



ICT ACT AMENDMENT Accused barred from election if formally charged

SHARIFUL ISLAM and SIRAJUL ISLAM RUBEL

Those accused in cases filed with the International Crimes Tribunal will not be able to hold or run for public office once formal charges are pressed against them.

They will be disqualified even before the tribunal takes cognisance of those charges, according to a gazette notification amending the International Crimes (Tribunal) Act, 1973.

President Mohammed Shahabuddin on Monday promulgated an ordinance adding section 20C to the act.

According to the new section, anyone against whom formal charges have been pressed with the ICT under section 9(1) will be deemed disqualified from being elected as, or serving as, a member of parliament.

The same restriction applies to those seeking election or appointment as a member, commissioner, chairman, mayor, or administrator of any local government body.

“This amendment clearly violates the most basic principle of justice: a person is innocent until proven guilty.”



SHAHDEEN MALIK, eminent jurist

In addition, such individuals will be ineligible for appointment to or for holding of any service of the republic.

However, the ordinance makes it clear that the disqualification will no longer apply if the individual is later discharged or acquitted by the tribunal.

The amendment takes effect immediately.

Explaining the reasons for the amendment, ICT Chief Prosecutor Tajul Islam told journalists yesterday that the amendment was “the necessity of the time” as the state is “undergoing reconstruction in a post-revolution environment”.

Eminent jurist Shahdeen Malik, however, sharply

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The locomotive and several coaches of the Udayan Express derailed in Sylhet's Moglabazar area around 7:00am yesterday, leaving several passengers injured. Sylhet's rail links with Dhaka and Chattogram were restored after the lines were cleared nearly three hours later.

PHOTO: SHEIKH NASIR

JULY CHARTER IMPLEMENTATION Commission may propose dual role for next JS

MD ABBAS

The National Consensus Commission is planning on two proposals to implement the July National Charter.

One will be to hold a referendum on proposals related to the constitution that all parties have agreed to. The referendum will not be on all the 84 points of the charter.

The other proposal will suggest that the next parliament act as a constitution reform assembly as well as a parliament.

This would give the next parliament a clear

responsibility and timeframe to carry out the reforms, said Prof Ali Riaz, vice-president of the commission.

The commission met constitutional experts yesterday to review progress and discuss the proposals “as well as how the referendum would be phrased and conducted”, said Prof Riaz.

Earlier, experts said article 106 of the constitution could be optional for the government to adopt. However, since political parties no longer want it, the experts agreed it is not necessary, according to sources in the meeting.

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India risks irking people if it keeps backing autocrat Tarique tells BBC

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP acting chairman Tarique Rahman has said there is nothing Bangladesh can do if India chooses to back an autocrat and fall out of favour with its people.



“If they choose to shelter an autocrat and become unpopular with the people of Bangladesh, there's nothing we can do. The people of Bangladesh have decided to keep their distance, so I must stand with my people,” he told the BBC Bangla that released the final segment of his two-part interview yesterday.

In the first interview to media in nearly two decades, Tarique said that if his party comes to power in the upcoming polls, its foreign policy will be based on the

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No referendum before the polls BNP draws a line in the sand

SAJJAD HOSSAIN

The BNP will not agree to a referendum before the general election. It believes it should not have agreed to a referendum to secure public consent for implementing the July Charter. But since it has agreed, it must ensure that the referendum is held on the same day as the national polls.

Party leaders are adamant that the referendum has to be held on the same day as the general election, using the same polling stations, officials, and ballot boxes -- or else it could disrupt the electoral process and have political consequences for the party.

They believe that Jamaat-e-Islami, which wants the referendum before the polls, will use the result against BNP and run a negative campaign.

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Pacer Marufa Akter gave Bangladesh hope with a two-wicket burst in her opening spell after Sobhana Mostary's 60 and an unbeaten 27-ball 43 from Rabeya Khan had helped them to a challenging total of 178. Leg-spinner Fahim Khatun then took three wickets as Bangladesh reduced England to 103 for six. However, Heather Knight's unbeaten 79 ensured the four-time champions chased down the target with four wickets in hand.

PHOTO: AFP

CRIMES AGAINST HUMANITY ICT launches probe into AL

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The International Crimes Tribunal (ICT) has formally begun an investigation into allegations of crimes against humanity against the Awami League as a political party, the first in history, said Chief Prosecutor Tajul Islam yesterday.

The investigation was initiated after issuing a complaint registration number based on a previously lodged complaint, he told reporters on the premises of the ICT in Dhaka.

The assigned officers will try to complete their task as soon as possible.

“Upon receiving the investigation report, appropriate legal steps will be taken regarding the Awami League as a party.”

Asked whether testimonies presented earlier before the tribunal would have any bearing on the case, Tajul said: “Witnesses have already mentioned the party's involvement during their depositions before the tribunal. These statements are now part of judicial records. Hence, those testimonies will serve as vital evidence in the upcoming investigation against the party.”

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Growth outlook brightens, but risks persist: WB

It warns political instability surrounding election may cloud economic prospects

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh's economy is showing signs of recovery after months of political uncertainty, with the World Bank forecasting growth to rise to 4.8 percent in the current fiscal year from 4 percent a year earlier, as inflation moderates and private consumption begins to strengthen.

However, the Washington-based lender warned of downside risks to the near-term economic outlook, including continued political transition risks, banking sector woes and international trade disruptions.

“Further weakening of the banking sector and heightened political instability surrounding the election -- potentially persisting into the post-election period -- could depress investment more than anticipated,” the World Bank said in its Bangladesh Development Update released yesterday.

The report said the interim administration faces limited fiscal space and institutional capacity to advance reforms agreed under the International Monetary Fund-supported programme.

Despite these challenges, however, Bangladesh's GDP growth remained resilient in FY25, supported by strong remittance inflows and steady garment exports. Industrial output recovered modestly in the second half of the year, while construction and investment activity remained subdued.

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THE TORCH BEARERS OF ICT IS HERE

YOUR CHANCE TO NOMINATE

10th

BRAC BANK The Daily Star

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WATER-SHARING ISSUES India will keep discussing them: Misri

UNB, New Delhi

Indian Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri yesterday said India will continue discussions with Bangladesh on water-related issues, including the Ganges and Teesta water-sharing treaties.

"The Ganges Water Treaty is still valid and we will continue to discuss related issues within the framework of the Joint Rivers Commission," Misri said.

He said all are aware that there is a joint rivers commission between the two sides and all the issues of the agenda have been taken up.

The foreign secretary noted that India's objective regarding the Teesta water-sharing agreement remains the same as that discussed with the previous government. "We have put proposals on the table, we remain ready to discuss those proposals, including with the future government that would be elected."

Misri made the remarks during an interaction with members of the Diplomatic Correspondents Association, Bangladesh (DCAB) at India's Ministry of External Affairs (MEA).

The Indian foreign secretary highlighted the warm and historic Bangladesh-India ties emphasising that India has always approached the Dhaka-Delhi relationship in a positive and constructive manner with a people-centric orientation.

Indian foreign ministry spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal, Joint Secretary (Bangladesh and Myanmar) B Shyam, DCAB President AKM Moinuddin, and General Secretary Md Arifuzzaman Mamun were present.

Bangladesh and India share 54 rivers, including the Ganges, and have maintained cooperation through the Joint Rivers Commission (JRC), a bilateral mechanism established to address shared water management issues.

Officials from both countries held the 86th meeting of the JRC in Kolkata a few months ago, where they discussed the renewal of the 30-year-old Ganges Water Sharing Treaty, which is set to expire next year.

Bangladesh has also reiterated its long-standing request to finalise an interim agreement on the sharing of Teesta River waters, a draft of which was completed in 2011.



PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

A bus stops just after exiting the elevated expressway at Farmgate to pick up and drop off passengers. The sudden halt raises the risk of accidents, with vehicles coming down the ramp at speed. The passengers getting off and on also cause jams on the street.

Renewables overtake coal in global power generation

Solar power sees 31% growth during first six months of 2025

AFP

Solar and wind farms generated more electricity than coal for the first time on record this year, but US and Chinese policy shifts are slowing growth, putting a global 2030 target out of reach, reports said on Tuesday.

The surge in renewable use marks a milestone in efforts to turn away from fossil fuels, which are responsible for most of the greenhouse gas emissions that are driving climate change.

Renewables' share of global electricity rose to 34.3 percent in the first half of the year, while coal fell to 33.1 percent and gas maintained its 23 percent share, according to Ember, an energy think tank.

"We are seeing the first signs of a crucial turning point," said Malgorzata Wiatros-Motyka, senior electricity analyst at Ember.

"Solar and wind are now growing fast enough to meet the world's growing appetite for electricity.

"This marks the beginning of a shift where clean power is keeping pace with demand growth," she said.

The report found that solar power generation jumped by a record 31 percent in the first six months of 2025, far outpacing wind, which grew 7.7 percent.

Coal fell by 0.6 percent while global gas generation inched down by 0.2 percent.

At the UN climate summit in Dubai in

2023, the world pledged for the first time to transition away from fossil fuels, with nations also setting the goal of tripling renewable energy capacity by 2030.

The International Energy Agency, however, said on Tuesday that the world would "fall short" of reaching the target.

