

808 institutes, structures renamed

FROM PAGE 14 and divisions were changed. Of these, the highest number – 205 institutions and structures – were under the ministry of youth and sports.

This was followed by the secondary and higher education division (181), the primary and mass education ministry (84), the ministry of Chittagong Hill Tracts affairs (59), the ICT division (49), local government divisions (39) and defence ministry (24). In addition, the renaming process for 134 institutions under the secondary and higher education division and 28 under the local

government divisions is underway. The names of at least 240 institutions, structures and awards named after Sheikh Mujibur Rahman have been changed. Besides, the process of changing the names of 79 more institutions and structures is in progress. The names of four cantonments – Bangabandhu Cantonment in Tangail, Bir Muktiyoddha Abdul Hamid Cantonment in Kishoreganj, Sheikh Hasina Cantonment at Lebukhali in Barishal and Sheikh Russell Cantonment at Zajira in Shariatpur – have been changed.

The name of the Bangabandhu International Conference Centre has also been changed. The government has revoked the Bangabandhu Janaprashan Padak and Bangabandhu Jatiya Krishi Padak and renamed Bangabandhu Satellite-1 as Bangladesh Satellite 1. The authorities are also in the process of changing the name of Hossain Shaheed Suhrawardy Shishu Park. Discussions are ongoing with relevant authorities regarding the renaming of several sites in India under the foreign ministry. These include the Bangabandhu

Smriti Kokkho, Bekar Hostel, Maulana Azad College and Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Sarani, which is the road in front of the Kolkata Mission. Discussions are also ongoing on the Sheikh Mujib bust in front of Sealdah Railway Station and the Bangabandhu Mancha in Kolkata. The cancellation process of the Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Education Scholarship in New Delhi is also underway. The Bangabandhu Lounge at Bangladesh's UN Mission in New York has already been renamed as Auditorium Lounge, the statement added.

89% drug cases

FROM PAGE 14 evidence. “Many officers don't carry out thorough probes, which weaken the cases.”

Bashir Ahmed, director (operations) at the DNC, said they strive to submit charge sheets on time. “The courts deliver verdicts after considering various aspects. On our part, we make every effort to prove the charges. Investigators are also provided with regular training and guidance.”

He added that the DNC is focusing on enhanced training and increased supervision to improve the quality of probes. Dhaka Metropolitan

Public Prosecutor Omar Faruq Faruqi said that there used to be dedicated courts to deal with drug cases in the past, but the cases are now being handled by regular courts.

“With such a large number of cases, it is often observed that no witnesses are present when the court is ready to proceed. In drug cases, seizure witnesses are crucial.

However, courts usually do not accept claims made solely by the police. In many instances, the witnesses lack proper addresses, making it difficult for investigators to locate them. As a result, many cases have remained pending for years due to the unavailability of witnesses.”

PRISONS FOR ADDICTS Expressing concern over the growing drug menace, Home Adviser Lt Gen (ret'd) Jahangir Alam Chowdhury yesterday said people from all walks of life are getting involved in drug-related crimes.

He added that the use of women, children, and teenagers in this illicit trade was alarming. Drug trafficking and abuse pose serious threats to public health, law and order, and the economy, the adviser said while speaking as the chief guest at a discussion organised by the DNC in Dhaka to mark the International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking 2025.

He said the government plans to establish separate prisons and rehabilitation centres for drug addicts in each divisional city. A Tk 1,400 crore project to build drug rehabilitation centres in seven divisional cities has already been approved by the Executive Committee of the National Economic Council (Ecne).

Jahangir also pointed out new challenges, including the rise of synthetic and semi-synthetic drugs, especially New Psychoactive Substances (NPS). Legal measures have been taken to control these substances, while law enforcement and intelligence agencies remain vigilant.

He said the DNC currently has 2,943 personnel, including 1,622 enforcement officers, serving a population of about 18 crores. Despite limited workforce and resources, efforts are ongoing to strengthen the DNC's capacity. Under the DNC Weapon Procurement and Usage Policy, the first batch of officers has completed firearms training to improve operational efficiency and safety.

