have the courage to question injustice. Violence against women is not just a women's issue – it affects society as a whole. We must create more opportunities to empower youth, especially girls and women, and amplify their voices. Their participation is essential in shaping policies that ensure a better future for all," she said.

The event brought together representatives from women's rights organisations, youth networks, media professionals, and civil society groups from across the country.

A panel discussion on "Freedom of Expression" was a key part of the event, with speakers addressing issues of responsible digital behaviour, online safety, and equitable access to digital spaces.

Banasree Mitra Neogi, director (governance and rights programmes) at MJF; Mohammed Maheen Newaz Chowdhury, director – programmes at Plan International Bangladesh; and other senior representatives from the implementing organisations also attended the event.

**PRAYER TIMING**  
JUNE 24  
Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha  
AZAN 4-05 12-45 5-00 6-52 8-17  
JAMAAT 4-40 1-15 5-15 6-55 8-45  
SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

## Aggressive nationalism

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ways. One is by committing genocide or directly killing people. Also, killing people en masse is happening by destroying nature, as well as through illegal drug smuggling and the trade of weapons," he added.

He said to resist such killing en masse, the world must end wealth accumulation by individuals and establish a "social ownership". "The era of wealth accumulation by individuals is about to end. Now, the world has no option left but social ownership to survive," he further said.

Prof Serajul also said Bangladesh has never been able to get rid of poverty and the reason for this is that the country's wealth is being smuggled abroad. "This wealth has been

smuggled by the Pakistanis. Now, the Bangladeshi rulers are smuggling it and are smuggling it openly," he said.

At the event, different sociocultural organisations and renowned personalities congratulated Prof Serajul on his achievement with floral bouquets.

A towering figure, Choudhury has worn many hats: an eminent teacher of English literature, prolific writer, editor, columnist, literary and cultural critic, and political analyst.

He continues to speak out against injustice, steadfastly defending freedom of speech and academic autonomy. His voice – resonating in the classroom and the public sphere – has shaped generations of scholars, writers, and activists.

## Two stabbed to death in Dhaka

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Two individuals, including an SSC examinee, were killed in separate stabbing incidents in Dhaka's Mirpur and Kamrangirchar areas on Sunday night.

In Mirpur, Sifat, 18, who sat for his SSC examinations from a local school this year, was allegedly stabbed by his friend around 10:30pm.

Critically injured, Sifat was taken to Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH), where he died around midnight, said Inspector Md Farouk, in charge of the DMCH police outpost.

Sifat's father Md Shahin alleged that Sifat recently had an altercation with one of his friends over an unspecified issue. At one point, the friend stabbed Sifat on the left side of his abdomen.

"His other friends first took him to a local hospital and then to DMCH," he added.

In Kamrangirchar, Rocky, 31, was stabbed to death in the Beribadh area near Mathor Bazar around midnight, reportedly following a dispute over money.

Locals rushed him to DMCH, where doctors declared him dead at approximately 12:45am, Inspector Farouk added.

**BANGLADESH BANK**  
COMMON SERVICES DEPARTMENT-2  
(CIVIL MAINTENANCE DIVISION)  
HEAD OFFICE  
DHAKA.  
Website: [www.bb.org.bd](http://www.bb.org.bd)

**Invitation for Tender Through Web**

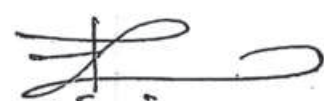
Tender No. CSD-2(CMD):03(02)/2025-59 Date: 22/06/2025

Tenders through Electronic Media (e-Tender) are invited from the bonafide Contractors/Construction firm(s) for Reconstruction of boundary wall at Bangladesh Bank Colony, Agrabad, Chattogram.

Necessary information and terms & conditions are given below :-

01	Procuring Entity	: Common Services Department-2, Bangladesh Bank, Head office, Dhaka-1000.
02	Source of Funds	: Bangladesh Bank's own fund.
03	Invitation for Tender No.	: CSD-2(CMD):03(02)/2025-59
04	Method of Procurement.	: Open Tendering Method (OTM) (National)
05	Qualification of Tenderers	: This Invitation for Tender is open to all eligible Contractors/Construction Firms of Bangladesh who have : i) Business experience at least 10 (Ten) years and satisfactorily completed at least 01 (one) work of similar nature worth not less than Taka 4.00 Crore (Taka four crore only) in a single contract, in any Government/Semi-Government/Autonomous Organization of Bangladesh during the last 05 (five) years. The Tenderers shall have to furnish certificates in this respect from officer not below the rank of Executive Engineer or equivalent. ii) Minimum Average Annual Construction Turnover in the last 05 (five) years preceding the date of submission of the Tender shall not be less than Taka 5.75 Crore (Taka five crore seventy five lac only). iii) Minimum liquid assets/credit facilities shall be Taka 1.50 Crore (Taka one crore fifty lac only). In case of credit facilities Bank shall ensure that the above mentioned credit limits will be given if the said work is awarded to the contractor. iv) Tenderers shall have to fulfill the qualification criteria stipulated in the Tender Data Sheet & other Terms and Conditions of the Tender Documents.
06	Address of the Web Receiving Tender Document	: <a href="http://www.bb.org.bd">www.bb.org.bd</a> (e-Tender)
07	Name & Address of the Offices Receiving Tender security & Other Documentary Evidence.	: Director (Engg. Civil), Common Services Department-2 (Civil Maintenance Division)(6 <sup>th</sup> floor of 30-storied Building), Bangladesh Bank, Head Office, Dhaka.
08	Last Date and Time for Submission of Tender Document through web.	: 22/07/2025 up to 2:30 p.m.
09	Last Date and Time for Receiving Original Tender security & Tender submission letter as per format PW3-1.	: 22/07/2025 within 2:30 p.m.
10	Date, Time and Place for Tender Opening	: 22/07/2025 at 3:00 p.m., Common Services Department-2 (6 <sup>th</sup> floor of 30-storied Building), Bangladesh Bank, Head Office, Dhaka. (Intending Tenderers or their authorized representatives are allowed to attend the tender opening with authorization letter).
11	Brief Description of Works	: Taking out old barbed wire fencing, dismantling of unserviceable/damaged brick works, RCC, earth work, brick flat soling, mass concrete, brickwork, RCC work, sand filling, barbed wire fencing, painting etc.
12	Time for completion of the works	: 18(Eighteen) months from the date of issue of Award of Contract.
13	Tender Security	: Tk. 15.00 lac (Taka fifteen lac only) in the form of P.O./B.D./B.G.
14	Special Instructions.	: i) Interested vendors are requested to collect token from concern officials by depositing in cash Tk.4,000.00 (Taka four thousand only) (Non-refundable) for participating the tender. ii) The Tenderer shall submit tender and scanned copy of documentary evidence through Bangladesh Bank Web site (e-Tender) & shall have valid e-mail address for participation through e-tendering. iii) Original P.O./B.D./Bank Guarantee as Tender Security along with Original Tender submission letter as per format PW3-1 shall reach at Director (Engineering-Civil), Common Services Department-2 (Civil Maintenance Division), within stipulated date and time mentioned in TDS. iv) Tenderer shall provide all documentary evidence (original or attested whichever necessary) when requested, failing which the Tender shall be considered as non-responsive. v) PW3-1, PW3-2, PW3-5, PW3-5A, PW3-5B form shall be completed and signed by the Authorized Signatory on the Letter-Head Pad attached by Scanning during submitting tender and original will be sent to the Director (Engineering-Civil), Common Services Department-2 (Civil Maintenance Division), within scheduled time as per TDS. vi) Furnishing of any false, misleading documents shall result in rejection of tender and shall lead to action under Rules 127 of PPR 2008. vii) All sorts of security & safety measures shall be carried out by the Contractor during execution of the work. viii) The work shall be done without interrupting the normal activities of the colony. ix) Bangladesh Bank reserves all rights to accept or reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever. No claim will be entertained in this regard.

DCP: 48/2025-1566  
Date: 23/06/2025

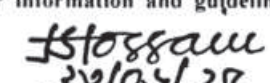
  
(Md. Tafazzal Hossain)  
Director (Engineering-Civil)  
Phone: 88-02-9530099

ব্যার্থিক ও আর্থিক সেবা পেতে হয়রানির শিকার হলে কিংবা কোনো অভিযোগ থাকলে ১৬২৩৬ নম্বরে ফোন করুন।

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh  
Public Works Department  
Office of the Executive Engineer  
Narail PWD Division, Narail.  
Reference No-25.36.6500.103.07.05-20-1028 Date: 23.06.2025  
e-Tender Notice  
e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of following packages

SL No	Tender ID	Name of work	Closing date & time	Opening date & time
1	1119349	Construction of new circuit house at Narail District (Sub Head: Supply and installation of 500 KVA electrical sub station with its equipments).	17-07-2025 At 12.00	17-07-2025 At 12.00
2	1111462	Construction of new circuit house at Narail District (Sub-Head: Supply and installation of 200 KVA generator including ATS and canopy)	17-07-2025 At 12.00	17-07-2025 At 12.00

This is an online Tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no off line/hard copies will be accepted. The fee for downloading the e-tender Document for the National e-GP System portal have to be deposited online through any registered Bank's branches. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System portal and for e-GP help desk.

  
Md. Sarowar Hossain  
Executive Engineer  
Narail PWD Division, Narail  
Phone: 02479925117