

‘Focus more on developing economy and industrial base’

Say speakers; Greater M’singh Samity honours 181 for excellence in various sectors

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Greater Mymensingh Samity Dhaka yesterday honoured eminent individuals from six districts of the greater Mymensingh region for their outstanding contributions across various sectors.

The event, held at the Officers Club on Bailey Road in Dhaka, celebrated achievements across a wide range of fields. Freedom fighter Abdus Salam, president of the Greater Mymensingh Samity Dhaka and adviser to the BNP chairperson, presided over the programme.

“Through this felicitation, we are not only honouring these individuals, we are also sending a message to future

SEE PAGE 9 COL 4



A section of awardees at a programme organised by the Greater Mymensingh Samity Dhaka yesterday. The event was held to honour eminent individuals from six districts of the greater Mymensingh region for their outstanding contributions across various sectors.

PHOTO: STAR

40 acres of WDB land grabbed in Ctg

Grabbers include former lawmaker, ex-CCC mayor; WDB to start eviction drive soon

SIFAYET ULLAH

An influential group has allegedly occupied around 40 acres of land belonging to the Water Development Board (WDB) in Chattogram's Kattali and Halishahar areas, constructing various types of structures and disrupting the land's intended use for forestation.

According to WDB documents obtained by The Daily Star, the occupied land now houses a stadium, truck terminals, garages, and tin shed structures.

The list of alleged encroachers includes former Chattogram City Corporation (CCC) mayor Mohammad Manjur Alam, his nephew and former member of parliament Didarul Alam, former CCC councillor Nisar Uddin Ahmed Manju, Abu Hashem, and several others.

During a recent visit to the area, this

correspondent observed that a mini stadium – formerly named Sheikh Russel Mini Stadium – was constructed in 2021 on WDB land acquired by the agency in 1970. Truck terminals and garages were also seen on adjacent land.



Jamal Uddin, a local garage owner, said the lands along the Patenga Outer Ring Road gradually turned into truck terminals and garages after the road opened in 2022, as port-centric traffic increased along the route.

As per the WDB list, former mayor Manjur Alam built a mini stadium, former Awami League lawmaker Didarul Alam allegedly occupied seven acres to establish a vehicle terminal, and former CCC councillor Nisar Uddin Ahmed



Manju reportedly constructed vehicle garages on about one acre of land.

Asked about the construction, Manjur Alam said, “I acquired it from the person who was occupying it and built a

SEE PAGE 9 COL 2

Yunus sending Haribhanga mangoes to Modi

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Chief Adviser Prof Muhammad Yunus is sending the famous Haribhanga mangoes to Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi, a gesture seen as a sign of the interim government's willingness to normalise ties with its largest neighbour.

“One thousand kilogrammes of Haribhanga mangoes are being sent to New Delhi. We have prepared the list of dignitaries from the Indian Prime Minister's Office, diplomats, and other officials,” an official of the Bangladesh High Commission told The Daily Star last night.

“We hoped to deliver the mangoes to the dignitaries concerned in a day or two,” the official added.

Besides Modi, the interim government is also sending mangoes to West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee and Tripura Chief Minister Manik Saha.

SEE PAGE 9 COL 6



Internal letter misinterpreted as complaint against police

ISPR clarifies

STAR REPORT

The Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) yesterday issued a clarification regarding the recent circulation of an internal Army Headquarters letter on social media, which has been misrepresented by some quarters as a complaint against the police.

In a press release, the ISPR said the letter in question was an administrative communication seeking information about incidents where army personnel were allegedly harassed by members of the police.

It was prepared solely in response to a request from the National Independent Inquiry Commission formed to investigate the 2009 BDR carnage in Pilkhana.

To avoid any misinterpretation or unintended consequences, Army

SEE PAGE 9 COL 2

‘Direct polls to reserved seats for women in JS’ Speakers demand at rally



UNB, Dhaka

Women's rights activists yesterday demanded direct elections to the reserved seats for women in the Jatiya Sangsad, urging political parties to ensure meaningful representation and end the system of nomination that often sidelines women's leadership.

The call came from a rally and public gathering held at the Central Shaheed Minar, organised by Bangladesh Mahila Parishad.

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‘Dhaka Tower’ lies abandoned for 8 years

FROM PAGE 3
Ministry of Local Government. More troublingly, the original design was reportedly altered without following due process.

Following these revelations, the Ministry of Local Government halted funding in 2016. Since then, construction has come to a standstill, and critical project documents have mysteriously gone missing from the Dhaka Zilla Parishad office.

Rajuk's Chief Town Planner Ashraf Islam said, “To my knowledge, this building does not have any approval. However, if they now follow the proper procedure and submit a fresh application, and if the building is deemed usable, then we can discuss the matter in a board meeting.”