Israeli fire, strikes kill 56 in Gaza

FROM PAGE 14 cooperation deal with Israel. The comments represent the strongest condemnation to date by the Socialist leader, an outspoken critic of the Israeli offensive in Gaza.

Speaking to reporters before an EU summit in Brussels, Sanchez mentioned a recent human rights report by the bloc's diplomatic service which, he said, addressed “the catastrophic situation of genocide unfolding in Gaza”. The report published last week found “indications” that Israel was breaching its human rights obligations under the deal, which forms the basis for trade ties.

In the occupied West Bank, the Palestinian health ministry said four people were killed in two separate incidents on Wednesday evening, including a 15-year-old boy who it said was shot by Israeli troops.

‘Energy budget mirrors past regime’s policies’

FROM PAGE 14 so, given the inability of oil-based power plants to make adequate contributions, the paper also mentions.

The interim government aspires to shift from fossil fuels to renewable energy, aiming for a green and sustainable power and energy sector, but the slowdown in policy shift does not reflect that aspiration, it added.

Prof M Shamsul Alam, energy adviser to the Consumers Association of Bangladesh, said the companies involved in power generation and supply are still logging substantial profits while the public continues to suffer.

“The people's voices are not being heard. There's almost no point in talking to the government anymore.”

He provided the example of the Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation's recent decision to increase the Padma Oil Company's profit margin by 76 percent for supplying jet fuel to airliners at a time when the company has Tk

2,100 crore in reserves. “They [Padma oil] are building two giant offices in Dhaka and Chattogram, operating schools and hospitals with the profit money from the public... This is not fair.”

He went on to say that if the ongoing gas crisis at industries lingers any longer, most of them will go bankrupt soon. Faisal Samad, a director at the Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association, said the government has no plan to mitigate the energy crisis in industries. “We need an immediate short-term plan on how to increase gas supply to the industries.”

He suggested some solutions, such as suspending gas bills for a few months or waiving interest payments on bank loans for industries.

Razeeb Haider, director at Bangladesh Textile Mills Association, said, “We need the pressure to be at least 6 psi [pounds per square

inch] to keep all of our six machines operational. When the pressure is 2 psi, we need to shut down at least four of them.”

He, however, said that after the energy adviser's recent visit to their factories, the gas supply has increased. “But we don't know how long it will continue.”

He recommended conducting studies to assess the extent of production losses caused by disruptions in power and gas supply.

Akhter Hossain Apurbo, vice-president of the Bangladesh Knitwear Manufacturers and Exporters Association, said the gas price was hiked based on the assurance of an uninterrupted supply.

“But the situation didn't improve... After the LDC graduation, the government will no longer allocate subsidies to the garment sector. But they can provide indirect subsidies through the power and energy sector.”

He said that when the fabric dyeing process is

initiated, it takes around six to eight hours to complete. “In that period, uninterrupted gas supply is absolutely essential; otherwise, the products risk ruin.”

Shafiqul Alam, a lead energy analyst at the Institute for Energy Economics and Financial Analysis, said that although the government has announced plans to drill around 100 gas wells in the near future, there is no sign of that promise in the budget.

Ma q b u l - E - E l a h i Chowdhury, a former member of the Bangladesh Energy Regulatory Commission, said gas theft disguised as system loss should be checked.

“We had forced the transmission company to install zonal meters to reduce system losses. The readings of the meters should be published every month to show how much gas is being stolen in what areas,” he said, adding that around 400-500 million cubic feet of gas could be saved and served to the industries only by reducing system losses.

30 individuals involved in Abu Sayed murder

FROM PAGE 14 The investigators told The Daily Star that the involvement of high-ranking officials, including the then Rangpur Metropolitan Police commissioner Moniruzzaman and former RMP deputy commissioner (crime) Abu Maruf Hossain, was found.

The other accused include the then vice-chancellor of the university Prof Hasibur Rashid, former proctor Shariful Islam, former assistant sub-inspector of police Amir Hossain, former constable Sujjan Chandra Roy, and Chhatra League leader Imran Chowdhury

AKASH. They are accused of crimes against humanity. Of the 30 accused, only Shariful, Amir Hossain, Sujjan and Imran have been arrested.

