



10 BUSINESSES, HASINA FAMILY

Tk 57,257cr in assets frozen at home, abroad

Shows progress report by joint task force investigating 11 priority cases

MD MEHEDI HASAN

Courts have frozen assets worth about Tk 57,257 crore, allegedly owned by 10 major business groups and members of ousted prime minister Sheikh Hasina's family, in over eight months from January.

The orders were issued as a high-level joint task force is investigating 11 priority cases – one involving Hasina's family and the others S Alam Group, Beximco Group, Summit Group, Bashundhara Group, Gemcon Group, Orion Group, Nabil Group, Nassa Group, Sikder Group, and Aramit Group.

According to a task force document obtained by The Daily Star, Tk 43,385 crore of these assets are movable and Tk 13,871.56 crore immovable.

The document, outlining the progress of the investigations, shows that Tk 46,805.32 crore of the assets are in Bangladesh, while the remaining Tk 10,451.54 crore are abroad.

The Bangladesh Financial Intelligence Unit (BFIU) formed the task force on January 6, following a directive from the Financial Institutions Division of the finance ministry. The move came as the interim government ramped up efforts to recover funds allegedly embezzled or laundered abroad by Hasina's family and businesses linked to her regime.

In October last year, Bangladesh Bank Governor Ahsan H Mansur said \$17 billion to \$18 billion (Tk 2.2 lakh crore) was siphoned off through the banking sector alone between 2009 and 2023.

An official of the task force, requesting anonymity, said the majority of the 10 conglomerates laundered money to the US, UK, Canada, Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand, Hong Kong, and other offshore jurisdictions.

The task force is now working with government agencies and key stakeholders in the destination countries to recover the laundered assets, the official added.

It is also planning to appoint international firms to seize assets abroad under the priority cases, and sanctions will be imposed via the UK, US, and UN on the sale or transfer of these assets, said officials.

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A policeman strolls past a pile of seized vehicles that have been lying abandoned for years on the Chattogram court premises. Most have rusted away under the sun and rain, turning into heaps of scrap metal and making it difficult for commuters to move around the area. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: RAJIB RAIHAN

ROHINGYA CRISIS

Political solution, not aid, only way out

Says new OHCHR report

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The current humanitarian response to the Rohingya crisis is insufficient as political solutions are needed to ensure their safe and dignified return to Myanmar.

The Rohingya have called for active leadership by the UN, regional powers and the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation to pressure Myanmar's actors.

They also urged the UN, states and international courts to secure guarantees from Myanmar authorities for an agreement and to ensure accountability for past crimes.

The refugees further demanded direct engagement with educated Rohingya representatives in shaping any roadmap for repatriation.

The findings were revealed in a new study

by the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) based on testimonies of 125 Rohingya men and women in Cox's Bazar camps.

The report, "Rohingya Perspectives on Pathways to a Safe, Dignified, and Peaceful Future", comes ahead of the UN General Assembly High-Level Conference on the Rohingya crisis and other minorities in Myanmar.

The Rohingya categorically rejected any possibility of living under the Arakan Army (AA), branding the group "terrorists" and "bandits", said the report, which was released on Tuesday.

More than 70 percent of the respondents believed the AA is seeking to "erase" the Rohingya in Arakan.

The others fear they would face forced labour, religious repression or confinement in camps if

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Yunus seeks WB support to upgrade Ctg port

Calls for smarter financing to close \$4 trillion SDG gap

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Chief Adviser Muhammad Yunus yesterday urged the World Bank to assist in modernising the Chittagong Port and recovering stolen funds.

"Chittagong Port is key to economic growth in the region -- let's develop it together," a press release from the Chief Adviser's Press Wing quoted him as saying to WB President Ajay Banga.

During a meeting on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly, Yunus urged the Washington-based multilateral lender to support his government in recovering stolen assets.

Banga underscored the importance of robust reforms in the banking and fiscal sectors, stating they are essential for sustained, high-growth economic

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'Rab helicopters will strike from above'

Hasina heard telling Inu in audio evidence at ICT-1

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The prosecution yesterday played four phone call recordings between

deposed prime minister Sheikh Hasina and three others at the International Crimes Tribunal-1. The conversations shed light on plans to suppress the July protests, including bombing demonstrators who blocked the Dhaka-Chattogram Highway in Narayanganj.



In one call with Hasanul Haq Inu, Hasina is heard saying, "...Army are not being allowed to enter Narayanganj ... We are landing paratroopers."

She added, "No, I am saying there is no need for casualties; they have put up barricades, fine ... They [paratroopers] will drop from the sky, then capture [protesters] from both sides ... and bombing will be done from helicopters ... Rab helicopters will strike from above."

Inu, president of Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal of the Awami League-led 14-party alliance, replied, "Okay... there will be sound bombing from


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“IF YOU LOVE PEOPLE GOD WILL LOVE YOU”

HOMAGE TO THE HUMANITARIAN
SAMSON H. CHOWDHURY ON HIS BIRTH CENTENARY



SAMSON H. CHOWDHURY
UNCOMPROMISING
INTEGRITY
1925 - forever in our hearts



NARINDA CEMETERY

Colombo Saheb's tomb saved from ruin

DIPAN NANDY

In the heart of Dhaka, amid the city's relentless pace, a silent grave has reclaimed its dignity.

Known only as Colombo Saheb, the man buried at Narinda Christian Cemetery remains a mystery — his real name lost to time. Yet his tomb endures, immortalised in one of the earliest visual records of Dhaka: a painting by German artist Johann Zoffany in 1787.

While the city depicted in Zoffany's canvas has transformed beyond recognition, Colombo Saheb's grave has survived — and now it has been



PHOTO: STAR



reborn.

Back in 2023, this correspondent found the tomb in a state of near ruin. A sprawling banyan tree had all but consumed it, its roots choking the

brickwork and threatening collapse.

Two years on, the scene is strikingly different. The cemetery's main gate has been renovated, and just beyond it stands the restored tomb — freed from the slow decay that once loomed over it.

The restored monument was officially inaugurated at Dhaka Christian Cemetery in Wari on September 20.

The restoration was led by Professor Abu Sayeed M Ahmed, who said such work demands both patience and precision. "One cannot afford mistakes in a project like this," he said. "The aim was to bring it back to its original design, without adding anything new. To achieve that, me and my team turned to historical records, relying on rare photographs from 1850 and 1875, alongside Zoffany's painting that had first revealed the existence of the

grave."

Because the tomb was built during the early years of the Mughal period, traditional techniques were used in its restoration. Brick dust and lime formed the base, while natural binding agents such as lentil paste, jaggery and betel nut resin were applied to ensure authenticity.

"The biggest challenge in renovating the tomb was to remove the huge banyan trees that grew on the dome and remove its peaks, so that there was no structural damage," he said.

The work was costly, made possible by support from international heritage groups. The project was funded by the British Association for Cemeteries in South Asia, an organisation that has long worked to preserve old cemeteries across India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and Afghanistan.

Later, the Commonwealth Heritage

Foundation joined as a partner, ensuring the restoration could be completed.

For the Christian Cemetery Board, the project represents more than the repair of bricks and mortar. "We want future generations to come here not just to see a gate or a few graves, but to feel the depth of history, the soul of the city's heritage," said Father Albert Rosario, the board's vice chairman.

The story of Colombo Saheb's tomb, however, is only the beginning. Abu Sayeed M Ahmed said talks are already underway to restore fifteen to twenty more tombs and monuments at Narinda.

If completed, he believes the cemetery will no longer be seen simply as a burial ground, but as a cultural park where the city's layered past will be on display.

Tk 57,257cr in assets frozen at home, abroad

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Assets of nine of the 10 conglomerates, as well as members of Hasina's family, have already been traced overseas, they added.

"All these assets were built with laundered money," one official said. "Orders are being issued through local cases to seize them."

The task force is made up of representatives from the Anti-Corruption Commission, the National Board of Revenue, and the Criminal Investigation Department of police. The ACC is leading the probe, while the BFIU acts as the secretariat.

An ACC official, requesting anonymity, confirmed the authenticity of the task force document.

Md Akhtar Hossain, director general (prevention) of the ACC, told The Daily Star that as part of the investigation, movable and immovable assets of individuals, including from the 10 companies, have been frozen at different times. He, however, declined to provide any breakdown of the assets frozen.

The task force document shows that about Tk 17,215 crore of the frozen assets include money kept in banks and shares in beneficiary-owner (BO) accounts initially suspended by the BFIU and later blocked through court orders. Of the amount, Tk 1,679.72 crore is in local currency and Tk 36 crore in US dollar (\$3 million) in 1,573 bank accounts of individuals and entities. The rest, Tk 15,500 crore in shares, were held in

188 BO accounts.

Under the Money Laundering Prevention Regulations, 2019, the BFIU can freeze bank accounts for 30 days and then extend the freeze up to seven times itself in cases of suspicious transactions or illegal activities. For further extensions, it needs court orders. The BFIU secured court orders to ensure the freeze in these 11 cases, according to the document.

The media had previously reported that accounts of Hasina, her son Sajeeb Wazed Joy, daughter Saima Wazed Putul, sister Sheikh Rehana, and Rehana's son Radwan Mujib Siddiq, among others, have been frozen.

Accounts of several top businessmen were also blocked, including S Alam Group Chairman Mohammed Saiful Alam and his family; Salman F Rahman, former adviser to Hasina and vice chairman of Beximco Group, along with his son Shayan Fazlur Rahman and daughter-in-law; Bashundhara Group founder Ahmed Akbar Sobhan and his family; and Aramit owner and former land minister Saifuzzaman Chowdhury and his family.

The accounts of Orion Group Chairman Mohammad Obaidul Karim, Managing Director Salman Obaidul Karim, and their families were frozen as well.

Also frozen were accounts of the Awami League's research wing the Centre for Research and Information

(CRI) and its "Young Bangla" project.

The task force document mentions that in two of the priority cases — one involving Saifuzzaman and the other Beximco — the UK National Crime Agency has frozen assets worth £260 million (Tk 4,256 crore).

The owners and founders of Summit, Orion, Sikder, Nassa and Nabil groups also saw their accounts frozen.

Orion Group MD Salman Obaidul Karim told The Daily Star on August 24 that their personal bank accounts have been frozen while land and properties have been "seized".

As for the company, only transactions for paying salaries or purchasing raw materials are allowed, he said.

"We are facing problems with cash transactions. Many banks are also refusing to open LCs for us because they are afraid of the Anti-Corruption Commission."

He also said they were considering legally challenging the freeze and seizure.

Contacted, Ranjan Chowdhury, vice chairman of Nassa Group, said they have not yet taken any legal steps regarding the frozen assets.

He claimed the group's bank account has been suspended due to loan defaults, not frozen.

The labour ministry is trying to help the company pay salaries since bank borrowing is not an option for many of its enterprises with defaulted loans, he added.

"Our company is now on the verge of shutting down. We have 20,000 to 25,000 employees. That is why we have been trying to somehow continue operations with our own funds."

Summit Group in a statement said that wholesale freezing of accounts has resulted in "aspersions on Bangladesh, the government as well as business entities and connected persons".

It said the freeze orders were "unfounded" and have effectively impacted hundreds of thousands of people and their jobs.

"Both domestic and international financial institutions, who conduct due diligence, immediately come across these wholesale freezes. This diminishes any possibility of foreign direct investment."

This newspaper tried to reach Subrata Kumar Bhowmick, executive director of S Alam Group; Osman Kaiser Chowdhury, director of Beximco; Sayem Sobhan Anvir, managing director of Bashundhara Group; Mohammad Abu Tayeb, media adviser of Bashundhara; and Md Aminul Islam, managing director and CEO of Nabil Group.

They, however, did not respond to calls and WhatsApp messages for comments. These companies did not reply to emails sent to the IDs provided on their websites. Gemcon, Sikder, and Aramit groups also did not reply to WhatsApp messages and emails.

or no awareness of current leadership.

Both camp majhis and diaspora leaders were widely distrusted for corruption and self-interest, with calls for leadership rooted in education, fairness and based in the camps.

In Bangladesh, immediate needs dominate daily life.

Insecurity from armed and criminal groups, lack of education, and inadequate food, healthcare and shelter were repeatedly cited.

Half of those consulted stressed that education for youth is essential to regaining dignity and preparing for future leadership.

Livelihood opportunities were also viewed as critical to reducing dependence on aid.

The OHCHR report concludes with recommendations to monitor AA's abuses, mainstream recognition of Rohingya persecution in Myanmar's pro-democracy movement, invest in Rohingya youth and civil society, expand higher education pathways and ensure reparations, including land restitution, in any repatriation plan.

Yunus seeks WB support

FROM PAGE 1

development, the press release added.

Yunus also delivered a speech at the opening segment of the "First Biennial Summit for a Sustainable, Inclusive and Resilient Global Economy: Implementing Commitments on Financing the Sustainable Development Goals" at the UN headquarters.

He shared five priorities for better financing the SDGs, including mobilisation of domestic resources fairly, supported by international assistance.

"Tax systems must be progressive, transparent, and [we have to] ensure [that] multinational corporations pay their share. Negotiations under the UN Framework on International Tax Cooperation must address these inequities," he said.

He warned that UN budget cuts or shrinking Official Development Assistance would be counterproductive for countries like Bangladesh, which hosts 1.3 million Rohingya while battling climate shocks and economic turbulence.

He also emphasised leveraging innovative finance and social business, calling for reforms in the global financial system and debt governance, as well as enforcing transparency, preventing illicit financing and ensuring citizen participation.

The chief adviser highlighted the importance of accelerating investment for the most vulnerable, including resilient housing, climate-smart agriculture, healthcare, education and nature-based solutions.

Closing the USD 4 trillion annual investment gap for the SDGs is formidable, yet essential, he said.

"We must heed the voices of the marginalised that depend on us. In Bangladesh, we believe poverty should not be a barrier to one's dreams. Financial inclusion and access to resources are instruments of justice," Yunus said.

The chief adviser also held meetings with Italy Prime Minister Giorgia

Meloni and Pakistani Prime Minister Shabbaz Sharif, according to CA's press wing.

Meanwhile, while speaking with state dignitaries and others at an event in New York on Tuesday, Yunus said the upcoming February election would usher in a new era of democracy in Bangladesh.

During a reception hosted by US President Donald Trump in New York, Yunus extended an invitation to the US president to visit Bangladesh at his convenience.

At the event, he exchanged pleasantries with Trump and several global leaders, including King Felipe VI of Spain, Japanese Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba, UN Secretary-General António Guterres and Bhutanese Prime Minister Tshering Tobgay.

Also on Tuesday, Yunus held a series of high-level meetings with global leaders. Among them were Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese, Queen Máxima of the Netherlands and World Health Organisation Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus.

In a meeting with Anne Hidalgo, the mayor of Paris, Yunus underlined the urgent need for increased funding to support humanitarian efforts for over one million Rohingya refugees living in camps in Bangladesh.

Hidalgo called for improved living conditions in refugee camps worldwide and expressed hope that the Rohingya people would one day return safely and with dignity to their homeland in Myanmar.

Yunus, who played a key role in transforming the Paris 2024 Olympics into one of the largest social business events in history, also emphasised the importance of making all future Olympic Games, including the upcoming Los Angeles Olympics, carbon neutral.

Later in the day, Yunus participated in two events: one on Fashion for Development and another on collaboration between the public and private sectors in social innovation.

Ensure justice for rape of girl in Khagrachhari

Demand protesters in Rangamati procession

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangamati

Students and women's organisations brought out a procession in Rangamati yesterday, demanding justice for the rape of a class-eight student in Khagrachhari.

The demonstration, organised by the Pahari Chhatra Parishad (CHT Hill Students Council) and Hill Women's Federation, began at 3:00pm from the Kumarsumit Roy Gymnasium premises.



The procession moved through the town's main road, passing the deputy commissioner's office, before ending at the Shilpakala Academy in Rangamati.

Rumen Chakma, president of the central committee of the Pahari Chhatra Parishad, alleged that rape, torture and persecution in the CHT have become routine because of a culture of impunity.

"The administration and law enforcement agencies continue to play a silent role. The state should take responsibility," he said.

Sumitra Chakma, president of the Chittagong Hill Tracts Youth Association, said Jumma women are unsafe both at home and outside.

He said cases of rape in the hills continue, leaving the community in fear.

The lack of implementation of the Chittagong Hill Tracts Accord has deepened this insecurity, he added, warning that torture and oppression would persist unless the accord is fully enforced.

On the night of September 23, the girl was raped in Khagrachhari Sadar while returning home after private tuition. Her father filed a case the next morning with Khagrachhari Sadar Police Station against three unidentified men.

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ইসলামী ব্যাংকিং সেবা প্রদানে 'ইসলামী ব্যাংকিং কর্ণার' পূবালী ব্যাংকের প্রায় সকল শাখা এবং উপশাখায়

244 held from AL flash processions

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police arrested 244 leaders and activists of Awami League and its affiliate organisations from flash processions across Dhaka yesterday.

Law enforcers also recovered 14 crude bombs and seven banners during the drives carried out by different AL units, DMP said in a press statement.

DMP Additional Commissioner (Crime and Operations) SN Nazrul Islam said, "We are working to gather intelligence on the financiers, shelter providers, and recruiters for those participating in Awami League flash processions."

He also said AL activists from Mymensingh, Kishoreganj, Gazipur, and Gopalganj had come to Dhaka to join these processions.

Nazrul said previously, DMP arrested more than 500 leaders and activists of AL and its affiliated bodies in different drives.



Human hauliers occupy three lanes of a road near Phulbaria bus terminal in Dhaka's Gulistan, leaving little space for traffic and causing severe jams. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

App for postal voting to be launched in Nov

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Postal Vote BD app, designed to allow Bangladeshi expatriates to vote, will be launched in the third week of November, said Election Commissioner Abul Fazal Md Sanaullah yesterday.

Speaking at a discussion at the EC headquarters in Dhaka, Sanaullah said only 2.7 percent of eligible voters usually register for postal voting, and fewer than 30 percent of them actually cast their votes.

"Still, Bangladeshi expatriates appear more interested than average," he said.

The postal ballots will include candidate symbols. Once the symbols are finalised, voters can check the list through the app or website and vote accordingly. Completed ballots must be returned by mail.

Expatriate voters will not be charged, though the government will bear a cost of about Tk 700 per vote, he said.

He explained that registration will take place in two phases -- voter registration for those already on the list with a National ID, and additional out-of-country voting registration through the app.

Each region will have 7-10 days for registration, with 3-7 extra days if needed.

Sanaullah also pointed out two major challenges with postal ballots -- ensuring confidentiality and the risk of ballots being invalidated if a court changes the candidate list after they are sent.

STUDENTS' UNION ELECTIONS

AGS candidates pledge reforms, student welfare

Star talks to four such Rucsu aspirants



SHARIF M SHAFIQUE,
SADI MUHAMMAD ALOK and
NUR AHSAN MRIDUL

Sixteen candidates are contesting the post of Assistant General Secretary (AGS) in the upcoming Rajshahi University Central Students' Union (Rucsu) election.

With the election deferred to October 16, campaigning has intensified, with candidates going door-to-door to directly engage students.

The Daily Star spoke to

four AGS candidates about their pledges, aspirations, and implementation plans.

ESHA VOWS TO BE 'VOICE OF STUDENTS'

Zahin Biswas Esha, from the Oikyaboddho Notun Projonmo panel backed by Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal, said her priority is addressing students' concerns.

A student of Performing Arts, Esha highlighted challenges faced by female students since the July uprising and stressed the urgent need for female leadership.

"I have worked on students' legitimate demands before and will continue to do so," she said.

If elected, Esha promises to promote social and cultural coexistence on the campus while improving the quality of education and research.

Her plans include preparing a roadmap for part-time job opportunities, tackling accommodation shortages, modernising the health centre, opening a 24-hour pharmacy, ensuring safe water and food, and

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'Boat', 'water lily' not on EC's list

Publishes gazate for 115 symbols

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Election Commission has reserved 115 symbols for registered parties and independent candidates in the upcoming 13th national parliamentary elections.

The "boat" and "water lily" symbols are missing in the EC list.

Earlier, there were a total of 69 symbols for parties and independent candidates in the parliamentary elections.

Currently, 50 parties are registered with the EC. Registration of five parties has been cancelled or suspended.

The National Citizen Party (NCP) has been demanding to include the "Shapla" symbol. However, the EC did not include the symbol in its list.

After the activities of the Awami League were banned, the party's registration was suspended. As a result, there were demands to remove the boat symbol from the list.

Another firefighter dies from Tongi fire

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gazipur

The death toll from Monday's chemical warehouse fire in Gazipur's Tongi rose to two yesterday after another firefighter, burnt in the explosion, lost his battle for life.

Nurul Huda, 40, a firefighter at Tongi Fire Station and a resident of Gafargaon in Mymensingh, succumbed to his injuries at the National Institute of Burn and Plastic Surgery in Dhaka, said Mohammad Mamun, deputy director of Gazipur Fire Service and Civil Defence.

His death comes just a day after Shamim Ahmed died from similar injuries. Both were among four firefighters burnt while battling the blaze. The fire broke out on September 22 at a tin shed warehouse in Sahara Market.

As firefighters tried to extinguish the flames, a powerful explosion ripped through the building. Officials later confirmed the warehouse contained sodium-based chemicals that react dangerously with water.

CUCSU POLLS

20 withdraw, 4 nominations cancelled

CU CORRESPONDENT

Twenty candidates have withdrawn their nomination papers in the Chittagong University Central Students' Union (Cucusu) elections, while the Election Commission cancelled the nominations of four others due to discrepancies.

Prof AKM Ariful Haque, member secretary of the university election commission, confirmed the development.

The Cucusu and hall council elections are now scheduled for October 15.

All examinations on October 15 and 16 will remain suspended, but regular classes will continue except on the polling day, when the university will remain closed for voting.

The final list of contenders will be published today. In total, 931 nomination papers were submitted for the Cucusu and hall union elections.

Five more die of dengue

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

At least five dengue patients died while 668 others were hospitalised in 24 hours till 8:00am yesterday.

According to the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS), three deaths were reported from the Dhaka South City Corporation area and two from the Dhaka North City Corporation area.

With the new deaths and cases, the total number of deaths rose to 187, while total cases rose to 43,841.

Among the total cases, a total of 41,638 dengue patients have been released so far.

Currently, 2,016 dengue patients are undergoing treatment at different hospitals across Bangladesh, 1,259 of whom are from outside Dhaka.

CPB gets new committee

Chandan president, Kafi Ratan general secretary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Kazi Sazzad Zahir Chandan has been elected president of the Communist Party of Bangladesh (CPB) for a four-year term.

Abdullah Al Kafi Ratan has been elected the new general secretary, succeeding Ruhin Hossain Prince. The newly elected members of the 43-member central committee chose the two leaders yesterday.

The newly elected presidium members are Mujahidul Islam Selim, Rafiquzzaman Layek, SA Rashid, Ragib Ahsan Munna, Joly Talukdar, and Md Aminul Farid.



Chandan



Kafi Ratan

Chandan previously served as assistant general secretary of the CPB as well as central president of the Bangladesh Chhatra Union, and general secretary of the Krishok Samiti.

Kafi Ratan, an economics graduate from Dhaka University and a former banker, was an assistant general secretary of Bangladesh Chhatra Union as well as elected general secretary of Dhaka University's Bangabandhu Hall student union.

He later contested as a mayoral candidate in Dhaka North City Corporation. His electoral constituency is Cumilla-5.

DUCSU POLLS DU authorities refuse to provide voters' attendance list

DU CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka University authorities have refused to release the signed voter attendance lists from the recently held Ducusu and hall union elections, calling them "highly sensitive and confidential".

In a statement, the university said thousands of students signed the lists while collecting ballots.

These are not public documents, and disclosing them would compromise security and privacy.

The refusal came after defeated Ducusu candidates repeatedly demanded access to the lists in order to verify alleged irregularities. They also sought CCTV footage of polling centres and clarification on the ballot printing process, accusing the administration of disregarding their complaints.

DU said the applications were mostly "vague" and lacked specific grounds. While full CCTV footage will not be released, candidates may apply to view relevant segments in the presence of experts.



Expired chips, cakes, juices, chanachur, and jellies are regularly burnt with other waste at night along Rajshahi city's bypass road, adding to severe air pollution. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: AZAHAR UDDIN

Man beaten to death on theft suspicion

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gazipur

A man was beaten to death and another seriously injured in a mob attack on suspicion of robbery in Gazipur's Sadar upazila early yesterday.

Touhid Ahmed, officer-in charge of Joydebpur Police Station, said the incident took place around 4:00am in Nayapara area, where locals detained Haydar Islam, 51, and Alamin, 25, and beat them.

Acting on a tip off, Joydebpur police rescued the two and took them to Shaheed Tajuddin Ahmad Medical College Hospital, where doctors declared Haydar dead on arrival. Abul Fazal, emergency duty officer at the hospital, said Alamin's condition is critical.

Witnesses said the area had recently seen several robberies, prompting residents to organise night patrols.

At dawn, they detained one suspect while his companions fled. Another was later caught in the Bhoragata area and beaten by the crowd, they added.

The OC said Haydar had six criminal cases against him, including robbery, filed with different police stations.



Abandoned vehicles seized in various cases lie rusting in the open on the Chattogram court premises, blocking movement and creating piles of junk that hold no resale value. The photo was taken recently.

PHOTO: RAJIB RATHAN

Tea seller dies after clash in Agargaon

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A tea seller died after a clash over setting up stalls on a footpath in Dhaka's Agargaon on Tuesday night.

The victim, 40-year-old Bablu Mia, hailed from Kishoreganj and lived in Agargaon's Janata Housing. He ran a small tea stall near the housing entrance, said his brother-in-law Abdur Rouf.

According to police, around 8:00pm Bablu got into an argument with Ruhul Amin, who operated a nearby stall, over the alleged forceful occupation of the footpath. The quarrel escalated into a fight, during which Bablu was struck on the head with an iron pipe.

He was rushed to the National Institute of Neurosciences and Hospital along with several others injured in the clash. As his condition deteriorated, he was transferred to Dhaka Medical College Hospital, where he died around 2:00am, said Inspector Md Faruk of the DMCH police camp.

