

Use talent, creativity for nation's progress

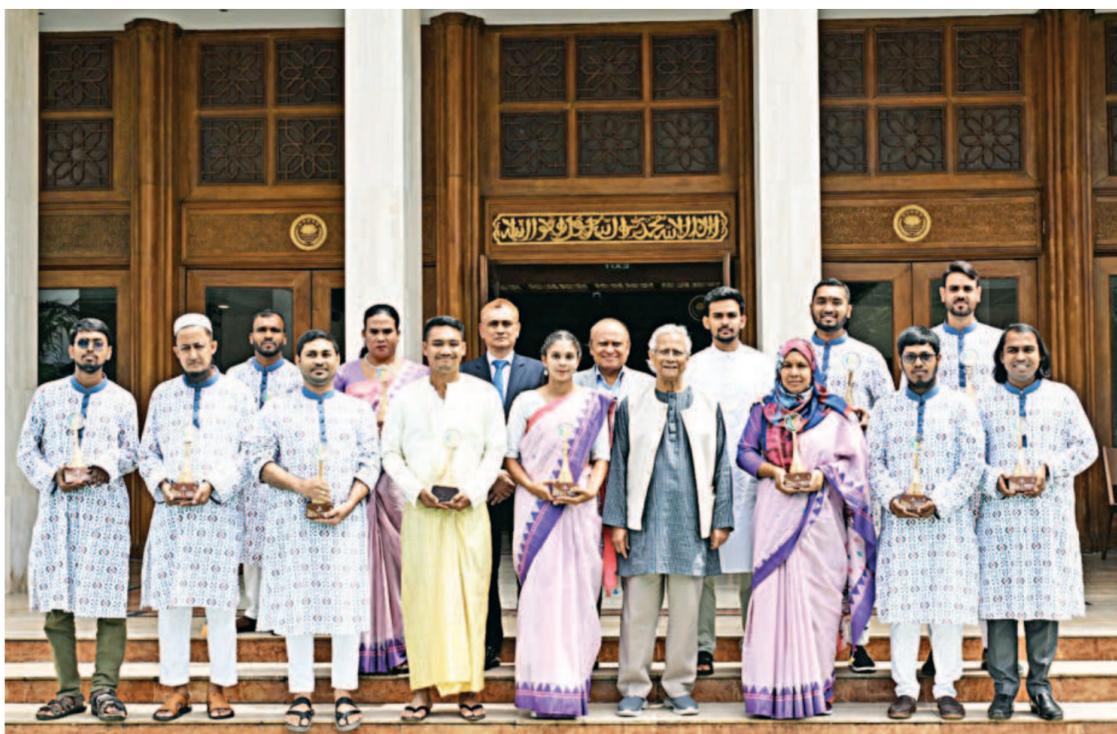
CA urges the youths
STAR REPORT

Chief Adviser Prof Muhammad Yunus yesterday urged the youths to use their talent, energy and creativity for the country's development, saying no problem will remain unsolved if they stay active and involved.

"May your success not be limited to personal achievements but also inspire others. I believe that if the youth are active, no problem of the country can remain unresolved," he said while addressing the Youth Volunteer Award 2025 ceremony at the Chief Adviser's Office, reports UNB.

A total of 12 volunteers received awards for their outstanding voluntary service and inspirational contributions to society.

The Ministry of Youth
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Chief Adviser Professor Muhammad Yunus with the recipients of the 'Youth Volunteer Award 2025' at a programme at the Chief Adviser's Office in the capital yesterday.

PHOTO: CA'S PRESS WING

MOVEMENT FOR PR Jamaat's threat part of plan to create chaos: Rizvi

UNB, Dhaka

BNP Senior Joint Secretary General Ruhul Kabir

Rizvi yesterday said Jamaat-e-Islami's threat to launch a strong movement if their demand for proportional representation (PR) is not met is part of a plan to harm the nation by creating a disastrous situation.

"An Islamic party [Jamaat] has said in a press conference that it will launch a vigorous movement if their demand for proportional representation is not met. This, we believe, is a well-planned master plan that will benefit no one," he said.

Rizvi made the remarks after meeting cancer-affected Hefazat-e-Islam leader Maulana Enamul Hasan Faruqi and providing him with financial assistance at Jamia Madania Madrasa in Baridhara, Dhaka.