When The Daily Star visited the site on July 1, security guards denied entry, saying prior permission was required. From outside, this

correspondent observed algae growing across sections of the neglected structure, with visible signs of decay due to lack of maintenance. Four security guards are currently stationed at the site.

According to the project brief, the ministry was to finance 30 percent of the construction, while the remaining 70 percent would be covered in advance payments. One floor was earmarked for the Zilla Parishad's office, with

the remainder planned for shops, a community centre, and chambers for legal professionals.

However, ministry officials said the project never underwent a feasibility study, a mandatory requirement for large-scale constructions, especially in congested Old Dhaka. They also noted that no approval was sought from the Local Government Engineering Department (LGED), which is mandatory for projects exceeding Tk 50 lakh.

“There is no clarity on how the project's budget was fixed at Tk 160 crore, and no proper justification was documented,” said one ministry official, requesting anonymity.

Sources said the Zilla Parishad had collected approximately Tk 60 crore in advanced payments from businesspeople who booked space in the building. These investors are now left in the lurch.

“I've lost money, and I don't know if this building will ever be completed,” said one investor, also requesting anonymity due to fear of repercussions.

The construction firm,

Toma Construction Ltd, reportedly received Tk 60 crore in payments but is still owed around Tk 65 crore.

Meanwhile, the disappearance of original project files has raised serious concerns. Officials claimed a syndicate involving members of both the Zilla Parishad and the Local Government Ministry orchestrated the removal of documents. Those who served in key positions between 2010 and 2016 are believed to have knowledge of the incident.

Notably, Hasina Doula, then president of the Savar Upazila Awami League, served as administrator of the Dhaka Zilla Parishad during that period.

Chief Executive Officer of Dhaka Zilla Parishad Md Mamun Khandaker confirmed that project documents had indeed gone missing. However, no formal complaint or general diary was filed with the police.

“We've written to the ministry, urging measures to protect the building from encroachment. We've also retrieved a copy of the original design from LGED and requested the Anti-Corruption Commission to investigate the irregularities,” he told The Daily Star.

An LGED survey found the building structurally usable, though with some conditions, he added.

Man robbed, stripped by muggers

FROM PAGE 3

Station, confirmed the incident. He said the police have contacted the victim and asked him to visit the station to file a complaint.

The incident took place on Road 2 in Shyamoli around 6:00am. “We are reviewing CCTV footage to identify and apprehend the culprits,” the OC said.

The video shows that around 6:00am, a man was walking with an umbrella when three individuals on a motorcycle approached him from behind. One of them



PHOTO: SCREENGAB

got off the bike behind him, while the other two blocked his path. Of the three, two were wearing helmets and one was shirtless.

Brandishing machetes and sharp weapons, the

two muggers then forcibly took everything the man was carrying, including cash. They also stripped him of his shirt and shoes before fleeing the scene on the motorcycle.

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বিজ্ঞপ্তি

বাণিজ্যিক গুরুত্বপূর্ণ ব্যক্তি (শিল্প)-২০২৫ নির্বাচন

বাণিজ্যিক গুরুত্বপূর্ণ ব্যক্তি (শিল্প) নির্বাচন নীতিমালা-২০২৪ অনুযায়ী “সিআইপি (শিল্প)-২০২৫” নির্বাচনের লক্ষ্যে জাতীয় শিল্পনীতি-২০২২ এ প্রদত্ত সংজ্ঞানুযায়ী বৃহৎ শিল্প (উৎপাদন ও সেবা), মাঝারি শিল্প (উৎপাদন ও সেবা), ক্ষুদ্র শিল্প (উৎপাদন ও সেবা), হাইটেক শিল্প, লজিস্টিকস খাত, পর্যটন খাত, মাইক্রো শিল্প ও কুটির শিল্প-এর আগ্রহীরা কোন একক শিল্প প্রতিষ্ঠানের স্বত্বাধিকারী, লিমিটেড কোম্পানির ক্ষেত্রে চেয়ারম্যান অথবা কোম্পানি পরিচালনা পর্ষদ কর্তৃক যথাযথভাবে মনোনীত কোন উদ্যোক্তা পরিচালক এবং পার্টনারশিপ ফর্মের ক্ষেত্রে শিল্প প্রতিষ্ঠানের ব্যবস্থাপনা অংশীদার এর নিকট হতে নির্ধারিত ফরমে আবেদন আহ্বান করা যাচ্ছে।

