



Rallies demand Nov start of Teesta master plan

Memorandum submitted to CA through DCs

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Lalmonirhat

The "Teesta River Protection Movement" has called on the government to start work on the long-awaited 'Teesta Master Plan' by November under state funding, ahead of the national election next year.

The platform made the call yesterday during simultaneous processions held in five Teesta basin districts: Lalmonirhat, Kurigram, Rangpur, Nilphamari, and Gaibandha.

From the processions, leaders and supporters of the platform submitted memorandums to the respective deputy commissioners in the districts to forward to the chief adviser.

The memorandum stated that the Teesta River is vital for the lives and livelihoods of people in northern Bangladesh. But due to India's unilateral withdrawal of water, the river has turned into a dying channel. It urged implementation of the Teesta Master Plan to safeguard agriculture, the economy, and the environment of the region.

Ex-MP Mozammel among nine AL leaders held

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Detectives arrested nine leaders and activists of the Awami League and its affiliated organisations, including former lawmaker BM Mozammel Haque, during drives in different areas of Dhaka from Saturday evening to yesterday.

Acting on a tip-off, a team from the Detective Branch of Dhaka Metropolitan Police arrested Mozammel around 2:45pm, said Muhammad Talebur Rahman, deputy commissioner (media and public relations) of the DMP.

Mozammel, organising secretary of AL and former lawmaker from the Shariatpur-1 constituency, is accused in eight cases, including a murder case related to the July uprising.

According to a DMP press statement, the other arrestees are Enamul Kabir Emon, 51, member of the AL central committee; Emdadul Haque, 55, office secretary of the Dhaka south unit AL; Mosharrif Hossain, 38, vice-president of Banani Thana Tati League; Kazi Miraz Hossain Moni, 30, joint general secretary of BCL's Dhaka Metropolitan south unit; Belal Ahmed Nahian alias Biplab, 32; Shaharur Alam Sabu, 53, president of Joypurhat Amdai Union AL; Nure Alam Liton, 37, organising secretary of Motijheel Thana Jubo League; and Aminul Haque Murad, 45, vice-president of Chawkbazar unit AL.

One dies in Karnaphuli Tunnel bus accident

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

One of the passengers injured in Saturday's bus accident inside the Karnaphuli Tunnel died at Chattogram's National Hospital yesterday.

The victim, 47-year-old Faisal from the port city's Nizam Market area, succumbed to his injuries around 2:00am, said family members.

His wife, 31-year-old Rani Akhter, who was also injured in the accident, remains hospitalised.

The accident occurred around 1:00pm when the bus driver, reportedly speeding, lost control of the steering, causing the vehicle to overturn inside the tunnel while travelling from the Patenga end towards Anwara.

Around 30 passengers were injured, six of them critically.



PRAYER TIMING				
OCTOBER 6				
Fazr	Zohr	Asr	Maghrib	Esha
AZAN 4-45	12-45	4-15	5-53	7-30
JAMAT 5-20	1-15	4-30	5-56	8-00
SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION				



Scores of passenger buses, cars, and CNG-run autorickshaws remain stuck on a section of the road next to the under-construction Dhaka Elevated Expressway yesterday. Due to the construction work from Malibagh intersection to Khilgaon, the roadway has narrowed, causing severe traffic congestion in the area.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

Lightning kills eight in four districts

STAR REPORT

At least eight people were killed in lightning strikes in four districts yesterday.

Of them, three died in Cumilla's Homna upazila, police said.

Homna Police Station Officer-in-Charge Rafiqul Islam said the incident occurred around 2:45pm in Ghagutia union.

Locals said several people were waiting for the Uzanchar-Ghagutia ferry when heavy rain began. Moments later, lightning struck the area, killing two women and one man on the spot.

The victims are Jakia Begum, 35, and Momtaz Begum, 30, of Nala Dakshin village, and an unidentified man in his forties from Khode Daudpur village. Several others were injured.

Homna Police Sub-inspector Jibon Biswas said police recovered the bodies and handed them over to the families.

Homna UNO Khemalika Chakma said the local administration is assisting the victims' families with burial arrangements.

In Kurigram, two people were killed in lightning strikes in Nageshwari upazila.

The victims are Bablu Miah, 8, son of Noor Hossain of Kalikapur village, and Sahibur Rahman, 45, of Char Luchni village.

Sahibur was struck while cutting grass near his home around 10:00am, and Bablu was hit by lightning while returning home from madrasa around noon, said Nageshwari Police Station Officer-in-Charge Rezaul Karim, quoting locals.

In Jhenaidah, two farmers were killed in separate lightning strikes.

The deceased are Shimul Biswas, 38, of Armukhi village, and Hurmat Ali, 55, of

Shekhra village.

Imran Zakaria, additional superintendent of police in Jhenaidah, confirmed the deaths.

In Narayanganj, a 13-year-old boy died after being struck by lightning in Araihaaz upazila.

The victim, Md Wasim, son of Dila Mia of Ulukandi village, was a fifth grader at a local primary school.



In Cumilla several people were waiting for the Uzanchar-Ghagutia ferry when heavy rain began. Moments later, lightning struck the area, killing two women and one man on the spot.

His uncle Jahirul Islam said Wasim was inside a cowshed during the rain and was struck by lightning as he stepped outside.

Araihaaz Police Station Officer-in-Charge Khondoker Nasir Uddin confirmed the death.

[Our correspondents from Cumilla, Lalmonirhat, Narayanganj, and a correspondent from Jhenaidah contributed to this report.]

Ensure judicial probe into Khagrachhari violence

Demands PCJSS

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

At least 22 communal attacks have taken place in the CHT since the signing of the 1997 Peace Accord, yet almost none of the perpetrators have been held accountable, according to a report released by the Parbatya Chattagram Jana Sanghati Samiti (PCJSS) yesterday.

The report said the situation worsened following two recent attacks in Khagrachhari and Guimara on September 27 and 28, which left three indigenous youths dead and many injured.

The violence erupted after student groups organised protests demanding justice for the alleged gang rape of a 12-year-old Marma schoolgirl, said the report.

The report cited eyewitnesses, who claimed that some bodies were left inside burning houses and that rescue efforts were obstructed.

It also accused law enforcement agencies of failing to intervene, saying they either remained inactive or watched as the violence unfolded, continuing a pattern of institutional negligence.

The organisation demanded a judicial inquiry commission to investigate the recent incident, and full compensation and rehabilitation for affected families.

It also called for full implementation of the CHT Peace Accord.

MERIT-BASED LEADERSHIP NTRCA to appoint principals at pvt institutions: adviser

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government plans to authorise the Non-Government Teachers' Registration and Certification Authority (NTRCA) to appoint heads and principals at private educational institutions to ensure merit-based leadership, Education Adviser Prof Chowdhury Rafiqul Abrar said yesterday.

He made the remarks at a World Teachers' Day event at the Osmani Memorial Auditorium. The programme was organised by the Secondary and Higher Education Division of the education ministry.

Abrar said following the anti-discrimination movement, the ministry has been working to revitalise the education system to make it more inclusive, science-based, and humane.

"Education is not only about reading books. A truly educated person is tolerant, responsible, and humane," he added.

The adviser said reforms are underway, including the preparation of accurate textbooks, updated NCTB regulations, and steps to raise the University Grants Commission's operations to international standards through stakeholder consultation.

A search committee has been formed to appoint VCs, while key ministry positions are being filled through open applications to ensure transparency.

He said a new framework for technical education has been prepared and a consultation committee will soon finalise the secondary-level curriculum.

At the event, 12 teachers were honoured for their contribution to education.

2 journos assaulted, camera vandalised in Sitakunda

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Two journalists were attacked while reporting on a clash between two criminal gangs in Jungle Salimpur area of Chattogram's Sitakunda upazila yesterday morning.

They are: private television channel Ekhon TV's Chattogram bureau chief and special correspondent Hossain Ziad, and its cameraperson Md Parvez.

Their mobile phones and identity ID cards were snatched away, and a camera was vandalised during the attack at Loharpool in Jungle Salimpur around 10:30am.

They were admitted to Chattogram Medical College Hospital, said Alauddin Talukder, a sub-inspector of the hospital's police outpost.

"When we reached Loharpool, some 50-60 men attacked us with local weapons and wooden sticks. Our mobile phones and camera were snatched and vandalised. We barely escaped with our lives," said Ziad.

Abdullah Labib, additional superintendent of police (Sitakunda Circle), said, "No one lodged any complaint in this regard yet".

Earlier on Saturday, one person was hacked and beaten to death and 16 others were injured in a clash between two criminal gangs over establishing control in the hilly Ali Nagar area of Jungle Salimpur.

Salimpur has long been a notorious shelter for criminals, including drug peddlers, murderers, and firearm suppliers.

Hanif charged

FROM PAGE 3

reporters that three specific charges have been brought against Hanif, a former lawmaker from Kushtia-3, including allegations of command responsibility.

The prosecution told the three-member tribunal, headed by Justice Nozrul Islam Chowdhury, that it has sufficient evidence against the accused and will submit all relevant documents in support of the charges.

Meanwhile, the ICT-1 yesterday sent former AL lawmaker Jannat Ara Henry and two other party leaders to jail in a case filed over the killing of three protesters in Sirajganj during the uprising.

Besides, the tribunal granted a three-month extension to the prosecution for submitting the investigation report against Maj Gen (forcibly ret'd) Ziaul Ahsan in a case filed over enforced disappearances committed during the 15-year rule of the AL government.

NSU student

FROM PAGE 3

General Allama Sajedur Rahman in a joint statement condemned the act of disrespecting the Quran and urged the interim government to ensure exemplary punishment.

The Hafazat-e-Islam leaders also threatened to launch a long march to Dhaka if exemplary punishment is not ensured.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh	
Department of Environment	
Paribesh Bhaban, E-16, Agargaon, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207	
Request for Expression of Interest (EOI) for Hiring Consultancy Firm	
Memo No. 22.02.0000.065.14.071.24-233	Date: 5 October 2025
1. Ministry/Division	Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC)
2. Agency	Department of Environment (DoE)
3. Procuring entity name	Project Director, Formulation of a National Framework for Loss and Damage Assessment, Accessing International Climate Finance and Assessment of Internal Migration/Displacement in the Country/Project
4. Procuring entity code	Not applicable
5. Procuring entity district	Dhaka
6. Invitation of Interest for Selection of	Consultancy Services for Preparing Two Full-Sized Project Proposals for Green Climate Fund (GCF)
7. EOI Ref No.	Memo No. 22.02.0000.065.14.071.24-233
8. Date	5 October 2025
KEY INFORMATION	
9. Procurement method	Quality and Cost Based Selection (QCBS)
FUNDING INFORMATION	
10. Budget and source of funds	Bangladesh Climate Change Trust Fund
11. Development partner	N/A
PARTICULAR INFORMATION	
12. Project/programme code	N/A
13. Project/programme name	Formulation of a National Framework for Loss and Damage Assessment, Accessing International Climate Finance and Assessment of Internal Migration/Displacement in the Country
14. EOI closing date and time	26 October 2025, 4:00pm (BST)
INFORMATION FOR APPLICANT	
15. Brief description of the assignment	A consultancy firm will be hired to develop two full-sized Green Climate Fund (GCF) project proposals for Bangladesh, focusing on loss and damage, climate change adaptation, and resilience. It includes project identification, feasibility studies, safeguard, M&E frameworks, and resource mobilization. The consultancy firm will work closely with the DoE to ensure alignment with national priorities, stakeholder needs, and GCF investment criteria for securing project approval.
16. Experiences, resources & delivery capacity required	The firm must have proven experience in developing GCF or similar climate finance proposals, with expertise in climate vulnerability assessment, climate adaptation and resilience. A multidisciplinary team is required to conduct feasibility studies, safeguard, M&E frameworks, and prepare GCF-compliant documents. Adequate technical, analytical, and institutional capacity to coordinate with government and partners, ensure quality deliverables, and provide post-submission support is essential.
17. Other details of application	• Expression of Interest application shall be submitted by 26 October 2025, by 4:00pm in a sealed envelope delivered to "Project Director, Department of Environment, Paribesh Bhaban (9th Floor), E-16, Agargaon, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207" and be marked "EOI for Preparing Two Full-Sized Project Proposals for Green Climate Fund (GCF)". The Consultancy firm will be selected in accordance with Public Procurement Rules 2025. • The Procuring Entity reserves the right to accept or reject any/all Expression of Interest. • Details Terms of Reference (ToR) is available in the Project Office/DoE.
18. Association with foreign firm is	Not Required
PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS	
19. Name of official inviting EOI	Md. Mahmud Hossain
20. Designation of official inviting EOI	Deputy Director (Climate Change), Department of Environment and Project Director
21. Address of official inviting EOI	Department of Environment (DoE), Paribesh Bhaban (9th Floor), E-16, Agargaon, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207, Bangladesh
22. Contact details of official inviting EOI	Phone: +88-02-22212822, Email: mamnoon.us@gmail.com
For further information and clarification, the intending applicant may contact the address given below during office hours (10:00am to 4:00pm).	
 Md. Mahmud Hossain Deputy Director (Climate Change) Project Director, Loss & Damage Project Department of Environment	
GD-2157	

Sudden storms leave 4 hurt, 1,500 houses damaged in 3 districts



STAR REPORT

At least four people were injured and over 1,500 houses, mostly tin-sheds, were damaged by sudden storms in three northern districts yesterday.

Many trees were uprooted and vast tracts of Aman paddy fields were damaged, according to local administration officials and representatives of local government bodies.

In Rangpur's Gangachara upazila, the storm swept through 46 villages around 6:00am. Mafi Hossain, 9, was injured when a partially brick-built house collapsed in Hajirhat village. He was admitted to Rangpur Medical College Hospital, said his father, Nazmul Amin.

Ashraf Ali, chairman of Nohali Union Parishad, said residents in shoal areas were the worst affected.

Gangachara UNO Mahmud Hasan Mridha said around 1,200 houses were damaged in the storm. The administration is preparing a list of affected families for relief distribution.

In Thakurgaon, around 250 to 300 houses were damaged and many trees uprooted in several villages under Baliadangi upazila as a storm, accompanied by rain, struck around 5:00am.

"The local administration is assessing the extent of the damage and preparing a list of affected families to provide assistance," said UNO Md Mofijur Rahman.

In Lalmonirhat, a sudden storm hit Totmari union under Kaliganj upazila around noon, damaging more than 100 houses, said local union parishad chairman Farhad Hossain.

At least three people were injured, he said.

Kaliganj UNO Jakiya Sultana said the administration is preparing a list of affected families to distribute relief materials.

[Our correspondents from Lalmonirhat and Thakurgaon contributed to this report.]