

BHOLA LAUNCH TERMINALS

Lack of waiting rooms, toilets adds to passengers' misery

SUSHANTA GHOSH, Barishal

Thousands of passengers in Bhola face serious problems at launch terminals and boarding points because there are not enough waiting rooms and toilets.

When it rains, people often have to shelter in roadside shops or stalls. Many are forced to use unsafe and dirty places to relieve themselves.

The Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority (BIWTA) has acknowledged the fact.

During the recent Eid holidays, Ilsha Ghat -- the biggest terminal in Bhola -- was crowded with passengers. Many got wet in the rain and couldn't find a place to rest.

Things get worse in the monsoon when people disembark from launches in heavy rain with no shelter. More than 50 launches leave from Ilsha Ghat every day, connecting Bhola with Barishal,



Dhaka, Chattogram, Lakshmipur, and other places. Over one lakh passengers use this route daily.

Other terminals in the district are also in poor condition.

Aklima Begum, travelling to

Dhaka from Maju Chowdhury Ghat, said she had to run into a shop to avoid the rain. Rezaul Islam, travelling to Chattogram with his family, had a similar experience.

BIWTA said Bhola has five terminals with toilets and waiting rooms, but these are poorly maintained, dirty, and not enough for the number of passengers. There are no such facilities at 19 other boarding points.

Devan Abdur Rashid Nilu, a leader of the Barishal unit of Nougatri Oikya Parishad, urged the authorities to improve terminal facilities to meet basic needs.

Selim Reza, Bhola river port officer of BIWTA, said they plan to build modern toilets and waiting areas at Ilsha, Monpura, and other terminals under a World Bank-funded project.

"These changes will help reduce the passengers' suffering," he said.

Ward-based

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"In addition, special emergency response teams have been formed in each ward. These teams are prepared to respond swiftly to any waterlogging that may arise due to rainfall," the release added.

It further said, "Our teams are monitoring the situation in every ward. We urge citizens to report immediately if they notice any waterlogging or blocked drains in their area."

Seeking public cooperation, DSCC requested that residents contact the central control room immediately if waterlogging is witnessed in any part of the city. For this, the control room hotline 01709900888 has been made available and will remain open 24/7 to provide assistance.

July killings strategic

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identified. However, eight of those were found to be carried out by armed Awami League activists, according to Sapran.

The organisation found that 33 of the 54 headshot victims were active participants in the July uprising. Sixteen were identified as bystanders or onlookers, while the roles of five victims could not be confirmed due to a lack of verifiable information.

Unarmed protesters and civilians were often shot point-blank, suggesting a clear intent to kill, said Zeba Sajida Saraf, a researcher at Sapran.

She said the conclusions were drawn based on forensic evidence, verified cases, and international human rights reports, and aimed to highlight a pattern of state violence.

"The shots were deliberately aimed at the

heads of civilians, often at close range and without provocation. These killings were not incidental, but part of an intentional strategy by security forces to terrorise the population, even within residential areas," the paper stated.

Bokhtiar Ahmed, a professor at the Department of Social Science and Humanities at Independent University Bangladesh, said, "The state itself became a murderer over the past 15-16 years gradually."

He noted that extrajudicial killings have been normalised under the authoritarian government by putting different tags on the victims, with many accepting the violence when it targeted criminals or opposition activists.

Rezwana Karim Snigdha, associate professor of anthropology at Jahangirnagar University, said the head is a symbol of

dignity, and headshots are intended to destroy both the dignity and ideology of protest.

"Every killing sent a message that the protesters meant nothing to the government," she said.

Zina Tasreen, a senior journalist at The Daily Star, said there is no doubt that police used disproportionate force during the movement, but not all shootings could have been carried out by them. "Other state organs must have been involved, and it should not be glossed over."

At the event, Solaiman Topu, brother of Atiqur Rahman, who was martyred during the uprising, and Sirajul Islam, brother of Mirajul Sajidur Rahman Omor, shared their heartbreaking experiences of finding out about the death of their loved ones during the uprising.

HC order on DP World Contract

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writ petitioner while Deputy Attorney General (DAG) Mohaddes-Ul-Islam Tutul represented the state during the hearing.

Writ petitioners' lawyers told the HC bench that if the contract for handling operations of NCT is awarded to DP World, national interest of the country will be damaged.

