

Travel ban issued on GM Quader, wife

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday issued a travel ban on Jatiya Party Chairman GM Quader and his wife Sherifa Quader in connection with corruption allegations brought against them.

Judge (in charge) Md Ibrahim Miah of Dhaka Metropolitan Senior Special Judge's Court passed the order after ACC Deputy Director Rezaul Karim, who is leading the inquiry team, submitted an application.

In the application, the ACC official said the couple amassed a huge amount of money by abusing their power and through illegal means. He also said they learned from a source that the couple was attempting to flee the country. If they flee, the inquiry into the allegations brought against them might be hampered, he added.

SC acquits Tuku, Mir Nasir in graft cases

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court yesterday acquitted BNP leaders Iqbal Hasan Mahmood Tuku, Mir Mohammad Nasir Uddin and his son in two separate corruption cases.

A five-member bench led by Chief Justice Syed Refaat Ahmed delivered the verdicts following appeals filed by the trio challenging High Court rulings that had upheld their convictions.

The ACC filed the cases in March 2007. Tuku, a BNP standing committee member and former state minister, was accused of concealing wealth information and amassing illegal assets.

A special court sentenced him to nine years in prison and fined him Tk 50 lakh. The HC acquitted him in 2011, but the ACC appealed, leading to a series of rehearings.

In a separate case, Nasir Uddin, former state minister, and his son Mir Mohammad Helal Uddin were accused in March 2007 of acquiring illegal wealth and hiding property information. A special court sentenced Nasir to 13 years and Helal to three years in prison.

The HC quashed their sentences in 2010, but in 2014 the Appellate Division ordered a rehearing. The HC in 2019 reinstated the convictions, before the SC overturned them in its latest ruling.

AR Raihan, lawyer for the BNP leaders, confirmed the acquittals to The Daily Star. Lawyers Zainul Abedin, Md Ruhul Quddus Kazal, Raghib Rauf Chowdhury and AR Raihan represented the appellants during the hearings.

A safe campus

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classes at will, frequently leave for Dhaka, and even teach at private universities without accountability. Political lobbying is prioritised over merit during recruitment. We will work to restore balance and introduce a teacher evaluation system so they feel the need to improve their quality."

Addressing the struggles of female students, she said safety is a serious concern.

"Since August 5, we've seen women face moral policing and online harassment. The rules are discriminatory -- male students can move in and out of halls at night, but women cannot leave after 11:00pm. Why should this discrimination exist? Ceiling fans are withheld in women's halls on the assumption that girls might die by suicide. How can such kinds of thought persist in 2025?" she continued.

"Rooftops and balconies

remain locked in women's halls, canteens close early, and access to urgent medical care involves excessive bureaucracy," she added. "There are no sports facilities for girls. I will work to eliminate these inequalities."

Boishakhi also criticised the poor state of campus facilities. "JU is a residential university, yet shops close early or lack essentials. Sanitary napkin vending machines look appealing, but none are functional."

"Transport is inadequate, the medical centre is in poor shape, ambulances are unavailable, and library rules are ignored. I'll work to solve these problems. Besides, I will work to set up complaint cells in every institute so students can raise issues for us to address," she also said.

Regarding the election atmosphere, she said students are enthusiastic, but the administration is uncooperative.

Feb polls

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Bangladesh Election Commission ahead of the polls scheduled for February. During the meeting, Lewis praised the strong cooperation between the UN and the interim government, as they discussed a broad range of topics on Bangladesh's development priorities and reform agenda.

They also explored avenues for expanded UN support to advance the government's reform initiatives.

Preparations for the upcoming UN General Assembly meetings in New York and the Rohingya conference later this month were also reviewed.

Both of them expressed deep concerns over the sharp decline in international funding for Rohingya humanitarian efforts, which is already affecting education and other critical services in the camps.

Will put students'

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essential to align JU with the demands of the future world. As a research-based university, JU needs more allocation for research. I will also work to make students more career-oriented."

Zitu said students already know they can rely on him in any crisis. "I led crucial movements like the July uprising and continued my activism afterwards. After 33 years, Jucusu is finally happening. If elected, I will make every effort to keep Jucusu functional and hand over power to the next leadership through elections."

On the election atmosphere, he said, "So far, everything is good, and we are hopeful. But we are concerned about security. The administration promised to ensure proper security across the

campus after announcing the manifesto. Yet, we see former students entering and joining campaigns, which violates the code of conduct. Outsiders are also moving around freely. We hope these issues will be resolved."

"I was in the JU committee of [now banned] BCL, but I joined the anti-quota movement on July 1 last year. On July 15, BCL members attacked me, and I had to be hospitalised. That same night, I resigned officially. I led the July movement in Jahangirnagar and pressed the one-point demand. The rest is known to all."

Finally, Zitu said, "Whoever gets elected, from any panel or as independents, must work together, regardless of party affiliation. Everyone should prioritise students' interests and build a student-friendly campus."

Announcing rewards brings

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confidential. ahead of the upcoming general elections.

On August 25, Home Adviser Jahangir Alam Chowdhury announced rewards for information leading to the recovery of the looted firearms. The highest reward of Tk 5 lakh

was offered for the recovery of a light machine gun, Tk 1.5 lakh for a sub machine gun, Tk 1 lakh for a Chinese rifle, Tk 50,000 for a pistol or shotgun, and Tk 500 for each bullet.

