

Promises on paper, pollution in reality

FROM PAGE 1

ministry has initiated three projects to save three rivers – Sutang in Habiganj, Haridhoa in Narsingdi and Labandaha in Gazipur – under the Bangladesh Climate Change Trust Fund. The water resources ministry has approved a large volume of emergency work to protect riverbanks in just two months.

The ministry also drew up a list of 1,294 rivers in Bangladesh.

The long-awaited Teesta River project has finally taken off with a Chinese company about to complete its fieldwork, which will help determine what needs to be done under the project. According to the initial plans, it will curb bank erosion, reclaim land and store floodwater for use during the dry season.

In August last year, soon after taking office, Rizwana told The Daily Star that she would select one river in each division to rid them of pollution and encroachment. In subsequent public speeches, she had vowed to go after businesses that pollute rivers. She had been especially vocal against the factories that release untreated industrial waste into the river systems.

But nothing of substance has been visible till now.

All the rivers around Dhaka city, including the Buriganga, Turag, Shitalakkhya, Dhaleshwari and Balu, are still as polluted as before. In the last one year, her ministry could only prepare a plan to revive 63 rivers in 63 districts.

Although Rizwana wishes to ensure a fair share, negotiations about 54 transboundary rivers remain uncertain.

Forest land recovery from forcible occupation also remains a major challenge. Over 1.60 lakh individuals and organisations occupy

2.57 lakh acres (more than three times the area of undivided Dhaka city) of forest land across 28 districts, according to a forest department report of 2021. Of that, 31,615 acres were recovered between October 2020 and July 2024. The interim government has recovered over 5,000 acres in the last year.

A release from the environment and forest ministry said that besides cancelling numerous projects with allotment of forest land, which in turn saved 11,000 forest land from encroachment, the forest department had taken an initiative to revive three forests – Modhupur Sal Forest, Chunati Forest and Sherpur Forest.

Smaller initiatives include banning the invasive acacia and eucalyptus trees, reintroduction of the extinct native peafowl, and conservation of other species like sambars, capped langurs and hoolock gibbons.

Also, the plan for a safari park in Lathitila of Moulvibazar has been scrapped as the ministry didn't find it feasible. Meanwhile, plans are underway to establish a sanctuary for captive elephants in Chunati, Cox's Bazar.

The forest department, however, could not improve its record on protecting wild elephants. At least 11 elephants were killed by poachers and villagers in Chattogram over the past year. In the last 10 years, more than 100 elephants were killed by villagers, according to forest department data.

While there has been some progress in monitoring pollution, the ministry has yet to enforce concrete, long-term measures to combat Dhaka's air pollution, which remains among the worst in the world.

Ministry officials say

they have developed plans for national air quality management. They say 830 illegal brick kilns were demolished in the last one year. They have also shut down 18 unauthorised lead factories.

Brick kilns, however, continue to operate on Dhaka's outskirts, contributing to the city's air pollution.

When pointed out that the 80,000 diesel-run buses and trucks still ply the streets further worsening pollution in Dhaka, Rizwana said vehicles are regulated by the transport ministry and that environment ministry is trying to coordinate with the transport ministry to limit old vehicles.

Bangladesh was the first country to ban polythene shopping bags in 2002. Since then, officials have been conducting occasional drives against polybags. But the production, marketing, and sales of single-use polythene shopping bags never stopped. The interim government's efforts to curb plastic use included 748 mobile court drives, collecting Tk 87.6 lakh in fine from 1,397 violators.

More than 292 tonnes of polythene were seized, one individual received a one-month prison sentence, four cases were filed, and seven illegal polythene factories had their power connections severed. There were also certain measures to free the Secretariat from plastic.

Despite all these initiatives, markets remain flooded with single-use polythene bags.

The one clear success has been the temporary ban on tourists to Saint Martin's Island, off the Cox's Bazar coast.

On the other hand, the move to make the airport area a silent zone seems to have fallen flat, even though mobile courts collected fines worth Tk 15.5 lakh and

seized 1,644 horns in 484 cases.

The environment adviser remains positive about giving it a try at least. "If you dismiss something because the initiative was not successful, then nobody will even try to do them," she said.

"Nobody will be able to finish all this work within a year. I never said I could save all the rivers in that time. But I dream of saving them."

