

ACC to sue Putul, 35 others over Tk 448cr graft

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Anti Corruption Commission has decided to file a case against ousted prime minister Sheikh Hasina's daughter, Saima Wazed Putul, along with 35 others, on charges of collecting bribes in the name of donations under the banner of Shuchona Foundation and embezzling Tk 448 crore.

ACC Director General Md Akhter Hossain informed journalists about the approval of the case yesterday.

According to the ACC complaint, Putul and the other accused established a paper-based entity named Shuchona Foundation and obtained registration from the NGO Affairs Bureau and the Department of Social Services.

Later, they collected bribes from various individuals and organisations under the guise of donations by offering illegal benefits. Instead of spending the money for the welfare of disabled persons, they embezzled Tk 448 crore, it said.

The accused from Shuchona Foundation include trustee Saima Wazed, Prof Mazharul Mannan, former BCB president Nazmul Hassan Papon, Saifullah Abdullah

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Two cousins drown in Thakurgaon pond

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Thakurgaon

Two minors drowned in a pond in Krishnapur village of Thakurgaon Sadar upazila yesterday.

The deceased were identified as Saudia Akhter, 5, and her cousin Aysha Akhter, 5.

Quoting family members, Abdul Hannan, chairman of Rahimanpur Union Parishad, told The Daily Star, "Aysha had come to visit her maternal grandfather's house last week. After having breakfast today, the two girls were playing around the house when they went missing."

Family members found their sandals on the bank of a nearby pond and began searching. Neighbours and relatives later recovered the children from the pond in an unconscious state and rushed them to Thakurgaon General Hospital, where doctors declared them dead.

Officer-in-Charge Sarware Alam Khan of Thakurgaon Police Station confirmed the incident and said an unnatural death case has been filed.



PHOTO: STAR

BAU SHUTDOWN

Students defy hall vacate order, place 6-point demand

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

Despite the authorities' order to vacate dormitories following an indefinite closure on Sunday night, most male students of Bangladesh Agricultural University (BAU) have refused to leave.

Yesterday morning, students brought out processions on campus wielding sticks and declared they would not leave the halls.

At a press conference at the university's Aamtola around 11:30am, they placed a six-point demand.

Their demands included the withdrawal of the order to vacate halls, the resignation of the proctorial body within 24 hours, an apology from the vice chancellor for the attack on students, justice against those involved in the attack, including teachers, and the implementation of a single combined degree.

The students gave the authorities until 2:00pm to respond, but when no steps were taken, they blocked the Dhaka-Mymensingh rail route around 4:00pm, halting train services for over two hours.

The blockade was withdrawn around

6:15pm, and rail communication resumed, said Md Akter Hossain, officer-in-charge of Government Railway Police Station in Mymensingh.

In the evening, the agitating students held another press conference on campus, where they reiterated their six-point demands and alleged the administration had not responded.



"We want to resolve the ongoing crisis through fruitful discussions. If our demands are not fulfilled shortly, we will go for tougher movement," said Ahsanul Haque Himel, a third-year student of the Faculty of Animal Husbandry.

Contacted, BAU Proctor Prof Md Abdul Alim said there was no new decision regarding the crisis.

Mymensingh Superintendent of Police

Kazi Akhtarul Alam said law enforcers have been deployed in and around the campus, particularly at the first gate of the university, and remain on alert to prevent any untoward incident.

Meanwhile, many female students began leaving their halls early yesterday, saying the sudden shutdown created difficulties as they live far from campus.

Still, fearing for their safety, they chose to go. "We came here to study, not for violence or vandalism. Attacks on ordinary students by outsiders cannot be tolerated," said one female student.

The university was declared closed indefinitely after an emergency syndicate meeting held online around 9:30pm Sunday. Students were instructed to vacate the halls by 9:00am Monday.

The decision followed an incident earlier in the day when outsiders allegedly attacked protesting students, who had confined over 200 teachers, including the vice chancellor, during an academic council meeting on the demand for a single combined degree.

At least seven students were injured in the attack.



PHOTO: STAR

MANOHARPUR HAAT

A lifeline for 5,000, but lacks facilities

KM HABIBUR RAHMAN, Pirojpur

At dawn on Fridays and Mondays, the marshlands of Pirojpur's Nazirpur upazila come alive with the movement of over a hundred boats carrying fresh vegetables, fish, rice, and other goods to the lone Manoharpur haat.

Traders and farmers navigate narrow canals to reach the market, where buyers haggle, children clamber on boats, and farmers unload produce -- a lively scene overshadowed by hardship and neglect.