Last year, the Paris-based IEA, which advises developed nations on energy, had forecast that the world would come close to the Dubai target with the addition of 5,500 gigawatts of renewable power.

But the IEA now sees only a 4,600-GW gain by 2030, or 2.6 times the 2022 level, due to "policy, regulatory and market changes since October 2024", it said in its latest report on renewable energy.

Con job

No referendum before the polls

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These issues were discussed at a meeting of the BNP Standing Committee at its chairperson's Gulshan office on Monday night, according to several sources who were present.

BNP acting chairman Tarique Rahman presided over the meeting virtually from London.

Committee members discussed how the referendum could affect the upcoming election and the party's overall strategy.

They said the BNP stood against the idea of a referendum from the beginning but since it has backed the proposal at the Consensus Commission, changing its stance now could erode public support.

A Standing Committee member, seeking anonymity, said, "The house was not satisfied with the referendum issue. This is a trap of Jamaat-e-Islami. We fell into a trap. That would be very cumbersome."

The party believes the July Charter does not reflect the wishes of all parties. It serves the interests of a few political groups and ignores broader national consensus, the sources said.

The Standing Committee members also said holding the next election in just over four months is a huge task itself and having a referendum before it would be too big a challenge, as it would require manpower and budget.

It would be a waste of time, money, and might delay the general election, they said.

A Standing Committee member, speaking anonymously, said, "Jamaat is trying to create obstacles and delay the polls through it [referendum before polls]."

On Monday, BNP Standing Committee member Salahuddin Ahmed said the referendum would ensure that the charter has genuine popular backing.

"There is a question of whether all political parties together truly represent the entire population. If we can seek approval from the people, then that will be the final opinion on implementing the July Charter," he said.

Standing Committee members believe that to maintain internal unity ahead of the next election, leaders who were punished for violating party discipline should be reinstated if proven innocent.

The committee also highly praised Tarique's interview with BBC Bangla for clearly articulating the BNP's position and message. They said his remarks were timely and based on logic.

Accused barred from election

FROM PAGE 1

This amendment clearly violates the most basic principle of justice: a person is innocent until proven guilty.

"If someone is only accused of a crime against humanity and is barred from contesting elections or holding government jobs, that becomes a form of punishment without trial," he told The Daily Star.

"To give an example -- suppose both you and I are contesting in the next election. I can simply file a case under the ICT law accusing you of involvement in the July killings.

"Before the trial even begins, you'll have to prove your innocence. But by then, the election will be over, and I'll have won. Isn't that an injustice?" Malik said.

He described the amendment as a "deeply regressive step", saying it contradicts the very idea of due process.

"You would have to go back to the pre-1800s era to find a similar law -- a time when human rights did not exist as a concept. No country in the past 200 years has enacted such a provision," he added.

India risks irking people

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principle of "Bangladesh first".

"... our people, our country, our sovereignty -- these must remain intact. Preserving these interests above all else will guide everything we do."

Tarique, 59, has been living in London for almost 18 years.

Tarique has described the 2007-2008 caretaker administration as a "maliciously motivated government". "If I have to say in one sentence or briefly, the 1/11 government was a purposefully motivated, ill-intentioned government."

"We saw how they wanted to smash everything, depoliticise the country, push it into darkness. Later, perhaps we saw another form of the same thing, in a slightly different form, 'in the name of democracy'."

The 1/11 government in Bangladesh refers to the military-backed caretaker administration that assumed power on January 11, 2007.

He said that despite its flaws and setbacks, Bangladesh's political landscape was gradually building a democratic foundation until that government intervened.

Asked about relations with India, Tarique said, "Of course, I want our share of water. Of course, I don't want to see another Felani hanging [from the barbed wire fence]. Of course, we

The advisory council gave final approval to the draft amendment on September 4.

This newspaper spoke to Chief of the Electoral Reform Commission Badiul Alam Majumdar at that time.

"Those accused under the ICT Act cannot be treated like ordinary offenders; they are dangerous criminals," he had said.

"According to article 47(A) of the constitution, some of their rights are already curtailed. From that perspective, such measures warrant consideration."

So far, the ICT has either framed charges or taken cognisance of or received formal charges against 67 individuals in seven cases over crimes against humanity committed during the July uprising.

The accused include several prominent political figures such as former prime minister Sheikh Hasina, former home minister Asaduzzaman Khan Kamal, former information minister Hasanul Haq Inu, Awami League Joint General Secretary and ex-lawmaker Mahbul Alam Hanif, former

Dhaka-19 MP Muhammad Saiful Islam, former Kushtia Zila Parishad chairman Sadruddin Khan, district AL General Secretary Azgar Ali, and Kushtia city AL General Secretary Ataur Rahman Ata.

Most of the other accused are from the police force, including former inspector general of police Chowdhury Abdullah Al-Mamun, ex-Dhaka Metropolitan Police commissioner Habibur Rahman, ex-Rangpur Metropolitan Police commissioner Md Moniruzzaman, and former Dhaka Range DIG Syed Nurul Islam.

Chief Prosecutor Tajul said, "Trials in several cases are nearing completion. Charge sheets in major cases are likely to be submitted this month, and formal charges are also expected to be pressed soon."

Another prosecutor, seeking anonymity, said the prosecution aims to complete investigation reports for at least 20 additional cases of crimes against humanity, including several involving enforced disappearances, before the general election in February next year.

am saying that reforms are needed in several areas in Bangladesh in order to repair the state."

"A person cannot be the prime minister for more than two terms and will not be. There are other issues like this. When there was a dictatorship in Bangladesh, we, the BNP, said these things to their faces, looking them in the eyes."

INTERIM GOVT

The BNP acting chairman said his party wants the interim government to be successful. "We also expect that the current government will properly fulfill the main responsibility bestowed upon it and will be able to hold a fair, free election."

Responding to a query about how he evaluates the role of the government over the last one year, Tarique said, "Considering everything, I feel that maybe they have tried in many areas. Not everyone can be successful in all matters. Naturally, they have some limitations. Within those limits, they may have tried, and maybe they are still trying as much as they can."

Regarding changes in BNP's politics, he said that their main goal would be to build a strong foundation for BNP's future democracy and to create accountability within the organisation.

Commission may propose

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Speaking to The Daily Star, Prof Riaz said, "The referendum could be held either before or during the election, but it must be made clear that the next parliament will function as a reform assembly with a defined constitutional duty. The timeframe for completing the reforms must also be clearly stated."

He added that in addition to refining the main proposal, the commission also is developing an alternative package.

"We have held preliminary discussions on it, and we will meet again with the experts tomorrow [October 8] at noon. At the meeting, we expect to finalise the concrete proposals," he said.

When asked about the nature of the proposals, Prof Riaz explained, "We did not make any proposal on October 5. We only asked political parties to bring theirs, and the idea of the referendum came from them. The commission will present its proposals today."

"If all 30 parties agree on a single position regarding the referendum... we will submit one unified proposal. But if they differ, we will keep both ready and submit two alternative packages."

Another commission member told this newspaper that differences of opinion arose among political parties over how the July Charter should be implemented.

"Implementation basically means incorporating the proposals into what I call the 'white book'. There is nothing else to it. But BNP says that if it happens, it should remain only as a proposal, and the next government

ICT launches probe into AL

FROM PAGE 1

Regarding concerns that recent amendments to the International Crimes (Tribunals) Act, 1973 might raise questions about the credibility of the trials, Tajul said: "There is no scope for that."

The trial process against the Awami League as a party has not started yet. "Questions can arise only when a law is amended during an ongoing trial, but the amendment made recently has not yet been applied."

Responding to a query on whether the law allows for the punishment of a political party, Tajul said: "A party itself cannot be punished like an individual. However, the law specifies the types of penalties that can be imposed on a party -- such as banning it, imposing other sanctions, seizing its properties or issuing directives concerning its leaders and activists. All of these measures are included in the law."

The investigation against the AL is now underway, and if credible

Bangladesh wins presidency of Unesco's 43rd General Conference

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh has been elected president of the 43rd General Conference of Unesco, marking a historic milestone in the country's 53-year membership in the organisation.

During the vote at the 222nd session of the Unesco executive board in Paris yesterday, Bangladeshi candidate Ambassador Khondker M Talha secured the presidency with a 30-27 victory over Japan, according to a statement from the Bangladesh Embassy in France.

Initially, four countries -- Bangladesh, Japan, India, and South Korea -- contested the position. However, India and South Korea withdrew their candidatures in September.

This is the first time Bangladesh has been elected to this apex position within Unesco.

Talha, Bangladesh's permanent delegate to the Unesco and ambassador to France, Monaco, and Côte d'Ivoire, will assume the presidency.

He will succeed Ambassador Simona Mirela Miculescu of Romania at the General Conference of Unesco, to be held later this month in Samarkand, Uzbekistan.

Chief Adviser Prof Muhammad Yunus, Education Adviser CR Abrar, and Cultural Adviser Mostofa Sarwar Farooki expressed their appreciation to the Unesco executive board for electing Bangladesh to this prestigious position.

Prof Yunus called it "a landmark achievement" and thanked the education and cultural advisers, as well as the permanent mission, for their leadership in driving Bangladesh's successful campaign. "This is a proud moment for Bangladesh."