Some of the accused remain at large, while warrants have yet been issued for several newly identified accused, said a prosecutor.

The complaint was filed by Sayed's elder brother Ramzan Ali with the ICT's prosecution wing. He accused former prime minister Sheikh Hasina and 23 others over his brother's death. Soon after Sayed was killed in police firing seen on

TV, Sub-inspector Bibhuti Bhushan Roy, then in charge of the campus police camp, filed a First Information Report which said Sayed was not a victim of police firing.

“The protesters fired weapons and threw chunks of bricks from different directions, and at one stage, a student was seen falling to the ground,” read the report.

It added that Sayed's classmates took him to Rangpur Medical College Hospital where doctors pronounced him dead.

The SI accused 2,000-3,000 unidentified people, including BNP and Jamaat activists, in the case.

An assistant professor of forensic medicine at the Rangpur Medical College, Rajibul Islam, stated in his autopsy report that Sayed had died from shotgun pellet wounds. The doctor later said he was forced to change his findings several times.

He said he had to mention head injuries, other wounds, and blood clots. He concluded that the cause of death was shock and haemorrhage resulting from injuries.

Sayed's defiance inflamed students across the country and galvanised the widespread protests, as people began to join in ever larger numbers.

52 pushed in from India

FROM PAGE 14 They include four men and two women. All of them are Bangladeshi citizens and they were handed over to Kamalganj Police Station, Lt Col Zakaria said.

In Khagrachari, 15 people were pushed into Bangladesh – nine through Shantipur border under Matiranga upazila and six through Panchari upazila border.

Khagrachari Deputy Commissioner ABM Iftekharul Islam Khandker confirmed the push-ins to The Daily Star.

Contacted, Matiranga

UNO Monjur Alam said BGB personnel detained the individuals, including seven women and two men, after they were pushed into Bangladesh by BSF.

They were kept at a local school under the supervision of BGB and the process to verify their identities was going on, the UNO added.

Panchari UNO Farhana Nasrin said the six people pushed into Bangladesh through the border in the upazila include five women and a man.

In Meherpur, eight people were pushed in through the Rangmohol border under

Gangni upazila. The group includes two children, three women, and three men, said Lt Col Mahbub Morshed Rahman, commanding officer of BGB-47 Battalion in Kushtia.

A BGB team detained them while they were moving along the border road inside Bangladesh territory after they were pushed in by BSF, he said.

All of them are Bangladeshi nationals. After verifying their identities, they were handed over to Gangni Police Station.

In Feni, four people of

a family were pushed into Bangladesh allegedly by BSF through Joar Kachar border under Sadar upazila.

They were detained by BGB and later handed over to police, said Lt Col Mir Ali Ejaz, commander of BGB-10 Battalion in Cumilla.

Contacted, Feni Model Police Station's Officer-in-Charge Md Shamsuzzaman said the detainees are Bangladeshi citizens and they would be handed over to their relatives.

[Our correspondents in Moulvibazar, Chattogram, Benapole and Feni contributed to the report]

Install solar panels on all govt

FROM PAGE 3 systems on the roofs of all government buildings, schools-colleges-madrasas and all government hospitals.

“Consider whether the installation of solar panels in government buildings can be done by private initiatives. Those who install them will maintain it in their own business interests, operate it effectively. Only the roofs will not have to pay electricity bills for electricity

rest of the work,” he said. Yunus also said the government must know the experience of all the institutions that have installed rooftop solar systems so far. “We need to know what kind of problems they have faced. We need to move towards resolving those problems.”

In this process, the government schools, colleges, and madrasas will not have to pay electricity bills for electricity

consumption and the institutions will get rent for the roofs used for solar power generation.

Officials present at the meeting said according to the 2024 report of the International Renewable Energy Agency, Bangladesh only generates 5.6 percent of the total electricity demand from solar power, far behind its neighbouring countries in expanding solar power generation and meeting the set targets.