Over the past 16-17 years, BNP and many other political parties, including all Islamic parties, fought for democracy, but they didn't raise the issue of PR system at that time, said Rizvi.

The BNP leader questioned the motive behind Jamaat and other Islamist parties' sudden insistence on holding elections under the PR system, warning that it could mislead people.

No let-up in dengue woes

Death toll, number of cases continue to rise

HELEMUL ALAM

With five new dengue-related deaths reported yesterday, the nationwide toll this year has risen to 155, showing an alarming trend.

Of the deaths, 33 occurred in the first 14 days of September, compared to 39 deaths in August, 41 in July, 19 in June, three in May, seven in April, three in February, and 10 in January, according to the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS).

Dhaka South City Corporation areas account for the highest number of deaths, with 78. Barishal and Chattogram divisions follow with 21 deaths each, while Dhaka North City Corporation has recorded 17 deaths.

In the last 24 hours till yesterday morning, at least 636 dengue patients were hospitalised. With the new cases, the total number of hospitalisations this year has reached 38,527, DGHS data shows.

Dr HM Nazmul Ahsan, associate professor at Shaheed Suhrawardy Medical College Hospital, said delayed hospitalisation, reduced concern about dengue compared to earlier years, not taking dengue as seriously as before, comorbidities, and referring patients to Dhaka hospitals are some of the key reasons for the rising number of deaths.

"Although dengue cases are slightly lower than in previous years, deaths are higher because people are paying less attention amid the presence of other viruses," he said.

Currently, four viral infections -- influenza, dengue, chikungunya, and Covid-19 -- are circulating in the country, according to medical experts.

"Many patients fail to recognise warning signs such as severe abdominal pain, difficulty

admission for elderly patients, those with comorbidities, and pregnant women to reduce risks. He also warned about cross-infection from different dengue serotypes, which can cause severe complications if treatment is delayed.

Explaining why DSCC hospitals report the highest number of deaths, Dr Ahsan said many critically ill patients are referred from outside Dhaka.

"They are infected outside the capital but die in Dhaka hospitals. Delays in referral are another major factor. A patient from Barishal or other districts may need several hours to reach Dhaka and another hour for admission. If the patient is already in shock, the delay can be fatal," he said.

He urged district-level hospitals to follow national dengue treatment guidelines and treat patients locally. "Only patients in severe condition should be transferred to Dhaka. Often, patients are referred prematurely out of fear, even when their condition isn't critical," he added.

Dr Ahsan stressed that patients in shock should only be transferred after initial stabilisation. "Unfortunately, many hospitals fail to do this, resulting in patients arriving in decompensated shock, resulting in higher death risks."

Public health expert Mohammad Mushtuq Husain echoed the call for earlier treatment and stronger local healthcare capacity.

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MONTH-WISE DEATH TOLL

September (till 14th): 33 deaths	May: 3 deaths
August: 39 deaths	April: 7 deaths
July: 41 deaths	February: 3 deaths
June: 19 deaths	January: 10 deaths

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Early admission
- Avoid referral delays
- Stabilise patients in shock
- Strengthen secondary care hospitals
- Raise awareness about warning signs
- Expand blood collection

breathing, bleeding, extreme fatigue, or a sharp drop in urination or platelet count. By the time they arrive at hospitals, their condition is often critical," Dr Ahsan explained.

He recommended early

DNCC to construct 3 bridges over Rampura canal

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka North City Corporation has begun construction of three bridges over the Rampura canal (Narai river) to ease communication between Aftabnagar and the Rampura-Banasree areas of the capital.

DNCC Administrator Mohammad Azaz yesterday inaugurated the work by laying the foundation stone for the proposed bridges at a ceremony held at Aftabnagar Lakeview Road.

Once completed, two of the bridges will be opened for vehicular movement, while the other will serve as a pedestrian bridge.

Bangladesh Navy will provide technical assistance for the construction.

"Based on the long-standing demand of the people of Aftabnagar and Banasree, we have decided to build the bridges," Azaz said.

"In the future, traffic pressure in the Aftabnagar area will increase. These bridges are being built to handle that pressure. At the same time, to reduce traffic congestion in Rampura via Pragati Sarani and mitigate travel difficulties during the ongoing metro rail project, we have taken the initiative to construct these bridges," he said.