For at least 5,000 people from six surrounding villages, including Manoharpur, Gaokhali, Padmadubi, and Daulbari, the haat is the central hub of commerce.

Located in Daulbari Dobra union, it operates twice a week, generating weekly transactions worth around Tk 5 lakh. Wholesale buyers also collect vegetables here for distribution to other parts of the country via engine-run boats.

From Nazirpur upazila headquarters, one must travel 17 kilometres and then ride half an hour on an engine-run boat

to reach the market. Visitors disembark on a fragile bamboo makeshift ghat, which becomes dangerously slippery during the monsoon and nearly unusable in winter when water levels fall.

"We risk accidents every week, but as we don't have any other place for business, we come here despite the hardship," said farmer Abdul Jalil.

Market traders echoed similar concerns. "The bazaar is our main business centre, but it lacks even the minimum facilities," said Nazrul Islam.

Bellal Hossain said structures and internal roads are in poor condition. Sanitation facilities are absent, and erosion of the adjacent canal has already reduced parts of the market.

"We had to shift our shops several times to protect them from erosion," said Abul Hossain.

Locals and union parishad member Mohammad Shahin demanded urgent intervention.

Contacted, UNO Sajia Sahnaj Tama said, "We have a plan to construct a concrete ghat and arrange sanitation facilities. Work will begin after the rainy season."

10 acres of forest land recovered

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gazipur

The Forest Department has reclaimed 10 acres of forest land in Satkhamair mouza under the Barmi union in Gazipur's Sreepur upazila and brought it under afforestation.

The department yesterday planted 10,000 saplings on the recovered land under the initiative of the Sreepur Range, said Mokhlesur Rahman, Sreepur range officer.

According to the department, local resident Sahab Uddin Molla filed a record amendment case against it in 2005, making the department the defendant. The court recently delivered a verdict in favour of the Forest Department.

The market value of the recovered land is around Tk 20 crore.

Sahab Uddin could not be reached for comments.

August sees 39 dengue deaths

UNB, Dhaka

A total of 39 people died from dengue while 10,496 cases were reported in the month of August, according to the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS).

The number of dengue patients in July was 10,684 while the health authorities logged 41 deaths.

Meanwhile, 552 new dengue cases were reported in the 24 hours till yesterday morning, raising the number of confirmed cases to 32,028 this year.

The number of deaths remained at 122, as no new fatalities were reported during this period.

Currently, 1,584 patients are receiving treatment in various hospitals.

Last year, dengue claimed the lives of 575 people.

KILLED IN MOB ATTACK

Family's hopes shattered with Pradip's death

S DILIP ROY

Grief has engulfed the family of 47-year-old Pradip Lal Robidas, who was beaten to death in a mob attack at Rangpur's Taraganj on August 9.

His 16-year-old daughter, Palashi Robidas, said, "I can't take my SSC exams anymore. My father is gone. He was beaten to death by a mob. He was our only support. Now we struggle even for a handful of rice."

Her elder brother, Dulal Robidas, 19, passed SSC in 2022 but could not afford college. Poverty forced him into work as a day labourer. The youngest, Apon Robidas, 13, a seventh grader, also faces an uncertain future.

The family lives on borrowed land at Khamar Mokimpur village in Mithapukur upazila. While most families there own their homes, Pradip's consisted of only two ramshackle tin rooms.



Once a cobbler, Pradip lost an ankle to illness six years ago. With villagers' help, he received a battery-run van, which he drove to earn a living.

"I must take up father's trade of mending shoes. Books don't fill empty stomachs," Apon said.

Dulal, now the sole breadwinner, said, "I earn Tk 300-400 a day as a labourer, but it's not enough. The van my father drove is in police custody. If I had it, I could earn more. My brother and sister want to study, but I alone can't manage."

Taraganj Police Station OC MA Faruk said the van was seized as evidence. "If the court decides, it can be handed over to the family."

Retired schoolteacher Jiten Chandra Acharya, 84, on whose land the family lives, said, "Pradip was an honest man. Now, in their home where once a pradipl (lamp) glowed, there is only darkness."

On August 9, Pradip was travelling with his relative Ruplal Robidas on a rickshaw van in Rangpur's Taraganj upazila. Around 9:30pm, in the Burtirhat area, a mob stopped them, accusing them of stealing the vehicle. Despite their pleas and explanations, the crowd turned violent and beat them severely.

Ruplal died at Taraganj Upazila Health Complex, while Pradip died the next day at Rangpur Medical College Hospital.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Bangladesh Insurance Sector Development Project Insurance Development and Regulatory Authority Financial Institutions Division, Ministry of Finance Jiban Bima Bhaban, Front Block (5th Floor) 10, Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka-1000 www.bisdproject.gov.bd ; E-mail: pd.bisdproject@gmail.com			
INVITATION FOR TENDER (IFT)			
1.	Ministry/Division	Financial Institutions Division (FID)	
2.	Agency & Procuring Entity Name	Insurance Development and Regulatory Authority (IDRA) Bangladesh Insurance Sector Development Project (BISDP)	
3.	Procuring Entity Name	Bangladesh Insurance Sector Development Project (BISDP)	
4.	Procuring Entity Code	Not used	
5.	Procuring Entity District	Dhaka	
6.	Invitation for	Design and building modern cafeteria and associate furniture and Fixing for BIA	
7.	Invitation Ref No	53.03.0000.090.07.051.25-516	
8.	Date	01 September 2025	
KEY INFORMATION			
9.	Procurement method	Open Tendering Method (National)	
FUNDING INFORMATION			
10.	Budget and Source of Funds	Development Budget (GoB)	
11.	Development Partners (if applicable)	World Bank (WB)	
PARTICULAR INFORMATION			
12.	Project/ Programme Code	P156823	
13.	Project/ Programme Name	Bangladesh Insurance Sector Development Project (BISDP)	
14.	Tender Package No	G-38	
15.	Tender Package Name	Design and building modern cafeteria and associate furniture and Fixing for BIA	
16.	Tender Publication Date	02 September 2025	
17.	Tender Last Selling Date	29 September 2025 up to 5.00 PM	
18.	Last Date and Time of Tender Submission	30 September 2025 at 03.00 PM	
19.	Tender Opening Date and Time	30 September 2025 at 03.30 PM	
20.	Name and Address of the office Selling, Receiving & Opening Tender Document.	The Project Director, Bangladesh Insurance Sector Development Project (BISDP), Jiban Bima Bhaban, Front Block (5th Floor), 10, Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka-1000. Phone: 02-9514963; E-mail: pd.bisdproject@gmail.com	
21.	Last date of queries/ clarification sought by Tenderers (in writing or e-mail)	17 September 2025 by 4.00 PM	
INFORMATION FOR TENDERER			
22.	Eligibility of Qualifications of Tenderer	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Tenderer shall have a minimum of 05 (five) years of overall experience in the supply of Goods and related services.• The Tenderer shall have the specific experience of supplying similar Goods of at least 01 contract successfully completed within the last 05 years each with a value of minimum Tk. 1,00,00,000/- (Tk. One Crore only) i.e years counting backward from the date of publication of IFT in the newspaper.• The minimum amount of liquid assets or working capital or credit facility is Tk. 1,50,00,000/- (BDT One Crore Fifty Lac only)• The maximum 02 (two) number of arbitrations against the Tenderer over a period of the last 05 (five) years.	
23.	Brief Description of Goods:	Design and building modern cafeteria and associate furniture and Fixing for BIA	
24.	Brief Description of Related Services	Details in the Tender Document	
25.	Tender Document Price	Tk. 1,000.00/- (Taka One Thousand) only in Pay Order (In favor of Project Director, Bangladesh Insurance Sector Development Project)	
26.	Identification of Lot	Location	Tender Security Amount in Taka Completion Time
	Design and building modern cafeteria and associate furniture and Fixing for BIA	Bangladesh Insurance Sector Development Project (BISDP), Jiban Bima Bhaban, Front Block (5th Floor), 10, Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka-1000	BDT 3,70,000/- (Tk. Three Lac Seventy Thousand only) As per the provision of PPR-2008. 45 days from the date of contract signing.
PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS			
27.	Name of Official Inviting Tender	Md. Abdur Rab	
28.	Designation of Official Inviting Tender	Project Director (Joint Secretary)	
29.	Address of Official Inviting Tender	Bangladesh Insurance Sector Development Project, Insurance Development and Regulatory Authority, Jiban Bima Bhaban, Front Block (5th Floor), 10, Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka-1000 Phone: 02-9514963; E-mail: pd.bisdproject@gmail.com	
30.	Contact details of Official Inviting Tender	Bangladesh Insurance Sector Development Project, Insurance Development and Regulatory Authority, Jiban Bima Bhaban, Front Block (5th Floor), 10, Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka-1000 Phone: 02-9514963; E-mail: pd.bisdproject@gmail.com	
31.	The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject any items or all tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.		
(Md. Abdur Rab) Project Director (Joint Secretary) Phone: 02-9514963			