Bablu's body has been kept at the DMCH morgue for autopsy. Police said they are investigating the incident.

Waste burning chokes Savar

AKLAKUR RAHMAN AKASH

On August 17, the Department of Environment declared Savar a degraded airshed, citing the growing threat of air pollution from open burning of solid waste and brick kilns.

Experts said a degraded airshed is a geographical area where air quality consistently falls below national or international safe standards due to high pollutant concentrations, prompting strict environmental regulations.

From September 1, brick burning and production have been banned in all kilns except Tunnel Kilns and Hybrid Hoffman Kilns, while the open burning of solid waste has also been prohibited.

Although brick kiln operations are currently halted due to the rainy season, solid waste burning continues across Savar.

During a recent visit, this correspondent observed tyres, wood, batteries and tannery waste being burnt in open spaces.

In Madhumoti Model Town and Salehpur areas alone, at least 12 factories were found burning tyres to produce furnace oil.

Other sites were using thousands of

tonnes of wood to make coal, burning chromium containing tannery waste for animal feed, and even burning batteries to produce shisha.

Mohammad Sohag, a farmer, said his soil's fertility has been destroyed, drastically reducing papaya yield.

Sumon Mia, a resident, said smoke and stench from tyre factories have made living conditions unbearable.



Salauddin Khan Naeem, general secretary of the Savar Nagorik Committee, called for strict enforcement and closure of all polluting establishments.

Savar UNO Abu Bakar Sarkar said mobile court drives are being conducted against establishments that pollute the air, including illegal brick kilns and factories

burning tyres, batteries and tannery waste.

"If these factories start operating again, they will be completely closed down," he said.

Md Nazmul Hasan, assistant director of the DoE, said an action plan has been prepared to shut down establishments involved in open waste burning, with legal action to be taken against owners and employees if necessary.

Anisur Rahman, who runs a factory producing animal feed raw materials by burning raw hide, refused to speak to The Daily Star.

Solaiman Hossain, Jashim Uddin and Selim Mia, owners of three separate tyre-burning factories, said their factories have remained closed for now due to financial losses. He also declined to comment on the environmental impact of their operations.

Prof Md Mustafizur Rahman of Jahangirnagar University's Environmental Science Department said Savar's development is largely unplanned, with poor waste management and widespread open dumping. He stressed the need for stronger monitoring of factories emitting toxic fumes.

Onion farmers demonstrate over fertiliser price hike

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

Onion farmers in Pabna Sadar upazila yesterday staged a demonstration over rising prices of fertilisers.

Around 100 farmers at Chartarapur village in the upazila sat in their fields, leaving their agricultural equipment untouched for two hours, from 10:00am.

They said dealers are exploiting the high demand for non-urea fertilisers such as DAP, TSP, and MOP, which are essential for planting onion.

They said fertiliser prices have surged by Tk 400 to Tk 500 per bag, putting strain on farmers as they prepare for early onion cultivation.

One of the farmers, Md Bappi, said in previous years, he cultivated onion on three bighas of land, but this time he is unable due to fertiliser cost.

Farmers said they would stage tougher agitations if the government fails to address the issue.

However, agriculture officials said the demand for non-urea fertiliser typically increases in September and October every year when the "Kondo" variety of onion cultivation begins in the district.

When asked about the price hike, Deputy Director of Pabna's Department of Agricultural Extension, Md Jahangir Alam Pramanik, said, "There is no scope to hike fertiliser prices at any level. When we get information about a price hike, we conduct drives against it."

Square Group launches mobile hospital for the poor

STAR REPORT

Square Group yesterday launched a mobile hospital initiative aimed at delivering basic healthcare services to underserved communities, particularly in industrial areas, ahead of the birth centenary of its late founder, Samson H Chowdhury on September 25.

At a press briefing held at the Samson Centre in Gulshan yesterday, Tapan Chowdhury, managing director of Square Pharmaceuticals, said the initiative, titled "Chhappanno Hazar Square Mile Jure" (Across 56,000 Square Miles), symbolises Square's aim to reach people across Bangladesh.

The mobile hospitals will initially operate in Dhaka and its surrounding areas. It will later expand to rural and industrial zones across the country. The project particularly targets



low-income communities and female garment workers, many of whom suffer from preventable health conditions but cannot afford treatment.

The initiative will be operated through the Square Foundation and coordinated via the company's "Jotno" app, which allows patients to register, locate services, and track medical history for follow-up care, Tapan said.

Zahangir Alam, chief financial officer of Square Pharmaceuticals PLC, said the service will be provided free of cost for primary treatment to around 300 patients daily. The official launch of the initiative will take place today at St Mary's Cathedral in Kakrail, Dhaka.

Officials of RU suspend shutdown Nationalist Teachers' Forum continues boycott

RU CORRESPONDENT

The Officers' Association of Rajshahi University has postponed its "complete shutdown" for seven working days after issuing an ultimatum to the administration, announced association president Moktar Hossain yesterday.

"University administrators sat with us yesterday and sought time to address our demands. If the administration fails to do so within seven working days, tougher programmes will follow," said Moktar. The officers' three demands include reviving institutional facilities, permanent expulsion of those accused of assaulting teachers, and justice for the assaulted colleague.

Meanwhile, the pro-BNP Nationalist Teachers' Forum has vowed to continue boycotting academic activities.

Its General Secretary Prof Amirul Islam said, "We will continue until our demands are met."

Their key demand is justice for the teachers who were attacked during the students' protest against the reinstatement of the "ward quota."

PROTECTION OF JOURNOS Feedback on ordinance by Oct 4 Mahfuj tells stakeholders

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Information Adviser Mahfuj Alam yesterday asked stakeholders to provide their opinions on the proposed "Journalists' Rights Protection Ordinance", recommended by the Media Reform Commission, by October 4.

At a discussion at the Information Bhaban in Dhaka, he also sought opinions regarding the formation of a Newspaper Wage Board, without specifying any deadline. The adviser expressed hope that the ordinance would be enacted during the tenure of the interim government.

The adviser said the ministry is working to resolve the obstacles in implementing the wage board. He also emphasised the need to address inconsistencies in newspaper circulation figures.

COX'S BAZAR SEA BEACH

Fund crunch threatens lifeguard operations

MOKAMMEL SHUVO

Rip currents and shifting sand channels have made three of Cox's Bazar's most popular beach zones — Kolatoli, Sughandha and Laboni — increasingly treacherous for tourists.

In the past eight months alone, 11 people have drowned while bathing in these waters, with another 11 narrowly rescued from being swept out to sea.

To address such tragedies, private group Sea-Safe Lifeguard has been providing rescue services for over a decade. But the initiative is now on the brink of collapse due to a funding crisis.

Supervisor Sifat Saifullah said, "If the service shuts down, the risk for tourists will rise even further."

According to sources, Sea-Safe Lifeguard will end its operations on September 30. From the following day, there will be no trained rescue personnel on Cox's Bazar beach.

The tourism ministry has instructed the Cox's Bazar district administration to sustain lifeguard operations through contributions from local hotels, motels and guesthouses.

On September 17, Joint Secretary AKM Moniruzzaman issued a letter directing the deputy commissioner to

arrange lifeguards under this model.

Deputy Director of Cox's Bazar Local Government Nazim Uddin Ahmed said, "After informing the ministry about the possible shutdown, we were told to continue operations through alternative means. We have already begun taking steps."

Under the plan, larger hotels



PHOTO: COLLECTED

would finance the salaries of three lifeguards each, while smaller establishments would cover one each. Existing trained lifeguards are expected to be prioritised.

But the hotel sector has voiced concern.

Cox's Bazar Hotel and Resort Owners Association General Secretary

Mukim Khan said, "Although the ministry wants us to finance 27 lifeguards, covering Tk 14-15 lakh per month is unrealistic. Very few owners have agreed, and even if they do, it will take time. Without a clear policy, such funding is unsustainable."

Sea-Safe Lifeguard's regional manager Imtiaz Ahmed said the

service began in 2012, supported by the UK-based Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI).

He said the RNLI officially ended the project in December last year but extended it twice at the request of the district administration. With no further support, operations will cease after September.

STATUTORY NOTICE
IN THE SUPREME COURT OF BANGLADESH
HIGH COURT DIVISION
(STATUTORY ORIGINAL JURISDICTION)
COMPANY MATTER NO. 1761 OF 2025
IN THE MATTER OF
An application under section 81(3) and 85(2) read with section 396 of the Companies Act, 1994
IN THE MATTER OF:
Maynal Hossain Chowdhury Petitioner
-VERSUS-
The Registrar,
Joint Stock Companies & Firms and another Respondent
Notice is hereby given that an application under Section 81(2) and 85(3) read with section 396 of the Companies Act, 1994, and Rules 8 and 263 of the Companies Rule, 2009 was filed before the Hon'ble High Court Division on behalf of the above named Petitioner for condonation of Delay in holding the 27th Annual General Meeting (AGM) of Rashundhara L.P. Gas Ltd. for the calendar years ended 30.06.2024 and relieving the Directors and officers of the Company from the liability of payment of fine or penalty.
Upon hearing of the application on 18.09.2025, the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ahmed Sobel has been pleased to admit the said application and directed to file an affidavit -in-compliance on or before 29th October, 2025.
Any one desirous of opposing the said application, you may appear before the Hon'ble High Court either in person or through Advocate.
Copy of the said application may be obtained from the undersigned on payment of nominal fees.
Mohammad Golam Kibria, FCS
Advocate, Supreme Court of Bangladesh
GK CHAMBERS, Meherba Plaza,
Suite # 8-B, (Lift # 8) 33, Tophkhana Road, Dhaka-1000.
Mobile: 01707-429282

STATUTORY NOTICE
IN THE SUPREME COURT OF BANGLADESH
HIGH COURT DIVISION
(STATUTORY ORIGINAL JURISDICTION)
COMPANY MATTER NO. 1760 OF 2025
IN THE MATTER OF
An application under section 81(3) and 85(2) read with section 396 of the Companies Act, 1994
IN THE MATTER OF:
A.K.M. Nazmul Haque Petitioner
-VERSUS-
The Registrar, Joint Stock Companies and Firms and another Respondent
Notice is hereby given that an application under Section 81(2) and 85(3) read with section 396 of the Companies Act, 1994, and Rules 8 and 263 of the Companies Rule, 2009 was filed before the Hon'ble High Court Division on behalf of the above named Petitioner for condonation of Delay in holding the 33rd Annual General Meeting (AGM) of Rashundhara Import Export Ltd. for the calendar years ended 30.06.2024 and relieving the Directors and officers of the Company from the liability of payment of fine or penalty.
Upon hearing of the application on 18.09.2025, the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ahmed Sobel has been pleased to admit the said application and directed to file an affidavit -in-compliance on or before 29th October, 2025.
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Ref. No. AUST/ASW/OTM/Tender-06/2025-26

TENDER INVITATION

Ahsanullah University of Science and Technology (AUST) is inviting sealed bids from bona fide/reputed organizations/ distributors/ business partners/agents for:

1. Procurement of Student Back Pack for ASW Office

The bidders must submit earnest money @ 2.5% of the quoted price in the form of Pay Order issued from any scheduled bank drawn in favor of "Ahsanullah University of Science and Technology" along with their offer. Interested bidders may collect the schedule of tender from the Procurement Officer or AUST website (www.aust.edu/notice) on all working days till Oct. 09, 2025 by 4pm. Bidders may visit to AUST security room to see the sample Back Pack during holiday. The sealed offer must be submitted on Oct. 13, 2025 (Monday) by 11.00am at the Treasurer office and the tenders will be opened at 11:30am on the same day (Oct. 13, 2025). Representatives of the participating bidders may remain present at the time of opening the tenders.

The AUST authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the tenders without showing any reason whatsoever and is not bound to award the work order to the lowest bidder.

INNOVATION:: CREATION:: LEADERSHIP



I feel strongly indignant at the statements made by senior Israeli government officials that appear to categorically reject the very notion of Palestinian state-building. For our country, the question is not whether to recognize a Palestinian state, but when. The continued unilateral actions by the government of Israel can never be accepted.

Shigeru Ishiba
Japan PM

Russia ‘real bear’, not ‘paper tiger’

Russia vows to press offensive, rejects Trump’s idea that Ukraine can retake land

AGENCIES

The Kremlin yesterday said it would press on with its military offensive in Ukraine and rejected US President Donald Trump’s claim that Kyiv’s army could retake territory it had seized.

Moscow also pushed back on Trump’s characterisation of Russia as a “paper tiger”, a day after the US president dismissed Russia’s army and said he could see Ukraine winning back every inch of land captured by Russia’s forces.

Trump’s remarks, delivered after a meeting with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky at the United Nations, were a major pivot in his stance on the three-and-a-half-year conflict, which he had at one point boasted he could end within hours.

But the Republican has for weeks voiced mounting frustration with Putin for refusing to halt his offensive.

“We are continuing our special military operation to ensure our interests and achieve the goals” set by Putin, said Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov, using Moscow’s term for its assault on Ukraine.



“We are doing this for both the present and the future of our country. For many generations to come. Therefore, we have no alternative,” he added in a radio interview.

Russia launched its all-out offensive on Ukraine in February 2022, when its forces tried to capture the capital Kyiv and Putin publicly called for Zelensky to be toppled.

The conflict has since killed tens of thousands of people, devastated much of eastern and

“after getting to know and fully understand the Ukraine/Russia Military and Economic situation and, after seeing the Economic trouble it is causing Russia.”

“Putin and Russia are in BIG Economic trouble, and this is the time for Ukraine to act,” Trump said.

He added that Russia was “fighting aimlessly” after more than three years of war and was now a “paper tiger” instead of a serious nuclear force.

Russia rejected that notion.

“The idea that Ukraine can recapture something is, from our point of view, mistaken,” Peskov told reporters, including AFP.

Russia also bristled at the accusation it was weak.

“The phrase ‘paper tiger’ was used in relation to our economy,” Peskov said.

“Russia is more associated with a bear. And paper bears don’t exist. Russia is a real bear,” he added.

Zelensky has hailed Trump’s apparent change of position as a “big shift”, though it is unclear if the US leader will follow through with concrete steps, such as more sanctions on Russia.

Iran will never seek nuke weapons

President tells UN

AFP, United Nations

Iran’s president yesterday repeated that his country is not seeking nuclear weapons, after military strikes by Israel and the United States earlier this year, and impending sanctions triggered by European powers.

“I hereby declare once more before this assembly that Iran has never sought and will never seek to build a nuclear bomb,” President Masoud Pezeshkian told the General Assembly.

“The one disturbing peace and stability in the region is Israel, but Iran is the one that gets punished,” he said.

Iran has long contended that it is not seeking nuclear weapons. But Israel, the United States and European countries have long been skeptical due to the country’s advanced nuclear work, believing it could quickly pursue a bomb if it so decided.

Britain, France and Germany have moved to reimpose UN sanctions that had been suspended under a 2015 nuclear deal that was negotiated by the United States and then torn up by US President Donald Trump.

The sanctions are set to go into effect on Saturday. Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi met Tuesday with his European counterparts, leading to no clear headway other than an agreement to keep talking.

Pezeshkian accused the Europeans of bad faith, deal. “They falsely presented themselves as parties of good standing to the agreement, and they disparaged Iran’s sincere efforts as insufficient.”

5 killed in Ladakh autonomy protests

AFP, Srinagar

Five people were killed in India yesterday as police clashed with hundreds of protesters demanding greater autonomy in the Himalayan territory of Ladakh, leaving “dozens” injured, police said.

In the main city of Leh, demonstrators torched a police vehicle and the offices of the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party, while officers fired tear gas and used batons to disperse crowds, police said.

“Five deaths were reported after the protests,” a police officer in Leh told AFP, on condition of anonymity as he was not authorised to speak to journalists. “The number of injured is in the dozens.”

Another police officer,

Regzin Sangdup, told AFP that “several people, including some policemen, were injured.”

Authorities later imposed restrictions on gatherings, banning assemblies of more than four people.

The sparsely populated, high-altitude desert region, home to some 300,000 people, borders both China and Pakistan.

Around half of Ladakh’s residents are Muslim and about 40 percent are Buddhist.

Yesterday’s demonstrations were organised in solidarity with prominent activist Sonam Wangchuk, who has been on hunger strike for two weeks.

He is demanding either full statehood for Ladakh or constitutional protections for its tribal communities, land and fragile environment.



Macron warns against ‘survival of the fittest’ in world affairs

AFP, United Nations

French President Emmanuel Macron warned Tuesday against allowing an approach of “survival of the fittest” to take hold in international relations as he addressed the UN General Assembly.

Macron also mounted a defense of the current international order after President Donald Trump savaged the United Nations in a speech to the organisation’s General Assembly.

“That is the major risk of our time... a risk of seeing the survival of the fittest. It is the risk of seeing the selfishness of a few prevail,” he said.

“The world’s complexity is not a reason to throw in the towel on our principles and our ambitions. To a certain extent, ours is a moment of paradox. We need more than ever before to restore the spirit of cooperation that prevailed 80 years ago.”

He said that the UN’s “harsh criticism” are also those that want to change the rule of the game, because they want to exert domination.



Typhoon slams into south China; 17 killed in Taiwan

AFP, Yangjiang

Fierce winds, pounding rain and rough seas battered southern China yesterday as powerful Typhoon Ragasa made landfall in Guangdong province after killing at least 17 in Taiwan.

Ragasa churned into Guangdong, home to tens of millions of people, and AFP journalists at the impact point in the city of Yangjiang saw flying debris and gusts ripping advertisements off of buildings.

The typhoon had swept past Hong Kong, with the densely-populated city’s weather service ranking the storm the strongest yet in the northwestern Pacific this year.

Ragasa’s passage in Taiwan killed at least 17 and injured 18 when a decades-old barrier lake burst in eastern Hualien county under the storm’s heavy rains,

according to regional officials.

The typhoon trampled parts of the northern Philippines earlier this week and killed at least eight people, including seven fishermen.

Authorities earlier said 152 people were unaccounted for, but later revised that figure down to 17, saying they had made contact with more than 100 of those previously deemed missing.

More than 7,600 people were evacuated due to Ragasa.

Authorities across mainland China ordered businesses and schools to shut down in at least 10 cities across the nation’s south, affecting millions of people.

The weather service said that at the time of landfall, the maximum wind speed near the centre of the storm was 145 kilometres per hour (90 miles per hour).

EU chief backs calls to keep children off social media

AFP, United Nations

EU chief Ursula von der Leyen yesterday threw her support behind growing calls to ban social media use for children, promising to weigh action at Europe in coming months.

“Many member states believe the time has come for a ‘digital majority age’ for access to social media,” the European Commission head told an event on the sidelines of the UNGA.

“I must tell you as a mother of seven children, and grandmother of five, I share their view,” she said.

Von der Leyen was speaking alongside Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese, whose country is at the forefront of global efforts to curb internet harms – with its social media ban on under-16s a world-first.

“We all agree that young people should reach a certain age before they smoke, drink, or have access to adult content,” she said. “The same can be said for social media.”

EU has some of the world’s strictest rules to fight harmful content online, with several investigations looking into how the biggest social media platforms protect children.



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One killed in shooting at US ICE facility

AFP, Houston

One person was killed and two wounded in a shooting yesterday at a US Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) detention facility in the US city of Dallas, officials said.

The suspected gunman, who opened fire on the ICE facility from an adjacent building, is dead, the Dallas police department said in a post on X.

“While we don’t know motive yet, we know that our ICE law enforcement is facing unprecedented violence against them,” Homeland Security Secretary Kristi Noem said on X. “It must stop.”

Local television station Fox4 said the three people shot were detainees in ICE custody.

ICE deputy director Madison Sheahan told Fox News that no ICE officers were injured in the attack.

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তারিখ: ০৬ আশ্বিন ১৪৩২
২১ সেপ্টেম্বর ২০২৫

নিয়োগ বিজ্ঞপ্তি

বাংলাদেশ জীত বোর্ডের রাজস্ব খাতভুক্ত নিয়োগযোগ্য শূন্য পদের বিপরীতে জাতীয় বেতনস্কেল, ২০১৫ এর ১৩তম, ১৫তম, ১৬তম ও ২০তম শ্রেণীভুক্ত স্থায়ী পদে সরাসরি জনবল নিয়োগের লক্ষ্যে পদের পার্শ্বে বর্ণিত শর্তে বাংলাদেশের প্রকৃত নাগরিকদের নিকট হতে কেবলমাত্র অনলাইনে (<https://bhb.teletalk.com.bd> ওয়েবসাইটে) আবেদনপত্র আহ্বান করা যাচ্ছে:

ক্র: নং	পদের নাম, শ্রেণি ও বেতনস্কেল	পদ সংখ্যা	শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতা ও অভিজ্ঞতা
১.	ক্রিষ্ট সুপারভাইজার শ্রেণি-১৩ বেতনস্কেল: ১১,০০০-২৬,৫৯০/-	১৫ (পনেরো)টি	মাত্রিক ডিগ্রি এবং প্রার্থীকে কম্পিউটার জ্ঞানসম্পন্ন হতে হবে।
২.	সীটলিপিকার-কাম-কম্পিউটার অপারেটর শ্রেণি-১৩ বেতনস্কেল: ১১,০০০-২৬,৫৯০/-	০৩ (তিন)টি	উচ্চ মাধ্যমিক সার্টিফিকেট পাস। তৎসহ Word Processing/ Data Entry ও Typing এ নিম্নরূপ গতিসম্পন্ন হতে হবে: (ক) বাংলা: প্রতি মিনিটে সর্বনিম্ন ২০ শব্দ। (খ) ইংরেজি: প্রতি মিনিটে সর্বনিম্ন ২৫ শব্দ।
৩.	মাস্টার ডায়ার শ্রেণি-১৫ বেতনস্কেল: ৯,৭০০-২৩,৪৯০/-	০২ (দুই)টি	ন্যূনতম টেক্সটাইল সার্টিফিকেট কোর্স পাস এবং সংশ্লিষ্ট ক্ষেত্রে ০৩ বৎসরের অভিজ্ঞতা অথবা এইচএসসি (বিজ্ঞান) এবং সংশ্লিষ্ট ক্ষেত্রে ০৩ বৎসরের অভিজ্ঞতা অথবা এইচএসসি (বিজ্ঞান) এবং সংশ্লিষ্ট ক্ষেত্রে ০৫ বৎসরের অভিজ্ঞতা (প্রতিটি ক্ষেত্রেই প্রার্থীকে প্রশিক্ষণার্থীদের প্রশিক্ষণদানে সক্ষম হতে হইবে)।
৪.	অফিস সহকারী-কাম-কম্পিউটার মুদ্রাক্ষরিক শ্রেণি-১৬ বেতনস্কেল: ৯,৩০০-২২,৪৯০/-	০২ (দুই)টি	উচ্চ মাধ্যমিক সার্টিফিকেট পাস। তৎসহ Word Processing/ Data Entry ও Typing এ নিম্নরূপ গতিসম্পন্ন হতে হবে: (ক) বাংলা: প্রতি মিনিটে সর্বনিম্ন ১৫ শব্দ। (খ) ইংরেজি: প্রতি মিনিটে সর্বনিম্ন ২০ শব্দ।
৫.	দক্ষ তীতি শ্রেণি-১৬ বেতনস্কেল: ৯,৩০০-২২,৪৯০/-	০১ (এক)টি	অষ্টম শ্রেণি পাসসহ সুতা হতে কাপড় তৈরি পর্যন্ত বিভিন্ন প্রক্রিয়ার সম্যক ও বাস্তবজ্ঞান থাকতে হবে। সিএইচপিইডি, নরসিংদী ও বস্ত্র অধিদপ্তরের প্রশিক্ষণ কেন্দ্র হতে সংশ্লিষ্ট ক্ষেত্রে প্রশিক্ষণ প্রাপ্তদের অগ্রাধিকার দেয়া হবে। প্রার্থীকে প্রশিক্ষণার্থী ছাত্র-ছাত্রীদের প্রশিক্ষণ দানে সক্ষম হতে হবে।
৬.	অফিস সহায়ক শ্রেণি-২০ বেতনস্কেল: ৮,২৫০-২০,০১০/-	১৫ (পনেরো)টি	অষ্টম শ্রেণি পাস।
৭.	সাহায্যকারী শ্রেণি-২০ বেতনস্কেল: ৮,২৫০-২০,০১০/-	০২ (দুই)টি	অষ্টম শ্রেণি পাস।

আবেদন ফরম পূরণ এবং পরীক্ষায় অংশগ্রহণের ক্ষেত্রে নিম্নবর্ণিত শর্তাবলি অবশ্যই অনুসরণ করতে হবে:

- আবেদনকারীর বয়স ০১.০৯.২০২৫ খ্রিঃ তারিখে সর্বনিম্ন ১৮ (আঠারো) বছর এবং সর্বোচ্চ ৩২ (বত্রিশ) বছর হতে হবে;
- সরকারি/আধা-সরকারি/স্বায়তশাসিত প্রতিষ্ঠানে চাকরিরত যথাযথ কর্তৃপক্ষের অনুমতি গ্রহণপূর্বক নির্দিষ্ট সময়সীমার মধ্যে আবেদন করতে হবে এবং মৌখিক পরীক্ষার সময় অবশ্যই উক্ত অনুমতিপত্র প্রদর্শন করতে হবে;
- চাকরির আবেদন ফরমে (Applicant's Copy) সকল শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতা উল্লেখ করতে হবে। অন্যথায় চাকরির জন্য নির্বাচিত হলে চাকরির আবেদনে উল্লিখিত সনদপত্র ব্যতীত চাকরির আবেদনের পূর্বে অর্জিত অন্যান্য শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতার সনদপত্র অন্তর্ভুক্ত করার সুযোগ থাকবে না;
- সকল পদের পরীক্ষা একই তারিখে অনুষ্ঠিত হওয়ার সম্ভাবনা থাকায় আবেদনকারীকে একাধিক পদে আবেদন না করার পরামর্শ দেয়া হলো;
- আবেদনপত্রে প্রার্থী কর্তৃক প্রদত্ত কোনরূপ অসত্য বিবরণ/তথ্য বা দাখিলকৃত কাগজপত্র জাল, মিথ্যা বা ভুল প্রমাণিত হলে কিংবা পরীক্ষায় নকল বা অসদুপায় অবলম্বন করলে সংশ্লিষ্ট প্রার্থীর প্রার্থিতা বাতিল করা হবে, এমনকি আবেদনকারী চূড়ান্তভাবে মনোনীত হওয়া সত্ত্বেও আবেদনপত্র বাতিল বলে গণ্য হবে এবং ঐ প্রার্থীর বিরুদ্ধে আইনানুগ ব্যবস্থা গ্রহণ করা হবে। চাকরি প্রাপ্তির পরও যেকোনো পর্যায়ে তার সনদপত্র/প্রদত্ত তথ্য অসত্য প্রমাণিত হলে তাকে চাকরি থেকে তাৎক্ষণিকভাবে বরখাস্ত করা এবং তার বিরুদ্ধে আইনানুগ ব্যবস্থা গ্রহণের বিষয়ে কর্তৃপক্ষ সকল ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করবে;
- লিখিত পরীক্ষায় এবং প্রযোজ্য ক্ষেত্রে কম্পিউটার বিষয়ক ব্যবহারিক পরীক্ষায় উত্তীর্ণের পর মৌখিক পরীক্ষায় অংশগ্রহণের সময় প্রার্থীকে তার সকল সনদপত্রের মূলকপি প্রদর্শন করতে হবে। অনলাইনে (Online-এ) দাখিলকৃত Application Form এর প্রিন্ট কপি এবং নিয়োক্ত পত্রাধি/সনদের সত্যায়িত কপি দাখিল করতে হবে:
(ক) ১ম শ্রেণির গেজেটেড কর্মকর্তা কর্তৃক সত্যায়িত সদ্য তোলা পাসপোর্ট সাইজের ০২ (দুই) কপি রঙিন ছবি;
(খ) ১ম শ্রেণির গেজেটেড কর্মকর্তা কর্তৃক সকল শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতার সত্যায়িত কপি, জাতীয় পরিচয়পত্রের সত্যায়িত কপি, অভিজ্ঞতা সনদের সত্যায়িত কপি (প্রযোজ্য ক্ষেত্রে) ও কম্পিউটার প্রশিক্ষণ সনদের সত্যায়িত কপি (প্রযোজ্য ক্ষেত্রে);
(গ) ইউনিয়ন পরিষদের চেয়ারম্যান/পৌরসভার মেয়র/সিটি কর্পোরেশনের ওয়ার্ড কমিশনারের নিকট হতে নিজ জেলা উল্লেখসহ নাগরিকত্ব ও ১ম শ্রেণির গেজেটেড কর্মকর্তা কর্তৃক প্রদত্ত চারিত্রিক সনদপত্রের কপি;
(ঘ) আবেদনকারী মুক্তিযোদ্ধা/শহীদ মুক্তিযোদ্ধার পুত্র-কন্যার স্বপক্ষে আবেদনকারীকে মুক্তিযুদ্ধ বিষয়ক মন্ত্রণালয় কর্তৃক প্রদত্ত সংশ্লিষ্ট মুক্তিযোদ্ধার সনদপত্রের সত্যায়িত কপি, মুক্তিযোদ্ধার সরকারি গেজেটের সত্যায়িত কপি ও পৌরসভার মেয়র/সিটি কর্পোরেশনের কাউন্সিলর/ইউনিয়ন পরিষদের চেয়ারম্যান কর্তৃক মুক্তিযোদ্ধার সাথে তার সম্পর্কের বিষয়টি উল্লেখপূর্বক প্রদত্ত সনদের সত্যায়িত কপি;
(ঙ) ক্ষুদ্র নৃ-গোষ্ঠী এবং শারীরিক প্রতিবন্ধী ও তৃতীয় লিঙ্গের প্রার্থীদের সর্বশেষ সরকারি নীতিমালা অনুযায়ী উপযুক্ত কর্তৃপক্ষ কর্তৃক প্রদত্ত সনদপত্রের মূল কপি প্রদর্শনসহ সত্যায়িত কপি দাখিল করতে হবে।
- এ নিয়োগ বিজ্ঞপ্তি, লিখিত পরীক্ষা, ব্যবহারিক পরীক্ষা (প্রযোজ্য ক্ষেত্রে), মৌখিক পরীক্ষা ও পরীক্ষা সংক্রান্ত অন্যান্য তথ্য এবং এ নিয়োগ বিজ্ঞপ্তি সম্পর্কিত যেকোনো পরিবর্তন/সংশোধন (যদি থাকে) বাংলাদেশ জীত বোর্ড এর ওয়েবসাইটে (www.bhb.gov.bd) পাওয়া যাবে;
- নির্বাচনী পরীক্ষায় অংশগ্রহণের জন্য আবেদনকারীকে কোনো প্রকার যাতায়াত ভাতা ও দৈনিক ভাতা প্রদান করা হবে না;
- আবেদনকারীকে তার সর্বশেষ অর্জিত শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতার বিষয়টি আবেদনে উল্লেখ করতে হবে;
- যদি কোনো প্রার্থী বাংলাদেশের নাগরিক না হন কিংবা বাংলাদেশের নাগরিক নন এমন কোনো ব্যক্তিকে বিয়ে করেন বা করার জন্য প্রতিশ্রুতিবদ্ধ হন কিংবা কোনো কৌশলদ্বারা আদালত কর্তৃক নৈতিক স্বলনজনিত অভিযোগে দণ্ডিত হন কিংবা কোনো সরকারি বা স্বায়তশাসিত প্রতিষ্ঠান বা স্থায়ী কর্তৃপক্ষের চাকরি হতে বরখাস্ত হয়ে থাকেন, তাহলে তিনি আবেদন করার জন্য যোগ্য বিবেচিত হবেন না;
- অনলাইনে আবেদনপত্র পূরণ সংক্রান্ত নিয়মাবলী ও করণীয়:
(ক) পরীক্ষায় অংশগ্রহণে ইচ্ছুক ব্যক্তি <http://bhb.teletalk.com.bd> এই ওয়েবসাইটে আবেদনপত্র পূরণ করতে পারবেন। আবেদনের সময়সীমা নিম্নরূপ:
(i) Online-এ আবেদনপত্র পূরণ ও আবেদন ফি জমাদান শুরুর তারিখ ও সময়: ২৫ সেপ্টেম্বর ২০২৫ সন্ধ্যা ১০:০০ ঘটিকা;
(ii) Online-এ আবেদনপত্র জমাদানের শেষ তারিখ ও সময়: ২৪ অক্টোবর ২০২৫ বিকাল ০৫:০০ ঘটিকা। উক্ত সময়সীমার মধ্যে User ID প্রাপ্ত প্রার্থীগণ online-এ আবেদনপত্র submit-এর সময় থেকে পরবর্তী ৭২ (বাহাত্তর) ঘণ্টার মধ্যে এসএমএস এ আবেদন ফি জমা দিতে পারবেন;

- (খ) Online-এ আবেদনপত্রে প্রার্থী জীর স্বাক্ষর (দৈর্ঘ্য ৩০০ x প্রস্থ ৮০ pixel) ও রঙিন ছবি (দৈর্ঘ্য ৩০০ x প্রস্থ ৩০০ pixel) স্ক্যান করে নির্ধারিত স্থানে Upload করবেন। ছবির সাইজ সর্বোচ্চ 100 KB ও স্বাক্ষরের সাইজ সর্বোচ্চ 60 KB হতে হবে;
- (গ) Online আবেদনপত্রে পূরণকৃত তথ্যই যেহেতু পরবর্তী সকল কার্যক্রমে ব্যবহৃত হবে, সেহেতু online-এ আবেদনপত্র submit করার পূর্বেই পূরণকৃত সকল তথ্যের সঠিকতা সম্পর্কে প্রার্থী নিজে শতভাগ নিশ্চিত হবেন;
- (ঘ) প্রার্থী online এ পূরণকৃত আবেদনপত্রের প্রিন্ট কপি পরীক্ষা সংক্রান্ত যেকোনো প্রয়োজনে সহায়ক হিসেবে সংরক্ষণ করবেন এবং মৌখিক পরীক্ষার সময় এক কপি জমা দিবেন;
- (ঙ) SMS প্রেরণের নিয়মাবলী ও আবেদন ফি প্রদান: Online-এ আবেদনপত্র (Application Form) যথাযথভাবে পূরণ করে নির্দেশনামতে ছবি এবং স্বাক্ষর upload করে আবেদনপত্র Submit করা সম্পন্ন হলে কম্পিউটারে ছবিসহ Application Preview দেখা যাবে। যদি Applicant's copy তে কোনো তথ্য ভুল থাকে বা অস্পষ্ট ছবি (সম্পূর্ণ কালো/সম্পূর্ণ সাদা/ঘোলা) বা ছবি/স্বাক্ষর সঠিক না থাকে তাহলে পুনরায় আবেদন করতে পারবেন। তবে আবেদন ফি জমাদানের পরে আর কোনো পরিবর্তন/পরিমার্জন/পরিবর্তন গ্রহণযোগ্য নয় বিধায় আবেদন ফি জমাদানের পূর্বে প্রার্থী অবশ্যই উক্ত Applicant's copy তে তার সাম্প্রতিক সময়ে তোলা রঙিন ছবি, নির্ভুল তথ্য ও স্বাক্ষর সংযুক্ত থাকা ও এর সঠিকতার বিষয়টি PDF copy ডাউনলোডপূর্বক নিশ্চিত করে প্রিন্ট করে সংরক্ষণ করবেন। Applicant's কপিতে একটি User ID নম্বর দেয়া থাকবে এবং User ID নম্বর ব্যবহার করে প্রার্থী নিয়োক্ত পদ্ধতিতে যেকোনো Teletalk pre-paid mobile নম্বরের মাধ্যমে ০২ (দুই) টি SMS করে ১-৫ নং ক্রমিকের জন্য আবেদন ফি বাবদ ১০০/- (একশত) টাকা ও Teletalk এর সার্ভিস চার্জ বাবদ ৫০/- (পঞ্চাশ) টাকা ও Teletalk এর সার্ভিস চার্জ বাবদ (ভোটসহ অফেরতযোগ্য) ৬/- (ছয়) টাকাসহ মোট ৫৬/- (ছাপান্ন) টাকা এবং সকল শ্রেণীর পদেই অনগ্রসর নাগরিকদের (ক্ষুদ্র নৃ-গোষ্ঠী এবং শারীরিক প্রতিবন্ধী ও তৃতীয় লিঙ্গের প্রার্থী) আবেদন ফি বাবদ ৫০/- (পঞ্চাশ) টাকা ও Teletalk এর সার্ভিস চার্জ বাবদ (ভোটসহ অফেরতযোগ্য) ৬/- (ছয়) টাকাসহ মোট ৫৬/- (ছাপান্ন) টাকা Teletalk pre-paid mobile নম্বরের মাধ্যমে অনধিক ৭২ (বাহাত্তর) ঘণ্টার মধ্যে জমা দিবেন। এখানে বিশেষভাবে উল্লেখ্য যে, "Online-এ আবেদনপত্রের সকল অংশ পূরণ করে submit করা হলেও আবেদন ফি জমা না দেয়া পর্যন্ত Online আবেদনপত্র কোনো অবস্থাতেই গৃহীত হবে না"।

প্রথম SMS: BHB<space>UserID লিখে send করতে হবে 16222 নম্বরে।

Example: BHB ABCDEF

Reply: Applicant's Name, TK-112/56 will be charged as application fee. Your PIN is 12345678. To pay fee Type BHB<Space>Yes<space>PIN and send to 16222.

দ্বিতীয় SMS: BHB<space>Yes<space>PIN লিখে Send করতে হবে 16222 নম্বরে।

Example: BHB Yes 12345678

Reply: Congratulations Applicant's Name, Payment completed successfully for BHB Application for (post name) User ID is (ABCDEF) and password (xxxxxxxxx).

- (ঢ) প্রবেশপত্র প্রাপ্তির বিষয়টি <https://bhb.teletalk.com.bd> ওয়েবসাইটে এবং প্রার্থীর মোবাইল ফোনে SMS এর মাধ্যমে (শুধুমাত্র যোগ্য প্রার্থীদেরকে) যথাসময়ে জানানো হবে। Online আবেদনপত্রে প্রার্থীর প্রদত্ত মোবাইল ফোনে পরীক্ষা সংক্রান্ত যাবতীয় যোগাযোগ সম্পন্ন করা হবে বিধায় উক্ত নম্বরটি সার্বক্ষণিক সচল রাখা, SMS পড়া এবং প্রাপ্ত নির্দেশনা তাৎক্ষণিকভাবে অনুসরণ করা বাঞ্ছনীয়;
- (ছ) SMS এ প্রেরিত User ID এবং password ব্যবহার করে পরবর্তীতে রোল নম্বর, পদের নাম, ছবি, পরীক্ষার তারিখ, সময় ও স্থানের/কেন্দ্রের নাম ইত্যাদি তথ্য সম্বলিত প্রবেশপত্র প্রার্থী Download পূর্বক রঙিন Print করে নিবেন। প্রার্থী এই প্রবেশপত্রটি লিখিত পরীক্ষায় অংশগ্রহণের সময়ে এবং উত্তীর্ণ হলে মৌখিক পরীক্ষার সময়ে অবশ্যই প্রদর্শন করবেন;
- (জ) কোনো কারণে প্রার্থী তার User ID ও Password হারিয়ে ফেললে শুধুমাত্র টেলিটক প্রি-পেইড মোবাইল ফোন থেকে প্রার্থীগণ নিম্নবর্ণিত SMS পদ্ধতি অনুসরণ করে (User ID অথবা PIN নম্বর) ব্যবহার করে নিজ নিজ User ID এবং Password পুনরুদ্ধার করতে পারবেন;
- (i) User ID জানা থাকলে:
BHB<space>Help<space>User<space>UserID & Send to 16222.
Example: BHB Help User ABCDEF
- (ii) PIN Number জানা থাকলে:
BHB<space>Help<space>PIN<space>PIN Number & Send to 16222.
Example: BHB Help PIN 12345678
- (ঝ) বিজ্ঞপ্তি পত্রিকা ছাড়াও বাংলাদেশ জীত বোর্ডের ওয়েবসাইট www.bhb.gov.bd এ বিজ্ঞপ্তিসহ এতদসংক্রান্ত সকল তথ্য দেখা যাবে। অথবা QR Code স্ক্যান এর মাধ্যমে বাংলাদেশের একমাত্র রাষ্ট্রীয় মোবাইল অপারেটর টেলিটকের জবপোর্টাল <https://alljobs.teletalk.com.bd> ওয়েবসাইটে সরাসরি প্রবেশ করেও বিজ্ঞপ্তিটি পাওয়া যাবে। নিয়োগ পরীক্ষার তারিখ, সময় ও অন্যান্য তথ্য www.bhb.gov.bd ওয়েবসাইটে হতে জানা যাবে;
- (ঞ) অনলাইনে আবেদন করতে কোনো সমস্যা হলে টেলিটক নম্বর থেকে ১২১ অথবা alljobs.query@teletalk.com.bd বা info@bhb.gov.bd ই-মেইল যোগাযোগ করা যাবে। এছাড়া টেলিটকের জবপোর্টাল এর ফেসবুক পেজ <https://www.facebook.com/alljobsbdteteletalk> এ মেসেজ এর মাধ্যমে যোগাযোগ করা যাবে। (Mail/ মেসেজ এর subject-এ Organization Name: BHB, Post Name: *****, Applicant's User ID ও Contact Number অবশ্যই উল্লেখ করতে হবে);
- (ট) **ডিক্লারেশন:** প্রার্থীকে অনলাইন আবেদনপত্রের ডিক্লারেশন অংশে এই মর্মে ঘোষণা দিতে হবে যে, প্রার্থী কর্তৃক আবেদনপত্রে প্রদত্ত সকল তথ্য সঠিক এবং সত্য। প্রদত্ত তথ্য অসত্য বা মিথ্যা প্রমাণিত হলে অথবা কোনো অযোগ্যতা ধরা পড়লে বা কোনো প্রতারণা বা দুর্নীতির আশ্রয় গ্রহণ করলে কিংবা পরীক্ষায় নকল বা অসদুপায় অবলম্বন করলে, পরীক্ষার পূর্বে বা পরে এমনকি নিয়োগের পরে যেকোনো পর্যায়ে প্রার্থিতা/প্রার্থীর নিয়োগ বাতিল করা হবে এবং সংশ্লিষ্ট প্রার্থীর বিরুদ্ধে আইনগত ব্যবস্থা গ্রহণ করা যাবে।
- ১২। শেষ তারিখ ও সময়ের জন্য অপেক্ষা না করে হাতে যথেষ্ট সময় নিয়ে Online এ আবেদনপত্র পূরণ ও আবেদন ফি জমাদান করতে পরামর্শ দেয়া যাচ্ছে;
- ১৩। এ নিয়োগের ক্ষেত্রে সরকারের যাবতীয় বিদ্যমান বিধি-বিধান/আদেশ ও কোটা নীতি এবং পরিবর্তিত ক্ষেত্রে প্রযোজ্য বিধি-বিধান (সর্বশেষ) যথাযথভাবে প্রতিপালন/অনুসরণ করা হবে;
- ১৪। কোনো প্রকার কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতিরেকে নিয়োগকারী কর্তৃপক্ষ যেকোনো আবেদন গ্রহণ অথবা বাতিল এবং এ নিয়োগ কার্যক্রমের আংশিক/সম্পূর্ণ পরিবর্তন/বাতিল এবং পদের সংখ্যা হ্রাস বৃদ্ধির ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করেন। এ নিয়োগের ক্ষেত্রে নিয়োগকারী কর্তৃপক্ষের সিদ্ধান্ত চূড়ান্ত বলে গণ্য হবে।

২০/৯/২০২৫
(কে এম আবুল কালাম আজাদ)
পরিচালক (প্রশাসন) [উপসচিব]



বাংলাদেশ জীত বোর্ড এর
ওয়েবসাইটে প্রবেশ এর
QR Code



বাংলাদেশ জীত বোর্ড এর
টেলিটক পোর্টাল প্রবেশ এর
QR Code

সদস্য সচিব

১২-২০তম শ্রেণীর পদের নিয়োগ কমিটি
বাংলাদেশ জীত বোর্ড

GD-2084

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Local Government Engineering Department
Bangladesh Sustainable Recovery, Emergency Preparedness and Response Project
(B-STRONG), Workshop Bhaban (Level-3), Agargaon,
Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207.
www.lged.gov.bd

Memo No.46.02.0000.573.07.010.25-12

Date: 24-09-2025

Country: Bangladesh

Name of the Project: Bangladesh Sustainable Recovery, Emergency Preparedness and Response Project (B-STRONG)

Loan No: IDA Credit 7786-BD

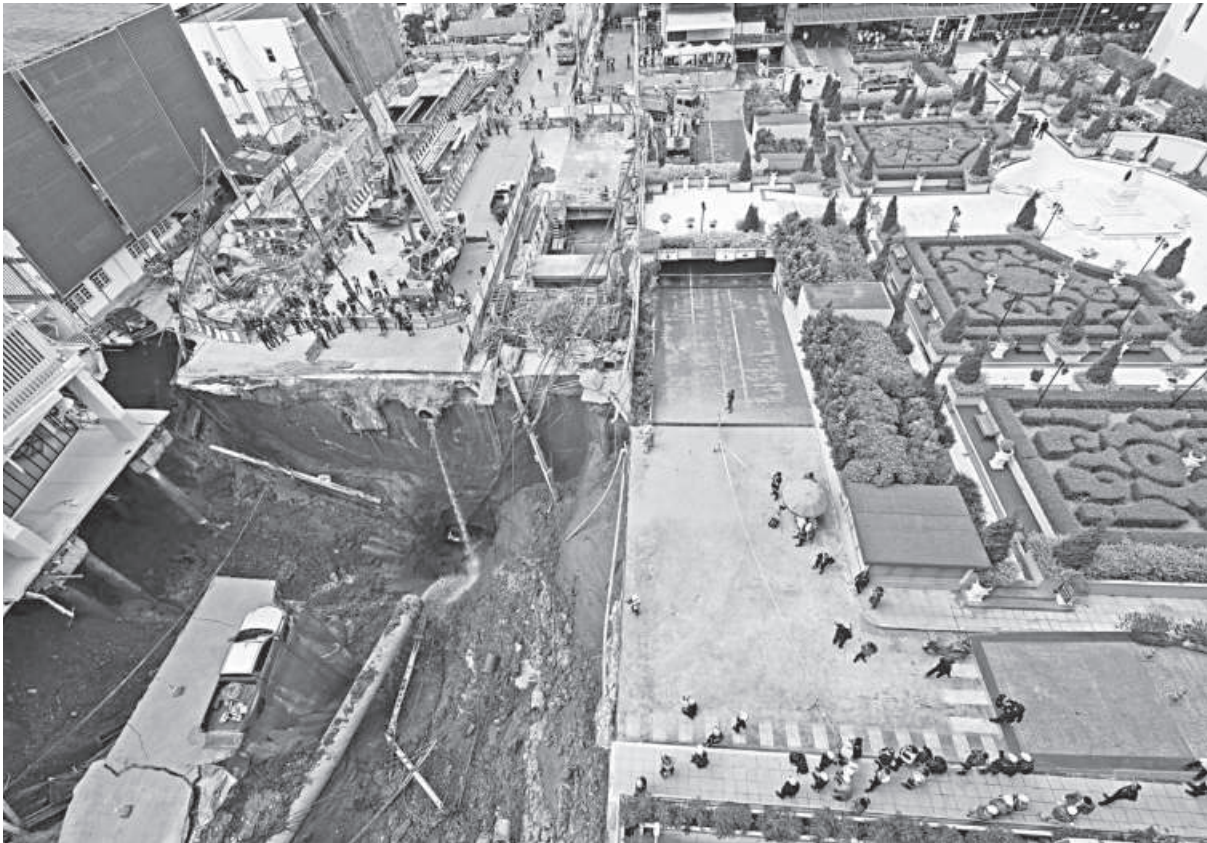
Project ID No: P508058

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (REOI)
For Selection of Senior Gender Specialist (Individual)
Package Number: BSTRONG/LGED/S-10

- The People's Republic of Bangladesh has received a credit from the International Development Association (IDA) towards the cost of the Bangladesh Sustainable Recovery, Emergency Preparedness and Response Project (B-STRONG). The LGED, an implementing agency of the Project intends to apply a part of the proceeds of this credit to eligible payments under the contract for which this Request for Expression of Interest is invited.
- Scope of Services:** The Scope of Services of the Consultant includes, but not limited to the following: To perform all activities/tasks related to Gender and Gender Based Violence (GBV)/ Sexual Exploitation and Abuse/ Sexual Harassment (SEA/SH) issues; develop and updating of Gender Action Plan, GBV Action Plan, GBV Risk rating/assessment as and when required; Coordinate with other agencies and partners, GBV service providers and other authorities for implementation, monitoring and supervision of Gender and GBV Action Plans in the field. The role further requires the ability to integrate gender-sensitive aspects in the Project activities in close coordination with other key staff of the PIU and other activities mentioned in TOR.
- Duration:** The duration of the consultancy services is tentatively 30 months; assignment expected to start from November 1, 2025.
- Selection Procedures:** The Project Director, B-STRONG, now invites the eligible Applicants to submit the Expressions of Interests (EOI) for providing the services. The Interested Applicants need to provide information demonstrating that s/he has the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the services. The selection criteria are –
Educational Qualification: Master's degree in Gender Studies, or Social Sciences or equivalent.
Experience: At least 12 years of general experience of which minimum 8 years' in activities related to social development and social safeguards of infrastructure projects as described in the "Scope of the Services" preferably in the World Bank or similar financiers' funded project.
Applicants are required to submit their Expressions of Interest (EOI), comprising of a CV (including employment history with duties and responsibilities) and a forwarding letter describing briefly the reasons that the applicant considers him/her-self best suited to perform the assignment.
- The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to paragraphs 3.14, 3.16, and 3.17 of the World Bank Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers, Sixth Edition, February 2025 ("Procurement Regulations"), setting forth the World Bank's policy on conflict of interest.
- Detailed Terms of Reference (ToR) and other information will be available upon request from the address provided below either through email or in person. ToR is also available in LGED's website: www.lged.gov.bd.
- The consultant will be selected following the Selection of Individual Consultant method as set forth in the World Bank Procurement Regulations.
- Expression of Interest needs to be submitted (either through e-mail or in person or by mail) to the Project Director's Office by 14:00 local time (GMT+6:00 hours) on October 15, 2025. Please clearly mention "Expression of Interest (EOI) for Selection of Senior Gender Specialist (Individual) under B-STRONG (LGED) in the e-mail's subject line or on the top of the envelope.
- The authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all of EOIs.

২৫/০৭/২৫
(Md. Abu Hanif Mredha)
Focal Person
B-STRONG, LGED.
e-mail: pdlged.bstrong@gmail.com

GD-2086



Emergency workers and people gather near a massive sinkhole that opened on Samsen Road near Vajira Hospital, in Bangkok, Thailand, yesterday. PHOTO: REUTERS

HIV-prevention drug to be available for \$40 a year from 2027

AFP, Geneva

Generic versions of a groundbreaking injectable HIV prevention drug should be available for \$40 a year in more than 100 countries from 2027, Unitaid and the Gates Foundation said Wednesday.

The two organisations have entered into separate agreements with Indian pharmaceutical companies to produce cheaper generic versions of lenacapavir – a twice-yearly injection shown to reduce the risk of HIV transmission by more than 99.9 percent – for low- and middle-income countries.

Marketed under the brand name Yeztugo by California-based Gilead Sciences, lenacapavir currently costs around \$28,000 a year in the United States.

Far cheaper generic versions are therefore “really critical for the scale-up of prevention of HIV,” Carmen Perez Casas, Unitaid’s strategic lead for HIV, told AFP in an interview.

