

Women fishers left in the shadows

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transport are often prohibitive, which led to serious social consequences, including increased domestic conflicts, separations, emotional abuse, and early school dropouts, which in turn contribute to early marriages.

Additionally, 57 percent of women fisherfolk remain excluded from social safety net programmes, while key policies such as the Jalmahal Policy and Fisherfolk Guideline largely overlook their gender-specific vulnerabilities.

Although 63 percent have completed registration, most have yet to receive their ID cards, blocking access to vital aid.

Off-season rice aid disproportionately favours male cardholders, and many women are forced to pay fees of Tk 3,000 to Tk 3,500 to obtain VGD cards.

Furthermore, 53 percent report never having received any government or administrative support, exposing significant unfulfilled promises and misaligned interventions.

Samara recommended strengthening the economic resilience of women fisherfolk by forming cooperatives with access to revolving funds, providing market-relevant skills training, and ensuring universal issuance of fisherfolk ID cards.

She urged improvements in social protection through a simplified and transparent ID registration process, the creation of gender-specific safety nets, and expanded access to affordable credit to reduce dependence on exploitative lenders.

She advocated for local health camps, support for rainwater harvesting, and the removal of barriers to healthcare access,

while emphasising the need to embed women's representation and priorities into fisheries, climate, and governance policies to achieve a gender-responsive transformation.

At the seminar, widow Farida Begum from Chila union in Monga, Bagerhat, who has been fishing for 40 years, showing her hands, said, "Look at our hands – whatever work men do, we do the same. We catch fish, steer boats, and our hands are marked with stains and scars. If male fishers get support, why shouldn't we?"

"Those who don't work, how do they get help? We operate boats, get soaked in saltwater, and face tigers in the forest and alligators in the waterbodies to feed our children. Yet, the government provides us with neither food nor water tanks."

"If our names aren't on government records, I urge the government to remove women fishers like me from this earth altogether," she said.

Human rights activist Zakia Shishir stressed that discrimination stems from ingrained mindsets rather than policies alone.

"When we say 'fisherman' or 'jele', how many of us picture a woman? The real bias lies within our mindsets, not just in policies," she said.

She criticised policy-making detached from lived realities, calling for local contexts to be factored in and for women's voices to be formally recognised so they can claim their rights effectively.

Zakia criticised how policies are often made by officials detached from the realities of fisherfolk, rarely involving the actual beneficiaries.

She stressed the importance of considering local geographical

differences for effective policy implementation.

Calling for formal recognition of women's work, she pointed out that women face compounded oppression from both social norms and patriarchy.

Badabon Sangho's Executive Director Lipi Rahman echoed the need for formal recognition, stating that many remain unaware of women fisherfolk's contributions, leading to neglect of their rights.

Department of Fisheries Deputy Director Firoz Ahmed acknowledged that after the district-level ID card project ended, the department has struggled to maintain ID card issuance.

While a recent project provided some cards through a vendor, many registered fishers remain without them, he said.

Shahajadi Begum, project coordinator at Oxfam, suggested expanding the scope of definition and registration coverage to explicitly include more female fisherfolk.

She also emphasised the need to provide women-friendly alternative livelihood options using local resources, especially for those involved in catching fish fry, as many of these women lack skills for other types of work.

Speaking as chief guest, Dr Md Abdur Rouf, director general of DoF, assured that the definition of fishers will be revised to explicitly include women, as the 2016-17 registration guidelines currently omit specific mention of female fishers.

Illegal fishers are also being removed from the registration list, while genuine fishers are newly included.

In the past six months, 37,910 fishers have been newly registered, and 23,644 registrations have been cancelled, he shared.

Lawyers scuffle

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Khairul Haque while Deputy Attorney Generals (DAGs) Md Rasel Ahammad and Md Imran Khan and Assistant Attorney Generals (AAGs) Md Uzzal Hossain, Muhammad Safwan and Md Jasim Uddin represented the state.

Advocate MK Rahman placed the petition of Khairul Haque before the bench for hearing.

DAG Rasel Ahmed sought one-week time from the court for hearing, saying that Attorney General Md Asaduzzaman will place arguments on behalf of the state.

MK Rahman prayed to the HC to hold hearing of the petition, saying the AG can place arguments after the HC issues a rule on the matter.