Sharif Jamil, member-secretary of a civic platform for environment and climate, DHORA, said his expectation from the ministry was naturally higher than it was for others. He acknowledged that there had been some instances of success on the environment front. But, he explained, from the perspective of the common citizens, the rivers are being grabbed and water being polluted. "There is no sign of improvement so far as forest of biodiversity are concerned."

MAHESHKHALI IN COX'S BAZAR

# Illegal sand extraction poses landslide risk

MOKAMMEL SHUVO, Cox's Bazar

Illegal sand extraction in Maheshkhali, a coastal island upazila in Cox's Bazar, is putting hundreds of hillside residents at risk of landslides, alleged locals.

They claimed political party activists have formed a syndicate extracting 20 to 50 truckloads of sand daily from a site known as "Chaliyati Balur Dale" in Kalamarchhara union.

Despite several drives by the upazila administration, authorities have failed to stop the illegal activity.

Locals said sand extraction intensifies during the monsoon, when rainwater washes sand down from the hills and deposits it in the basin. The syndicate collects and sells the sand, transporting it by truck or dumper to Matarbari, Badarkhali, and other parts of Maheshkhali.

Each truckload reportedly sells for around Tk 2,500.

Md Sajminul Islam, assistant conservator of forests of the Coastal Forest Division in Maheshkhali, admitted sand trafficking from the area.

He said the sand originates from hills under his department's jurisdiction in Mouza-12 and is washed down to the basin by rain.



However, the basin is on khas land (government land not under forest jurisdiction), so the forest department cannot take direct action.

He said the department ensures no one extracts sand directly from

the hills, but residents illegally settled near the basin now face a high risk of landslides due to sand removal.

"These sandy hills have been severely degraded, partly because of houses built illegally and roads constructed through natural water channels," he said. "If the sand extraction stops, erosion from the hills will also reduce."

Abu Bakkar, journalist and general secretary of the Bangladesh Poribesh Andolon's Moheshkhali unit, said, "Although drives are conducted in response to media pressure, traffickers are often tipped off ahead of time, making operations ineffective."

UNO Md Hedayet Ullah said the administration is aware of the issue and has carried out multiple drives against the traffickers.

"I personally led a drive and seized some equipment from the site. Local law enforcement has also been instructed to act," he said.

## ICT-1 records

FROM PAGE 3

he was declared dead, and accused top officials – including ousted prime minister Sheikh Hasina – of ordering the shooting. He named several police officers as the shooters.

Yakub's mother, Rahima Akhter, described the fatal injuries, breaking down as a video of Yakub bleeding was played in court. She and another victim's relative demanded punishment for the killers. The tribunal adjourned witness testimonies until

August 1.

Eight police personnel, including former DMP commissioner Habibur Rahman and others, are accused; four are in custody, while the rest are absconding.

Meanwhile, the International Crimes Tribunal-2 set August 21 to decide whether to frame charges or discharge 16 accused in the killing of seven people at Ashulia during the July uprising. Six victims were set on fire, one still alive at the time.

## Narrow, damaged

FROM PAGE 4

"When we drive the bus along this road, it jolts badly while crossing damaged sections, which harms the vehicle's parts," said Mohammad Shahin, manager of Emad Paribahan in Pirojpur.

Dhaka-bound trucks carrying wooden logs, green coconuts, and other goods also travel this road.

"Sometimes it becomes extremely difficult and risky to make way for vehicles coming from behind or from the opposite direction because the road is so narrow," said trucker Mohammad Ali.

"The road needs to

be widened to double its current width. Otherwise, smooth movement will remain impossible," he added.

Tanvir Ahmed, executive engineer of the Roads and Highways Department (RHD) in Pirojpur, said 29 kilometres of the Pirojpur-Nazirpur-Gopalganj road fall within Pirojpur district and have an average width of 5.5 metres.

"We have sent a proposal to the higher authorities to widen it to 10.3 metres," he said, adding that if approved, they will be able to expand the road, easing the suffering of road users.

## DSCC misses revenue

FROM PAGE 3

crore, with Tk 879.65 crore collected – Tk 362.81 crore short. The 2022-23 target was Tk 1,277 crore, but Tk 1,031.97 crore was realised, leaving a gap of Tk 245.03 crore. In 2023-24, the target was Tk 1,372.37 crore, while Tk 1,061 crore was collected – a Tk 311.37 crore shortfall.