“Now, with this product, we can end HIV.”

In October last year, Gilead announced that it had signed licensing deals with six generic drugmakers to produce and sell the world’s first long-acting pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) in poorer countries.

Unitaid, an international health agency, said Wednesday that a partnership had been established with Dr. Reddy’s Laboratories, the Clinton Health Access Initiative (CHA) and Wits RHI to provide the drug at an annual cost of \$40 per person across 120 nations starting in 2027.

“The product is going to be at the beginning manufactured in India,” Perez Casas said.

“But we also are working towards regional production in the future.”

The Gates Foundation also announced Wednesday that it had entered into a similar partnership with Indian pharmaceutical company Hetero.

“Scientific advances like lenacapavir can help us end the HIV epidemic, if they are made accessible to people who can benefit from them the most,” Trevor Mundel, head of global health at the Gates Foundation, said in a statement.

Since 2010, global efforts have helped slash the number of new HIV infections by 40 percent, but UNAIDS data still shows 1.3 million people contracted HIV in 2024.

Indian security forces kill five Maoist rebels

AFP, Raipur

Indian security forces have shot dead five Maoist rebels, including two senior commanders, in the first major onslaught since the guerrillas announced a unilateral halt in fighting last week, officials said Wednesday.

New Delhi has launched an all-out offensive to crush the decades-long conflict, vowing to wipe out the Maoist rebellion by March 2026.

The latest gun battles were reported from the states of Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh, part of the so-called “Red Corridor”.

“Three members of the Jharkhand Jan Mukti Parishad (JJMP) were killed today in a gun battle with security forces,” police inspector general Michaelraj S. told AFP.

JJMP is a splinter group of the Naxalite movement, named after the village in the foothills of the Himalayas where the Maoist-inspired guerrilla movement began nearly six decades ago.

Last week, the Maoists said they were suspending their armed struggle and offered talks with the government.

Authorities said they were verifying the authenticity of the claims.

On Monday, security forces killed two top Maoist leaders – Katta Ramachandra Reddy and Kadri Satyanarayan Reddy – in Abujhmad region of central India.

The duo were believed to have been active for the last three decades and were blamed for numerous deadly attacks on security forces.

“Our security forces are systematically dismantling the top leadership of the Naxals, breaking the backbone of red terror,” home minister Amit Shah said in a social media post.

The Naxals have offered to engage in talks before, including in February when they called for a ceasefire – an offer rejected by authorities.

Nearly 450 Maoist rebels have been killed since last year.

More than 12,000 rebels, soldiers and civilians have died in the conflict since a handful of villagers rose up against their feudal lords there in 1967.

The rebellion controlled nearly a third of the country with an estimated 15,000 to 20,000 fighters at its peak in the mid-2000s, but it has been dramatically weakened in recent years.

Law and order tops voter priorities

FROM PAGE 16

According to the survey findings presented yesterday at the Bangladesh National Archives Auditorium, 39.1 percent of the respondents consider the BNP the “most suitable party” to form the next government, Jamaat-e-Islami 28.1 percent, Awami League 17.7 percent and the National Citizen Party 4.9 percent.

In terms of perceived chances, 40 percent of the respondents said they believe the BNP is “most likely to form the next government”, while 23.3 percent answered Jamaat and 12.1 percent Awami League.

The survey covered voters in 521 Primary Sampling Units. Of the respondents, 69.5 percent were in rural areas and 30.5 percent urban.

Md Rubaiyath Sarwar, managing director of Innovision and lead researcher, shared findings from the second report, which focuses on political choices and electoral outlook.

Discussing the results, Asif M Shahan, professor at Dhaka University’s development studies department, pointed out that many voters remain undecided.

“Most of the respondents believe BNP is likely to form the next government. In such a scenario, undecided voters may lean towards the BNP, thinking, ‘Let’s not waste my vote,’” he said.

Asked if they would vote, 57.8 percent respondents answered “yes”, down from 62 percent in the first round. Willingness to reveal voting choice rose to 83.2 percent from 65.7 percent.

Among 5,673 respondents who disclosed their voting choices, 41.3 percent supported the BNP, 30.3 percent Jamaat, and 18.8 percent Awami League. NCP and Islami Andolan Bangladesh received 4.1 and 3.1 percent support among the respondents.

Among Gen Z voters, the BNP was supported by 34.3 percent of the respondents, Jamaat 32.8 percent, Awami League 18.8 percent, and NCP 6.8 percent. BNP’s main backing comes from older generations, whereas Jamaat finds stronger support among the youth.

When asked what mattered most in choosing a candidate, 65.5 percent of voters cited the candidate’s qualifications, 20 percent pointed to the party manifesto, and 14.7 percent to the party symbol.

Discussing the facts, Zyma Islam, senior reporter at The Daily Star, said

nearly one-third of the population are young voters, whose preferences had remained largely invisible. “After the Ducusu election, we’re finally seeing the contours of youth voting preferences,” she said.

Citing the survey, she said a majority of voters are not swayed by party symbols. They are choosing candidates based on capability and qualities, not manifestos. They want tangible changes and actions, not promises, she said.

Jamaat received the highest satisfaction rating at 30.3 percent in local politics, followed by BNP at 21.5 percent. Awami League faced the highest dissatisfaction, with 33.4 percent expressing discontent.

Asked about Awami League’s participation in the next election, 45.8 percent said all parties should be allowed to contest, while 45.6 percent said the party should not be allowed in elections before trial.

If the Awami League does not participate, BNP’s support would rise to 45.6 percent, Jamaat’s to 33.5 percent, and NCP’s to 4.7 percent, according to the survey. Additionally, 8.3 percent respondents said they would abstain.

On foreign policy, 72.2 percent said Bangladesh should maintain good relations with India, while 69 percent said the same about Pakistan.

In another part of the survey, young voters rated Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman the highest among past leaders. Among Gen Z, 20.8 percent gave him a perfect score, followed by Ziaur Rahman (15.5 percent), Khaleda Zia (10.6 percent), Sheikh Hasina (8.6 percent), and HM Ershad (4.4 percent).

Bangabandhu and Ziaur Rahman stood out as the most popular leaders across generations. Nearly half of all respondents rated each above 70 percent, with strongest support among voters aged 60 and above.

Meanwhile, Hasina received the highest proportion of zero-score ratings, with 21.6 percent giving her a rating of zero. Ershad followed with 13.7 percent, while Bangabandhu received 8.8 percent. Khaleda Zia and Ziaur Rahman had the lowest zero ratings, at 5.6 and 4.4 percent.

The study was conducted in collaboration with Voice for Reform and the Bangladesh Research Analysis & Information Network (BRAIN).

Shafiqur Rahman, executive director of BRAIN, also spoke at the event, moderated by Fahim Mashroor, joint convener of Voice for Reform.

London mayor hits back at Trump’s ‘Islamophobic’ remarks

AFP, London

London mayor Sadiq Khan called Donald Trump “Islamophobic” and “racist” yesterday after the US president appeared to suggest the British politician wanted to introduce sharia law in the UK’s capital city.

Khan, of the centre-left Labour party, and the Republican Trump have traded insults for years, with the latest row stemming from comments the president made at the United Nations this week.

“I think President Trump has shown he is racist, he is sexist, he is

misogynistic and he is Islamophobic,” the Mayor of London told Sky News.

During his speech to the UN General Assembly in New York on Tuesday, Trump said: “I look at London, where you have a terrible mayor, terrible, terrible mayor, and it’s been changed, it’s been so changed.”

“Now they want to go to sharia law. But you are in a different country, you can’t do that,” he added, referring to the Islamic law code based on the teachings of the Koran.

Labour Prime Minister Keir Starmer has made a considerable effort to try to stay in Trump’s

good books, including with an unprecedented second state visit to the UK last week.

Khan said London was top of many indicators such as foreign investment, adding he was “really proud that we are the greatest city in the world”.

Earlier on Wednesday, government minister Pat McFadden said Trump was “misreading” London.

Khan, who is Muslim, has been London’s mayor since 2016. That year he criticised Trump over the then-presidential hopeful’s proposed travel ban for people from some Muslim-majority countries.

GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH

Ministry of Liberation War Affairs

Transport pool Building

Secretariat Link Road, Dhaka-1000

(Admin-2 Section)

www.molwa.gov.bd

Invitation for Tender

01	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Liberation War Affairs.			
02	Agency	Ministry of Liberation War Affairs.			
03	Procuring Entity Name	Ministry of Liberation War Affairs.			
04	Procuring Entity Code	Not Applicable			
05	Procuring Entity District	Dhaka.			
06	Invitation for	Tender.			
07	Invitation Ref No & Date	48.00.0000.000.001.07.0041.25.395			
08	Date	24.09.2025			
Key Information:					
09	Procurement Method	Open Tendering Method			
Funding Information:					
10	Budget and Source of Funds	Revenue Budget/GOB			
Particular Information:					
11	Tender Packages/Lots	LAN Network Infrastructure Installation and Modernization			
12	Tender Publication Date	25.09.2025			
13	Tender Last Selling Date	08.10.2025, Time 3:30 PM			
14	Tender Submission Date and Time	09.10.2025, Time 12:00 PM			
15	Tender Opening Date and Time	09.10.2025, 12:30 PM			
16	Name & Address of the office	Address			
Selling & Receiving of Tender Document		Deputy Secretary (Admin-2) Ministry of Liberation War Affairs, 5 th Floor, Room No-604, Transport Pool Building, Secretariat Link Road, Dhaka-1000.			
Opening of Tender Document					
17	Place/Date/Time of Pre-Tender Meeting (Optional)	-			
Information for Tenderer (IFT):					
18	Brief Eligibility and Qualification of Tenderer	(1) Valid Trade License Certificate (FY 2025-26). (2) Income Tax Return Certificate (FY 2024-25). (3) VAT Registration Certificate. (4) Bank solvency certificate must be submitted with tender period. (5) Bidder shall mention the Brand, Country of Origin/Made in and warranty of the items. (6) The Tenderer shall have a minimum of 5 years of overall experience in similar works must be submitted. (7) The Tenderer shall have an experience of similar works as at least Tk. 40,00,000/- (Forty Lac) within the three years (FY 2022-23, 2023-24 & 2024-25) of government, Semi-Government and Autonomous organizations in the systems (work completion certificate must be submitted). (8) Required Tender Security (Bank Draft/Pay Order/ Bank Guarantee) must be submitted. (9) Specific Completion Certificate with NoA/work order as specified in the TDS must be submitted. (10) The minimum amount of liquid assets i.e. working capital or credit line(s) of the Tenderer shall be Tk. 40,00,000/- (Forty Lac) must be submitted Authorization form. (11) Undertaking of not being Black-Listed/Debarment in any Government/Autonomous Body. (12) Total Item based lowest bidder will be selected. (13) The procuring entity reserves the right to reject all Applications. (14) Manufacturer/Dealer Authorization letter must be submitted with the bid.			
19	Brief Description of Goods	LAN Network Infrastructure Installation and Modernization			
20	Brief Description of Related Services	As described in STD.			
21	Price of Tender Document (Tk)	BDT-1,000/- (Not returnable)			
	Package no	Identification of Package	Location	Tender Security Amount (Tk)	Completion Time in Weeks / Months
22	01	LAN Network Infrastructure Installation and Modernization	Ministry of Liberation War Affairs, 5 th Floor, Room No-604, Transport pool Building, Secretariat Link Road, Dhaka-1000.	3% - 5% In favour of Deputy Secretary (Admin-2), Ministry of Liberation War Affairs	02 weeks from signing of contract.
Procuring Entity Details:					
23	Name of Official Inviting Tender		Shobnam Mushatry Rikta		
24	Designation of Official Inviting Tender		Deputy Secretary (Admin-2)		
25	Address of Official Inviting Tender		Ministry of Liberation War Affairs, 5 th Floor, Room No-611, Transport pool Building, Secretariat Link Road, Dhaka-1000.		
26	Contact details of Official Inviting Tender		02223388201 (Off)	Fax: 41050901 mail: dsadmin2@molwa.gov.bd	
27	The Procuring Entity reserves the right to reject all tenders or annul the Tender proceedings.				

Shobnam Mushatry Rikta

Deputy Secretary (Admin-2)

Tel: 02223388201

GD-2083

Attacks on NCP leaders disgraceful

Better security measures should have been taken for NYC-bound political delegates

We strongly condemn the attacks on National Citizen Party (NCP) Member Secretary Akhter Hossen and Senior Joint Member Secretary Tasnim Jara by Awami League supporters in New York City outside the JFK Airport on Monday. BNP Secretary General Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir was also with them at the time. According to reports, eggs were hurled at Akhter, while a torrent of sexist slurs was directed at Jara. The three were part of Chief Adviser Muhammad Yunus's delegation to the 80th United Nations General Assembly.

While everyone has a right to protest, nobody has the right to be violent or abusive. The AL supporters' behaviour was reprehensible and demonstrates that they have learnt nothing from the July uprising and the public's rejection of the AL for its brutal crackdown on protesters. Nor is there any sign of remorse for the brutal deaths of over a thousand civilians in the uprising. It is deplorable that AL supporters are still following such a violent political culture, manifesting it even on foreign soil. What is also concerning is the image such acts create of Bangladeshis in an environment where anti-immigrant sentiments are rife, with likely adverse repercussions for our diaspora as a whole. In the past, there have been similar attempts to attack Information Adviser Mahfuj Alam as well as incidents of vandalism at the Bangladesh Consulate General.

We are also disappointed that the chief adviser's office was unable to ensure adequate security for these three political leaders despite their being part of his delegation. The CA office has expressed regret over the attack, stating it was politically motivated and alleging that Mirza Fakhrul was also assaulted. The statement further noted that precautionary measures had been taken, but due to last-minute visa complications the three were rerouted through another exit. It added that despite formal requests for VVIP access, the airport authorities denied it, exposing them to risk. According to a report, the three leaders did not have the same visa documents as the others in the delegation who had VVIP access. This should have been factored into the pre-visit planning by the CA office, with proper follow-up actions.

This disturbing incident and those that occurred before should make the CA office more diligent and foresighted when arranging foreign visits for officials or other individuals in official entourage. It is also important to ascertain whether the Bangladesh Consulate General played its due role in providing the proper protocol to the political leaders.

It is, however, reassuring to know that one of the culprits who recorded himself holding up an egg and hurling abuses at Akhter Hossen has been arrested. We hope that such unsavoury incidents are avoided in the future. Going forward, Bangladeshi consulates must be more vigilant and take pre-emptive actions (such as informing local police) to prevent belligerent groups from gathering outside airports, consulates, or other public areas. Given the hostile climate created by many AL supporters living abroad, the CA office must take extra steps to ensure the security of all Bangladeshi officials and delegates visiting foreign countries.

Shocking deaths of firefighters in Tongi

The incident raises questions about the safety of firefighters

We are shocked by the deaths of two firefighters in an explosion in Tongi's Sahara Market on September 22. Reportedly, upon receiving information about a fire at a chemical warehouse in the market, a team of firefighters from Tongi Fire Station rushed there to handle the situation. However, tragedy struck when the team approached to douse the fire after being assured by one of the owners that there were no flammable or explosive materials inside. The following explosion indicated that there were, in fact, highly explosive substances inside the warehouse, although it is still not known exactly which materials were stored there. The two firefighters who died sustained 100 percent burn injuries, while another person is presently fighting for his life with 42 percent burns.

The incident has raised some fundamental questions. The warehouse owner misled the firefighters about the nature of the materials stored there; was it because hazardous chemicals were illegally kept in the warehouse? Did he not realise that such false information could endanger public safety? Also, it needs to be seen whether there are other chemical warehouses in the market operating secretly and posing a danger to the public. Shahin Alam, station officer of Tongi Fire Station, stated that had they been informed about the presence of explosive substances, their response strategy would have been different. That two lives were lost due to false information is unacceptable.

Our firefighters routinely risk their lives while on duty, yet their safety and well-being are often overlooked. The memories of the tragic explosion at the BM Container Depot in Sitakunda, Chattogram on June 4, 2022, which claimed the lives of 13 firefighters, are still fresh in our memory. Such incidents reveal serious concerns about the protection and preparedness of our firefighting teams. Reports indicate that firefighters often operate without essential personal protective equipment, such as fire suits or breathing apparatus. Furthermore, compensation for injuries or deaths remains grossly inadequate, while there is no insurance coverage for deaths or injuries either. Such a situation is deplorable.

We, therefore, urge the government to ensure that the salaries and other benefits of firefighters match the risk and gruelling work that they have to do. The government must also take strict measures to prevent the illegal operation of hazardous chemical warehouses for public safety. Regarding the Tongi incident, the government must conduct a thorough investigation to find the real reason behind the explosion and hold the individual who misled the firefighters accountable. Additionally, it must ensure adequate compensation for the families of the deceased and provide proper medical care to those injured. Above all, the government must take decisive steps to prevent such tragedies from happening again.

Palestine's recognition is not a reward to Hamas

How Western media obscures Palestinian suffering



Kamal Ahmed is consulting editor at The Daily Star. He led the Media Reform Commission under the interim government. His X handle is @ahmedkal.

KAMAL AHMED

The recognition of Palestine as a state by some major Western powers, including the UK and France, has come so late that many would argue these nations also bear some responsibilities for the thousands of preventable deaths that have occurred in Gaza. Yet, US President Donald Trump, the most powerful man on Earth, believes the recognition of a Palestinian state by key allies is effectively rewarding Hamas for its attack on Israel on October 7, 2023, which started the war. According to White House Press Secretary Karoline Leavitt, "Frankly, he believes it's a reward to Hamas."

President Trump repeated the same diatribe against its allies that have independently announced recognition of Palestine at the United Nations General Assembly's 80th session. Shockingly, it's not just President Trump, who earlier this year shockingly proposed to convert Gaza into "the Riviera of the Middle East"; many leading media houses, particularly in Britain, also echoed Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's outrage by likening the recognition as a surrender to terrorism.

Headlines in the British media, the day after the announcement by Prime Minister Keir Starmer, are anything but an unbelievably shameful dehumanisation of the Palestinian people. Picking up a few words from Hamas' reaction that the recognition by the UK, Canada and Australia were "victory for the justice of our cause," the *Daily Mail* splashed out "Hamas claims victory." *The Times* took a similar approach, though quoting families of Israeli hostages who have accused the prime minister of handing Hamas "its greatest prize." The Telegraph headline also said, "Hamas declares 'victory' after UK recognition of Palestine."

There were, however, a few



Smoke rises from an Israeli strike as displaced Palestinians, fleeing northern Gaza due to an Israeli military operation, move southward after Israeli forces ordered residents of Gaza City to evacuate to the south, in the central Gaza Strip on September 24, 2025.

PHOTO: REUTERS

exceptions who are known for their liberal and leftwing views. The *Mirror's* front page reads "the best hope for peace," showing a photo of damaged buildings in Gaza. The *Guardian* quoted Sir Keir Starmer's claim that the decision showed "commitment to a two-state solution." But the domineering tone was of the right-wing view of anti-recognition of a Palestinian state.

It has been alleged for quite some time that the mainstream media in the West are inherently biased against Palestinians. The Centre for Media Monitoring (CfMM), founded by the Muslim Council of Britain and known for monitoring anti-Muslim bias in British media, pointed out that BBC presenters shut down genocide claims in over 100 documented instances while making zero mention of

180,000 video clips from seven UK broadcasters and three international broadcasters, as well as about 26,000 news articles from 28 British media websites and found a similar pattern of bias in favour of Israel. However, the BBC rejected the allegations of bias, saying, "We do not think due impartiality can be measured by counting words. We make our own independent editorial decisions, and we reject any suggestion otherwise."

This is not mere minimisation of Palestinian suffering, rather deliberate or unknowing downplay of Israeli atrocities and war crimes that have been continuing with impunity for nearly two years. Israel's Gaza campaign is perhaps the only genocide broadcast live despite absence of any journalists from outside world. The Netanyahu government has done

everything possible to keep the media out of Gaza by denying access to foreign journalists, shutting down Al Jazeera and indiscriminately killing Palestinian journalists.

According to the United Nations, more media workers have been killed by Israeli forces during their ongoing military campaign in Gaza than the journalists killed in two world wars and wars in Vietnam, Iraq and Afghanistan combined. In various counts, the toll varies between 220 and 272. While covering the Gaza war, Palestinian journalists' unmatched sacrifices to tell the stories of devastation and inhumane sufferings of the innocent victims, including women and children, to the world were largely ignored by most Western media outlets. Instead, briefings by the Israeli Defense Forces' spokesperson got prominence in their coverage.

The most disturbing aspect of the mainstream global media's coverage of Palestine's recognition is its continuation of the same approach to reporting on the Gaza invasion—one that dehumanises Palestinian lives, equates the general population of Gaza with Hamas, and normalises atrocities to the point of whitewashing war crimes. The contrast with their treatment of Ukraine's war with Russia could not be starker. While Ukrainian victims of Russian invasion justifiably get humane treatment in the language of their reports and commentaries, the innocent Palestinians under Israeli occupation are often subjected to being equated with terrorists.

It is true that the recognition of Palestine by these Western powers is largely symbolic as the US remains steadfast in favour of Israel. But this symbolic gesture is crucial to keep the hope for a two-state solution of the conflict as Netanyahu insisted that there will not be any Palestine. This long-awaited recognition should now be followed by coordinated and practical measures to bring an end to the Gaza war and annexation of the West Bank. Immediate suspension of arms supply and military cooperation are the least these countries could do to resume negotiations for the future of Palestine, freeing Israeli hostages and civilians languishing in Israeli prisons, and rebuilding Gaza.

Bangladesh must uphold its secular heritage



Altaf Russell is a PhD researcher in economics at the University of Glasgow. He can be reached at altafstat71@gmail.com.

ALTAF RUSSELL

Bangladesh is currently experiencing a troubling rise in far-right rhetoric. Many try to justify this by pointing to similar trends in India and even Western democracies. However, as someone living in Glasgow, Scotland, I have witnessed a powerful counter-narrative—one that offers hope and inspiration for those who believe in a secular and inclusive Bangladesh.

In the heart of Glasgow city centre, I recently observed a vibrant crowd waving Scottish flags, Palestinian banners, and placards reading "Migrants Make Our NHS," "Scotland Needs Migrants," "None of Us Chose Our Place of Birth," "Stop the Far Right," and "We All Bleed Red." The gathering was a peaceful demonstration against far-right ideologies and in support of migrants and refugees. What stood out was the unity across communities—locals and immigrants, young and old—coming together to reject hate. Police and organisers ensured the event remained peaceful, even as a small group of far-right agitators attempted to disrupt it. They were calmly turned away, their divisive message drowned out by the overwhelming call for solidarity.

It is undeniable that far-right movements have gained a grip globally. In India, majoritarian politics have intensified communal divisions. However, the rise of the far-right in India is deeply rooted in its colonial history and has evolved into a domestically grounded ideological framework. Since 1947, India's right-

wing forces have crafted their own narrative, often adjusting their tone to accommodate regional sensitivities. For instance, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, aware of the cultural diversity across India, does not attempt to replicate Gujarat's political model everywhere. When in West Bengal, he publicly acknowledges figures like Rabindranath Tagore to appeal to local sentiments.

Unlike their counterparts in Bangladesh, Indian far-right leaders rarely seek ideological guidance from abroad. On the other hand, far-right movements in Bangladesh have often been influenced or fueled by external elements, particularly from Pakistan, Afghanistan, and parts of the Middle East. The transnational connections are evident—Bangladeshi Hefazat leaders, for example, have recently visited Afghanistan to reportedly draw "ideological inspiration" from regimes that, in reality, promote religious authoritarianism. This external influence has shaped a more rigid and imported version of far-right politics in Bangladesh, alienating it from its own pluralistic heritage.

Interestingly, when comparisons between India and China arise in Bangladesh, a prominent portion of Gen Z tends to favour China. Yet, paradoxically, many of these same young people are influenced by the rise of fundamentalist politics in India and far-right ideologies in the West. Gen Z in China, however, does not appear to be motivated by global

far-right trends, at least in the same way. Their political orientation is shaped more by domestic narratives and state-controlled ideology than by transnational far-right movements. This contrast highlights how external ideological influence plays a more significant role in shaping far-right tendencies in South Asia.

What is often overlooked in

Gen Z and Millennials are generally more progressive and supportive of diversity. However, in Bangladesh, despite the uprising led by students, Gen Z is often portrayed as leaning towards the far right. I believe this image is misleading. A dysfunctional political culture and limited civic education pushed many young people towards reactionary views, and unfortunately, many of them remain alienated from Bengal's rich secular history, which must be reclaimed.

Bangladesh's public discourse is that these far-right surges are not going unchallenged. Across the world, people are standing up for pluralism, tolerance, and human rights. The Glasgow demonstration is just one example showing that the story of our times is not only about the rise of hate, but also about the resilience of hope. Bangladesh's founding principles were rooted in secularism, linguistic rights, and cultural diversity. The spirits of 1971 Liberation War and

2024 July uprising were of inclusion, not exclusion. Yet today, some seek to rewrite this legacy, using the rise of far-right politics elsewhere as justification for intolerance at home. But should we follow the most divisive examples from abroad? Or should we look to those who are resisting hate, those who refuse to let fear and prejudice define their society?

My personal experience in Scotland is that younger people are more likely to be anti-far-right than older people. Gen Z and Millennials are generally more progressive and supportive of diversity. However, in Bangladesh, despite the uprising led by students, Gen Z is often portrayed as leaning towards the far right. I believe this image is misleading. A dysfunctional political culture and limited civic education pushed many young people towards reactionary views, and unfortunately, many of them remain alienated from Bengal's rich secular history, which must be reclaimed.

The Glasgow rally was a testament to the power of secular values. In Bangladesh, we must reject attempts to pit one group against another, whether based on religion, ethnicity, or political affiliation. By standing up for secularism and inclusion, we can set a positive example for the region and the world.

It is a choice to accept or deny the far-right wave sweeping across Bangladesh that each of us must make, every day, in our words and actions. We can choose to be bystanders, or we can choose to be upstanders. Let us draw inspiration from Glasgow and countless other places where ordinary people are standing up to hate. Let us remember the true spirit of 1971 and the July uprising.