CR Abrar noted, "This election to Unesco's highest office will bring global attention to Bangladesh's contributions in arts, culture, and education. It is a rare honour."

Adviser Farooki said, "Bangladesh's active participation in recent Unesco sessions has already drawn praise. This new role offers a powerful platform to project the vibrancy of our artistic, cultural, and heritage landscape on the world stage."

Ambassador Talha expressed deep gratitude to the Unesco executive board members for their confidence in Bangladesh's leadership.

"This is a historic achievement for our country," he stated, pledging to work tirelessly to uphold Unesco's mandate during this critical time for global multilateralism.

will decide which parts to adopt," he said.

"So, there is a difference in interpretation. Most people understand it one way, while BNP explains it differently," he said.

"This issue must be clarified in the next meeting. Tomorrow's discussion should make it clearer."

During Sunday's discussion with the commission, the parties agreed that a referendum should be held to seek public approval for implementing the charter. However, there is a political disagreement over when the referendum should be held.

BNP believes that the party that will win the national election should implement the charter according to its own view or note of dissent. However, Jamaat-e-Islami believes that there may be differences of opinion on some decisions, but those differences are not binding, and there is no obligation to accept them.

BNP also believes that there is no alternative but to hold a separate ballot for the referendum on the same day as the national election.

Jamaat wants the referendum to be held before the polls. NCP supports holding the referendum on the day of the election, but it has demanded issuing a "July Charter Implementation Order" before the referendum.

Because of these differences, there is uncertainty whether political consensus on the referendum can be achieved.

The July Charter is being prepared with 84 reform proposals. Of these, there are differences of opinion on some constitutional reform proposals.

allegations are brought against any other political party in the future, those will also be investigated accordingly.

On May 10, President Mohammed Shahabuddin promulgated an ordinance amending the International Crimes (Tribunals) Act, 1973 to empower the tribunals to try a political party facing charges of genocide and crimes against humanity and punish it if found guilty.

With the amendment to the act, the tribunal shall now suspend or ban the organisation's activities, declare the organisation illegal, suspend or cancel its registration or licence and confiscate the organisation's property.

The ordinance also explicitly defined "organisation" as any political party, any entity subordinate to, affiliated with, or associated with such a party, or any group of individuals which, in the opinion of the tribunal, propagates, supports, endorses, facilitates, or engages in the activities of such a party or entity.

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'UN committed to ensuring no one's left behind'

Gwyn Lewis pays farewell call on chief adviser

BSS, Dhaka

UN Resident Coordinator Gwyn Lewis yesterday paid a farewell call on Chief Adviser Prof Muhammad Yunus at the state guest house Jamuna.

During the meeting, Lewis commended the chief adviser for his "highly successful" visit to New York during the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA).

The meeting also emphasised the importance of sustained collaboration, innovation, and inclusive growth as Bangladesh prepares for its upcoming national elections in February and enters a new chapter in its development journey.

Reflecting on her tenure, Gwyn Lewis said, "Serving the people of Bangladesh over the past three and a half years has been one of the greatest honours and privileges of my career. I have witnessed firsthand the resilience, creativity, and generosity that define this nation. Working alongside government, civil society, and development partners has been deeply inspiring."

"We remain committed to ensuring that no one is left



behind, with gender equality and human rights embedded in all our efforts," she said.

Meanwhile, Jamaat e Islami Ameer Shafiqur Rahman yesterday sought continued support of the UN for the overall development of Bangladesh.

He made the request when Gwyn Lewis met him at his Bashundhara office.

Jamaat also sought UN's cooperation and technical assistance in holding a free, fair and credible election.

2 more die of dengue

STAR REPORT

At least two dengue patients died while 715 others were hospitalised in the 24 hours till 8:00am yesterday.

According to the Directorate General of Health Services, the deaths were reported in Dhaka.

With the new deaths and cases, the total number of deaths from dengue this year rose to 217, while total cases rose to 51,404.

Among the total cases, a total of 48,667 dengue patients have been released so far after treatment.

Currently, 2,520 dengue patients are undergoing treatment at different hospitals across Bangladesh, 1,661 of whom are from outside Dhaka.

The only real safe exit is death: Sarjis

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

National Citizen Party Chief Organiser (North) Sarjis Alam yesterday slammed some advisers to the interim government, saying those seeking a "safe exit" should remember that "the only real safe exit is death."

"Where will you go for a safe exit?... You may go anywhere in the world, but the people of Bangladesh will still hold you accountable - whether on social media or in person," he said while talking to journalists in Naogaon.

His remarks came days after NCP Convener Nahid Islam said several advisers have links with political parties and are now considering "safe exits".

"We're seeing a tendency among a few advisers to just get through their duties and leave through the elections," said Sarjis.

Sarjis urged the advisers to act decisively in line with the July uprising's spirit and take firm decisions without worrying about their positions.

He also warned that any attempt to create a new version of the Awami League would not be tolerated.

Criticising the Election Commission, he alleged that it was acting arbitrarily over the use of the "Shapla" symbol despite no legal bar.



Numerous illegal battery-run auto-rickshaws lie in the impound zone in Darus Salam area on the capital's Mirpur Road yesterday. The risky movement of such vehicles has disrupted life in the city. Although traffic police have seized many of these vehicles, they are often released after a few days, allowing the problem to persist.

PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON

'Bar biased officials from poll duties' Speakers demand direct election to women's reserved seats

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Election experts and former Election Commission officials yesterday urged the commission not to assign election duties to "politically biased officials" and those who had served in the past three national polls.

Speaking at a dialogue with the EC, they also stressed the need for the commission to take a stronger and more assertive role in ensuring free, fair, and impartial elections. This includes empowering EC officials with magistracy authority to uphold electoral integrity.

In a separate session, participants called for increasing the number of reserved seats for women in parliament, introducing direct elections to those seats, and ensuring the safety of women voters.

Fair Election Monitoring Alliance (FEMA) President Munira Khan urged the

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Govt to declare oxygen as an 'essential drug'

Says CA's special assistant for health ministry

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government is set to declare oxygen as an "essential drug", considering its importance in patient treatment, said Prof Sayedur Rahman, special assistant to the chief adviser for the health ministry, yesterday.

The essential drug list is currently being revised, he said at the Bangladesh Oxygen Summit held at a hotel in Dhaka.

Essential drugs refer to life-saving and commonly needed medicines that the government ensures are available, affordable, and of assured quality for all.

Prof Sayedur said the government is taking steps to make non-functional oxygen plants operational and to ensure supply at the upazila level.

The summit was jointly organised by icddr,b, Lancet Global Health Commission on Medical Oxygen Security, Every Breath Counts, and Unitaid, seeking investment for ensuring oxygen supply.

The Lancet Commission was formed in September 2022 following an icddr,b study to analyse the global availability and shortage of medical oxygen.

Sayedur made the announcement at a time when 70 percent of people in low and middle-income countries, including

Bangladesh, do not receive oxygen when needed for acute medical or surgical care.

Citing a report of the Lancet Commission, icddr,b scientist Ahmed

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A message of unity, direction Say BNP leaders about Tarique's interview

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP Acting Chairman Tarique Rahman's recent media interview has left the party's leaders and activists excited and energised.

They said the interview provided clear directions for both the party and the nation. In an interview with BBC Bangla, Tarique explained BNP's position on several current issues, including the party's strategy for the upcoming national election.

BNP Secretary General Mirza Fakhru Islam Alamgir yesterday said Tarique's interview proved that he is capable of leading the nation.

Dhaka North City BNP Convener Aminul Haque said, "He [Tarique] gave priority to Bangladesh first and focused more on people's interests. His statement carries an important message for leaders and activists across the country. He made it clear how BNP is thinking about the coming days."

Party Vice Chairman Shamsuzzaman Dudu said, "The interview was simply excellent. The full picture of BNP's politics came out here. He has never spoken so openly about the past, present, and future before."

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A child pokes his head out from behind the plastic cover of a rickshaw, watching the midday rain with curious eyes. Torrential rain over the past week has become a common occurrence, disrupting movement and causing waterlogging in several areas. The photo was taken in the TSC area of Dhaka University yesterday.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

Take swift action to implement July Charter, hold Feb polls

Says Jamaat leader Taher

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Syed Abdullah Mohammad Taher, nayebe-ameer of Bangladesh Jamaat-e-Islami, has urged the government to "take some crucial decisions quickly and decisively" to implement the July Charter and ensure that the next national election is held in February as planned.

"This could have been done three months ago. All parties have already reached a consensus in principle. Yet there are delays - this way, that way. If such conspiracies continue and the required reforms and solutions are not implemented, everything will come into question," Taher told reporters yesterday at the VIP terminal of Dhaka airport after returning from the US.

Taher accompanied Chief Adviser Prof Muhammad Yunus to the United Nations General Assembly session as part of the government delegation.

Emphasising that the election must be held in February, the Jamaat leader further said, "Those who are creating obstacles to implementing the reforms, or if the government delays reforms for any reason that ultimately affects the election, they will have to be accountable to the nation."