RU abuzz as electioneering begins ahead of Rucusu election

NUR AHSAN MRIDUL

The Rajshahi University Central Students' Union (Rucusu), hall unions, and senate student representative elections have entered the campaign phase, with formal canvassing beginning yesterday.

From 10:00am, candidates started campaigning on campus in line with electoral rules, turning the university grounds into a festive space filled with students' voices.

The Rucusu election is scheduled to take place on September 25, with 28,905 registered voters -- 17,600 across 11 male halls and 11,305 across the six female halls.

On Sunday, the Election Commission published the final list of candidates.

As per the code of conduct, candidates may campaign from the announcement of the final list until 24 hours before voting day, between 10:00am and 10:00pm daily.

During a visit to the RU campus, candidates were seen distributing leaflets at Tuktuki Chatter, the Transport Market, and around academic buildings.

The handbills they distributed carried ballot numbers and pledges, with candidates appealing for support in the election. Students eagerly accepted the leaflets and shared their expectations with the aspirants.

Independent candidate Mahir Faisal, contesting for the post of Secretary of Environment and Social
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CUCSU ELECTION

Campaigns heat up CU campus

SM MAHFUJ AHMED

Chittagong University campus is abuzz with activities as the long-awaited Chittagong University Central Students' Union (Cucusu) and hall union elections have been scheduled for October 12 after three decades of stalemate.

The atmosphere on CU campus has already turned festive, with major student organisations and independent aspirants racing to finalise panels and strategies.

Posters, banners, and slogans are filling both campus and social media ahead of the election.

At least eight panels are expected to contest the polls, alongside several independents.

Student groups including Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal, Islami Chhatra Shibir, Bangladesh Ganatantrik Chhatra Sangsad, Chhatra Odhikar Parishad, Chhatra Union, and others have begun announcing slates and manifestos, focusing on transport crises, dormitory shortages, academic complications, and campus security.

Chhatra Odhikar Parishad has nominated Roman Rahman for Vice President under the banner "Cucusu for Rapid Change".

Islami Chhatra Shibir is preparing a panel inclusive of women, minorities, and injured students, while Islami Chhatra Andolon has declared a 28-member slate with Abdur Rahman Robin for VP and pledged to eliminate irregularities.

The Left Alliance (Droh Parishad), formed by
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US citizen remanded over 'conspiracy to oust interim government'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday placed Enayet Karim Chowdhury, a US citizen of Bangladeshi origin, on a two-day remand in a case filed under the Anti-Terrorism Act.

Sub-Inspector Azizul Hakim of Ramna Model Police Station filed the case against the 55-year-old on Sunday, a day after his arrest in Dhaka for suspicious movements and alleged conspiracy to overthrow the interim government.

Enayet was arrested on September 13 under section 54 of the Code of Criminal Procedure from Dhaka's Minto Road. He was later produced before the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's Court of Dhaka and sent to jail.

Yesterday, Dhaka Metropolitan Magistrate
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MN Larma envisioned a pluralistic state

Speakers tell discussion marking his 86th birth anniversary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speakers at a discussion yesterday said revolutionary leader Manabendra Narayan Larma (MN Larma), through his life and struggles, envisioned a pluralistic state, and his contributions remain relevant for building an inclusive state for all citizens of Bangladesh.

The programme was organised by the MN Larma 86th Birth Anniversary Celebration Committee at the Bishwo Shahitto Kendro in Dhaka.

"If this state is to be built for all people, we must embody the life and struggles of MN Larma. Behind the phrase 'become Bangalee' lies the national ego of Bangalee Muslims," said Zakir Hossain, joint coordinator of the Chittagong Hill Tracts Peace Accord Implementation Movement.

He said Larma fought for the right to live with dignity.

Researcher Pavel Partha said Larma was the first to scientifically identify the politics of self-identity in Bangladesh.

"He envisioned a pluralistic state and protested strongly against Bangalee hegemony. Even today, binary mindsets continue to dominate this country."

Dipayan Khisa of the Parbatya Chattagram Jana Samhati Samiti (PCJSS) said Larma's activism began as a student protesting against the Kaptai Dam.

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PHOTO: HABIBUR RAHMAN

A makeshift three-wheeler emits black smoke as it illegally plies the Khulna-Satkhira highway, posing a serious threat to the environment and public health. Beside it is a rickshaw-van, which is also not permitted on highways. The photo was taken in Gutudia area yesterday.