In every country, the forces of division and exclusion are being met by the forces of hope and inclusion. The question for Bangladesh is simple: which side of history will we choose?

How much has Bangladesh achieved from BRI?



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MUHAMMAD BADRUL HASAN

The year 2026 marks a decade of Bangladesh's involvement in China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI). On this occasion, it is important to assess what we have achieved from this partnership, its potential impact, and what can be done going forward. What began through Chinese President Xi Jinping's state visit to Bangladesh in 2016—with promises of transformative infrastructure, enhanced connectivity, and deepened trade links—has evolved into a complex chapter in our national development story. The BRI is China's global infrastructure development and connectivity strategy launched in 2013. It aims to boost trade, investment, and cultural exchange by building networks of roads, railways, ports, energy pipelines, and digital infrastructure across Asia, Africa, Europe, and beyond. For some, the BRI has been a gateway to long-overdue projects and regional integration, and for others, it has raised questions about debt sustainability, environmental impacts, and the balance of strategic interests.

After signing BRI, Bangladesh has seen the inaugural works of Padma Bridge, which is considered as one of the largest transport infrastructure projects in the country. We have also seen some development in other sectors, such as power generation, energy, railways, trade, etc, through enhanced investment partnership. Under the BRI, Bangladesh is expected to get \$26 billion for projects and \$14 billion for joint venture projects, totalling \$40 billion. BRI initiatives have mostly been

in the energy and transportation sectors in Bangladesh, where infrastructure investment requirements are projected to be equivalent to 1.5 percent of GDP in 2040.

The BRI projects have some geostrategic advantages as well. Chinese investment through the BRI is helping Bangladesh become a hub for regional connectivity. The country can become a fruitful land to connect the Bay of Bengal with the western provinces of China. Also, Bangladesh is now the only access point to the Bay of Bengal for China, as their relationship with India has declined in recent years and Myanmar is embroiled in a civil war situation.

However, some have raised concerns over debt and financial risk issues, as well as the governance challenges. When we saw how Sri Lanka leased Hambantota Port to a Chinese firm as it was not able to repay its loans to China, it raised the debt trap concerns. Experts, however, believe that Bangladesh is not entirely dependent on Chinese loans for infrastructure projects and has repaid loans within due time, which keeps us on the safe side. Another concern is our constantly poor performance in global corruption indexes, which leads to worries regarding effective investment fund management in the infrastructure development sector. Transparency International Bangladesh (TIB) reported in 2022 that more than Tk 390 crore was misappropriated across just three power projects due to inflated land costs and non-

competitive bidding. Some projects advanced by less than 15 percent even after years. This depicts how poorly our governance mechanism has performed with foreign investment, and this is a risk for long-term projects like the BRI.

The environmental aspects of BRI received less attention compared to other issues. As we saw, several coal-fired power projects that were planned for BRI financing got cancelled,

Karnaphuli Tunnel. The world is abandoning tunnel structures, as these are not suitable for the natural flow of rivers. Also, for an active delta like us, navigability is a huge concern, which got damaged by this tunnel.

As we near the completion of a decade of BRI involvement, it is fairly evident that we haven't been able to get the best out of it. Some assessment for improvement is required. As we are now seeing the development of

engaged in this sector. As Bangladesh aims to produce 30 percent of its total power production through renewable energy by 2041, it requires more investment and infrastructural adjustments. BRI has opened the door for Chinese investors to provide the assistance to fulfil these targets. As China intends to make a significant geostrategic impact in South Asia, we can also channel this intention to seek Chinese investment through BRI to assist transboundary river management, especially issues related to the Teesta River.

There are a few spaces where we need to improve to make a sustainable impact on BRI execution in Bangladesh. First, geopolitical balance is a factor that needs consideration to make sure that Bangladesh's global image is one of neutrality. If our geopolitical language is more inclined to China, it might create misconceptions about our standing globally. Second, our policy should be of cooperation and impartiality. Third, we need to make sure political institutions remain unbiased and focused only on national interests during BRI engagements. Recently, some investors raised concern regarding investment protection and execution for renewable energy in Bangladesh. This issue needs to be addressed to ensure an easy transition. Fourth, environmental impact assessment reports of BRI projects should be made public and reassessed by different stakeholders to avoid unwanted circumstances. Our focus should be more on technology transfer and knowledge-sharing than on dependency on Chinese expertise.

Finally, public-private partnership projects can be a great base for knowledge sharing and technology transfer. PPP projects involve a vast array of stakeholders from different sectors, which creates an opportunity to strengthen stakeholder capacity regarding infrastructure development, fund management, and innovation in project execution. It requires strong policy design and some adjustments in bilateral agreements in the future.



VISUAL: ANWAR SOHEL

which created havoc in the investment climate. Later, China also committed not to invest in new coal-fired projects. In 2021, it institutionalised its decision to halt investment in coal projects abroad through Xi's own announcement at the UNGA. Now, Chinese investors are willing to invest in Bangladesh's renewable energy sector, but they are concerned about the country's poor investment climate, especially now. Another highly discussed environmentally malfunctioned BRI project has been the

different economic zones in Bangladesh, they can be a good ground for BRI investments. Connecting these economic zones with seaports and export hubs can positively accelerate our growth. BRI also offers an opportunity for us to become a regional hub for trade and commerce. Bangladesh is looking for aviation development, especially generating opportunities for domestic operations to enhance commercial activities and increasing capacities for international operations. BRI investment can also be

Riyadh-Islamabad axis can reshape the geopolitical chessboard



Hussain A Samad
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HUSSAIN A SAMAD

Recently, a semi-seismic shift has occurred in the landscape of geopolitics, although it arrived not with a bang, but rather quietly. On September 17, Pakistan and Saudi Arabia signed a defence treaty called the Strategic Mutual Defence Agreement(SMDA), which sent reverberations from Washington to New Delhi and Tel Aviv. Crucially, the pact contains a clause stating that any attack on one signatory will be considered an attack on both. This mutual defence commitment—mirroring Article 5 of the North Atlantic Treaty (Nato Charter)—marks the birth of a potentially powerful new axis, signalling a bold commitment to strategic independence from traditional alliances.

The question is: what prompted this alliance, and what does it mean for the current global and regional order? The first part of the answer, according to a growing consensus among analysts, lies not in Riyadh or Islamabad, but in the smoke-filled skies of Qatar's Doha.

It relates to Israel's audacious attack on Qatar on September 9, aimed at assassinating

Hamas negotiators, which drew swift international condemnation for violating Qatar's sovereignty. The strike itself was not the main trigger, however. It was the subsequent silence from Washington. Qatar is a major non-Nato ally of the US and home to its largest military base in the Middle East. Yet, when Israel, perhaps the closest US ally, conducted an attack on Qatar's soil, the US seemingly stood aside, expressing unhappiness only.

For Saudi Arabia and other Gulf countries, a chilling realisation dawned: their decades-old security guarantees from the US were conditional; when American and Israeli interests align, commitments to Arab partners could prove hollow. This perceived betrayal created the perception of a security vacuum, which has driven Saudi Arabia to seek a more reliable deterrent, and it found one in Pakistan—the sole nuclear power in the Muslim world. A security pact with Islamabad may serve as a potent insurance policy, a nuclear shield that Tel Aviv cannot ignore.

The move has ignited speculation about a broader realignment. Adding to the momentum, Pakistan's Deputy Prime Minister Ishaq Dar revealed that other Muslim nations have expressed interest in similar pacts. Whispers of a “Muslim Nato” are growing louder, with countries like Qatar and Turkey being seen as potential future partners in similar pacts. The recent solidarity summit in Qatar, attended by leaders from across the Muslim world, further highlights this rallying cry for unity against perceived external threats in light of waning confidence in US protection.

For Israel, the strategic calculus has been altered. The era of near-impunity for military actions in neighbouring states may be ending. An attack on Saudi Arabia would now risk invoking a response from a nuclear-armed Pakistan, thereby constraining Israel's regional ambitions. Israeli officials have downplayed the agreement, but privately, they must be weighing the risks of escalation in an already volatile theatre.

For the United States, the pact represents a multifaceted strategic blow and a significant loss of influence over a key ally and the world's largest oil exporter. For decades, the US has been the undisputed security broker in the Middle East, a role that underpins its diplomatic leverage and secures multi-billion dollar arms deals. The initial secrecy surrounding the pact is a clear signal that Riyadh and Islamabad intentionally bypassed Washington to avoid any disruptions in the process. Beyond losing its role as the exclusive protector, the US now faces the rise of a new,

independent power bloc that could challenge its geopolitical interests across the region. Critics in Washington argue that it could accelerate a post-American order, while proponents see it as a wake-up call for a more balanced US policy. While the US joined the UN Security Council's condemnation of the Doha strike, the damage to trust seems to remain.

For India, the treaty also creates an acute diplomatic dilemma. New Delhi has cultivated a strong, multifaceted economic relationship with Saudi Arabia, which is home to over 2.5 million Indian expatriate workers. Simultaneously, its 75-year-old rivalry with Pakistan remains its most pressing security concern. The pact forces an uncomfortable question: in the event of a future conflict with Pakistan, would Saudi Arabia be treaty-bound to intervene? This new reality forces India to navigate a treacherous diplomatic tightrope, balancing its vital interests in the Gulf with the heightened threat from its western neighbour. However, sources indicate that the pact will not disrupt Saudi oil flows to India, providing some reassurance amid efforts to bolster the India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC).

The treaty's effects also ripple beyond the immediate players. For instance, the situation requires careful observation for countries like Bangladesh. In recent times, Dhaka has been mending fences with Islamabad. At the same time, its relationship with India, sharing the fifth-longest land border in the world (over 4,000 km), is deep and historic, while its economic and labour ties to Saudi

Arabia are vital. Dhaka will likely adhere to its foundational foreign policy principle of “friendship to all, malice towards none,” cautiously navigating the shifting allegiances without being entangled in bloc politics.

The immediate winners of this new arrangement are clear. Pakistan is elevated to a pivotal geopolitical player, with its status as a security guarantor for a wealthy Gulf state promising immense economic and diplomatic dividends. Saudi Arabia gains a deterrent independent of the West, granting it greater autonomy in its foreign policy.

The Riyadh-Islamabad axis should thus be seen as a move by two nations to seize control of their own security destinies in a world that is precarious. But is it a masterstroke of statecraft or a dangerous gamble? On the one hand, the pact could introduce a new balance of power, a form of mutually assured deterrence that could diffuse tensions and prevent conflicts from spiralling out of control. It might finally compel the US to play a more even-handed role and restrain Israel's military adventurism. On the other hand, it could lead to the hardening of alliances and the formalisation of hostile blocs, reminiscent of the Cold War. The risk of miscalculation increases as new tripwires are laid across one of the world's most volatile regions.

One thing is certain: old rules no longer apply. The Pakistan-Saudi Arabia defence treaty is a declaration that the post-Cold War, US-led order in the Middle East is slowly crumbling. What replaces it remains to be seen.

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BY THOMAS JOSEPH

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গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার

বস্ত্র ও পাট মন্ত্রণালয়

বাংলাদেশ জীত বোর্ড

বিটিএমসি ভবন (৫ম তলা)

৭-৯, কাওরান বাজার, ঢাকা-১২১৫

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তারিখঃ ০৬ আশ্বিন ১৪৩২ বঙ্গাব্দ
২১ সেপ্টেম্বর ২০২৫ খ্রিস্টাব্দ

নিয়োগ বিজ্ঞপ্তি

বাংলাদেশ জীত বোর্ডের রাজস্ব খাতভুক্ত নিয়োগযোগ্য শূন্য পদের বিপরীতে জাতীয় বেতনস্কেল, ২০১৫-এর ৯ম ও ১১তম গ্রেডভুক্ত নিয়োগ্য স্থায়ী পদে সরাসরি জনবল নিয়োগের লক্ষ্যে পদের পার্শ্বে বর্ণিত শর্তে বাংলাদেশের প্রকৃত নাগরিকদের নিকট হতে কেবলমাত্র অনলাইনে (<https://bhb.teletalk.com.bd> ওয়েবসাইটে) আবেদনপত্র আহ্বান করা যাচ্ছে:

ক্র: নং	পদের নাম, গ্রেড ও বেতনস্কেল	পদ সংখ্যা	শিক্ষাপত যোগ্যতা ও অভিজ্ঞতা
১.	গবেষণা কর্মকর্তা গ্রেড-৯ বেতনস্কেল: ২২,০০০-৫৩,০৬০/-	০১ (এক)টি	অর্থনীতিতে কমপক্ষে ২য় শ্রেণিতে স্নাতকোত্তর ডিগ্রি (সম্মান ডিগ্রিধারীদের অগ্রাধিকার দেওয়া হবে)।
২.	পরিসংখ্যানবিদ গ্রেড-৯ বেতনস্কেল: ২২,০০০-৫৩,০৬০/-	০১ (এক)টি	পরিসংখ্যানে কমপক্ষে ২য় শ্রেণিতে স্নাতকোত্তর ডিগ্রি (সম্মান ডিগ্রিধারীদের অগ্রাধিকার দেওয়া হবে)।
৩.	সহকারী প্রকৌশলী (পূরঃ) গ্রেড-৯ বেতনস্কেল: ২২,০০০-৫৩,০৬০/-	০১ (এক)টি	সংশ্লিষ্ট বিষয়ে ডিগ্রি অথবা সংশ্লিষ্ট ক্ষেত্রে কমপক্ষে ৩ বৎসরের বাস্তব অভিজ্ঞতাসহ ডিপ্লোমা।
৪.	লিয়ার্সের কর্মকর্তা গ্রেড-৯ বেতনস্কেল: ২২,০০০-৫৩,০৬০/-	০৫ (পাঁচ)টি	স্নাতকোত্তর ডিগ্রি অথবা সংশ্লিষ্ট কাজে কমপক্ষে ৩ বৎসরের অভিজ্ঞতাসহ স্নাতক ডিগ্রি।
৫.	কারিগরি কর্মকর্তা গ্রেড-৯ বেতনস্কেল: ২২,০০০-৫৩,০৬০/-	০১ (এক)টি	টেক্সটাইল টেকনোলজিতে ডিগ্রি অথবা ৩ বৎসরের অভিজ্ঞতাসহ টেক্সটাইল টেকনোলজিতে ডিপ্লোমা।
৬.	মাননিয়ন্ত্রণ কর্মকর্তা গ্রেড-৯ বেতনস্কেল: ২২,০০০-৫৩,০৬০/-	০১ (এক)টি	টেক্সটাইল টেকনোলজিতে ডিগ্রি অথবা ৩ বৎসরের অভিজ্ঞতাসহ টেক্সটাইল টেকনোলজিতে ডিপ্লোমা।
৭.	ইন্সট্রাক্টর (গবেষণা কর্মকর্তা) গ্রেড-৯ বেতনস্কেল: ২২,০০০-৫৩,০৬০/-	০১ (এক)টি	টেক্সটাইল টেকনোলজিতে ডিগ্রি অথবা ৩ বৎসরের অভিজ্ঞতাসহ টেক্সটাইল টেকনোলজিতে ডিপ্লোমা।
৮.	ইন্সট্রাক্টর গ্রেড-৯ বেতনস্কেল: ২২,০০০-৫৩,০৬০/-	০৩ (তিন)টি	টেক্সটাইল টেকনোলজিতে ডিগ্রি অথবা ৩ বৎসরের অভিজ্ঞতাসহ টেক্সটাইল টেকনোলজিতে ডিপ্লোমা।
৯.	ডিজাইনার গ্রেড-৯ বেতনস্কেল: ২২,০০০-৫৩,০৬০/-	০১ (এক)টি	টেক্সটাইল টেকনোলজিতে ডিগ্রি অথবা ৩ বৎসরের অভিজ্ঞতাসহ টেক্সটাইল টেকনোলজিতে ডিপ্লোমা।
১০.	সহকারী লাইব্রেরিয়ান গ্রেড-১১ বেতনস্কেল: ১২,৫০০-৩০,২৩০/-	০১ (এক)টি	লাইব্রেরি সায়েন্সে ডিপ্লোমা অথবা ৩ বৎসরের অভিজ্ঞতাসহ লাইব্রেরি সায়েন্সে সার্টিফিকেট কোর্স।

আবেদন করার পূরণ এবং পরীক্ষার অংশগ্রহণের ক্ষেত্রে নিম্নবর্ণিত শর্তাবলি অবশ্যই অনুসরণ করতে হবে:

- ০১। আবেদনকারীর বয়স ০১.০৯.২০২৫ খ্রিঃ তারিখে সর্বনিম্ন ১৮ (আঠারো) বছর এবং সর্বোচ্চ ৩২ (বত্রিশ) বছর হতে হবে;
- ০২। সরকারি/আধা-সরকারি/স্বায়ত্বশাসিত প্রতিষ্ঠানে চাকরির প্রার্থীদের যথাযথ কর্তৃপক্ষের অনুমতি গ্রহণপূর্বক নির্দিষ্ট সময়সীমার মধ্যে আবেদন করতে হবে এবং মৌখিক পরীক্ষার সময় অবশ্যই উক্ত অনুমতিপত্র প্রদর্শন করতে হবে;
- ০৩। চাকরির আবেদন ফরমে (Applicant's Copy) সকল শিক্ষাপত যোগ্যতা উল্লেখ করতে হবে। অন্যথায় চাকরির জন্য নির্বাচিত হলে চাকরির আবেদনে উল্লিখিত সনদপত্র ব্যতীত চাকরির আবেদনের পূর্বে অর্জিত অন্যান্য শিক্ষাপত যোগ্যতার সনদপত্র অন্তর্ভুক্ত করার সুযোগ থাকবে না;
- ০৪। সকল পদের পরীক্ষা একই তারিখে অনুষ্ঠিত হওয়ার সম্ভাবনা থাকায় আবেদনকারীকে একাধিক পদে আবেদন না করার পরামর্শ দেয়া হলো;
- ০৫। আবেদনপত্রে প্রার্থী কর্তৃক প্রদত্ত কোনরূপ অসত্য বিবরণ/তথ্য বা দাখিলকৃত কাগজপত্র জাল, মিথ্যা বা ভুয়া প্রমাণিত হলে কিংবা পরীক্ষায় নকল বা অসদুপায় অবলম্বন করলে সংশ্লিষ্ট প্রার্থীর প্রার্থিতা বাতিল করা হবে, এমনকি আবেদনকারী চূড়ান্তভাবে মনোনীত হওয়া সত্ত্বেও আবেদনপত্র বাতিল বলে গণ্য হবে এবং ঐ প্রার্থীর বিরুদ্ধে আইনানুগ ব্যবস্থা গ্রহণ করা হবে। চাকরির প্রাপ্তির পরও যেকোনো পর্যায়ে তার সনদপত্র/প্রদত্ত তথ্য অসত্য প্রমাণিত হলে তাকে চাকরি থেকে তাৎক্ষণিকভাবে বরখাস্ত করা এবং তার বিরুদ্ধে আইনানুগ ব্যবস্থা গ্রহণের বিষয়ে কর্তৃপক্ষ সকল ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করবে;
- ০৬। লিখিত পরীক্ষায় এবং প্রযোজ্য ক্ষেত্রে কম্পিউটার বিষয়ক ব্যবহারিক পরীক্ষায় উত্তীর্ণের পর মৌখিক পরীক্ষায় অংশগ্রহণের সময় প্রার্থীকে তার সকল সনদপত্রের মূলকপি প্রদর্শন করতে হবে। অনলাইনে (Online-এ) দাখিলকৃত Application Form এর প্রিন্ট কপি এবং নিয়োক্ত পত্রাদি/সনদের সত্যায়িত কপি দাখিল করতে হবে:
 - ১ম শ্রেণির গেজেটেড কর্মকর্তা কর্তৃক সত্যায়িত সদ্য তোলা পাসপোর্ট সাইজের ০২ (দুই) কপি রঙিন ছবি;
 - ১ম শ্রেণির গেজেটেড কর্মকর্তা কর্তৃক সকল শিক্ষাপত যোগ্যতার সত্যায়িত কপি, জাতীয় পরিচয়পত্রের সত্যায়িত কপি, অভিজ্ঞতা সনদের সত্যায়িত কপি (প্রযোজ্য ক্ষেত্রে) ও কম্পিউটার প্রশিক্ষণ সনদের সত্যায়িত কপি (প্রযোজ্য ক্ষেত্রে);
 - ইউনিয়ন পরিষদের চেয়ারম্যান/পৌরসভার মেয়র/সিটি কর্পোরেশনের ওয়ার্ড কমিশনারের নিকট হতে নিজ জেলা উল্লেখসহ নাগরিকত্ব ও ১ম শ্রেণির গেজেটেড কর্মকর্তা কর্তৃক প্রদত্ত চারিত্রিক সনদপত্রের কপি;
 - আবেদনকারী মুক্তিযোদ্ধা/শহীদ মুক্তিযোদ্ধার পুত্র-কন্যার স্বপক্ষে আবেদনকারীকে মুক্তিযুদ্ধ বিষয়ক মন্ত্রণালয় কর্তৃক প্রদত্ত সংশ্লিষ্ট মুক্তিযোদ্ধার সনদপত্রের সত্যায়িত কপি, মুক্তিযোদ্ধার সরকারি গেজেটের সত্যায়িত কপি ও পৌরসভার মেয়র/সিটি কর্পোরেশনের কাউন্সিলর/ইউনিয়ন পরিষদের চেয়ারম্যান কর্তৃক মুক্তিযোদ্ধার সাথে তার সম্পর্কের বিষয়টি উল্লেখপূর্বক প্রদত্ত সনদের সত্যায়িত কপি;
 - ক্ষুদ্র নৃ-গোষ্ঠী এবং শারীরিক প্রতিবন্ধী ও তৃতীয় লিঙ্গের প্রার্থীদের সর্বশেষ সরকারি নীতিমালা অনুযায়ী উপযুক্ত কর্তৃপক্ষ কর্তৃক প্রদত্ত সনদপত্রের মূল কপি প্রদর্শনসহ সত্যায়িত কপি দাখিল করতে হবে।
- ০৭। এ নিয়োগ বিজ্ঞপ্তি, লিখিত পরীক্ষা, ব্যবহারিক পরীক্ষা (প্রযোজ্য ক্ষেত্রে), মৌখিক পরীক্ষা ও পরীক্ষা সংক্রান্ত অন্যান্য তথ্য এবং এ নিয়োগ বিজ্ঞপ্তি সম্পর্কিত যেকোনো পরিবর্তন/সংশোধন (যদি থাকে) বাংলাদেশ জীত বোর্ড এর ওয়েবসাইটে (www.bhb.gov.bd) পাওয়া যাবে;
- ০৮। নির্বাচনী পরীক্ষায় অংশগ্রহণের জন্য আবেদনকারীকে কোনো প্রকার যাতায়াত ভাতা ও দৈনিক ভাতা প্রদান করা হবে না;
- ০৯। আবেদনকারীকে তার সর্বশেষ অর্জিত শিক্ষাপত যোগ্যতার বিষয়টি আবেদনে উল্লেখ করতে হবে;
- ১০। যদি কোনো প্রার্থী বাংলাদেশের নাগরিক না হন কিংবা বাংলাদেশের নাগরিক নন এমন কোনো ব্যক্তিকে বিয়ে করেন বা করার জন্য প্রতিনিয়ত বিবাহ হন কিংবা কোনো ফৌজদারি আদালত কর্তৃক নৈতিক স্বলনজনিত অভিযোগে দণ্ডিত হন কিংবা কোনো সরকারি বা স্বায়ত্বশাসিত প্রতিষ্ঠান বা স্থায়ী কর্তৃপক্ষের চাকরি হতে বরখাস্ত হয়ে থাকেন, তাহলে তিনি আবেদন করার জন্য যোগ্য বিবেচিত হবেন না;
- ১১। অনলাইনে আবেদনপত্র পূরণ সংক্রান্ত নিয়মাবলী ও করণীয়:

- (ক) পরীক্ষায় অংশগ্রহণে ইচ্ছুক ব্যক্তি <https://bhb.teletalk.com.bd> এই ওয়েবসাইটে আবেদনপত্র পূরণ করতে পারবেন। আবেদনের সময়সীমা নিম্নরূপ:
 - (i) Online-এ আবেদনপত্র পূরণ ও আবেদন ফি জমা দান শুরুর তারিখ ও সময়: ২৫ সেপ্টেম্বর ২০২৫ সাল ১০:০০ ঘটিকা;
 - (ii) Online-এ আবেদনপত্র জমা দানের শেষ তারিখ ও সময়: ২৪ অক্টোবর ২০২৫ বিকাল ০৫:০০ ঘটিকা। উক্ত সময়সীমার মধ্যে User ID প্রাপ্ত প্রার্থীগণ online-এ আবেদনপত্র submit-এর সময় থেকে পরবর্তী ৭২ (বাহাত্তর) ঘণ্টার মধ্যে এসএমএস এ আবেদন ফি জমা দিতে পারবেন;
- (খ) Online-এ আবেদনপত্রে প্রার্থী জীর স্বাক্ষর (দৈর্ঘ্য ৩০০ x প্রস্থ ৮০ pixel) ও রঙিন ছবি (দৈর্ঘ্য ৩০০ x প্রস্থ ৩০০ pixel) স্ক্যান করে নির্ধারিত স্থানে Upload করবেন। ছবির সাইজ সর্বোচ্চ 100 KB ও স্বাক্ষরের সাইজ সর্বোচ্চ 60 KB হতে হবে;
- (গ) Online আবেদনপত্রে পূরণকৃত তথ্যই যেহেতু পরবর্তী সকল কার্যক্রমে ব্যবহৃত হবে, সেহেতু online-এ আবেদনপত্র submit করার পূর্বেই পূরণকৃত সকল তথ্যের সঠিকতা সম্পর্কে প্রার্থী নিজে শতভাগ নিশ্চিত হবেন;
- (ঘ) প্রার্থী online এ পূরণকৃত আবেদনপত্রের প্রিন্ট কপি পরীক্ষা সংক্রান্ত যেকোনো প্রয়োজনে সহায়ক হিসেবে সংরক্ষণ করবেন এবং মৌখিক পরীক্ষার সময় এক কপি জমা দিবেন;
- (ঙ) SMS প্রেরণের নিয়মাবলী ও আবেদন ফি প্রদান: Online-এ আবেদনপত্র (Application Form) যথাযথভাবে পূরণ করে নির্দেশনামতে ছবি এবং স্বাক্ষর upload করে আবেদনপত্র Submit করা সম্পন্ন হলে কম্পিউটারে ছবিসহ Application Preview দেখা যাবে। যদি Applicant's copy তে কোনো তথ্য ভুল থাকে বা অস্পষ্ট ছবি (সম্পূর্ণ কালো/সম্পূর্ণ সাদা/খোলা) বা ছবি/স্বাক্ষর সঠিক না থাকে তাহলে পুনরায় আবেদন করতে পারবেন। তবে আবেদন ফি জমাদানের পর আর কোনো পরিবর্তন/পরিমার্জন/পরিবর্তন গ্রহণযোগ্য নয়। বিধায় আবেদন ফি জমাদানের পূর্বে প্রার্থী অবশ্যই উক্ত Applicant's copy তে তার সাম্প্রতিক সময়ে তোলা রঙিন ছবি, নির্ভুল তথ্য ও স্বাক্ষর সংযুক্ত থাকা ও এর সঠিকতার বিষয়টি PDF copy ডাউনলোডপূর্বক নিশ্চিত করে প্রিন্ট করে সংরক্ষণ করবেন। Applicant's কপিতে একটি User ID নম্বর দেয়া থাকবে এবং User ID নম্বর ব্যবহার করে প্রার্থী নিয়োক্ত পদ্ধতিতে যেকোনো Teletalk pre-paid mobile নম্বরের মাধ্যমে ০২ (দুই) টি SMS করে ১-৯ নং ক্রমিকের জন্য আবেদন ফি বাবদ ২০০/- (দুইশত) টাকা ও Teletalk এর সার্ভিস চার্জ বাবদ (ভ্যটসহ অফেরতযোগ্য) ২৩/- (তেইশ) টাকাসহ মোট ২২৩/- (দুইশত তেইশ) টাকা এবং ১০ নং ক্রমিকের জন্য আবেদন ফি বাবদ ১৫০/- (একশত পঞ্চাশ) টাকা ও Teletalk এর সার্ভিস চার্জ বাবদ (ভ্যটসহ অফেরতযোগ্য) ১৮/- (আঠারো) টাকাসহ মোট ১৬৮/- (একশত আটত্রিশ) টাকা এবং সকল গ্রেডের পদেই অনগ্রসর নাগরিকদের (ক্ষুদ্র নৃ-গোষ্ঠী এবং শারীরিক প্রতিবন্ধী ও তৃতীয় লিঙ্গের প্রার্থী) আবেদন ফি বাবদ ৫০/- (পঞ্চাশ) টাকা ও Teletalk এর সার্ভিস চার্জ বাবদ (ভ্যটসহ অফেরতযোগ্য) ৬/- (ছয়) টাকাসহ মোট ৫৬/- (ছাট্টিশ) টাকা Teletalk pre-paid mobile নম্বরের মাধ্যমে অনধিক ৭২ (বাহাত্তর) ঘণ্টার মধ্যে জমা দিবেন। এখানে বিশেষভাবে উল্লেখ্য যে, "Online-এ আবেদনপত্রের সকল অংশ পূরণ করে submit করা হলেও আবেদন ফি জমা না দেয়া পর্যন্ত Online আবেদনপত্র কোনো অবস্থাতেই গৃহীত হবে না"।

প্রথম SMS BHB<space>UserID লিখে send করতে হবে 16222 নম্বরে।

Example: BHB ABCDEF

Reply: Applicant's Name, TK-223/168/56 will be charged as application fee. Your PIN is 12345678. To pay fee Type BHB<Space>Yes<space>PIN and send to 16222.