They prayed to the HC to issue a rule on the authorities concerned of the government to explain why the process for awarding the container handling contract of the NCT to DP World, which is a 100 percent foreign company, without holding any open tender should not be declared illegal.

DAG Mohaddes-Ul-Islam Tutul vehemently opposed the writ petition saying that the government has not taken any decision to give responsibility to any foreign company for operating the NCT.

Bangladesh Jubo Arthanitibid Forum, a philanthropic organisation, submitted the writ petition as a public interest litigation 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.

Earlier, petitioner's lawyer Ahsanul Karim told The Daily Star that the previous government had decided to award the container handling contract of the NCT to DP World in 2019 and the current government has initiated a process to finish the job.

36% migrants forced to return

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frameworks in Bangladesh do not clearly define compensation or remedies, leading to migrant workers often receiving inadequate compensation and falling into deeper financial trouble.

The absence of a standardised arbitration process creates significant barriers for workers -- from filing complaints to attending hearings -- and causes widespread mistrust in the system.

According to the report, 75 percent of migrant workers do not receive any contract before going abroad. Among male migrants, 64 percent reported not receiving a contract prior to departure, while not a single female migrant received one before leaving.

Only 25 percent of workers received an employment contract before migration. Of them, 62 percent got it just hours before their flight, 27 percent two weeks prior, and only 11 percent a month in advance, the report said.

The study also revealed that 47 percent of migrant workers did not receive a

work permit after reaching their destination. Among the 53 percent who did, only 24 percent were actually given the jobs they were promised.

It also stated that 100 percent of male migrant workers were charged exorbitant migration fees far above the legal limits set by the government -- double the rate for those bound for Saudi Arabia and six times higher for Malaysia.

OKUP said the research was based on 114 case studies (80 men and 34 women) who sought legal help between January 2023 and October 2024.

The focus was particularly on Saudi Arabia and Malaysia -- the two main destinations for Bangladeshi migrant workers -- which accounted for 92 percent of the returnees in the study.

To address these issues, OKUP recommended that the Bangladesh government ensure fair compensation that considers both financial and social losses.

It also called for including country-specific information on justice

mechanisms in pre-departure orientation sessions to raise awareness among workers.

For destination countries, OKUP urged the government of Saudi Arabia to stop unethical visa trading and revise labour reform initiatives to eliminate employer control that restricts workers from changing jobs or reporting exploitation or abuse.

The organisation also recommended setting up "Free Service Centres" to help workers file complaints and access justice.

For Malaysia, OKUP called on the authorities to adhere to the recruitment provisions outlined in the Memorandum of Understanding with Bangladesh.

It also suggested creating accessible facilities for the protection and support of migrant workers, similar to the online systems used in Saudi Arabia.

Without urgent reforms and international cooperation, migrant workers will continue to face exploitation, premature return, and lack of justice, the report warned.

Grabbers choke Kalir Chara

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constructed right along the canal bank, significantly narrowing the waterway from 30 feet to 7-8 feet and obstructing the natural flow of water. In the Lakecity housing point, several buildings have been constructed by filling in parts of the canal.

Abdur Rahim, the owner of one such building reportedly built on encroached canal land, claimed he was unaware of the canal filling. "I did not grab any part of the canal land," he stated.

According to the Water

Act 2013, occupying a canal is a punishable offence. Offenders may face imprisonment, fines, or both.

"As per the Bangladesh Survey (BS), the canal is supposed to have an average width of 25 to 30 feet. However, in most areas, it has been reduced to a narrow drain. We have already prepared a list of encroachers and submitted it to the higher authorities to carry out eviction drives," said Barno Hoque, sub-divisional engineer of the WDB Chattogram.

Contacted, Sowkat Ibne

Sahid, executive engineer of the WDB in Chattogram, said a Development Project Proposal (DPP) for the restoration of the canal has been submitted to the ministry. "Once the project is approved, we hope to restore the canal to its former state," he said.

"Once the project gets approval, we will first carry out the eviction of encroachers. Then, to keep the canal free from future encroachment, we will construct retaining walls on both sides of the canal," he added.

Country gets first robotic rehab centre

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Established with technical and material assistance from China, the centre has been equipped to meet international standards in robotic rehabilitation.

Chinese authorities have donated robotic equipment worth around Tk 20 crore, making this one of the most advanced centres of its kind in South Asia.