DAG Rasel again urged the HC not to hear the mater this week.

Mohsen Rashid, also Khairul's lawyer, asked DAG Rasel not to dictate the court, saying that Khairul Haque has been humiliated at the court premises.

"All lawyers present here had appeared before the court of Justice Khairul Haque while he was in service. Insulting the judges has become a trend in South Asia," said Rashid.

A government-backed lawyer told the court that Khairul Haque is responsible for ruining the judiciary and killing around 1,500 people.

A few lawyers supporting Khairul Haque opposed this statement by shouting. Soon, more lawyers sitting in the court joined in and a scuffle ensued, despite the HC judges repeatedly requested them to calm down.

Finally, order returned after Justice Md Zakir Hossain said this court will hold hearing of the petition at 11:00am next Sunday.

HC upholds life term for two former cops

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Tk 50,000 as a fine to the state, said defence lawyer Md Abdur Razzak Razu.

Police informer Russell, sentenced earlier to seven years in jail, was acquitted. Another informer, Sumon, who had also received a seven-year sentence, has already served his term.

Delivering the verdict on the appeals of three convicted accused, the court said documents and evidence, including inquest and post-mortem reports, proved that Jonny, an innocent young man, was illegally detained and brutally tortured to death by police in custody.

As a state institution, the police cannot avoid responsibility for the illegal detention, inhuman torture, and death, the

court observed.

The court also said the fact that there were 86 police personnel present at Pallabi Police Station during the incident, none of whom reported it to higher authorities, showed a complete collapse of internal supervision, monitoring, and accountability.

The bench of Justice SM Kuddus Zaman and Justice AKM Rabiul Hassan delivered the verdict after hearing the appeals.

Jonny's younger brother, Imtiaz Hossain Rocky, told The Daily Star that he was satisfied with the upholding of Zahidur's life sentence but expressed concern for his safety following the commutation of another sentence and the acquittal of Russell.

"I was already living in fear and panic. Now that one accused has been acquitted, I don't know what will happen," he said.

Jonny's mother Khurshida Begum said she was satisfied with the verdict but urged the state to take responsibility for Jonny's two children and provide them with compensation.

According to the case statement, police informers Sumon and Russell called law enforcers after Jonny slapped Sumon for stalking and harassing women at a wedding programme in Pallabi's Irani Camp area.

Then, a team of 25-26 police officers, including Zahidur, raided a house and detained Jonny and Rocky on February 8, 2014. Afterwards, the two were


tortured at Pallabi Police Station.

The next day, Jonny fell ill and was taken to a local clinic before being transferred to Shaheed Suhrawardy Medical College and Hospital, where doctors declared him dead.

Rocky filed the murder case with the Metropolitan Sessions Judge's Court in Dhaka on August 8, 2014.

On September 9, 2020, a Dhaka court sentenced Zahidur, Qamaruzzaman, and Rashedul to life imprisonment and informers Sumon and Russell to seven years in jail.

Qamaruzzaman remains on the run, while Russell, who had been absconding during the trial court verdict, later surrendered.



**West Zone Power Distribution Co. Ltd.**  
(An Enterprise of Bangladesh Power Dev. Board)  
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Bidyut Bhaban, 35, Boyra Main Road, Khulna  
Gmail: [wz.procurement@gmail.com](mailto:wz.procurement@gmail.com), Wave Address: [www.wzpdcl.gov.bd](http://www.wzpdcl.gov.bd)

Memo No. 27.22.4785.010.74.002.25/2089

Date: 10.08.2025

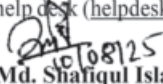
**e-Tender Notice (NCT)**

e-Tender for the office of the Superintending Engineer (P&S) invites in the National e-GP System Portal ([www.eprocure.gov.bd](http://www.eprocure.gov.bd)) for the procurement of following goods:


SL	Tender ID	Name of tender	Last selling and closing date & time
1	1138400	Construction of 33kV New Line from 33/11kV Sub-Station, Wzpdcl, Charfasion, Bhola to PGCB Grid Sub-Station, Charfasion, Bhola.	01-Sep-2025 15:30; BST 02-Sep-2025 15:00; BST

This is an online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP System Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted.  
To submit e-Tender, registration required in the National e-GP System Portal ([www.eprocure.gov.bd](http://www.eprocure.gov.bd)).  
The fees for downloading the e-Tender documents from the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through any registered bank.  
Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and e-GP help desk ([helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd](mailto:helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd)).