দ্বিতীয় SMS BHB<space>Yes<space>PIN লিখে Send করতে হবে 16222 নম্বরে।

Example: BHB Yes 12345678

Reply: Congratulations Applicant's Name, Payment completed successfully for BHB Application for (post name) User ID is (ABCDEF) and password (xxxxxxxxx).

- (ঢ) প্রবেশপত্র প্রাপ্তির বিষয়টি <https://bhb.teletalk.com.bd> ওয়েবসাইটে এবং প্রার্থীর মোবাইল ফোনে SMS এর মাধ্যমে (শুধুমাত্র যোগ্য প্রার্থীদেরকে) যথাসময়ে জানানো হবে। Online আবেদনপত্রে প্রার্থীর প্রদত্ত মোবাইল ফোনে পরীক্ষা সংক্রান্ত যাবতীয় যোগাযোগ সম্পন্ন করা হবে বিধায় উক্ত নম্বরটি সার্বক্ষণিক সচল রাখা, SMS পড়া এবং প্রাপ্ত নির্দেশনা তাৎক্ষণিকভাবে অনুসরণ করা বাঞ্ছনীয়;
- (ছে) SMS এ প্রেরিত User ID এবং password ব্যবহার করে পরবর্তীতে রোল নম্বর, পদের নাম, ছবি, পরীক্ষার তারিখ, সময় ও স্থানের/ক্ষেত্রের নাম ইত্যাদি তথ্য সম্বলিত প্রবেশপত্র প্রার্থী Download পূর্বক রঙিন Print করে নিবেন। প্রার্থী এই প্রবেশপত্রটি লিখিত পরীক্ষায় অংশগ্রহণের সময়ে এবং উত্তীর্ণ হলে মৌখিক পরীক্ষার সময়ে অবশ্যই প্রদর্শন করবেন;
- (জ) কোনো কারণে প্রার্থী তার User ID ও Password হারিয়ে ফেললে শুধুমাত্র টেলিটক প্রি-পেইড মোবাইল ফোন থেকে প্রার্থীগণ নিম্নবর্ণিত SMS পদ্ধতি অনুসরণ করে (User ID অথবা PIN নম্বর) ব্যবহার করে নিজ নিজ User ID এবং Password পুনরুদ্ধার করতে পারবেন:
 - (i) User ID জানা থাকলে:
BHB<space>Help<space>User<space>UserID & Send to 16222.
Example: BHB Help User ABCDEF
 - (ii) PIN Number জানা থাকলে:
BHB<space>Help<space>PIN<space>PIN Number & Send to 16222.
Example: BHB Help PIN 12345678
- (ঝ) বিজ্ঞপ্তি পত্রিকা ছাড়াও বাংলাদেশ জীত বোর্ডের ওয়েবসাইট www.bhb.gov.bd এ বিজ্ঞপ্তিসহ এতদসংক্রান্ত সকল তথ্য দেখা যাবে। অথবা QR Code স্ক্যান এর মাধ্যমে বাংলাদেশের একমাত্র রাষ্ট্রীয় মোবাইল অপররেটর টেলিটকের জবপোর্টাল <https://alljobs.teletalk.com.bd> ওয়েবসাইটে সরাসরি প্রবেশ করেও বিজ্ঞপ্তি পাওয়া যাবে। নিয়োগ পরীক্ষার তারিখ, সময় ও অন্যান্য তথ্য www.bhb.gov.bd ওয়েবসাইট হতে জানা যাবে;
- (ঞ) অনলাইনে আবেদন করতে কোনো সমস্যা হলে টেলিটক নম্বর থেকে ১২১ অথবা alljobs.query@teletalk.com.bd বা info@bhb.gov.bd ই-মেইল যোগাযোগ করা যাবে। এছাড়া টেলিটকের জবপোর্টাল এর ফেসবুক পেজ <https://www.facebook.com/alljobsbdtteletalk> এ মেসেজ এর মাধ্যমে যোগাযোগ করা যাবে। (Mail/ মেসেজ এর subject-এ Organization Name: BHB, Post Name: ***** Applicant's User ID & Contact Number অবশ্যই উল্লেখ করতে হবে);
- (ট) ডিক্লারেশন: প্রার্থীকে অনলাইন আবেদনপত্রের ডিক্লারেশন অংশে এই সর্শে ঘোষণা দিতে হবে যে প্রার্থী কর্তৃক আবেদনপত্রে প্রদত্ত সকল তথ্য সঠিক এবং সত্য। প্রদত্ত তথ্য অসত্য বা মিথ্যা প্রমাণিত হলে অথবা কোনো অযোগ্যতা ধরা পড়লে বা কোনো প্রতারণা বা দুর্নীতির আশ্রয় গ্রহণ করলে কিংবা পরীক্ষায় নকল বা অসদুপায় অবলম্বন করলে, পরীক্ষার পূর্বে বা পরে এমনকি নিয়োগের পরে যেকোনো পর্যায়ে প্রার্থী/প্রার্থীর নিয়োগ বাতিল করা হবে এবং সংশ্লিষ্ট প্রার্থীর বিরুদ্ধে আইনগত ব্যবস্থা গ্রহণ করা যাবে।
- ১২। শেষ তারিখ ও সময়ের জন্য অপেক্ষা না করে হাতে যথেষ্ট সময় নিয়ে Online এ আবেদনপত্র পূরণ ও আবেদন ফি জমাদান করতে পরামর্শ দেয়া যাচ্ছে;
- ১৩। এ নিয়োগের ক্ষেত্রে সরকারের যাবতীয় বিদ্যমান বিধি-বিধান/আদেশ ও কোটা নীতি এবং পরিবর্তিত ক্ষেত্রে প্রযোজ্য বিধি-বিধান (সর্বশেষ) যথাযথভাবে প্রতিপালন/অনুসরণ করা হবে;
- ১৪। কোনো প্রকার কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতিরেকে নিয়োগকারী কর্তৃপক্ষ যেকোনো আবেদন গ্রহণ অথবা বাতিল এবং এ নিয়োগ কার্যক্রমের আংশিক/সম্পূর্ণ পরিবর্তন/বাতিল এবং পদের সংখ্যা হ্রাস বৃদ্ধির ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করেন। এ নিয়োগের ক্ষেত্রে নিয়োগকারী কর্তৃপক্ষের সিদ্ধান্ত চূড়ান্ত বলে গণ্য হবে।

বাংলাদেশ জীত বোর্ড এর
ওয়েবসাইটে প্রবেশ এর
QR Codeবাংলাদেশ জীত বোর্ড এর
টেলিটক পোর্টালে প্রবেশ এর
QR Code

(আবু আহমদ হুদীদী, এনডিসি)

চেয়ারম্যান (অতিরিক্ত সচিব)

ও

সদস্য সচিব

৭-১১তম গ্রেডের পদের নিয়োগ কমিটি

বাংলাদেশ জীত বোর্ড

GD-2085



পল্লী সঞ্চয় ব্যাংক

প্রধান কার্যালয়

রোড ক্রিসেন্ট বোরাক টাওয়ার (সেভেনল ৭, ৮-১০)

৩৭/৩/এ, ইন্সটান গার্ডেন রোড, ঢাকা-১০০০

www.pallisanchaybank.gov.bd

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পদব্যা/প্রকা/বাব-পরি-সমগ্র/জনসংযোগ-০১/২০২৫-২৬/৪৯

তারিখঃ ২৩/০৯/২০২৫খ্রিঃ

সতর্কীকরণ বিজ্ঞপ্তি

এতদ্বারা সর্বসাধারণের অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, ঢাকা জেলার সাভার উপজেলার সম্পত্তি একটি প্রতারক চক্র পল্লী সঞ্চয় ব্যাংকের নাম ব্যবহার করে সাধারণ মানুষের কাছ থেকে সঞ্চয় সঞ্চয় ও ঋণ গ্রহণের নামে অত্যাচারে অর্থ হাতিয়ে নিচ্ছে। প্রতারক চক্রটি ব্যাংকের নীতিমালা বিকৃত করে ও জাল-অস্বাক্ষরিত পূর্ণ ফর্ম ব্যবহার করে মানুষকে বিভ্রান্ত করছে। পল্লী সঞ্চয় ব্যাংকের অনুমোদিত শাখা ও কর্মকর্তা ব্যতীত অন্য কারও মাধ্যমে সঞ্চয় সঞ্চয় বা ঋণ গ্রহণের কোনো কার্যক্রম পরিচালিত হয় না। সুতরাং এ ধরনের প্রতারণামূলক কাজে প্রতারণা না হওয়ার জন্য সকলকে বিশেষভাবে সতর্ক থাকার অনুরোধ জানানো হচ্ছে। যদি কারও নিকট এ সংক্রান্ত কোনো গ্রামাঞ্চল, অভিযোগ বা তথ্য থাকে, তবে অনুগ্রহ করে নিকটস্থ পল্লী সঞ্চয় ব্যাংক শাখা বা ব্যাংকের প্রধান কার্যালয়ে তাৎক্ষণিকভাবে জানানোর জন্য অনুরোধ করা হলো।

এস. এম. সাইফুল ইসলাম

জনসংযোগ কর্মকর্তা

পল্লী সঞ্চয় ব্যাংক



Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Office of the Executive Engineer

Education Engineering Department, Sunamganj

www.eedmoc.gov.bd

Tender Notice No. e-Tender-06/Haor Area/7016/XEN/EED/Sun/2025-2026

Date: 24/09/2025

Invitation for e-Tender (OTM)

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of Works mention below under Education Engineering Department, Sunamganj District.

SI No.	Tender/Proposal Package No.	Tender ID	Name of works/package description	Last date & time of selling documents	Last date & time of submission documents	Tender/ proposal opening date and time
01	WD 2016 TME D EED_SUN_2 025-26_1	1138679	Construction of 01-Storeyed Academic Building with 04-Storeyed Foundation In/c. Sanitary, Water Supply & Electrification Works at Meruokhola Mominia Fazil Madrasa, Bishwambharpur, Sunamganj.	08-Oct-2025 Time: 15:00	09-Oct-2025 Time: 11:00	09-Oct-2025 Time: 12:00
02	WD Haor_Sun_2025-26_1	1154703	Construction Of 05-Storeyed Multipurpose Building (Boys & Girls) With 05-Storeyed Foundation In/c Sanitary Water Supply & Electrification Works at Muhibur Rahman Manik Sonali Noor High School, Doarabazar, Sunamganj.	15-Oct-2025 Time: 15:00	16-Oct-2025 Time: 11:00	16-Oct-2025 Time: 12:00
03	WD Haor_Sun_2025-26_2	1154704	Construction of 05-Storeyed 50 Bedded Girl's Hostel With 05-Storeyed Foundation In/c Sanitary Water Supply & Electrification Works at Muhibur Rahman Manik Sonali Noor High School, Doarabazar, Sunamganj.	15-Oct-2025 Time: 15:00	16-Oct-2025 Time: 11:00	16-Oct-2025 Time: 12:00
04	WD_Haor_Sun_2025-26_3	1154706	Construction of 05-Storeyed 100 Bedded Girls Hostel Building With 05-Storeyed Foundation In/c Sanitary Water Supply & Electrification Works at Moazzempur High School, Tahripur, Sunamganj.	22-Oct-2025 Time: 15:00	23-Oct-2025 Time: 11:00	23-Oct-2025 Time: 12:00
05	WD_Haor_Sun_2025-26_4	1154707	Construction of 5-Storeyed 100 Bedded Girls Hostel Building With 5-Storeyed Foundation In/c Sanitary Water Supply & Electrification Works at Bibiana Model College, Derai, Sunamganj.	22-Oct-2025 Time: 15:00	23-Oct-2025 Time: 11:00	23-Oct-2025 Time: 12:00

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 of Said Package from the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through any registered banks' branches up to 09/10/2025. For Tender ID-(1138679) 15/10/2025. For Tender ID-(1154703, 1154704) 22/10/2025. For Tender ID-1154706, 1154707) Time: 15:00.

Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).Md. Kamruzzaman
Executive Engineer (C.C.)
Education Engineering Department
Sunamganj

GD-2093



Jamuna devours 20 homes in Sirajganj

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

Jamuna river erosion has intensified over the past few days, devouring around 20 houses in Sadia Chandpur union under Chowhali upazila of Sirajganj.

Md Tanvir Hasan, chairman of the union parishad, said the erosion worsened since last Friday.

Dozens of people have been forced to relocate their homes, he said, adding that around 50 more houses and an educational institution in the union are also at risk.

"I lost my home to erosion last year and took shelter in Sadia Chandpur area. Now I have become homeless once again. I barely managed to save my belongings and relocate," said Saiful Islam, a local resident.



Atahar Ali Mondol, another erosion victim, shared a similar ordeal.

"Jamuna is eroding the riverbank areas rapidly over the last three days. At present, the river is 50 metres away from our school. If erosion continues at this rate, the school may be lost to the river," said Md Abdur Rashid, headteacher of Sadia Dewantola Sangkarhaati High School.

Md Solaiman Vuia, a sub-assistant engineer of Water Development Board in Sirajganj, said officials visited the spot on Monday for inspection.

"Jamuna's water level rose recently and then started to recede, causing erosion in the last few days. We are trying to begin riverbank protection work as soon as possible," he said.



A woman lays out earthenware plates to dry in the open. People from the Pal community in Maheshpur village of Bakerganj upazila in Barishal earn their livelihoods by making such products. The photo was taken recently.

PHOTO: TITU DAS

Banana boon for farmers in Sherpur

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

Banana farming in Sherpur, including in different hilly areas, has become a financial lifeline for many poor and marginal farmers.

This year, the target for banana cultivation was 660 hectares, but the figure has exceeded expectations, with 943 hectares brought under cultivation, said Mohammad Shakhauat Hossain, deputy director of the DAE in Sherpur.

He said cultivation is increasing every year.

The practice is gaining popularity as the soil and weather conditions in Sherpur are very suitable for banana farming. Farmers are showing more interest in cultivating the fruit as a cash crop, and many are becoming self-sufficient, he said.

The bananas produced in Sherpur are supplied to some 20 districts after meeting local demand.

Farmers are selling bananas worth Tk

80,000 to one lakh from 33 decimals of land, spending Tk 20,000 to Tk 30,000 on the same land, said the official.

DAE sources said banana is also being cultivated in various hilly areas of Jhenaigati, Nalitabari and Sribordi upazilas of the district.



Growers said the demand for Sherpur bananas is high due to their good taste and quality. A large quantity is sold at Chowkidar Bari Bazar in Sribordi, where bananas worth around Tk 50 lakh are

sold every day during the season.

Taleb Ali, 50, a farmer of Sribordi Sadar union, said he planted 1,200 banana plants this season and expects sales of Tk six lakh.

Akkas Ali, another farmer of the same locality, said many in bordering villages



are now focusing on banana cultivation.

Farmers said bananas can be harvested within eight months, making them a lucrative option as they are more profitable than many other traditional crops.

AGS candidates pledge reforms, student welfare

FROM PAGE 3
strengthening the cyber cell to protect female students from online harassment.

"I want to start with fundamental issues -- ensuring security and access to essential services. I believe I can address reasonable demands by engaging everyone and working with the administration," she added. **LIKHON PUSHES FOR FULL AUTONOMY**
Shah Poran Likhon, a student of Mass Communication and Journalism, aims to draft and implement a roadmap for a fully autonomous university.

He argued that real development is impossible without genuine autonomy, free from political parties and local influence.

"Autonomy exists only on paper. In practice, student organisations remain dependent on their

parent political bodies and local politics," said Likhon, an independent candidate.

Despite the university entering its 73rd year, he said problems such as housing shortages, poor food quality, and lack of facilities still shape student politics.

"To end seat allocation based on affiliation or patronage, the university must become self-sufficient. My manifesto centres on 'self-service'," he added.

NASIM VOWS TO ENSURE TEACHER ACCOUNTABILITY
Nasim Sarkar, from the Gonotantrik Shikharthi Porshod panel -- a platform formed to fight for student rights, believes a democratic campus can only be restored by dismantling teacher dominance and empowering students.

A student of Bangla

Language and Literature, Nasim has long been involved in student rights movements.

He blames "partisan control and fascist occupation" for problems such as partisan appointments in administration, politically driven hall seat allocation, and substandard food in dining facilities.

"We are not offering flashy promises, but focusing on fundamental issues," he said.

Sarkar pledged to dismantle the "feudal culture" in the university, where students are treated as subjects and teachers as rulers.

His manifesto includes an independent student-led faculty evaluation system, a permanent ban on partisan and fascist activities, ending corporate dependence in university funding, creating part-time jobs, and expanding

scholarships for underprivileged students. **MAHAYEER PRIORITISES ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE**
Mahayeer Islam, from the Sorbojonin Shikharthi Parishad panel, vowed to shift the university's focus from political dominance to academic excellence.

"The university's glorious history has often been overshadowed by political movements, while academic achievements were neglected. I want to restore that balance," said Mahayeer, a student of Arabic and former coordinator of the anti-discrimination student movement.

He said after the July uprising, students had hoped for a change in political culture, but parties quickly returned to violence -- something his group stayed away from.

If elected, Mahayeer promises to implement an academic master plan,

ensure transparency in hall seat allocation, provide housing allowances for disadvantaged students, improve dining facilities, and fully develop TSC infrastructure.

He also pledged to introduce faculty evaluations by students and ensure transparent recruitment of internationally qualified teachers.

"The university must progress through research and knowledge, not politics. My goal is to return academic authority to students," he added.

PRAYER TIMING
SEPTEMBER 25
Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha
AZAN 4:35 12:45 4:15 6:00 7:30
JAMAAT 5:10 1:15 4:30 6:05 8:00
SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

Chittagong University of Engineering & Technology
Chittagong-4349
Memo No. CUET/P&D/2025-26/IFT Notice-01
Date: 23-09-2025
e-Tender Notice
e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (www.eprocure.gov.bd) for the procurement of goods and works as follows:

Tender ID & package number	Package name	Type/ method	Tender publication date	Tender closing date
1155869 & DPW 62a	Construction of Drainage Structure	NCT, OTM		21-Oct-2025 12:00am
1150337 & PG 201	Procurement of Lab equipment's for UCRL 2	NCT, OTM		30-Oct-2025 11:00am
1150132 & PG 216	Procurement of Furniture items for Male Hall, Ladies Hall and PG Dorm	NCT, OTM		14-Oct-2025 11:15am
1150105 & PG 208	Procurement of Supply and installation of Lift for Professor Quarter.	NCT, OTM	28-Sep-2025 10:00am	30-Oct-2025 11:00am
1150052 & PG 199	Procurement of Equipments for PIU	NCT, OTM		14-Oct-2025 11:00am
1149933 & PG 156	Procurement of High Temperature Box Furnace and Other Equipment for MME Department	NCT, OTM		20-Oct-2025 11:00am
1149845 & PG 205	Procurement of Lab equipment's for UCRL 6	NCT, OTM		14-Oct-2025 11:00am
1149682 & PG 87	Procurement of Four Moulder and Other equipments for WWS	NCT, OTM		20-Oct-2025 11:00am

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 last selling/downloading the e-Tender documents from the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through any registered banks branches up to date & time.

Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

//Signed//
Project Director
Development of CUET
Chittagong University of Engineering & Technology
Chattogram-4349
GD-2088

4 bodies recovered in Narayanganj

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Narayanganj

Police recovered four bodies in separate incidents in Fatullah and Siddhirganj of Narayanganj yesterday.

The deceased include two children -- Abdullah, 4, who was killed after being hit by a battery-run three-wheeler in Fatullah, and Saifa Akter, 8, who drowned in a pond in Siddhirganj.

Sub-Inspector Yasin Arafat of Fatullah Model Police Station said the accident killing Abdullah took place around 8:00am. Driver Sagar, 30, later took the child to Narayanganj 300-bed Hospital in Khanpur, where doctors declared him dead.

Meanwhile, Saifa drowned in a pond near her house while she was bathing, said Jahangir Alam, senior officer of Kanchpur fire station.

Around noon, police also recovered the floating body of boatman Idris Ali Bepari, 45, from the Buriganga River near the Jamuna Oil Company ghat in Fatullah.

Idris went missing on September 22 after reportedly falling from his boat, said Jahangir Hossain, sub-inspector of Pagla River Police Outpost.

On the same day, police recovered the body of Ritu Akter, 22, from Hajiganj in Fatullah. Her father, Kashem Mia, alleged that his son-in-law called him around 9:00am, claiming that Ritu had taken her own life.

Kashem suspects he killed her daughter. Police said he has gone into hiding since the incident.

Savar Paurashava
Savar, Dhaka
(www.savarmunicipality.gov.bd)
E-mail: mayor.savarmunicipality@gmail.com
Phone: 02-7741813

Memo No. sps/prok/2025-2026/320
Date: 23/09/2025
e-Tender Notice No. 03/2025-2026(OTM)
e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of:

Package No.	Tender ID No.	Description of the works	Last selling date & time	Last date and time for tender security	Closing & opening date & time
SPS/2025-2026/ PESTICI DES/G-2	1151922	Supply of mosquito killing pesticides	22-Oct-2025 17:00	23-Oct-2025 13:00	23-Oct-2025 14:00

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 document from the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through any registered bank branches.

Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd). The Tender Notice also uploaded in the Savar Pourashava website www.savarmunicipality.gov.bd

Md. Amzad Hossain
Executive Engineer
Savar Paurashava, Dhaka
GD-2080

কোল পাওয়ার জেনারেশন কোম্পানি বাংলাদেশ লিমিটেড
Coal Power Generation Company Bangladesh Limited (CPGCBL)
(An Enterprise of Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh)
"আলোকিত দেশ, যত্নে পরিবেশ"

স্মারক নং- ২৭.৩২.০০০০.০০৮.২৬.০০২.২৩.০৮২০; তারিখঃ ২৩/০৯/২০২৫ খ্রি.