According to BMU sources, the centre houses 62 high-precision robotic devices -- including 222

powered by artificial intelligence (AI). These robots can provide tailored physiotherapy, neurological rehabilitation, and long-term care, adjusting precisely to each patient's condition.

Ahead of the pilot rollout, a seven-member team of biomedical engineers from China trained 27 Bangladeshi doctors and physiotherapists, equipping them with the essential technical skills.

Once the trained personnel gain sufficient experience and the pilot

phase proves successful, the centre will shift into full-scale operation.

Moreover, the centre is designed to serve patients affected by conditions such as stroke, paralysis, nerve injuries, chronic pain, frozen shoulder, and trauma-induced impairments.

Notably, injured individuals from the recent July uprising who are dealing with prolonged physical injuries will receive free robotic rehabilitation services here.

BMU officials clarified that while the primary

services will be limited and targeted, the centre will eventually open its doors to the general public in phases, following a structured policy.

Efforts will also be made to ensure that treatment costs remain within the reach of patients' financial capabilities, they added. Besides, this robotic rehabilitation initiative will not only mark a technological milestone in the country's medical landscape, but also bring renewed hope to thousands suffering from long-term physical and neurological issues.

EC to register voters in 5 more countries

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Kuwait, Qatar, Malaysia, Australia, and Canada.

The process is also set to begin in Japan on July 15.

The commission has already identified a substantial Bangladeshi expatriate population across

40 countries, according to information compiled from different sources.

These include the Ministry of Expatriates' Welfare and Overseas Employment, the Bureau of Manpower, Employment and Training, the Ministry of Foreign

Affairs, and the Bangladesh Association of International Recruiting Agencies (BAIRA), among others.

Saudi Arabia hosts the largest number of Bangladeshi expatriates, with 40,49,588 individuals, while New Zealand has the

smallest, with 2,500.

In 2019, the commission led by KM Nurul Huda initiated the project to provide NIDs abroad.

Online registration for Bangladeshi expatriates was first launched in the UK on February 12, 2020.

LEGAL NOTICE
IN THE SUPREME COURT OF BANGLADESH
HIGH COURT DIVISION
(STATUTORY ORIGINAL JURISDICTION)
COMPANY MATTER NO 934 OF 2025
IN THE MATTER OF: An application under Sections-81(2), 85(3) & 183 read with Section 396 of the Companies Act, 1994. **AND**
IN THE MATTER OF: Shahinwar Chowdhury, son of Mostaque Ahmed Chowdhury and Rokeya Begum, Shareholder and Managing Director, Naf Overseas (Pvt.) Ltd. of 89, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka, Bangladesh. **-----Petitioner**
-VERSUS-
Naf Overseas (Pvt.) Ltd. of 89, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka, Bangladesh and The Registrar, Joint Stock Companies and Firms, TCB Bhaban (6th Floor), 1, Kawran Bazar, Dhaka. **-----Respondents**
Take notice that an application under Sections-81(2), 85(3) & 183 read with Section 396 of the Companies Act, 1994 was filed before the Hon'ble High Court Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh on behalf of the above named Petitioner for condonation of delay in holding Annual General Meeting of **Naf Overseas (Pvt.) Ltd.** for the calendar years 2022, 2023 and 2024 and to give necessary direction for holding the said meeting within a reasonable time. Upon hearing of the application on 23-06-2025 the Hon'ble Company Judge **Mr. Justice Ahmed Sohel** has been pleased to admit the said application. If you are interested to oppose the said application you may appear before the Hon'ble Court either in person or through an advocate on or before the date fixed for hearing. Copy of the application may be obtained from the undersigned on payment of necessary cost.
Advocate Md. Anowar Hossain
Room No. 351 (Main), Supreme Court Bar Association Bhaban, Shahbagh, Dhaka-1000. Mobile: 01913391551

