

## ‘Ensure justice for rape of Jumma girl in Khagrachhari’

### Demand activists in their 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 play a silent role. The state should take the responsibility,” he said. Sumitra Chakma, president of the Chittagong Hill Tracts Youth Association, said Jumma women are unsafe both at home and outside. He noted that 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 said, adding that torture and oppression will persist unless the accord is fully enforced. On the night of September 23, a girl was raped in Khagrachhari Sadar while returning home after private tuition. Her father filed a case the next morning with the Khagrachhari Sadar Police Station against three unidentified men.



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

## 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.

## Dhak, dhol makers struggle to keep tradition alive

MINTU DESHWARA, Moulvibazar

In the bustling lanes of Notunbazar in Sreemangal, while shoppers crowd clothing stores, a different scene unfolds at a small shop. Upside-down dhols of various sizes are neatly arranged as craftsmen quietly tie yarn around the drums in silence. Seated in a corner is 79-year-old Soilendra Chandra Das, a master craftsman who has spent his life making dhaks, dhols, khol, tabla and harmoniums. His shop, filled with instruments crafted from cow and goat skin, stands as a fading reminder of a once-thriving profession. “Earlier, I worked alongside my father and grandfather. There was so much demand that even five or six of us could not cope. Now, we only need to work for two to three months a year. It’s no longer sustainable,” he said. Once, musicians and artisans were in demand across Sreemangal, and Soilendra recalls earning



up to Tk 1,500 a day. Today, finding a buyer for a single dhol is difficult. Prices range from Tk 2,000 to Tk 20,000. “Interest in traditional instruments has faded. It’s hard to even get Tk 100 for a drum now. I have been in this craft my whole life. It’s in my blood,” he said. Another artisan, Ashutosh Rishi, 49, who runs a shop beside Soilendra’s, echoed the same. While demand rises during Hindu festivals such as Durga Puja, artisans often find little compensation. Once a regional attraction, the industry now struggles against modern instruments and shifting cultural tastes. The instruments are made from neem and mango wood, with dhaks and dhols priced between Tk 5,000 and Tk 20,000 and tablas between Tk 3,000 and Tk 15,000. Despite their cultural and historical value, these instruments are being sidelined by cheaper modern alternatives.

## AGS candidates pledge reforms, student welfare

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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** Mahayer 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 Mahayer, 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, Mahayer 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](http://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
11503378 & 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 11:00

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 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](mailto:helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd)).

//Signed//  
Project Director  
Development of CUET

GD-2088

Chittagong University of Engineering & Technology  
Chattogram-4349

## 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 Alom 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.”

**Savar Paurashava**  
Savar, Dhaka  
([www.savarmunicipality.gov.bd](http://www.savarmunicipality.gov.bd))  
E-mail: [mayor.savarmunicipality@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd)). The Tender Notice also uploaded in the Savar Pourashava website [www.savarmunicipality.gov.bd](http://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 (CPGCB)**  
(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, আলানি ও খনিজ সম্পদ মন্ত্রণালয়ের বিদ্যুৎ বিভাগের আওতাধীন রাষ্ট্রায়ত্ত্ব প্রাতিষ্ঠান 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।

২৩/০৯/২৫

তত্ত্বাবধায়ক প্রকৌশলী (প্রকৌশল) (অ:দা:)

সিপিজিসিবিএল কর্পোরেট অফিস, ইউনিট হাউস (লেভেল-১৭)

১১৭, কাজী নজরুল ইসলাম এভিনিউ, ইকটন গার্ডেন, ঢাকা-১২১৭।

ইমেইল: [se.procurement@cpgcb.gov.bd](mailto:se.procurement@cpgcb.gov.bd), ফোনঃ ০১৭৮৭-৬৭৮৬৬৯