গাড়ি মেরামতকারী ওয়ার্কশপ তালিকাভুক্তিকরণ বিজ্ঞপ্তি
গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকারের বিদ্যুৎ, জ্বালানি ও খনিজ সম্পদ মন্ত্রণালয়ের বিদ্যুৎ বিভাগের আওতাধীন রাষ্ট্রায়ত্ত্ব প্রাপ্ত কোল পাওয়ার জেনারেশন কোম্পানি বাংলাদেশ লিমিটেড (সিপিজিসিবিএল) এর ঢাকাস্থ কর্পোরেট অফিস ও মাতারবাড়ী সাইট অফিসে ব্যবহৃত গাড়ি সমূহের মেরামত/রক্ষণাবেক্ষণ কাজ সম্পাদনের লক্ষ্যে কিছু সংখ্যক গাড়ি মেরামতকারী ওয়ার্কশপ তালিকাভুক্ত করা হবে। এ লক্ষ্যে সিপিজিসিবিএল ঢাকাস্থ কর্পোরেট অফিস সংলগ্ন/ পরিপার্শ্বস্থ আগ্রহী ওয়ার্কশপ হতে এবং মাতারবাড়ী সাইট অফিস সংলগ্ন/ পরিপার্শ্বস্থ (কেন্দ্রবাজার জেলাস্থ) আগ্রহী ওয়ার্কশপ হতে আগ্রহব্যক্তকরণ প্রস্তাব আহ্বান করা হচ্ছে।

আগ্রহী ওয়ার্কশপ সমূহকে হালনাগাদ ট্রেড লাইসেন্স, আয়কর প্রত্যয়ন পত্র, ভ্যাট রেজিস্ট্রেশন সার্টিফিকেট (BIN), সরকারি প্রতিষ্ঠানের গাড়ি মেরামতের তালিকাভুক্তি/ অজিঅতা সংক্রান্ত ডকুমেন্ট (যদি থাকে) এবং ওয়ার্কশপের ফ্যাসিলিটিজ ও লোকবলের নিবরণসহ আগ্রহব্যক্তকরণ প্রস্তাব (স্বাক্ষরিত) আগামী ০৯/১০/২০২৫ খ্রি. তারিখের মধ্যে নিম্ন-ঠিকানায় ডাকযোগে/ ই-মেইলে/ প্রতিনিধির মাধ্যমে দাখিলের অনুরোধ জানানো যাচ্ছে।

Md. Amzad Hossain
23/09/25
তত্ত্বাবধায়ক প্রকৌশলী (প্রকিউরমেন্ট) (অঃদাঃ)
সিপিজিসিবিএল কর্পোরেট অফিস, ইউনিট হাউস (লেভেল-১৭)
১১৭, কাজী নজরুল ইসলাম এভিনিউ, ইকটন গার্ডেন, ঢাকা-১২১৭।
ইমেইল: se.procurement@cpgcbl.gov.bd, ফোনঃ ০১৭৮৭-৬৭৮৬৬৯

CHORKI ANNOUNCES ORIGINAL FILM ‘Little Miss Chaos’ showcasing young talent

Chorki has announced its new original film *Little Miss Chaos*, a romantic dramedy by debut director Mahmuda Sultana Rima. Centred on the lively university life of Ira, played by newcomer Sadnima Binte Noman, the story blends food, fashion and friendship with themes of trauma, love and humour. Opposite her is Saad Salmi Naovi as Maruf, the calm figure who steadies Ira’s chaotic world.

Rima, who also wrote the script, describes it as a reflection of urban youth – where past baggage meets the search for trust and belonging. Chorki CEO Redoan Rony said the platform is committed to young voices and fresh storytelling. A poster released on September 24 teased the vibrant tone, while the trailer and release date for *Little Miss Chaos* will follow soon.



PHOTO: COURTESY OF CHORKI



SHARMIN JOYA

This award renewed my confidence VICKY ZAHED

Experimenting with dark content has always been one of director Vicky Zahed’s strengths as a storyteller. This time, his web series *Chokro*, based on a dark yet real-life plot, earned him the Best Director (Series) award at Blender’s Choice – The Daily Star OTT & Digital Content Awards this year.

The iScreen-produced web series, featuring Tawsif Mahbub and Tasnia Farin in the lead roles, was inspired by true events.

Vicky could not attend the award ceremony in person due to unavoidable circumstances. The director shared that he missed the moment, and on his behalf, lead actor

Tawsif received the honour.

“An award always inspires an artiste and motivates them to excel. I am thankful to The Daily Star for honouring me with the Best Director (Series) award in the popular category for my web series *Chokro*,” said Vicky. “For the OTT industry, this award has become a benchmark for everyone behind and in front of the camera, and it reflects Blender’s Choice – The Daily Star OTT & Digital Content Awards’ continued commitment to fostering healthy competition.”

The director further added that the recognition has made him more responsible as a storyteller. “Although I couldn’t attend the ceremony, winning this award after *Redrum* (2022) is an indescribably special feeling. It has given me renewed confidence, encouragement, and energy to tell more stories in the future,” he concluded.

Vicky’s recent directorial project *AKA*, featuring Afran Nisho and Masuma Rahman Nabila, has also received much praise on social media and among audiences.

ENAMUL KARIM NIRJHAR features Konal, Dola, Masha and Antora in new album



A new album titled *Bujhlam*, presented by Gaanshala and Ek Nirjharer Gaan, releases tomorrow featuring four original blues tracks written and composed by Enamul Karim Nirjhar. The album brings together celebrated singers Somnur Monir Konal, Masha Islam, Dola Rahman, and Antora Rahman – a rare all-female lineup in Bangladeshi blues.

The tracklist includes *Drishyer Chhaya* by Konal, *Eki Bhabe Bujhlam* by Masha, *Bojhapora Shobdo* by Antora, and *Thakle Sahosh* by Dola, with musical arrangement by Autumnal Moon. Nirjhar said the songs explore solitude and inner conflict, blending words and melody into a “beauty of silence.”



Warfaze seals first South Asian Zippo collaboration

Bangladeshi rock band Warfaze has become the first South Asian group to collaborate with Zippo for exclusive band-themed lighters. The agreement was signed on August 28 at Luxco Trading’s Gulshan office. Two limited-edition designs, produced in the United States, will feature Warfaze album artwork on one side and the band’s logo on the other.

Currently on a Canada tour celebrating 40 years of music, Warfaze expressed excitement over joining Zippo’s global lineup that includes Metallica, Guns N’ Roses and Bob Marley. Band leader Sheikh Monirul Alam Tipu called the collaboration a special tribute to fans, with a Dhaka press conference planned after their return.

WHAT’S THE HAPS?

‘Bhaba-er Bhita’

Acclaimed director Molla Sagar presents *Bhaba-er Bhita*, celebrating the birth centennial of legendary filmmaker Ritwik Kumar Ghatak. Honouring the creator of *Meghe Dhaka Tara*, *Komal Gandhar*, and *Subarnarekha*, the production revisits his revolutionary film language.

DATE: FRIDAY | SEPTEMBER 26, 2025
TIME: 6PM ONWARDS
VENUE: BENGAL SHILPALAYA



NEWS

No clear progress on ACC

FROM PAGE 16
consultant either already appointed or in the process of being appointed.

Iftekharuzzaman stressed that responsibility for implementation rests with the government. “Except for one or two, there was political consensus on almost all our recommendations. There are no major obstacles to ACC reform,” he said.

“No matter how many legal and institutional reforms we make on paper, unless there are positive shifts in mindset and a genuine commitment to anti-corruption practices, realising the commission’s vision will be difficult.”

Reflecting on the reform commission’s proposals, Iftekharuzzaman said ACC Chairman Mohammad Abdul Momen

had expressed disappointment, not disagreement, noting that he found all 47 recommendations valid and necessary.

Asked, Momen said, “There’s nothing new to add after Dr Iftekharuzzaman’s comments. Repeating the same words becomes irritating. If there had been any disagreement between us, we would’ve started arguing right away.”

He also acknowledged the government’s acceptance of the 2024 Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI) by Transparency International, which ranked Bangladesh 151st out of 180 countries.

“Previously, the government would reject the CPI outright. But this time, we

accepted it as close to reality,” he said.

Addressing corruption within the ACC itself, he added, “If my commission isn’t free of corruption, then I lose the moral right to speak out against corruption elsewhere. Whenever we find evidence of corruption within our institution, we take immediate action.”

The newly signed MoU between the ACC and TIB aims to strengthen anti-corruption efforts through joint initiatives, including public awareness campaigns, ethics promotion, procedural improvements, research, training, policy dialogue and advocacy.

Director General (Prevention) Akhter Hossain signed on behalf of the ACC, while Dr Iftekharuzzaman represented TIB.

‘Rab helicopters will strike from above’

FROM PAGE 1
above, alright.”

The recordings were played after Tanvir Hassan Zoha, special investigation officer and prosecutor, who seized them from the National Telecommunication Monitoring Centre (NTMC), testified as the 53rd prosecution witness in the crimes against humanity case against Hasina and her two aides. Another accused – Chowdhury Abdullah Al-Mamun, former inspector general of police – has now become an approver in the case.

The calls were between Hasina and then Dhaka South mayor Sheikh Fazle Noor Taposh, former Dhaka University vice-chancellor ASM Maksud Kamal, and Inu.

Zoha said CID forensic experts matched the voices with samples from the four individuals and confirmed them to be genuine.

According to the recordings, plans were made to track protesters with drones; deploy lethal weapons and helicopters; compile lists and detain organisers, label them “Razakars” (traitors) and execute them; shut down the internet; and spread propaganda branding protesters as militants.

After Zoha’s statement, Md Amir Hossain, state-appointed defence counsel for Hasina and co-accused former home minister Asaduzzaman Khan Kamal, cross-examined him and claimed the recordings were AI-generated.

Zoha rejected the claim, saying they were genuine. He added that

investigators recovered 69 audio clips and three call data records linked to Hasina from the NTMC on December 23 last year.

In the Hasina-Inu conversation, Inu urged using intelligence and local leaders to compile lists and detain organisers overnight, a step Hasina agreed to. When he pressed to restore internet services, she shot back, “Where will I get internet? They’ve burned it ... I would not bring it anymore; if another government comes, they’ll bring it. I gave internet ... let them keep burning it.”

Inu insisted another government would not come. Hasina replied, “I can’t do it anymore ... I’m leaving now.” When he said there was no need to go, she said Jamaat must be punished, and Inu urged “breaking the backbone” of Jamaat Shibir again in Dhaka.

He also discussed enforcing a strict curfew, saying anyone leaving home would be arrested, though no shooting would occur, and the army’s position would be “absolutely strict”. Inu said detainees would be held at local stations for up to 10 hours before release and claimed his party could mobilise up to 100,000 people to take control of Dhaka once the curfew was lifted.

Hasina noted that international sources labelled the events “a terrorist attack”, to which Inu said, “[That is] the card we will play now... the government is tackling militant activities.” Hasina replied, “No card playing... an international agency sent me a message saying it is [a] terrorist attack.”

In another recording, Hasina was heard telling former DSCC mayor Taposh, her nephew, “We are now doing things differently. We are capturing photos with drones, and sending helicopters to several places. Wherever they [state forces] will see gatherings, there from the sky... I am having it done from the sky now, already started in several areas... already started.”

Taposh repeatedly pressed for a mass arrest campaign, to which Hasina replied, “I have given instructions, now I have given direct instructions; now they will use lethal weapons. Wherever they [state forces] find them [protesters], they will shoot directly.” He responded, “Yes, yes.”

The Daily Star independently verified the Hasina-Taposh recording and, in July this year, conducted its own investigation with the Tech Global Institute, a technology nonprofit, whose analysis confirmed the call and voices were authentic with no sign of AI manipulation.

In another call, Hasina told the DU VC, “They [the protesters] want to become Razakars, don’t they? Then they’re all Razakars. What a strange country we live in. We’ve already hanged the Razakars, and now we’ll do the same to them ...”

The VC assured her that protest leaders would be identified and expelled once the situation calmed.

The tribunal fixed next Sunday for the next hearing, when the investigation officer will testify as the last witness.

India imposes new condition

FROM PAGE 16

ban on non-basmati rice exports.

A joint secretary in the Commerce Ministry, who requested anonymity, said the move aimed to track and regulate the movement of non-basmati rice, potentially requiring exporters to register their business activities related to this commodity before shipping abroad.

Saudi Arabia’s grand mufti passes away

FROM PAGE 16

Medina, hosts the annual Hajj pilgrimage required of all able-bodied Muslims once in their lives, making the pronouncements of the grand mufti that much more closely followed.

While closely aligned to Al Saud ruling family, which has allowed women to drive, opened movie theatres and further socially liberalised in recent years, Sheikh Abdulaziz denounced extremists like those in the Islamic State

group and al-Qaeda. He also made pronouncements during his time as grand mufti viewed as sectarian and more following Saudi Arabia’s Wahhabism, a strictly austere form of Islam that for decades saw the kingdom segregate the sexes, restrict music and follow other puritanical pursuits.

Saudi Arabia’s state media reported Sheikh Abdulaziz’s death, without offering a cause. The kingdom’s powerful Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, who runs the kingdom’s

declaration of the type of rice being exported. “Because this has been an area of concern in the past,” he added.

The move has come amid reports of losses of paddy in Punjab, Haryana, Bengal, and other states and another exporter, said, “It will help the government keep a tab on export demand and, if necessary, step in to bring things under control.”

day-to-day governance under his 89-year-old father, King Salman, attended funeral prayers for the late mufti on Tuesday night in Riyadh.

“With his passing, the kingdom and the Islamic world have lost a distinguished scholar who made significant contributions to the service of Islam and Muslims,” the Saudi Royal Court said in a statement.

Sheikh Abdulaziz, who became blind as a young man, became grand mufti in 1999, installed by Saudi King Fahd.

Foreign ministry, embassy officials to blame: BNP

FROM PAGE 16

Acting chairman Tarique Rahman chaired the meeting virtually.

Regarding the polls, BNP leaders said some political parties have been pushing for a proportional representation system to delay the election and advance their own interests.

They also expressed concern that the posting of certain individuals to different administrative positions could be intended to influence the polls outcome.

BNP leaders mentioned that though Jamaat said it would not join the election if its demand for PR is not met, it has already picked possible candidates.

“Jamaat has always been two-faced. It says one thing but does another. These are its tactics,” said a leader.

Tarique and his team have already identified at least 148 seats where the party is strong and have selected possible candidates, the leaders said.

They urged Tarique to quickly hold meetings with allies to finalise the candidates and push them to begin campaign without delay.

The names of the possible candidates would be announced right after Durga Puja, they said.

At the meeting, party leaders said that before the chief adviser’s trip to the US for the UN General Assembly, AL supporters in New York announced protest programmes and even obtained permission to gather. However, no preventive steps were taken to ensure the safety of political leaders.

They also said the absence of BNP supporters at the airport was disappointing for the party.

“Mission and embassy officials knew through which gate and at what time the guests would arrive. They leaked this information to Awami League leaders. They also misled BNP leaders so that they could not meet Secretary General Mirza Fakhrul

Islam Alamgir,” said a leader, seeking anonymity.

A party insider said the government had invited Tarique to join the trip, but he asked Fakhrul to go.

On September 21, Fakhrul left with the chief adviser’s entourage and reached New York the next day, where eggs were hurled at NCP Member Secretary Akhter Hossain. A torrent of sexist slurs was directed at NCP Senior Joint Member Secretary Tasnim Jara. Fakhrul was just ahead of them at the time.

FAKHRUL INTVIEW

The BNP believes that a Kolkata-based newspaper Ei Samay published an interview of Fakhrul to damage the party’s image.

Fakhrul, who joined Tuesday’s meeting virtually, said his words were “twisted” and presented differently by the newspaper.

Party leaders stood by Fakhrul, saying that there is no reason to question his honesty or political skills.

ই-মেইল:-norshingdi@cs.dghs.gov.bd

তারিখ- ২৩/০৯/২০২৫ খ্রিঃ।

স্বাস্থ্য ও পরিবার কল্যাণ মন্ত্রণালয় স্বাস্থ্য সেবা বিতরণ, প্রকাশন-১ নম্বর, বাংলাদেশে সচিবালয়, ঢাকা এবং সার্বিক নং-৪৪.০০.০০০০.১৪০.১১.০০.০২.৭৬ তারিখঃ ১১/০১/২০২০এতে মূল্য প্রাপ্ত ছাপ্রদত্ত বসোহোকে সিলিঙ্গ সার্ভারের নামঃ, নবসিইডি ও তার নিয়ন্ত্রণাধীন বিভিন্ন স্বাস্থ্য প্রতিষ্ঠান সমূহে রূপান্তর (হ্যাণ্ডি ও অস্বাভী) হাফের অস্বাভী/সিইডি নম্বরঃ নম্বরঃ অস্বাভী/১১-০১-২০ (পূর্বনত ৩য় ও ৪র্থ শ্রেণী) নামঃ নিয়োগের লক্ষ্যে বাংলাদেশের প্রত্যেক পার্গারগের নিকট দিতে নিম্নবর্ণিত শর্ত সাধারণতঃ
<http://cnsnarsingdi.teletalk.com.bd> ওয়েবসাইটে অনলাইন (Online) এ পরামর্শ আহবান করা যাচ্ছে। অনলাইন (Online) ব্যাখীত করা আবেদন গ্রহণ করা হবে না।

[illegible]

*** শেষ তারিখ ও সময়ের অপেক্ষা না করে হাতে যথেষ্ট সময় নিয়ে অনলাইনে আবেদনপত্র পূরণ ও আবেদন ফি জমাদান করতে-পরামর্শ দেওয়া যাচ্ছে।



THE SHELF

The nine faces of Durga and books that reflect each avatar

AGNILA ROY

The scent of marigolds hangs heavy in the air, mingling with the rhythmic clash of cymbals and the murmur of crowds waiting for a glimpse of the goddess. With the festive season returning and the air thick with dhaak beats, it is impossible not to feel the excitement of Durga Puja. Here are nine books that echo the spirit of Durga's nine faces, each reflecting the qualities the goddess embodies.

strength lies not in dominance but in grounding oneself and facing reality.

Brahmacharini: Mother of devotion and penance
Of Women and Salt (2021)
Gabriela Garcia

She walks barefoot across rough ground, the beads of a rudraksha mala hanging by her fingers. Being the ascetic form of Durga, she is worshipped for her austerity and steadfast faith. What could be more

the embodiment of righteous anger, a reminder that sometimes the only way to face darkness is to confront it head-on. Have you ever felt that moment when fear threatens to swallow you whole, and you wish for a power within to rise and fight back? *Debi* channels this very energy through its haunting heroine, Ranu. Gifted—or cursed—with psychic abilities, Ranu can sense truths others cannot, a burden that isolates her yet gives her uncanny strength. The novel does not present her as

within himself. Just as Kushmanda animates the universe with her energy, Santiago's journey reminds us that embracing curiosity, courage, and wonder can turn ordinary life into something miraculous.

Skandamata: The mother of a warrior
Soldier Sailor (2019)
Claire Kilroy

Smoke curls from incense, drums beat in the distance. Amid the golden glow, she sits serene, her hands cradling her son Kartikeya as if the world's weight rests in her palms. *Soldier Sailor* reflects that same maternal power in an intensely personal way. Told as an inner monologue from a mother to her sleeping child, the novel plunges into the brutal, visceral war of early motherhood—the exhaustion, the isolation, and the seismic shift in identity that comes with raising a young child. Like Skandamata, the mother embodies strength through presence, guiding and nurturing silently. True courage, the book reminds us, often resides in these quiet, uncelebrated acts of love.

Katyayani: The fierce warrior
The God of the Woods (2021)
Liz Moore

The forest breathes around her, shadows twisting like lurking demons, yet she stands unmoved. Katyayani teaches us to summon courage, confront danger, and act decisively when fear threatens to paralyse us. *The God of the Woods* channels this same relentless spirit. When Barbara Van Laar disappears from her family's summer camp, the town and its residents are forced to reckon with long-buried secrets and moral dilemmas. As the story unfolds, each character must wrestle with the shadows within themselves—greed, fear, and guilt—mirroring Katyayani's call to stand firm and act against injustice.

The scent of marigolds hangs heavy in the air, mingling with the rhythmic clash of cymbals and the murmur of crowds waiting for a glimpse of the goddess. With the festive season returning and the air thick with dhaak beats, it is impossible not to feel the excitement of Durga Puja.

Kalaratri: Goddess of courage
Drive Your Plow Over the Bones of the Dead (2009)

Olga Tokarczuk, Antonia Lloyd-Jones (Translator)

Her skin gleams like a midnight storm, eyes blazing with fearless resolve, as she rides into battle with a sword that cuts through shadow and fright alike. She is the tenacious face of Durga who destroys evil energies and liberates those trapped by fear and attachment. Legends say she appeared when all else failed, her presence so intense that even the bravest trembled, reminding us that after every dark night comes a bright dawn. The novel channels that same audacious courage. It follows Janina, an elderly woman living in a remote Polish village, who begins investigating a series of suspicious deaths of local hunters. Alone, dismissed and considered eccentric by her neighbours, Janina relies on her sharp intellect, moral conviction, and fearless determination to uncover the truth.

Mahagauri: Goddess of purity
The Remains of the Day (1989)
Kazuo Ishiguro

Holding a trident and a damaru, she is the radiant form of Goddess Parvati after she cleansed herself of the darkness and ashes from her ferocious battles as Kalaratri. Mahagauri teaches us to release anger, resentment, and attachments that cloud the mind. Ishiguro's *The Remains of the Day* captures this same quiet strength through Stevens, an English butler whose life is shaped by rigid devotion to duty and an unwavering pursuit of perfection. As he journeys across the countryside, revisiting memories of loyalty, missed opportunities, and unspoken emotions, the novel lays bare the subtle, sometimes painful costs of a life lived in restraint.

Siddhidatri: The bestower of supernatural powers
Taranath Tantrik Shomogro (2019)
Bibhutibhushan and Taradas Bandyopadhyay

She sits serenely on a lotus, guiding seekers toward wisdom, insight, and mastery over the unknown. She teaches that true strength is not just in conquering forces outside but in understanding the unseen. This essence comes to life through the enigmatic figure of Taranath, a tantric practitioner living on the edge of the natural and supernatural. The collection includes stories of Taranath Tantrik and the novel, *Alachakra*, where he recounts eerie, thrilling encounters with spirits and mystical phenomena. Like Siddhidatri, Taranath navigates the delicate balance between fear and knowledge, showing that actual power comes from insight and discernment.

Agnila Roy is hoping Goddess Durga will lend her an extra pair of arms this year, preferably before puja ends.



PHOTOS: ORCHID CHAKMA, ILLUSTRATION: MAISHA SYEDA

Shailaputri: The daughter of mountains
Arronyer Dinratri (1968)
Sunil Gangopadhyay

Like the mountain she is born of, Shailaputri teaches us to remain rooted, unshaken by the storms that swirl around us. Have you ever longed for a stillness so profound that it anchors you even when everything around you threatens to collapse? As the reincarnation of Sati, she embodies inner fortitude. *Arronyer Dinratri* reflects this spirit in an unexpected way: four men flee Calcutta's bustle for the forests of Palamau. They arrive with arrogance, carrying the weight of their urban education like a badge. Yet the wilderness does not bow to them. It strips them bare and humbles their certainties. What begins as an escape turns into a confrontation with their own fragility, showing that true

humbling than a goddess who teaches us that true strength is not in grandeur, but in the grit to keep walking when the path feels endless? Spanning generations of Cuban and Mexican women, the novel traces migration, addiction and motherhood—each woman carrying her own burden of struggle yet pressing forward with unrelenting will. Like Brahmacharini, these women demonstrate that perseverance transforms struggle into an act of devotion—a radical form of love and strength.

Chandraghanta: Destroyer of demons
Debi (1990)

Humayun Ahmed

When Parvati wields a bell-shaped crescent moon upon her forehead, she becomes the warrior goddess whose roar scatters demons and whose presence terrifies evil itself. She is worshipped as

a polished warrior but as a fragile, complex woman who wrestles with her gift while navigating scepticism and the raw edges of human fear. Like Chandraghanta, Ranu embodies a paradox of vulnerability intertwined with ferocity.

Kushmanda: The cosmic creator
The Alchemist (1988)
Paulo Coelho

The goddess whose radiant smile gave birth to the universe. She embodies the light that awakens possibility in even the darkest corners. *The Alchemist* mirrors this celestial force. Santiago, a shepherd boy, leaves the comfort of his flock to chase a treasure that feels both mythical and inevitable. Across scorching deserts and vibrant markets, he deciphers omens, meets alchemists, and learns that the magic of creation lives not only in the world but also

BOOK REVIEW: NONFICTION

Bangladeshi theatre: A sociopolitical study

Review of Dr. Babul Biswas' *Bangladesher Natoke Shomajbastobota* (Nalonda, 2020)

ABDUS SELIM

Theatre in Bangladesh has never been merely a form of entertainment. It has always served as a mirror to society, reflecting its contradictions, struggles, and aspirations. In his seminal work, *Bangladesher Natoke Shomajbastobota*—adapted from his PhD thesis—Dr Babul Biswas takes on the ambitious task of exploring how Bangladeshi theatre has engaged with social realities throughout history and, in particular, in the years following independence. The outcome is an illuminating study that is at once scholarly, analytical, and profoundly relevant to contemporary cultural discourse.

At the outset, Dr Biswas situates his work within the context of a nation in flux. He reminds us that independent Bangladesh was born in the crucible of communal tension, hegemonic domination, and imperialist designs. Alongside these structural forces came new forms of consumerism and religious dogmatism that reshaped social consciousness. Against this backdrop, theatre emerged not only as a cultural practice but also as a form of resistance and a means of social commentary.

In this book, eminent playwright Selim Al Deen, among others, is credited with framing theatre in sociological and historical terms, and it is within this lineage that Dr Biswas anchors his own analysis.

The book is organised into five substantial chapters, each addressing a distinct periodic study in Bangladeshi theatre. The opening chapter provides a historical sweep, tracing cultural practices from the Pala period through the medieval, colonial, and postcolonial eras. This long historical arc reveals how shifts in political and religious authority left lasting imprints on literature

and theatre studies. Particularly striking is the analysis of how Western dramatic traditions were adopted during British colonial rule, gradually altering Bengali theatre's orientation. Dr Biswas carefully links these transformations to questions of class, domination, and identity, laying a solid foundation for his later arguments.

