

'We want land rights, Tk 600 daily wage'

Tea Workers Trade Union Center holds first national conference in Sreemangal

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

The first national conference of the Tea Workers Trade Union Center was held in Moulvibazar's Sreemangal yesterday, with a renewed call for land rights, increased wages, and an end to discrimination against the tea garden community.

The daylong event, held at the Zilla Parishad auditorium, opened with a cultural programme showcasing the heritage, struggle, and resistance of tea workers through music, recitation, and drama.

The conference began with the hoisting of the national and organisational flags.

The national flag was raised by Mujahidul Islam Selim, former president of the Communist Party of Bangladesh, while Sabuj Tanti, convener of the Tea Workers Trade Union Center, hoisted the organisation's flag.

The formal inauguration was announced by organiser Manisha Wahid.

A procession followed, drawing hundreds of tea workers and students from across Sylhet, Moulvibazar, Habiganj, and Sreemangal. They carried banners, festoons, and chanted slogans, demanding recognition of their rights and fulfilment of their long-standing demands.

In his address, Mujahidul Islam Selim said the tea worker community remains "one of the most deprived and oppressed" in Bangladesh, despite decades of struggle. He urged the government to grant land rights to tea workers, citing available land outside the tea estates that could be allocated.

"During Ershad's time, we won some rights through movement. What is stopping the current government from doing the same?" he asked, while demanding the implementation of a 10-point charter of demands that includes a minimum daily wage of Tk 600.

The conference was presided over by Sabuj Tanti and moderated by SM Shuvo.

Other speakers included Dr Nazia Chowdhury, professor at Shahjalal University of Science and Technology; Sohrab Hasan, joint editor of Prothom Alo; Jolly Talukder of the Garments Workers Trade Union Center; journalist Mahbub

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Hundreds of tea workers and students bring out a procession in Sreemangal as part of the first national conference of the Tea Workers Trade Union Center yesterday. At the daylong event, they demanded land rights, increased wages, and an end to discrimination against the tea garden community.

PHOTO: STAR

ALOKBALI UNION IN NARSINGDI Lack of bridge puts 50,000 locals in peril

JAHIDUL ISLAM, Narsingdi

Over 50,000 residents of Alokballi union in Narsingdi Sadar upazila continue to suffer due to the absence of a bridge connecting their river-encircled villages to the district headquarters.

Surrounded by the Meghna, this remote char area consists of nine villages where residents rely solely on boats for travel.

Despite being just 20 kilometres from the town centre, locals often spend four to five hours navigating the river, frequently delayed by water hyacinth and adverse weather conditions.

"Due to water hyacinth, even a one-hour route takes up to four hours," said Rubel Ahmed, 32, of Alokballi village.

Ahmad Mia, 25, of Bakhrnagar shared

a tragic personal account. "On January 10, my father suffered severe chest pain around 2:30am. Because of thick fog and river blockages, no boatman agreed to take us. By dawn, we managed to cross



the river after 90 minutes and reached Narsingdi Hospital, but my father had already had a major heart attack. Though doctors referred him to the National

Institute of Cardiovascular Diseases in Dhaka, he died at the hospital gate. Timely medical attention could have saved him, but the delay proved fatal."

Fulkam Badsha, executive engineer of the Local Government Engineering Department, said, "During my field visit, I experienced a three-hour delay due to water hyacinth. A feasibility study for a 300-metre bridge from Alokballi to Srinagar in Karimpur union has already been completed. We're actively working to move the project forward."

Asma Jahan Sarkar, UNO of Narsingdi Sadar upazila, said, "I recently visited the area by boat. The residents are indeed deprived of many facilities due to poor connectivity. We have assessed the feasibility for a bridge, and necessary steps will be taken soon."

13 senior cops suspended for long absence

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said the officers were suspended under civil service rules for desertion.

The suspended officers include three superintendents of police (SPs), eight additional SPs, and two assistant SPs.

The 13 officers are -- SPs Sanwar Hossain, Md Shahjahan and Golam Mostafa Russell; additional SPs SM Jahangir Hasan, Shah Alam Md Akhtarl Islam, SM Shamim, Iftekharul Islam, Moshu Biswas, Hasanuzzaman Molla, Rubaiyat Zaman, and Masudur Rahman Monir; and assistant SPs

Mahmudul Hasan and Md Imrul.

According to the notifications, Sanwar Hossain, former SP of the Anti-Terrorism Unit and currently attached to the Barishal Range DIG office, has been absent since January 1 without approval. Former Narayanganj SP Golam Mostafa Russell, who is attached to the same office, has been absent since the same day.

SP Md Shahjahan, formerly posted in Rangpur and now with the Chattogram Range DIG office, has been absent since January 16.

Among the additional SPs, SM Jahangir Hasan of the Naval Police went on 15 days' leave for cardiac treatment in Thailand on October 8. He was due back on October 23 but instead requested an additional 60 days citing treatment at Mount Elizabeth Hospital in Singapore. The extension was not approved. Two official notices were sent to his address, but he did not return.

Shah Alam Md Akhtarl Islam, former ADC of Ramna Division and now posted at the Sylhet In-Service Training Centre, has been absent since January 26. SM Shamim, former ADC of DMP, has not reported for duty since September 18 last year.