ICT-1 Defence claims July uprising 'part of conspiracy' IO rejects allegations

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

State defence counsel Amir Hossain, representing ousted prime minister Sheikh Hasina and former home minister Asaduzzaman Khan Kamal, yesterday claimed that the July uprising was part of a long-term plan and conspiracy.

"There was no war in 2024," he said.

He made the remarks while cross examining Investigation Officer Md Alamgir in the crimes against humanity case at the International Crimes Tribunal-1.

IO Alamgir dismissed the claims. Amir alleged that members of the interim government unjustly forced Hasina to resign and later compelled her to leave the country.

He also claimed that the July movement's one-point demand to oust the government was unlawful and that protesters carried out arson and violence across the country.

The IO rejected all the allegations.



A trader loads winter vegetable saplings onto his boat. He will take them to various urban and rural markets to sell to local farmers so they can begin planting winter vegetables soon. The photo was taken in Barishal's Babuganj upazila yesterday.

PHOTO: TITU DAS

FARIDPUR SADAR UPAZILA

7 years, 2 contractors, still no bridge

SUZIT DAS, Faridpur

The construction of a key bridge over a branch of the Padma river in Faridpur Sadar upazila remains incomplete even after two deadline extensions and seven years since work began, causing deep frustration among locals.

The 580-metre-long and 9.8-metre-wide bridge, connecting Bhuiya Bari Ghat in Bhajandanga under Faridpur municipality and Taher Fakir's Dangi Ghat in Decree Char union, was originally scheduled for completion by June 30, 2020.

The deadline has since been extended twice, the latest of which expired on June 30 this year. Yet around 40 percent of the work remains unfinished.

The bridge is being built under a project titled "Construction of Important Bridges on Rural Roads" to improve communication between Faridpur town and the remote shoal areas.

Initially, the contract was awarded to Rafia Construction. However, its owners were arrested in 2020 as prime accused in a Tk 2,500 crore money laundering case and several others, and have been in jail since. The project came to a halt that year, with only 29 percent work completed.

After a two-year pause, the contract was re-awarded to Messrs



Jannat Construction Limited in 2022. Over the past three years, the company has completed another 31 percent of the work.

"So far, two girders and 10 pillars on both ends of the bridge have been installed. Of 11 slabs, three have been placed and work on the fourth is ongoing. While 26 girders have been built, 18 more are yet to be constructed," said Abu Hanif, the project's manager.

Abdul Halim, a junior engineer of Messrs Jannat Construction, said they have applied to LGED for another extension.

"The bridge would have made communication easier for more than 50,000 people. Since it remains unfinished, we still have to use trawlers and engine-boats to

cross the river," said Miraj Hossain, a resident of Gendumolla Haat.

Iris Bepari and Murad Hossain from Decree Char union shared similar frustrations.

Mehedi Hasan, chairman of Decree Char Union Parishad, said farmers from shoal areas face financial losses as they struggle to transport their produce to town markets.

Delwar Hossain, LGED engineer in Faridpur Sadar upazila, said about 60 percent of the construction work has been completed.

"The contractor's current deadline expired on June 30. Their proposal for an extension has been forwarded to LGED's central office in Dhaka, but no instruction has been received yet," he said.

COMMEMORATING ABRAR FAHAD

'Eight Pillars Against Aggression' inaugurated

BSS, Dhaka

Honouring the legacy of Buet student Abrar Fahad, the "Eight Pillars Against Aggression" memorial was rebuilt and inaugurated yesterday at the capital's Palashi intersection, six years after it was demolished by fascist forces.

The memorial commemorates Abrar Fahad, who was beaten to death by now banned Chhatra League men in October 2019, and the martyrs of the July uprising.

Marking Abrar's sixth death anniversary, the memorial was inaugurated by his father Barkat Ullah at a programme organised by the Abrar Fahad Smriti Sangsad. The eight pillars of the monument signify — sovereignty, democracy, defence, communal harmony, self-reliance, protection of nature and industry, cultural freedom, and human dignity.

On October 7, 2020, on the occasion of Abrar's first death anniversary, a similar memorial was erected at the same spot by Bangladesh Chhatra Odhikar Parishad. However, within 24 hours, the DSCC demolished the structure.

Addressing the event yesterday, Information Adviser Mahfuj Alam said, "Bangladesh's young generation stands as the nation's greatest source of strength and must now prepare to



lead the country's next battles — against domination, aggression, and all forms of injustice — with a renewed sense of national commitment and moral vision."

LGRD Adviser Asif Mahmud described the "Anti-Aggression Monument" as a symbol of Bangladesh's enduring struggle for sovereignty, democracy, and justice — values embodied by Abrar Fahad.

Bar biased officials from poll

FROM PAGE 3

commission to hold the referendum on the July Charter and the national election on the same day, saying that holding them separately could create disorder.

She also emphasised steps to curb the influence of black money, manipulation, and muscle power in elections, citing past instances of ballot snatching and vote rigging.

Former election official Mahfuz Akter recommended monitoring the electoral code of conduct even before the election schedule is announced.

She said as political activities are already ongoing, the EC should form a committee to monitor such activities early on, not just after the schedule is declared.

Former election official Khandokar Mizanur Rahman proposed that the EC consider appointing multiple returning officers in larger districts to ensure proper oversight.

Another former official, Mohammad Zakaria, urged the commission to appoint individuals from

institutions with "political affiliations", such as Islami Bank. He also suggested avoiding personnel who had already served in the last three elections.

Former EC officials also suggested granting magistracy powers to EC officers, setting up polling stations with fewer voters per centre, and forming "polling station protection committees" comprising elderly, non-partisan local residents who know one another.

Chief Election Commissioner AMM Nasir Uddin said many people have doubts about those who were on duty during the last three elections.

"Of course, there are good and bad individuals everywhere. Now, if we try to exclude people from a pool of around one million election officials, it's like stripping the whole blanket just to pick out a few threads. That's exactly the situation I'm facing," he said.

"About politically biased bank officials, we will keep an eye on that. We will do what needs to be done," he added.

Nijera Kori Coordinator

Khushi Kabir said many are interested in ensuring women's representation and participation. "But unfortunately, we are not receiving the kind of encouragement we expected from political parties," she said.

She demanded direct elections for women's reserved seats so that women can enter parliament through public voting and play an active role. "Additionally, you must ensure the safety of women voters."

Women Affairs Reform Commission Chairman Shireen Parveen Haque proposed increasing the number of parliamentary seats from 300 to 600. Each constituency would have two seats — one exclusively for women and the other open to both men and women.

Bangladesh Mahila Parishad President Fozia Muslem said, "You must pay close attention to candidate selection. Those who are misogynistic, communal, or opposed to the spirit of the Liberation War must be carefully considered during the nomination process."

Govt to declare oxygen

FROM PAGE 3

Ehsanur Rahman said 374 million people need medical oxygen globally every year, requiring at least 1.2 billion normal cubic metres annually.

Ehsanur, the commission's executive committee member and an author of the report, said there is a huge oxygen coverage gap in low and middle-income countries, which would require \$6.8 billion annually to close.

ShamsEl Arifeen, another member of the commission, said over 5 billion people — more than 60 percent of the global population — lack

access to safe, quality, and affordable medical oxygen services, with the coverage gap in LMICs standing at 70 percent.

Abu Hussain Md Moinul Ahsan, director (hospital) of the Directorate General of Health Services, said the gap in Bangladesh might not be that high.

It was shared at the summit that about 7.4 million people in Bangladesh need oxygen each year — 2.1 million for acute medical conditions, 5.1 million for surgical needs, and 0.2 million for long-term therapy — requiring 84 million normal

cubic metres of oxygen annually.

Executive Director Tahmeed Ahmed said thousands of lives could be saved if oxygen supply were ensured. While Bangladesh has made progress in oxygen production, it remains insufficient, he added.

Sayedur said only 29 of the country's PSA (Pressure Swing Adsorption) oxygen plants are functional, while 70 remain nonfunctional.

The government plans to launch a new project to make all plants operational and develop an integrated oxygen network, he added.

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার

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নথি নং: এস-৪/৯২/World Bank Group (WBG)/প্রকল্প/২০২০-২১/৩০৫০৪ (৩৯)

তারিখ: ০৭/১০/২০২৫ খ্রি.