The second chapter examines pre-independence theatre, from the pre-British to Pakistani periods. Here, theatre is shown as a site of cultural assertion against colonial and authoritarian structures. The Language Movement of 1952 and subsequent cultural struggles are presented not merely as political events but as catalysts for theatrical innovation, demonstrating how theatre carried forward the fight for identity and autonomy.

It is in the third and fourth chapters, however, that the book truly comes alive.

The scope of the book is admirably wide. By juxtaposing Bangladeshi theatre within global processes of colonialism, consumerism, and hegemonism, Dr Biswas shows that the nation's cultural struggles are neither isolated nor unique.

Focusing on the Liberation War and the turbulent years that followed, Dr Biswas explores how theatre absorbed and represented the crises of a nation. Plays



ILLUSTRATION: MAHMUDA EMDAD

such as "Ekti Michhil" are highlighted as pivotal texts that encapsulate the birth of Bangladesh, the trauma of war, and the vision of a new society. Liberation War-themed plays are reviewed in detail, with attention to how they reflected not only nationalist aspirations but also the disillusionment that followed. Post-independence theatre, he argues, became an arena where the manipulation of religion, the rise of authoritarian rule, and the spread of consumerism were critically examined. The realist framework adopted by playwrights is shown to be deeply connected to the lived experiences of a society grappling with betrayal, instability, and shifting values.

Perhaps the most compelling contribution of this book lies in its fifth chapter, which foregrounds women in theatre. Dr Biswas argues that the promise of equality and

empowerment for women remained largely unfulfilled in post-independence Bangladesh. Instead, women were subjected to new forms of oppression under the twin pressures of religious conservatism and capitalist consumerism. Through the analysis of three plays, he demonstrates how women's struggles for freedom, recognition, and dignity were represented on stage. Importantly, he also highlights the role of female playwrights in reshaping post-independence theatre, ensuring that women were not merely subjects but also creators of cultural narratives.

Methodologically, Dr Biswas employs a rigorous approach. His reliance on textual analysis, archival documents, supporting books, and interviews with experts allows him to weave together literary criticism with

social science perspectives. The application of new theoretical frameworks lends freshness to the study, while his careful attention to both historical continuity and contemporary change ensures a balanced perspective.

The scope of the book is admirably wide. By juxtaposing Bangladeshi theatre within global processes of colonialism, consumerism, and hegemonism, Dr Biswas shows that the nation's cultural struggles are neither isolated nor unique. Rather, they are part of a larger narrative of resistance and adaptation that spans continents. Yet, he never loses sight of the local, grounding his analysis in the particularities of Bengali nationalism, cultural practice, and historical experience.

What makes the book especially timely is its relevance to today's Bangladesh. As the nation continues to grapple with religious extremism, gender inequality, and consumerist values, theatre in Bangladesh remains a vital space for reflection and critique. By showing how our theatre has historically responded to such challenges, Dr Biswas implicitly calls for its continued role in shaping a more just and conscious society.

In sum, this book is an invaluable addition to the field of theatre studies and cultural history in Bangladesh. It will appeal not only to scholars and students of literature and theatre studies but also to anyone interested in the intersection of culture, politics, and society. Dr Biswas has produced a work of both academic rigour and cultural significance, one that ensures Bangladeshi theatre is recognised not only as art but as a vital record of social reality.

Abdus Selim is an eminent academic and translator. He can be reached at selim70plus@gmail.com.

ANOTHER SEMIFINAL disguised as Super 4 clash

EKUSH TAPADER *from Dubai*

The Asia Cup has often thrown up fixtures that feel like knockouts long before the final itself, and the ongoing 17th edition is no different.

Bangladesh and Pakistan meet tonight in Dubai, once more with everything on the line – effectively a semifinal disguised as a Super Four clash.

The situation seven years ago was strikingly similar, though in a 50-over format rather than T20. Then too, Bangladesh and Pakistan faced what was essentially a do-or-die clash, and the pre-match atmosphere leaned heavily towards Pakistan progressing and meeting India but, eventually, it did not happen.

This time, Pakistan pacer Shaheen Shah Afridi resisted the temptation to fuel talk of a final against India in yesterday's press conference. "India haven't reached the final yet... Right now, we're here to win the final and lift the Asia Cup."

Back in 2018, Shoaib Malik preferred not to dwell on the opposition, but Afridi openly acknowledged the challenge Bangladesh pose. He pointed out captain Litton Das and others as players Pakistan could not take lightly. Litton, however, was rested as a precautionary measure following a minor injury as the Tigers took on India yesterday.

"Bangladesh have been playing really well recently... Whenever you play against such a side, you must attack first; we can't give them any opportunity."

On head-to-head T20 record, Pakistan hold the clear upper hand. Yet the picture is less one-sided in recent years. The last two



- Bangladesh have a bleak head-to-head T20I record against Pakistan, winning five and losing 20 of the 25 games.

- The Tigers, however, are unbeaten in Asia Cup T20Is against Pakistan -- Bangladesh won the only game played, securing a five-wicket win in Mirpur in 2016.

- Pakistan have played 36 matches at

the Dubai International Cricket Stadium, winning 19, losing 16, and tying 1. Of those 16 defeats, 8 came while batting first and 8 while chasing.

- Since the start of 2021, Pakistan have suffered 6 losses at the venue, 5 of which came when batting first (they also won 5 matches during this period). Their first-innings totals in those 5 defeats were 176-4, 147, 121, 127, and 171.

also bounce early for strokeplay.

Pakistan, for their part, have looked short of their best, especially in their consecutive defeats to India. Bangladesh, though relatively consistent, defeated Afghanistan in the group stage and Sri Lanka in their Super Four opener, keeping themselves firmly in contention to reach the final hurdle regardless of their result over India.

The key worry for Pakistan remains their misfiring top order, with Fakhar Zaman and Sahibzada Farhan in comparatively decent form. Bangladesh appear more balanced in that regard, with Towhid Hridoy rediscovering touch and opener Saif Hassan proving to be somewhat of a revelation. Willy fast bowler Mustafizur Rahman's rhythm, supported by spin options and discipline at the death overs, could well make the difference.

Pakistan's campaign has not been without recovery signs, but their victory over Sri Lanka reflected their resilience. Afridi is again leading with the ball, Abrar Ahmed has offered control, and even their depth has been questioned with Haris Rauf left out early on. Yet eyebrows were raised when Mohammad Nawaz was overlooked in successive matches, despite coach Mike Hesson once hailing him as the "world's best left-arm spinner" -- a claim that drew derision online.

Now, two-time champions Pakistan must win tonight to keep their final hopes alive, while the Tigers -- yet to secure silverware in multi-nation competition -- will again aim to be on the cusp of a historic chapter.

The backdrop is familiar, the stakes immense.

EC to complete hearings on 30 objections today

SPORTS REPORTER

The election commission of the upcoming Board of Directors' polls for the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) confirmed on Wednesday that it has received 30 objections to the draft voters' list and would hold hearings on those complaints today.

"A total of 30 complaints were received today... We will start hearings tomorrow from 10:00 am. We have appointed Monir Hossain as our commission secretary, and he received the complaints lawfully today," said EC Sibgat Ullah, Additional Inspector General of Police and chief of the Criminal Investigation Department (CID), while speaking to The Daily Star.

Among the objectors were 15 clubs that were denied councillorship due to various irregularities and are currently under investigation by the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC). These clubs have appealed against their exclusion from the voters' list.

Initially, the BCB had included these 15 clubs in the Category-2 voters' list before submitting it to the EC. However, the EC later chose not to retain them in the list, citing "greater national interest" -- as mentioned in a letter attached to the draft list revealed on Tuesday.

Incumbent BCB director Ittefakhar Rahman Mithu, representing Viking Cricket Academy -- one of the 15 excluded clubs -- argued that according to the BCB constitution, such clubs cannot be disqualified unless proven guilty.

"We have applied for natural justice now. I believe it's a violation of the BCB constitution... We are now waiting for tomorrow's hearing. If the verdict doesn't go in our favour, we will take legal steps," said Mithu, expressing hope for a fair decision from the EC.

In addition to the clubs' objections, multiple complaints were filed against the councillor nomination of former BCB president Faruque Ahmed, who was nominated by Rangers Cricket Academy despite reportedly submitting his form after the deadline.

Meanwhile, a representative reportedly filed a complaint on behalf of former cricketer Sayed Halim Shah, who claimed that Halim is a committee member of Old DOHS Sports Club, objecting about the councillorship of Tamim Iqbal.

In the objection letter, which did not bear Halim's name, it was claimed that Tamim has no affiliation with the club while being a running player. As Tamim is yet to retire from all forms of competitive cricket, he can't represent at the BCB, according to the complaint.

It has been learnt that the objection wasn't received as Halim, who lives abroad, didn't submit the letter physically, however, EC Sibgat Ullah didn't want to make a comment on the matter.

The Daily Star tried to contact Halim multiple times but he could not be reached.

Additionally, former BCB director Lokman Hossain Bhuiyan also submitted an objection after his councillorship from Nakhalpara Cricketers was denied due to the same issue affecting the 15 clubs.

Following today's hearings, the EC is expected to publish the final voters' list on Friday ahead of the BCB elections scheduled for October 6.



PHOTO: FIROZ AHMED

'I'm not finished yet': Mabilia after career-best showing

SPORTS REPORTER

Less than four months after setting a new personal best, South Asian Games gold medalist Mabilia Akter Simanta outdid herself again on Wednesday, lifting a career-best total weight of 210kg -- 92kg snatch and 118kg clean and jerk -- to win gold in the newly-introduced 69kg weight category in the 41st Men's and 18th Women's National Senior Weightlifting Championships at the Shaheed Captain M Mansur Ali Handball Stadium.

Earlier in May, Mabilia had lifted 204kg -- 89kg in snatch and 115kg in clean and jerk-- in the 71kg weight category during the Asian Weightlifting Championships in China.

On Wednesday, the Bangladesh Ansar weightlifter was far ahead of her competitors as silver winner Unnoti Biswas lifted 144kg -- 65kg snatch and 79kg in clean and jerk -- while Shayela Akter Jannat lifted a total of 128kg to win bronze.

"I was determined to perform because I was left out of the scholarship, and the coach didn't want to train me. I wanted to maintain my performance, and show my critics that I am not finished yet," Mabilia told The Daily Star.

Mabilia, who won gold in the 2016 and 2019 SA Games in the 63kg and 76kg category respectively, said it was a challenge to get down to the new weight.

"It has been challenging for me because I had to lose weight to compete in the 69kg weight category, newly introduced internationally in place of 71kg, the category I competed in China in May," she said.

"I am happy after breaking my personal record," said Mabilia, who also thanked Bangladesh Ansar and Bangladesh Weightlifting Federation for their support.



It was a night to remember for an 18-year-old Franco Mastantuono, who netted his first Real Madrid goal in their 4-1 win over Levante at the Ciutat de Valencia stadium on Tuesday. Vinicius Junior opened the scoring on the night with a brilliant outside foot finish, and Mastantuono smashed one in the top corner, before Kylian Mbappe hit another brace. Mbappe leads the league's scoring chart with seven goals, as Xabi Alonso's Real Madrid stayed perfect with their sixth straight win in LaLiga, and seventh in all competitions.

PHOTO: AFP

Afghan women's refugee team set for international debut

AGENCIES

The Afghan women's refugee football team is set to make its international debut next month at a tournament in the United Arab Emirates, FIFA announced on Wednesday.

The 23-member team will take part in the four-nation "FIFA Unites: Women's Series" from October 23-29 in Dubai, alongside the UAE, Chad, and Libya.

Its creation follows the Taliban's return to power in Afghanistan in 2021, which brought sweeping restrictions on women's rights, including bans on sports, education, work, and access to parks and gyms. Many female footballers fled the country fearing persecution.

FIFA approved the formation of the refugee team in May to support Afghan women players and provide



them a platform on the international stage.

"Ensuring that all women have access to football is a priority for FIFA and a key element in shaping the future of our sport," FIFA president Gianni Infantino said. "These friendly matches represent more than just a competition; they are a symbol of hope and progress for women all over the world."

Before the Taliban's takeover, Afghanistan had 25 contracted women players, while the men's team continues to play normally. The debut of the Afghan women's refugee team marks a significant step in giving displaced female athletes the chance to play internationally and raise awareness of the challenges women face under oppressive regimes.

ON THE OCCASION OF WORLD MARITIME DAY 2025
MESSAGE FROM



BANGLADESH MERCHANT MARINE OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION
Our Ocean Our Obligation Our Opportunity

On World Maritime Day 2025, the Bangladesh Merchant Marine Officers' Association (BMMOA) joins the local and global community in celebrating the maritime industry's vital role in our daily lives and the global economy. This year's theme, "Our Ocean, Our Obligation, Our Opportunity," resonates deeply with Bangladesh, a nation rich in maritime heritage and immense potential.

The maritime sector is the backbone of international trade, transporting more than 80% of the world's goods. It is indispensable for our economy, ensuring the global supply of essential commodities like food, energy, raw materials, and manufactured goods. In Bangladesh, this sector is a key driver of economic growth, creating jobs, generating foreign currency, and supporting industrial development.

The maritime sector in Bangladesh is an interconnected ecosystem, with various stakeholders working in tandem to keep our economy afloat. From the seafarers who navigate the world's oceans to the port authorities, port operators, ship owners & shipping companies, shipping agencies, freight forwarders, C&F agents, shipbuilders, ship recycling yards, maritime training institutions, and government agencies--each plays a crucial role. This synergy is the backbone of our maritime success. However, our progress is challenged by incommensurate research, a lack of modern infrastructure, and limited access to financing. Overcoming these hurdles will unlock immense opportunities.

Currently, Bangladesh's maritime sector earns approximately **\$1.75 billion** in foreign currency annually through shipping, shipbuilding, ship recycling yard, and the employment of our seafarers on international vessels. By resolving barriers like seafarer visa issues, improving financing and taxation for ship procurement, and establishing global standard policies for shipbuilding, we can increase these earnings to **\$7 billion** annually.

We urge the government to address these challenges, support entrepreneurs in the sector, and allow the maritime industry to play a more significant role in our nation's sustainable economic future.

The time to act is now. Let us navigate these challenges together and chart a course toward a prosperous maritime future for Bangladesh.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE: WWW.BMMOA.ORG





Law and order tops voter priorities

39% think BNP ‘most suitable’ to form next govt, 28.1% Jamaat, 17.7% AL, 4.9% NCP, finds survey

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Improving law and order has overtaken price control as the top public expectation from the next government, according to the latest round of the People's Election Pulse Survey.

SURVEY AT A GLANCE

Generational divide

➔ AMONG GEN Z: **34.3%** support BNP, **32.8%** Jamaat, **18.8%** AL, **6.8%** NCP

➔ BNP backed mainly by older voters; Jamaat stronger among youth

Voting priorities

➔ **65.5%** consider candidate qualifications most important

➔ **20%** party manifesto, **14.7%** party symbol

Of the 10,413 respondents, 57.5 percent identified law and order as their foremost concern, while 54.6 percent pointed to controlling price hikes.

Reducing corruption was cited by 36.9 percent, and 20.3 percent called for legal reform.

The second round (phase 2) of the survey, conducted by Innovision Consulting between September 2 and 15, marks a notable shift in public expectations.

In the first round held in March, 71.2 percent of respondents placed price control at the top of their list, compared to 52.2 percent who prioritised law and order.

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Mourners carry the bodies of Palestinian children, who were killed in an Israeli strike on a building where displaced people were taking shelter, at Al-Ahli Arab Hospital in Gaza City, yesterday.

PHOTO: REUTERS

Israeli strikes on shelter, fleeing people kill dozens

Tanks push deeper into Gaza City as Trump talks peace with Muslim leaders

AGENCIES

Israeli forces killed dozens of people across the Palestinian territory yesterday, as the military pressed its assault on Gaza City, from where hundreds of thousands have been forced to flee.

Israel has launched a major air and ground offensive on Gaza City in a bid to root out Hamas after nearly two years of war.

The United Nations estimated at

the end of August that around one million people lived in Gaza City and its surroundings, where it has declared a famine.

The Israeli military says roughly 550,000 people have since fled the city and moved southward, while Gaza's civil defence agency — a rescue force operating under Hamas authority — puts the number at around 450,000.

Thaer Saqr, 39, told AFP on Wednesday he had left the Sheikh

Radwan neighbourhood of Gaza City the day before to head southwards with his wife, children and sister.

“The tanks on the coastal road... opened fire on us, and my sister was killed,” he said.

Saqr said he returned to Gaza City's Al Shifa Hospital and “will not leave, even if they kill us all.”

“I appeal to the world: help us. I say to Israel: you want us to

SEE PAGE 2 COL 5

No clear progress on ACC reform proposals

TIB chief raises concern

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Dr Iftekharuzzaman, executive director of Transparency International Bangladesh and head of the Anti Corruption Commission Reform Commission, has expressed concern over the lack of clear updates on the implementation of his commission's recommendations.

“We still do not have concrete information on how much progress has been made in implementing the actionable recommendations submitted to the government. This is a matter of concern,” he said.

Iftekharuzzaman was speaking to reporters at the ACC headquarters after the signing of a five-year memorandum of understanding between the ACC and TIB.

He said the law ministry is reportedly seeking expert assistance for legal reforms, with a

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JFK INCIDENT

Foreign ministry, embassy officials to blame: BNP

SAJJAD HOSSAIN

The BNP blamed the negligence of foreign ministry and embassy officials for the harassment of political leaders by Awami League supporters at the JFK Airport in New York.

The party said the government should investigate the incident, identify the officials responsible, and bring them back to Bangladesh.

The matter, among others, was discussed at a Standing Committee meeting held at the chairperson's Gulshan office on Tuesday night.

SEE PAGE 12 COL 4



Saif Hassan was the lone warrior for Bangladesh in their unsuccessful 169-run chase against India in the Super Four stage of the Asia Cup in Dubai yesterday. The Tigers managed just 127 all out in 19.3 overs despite Saif's 51-ball 69, succumbing to a 41-run defeat, as India sealed a berth for the final. The outcome also meant Sri Lanka were eliminated, while Bangladesh's game against Pakistan today at the same venue turned into a virtual semifinal.

PHOTO: AFP

India imposes new condition on non-basmati rice exports

OUR CORRESPONDENT, New Delhi

The Indian government has announced that exports of non-basmati rice will now be allowed only after registration with the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA), an arm of the Commerce Ministry.

Bangladesh is one of the main importers of non-basmati rice from India.

“The export policy of non-basmati rice has been amended by incorporating an additional policy condition to the extent that export of non-basmati rice shall be permitted only upon registration of contracts with the APEDA,” the Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) said in a notification yesterday.

India, one of the world's largest rice exporters, saw shipments of the grain rise 6.4 percent to \$4.7 billion in the April-August period in the current fiscal year.

In September last year, the DGFT, under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, lifted a blanket

SEE PAGE 12 COL 4

Saudi Arabia's grand mufti passes away

AP, Dubai

Sheikh Abdulaziz bin Abdullah al-Sheikh, Saudi Arabia's

grand mufti who served the kingdom's top religious figure over a quarter century that saw the ultraconservative Muslim nation socially liberalise, died Tuesday. He was in his 80s.

Sheikh Abdulaziz's role as grand mufti put him as one of the top Islamic clerics in the world of Sunni Muslims. Saudi Arabia, home to the holy cities of Makkah and

SEE PAGE 12 COL 4

আসল নোট ভিন্ন নিরাপদ লেনদেন নিশ্চিত করুন

পতনের আহসান হাবিব মন্সুর স্বাক্ষরিত ‘বাংলাদেশের ঐতিহাসিক এবং প্রত্নতাত্ত্বিক স্থাপত্য’ শীর্ষক নতুন ডিজাইন ও সিরিজের ১০০০, ১০০, ৫০ ও ২০ টাকা মূল্যমানের ব্যাংক নোটের প্রধান নিরাপত্তা বৈশিষ্ট্যসমূহ:

ইউভি ইনভিজিবল ফ্লুরোসেন কালি

১০০০ টাকা নোটের সম্মুখভাগের ব্যাকআউডে পাতা ও কলিসহ প্রস্তুতি জাতীয় ফুল শাপলা UV fluorescence (Magenta) ink দ্বারা মুদ্রিত যা UV detector machine দ্বারা সহজে দৃষ্টিগোচর হবে।

রং পরিবর্তনশীল কালি

১০০০ টাকা মূল্যমান নোটের ডানদিকে কোনোয় মুদ্রিত মূল্যমান ‘1000’ রং পরিবর্তনশীল উন্নতমানের নিরাপত্তা কালি দ্বারা মুদ্রিত। নোটটি নাড়াচাড়া করলে এর রং মাল্জেবী থেকে সবুজ রঙে পরিবর্তিত হয় এবং মূল্যমানের ভেতরে কোনোকুনিভাবে মুদ্রিত ‘১০০০’ লেখাটি দৃশ্যমান হয়।

মাইক্রোপ্রিন্ট

নোটের পেছনভাগে বামদিকের উপরে ‘১০০০’ এবং নিচে ‘1000’ লেখার ব্যাকআউডে ‘BANGLADESH BANK’ এবং এর নিচে ‘ONE THOUSAND TAKA’ পুনঃপুনঃ মুদ্রিত রয়েছে, যা শুধু Magnifying Glass দ্বারা দেখা যাবে।

ইরিডেসেন্ট স্ট্রাইপ

১০০০ টাকা মূল্যমান নোটের পেছনভাগে ‘Iridescent Stripe’ হিসেবে উল্লভভাবে হালকা সোনালী রঙের ‘BANGLADESH BANK’ মুদ্রিত রয়েছে।

নিরাপত্তা সূতা

১০০০, ১০০, ৫০ ও ২০ টাকা মূল্যমান নোটের সম্মুখভাগে বামপাশে নিরাপত্তা সূতা সংযোজিত আছে যেখানে নোটের মূল্যমান খচিত রয়েছে। ১০০০ টাকা নোটের নিরাপত্তা সূতায় নোটের মূল্যমানের পাশাপাশি ‘বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংকের মনোমুদ্রা’ খচিত রয়েছে। নোটগুলো নাড়াচাড়া করলে নিরাপত্তা সূতার রং লাল হতে সবুজে পরিবর্তিত হয়।

মাইক্রোপ্রিন্ট

১. ১০০০, ১০০ টাকা নোটের সম্মুখভাগের বামদিকে এবং ‘BANGLADESH BANK’ লেখার নিচে Microprint হিসেবে উল্লভভাবে ‘BANGLADESH BANK’ এবং ৫০ টাকা নোটের সম্মুখভাগে আহসান মঞ্জিল, ঢাকা লেখাটির উল্লভভাগে ‘BANGLADESH BANK’ মুদ্রিত রয়েছে।
২. ১০০০, ১০০ এবং ৫০ টাকা নোটগুলোর পেছনভাগে Microprint হিসেবে ‘BANGLADESH BANK’ এবং নোটের মূল্যমান মুদ্রিত রয়েছে।
৩. এছাড়া, ২০ টাকা নোটের সম্মুখভাগের ডানদিকে এবং পেছনভাগের বামদিকে প্রিউইশ প্যাটার্নের ভিতরে Microprint হিসেবে উল্লভভাবে ‘BANGLADESH BANK’ মুদ্রিত রয়েছে।

অসমতল ছাপা

১০০০, ১০০ ও ৫০ টাকা মূল্যমান নোটের ডানদিকে আড়াআড়িভাবে অসমতল ছাপায় (ইটাগ্টিও কালিতে) ৬টি লাইন মুদ্রিত আছে; যা হাতের স্পর্শে সহজেই অনুভব করা যায়।

জলছাপ

১০০০, ১০০, ৫০ ও ২০ টাকার নোটে জলছাপ হিসেবে রয়েছে বেঙ্গল টাইগারের মুখ; এর নিচে উজ্জ্বল ইলেক্ট্রোইস্ট্রিপ জলছাপে ইংরেজিতে নোটের মূল্যমান এবং বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংকের মনোমুদ্রা রয়েছে।

গুপ্ত লেখা

১০০০, ১০০ ও ৫০ টাকা মূল্যমান নোটগুলোর সম্মুখভাগে নীচের দিকের বর্জীরে মাথামানে কাগো অংশে 1000, 100 ও 50 গুপ্তভাবে লেখা রয়েছে; যা নোটগুলোকে আনুভূমিকভাবে ধরলে দেখা যায়।

সি-থ্রু ইমেজ

নোটগুলোতে গভর্নর স্বাক্ষরের ডানপাশে See-Through Image হিসেবে একটি প্যাটার্ন মুদ্রিত রয়েছে যা আলোর বিপরীতে ধরলে ‘১০০০’, ‘১০০’, ‘৫০’ ও ‘২০’ লেখা দৃশ্যমান হবে।

নৃটি প্রতিবন্ধীদের জন্য বৃত্ত

নৃটি প্রতিবন্ধীদের জন্য ১০০০ টাকা মূল্যমান নোটের ডানে নীচের দিকে ৬টি, ১০০ টাকা মূল্যমান নোটে ৩টি এবং ৫০ টাকা মূল্যমান নোটে ২টি ছোট বৃত্ত রয়েছে যা হাতের স্পর্শে অসমতল অনুভূত হবে।

আসল নোটের বৈশিষ্ট্য সম্পর্কে বিস্তারিত জানতে ভিজিট করুন:
<https://www.bb.org.bd/en/index.php/currency/note>
অথবা QR Code-টি স্ক্যান করুন।

ইউভি লাইটযুক্ত জাল নোট সনাক্তকারী মেশিন ও মোবাইল ফোন এবং আতশী কাচ দ্বারা জাল নোট সহজে পরীক্ষা করা যায়। নোট জালকারী চক্রের প্রভারণা থেকে নিজেকে রক্ষা করুন। আসল নোটের বিভিন্ন নিরাপত্তা বৈশিষ্ট্য সম্পর্কে নিজে জানুন এবং অপরকে জানানতে সহায়তা করুন।

ব্যাংক নোটের ব্যবহার সম্পর্কে সচেতন হোন
জনসচেতনতায়: বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংক