

Ex-minister  
Nurul Majid  
dies at DMCH  
He was in jail custody

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Former industries minister Nurul Majid Mahmud Humayun, who was in jail custody, died yesterday while undergoing treatment at Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

He was admitted to the hospital on Sunday and breathed his last around 8:30am, said Inspector Md Faruk, in charge of DMCH police outpost. His son, Manzurul Majid Mahmud Sadi, also confirmed the death in a Facebook post.

According to a jail notification, Majid was admitted to DMCH with uncontrolled bowel and bladder complications. As his condition deteriorated, he was shifted to the ICU around 4:00pm on Sunday.

In September last year, a Narsingdi court sent Majid to jail in a case filed over the killing of Jahangir Alam, a local Sramik Dal leader, during the Anti-Discrimination Student Movement in Madhabdi municipality area on August 4.

Jahangir's cousin filed the case on August 9 against 127 people, including Majid.

Rab later arrested him in Dhaka's Gulshan.

Two ex-MPs,  
JP secretary  
general held

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Detective Branch of police has arrested two former Awami League MPs, 11 leaders and activists of its affiliated organisations, and the secretary general of the Raushan Ershad-led faction of Jatiyo Party in a series of raids across the capital yesterday.

According to a DB press release issued yesterday, former MP Fayzur Rahman Badal of Brahmanbaria-5 and former reserved seat lawmaker Tamanna Nusrat Bubly were among those detained under the Anti-Terrorism Act.

JP's Secretary General Kazi Mamanur Rashid was arrested in front of The Westin Dhaka under the same act and later produced before court. He was placed on six days' remand.

The DB press release, signed by DMP Deputy Commissioner (Media) Taleb Rahman, said the raids were carried out by the DB's Motijheel, Mirpur, and Cyber divisions from Sunday night to early yesterday in areas including Nikunja, Mohammadpur, Aftabnagar, Kafrel, and Ashulia.



Abir points at his father's photo and calls out "Baba", as his mother Tusti looks on in grief at their rented home in Habiganj.

PHOTO: STAR

## Puja nights bring only silence for Ripon's family

A year after his death in July uprising, family struggles with grief, hardship

MINTU DESHWARA, Moulvibazar

In the heart of a festive neighbourhood, where drums beat and lights glitter for Durga Puja, one home remains eerily quiet.

It is the home of 22-year-old Tusti Chandra Shil, who is still grappling with grief and poverty, raising her 15-month-old son in a rented house in Habiganj city. It's the family of a martyr of last year's July uprising.

The Shil family sits in silence. Their small brick house feels heavy with loss, as though time has stopped.

A puja mandap stands just beside their house, decked out in colourful lights. Inside, devotees prepare for the biggest festival of the Hindu calendar. But in Ripon's home, no such preparations can be seen. No decorations, no new clothes, no festive bustle.

"Who will buy new clothes

for me?" asked his wife Tusti Chandra Shil. "The house used to be so noisy on the days of puja. Now it feels empty."

Tusti recalled how Ripon would once busy himself fulfilling everyone's demands during puja. "He would say, 'I'll buy you shoes and jewelleries to match your sari. Now puja comes and my insides burn.'

A year has passed since Ripon's death, but for his family, the days of grief have not ended.

Ripon Chandra Shil, a resident of Anantapur area in Habiganj Municipality, was killed in a clash between activists of the Awami League and protesters on August 4 last year.

He was taken to Habiganj Sadar Modern Hospital, where doctors declared him dead on arrival. He was 27. He left behind his wife, their infant son, an ailing brother and an elderly mother.

Now over 15 months old,

Ripon's son Abir has just started to speak. "He calls out 'Baba' when he looks at his father's photo," said Tusti.

"When Ripon died, our baby was only three months old. He never got to hear his son call him 'Baba'. Life has become unbearably hard. I've used up all the government and local aid to pay off debts and cover household expenses."

His mother, Ruby Rani Shil, still gazes silently at the photos of her son, having lost the will to speak.

Meanwhile, police say the investigation into Ripon's death is ongoing. "The case is being investigated under close monitoring. Instructions and support are being provided by the higher authorities at Police Headquarters," said Md Shahidul Haque Munshi, additional superintendent of police in Habiganj. He said no arrests have been made so far.

## Redistribution of care work vital for equality

FROM PAGE 3

They emphasised that women's dual contributions must receive due recognition.

MJF Executive Director Shaheen Anam recalled the organisation's decade-long advocacy.

"Over a decade ago, we envisioned a society where women are respected at home and face less domestic violence. Recognising unpaid care work was central to that vision. Today, government acknowledgement marks a milestone for women's rights."

Asma Akhter, deputy director of BBS, shared her vision for a caring society and expressed hope to

update the data further.

Banasee Mitra Neogi, director (rights and governance programmes) at MJF, delivered a keynote titled "A Transformative Journey: Recognizing Unpaid Care Work towards Gender Equality in Bangladesh".

She said necessary surveys are often funded by international development partners, but they will not be able to do so all the time in future, so the government should come forward to take such an initiative.

Nusrat Aman, CEO of the AYAT Foundation, said, "The work of men should be considered an equal responsibility, not a

celebration."

Nasheeba Selim, social development (gender), ADB, said, "People expect household chores to be done by women by default. This perception needs to change."

Kazi Golam Towsif, director general (additional responsibilities) of the Department of Women Affairs, said, "Men and women must work together for society's betterment."

Gitanjali Singh, country representative of UN Women Bangladesh, said,

"The combined effort of men and women will be a game-changer in the unpaid care work sector."

Parveen Mahmud, chairperson of MJF Governing Board, said, "Recognition of women's unpaid care work is a remarkable achievement and a result of MJF's long-term advocacy. Society must change its perspective on gender equality."

The findings mark a milestone in MJF's "Equality through Dignity" campaign, launched in 2013 to recognise women's contributions, enhance their status in families and society, and reduce violence and discrimination.

### Child abuse

FROM PAGE 3

Forhad Hossain, founder and executive director of LEEDO, said to address the crisis, the organisation recommended several measures, including ensuring safe environments and counselling support in schools, effective monitoring to prevent domestic abuse of child workers, ending child labour by providing families with social protection and alternatives, and prioritising investigation and speedy trial of child abuse cases.

It also suggested expanding awareness programmes for parents, teachers and employers, protecting children's identity in media coverage and promoting child rights campaigns, strengthening cyber laws to curb online abuse, and establishing child-friendly helplines.

### হারিয়েছে

আমার বাবার নামে ন্যাশনাল ফ্রেডেটি এভ কমার্স ব্যাংক পিএলসির ৭০০টি শেয়ারের সার্টিফিকেট হারিয়েছে। যাহা নিম্নরূপ :

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নিসার কাদের	০০০২৫	০২৯৪৮৮-০২৮৩৮৭ ০৮০৭৬১-০৮০৮৮৮ ০৯০১৭৮-০৯০৩৫৩	০১৩৭২৮৮৮-০১৩৭২৮৮৭ ০৮০৩৬৩৭৭-০৮০৪২৫৭৬ ০৮৮৬৯০১-০৮৮৭৯৫০০	৮০০ টি ১২৪ টি ১৭৬ টি মোট ৯০০ টি

গুলশান থানা, জিডি নং - ১৮৩৫, তারিখ - ২২/০৯/২০২৫ইং। - সাকিব নিসার

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### TO-LET

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### Expression of Interest

LAMB Hospital, Parbatipur, Dinajpur District, a 50 year old institution, is looking for an Architect /Structural Engineer or a Firm, to plan for some additions/ modification to the current building. The current requirement is to develop a Plan only. Details of expansion will be shared later. Firms with experience in Retrofitting works are preferred. Does not require any Construction Contractor now. Contact Mr. Benedict (Ph: 01786339129) for visiting the site. Interested parties are requested to e-mail their profile to sandipk@lambproject.org within two weeks from the publication date.

## Japan gives \$3.4 million for Rohingya, host communities

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Japan has provided \$3.4 million to the World Food Programme for the Rohingya and host communities in Cox's Bazar as lifesaving support amid dwindling funding that poses serious risks for the refugees.

"Japan stands firmly with Bangladesh and the international community in ensuring that basic needs of the Rohingya population are met, and that the most vulnerable members of the host communities, particularly women and children, are also supported," said Japan's Ambassador to Bangladesh Saida Shinichi.

"Japan remains committed to working with WFP and all partners to prevent a worsening humanitarian crisis and contribute to a long-term solution where the Rohingya can return to Myanmar safely and with dignity."

With the latest contribution from Japan, WFP will provide monthly food assistance and nutrition support to more than 100,000 Rohingya refugees and

2,000 vulnerable Bangladeshis.

Since early 2024, nearly 150,000 more Rohingya have arrived in the camps following intense fighting in Myanmar's Rakhine State, raising the total number of refugees to around 1.2 million.

However, a sharp decline in international funding has put the entire humanitarian response at risk, threatening critical services such as food, cooking gas, nutrition, healthcare, education and protection.

Unless new funding is secured – at least \$60 million over the next six months and \$167 million over the next 12 months – WFP faces the risk of a major disruption to its food assistance starting in December 2025.

WFP Country Director in Bangladesh Dom Scalpell said, "The crisis is at a crossroads. We call on all partners to help prevent a further deterioration of the humanitarian situation in the camps. At WFP, we will continue to do our part – to stretch every dollar and ensure efficiency, transparency and value for money."

## Four killed in road crashes

OUR CORRESPONDENT,

Gazipur

At least four people were killed and five others injured in two road accidents in Gazipur city yesterday.

In the first incident, two persons died after the bike they were on hit a road divider in the Samarsingh area around 3:00pm. The deceased are Shanto, 15, and Likhon, 21.

Earlier in the morning, two people were killed and at least five others were injured in a head-on collision between a pickup van and an auto-rickshaw on the Dhaka-Mymensingh highway in front of Utah Garments.

One of the deceased is Emdadul Haque, 55, said Gazipur Sadar Police Station officer-in-charge Mehedi Hasan.

The injured were taken to a Gazipur hospital.

## MALAYSIA MIGRATION

### CID sues 14 for laundering Tk 40cr

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Criminal Investigation Department (CID) yesterday lodged a case against 14 individuals over laundering Tk 40 crore in the name of manpower export to Malaysia.

CID Inspector Saiful Islam filed the case with Gulshan Police Station.

They are: Unique Eastern Pvt Ltd Managing Director Noor Ali; Dalmashi Group Chairman Noman Chowdhury; Md Shaiful Islam Basak of BM Travels; Mohammad Nazibul Rahman of Natasha Overseas; Md Solaiman of BD Global Business; Taslima Akter of Isha International; Md Mokbul Hossain alias Mukul of MEF Global Bangladesh Ltd; Md Rafiqul Hossain of Kashipur Overseas; Md Ruhul Amin of Amin Tours and Travels; Md Abdul Hai of Celebrity International; Muha Saiful Noor of Tribeni International; Syed Golam Sarowar of Haidari Trade International; and Md Shahidul Islam of Ramma Air International.

CID's Special Superintendent of Police (Media) Jasim Uddin said the accused siphoned the money after realising excessive fees from 3,787 aspiring migrant workers over two years.

According to CID, between 2022 and 2024, Unique Eastern Pvt Ltd and other agencies sent 3,787 workers to Malaysia. While the government fixed migration cost was Tk 78,990