অফিসের জন্য ভবন/অফিস স্পেস ভাড়া আবশ্যিক।

জাতীয় রাজস্ব বোর্ডের নিয়ন্ত্রণাধীন কাস্টমস হাউস, চট্টগ্রামের নতুন ভবন নির্মাণ কাজ চলাকালীন বিকল্প অফিস/ভবনে সরঞ্জামাদি স্থানান্তরের মাধ্যমে দায়িত্বের কার্যক্রম নির্বিঘ্নে পরিচালনার জন্য কাস্টমস হাউস, চট্টগ্রামের অফিস হিসেবে ব্যবহারের জন্য চট্টগ্রামের বন্দর এবং আড়াবাদ এলাকায় অবস্থিত অফিস স্পেস ১,৫২,৩৫৫ বর্গফুট এবং ল্যাবরেটরির জন্য ৯,৪১৬ বর্গফুট (কম/বেশি) আয়তন বিশিষ্ট ভবন/অফিস স্পেস ভাড়া আবশ্যিক। উক্ত ভবন/অফিসটিতে নিম্নে বর্ণিত সুবিধাসমূহ থাকা আবশ্যিক:

- কর্মকর্তা-কর্মচারী এবং সকল সেবা গ্রহীতার জন্য পর্যাপ্ত লিফটের সু-ব্যবস্থা থাকতে হবে;
- প্রশস্ত সড়কের পাশে অবস্থিত হতে হবে;
- স্টেকহোল্ডারদের জন্য প্রতিদিন প্রায় ১০০ গাড়ির পার্কিং-এর ব্যবস্থা থাকতে হবে;
- গ্যাস, বিদ্যুৎ, পানি, টেলিফোন ইত্যাদির সু-ব্যবস্থা থাকতে হবে;
- দিনের বেলায় প্রাকৃতিক আলো ও বাতাসের ব্যবস্থা থাকতে হবে;
- ভবন/অফিসটি চট্টগ্রাম বন্দর এবং আড়াবাদ এলাকায় অবস্থিত হতে হবে;
- ৭২ টি গাড়ি রাখার জন্য গ্যারেজ থাকতে হবে;

- কাস্টমস কর্তৃক জরুরী এবং কাস্টোডিয়ান শাখায় রক্ষিত মূল্যবান মালামাল সরেকপের জন্য স্থান থাকতে হবে;
- মহিলা ও পুরুষের জন্য পৃথক বিস্তৃত নামাজের স্থান থাকতে হবে;
- পর্যাপ্ত নিরাপত্তা ব্যবস্থা থাকতে হবে;
- ভবনটি মামলা-মোকদ্দমা মুক্ত হতে হবে;
- ফায়ার সেফটি ও জরুরি বিহীন পথ থাকতে হবে;
- ভবনে পর্যাপ্ত শৌচাগার, বিদ্যুৎ পানির ব্যবস্থা এবং পরিষ্কৃত বায়ু রাখার সুবিধা থাকতে হবে;
- বৈদ্যুতিক সাব-স্টেশন/জেনারেটরের ব্যবস্থা থাকতে হবে যাতে দায়িত্বের কার্যক্রম বিঘ্ন না ঘটে;
- Modular Data Center (MDC)/ইন্টারনেট/নেটওয়ার্ক সংযোগের জন্য প্রয়োজনীয় অবকাঠামো থাকতে হবে;
- মালিক বা তার অনুমোদিত প্রতিনিধি দায়িত্বের সময়ে সহজলভ্য থাকতে হবে।

২। উল্লিখিত অফিসের জন্য ভবন/অফিস ভাড়া দিতে আগ্রহী বাড়ির মালিককে আগামী ২৯/১০/২০২৫ খ্রি. তারিখ দুপুর ১২:০০ ঘটিকার মধ্যে নিম্ন ঠিকানায় ভবন/অফিসের ক্ষেত্র মাপ, ভবনের মালিকানা সন্ধান ক্রমপত্র, একাধিক মালিক থাকলে সকলের লিখিত সম্মতি/অনুমোদন, এবং অন্যান্য আনুষঙ্গিক দলিলাদিহ লিখিতভাবে ভাড়া প্রস্তাব (বিস্তারিত বর্ণনাসহ) প্রেরণ করার জন্য অনুরোধ করা হলো।

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পোর্ট কলোনী রোড, বন্দর, চট্টগ্রাম।

০৬/১০/২৫
(এইচ এম কবির)
ডেপুটি কমিশনার (প্রিভেটিভ ও প্রশাসন)
কমিশনার অব কাস্টমস এর পক্ষে।

GD-2170

Support BNP

FROM PAGE 3

retirement age to 65, bringing non-MPO institutions under the MPO scheme, and nationalising the jobs of teachers and employees of private institutions.

"No matter how many reform initiatives we take in the state or politics, we will not achieve the desired results unless we modernise the education system and ensure the financial and social security and dignity of teachers," Tarique said.

He also announced that an "Education Reform Commission" would be formed on a priority basis to restructure the existing

curriculum, making it more practical and technical.

BNP Secretary General Mirza Fakhru Islam Alamgir and Standing Committee members Dr Abdul Moyeen Khan and Amir Khosru Mahmud Chowdhury, among others, also spoke at the rally.

PRAYER
TIMING
OCTOBER 8

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

Legal Notice

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF BANGLADESH
HIGH COURT DIVISION
(STATUTORY ORIGINAL JURISDICTION)
COMPANY MATTER NO. 1794 OF 2025

IN THE MATTER OF:

Fairouz Rahman Aurna

-VERSUS-

Mirpur Holy Crescent Hospital (Pvt.) Ltd and another

Notice is hereby given to all concerned that Fairouz Rahman Aurna filed an application under section 81(2), 85(3) read with section 396 of the companies Act, 1994 (the application) seeking an order to hold Annual General Meeting for the calendar year 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024 of respondent No. 01 Company, Mirpur Holy Crescent Hospital (Pvt.) Ltd for submitting the audited balance sheet and profit and loss account for the year ended on 30th June 2021, 30th June 2022, 30th June 2023 and 30th June 2024, before the Hon'ble High Court Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh. Upon preliminary hearing, the Hon'ble Justice of the High Court Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh, Mr. Justice Ahmed Sobel was pleased to admit the application by an order dated 25.09.2025 and further the petitioner is directed to publish this notice in two daily newspaper namely "The Daily Star" and "The Daily Jugun" within 3 (three) weeks from date of said order and also the petitioner is further directed to file an affidavit-in-compliance on or before 30.10.2025. The petitioner is further directed to put in requisites forthwith.

Any person or persons having interest in the said application may appear either personally or through duly authorized Advocate on the date so fixed.
Copy of the said application may be obtained from the office of the undersigned on payment of required costs.

Yours sincerely,
A.K.M. Mahbubul Alam Bhuiya
Advocate, Supreme Court of Bangladesh
Suit No. 15, Kabibaksh Supermarket,
Kawranbazar, Dhaka.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Local Government Engineering Department

Integrated Services and Livelihood for Displaced People from

Myanmar and Host Communities Improvement Project (LGED Part)

LGED Bhaban, Level-08, Argargaon

Sher-E-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207

www.lged.gov.bd

Memo No. 46.02.0000.575.07.002.25-13

Date: 07.10.2025

Request for Expressions of Interest (REOI) for Design, Monitoring and Supervision (DMS) Consulting Services (Firm selection)

Project Title: Integrated Services and Livelihood for Displaced People from Myanmar and Host Communities Improvement Project (ISLP) (LGED Part)

Assignment: Consultancy Services for Design, Monitoring and Supervision, Package No: ISLP/S-07/LGED

- The Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh receive a grant (Grant No-1027) and a loan (Loan No-4607) from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) to partly finance the proposed project under Local Government Engineering Department (LGED) of local Government Division. There will be construction of infrastructure for Dpin and host communities of Cox'sbazar and Noakhali District. Part of the project financing (grant) will be used for this consulting services.
- The objective of this assignment is to design, monitor and supervise the construction under phase-1 and to design and undertake due diligence for the components under phase-2. Hence the project will recruit eligible National consulting firm(s) as DMS with adequate experience in project management and administration; construction supervision and quality control, design and related support following ADB's procurement Policy and Procurement Regulations for ADB borrowers (2017, as amended from time to time).
- EOIs may be submitted by a firm, association, or joint venture. The EOI should mention the qualifications and experiences of each member of the association as well as contribution of each member in delivering the Services.
- A consulting firm will be selected following the Quality and Cost Based Selection (QCBS) method in accordance with the procedures set in the Guidelines on "The Use of Consultants by Asian Development Bank and its Borrowers". The EOIs will be evaluated based on the complete information provided in the ADB's Template for Expression of Interest (Consulting Firm).
- According to the latest ADB procurement regulations, the REOI for this Consulting Service has been published electronically in the ADB Consultant Management System (CMS) which can be accessed through the following link: https://selfservice.adb.org/OA_HTML/auth/xcsr/jsp/ADB_CrmFwd.jsp?sel=215191. The interested consulting firms are hereby advised to access the REOI through the above link. If any contradiction is found between CMS notice and newspaper notice, the information on CMS notice shall prevail. The Consultants shall have to submit their EOIs electronically through the ADB CMS by: (09:59 PM BD Time) 11:59 PM (Manila local time) on 6 November, 2025.
- The project will conduct the short-listing of the interested consulting firms for the above-mentioned service. The key qualifications and experiences of the Consulting firms required are as follows: (a) Technical Competence: general experience, specific experience in similar assignments (design review-detailed design and project management consulting services with comparable scale and technical specifications. Firms with previous experience in the similar assignment will be given preference; (b) Geographic Experience: experience in similar geographic area; (c) Summary of relevant permanent professional employees and resource persons; (d) Experience in working with Multilateral Development Banks - MDBs (i.e. ADB, World Bank etc.).
- Further information including scope of work and Terms of Reference are available in the CMS.

07/10/2025

(Haque Sultana)

Project Director, EAP and Assigned Officer, ISLP

Tel: +880-2-44826185, email: pd.islp@lged.gov.bd

GD-2176



Rashida Begum winnows Aus paddy at Barakula village in Narail after farmers threshed the harvested crop yesterday. Aus is often used to produce various forms of rice and rice-based meals, and locals say this year's yield has been fairly good, selling for Tk 1,000 to 1,100 per maund.