Waterlogging

FROM PAGE 3 our suffering,” said Sumon Mia, a grocery store owner in the area.

Sanchita Mallic, another resident, said, “It becomes very difficult to get ambulance service, especially during the monsoon, as the road goes completely underwater.”

The road falls under the jurisdiction of Dhaka North City Corporation. Former councillor of Ward 49, Anisur Rahman Naim, was responsible for the area until he went into hiding after August 5.

Residents alleged that they were harassed when seeking help from him. After the appointment of the DNCC administrator, the situation remained unchanged.

Contacted, Khondoker Mahbub Alam, superintending engineer (civil) of DNCC's Traffic Engineering Circle, said the city corporation had already issued a tender to repair the road and assigned the project to the army.

Asked about the delay, Alam said, “The project director assured me that work would start soon. If needed, we will formally write to him again.”

Lt Col Md Masud, the project director, said he visited the site last Thursday and found the drainage system near the road had collapsed, causing water to remain stagnant over a 150-foot stretch.

“I recently took responsibility. After visiting the area, I contacted DNCC and asked them to clear the drainage so the condition

can improve slightly,” he added.

“We may start repair work after the monsoon. If we start now, it will worsen the suffering of commuters. In the meantime, we plan to sit with DNCC again and coordinate with other relevant agencies,” he also said.

During a visit to the area on Monday, auto-rickshaws, pickup vans, and private cars were seen struggling to pass through the waterlogged, pothole-ridden stretch near Ashkona Bazar.

The road resembled a waterbody.

Parents taking their children to school were seen getting off rickshaws and wading through water along the roadside to avoid deeper sections. Shops on both sides of the 300-yard stretch were closed due to the waterlogging, and the entire road was almost unusable.

Standing beside the road, another resident, Nasrin Akhter, said, “Our lives have become a curse because of this road. It feels like we committed a sin by building homes here.”

Asked about the delay in the army-led work, Director of Inter-Services Public Relations Lt Col Sami-Ud-Daula Chowdhury said the army usually completes such projects swiftly.

“Work on the Ashkona water pump road will begin very soon. We have discussed the matter with relevant officials and are hopeful the public suffering will soon come to an end,” he said.

Focus on girls’ edn, health

FROM PAGE 3 in school and addressing the needs of underserved populations – especially in urban slums – through improved access to economic opportunities and health services are key to building a more just and equitable society.

Catherine Breen

with India is now at a stage of ‘readjustment’ and there is no lack of goodwill from Dhaka's side to improve ties.

“Let us acknowledge the truth: the present government does not have the level of deep relationship that existed between India and the previous government,” he added.

He said the relationship is not cold either. “It is in the process of readjustment. We have no dearth of goodwill... We are readjusting,” he said.

Asked why the official meeting between Chief Adviser Prof Yunus and UK


Prime Minister Keir Starmer was not held, he said it was an official visit and the meeting was supposed to take place.

“I cannot say at this moment why it did not happen,” he said.

Asked who would take responsibility for this, he said, “Let's see who takes the responsibility.”

Asked about the scheduled bilateral visit by the chief adviser to Malaysia in July, he said Dhaka now wants to shift it to August due to the events of the July mass uprising anniversary.

“We are working on it,” he said.



বাংলাদেশ বিদ্যুৎ উন্নয়ন বোর্ড
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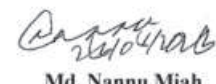
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SL No	Tender ID No.	Package No.	Reference No.	Description of goods/works	Last selling date and time	Closing date and time	Opening date and time
1.	1127999	GR 07 FY 2024-25	27.11.000 0.304.25 460.25 dated: 25/06/2025	Supply, Installation, Testing, Commissioning of New Charge Air Cooler for Engine A-Side of Bera 70 MW Peaking Power Plant, BPDB, Bera, Pabna.	13-07-2025 13.00	13-07-2025 14.00	13-07-2025 14.00

This is 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 (<http://www.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 branches. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd). For more details please contact to the PE's Support Desk (01755575443).



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