The home adviser assured that the identity of informants would be kept

machine guns, 7.62x25mm pistols, 9x19mm pistols, shotguns, gas guns, teargas launchers, and pistols.

Police officials said recovery efforts have included regular operations, waterbody searches, and interrogations of suspects linked to the looting.

However, progress has been slow due to a lack of reliable leads. "We are seeing a lack of cooperation from the people. We hope the reward announced by the home ministry will motivate witnesses to come forward," said an official of Dhaka Metropolitan Police.



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E-Tender Notice

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

Tender ID No.	Package No. & Description	Tender Publication (date & time)	Last Selling (date & time)	Closing and Opening (date & time)
1143119	Package No: 28.18.0000.000.067.07.0002.24. Package Description: Supply and Placement of Marker Post for High Pressure Gas Pipeline at PGCL Franchise Area.	04-Sep-2025 10:00 AM	21-Sep-2025 04:00 PM	22-Sep-2025 12:00 PM

These are online Tenders, 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.

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01/09/2025
(Engr. Shahjahan Al Mamun)
General Manager (Operation), C. C.



Neglect leaves 647km of Patuakhali roads in ruins

SOHRAB HOSSAIN, Patuakhali

At least 647 kilometres of roads under the Local Government Engineering Department (LGED) in Patuakhali have become unfit for use due to years of neglect, causing immense suffering to commuters.

LGED officials said repairing these roads would require Tk 452 crore, but only Tk 4.62 crore has been allocated this year, enough to repair just 66 kilometres.

According to the LGED office, Patuakhali has a total of 12,338 kilometres of rural roads, of which 3,114 kilometres are paved. Of those, 647 kilometres are now in a dilapidated state. Among them, 150 kilometres are in Sadar upazila, 120 kilometres in Bauphal, 85 kilometres in Galachipa, 72 kilometres in Mirzaganj, 70 kilometres in Dashmina, 65 kilometres in Kalapara, 45 kilometres in Rangabali, and 40 kilometres in Dumki.

The Bauphal-Patuakhali road, especially the 3.5-kilometre stretch from Boga College Gate to Dhouravanga, is in the worst condition, with the asphalt layer gone and countless potholes dotting the surface.

Altaf Mahmud, a local resident, said thousands of people depend on this road daily, but no initiative has been taken for its repair.

Bauphal Upazila Engineer Md Borhan Uddin Molla said a proposal of Tk 9.5 crore for road repairs has been sent to the LGED headquarters.

In Kalapara, the six-kilometre road from Tegachhia ferry terminal to Tulatali intersection is severely damaged, with over 75 percent of its surface washed away. "This road has been discussed many times in meetings, but no repairs have been carried out," said Mezbha Uddin Khan, chairman of Mithaganj union.

Similarly, in Dashmina, the 10-kilometre stretch from Amtala to Mollahat to Betagi Sankipur union is in disrepair.

Upazila Engineer Md Mokbul Hossain admitted no repairs had been done since the roads were constructed.

In Galachipa, 19 kilometres of the 21-kilometre road from Kalagachhia to the upazila town is broken, while the 10-kilometre road from Charkajal to Charbishwas and the eight-kilometre road from Ulania Bazar to Chiknikandi are also in critical condition.

Upazila Engineer Jahangir Alam said nearly half of Galachipa's 408 kilometres of rural roads are severely damaged.

Patuakhali LGED Executive Engineer Md Hossain Ali Mir said,

"Repair and maintenance have not been done for years. The annual allocation is insufficient. We need Tk 452 crore to make 647 kilometres of paved rural roads usable, but we received only Tk 4.62 crore, which can cover just 66 kilometres."

Journo's body found hanging

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Cox's Bazar

Police recovered the body of a local journalist, hanging from a tree, in the seaside Jhau forest of Cox's Bazar yesterday morning.

Locals spotted the body around 9:00am inside the Jhau forest near the golf course along the beach. Images later circulated on social media identifying the deceased as Mohammad Amin Ullah, 25.

"Police sent the body to Cox's Bazar Sadar Hospital morgue for autopsy," said Cox's Bazar Sadar Model Police Station Officer-in-Charge Mohammad Elias Khan.

A bus ticket from Chattogram to Cox's Bazar dated September 3 was found in his pocket, the OC added.

Amin's uncle, Md Zakaria, said he was a guard at Friendship Hospital in Balukhali and worked as an Ukhiya upazila correspondent on the side for a news portal.

Zakaria alleged that Amin might have been killed over drug related reports. He also claimed that Amin went missing two days ago after leaving home.

Three die of dengue, 363 get hospitalised

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

At least three dengue patients died while 363 others were hospitalised in the 24 hours till yesterday morning, according to the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS).

Of the deaths, two were reported from Dhaka South City Corporation and one from Chattogram division.

With the latest figures, the total number of dengue related deaths has risen to 130, while the total number of cases has climbed to 33,309.

Among the total cases, 31,631 patients have so far been discharged, including 24,070 from outside Dhaka. Currently, 1,548 dengue patients are undergoing treatment at different hospitals across the country, of which 1,040 are from outside Dhaka.