PHOTO: HABIBUR RAHMAN

Veggie farmers hit hard by rains

MOHSIN MILON, Benapole

Vegetable growers in Jashore have been severely affected by persistent monsoon rains that damaged their fields and seedbeds. Despite replanting several times, farmers are struggling to save their crops due to continuous rainfall.

The repeated losses and delayed planting have already pushed back the harvesting of winter vegetables, raising fears of a shortage in the market.

Along the Chougacha Road in Abdulpur village, hundreds of seedbeds were seen covered with polythene sheets. Farmers there prepare cabbage and cauliflower seedlings from mid-June and sell them to growers across the region once they mature.

Currently, cauliflower seedlings sell for Tk 800-1,500 per thousand and cabbage for Tk 500-1,100, depending on quality. While prices are good, rainfall since July has caused major setbacks to cultivation, said farmers.

Nazrul Islam, a local grower, said, "Last

month I bought cabbage, eggplant, and cauliflower seedlings, but those were damaged in heavy rains. Now I've come again to buy seedlings for replanting. The production cost has doubled."

Another farmer, Alim Hossain, said his seedbeds were submerged seven to eight times in a month. "Those who bought seedlings from us also suffered huge losses. It rained continuously even in the past few days," he said.

Ahsan Rahman, another grower, said, "The rains have completely disrupted winter vegetable cultivation. By this time, we should be planting seedlings, but instead we're sowing seeds again. So, vegetables will reach markets later than usual."

Mosharrar Hossain, DAE deputy director in Jashore, said, "Traders from greater Jashore and other regions buy seedlings worth over Tk 25 crore. Although continuous rainfall caused losses, we are providing fertilisers and seeds to help farmers recover."



Couple among 4 killed as bus hits easy bike

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pubna

Four people, including a couple, were killed and two others injured after a bus hit a battery-run easy bike on the Bonpara-Kushtia highway in Baraigram upazila of Natore on Monday.

The deceased were identified as Ansar Ali, 60, and his wife Rashida Begum, 54, of Kalikapur in Baraigram; Nayon Islam, 28; and the easy bike driver, Munser Pramanik, 65, of Dhola village in Lalpur upazila of Natore.

Md Monjur Morshed, sub-inspector of Bonpara Highway Police Station, said the accident occurred around 4:00pm when a Kushtia-bound bus of Kolpona Paribahan hit the easy bike carrying five passengers.

Ansar, Nayon, and Munser died on Monday, while Rashida succumbed to her injuries at Rajshahi Medical College Hospital yesterday morning.

The injured -- Rana and Russel, sons of the deceased couple -- are undergoing treatment at the RMCH. Police seized the bus, but its driver and helper managed to flee the scene. A case has been filed with the Bonpara Highway Police Station in this connection.

Shop owner found dead near police station

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Netrakona

A man was found dead in his grocery shop, just 150 yards away from Mohanganj Police Station in Netrakona, on Monday night.

Police recovered the body of Narayan Pal, 40, and sent it to Netrakona Modern Sadar Hospital morgue for autopsy.

Law enforcers have collected CCTV footage from nearby areas, said Aminul Islam, officer-in-charge of Mohanganj Police Station.

OC Aminul said that a customer entered Narayan's shop, located at Thana Mor in Uttar Daulatpur, around 11:15pm and found his body on the ground. Narayan's throat was slit.

Shyamal Molla, general secretary of Mohanganj Grocery Traders' Association, said, "We demand a fair and speedy trial of those responsible for the murder."

Illegal sand lifting worsens Meghna erosion

12 families displaced; locals demand admin intervention

JAHIDUL ISLAM, Narsingdi

Rubel Mia, 28, of Shantipur village under Mirzarchar union in Narsingdi's Raipura upazila, became homeless overnight after the Meghna swallowed his home.

With his eight-member family, Rubel took shelter in a neighbour's house after losing everything to the river. His home, once filled with life and laughter, now exists only in his memories.

"Meghna devoured our only home in early 2025. My neighbour Mainuddin gave us shelter out of kindness. Unchecked sand extraction by influential people has worsened the river's erosion," Rubel said.

Bilal Hossain, 40, a battery-run rickshaw puller from nearby Namarbari village, shared a similar ordeal. He now lives in a government shelter project, struggling to survive.

At least 12 families in the union became homeless this year due to severe erosion caused by rampant sand extraction from the Meghna.

During a recent visit, this correspondent saw 10-15 suction dredgers lifting sand from the river in the Shantipur area.

Locals alleged that a Brahmanbaria-based company, Messrs Saimul Traders, which took lease of a sand quarry for Tk 8.93 crore in Nasirabad, has been illegally extracting sand from the Narsingdi side of the river.

They said the river's course has changed due to the sand lifting, even though there is no legal sand quarry in the entire Narsingdi district.

When villagers formed a human chain on



July 5 in protest, armed men attacked them.

Earlier on January 16 and May 19, the sand traders also opened fire on mobile court teams, forcing officials to retreat.

No case has been filed over the incidents.

Locals alleged that an organised armed gang now controls the river, patrolling it with speedboats and operating under the protection of influential political figures.

"Earlier Awami League men were involved; now some BNP men are in control of the sand looting," said a local resident, requesting anonymity.

Several leaders of local Jubo Dal, Jubo League, and Sramik League units are allegedly

involved in the illegal sand trade. They are also accused in multiple cases, including murder, robbery, and attacks on police.

Ashraf Uddin Bakul, BNP's assistant secretary for science and technology and an aspiring candidate from Raipura, said, "The allegations exist, but no concrete proof has been presented. Those involved do not represent BNP's ideals. We will take action at the right time."

Raipura UNO Masud Rana said police were instructed to file a case over the attack on the mobile court, but no case was recorded. "The administration is aware of the issue and will take action soon," he said.

Nazmul Hasan, deputy commissioner (revenue) of Narsingdi, said there is currently no legal sand quarry in the district. "Drives are ongoing, and we will take further action if new complaints arise," he said.



A truck plies along the pothole-riddled Shipyard Road in Khulna, which stretches from the Rupsha Traffic Intersection to Khan Jahan Ali Bridge. Once a busy commercial route, the road has now become a source of immense suffering for commuters, especially during the monsoon, as rainwater often leaves it waterlogged. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: HABIBUR RAHMAN

Türkiye backs Bangladesh's democratic transition

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Türkiye yesterday reaffirmed its strong commitment to supporting Bangladesh's democratic transition and institution-building efforts as the country moves toward elections early next year.

The pledge came during the 4th political consultation between the two countries at the state guest house Padma, according to a joint statement. Foreign Secretary Asad Alam Siam and Turkish Deputy Foreign Minister A Berris Ekinci led their respective delegations.

Ekinci also paid a courtesy call on Chief Adviser Prof Muhammad Yunus at the state guest house Jamuna yesterday. At the meeting, she conveyed the greetings and best wishes of President Recep Tayyip Erdogan and his invitation to Prof Yunus to visit Türkiye at a mutually convenient time.

In response, Prof Yunus said he would be delighted to visit Türkiye in the near future.

Ekinci also called on Foreign Adviser Touhid Hossain, where the adviser underscored the need to boost bilateral trade and increase it to \$3 billion in the near future.

The two countries also reaffirmed their steadfast solidarity with the Palestinian people in their legitimate pursuit of inalienable rights and self-determination. They also stressed the urgent need for increased aid, justice and accountability for atrocities against the Rohingyas and their voluntary repatriation to Myanmar.

TEESTA RIVER

Water recedes, but suffering far from over

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Lalmonirhat

The water level in the Teesta has fallen below the danger mark, easing flood conditions in Lalmonirhat, Kurigram, Rangpur, and Nilphamari.

Floodwaters have started receding in many areas, allowing people who had taken shelter on dams, roads, and flood centres to return home.



Around 9:00am yesterday, the water level at the Teesta Barrage point in Nilphamari's Dalia was recorded at 51.70 metres -- 45 centimetres below the danger mark. Kurigram WDB Executive Engineer Rakibul Hasan said, "We are keeping watch and will drop sand-filled geo-bags immediately if erosion starts."

Although water levels are falling, the sufferings of flood-hit families are far from over. In many low-lying areas, stagnant water still forces locals to live in makeshift huts covered with polythene sheets atop embankments.

Aklima Bewa, 65, from Lalmonirhat Sadar upazila, said, "During floods we suffer, and when the water goes down, we suffer again. Now erosion will begin, and the river will take our land and home."

Lalmonirhat DC HM Raqib Hayder said, "Relief assistance has been distributed... If any houses are damaged, the affected families will be rehabilitated with government support."



NCP presses EC for 'shapla' symbol again

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The National Citizen Party has once again urged the Election Commission to allocate the shapla (water lily) as its election symbol, along with submitting seven sample designs of the symbol to the Commission.

In a letter signed by its convener Nahid Islam to the Election Commission secretariate yesterday, the party stated that the shapla symbol has developed a deep emotional and symbolic connection with the people, making it impossible for the NCP to accept any alternative symbol from the EC's list.

The NCP accused the Election Commission of deliberately delaying the party's registration process and of engaging in "undesirable, unlawful, discriminatory and arbitrary behaviour" by not allocating the shapla symbol.