Although revenue collection had been increasing year-on-year between 2020-21 and 2023-24 – rising by Tk 176.34 crore, Tk 152.32 crore, and Tk 29.59 crore respectively – the trend reversed in 2024-25, with a steep drop.

A DSCC revenue department officer said no officials or employees could enter Nagar Bhaban during the protest period, with even the administrator and CEO's offices locked.

"Because of this, DSCC could not fully collect revenue from the 52 revenue heads. Many citizens came to pay revenue but left empty-handed. Trade licence issuance and renewals were impossible during that period, reducing total revenue collection," the official said.

On Wednesday, DSCC administrator Md Shahjahan Mia announced the budget for fiscal year 2025-26, setting a revenue collection target of Tk 1,399.98 crore against a total budget of Tk 3,841.38 crore.

Shahjahan Mia said June is normally the month of highest collection, but this year the offices were locked for over 40 days.

"However, we have targeted to collect more revenue in 2025-26 than was collected in 2024-25.

The arrears from last fiscal year will be collected during the current fiscal year," he added.

Contacted, BNP leader Ishraque Hossain's family said he is undergoing treatment at a hospital in the capital, and no comments could be obtained from him.

Urban planner Professor Adil Muhammad Khan said the decline was not solely due to Ishraque's movement.

"All activities were halted for about one and a half months. Additionally, there was a student-led uprising in the previous fiscal year. Following that, the mayor and councillors were removed. People were somewhat hesitant. These are also reasons."

Collecting the revenue that could not be collected this year in the next year will be a challenge for DSCC, he said.

## Flood threat

FROM PAGE 4

Kamal Hossain, a farmer from Char Bajra of Ulipur upazila in Kurigram, said water entered all houses in the area at dawn. "Rain has worsened our suffering. We're struggling to protect our cattle."

Nader Islam, a farmer from Jatrapur village in Kurigram Sadar, said the Brahmaputra's water has risen sharply over the 24 hours to 6:00am yesterday. "It looks like floods may be approaching soon."

Kurigram District Officer and Rehabilitation Officer Abdul Matin said they were prepared to handle a flood situation and had adequate relief supplies in stock.

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central library, and a two-storey TSC and cafeteria, costing around Tk 211 crore.

Two more establishments will be built within the project at a cost of Tk 2 crore. In addition, around Tk 15 crore will be spent on furniture.

According to the project summary prepared for Ecner, the academic masterplan focuses on teaching, specialised training, research, and knowledge dissemination, along with the physical and mental development of students to help build a humane society.

The campus will include open spaces, sports grounds, lakes, and designated areas for agriculture, livestock, and fisheries departments.

At least 33 per cent of the area will be reserved for tree plantation and greenery, in line with Forest Department guidelines.

If implemented, the university – located in Shahjadpur, Sirajganj, and established to honour the legacy of Rabindranath Tagore – will aim to expand quality higher education, promote Rabindra studies, and develop skilled, technology-savvy human resources.

On May 7, Planning Adviser Wahiduddin Mahmud said after the proposal was initially placed, the chief adviser directed that a comprehensive plan prioritising fine arts be prepared.


The project was then sent back for revision. At the time, Wahiduddin Mahmud also said the university would be built on 100 acres of land in the Zamindari area of Kuthibari in Shahjadpur, designed to attract tourists

and prioritise fine arts, dance, and literature.

The four-year project is scheduled to run from May 2025 to April 2029. It will be implemented by the University Grants Commission and Rabindra University, Bangladesh, under the Secondary and Higher Education Division of the Education Ministry.

Meanwhile, the Chalan Beel Rakkha Andolon has written to the planning ministry, urging that the proposed university site be relocated from Buripothajia in Shahjadpur.

They warned that building the campus at the confluence of several rivers and canals – the only outlet of Chalan Beel – could cause waterlogging and an ecological disaster in the country's largest wetland. The letter described the move as "the final nail in the coffin" for the already threatened ecosystem.



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[www.ncc.gov.bd](http://www.ncc.gov.bd)

Memo No. 46.16.6700.015.09.209.2019.151(58)

Date : 13/08/2025

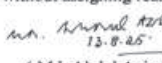
**e-Tender Notice No-06/2025-2026**

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of works under "Urban Development and City Governance Project (UDCGP)". Package details are given below:

SI	Tender ID No.	Package No & Description of work	Online Tender Notice Publication Date	Online Tender Closing Date
01	1127912	<b>Package No: UDCGP-NCC-SWM-2</b> Improvement Landfill site in Alamnagar.	13/08/2025 6.00pm	Please see tender notice in e-GP System.

This is an 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. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP portal and e-GP help desk ([helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd](mailto:helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd)). This notice will be also available on Narayanangj City Corporation website ([www.ncc.gov.bd](http://www.ncc.gov.bd)) as well as LGED ([www.lged.gov.bd](http://www.lged.gov.bd)). The payment of works will be made under the availability of JICA fund.

The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject the tenders without assigning reasons whatsoever.



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GD-1801

**গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার**  
অধ্যক্ষের কার্যালয়  
ঢাকা টেকনিক্যাল টিচার্স ট্রেনিং ইনস্টিটিউট  
মিরপুর রোড, দারুস-সালাম, ঢাকা-১২১৬  
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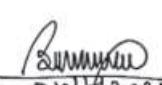
**অতিথি প্রশিক্ষক নিয়োগ বিজ্ঞপ্তি**

অভিবাসন ও দক্ষতা উন্নয়ন তহবিলের অর্থীনে গৃহীত কার্যক্রমের আওতায় সম্পূর্ণ অস্থায়ী ভিত্তিতে অতিথি প্রশিক্ষক নিয়োগের জন্য শর্ত সাপেক্ষে দরখাস্ত আহবান করা যাচ্ছে।

[www.dttti.gov.bd](http://www.dttti.gov.bd) ওয়েবসাইট হতে আবেদন ফরম ডাউনলোড করে পূরণপূর্বক [dttti2024@gmail.com](mailto:dttti2024@gmail.com) ই-মেইল ঠিকানা/ডাকযোগে/সরাসরি আগামী ০১/০৯/২০২৫খ্রিঃ তারিখের মধ্যে প্রেরণ করতে হবে।

বেতন	টেকনোলজি/বিভাগ ও পদসংখ্যা	যোগ্যতা ও অভিজ্ঞতা
অতিথি প্রশিক্ষক	ইলেক্ট্রিক্যাল - ০১	স্বীকৃতিপ্রাপ্ত বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়/ইনস্টিটিউট
ও অতিথি স্ক্রীভ	সিভিল - ০১	হতে সংশ্লিষ্ট ডিসপ্লিনে বিএসসি ইন
ওয়ার্কারদের	মেকানিক্যাল - ০১	ইঞ্জিনিয়ারিং ডিগ্রিসহ ২ বছরের বাস্তব
আমন্ত্রণ ও সম্মানী	অটোমোবাইল - ০১	অভিজ্ঞতা অথবা সংশ্লিষ্ট
প্রদান নীতিমালা,	আরএসি - ০১	টেকনোলজিতে ডিপ্লোমা পাসসহ ৮
২০২২	ফুড টেকনোলজী - ০১	বছরের বাস্তব অভিজ্ঞতা। সংশ্লিষ্ট
(সংশোধিত)	কম্পিউটার - ০১	ডিসপ্লিন/টেকনোলজি এর যেকোনো
অনুযায়ী	গার্মেন্টস/টেক্সটাইল - ০১	অকুপেশনে এনএসডিএ সাটিফাইড
		হতে হবে। CBT&A Level 4
		অগ্রাধিকার দেয়া হবে।

বিস্তারিত জানতে [www.dttti.gov.bd](http://www.dttti.gov.bd) ওয়েবসাইট ভিজিট করুন।



**ড. প্রকাশরী মোঃ সাকাওয়াং আলী**  
অধ্যক্ষ  
ঢাকা টেকনিক্যাল টিচার্স ট্রেনিং ইনস্টিটিউট

GD-1789



**বীমা উন্নয়ন ও নিয়ন্ত্রণ কর্তৃপক্ষ**  
৩৭/এ, দিলকুশা বা/এ, ঢাকা  
প্রশাসন-২ শাখা  
প্রশাসন অনুবিভাগ  
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স্মারক নং ৫৩.০৩.০০০০.০০৯.১১.০১৮.২০২৩.৫৬১

তারিখঃ ১৪/০৮/২০২৫খ্রিঃ

**অডিট ফর্ম তালিকাভুক্তি বিজ্ঞপ্তির সংশোধনী**

বীমা উন্নয়ন ও নিয়ন্ত্রণ কর্তৃপক্ষ কর্তৃক গত ২২/০৭/২০২৫খ্রিঃ তারিখে 'দৈনিক খবরের কাগজ' এবং 'দি ডেইলী স্টার' পত্রিকায় প্রকাশিত 'অডিট ফর্ম তালিকাভুক্তি বিজ্ঞপ্তি'র (ক) ক্রমিকের ২, ৩ অনুচ্ছেদ নিম্নোক্তভাবে সংশোধন করা হলো।

(ক) ২. বাংলাদেশ চার্টার্ড একাউন্ট্যান্ট অর্ডার, ১৯৭৩ (পিও ২, ১৯৭৩) মোতাবেক (ক) বিদেশী অডিট ফর্মের সাথে এফিলিয়েশন আছে এমন ফর্মের ক্ষেত্রে ০২ (দুই) জন এর পরিবর্তে ০১ (এক) জন এবং অনুমোদিত ফেলো চার্টার্ড একাউন্ট্যান্ট এর পরিবর্তে এসোসিয়েটে চার্টার্ড একাউন্ট্যান্ট থাকতে হবে;

(খ) বিদেশী অডিট ফর্মের সাথে এফিলিয়েশন নেই এমন ফর্মের ক্ষেত্রে ০৪ (চার) জন এর পরিবর্তে ০২ (দুই) জন এবং অনুমোদিত ফেলো চার্টার্ড একাউন্ট্যান্ট এর পরিবর্তে এসোসিয়েটে চার্টার্ড একাউন্ট্যান্ট থাকতে হবে;

৩. বিদেশী ফর্মের সাথে এফিলিয়েশন থাকুক বা না থাকুক আবেদনকারী অডিট ফর্মের ০২(দুই) জন ফেলো অংশীদারের পরিবর্তে ০২ (দুই) জন এসোসিয়েটে অংশীদারের ন্যূনতম ১০ (দশ) বছরের পরিবর্তে ন্যূনতম ০৭ (সাত) বছরের প্র্যাকটিসিং অভিজ্ঞতা থাকতে হবে;

বিজ্ঞাপনের সর্বশেষ প্যারার ৩য় লাইনে উল্লিখিত আবেদন জমাদানের সর্বশেষ তারিখ আগামী ২০/৮/২০২৫খ্রিঃ এর পরিবর্তে আগামী ০৭/৯/২০২৫খ্রিঃ তারিখ পর্যন্ত বর্ধিত করা হলো।

বিজ্ঞপ্তির অন্যান্য বিষয়াদি অপরিবর্তিত থাকবে।

পরিচালক (প্রশাসন)  
বীমা উন্নয়ন ও নিয়ন্ত্রণ কর্তৃপক্ষ

GD-1792



**BANGLADESH UNIVERSITY OF ENGINEERING & TECHNOLOGY**  
DHAKA-1000  
Office of the Chief Engineer  
**e-Tender Notice**

CE/Tender Notice-No-02/25-26(002-004)/E-107

Date:- 13/08/2025

e-Tender is invited and published in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for following procurement.

Tender ID/ Re-Tender	Tender Name	Tender Document Last selling/downloading date and Time	Closing & Opening Date & Time
1137305	CE/S-02/25-26 Supply of Various Type Parts of AC, Printer & Telephone for Maintenance Works of BUET.	27-Aug-2025 16:00	28-Aug-2025 16:00
1137374	CE/E-12/24-25 Supply, Installation, Testing & Commissioning of 2 Stop, 1000 KG Capacity Cargo Lift for Swadhinata Hall at BUET.	27-Aug-2025 16:00	28-Aug-2025 16:00
1138195	CE/C-94/2023-24 Construction of Testing & Measurement Room in Side of the High Voltage Lab at ECE Building, BUET.	27-Aug-2025 16:00	28-Aug-2025 16:00
1138254	CE/S-09/24-25 Supply of Various Type Electrical Items for Maintenance Works of BUET.	27-Aug-2025 16:00	28-Aug-2025 16:00

This is an 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 portal have to be deposited online through any registered Banks Branches. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk ([helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd](mailto:helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd)).



**(Dr. A.K.M. Jahangir Alam, PEng)**  
Chief Engineer

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