LEGAL NOTICE
IN THE SUPREME COURT OF BANGLADESH
HIGH COURT DIVISION
(STATUTORY ORIGINAL JURISDICTION)
COMPANY MATTER NO 967 OF 2025
IN THE MATTER OF: An application under Sections-81(2), 85(3) & 183 read with Section 396 of the Companies Act, 1994. **AND**
IN THE MATTER OF: Md. Rezwana Selim, son of Md. Selim and Habeeba Selim, Shareholder and Managing Director of Softex Cotton (Pvt.) Ltd. of Concord I-K Tower, (Level-6), Plot No. 2, Block-CEN (A), North Avenue, Gulshan-2, Dhaka, Bangladesh. **-----Petitioner**
-VERSUS-
Softex Cotton (Pvt.) Ltd. of Concord I-K Tower, (Level-6), Plot No. 2, Block-CEN (A), North Avenue, Gulshan-2, Dhaka, Bangladesh and The Registrar, Joint Stock Companies and Firms, TCB Bhaban (6th Floor), 1, Kawran Bazar, Dhaka. **-----Respondents**
Take notice that an application under Sections-81(2), 85(3) & 183 read with Section 396 of the Companies Act, 1994 was filed before the Hon'ble High Court Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh on behalf of the above named Petitioner for condonation of delay in holding Annual General Meeting of **Softex Cotton (Pvt.) Ltd.** for the calendar years 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024 and to give necessary direction for holding the said meeting within a reasonable time. Upon hearing of the application on 23-06-2025 the Hon'ble Company Judge **Mr. Justice Ahmed Sohel** has been pleased to admit the said application. If you are interested to oppose the said application you may appear before the Hon'ble Court either in person or through an advocate on or before the date fixed for hearing. Copy of the application may be obtained from the undersigned on payment of necessary cost.
Advocate Md. Anowar Hossain
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LEGAL NOTICE
IN THE SUPREME COURT OF BANGLADESH
HIGH COURT DIVISION
(STATUTORY ORIGINAL JURISDICTION)
COMPANY MATTER NO 968 OF 2025
IN THE MATTER OF: An application under Sections-81(2), 85(3) & 183 read with Section 396 of the Companies Act, 1994. **AND**
IN THE MATTER OF: Abu Saleh Mohammad Mijanur Rahman, son of Mohd. Saleh-Ul-Rahman and Begum Sayda Rahman Selim, Shareholder and Managing Director of AL-AKSHA DEVELOPERS (PVT) LIMITED of 8D, 8th Floor, 80, Kakrail, Dhaka, Bangladesh. **-----Petitioner**
-VERSUS-
AL-AKSHA DEVELOPERS (PVT) LIMITED of 8D, 8th Floor, 80, Kakrail, Dhaka, Bangladesh and The Registrar, Joint Stock Companies and Firms, TCB Bhaban (6th Floor), 1, Kawran Bazar, Dhaka. **-----Respondents**
Take notice that an application under Sections-81(2), 85(3) & 183 read with Section 396 of the Companies Act, 1994 was filed before the Hon'ble High Court Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh on behalf of the above named Petitioner for condonation of delay in holding Annual General Meeting of **AL-AKSHA DEVELOPERS (PVT) LIMITED** for the calendar years 2022, 2023 and 2024 and to give necessary direction for holding the said meeting within a reasonable time. Upon hearing of the application on 23-06-2025 the Hon'ble Company Judge **Mr. Justice Ahmed Sohel** has been pleased to admit the said application. If you are interested to oppose the said application you may appear before the Hon'ble Court either in person or through an advocate on or before the date fixed for hearing. Copy of the application may be obtained from the undersigned on payment of necessary cost.
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LEGAL NOTICE
IN THE SUPREME COURT OF BANGLADESH
HIGH COURT DIVISION
(STATUTORY ORIGINAL JURISDICTION)
COMPANY MATTER NO 966 OF 2025
IN THE MATTER OF: An application under Sections-81(2), 85(3) & 183 read with Section 396 of the Companies Act, 1994. **AND**
IN THE MATTER OF: Md. Rezwana Selim, son of Md. Selim and Habeeba Selim, Shareholder and Managing Director of Softex Sweater Industries (Pvt.) Ltd. of Concord I-K Tower, (Level-6), Plot No. 2, Block-CEN (A), North Avenue, Gulshan-2, Dhaka, Bangladesh. **-----Petitioner**
-VERSUS-
Softex Sweater Industries (Pvt.) Ltd. of Concord I-K Tower, (Level-6), Plot No. 2, Block-CEN (A), North Avenue, Gulshan-2, Dhaka, Bangladesh and The Registrar, Joint Stock Companies and Firms, TCB Bhaban (6th Floor), 1, Kawran Bazar, Dhaka. **-----Respondents**
Take notice that an application under Sections-81(2), 85(3) & 183 read with Section 396 of the Companies Act, 1994 was filed before the Hon'ble High Court Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh on behalf of the above named Petitioner for condonation of delay in holding Annual General Meeting of **Softex Sweater Industries (Pvt.) Ltd.** for the calendar years 2022, 2023, 2024 and 2025 and to give necessary direction for holding the said meeting within a reasonable time. Upon hearing of the application on 23-06-2025 the Hon'ble Company Judge **Mr. Justice Ahmed Sohel** has been pleased to admit the said application. If you are interested to oppose the said application you may appear before the Hon'ble Court either in person or through an advocate on or before the date fixed for hearing. Copy of the application may be obtained from the undersigned on payment of necessary cost.
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Room No. 351 (Main), Supreme Court Bar Association Bhaban, Shahbagh, Dhaka-1000. Mobile: 01913391551