The party also said the EC is intentionally depriving NCP of participation in the electoral process, thereby calling into question the commission's sincerity in ensuring a level playing field.

SEE PAGE 10 COL 4



Palestinians gather to receive food from a charity kitchen in Nuseirat, central Gaza Strip, yesterday. Israel has de-escalated its offensive in Gaza since US President Donald Trump called on it to halt its bombing campaign. At least 104 people have been killed in Gaza by Israeli forces since Friday.

PHOTO: REUTERS

Reforms failed to address inequality

Says Rehman Sobhan

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

South Asian countries, including Bangladesh, have failed to tackle widening inequality despite decades of policy reforms and economic growth, said Rehman Sobhan, chairman of the Centre for Policy Dialogue.

"Despite all the reforms that have taken place, nowhere are we seeing any serious effort to correct the widening inequalities created over the last 17 years."

He said at a seminar on the book "Apostles of Development: Six Economists and the World They Made" held in the capital, organised by the Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies.

"Even in a country where a professor [Muhammad Yunus] is at the helm, we are not addressing the problem of inequality in our reforms in any meaningful way."

The prevailing policy frameworks across South Asia, including Bangladesh, continue to focus on short-term welfare or growth incentives without confronting the structural causes of injustice.

These injustices include concentrated asset ownership, elite influence over policymaking and limited access to opportunities for marginalised groups.

"We have grown, we have reduced poverty, but we have also become a much more unequal society in every South

SEE PAGE 10 COL 1



Trio win Nobel for revealing quantum physics in action

REUTERS, Stockholm

US-based scientists John Clarke, Michel Devoret and John Martinis won the 2025 Nobel Prize in Physics for "experiments that revealed quantum physics in action", paving the way for the development of the next generation of digital technologies.

"My feelings are that I'm completely stunned. Of course it had never occurred to me in any way that this might be the basis of a Nobel Prize," Clarke told the Nobel press conference by telephone on Tuesday.



"I'm speaking on my cell phone and I suspect that you are too, and one of the underlying reasons that the cell phone works is because of all this work."

Quantum mechanical behaviours are well studied at the level of the incredibly small - atoms and sub-atomic particles - but are often seen as bizarre and unintuitive compared with classical physics and its far larger scale.

The Nobel winners carried out experiments in the mid-1980s with an electronic circuit built of superconductors and demonstrated that quantum mechanics could also influence everyday objects under certain conditions.

"It is wonderful to be able to celebrate the way that century-old quantum mechanics continually offers new surprises. It is also enormously useful, as quantum mechanics is the foundation of all digital technology," Olle Eriksson, chair of the Nobel Committee for Physics, said.

Quantum technology is already ubiquitous, with transistors in computer microchips an everyday example.

SEE PAGE 10 COL 1

Three powers threatening Bangladesh

Says Salahuddin

UNB, Dhaka

BNP Standing Committee Member Salahuddin



Ahmed yesterday said that Bangladesh is facing growing external pressure, with a global superpower and two regional powers reportedly trying to extend their influence.

"Right now, three powers are competing to establish hegemony here - two regional powers and one global superpower. Each has its own interests, but all three will harm Bangladesh's interests in the same way," he said.

The BNP leader made the remarks while speaking at a discussion organised by Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal at Dhaka University's TSC auditorium, marking the sixth death anniversary of Buet student Abrar Fahad.

Salahuddin described Abrar as a "strong voice against domination", saying he became a martyr because he spoke out against Indian hegemony.

"If he [Abrar] had criticised Sheikh Hasina, he might have gone to jail. But because he spoke

SEE PAGE 6 COL 4

'Real chance' of peace in Gaza, beyond: Trump

Vows to make parties adhere to a deal, if agreed; Hamas sets conditions in Egypt talks

AGENCIES

US President Donald Trump yesterday voiced optimism that there was a "real chance" to end the carnage in Gaza, as Israel marked the second anniversary of the October 7 attack.

Indirect negotiations between Israeli and Hamas negotiators are being held in the Egyptian resort town of Sharm El Sheikh, based on a 20-point plan proposed by Trump last month.

"There's a real chance that we could do something," Trump told reporters in the Oval Office, adding that US negotiators were also involved in the talks.

"I think there's a possibility that we could have peace in the Middle East. It's something even beyond the Gaza situation. We want a release of the hostages immediately."

Trump said the United States would do "everything possible to make sure everyone adheres to the deal" if Hamas and Israel do agree on a ceasefire.

On the second day of talks, Hamas yesterday said it wants to reach a deal to end the war in Gaza based on Trump's plan, but still has a set of demands, a statement signalling that indirect talks with Israel in Egypt could be difficult and lengthy.

The talks appear the most promising yet for ending a war that has killed tens of thousands of Palestinians and devastated Gaza since the October 7, 2023 attack on Israel by Palestinian groups.

"The (Hamas) movement's delegation participating in the current negotiations in Egypt is working to overcome all obstacles to reaching an agreement that meets the aspirations of our people in Gaza," Senior Hamas official Fawzi

Barhoum said in a televised statement.

He said a deal must ensure an end to the war and a full Israeli withdrawal from the Gaza Strip - conditions that Israel has never accepted. Israel, for its part, wants Hamas to disarm, something the group rejects.

Hamas wants a permanent, comprehensive ceasefire, a complete pullout of Israeli forces and the immediate start of a comprehensive reconstruction process under the supervision of a Palestinian "national technocratic body", he said.

➤ Hamas wants full Israeli withdrawal, seeks int'l guarantee

➤ Qatari PM, Turkey FM to join peace talks

➤ Israeli strikes kill 6 across Gaza

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu did not immediately comment on the status of the talks.

Trump's 20-point plan proposes an immediate end to fighting and the release of 48 hostages, only 20 of whom are thought to be alive, in exchange for hundreds of detained Gazans. The plan stipulates that once both sides agree to the proposal, "full aid will be immediately sent into the Gaza Strip".

It also states that Hamas will have to be

NOT JUST NUMBERS PAGE -7

SEE PAGE 6 COL 1

Businessman shot dead in broad daylight

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Unidentified assailants shot a businessman dead after ambushing his SUV in broad daylight in Hathazari upazila of Chattogram yesterday.



The victim is Abdul Hakim, 55, a herbal medicine businessman, of Panchkhain village in Bagoan union under Raozan, police said.

The incident occurred in the Madunaghat area in the afternoon, where the attackers came on motorbikes, blocked Hakim's SUV, and fired indiscriminately, in the presence of bystanders.

Police and locals said Hakim had recently got involved in local BNP politics in Raozan upazila.

Confirming the incident, Additional Superintendent of Police (Hathazari Circle) Kazi Tarek Aziz told The Daily Star, "He was taken to Evercare Hospital after being rescued from his vehicle in critical condition. The reason behind the incident is yet to be known."

A video circulating on social media showed three bullet holes on the SUV's windshield. Hakim, seated next to the driver, was seen bleeding heavily as passersby pulled him from the vehicle. The car's side window had several bullet holes.

Another video showed three people wearing helmets riding up to the vehicle on motorcycles and shooting at the vehicle using pistols.

Hakim's body was sent to Chattogram Medical College morgue for autopsy.



৪৯

বছর পেরিয়ে

একসাথে, সমৃদ্ধির পথে

এই আশ্বিনের পথচলায় গ্রাহকের শক্তি, সাফল্যই সাহস। তাই তো, আগামীর পথে যাত্রা দুর্নিবার।

আইএফআইসি ব্যাংকের ৪৯তম বর্ষপূর্তিতে সকল গ্রাহক, নৃশ্রমোষক, নিয়ন্ত্রণকারী সংস্থা ও শুভানুধ্যায়ীদের জানাই ধন্যবাদ ও কৃতজ্ঞতা।

আইএফআইসি ব্যাংক লিমিটেড



ISRAEL'S GENOCIDE IN GAZA

Not just numbers

Israel has killed or injured more than 10 percent of Gaza's population over the past 24 months. The assault began on October 7, 2023, in response to attacks on southern Israel by fighters from Palestinian groups, during which 1,139 people died and about 240 were taken into Gaza as captives. In response, Israel began a bombing campaign on Gaza and tightened its 16-year siege into a total stranglehold. In a "televised genocidal campaign", it has turned Gaza into a wasteland, dismantling all infrastructures and reducing them into rubble in an effort that UN and rights organisations say may amount to genocide and crimes against humanity. SOURCE: AL-JAZEERA

1 OUT OF 33 PEOPLE KILLED

Two years of Israeli attacks have killed at least 67,000 Palestinians. Thousands of other people are still under the rubble. That is about one out of every 33 people killed, or 3 percent of the pre-war population. At least 20,000 children are among the dead, or one child killed every hour for the past 24 months. The Palestinian Ministry of Health counts deaths based on people brought to hospitals or officially recorded. The true number is unknown and is likely much higher because the official death toll does not include those who perished under rubble or are missing.

1 OUT OF 14 PEOPLE INJURED

The human toll of Gaza's war extends beyond the dead. More than 169,000 people have been injured, many with life-altering



wounds. Unicef estimated that 3,000 to 4,000 children in Gaza have lost one or more limbs. What few health facilities are still open across the besieged enclave remain overwhelmed as they operate with dwindling supplies and little to no anaesthesia.