GD-1768



**Engr. Md. Shafiqul Islam**  
Superintending Engineer (P&S)  
WZPDCL, Khulna



**বাংলাদেশ বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় মঞ্জুরী কমিশন**  
University Grants Commission of Bangladesh  
আগারগাঁও, শেরে বাংলা নগর, ঢাকা-১২০৭  
website: [www.ugc.gov.bd](http://www.ugc.gov.bd)

স্মারক নং- ইউজিসি/প্রশাঃ/১২১(১২)/২০১৮/ ২৩১৭

তারিখ: ২৭ শ্রাবণ ১৪৩২  
১১ আগস্ট ২০২৫


**“নিয়োগ বিজ্ঞপ্তি”**

বাংলাদেশ বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় মঞ্জুরী কমিশন এর নিম্নবর্ণিত শূন্য পদসমূহে নিয়োগের উদ্দেশ্যে প্রকৃত বাংলাদেশী যোগ্য নাগরিকদের নিকট হইতে আবেদনপত্র আহ্বান করা যাইতেছে :


ক্রমিক নং	পদের নাম ও বেতন স্কেল	পদ সংখ্যা	বয়স
১।	সহকারী সচিব/সহকারী পরিচালক, বেতন স্কেল : ২২০০০-৫৩০৬০/- (৯ম গ্রেড)	১৫ (পনের)	অনুর্ধ্ব ৩২ বছর
২।	একাউন্টস অফিসার, বেতন স্কেল : ২২০০০-৫৩০৬০/- (৯ম গ্রেড)	০১ (এক)	অনুর্ধ্ব ৩২ বছর
৩।	বাজেট অফিসার, বেতন স্কেল : ২২০০০-৫৩০৬০/- (৯ম গ্রেড)	০১ (এক)	অনুর্ধ্ব ৩২ বছর
৪।	অডিট অফিসার, বেতন স্কেল : ২২০০০-৫৩০৬০/- (গ্রেড-৯ম)	০১ (এক)	অনুর্ধ্ব ৩২ বছর
৫।	সহকারী প্রকৌশলী (সিভিল), বেতন স্কেল : ২২০০০-৫৩০৬০/- (গ্রেড- ৯ম)	০১ (এক)	অনুর্ধ্ব ৩২ বছর
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৭।	সহকারী প্রকৌশলী (মেকানিক্যাল), বেতন স্কেল : ২২০০০-৫৩০৬০/- (গ্রেড- ৯ম)	০১ (এক)	অনুর্ধ্ব ৩২ বছর
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নির্ধারিত ছকে চাহিত তথ্য ও কাগজপত্র প্রদানসহ আগ্রহী প্রার্থীদের পৃথক আবেদনপত্র কমিশনের সচিব বরাবরে ডাকযোগে অথবা সরাসরি আগামী ১১-০৯-২০২৫ তারিখ পর্যন্ত অফিস চলাকালীন সময়ের মধ্যে বাংলাদেশ বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় মঞ্জুরী কমিশন, আগারগাঁও, শেরে বাংলা নগর, ঢাকা- ১২০৭ ঠিকানায় পৌছাইতে হইবে। আবেদনপত্র দাখিল সংক্রান্ত তথ্য ছক, শর্তাবলী ও প্রয়োজনীয় বিজ্ঞারিত নির্দেশনা সংবলিত পূর্ণাঙ্গ নিয়োগ বিজ্ঞপ্তি কমিশনের ওয়েবসাইট [www.ugc.gov.bd](http://www.ugc.gov.bd) এর “ডাউনলোড” নামক সেবা বক্সের চাকুরি বিজ্ঞপ্তি লিংক হইতে সংগ্রহ করা যাইবে। নির্ধারিত তারিখ ও সময়ের পরে প্রাপ্ত আবেদনপত্র গ্রহণ করা হইবে না। বাংলাদেশ বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় মঞ্জুরী কমিশন কর্তৃপক্ষ অসম্পূর্ণ/অসত্য তথ্য সংবলিত আবেদনপত্রসহ যে কোনো আবেদনপত্র বাতিল করিবার ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করেন।