Iftekharul Islam, former ADC of DMP and now serving with the Cox's Bazar APBn, has not been seen at work since January 28.

All 13 officers have been charged with desertion under service regulations and suspended accordingly. During the suspension period, they will receive a subsistence allowance.

missing from duty since October 26 last year.

Hasanuzzaman Molla, posted at the Rangamati APBn, has been absent since February 2.

Rubaiyat Zaman, former ADC of Tejgaon Division and now at the Sunamganj In-Service Training Centre, has been absent since January 29.

Masudur Rahman Monir, acting company commander of Rab-8 in Barishal, has not reported to work since November 13 last year.

Among the assistant SPs, Mahmudul Hasan of the Rajbari Police Telecom has been absent since September 13 last year.

Md Imrul, posted at the Cox's Bazar Ukhia APBn, has not been seen at work since January 28.

All 13 officers have been charged with desertion under service regulations and suspended accordingly. During the suspension period, they will receive a subsistence allowance.

No special

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Yunus, and July 16 as "Shaheed Abu Sayed Day" in memory of Abu Sayed, a student of Rangpur's Begum Rokeya University, who was shot dead by police during protests in the district.

A government source confirmed that the New Bangladesh Day will now be cancelled. However, no gazette has been issued in this regard.

Earlier, three top leaders of the National Citizen Party (NCP) -- Sarjis Alam, Hasnat Abdullah, and Akhtar Hossain -- raised objections to declaring August 8 as New Bangladesh Day.

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Bangladesh Power Development Board

Office of the Senior System Analyst
Dhaka Computer Center
Wapda Building (4th Fl.), Motijheel, Dhaka
Phone No. 47113484

Ref No. 27.11.0000.716.77.25.904

Date: 29/06/2025

Invitation for e-Tenders

e-Tender are invited in the National e-GP System Portal (www.eprocure.gov.bd) for the Procurement of following work.

Sl. No.	Tender ID & Ref. No.	Name of works	Tender publication date	Tender closing date
1	Tender ID: 1128676 Ref. No: 27.11.0000.716.77.25.902 Dt: 29.06.2025	Work for Bulk SMS in connection with Online New Connection System and ERP System of BPDB with supporting service for 1 year.	29.06.2025	17.07.2025 Time: 14:00

29/06/2025
A.S.M. Foizullah
Senior System Analyst
(Additional Charge)
Dhaka Computer Center
BPDB, Dhaka

বিদ্যুৎ/জন-১৫৫২ (২)/২৯/০৬/২৫

PRAYER TIMING
JUNE 30
Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha
AZAN 4-05 12-45 5-00 6-54 8-17
JAMAAT 4-40 1-15 5-15 6-57 8-45
SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

GD-1481

বাংলাদেশ বিদ্যুৎ উন্নয়ন বোর্ড
Bangladesh Power Development Board
www.bpdb.gov.bd

Directorate of Purchase
WAPDA Building (10th Floor)
Motijheel, Dhaka-1000
Tel. 0222338081
E-mail: dirpurchase@bpdb.gov.bd

e-Tender Notice

The following e-Tenders are invited in the National e-GP System Portal (www.eprocure.gov.bd) for the procurement of:

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
01	ID-1129197	EA-GRL-02 (FY 2024-25)	27.11.0000.304. 25.227.25 Date: 29/06/2025	Procurement of Portable Meter Testing Set	21-Jul-2025, 17:00	22-Jul-2025, 14:00	22-Jul-2025, 14:00

These are 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 (eprocure.gov.bd).

For more details please contact to the PE's Support Desk (01768015538).

বিদ্যুৎ/জন-১৫৫৬ (৩)/২৯/০৬/২৫

29/06/2025
Md. Nannu Miah
ID No. 1-01304
Director
Directorate of Purchase
BPDB, Dhaka

FOREIGN OPERATION OF NCT

HC asks govt if it has taken any decision

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday wanted to know whether the advisory council of the government has taken any decision about handing over the responsibility of operating the New Mooring Container Terminal (NCT) in Chattogram to any foreign company.

The court asked Attorney General Md Asaduzzaman to place the information before it on Tuesday (July 1).

It came up with the order during the hearing of a petition that challenged legality of the government's decision to initiate the process for awarding UAE-based company DP World the contract for container handling operations at the NCT.

The HC bench led by Justice Md Habibul Gani set the date.

Bangladesh Jubo Arthanitibid Forum submitted the petition to the HC on March 20, seeking its directive to ensure fair and competitive public bidding before appointing any container terminal handling operator to run the existing NCT.

The shipping secretary, chairman of Chittagong

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1 more dies of dengue, 383 hospitalised

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

At least one dengue patient died while 383 others were hospitalised in the 24 hours before yesterday morning.

With this new death, the total number of deaths rose to 42 this year, of which 20 are from outside Dhaka, according to the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS).

With the new hospitalisations, the total number of cases rose to 9,867, including 7,695 from outside Dhaka.

Among the total cases, a total of 8,729 dengue patients have been released, according to the Directorate General of Health Services.

Currently, 1,096 dengue patients are undergoing treatment at different hospitals across the country, 775 of whom are from Dhaka.