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e-Tender Notice No-03/2024-2025 (LTM)

e-Tenders are hereby invited in the National e-GP Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the Procurement of the Works stated as below:

Sl. No	Package No. & Ref No.	Tender ID	Tender Publishing Date & Time	Tender Documents Last selling (Date & Time)	Tender Closing & Opening (Date & Time)
1	e-GP/ZPG/REV/24-25/P-022 APP ID-204105	Tender ID-1127344	09-Jul-2025 15:00	27-Jul-2025 10:30	27-Jul-2025 15:30
2	e-GP/ZPG/REV/24-25/P-023 APP ID-204105	Tender ID-1127345	09-Jul-2025 15:00	27-Jul-2025 10:30	27-Jul-2025 15:30
3	e-GP/ZPG/REV/24-25/P-024 APP ID-204105	Tender ID-1127346	09-Jul-2025 15:00	27-Jul-2025 10:30	27-Jul-2025 15:30
4	e-GP/ZPG/REV/24-25/P-025 APP ID-204105	Tender ID-1127347	09-Jul-2025 15:00	27-Jul-2025 10:30	27-Jul-2025 15:30
5	e-GP/ZPG/REV/24-25/P-026 APP ID-204105	Tender ID-1127348	09-Jul-2025 15:00	27-Jul-2025 10:30	27-Jul-2025 15:30
6	e-GP/ZPG/REV/24-25/P-027 APP ID-204105	Tender ID-1127349	09-Jul-2025 15:00	27-Jul-2025 10:30	27-Jul-2025 15:30
7	e-GP/ZPG/REV/24-25/P-028 APP ID-204105	Tender ID-1127350	09-Jul-2025 15:00	27-Jul-2025 10:30	27-Jul-2025 15:30
8	e-GP/ZPG/REV/24-25/P-029 APP ID-204105	Tender ID-1127351	09-Jul-2025 15:00	27-Jul-2025 10:30	27-Jul-2025 15:30
9	e-GP/ZPG/REV/24-25/P-030 APP ID-204105	Tender ID-1127352	09-Jul-2025 15:00	27-Jul-2025 10:30	27-Jul-2025 15:30
10	e-GP/ZPG/REV/24-25/P-031 APP ID-204105	Tender ID-1127353	09-Jul-2025 15:00	27-Jul-2025 10:30	27-Jul-2025 15:30
11	e-GP/ZPG/REV/24-25/P-032 APP ID-204105	Tender ID-1127354	09-Jul-2025 15:00	27-Jul-2025 10:30	27-Jul-2025 15:30
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13	e-GP/ZPG/REV/24-25/P-034 APP ID-204105	Tender ID-1127356	09-Jul-2025 15:00	27-Jul-2025 10:30	27-Jul-2025 15:30
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16	e-GP/ZPG/REV/24-25/P-037 APP ID-204105	Tender ID-1127359	09-Jul-2025 15:00	27-Jul-2025 10:30	27-Jul-2025 15:30
17	e-GP/ZPG/REV/24-25/P-038 APP ID-204105	Tender ID-1127360	09-Jul-2025 15:00	27-Jul-2025 10:30	27-Jul-2025 15:30
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1. This is an online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP portal and no offline/hard copy will be accepted.
2. To submit e-Tender, Registration in the National e-GP system portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required.
3. 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 as per mentioned date.
Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP system portal and e-GP Helpdesk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).
The Procuring Entity reserves the right to accept or reject any or all Tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.

09.07.2025
Md Monir Hossain
Assistant Engineer
Zila Parishad, Gazipur
Tel: 02-49261687

GD-1551