GD-1765



**ড. মোঃ ফখরুল ইসলাম**  
সচিব




**Request for Expressions of Interest (National)**  
**Selection of Individual Consultant – 01 Position**

56.83.0000.006.11.001.25.824

Date: 11 August, 2025

GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH		
1	Ministry/Division	Information & Communication Technology (ICT) Division
2	Agency	Aspire to Innovate (a2i) Programme
3	Client Name	Project Director, Aspire to Innovate Programme
4	Client Code	Not used at present
5	Client District	Dhaka
6	Expression of Interest for Selection of	1. Consultant (Data & SDG) – 1 position
7	EOI Ref No	56.83.0000.006.11.001.25.
8	Date	11 August, 2025
KEY INFORMATION FUNDING INFORMATION		
9	Source of Funds	Development Budget and Government of Bangladesh.
10	Development Partners (if applicable)	UNDP
PARTICULAR INFORMATION		
11	Project / Programme Code (if applicable)	223038900
12	Project / Programme Name (if applicable)	Aspire to Innovate (a2i) Programme
	Date	Time
13	EOI Closing Date and Time	27 August, 2025 11.45 AM (BST)
INFORMATION FOR APPLICANT		
14	Brief Description of Assignment	Selection of the 1. Consultant (Data & SDG) – 1 position  <b>For detail Terms of Reference (TOR) please visit:</b> <a href="https://a2i.portal.gov.bd/site/view/jobs/-">https://a2i.portal.gov.bd/site/view/jobs/-</a>
15	Qualification and Experience	<b>Academic Qualification &amp; Years of Experience:</b> • As per Terms of Reference (TOR)
16	Other Details (if applicable)	Aspire to Innovate Programme invites the interested eligible applicants to indicate their interest in providing the services in accordance with the Terms of References (ToR) provided in RFA. This shall require confirmation through submission of application forms and other documents described in the Request for Application (RFA).  Expression of interest shall be submitted by <b>11:45 am (BST), 27 August, 2025</b> via email ( <a href="mailto:recruitment@a2i.gov.bd">recruitment@a2i.gov.bd</a> ) or <b>hardcopy</b> .  Interested applicants are required to submit their Expression of Interest in accordance with the <b>application form (email or Hard Copy)</b> which may be obtained (RFA) from the Aspire to Innovate Programme website: <a href="https://a2i.portal.gov.bd/site/view/jobs/-">https://a2i.portal.gov.bd/site/view/jobs/-</a> or ICT Division website: <a href="https://ictd.gov.bd">https://ictd.gov.bd</a> or Bangladesh Public Procurement Authority (BPPA) website: <a href="http://www.cptu.gov.bd">www.cptu.gov.bd</a> Applicants may also obtain RFA document through email. Please send your request to: <a href="mailto:recruitment@a2i.gov.bd">recruitment@a2i.gov.bd</a> .  For those who are to submit hard copy, a box will be kept in 13th floor of ICT Tower, a2i Office, Agargaon Dhaka to submit application & necessary documents.  Consultants will be selected following PPA-2006 and PPR-2008. It is expected that the services will commence in <b>September 2025</b> .  For query, please contact: <b>Mohammad Arifur Rahman, HR Officer</b> Address: Aspire to Innovate (a2i) Programme, 13th floor, ICT Tower, Agargaon, Dhaka-1207, Bangladesh Telephone No.: 9144848 Ext. 132, Mobile no. +88 01841030208
CLIENT DETAILS		
17	Name of Official Inviting EOI	Md. Rashidul Mannaf Kabir
18	Designation of Official Inviting EOI	Joint Secretary & Project Director (Additional Responsibility), Aspire to Innovate Programme
19	Address of Official Inviting EOI	Information & Communication Technology (ICT) Division ICT Tower, E-14/X, Agargaon, Dhaka-1207
20	Contact details of Official Inviting EOI	Tel. No. 88025500693 1-34 Fax No. 88025500 6936 e-mail <a href="mailto:pd@a2i.gov.bd">pd@a2i.gov.bd</a>
21	The Client reserves the right to reject all EOI's	

GD-1769



**Md. Rashidul Mannaf Kabir**  
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Project Director (Additional Responsibility),  
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