২। আবেদনকারীকে অবশ্যই বাংলাদেশি নাগরিক হতে হবে। আগ্রহী আবেদনকারীগণকে শিল্প মন্ত্রণালয়ের ওয়েবসাইট www.moind.gov.bd হতে নির্ধারিত আবেদন ফরম সংগ্রহ করে পূরণকৃত ফরমে প্রদত্ত তথ্যের যথাযথ প্রমাণকসহ আগামী ১৫.০৭.২০২৫ তারিখ হতে ১৫.০৮.২০২৫ তারিখের মধ্যে অফিস চলাকালীন শিল্প মন্ত্রণালয়ের বিএসইসি শাখায় (কক্ষ নং-৫৩২) সরাসরি/ডাকযোগে প্রেরণ করতে হবে। নির্ধারিত তারিখ ও সময়ের পরে কোন আবেদন গ্রহণ করা হবে না। অসম্পূর্ণ আবেদন বাতিল বলে গণ্য হবে।

৩। বাণিজ্যিক গুরুত্বপূর্ণ ব্যক্তি (শিল্প) নির্বাচন নীতিমালা-২০২৪ অনুযায়ী শেয়ার কেলেংকারির সাথে জড়িত, ঋণখেলাপি, করখেলাপি, বৌজদারি মামলায় সাজাপ্রাপ্ত এবং সাজা ভোগের পর পাঁচ বছর অতিবাহিত হয়নি এমন কোন ব্যক্তি; বিগত পাঁচ বছরের মধ্যে কোন শিল্প প্রতিষ্ঠানকে যদি সরকারের রাজস্ব হীকির কোন ঘটনায় জরিমানা করা হয়, তাহলে উক্ত প্রতিষ্ঠানের প্রতিনিধি এবং কোন শিল্প প্রতিষ্ঠানের বেতনভুক্ত কর্মকর্তা সিআইপি (শিল্প) নির্বাচনের লক্ষ্যে আবেদন করতে পারবেন না।

৪। আবেদনকারীকে অবশ্যই ‘বাণিজ্যিক গুরুত্বপূর্ণ ব্যক্তি (শিল্প)’ নির্বাচন নীতিমালা-২০২৪ ও ‘জাতীয় শিল্পনীতি-২০২২’ অনুসরণ করতে হবে। এ ক্ষেত্রে কোনো ব্যত্যয় ঘটলে আবেদন বাতিল বলে গণ্য হবে। আবেদনকারী তার আবেদনপত্রে কোন মিথ্যা বা অসত্য তথ্য প্রদান করলে বাণিজ্যিক গুরুত্বপূর্ণ ব্যক্তি (শিল্প) নির্বাচন নীতিমালা-২০২৪ এর ৫(৩) মোতাবেক আবেদনকারী পরবর্তী ৩ (তিন) বছর সিআইপি (শিল্প) নির্বাচনের জন্য আবেদন করতে পারবেন না।

৫। আবেদনপত্র জমাদানের পর আবেদনপত্রে উল্লিখিত তথ্যাবলীর পরিমার্জন/সংযোজন/বিরোজন সংক্রান্ত কোন আবেদন গ্রহণ করা হবেনা।

৬। প্রাপ্ত আবেদনের বিষয়ে শিল্প মন্ত্রণালয়ের সিআইপি (শিল্প) নির্বাচন সংক্রান্ত বাছাই কমিটির সিদ্ধান্ত চূড়ান্ত বলে গণ্য হবে।

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Office of the Executive Engineer Lalmohirhat WD Division, BWDB, Lalmohirhat Phone: 0258996856 E-mail: xen.lalmonirhat@gmail.com, xen.lalmonirhat@bwdb.gov.bd

Memo No. 42.01.5200.166.07.004.25-1165 Date: 10-07-2025

e-Tender Notice No. Lal-01/2025-26

An e-Tender package has been invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the Procurement of the following works.

Sl. No.	Tender ID	Package No. (Lot No.) & description	Location of the works	Tender document last selling date & time	Tender closing & opening date & time
1	1131150	Lal/Outsourcing/24-25 Selection of Outsourcing Manpower Supply Firm for engaging of Driver (Vehicle) 01 No. Security Guard (Chowkider) 2 Nos. Cleaner = 02 Nos. Get Operator 05 Nos. and Khalashi = 03 Nos. (Total 13 Nos.) for Lalmohirhat WD Division, BWDB, Lalmohirhat by Outsourcing Process during the year 2025-26 & 2026-27	Lalmohirhat	27/07/2025 & 10:00	27/07/2025 & 12:00

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Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd) (01762652528-31) (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>).

পানি-৬২/২০২৫-২০২৬ (৭)খত
Shunil Kumar
Executive Engineer
Lalmohirhat WD Division
BWDB, Lalmohirhat

জিডি-১৫৬৬