125 HOSPITALS AND CLINICS DAMAGED

Israel has attacked nearly all of Gaza's hospitals and healthcare facilities. Over the past two years, at least 125 health facilities have been damaged, including 34 hospitals, leaving patients without access to essential medical services. Israeli strikes on hospitals and the continued bombardment of Gaza have killed at least 1,722 health and aid workers. According to Health Care Workers Watch, as of July 22, Israeli forces are holding 28 prominent physicians, including 18 senior specialists in vital fields such as surgery, anaesthesiology, intensive care and paediatrics, depriving Gaza's devastated health system of critical expertise. Hospitals cannot be the object of attack, according to the Fourth Geneva Convention, Articles 18-22. According to Articles 12 and 51, medical units and personnel have special protections. According to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, Article 8 (2) (b)(ix), intentionally attacking a hospital is a war crime.

FAMINE AND DEATHS

Israel has orchestrated widespread hunger in Gaza through military restrictions that have blocked aid for months and an imposed food distribution system in which people are shot almost daily while trying to collect food. At least 459 people, including 154 children, have died due to starvation. On August 22, the United Nations-backed Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) system, a global hunger monitor, confirmed a famine in the enclave – the first officially recognised in the Middle East. According to the IPC, famine is currently occurring in Gaza Governorate and is projected to expand to the Deir el-Balah and Khan Younis governorates by the end of September. Nearly a third of the population (641,000 people) is expected to face catastrophic conditions (IPC Phase 5). Nearly one child in four suffers from severe acute malnutrition, and one in five babies is born prematurely or underweight.

2600 KILLED WHILE COLLECTING FOOD

When the Israeli- and United States-backed GHF took over aid operations on May 27, operating outside the UN framework, it introduced a new, deadly distribution system. According to Gaza's Ministry of Health, more than 2,600 people have been killed and over 19,000 injured by fire from Israeli soldiers and GHF security contractors while trying to collect food from GHF sites. One Israeli soldier described these areas as "a killing field". And Israel's Haaretz newspaper quoted Israeli soldiers as saying they were ordered to fire on people gathered at the GHF sites.

89% OF WATER, SANITATION INFRASTRUCTURE DAMAGED

Since October 2023, Israel has systematically targeted Gaza's already compromised water infrastructure –



striking wells, pipelines, desalination plants and sewage systems. According to UN experts, 89 percent of the enclave's water and sanitation network has been damaged or destroyed, leaving more than 96 percent of households water insecure. Today, nearly half of Gaza's population survives on less than 6 litres (1.6 gallons) of water a day for drinking and cooking, while 28 percent have access to under 9 litres (2.4 gallons) for hygiene and cleaning – far below the emergency 20-litre (5.3 gallon) standards set for "short-term survival".

92% HOMES DESTROYED OR DAMAGED

The destruction across Gaza is near total. According to the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, by August, 92 percent of all residential buildings and 88 percent of commercial facilities had been damaged or destroyed.

92% SCHOOLS DESTROYED

Nearly 658,000 school-aged children

and 87,000 university students have been left without access to learning as classrooms and campuses lie in ruins. At least 780 education staff members have been killed, and 92 percent of schools now require complete reconstruction. More than 2,300 educational facilities, including 63 university buildings, have been destroyed. The ones still standing are being used as shelter for the displaced.

DEADLIEST PLACE TO BE A JOURNALIST

Nearly 300 journalists and media workers have been killed in Gaza since October 7, including 10 from Al Jazeera, according to the Shireen Abu Akleh Observatory. Foreign media have been barred from entering the enclave. The Brown University Costs of War Project reports that more journalists have been killed in Gaza than in the US Civil War, World War I and II, the Korean and Vietnam wars, the Yugoslav conflicts and the post-9/11 war in Afghanistan – combined.

GAZA, LEBANON, IRAN
How US funded Israel's wars

AL JAZEERA ONLINE

Israel would not have been able to sustain its wars across the Middle East without the United States's significant financial backing of more than \$21bn since October 2023, according to a pair of new reports.

The reports, which were released by the Costs of War Project at Brown University, found that: without US weapons and money, Israel wouldn't have been able to sustain its genocidal war on Gaza, start a war with Iran, or repeatedly bomb Yemen.

The report's findings are also backed up by analysts who said Israel's wars in Gaza and in the wider region could not have continued without US financial and diplomatic support.

Since the October, 2023 attack, Israel has attacked killed over 4,000 people in Lebanon; invaded and occupied Lebanese and Syrian land; bombed Iran's consulate in Damascus and started a 12-day war with Iran; and traded attacks with Yemen's Houthis.

But Israel couldn't have maintained these wars without constant US support, researchers found.

"Given the scale of current and future spending, it is clear the [Israeli army] could not have done the damage they have done in Gaza or escalated their military activities throughout the region without US financing, weapons, and political support," read



the report – US Military Aid and Arms Transfers to Israel, October 2023–September 2025 – by William D Hartung, a senior research fellow at the Quincy Institute for Responsible Statecraft.

Hartung's findings and a companion report by Linda J Bilmes, an expert on budgeting and public finance at the Harvard Kennedy School, found that the US spent "a total of \$31.35 – \$33.77 billion and counting" since October 7, 2023 in military aid to Israel and in "US military operations".

"They show how US support for Israel has helped it continue to wage war on multiple fronts for two years, and analysts backed up the reports' conclusions. 'Israel needs US arms in order to do what it is doing,' she said.

The US has long been Israel's most fervent backer. When it comes to US foreign aid, Israel is the largest annual recipient (at around \$3.3bn yearly) and the largest cumulative one (more than \$150bn until 2022).

Hartung's report specifically mentions that the administrations of both US President Joe Biden and his successor, Donald Trump, committed tens of billions of dollars in arms sales agreements, including services and weapons that will be paid for in the coming years.

Macron should resign: ex-PM

AFP, Paris

Emmanuel Macron's first prime minister and one-time ally on Tuesday urged the cornered French head of state to resign in a shock call that compounded an escalating political crisis.

The intervention by Edouard Philippe, Macron's longest-serving prime minister from 2017 to 2020 who now heads an allied political party, came as frustration grew even within the president's own camp over the biggest domestic political crisis of his eight years in office.

Prime Minister Sebastien Lecornu, appointed less than a month ago, stepped down on Monday morning after failing to rally support across the centre-right coalition for his new government, which is also only supported by a minority in parliament.

Macron ordered him to make a last-ditch effort to rally support for a coalition government.

But there was no sign of progress, with the far right refusing to even attend a meeting.

France's next presidential elections, scheduled to take place in 2027, are seen as a historic crossroads in French politics, with the French far right under Marine Le Pen sensing its best chance yet of taking power.

Macron is constitutionally barred from seeking a third mandate. Philippe, who has already declared he will stand, said the polls should be held early once a budget is passed, in comments Le Parisien daily described as "political bomb".

Denouncing a "distressing political game", he said it was up to Macron to help France "emerge in an orderly and dignified manner from a political crisis that is harming the country".

"He must take the decision that is worthy of his function, which is to guarantee the continuity of the institutions by leaving in an orderly manner," Philippe told the RTL broadcaster.



Remains of vehicles burned during the protest in September against corruption that toppled the government are kept inside the premises of the parliament after being collected from various places in Kathmandu, Nepal, yesterday. PHOTO: REUTERS

Denmark to ban social media for under-15s

AFP, Copenhagen

Denmark yesterday said it planned to introduce a social media ban for children under the age of 15.

Prime Minister Mette Frederiksen did not specify which social media networks would fall under the ban, nor how it would work in practice, as she announced the initiative in a speech to parliament at the opening of its autumn session.

The bill, the timeline of which remains unspecified, would authorise parents to let their child use social media from the age of 13.

"The cell phone and social media are robbing our children of their childhood," Frederiksen said, arguing that 60 percent of Danish boys aged 11 to 19 preferred to stay home over spending time with friends.

Australia has been a leader in global efforts to prevent internet harm among young people.

The Daily Star

FOUNDER EDITOR: LATE S. M. ALI

Prioritise gas supply to fertiliser plants

Doubling gas price risks endangering food security

It is difficult to understand how long the current practice of leaving fertiliser plants starved of gas can continue. The irony of this practice is that it either harms the domestic farming sector or increases the country's dependence on imported fertiliser. If we want to keep local fertiliser factories running and produce essential agricultural inputs ourselves, these plants will need more gas (in the form of LNG) sourced from abroad. If not, the country will be forced to import fertiliser from foreign sources, and any supply chain disruption will also mean importing more food from abroad.

There is no doubt that Bangladesh is facing gas shortages because of its failure to give sufficient priority to the exploration of new wells and extraction. Importing LNG, originally meant to be a short-term measure to manage emergency shortages, has instead persisted and increased dramatically over time, as most of our power plants also depend on natural gas.

Volatility in the international energy market, owing to heightened geopolitical tensions and instability, indicates that gas prices are unlikely to come down soon. A 2022 study by the Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD) showed that imported LNG was 24 times more expensive than locally produced gas. Yet, over the past three years, no significant steps have been taken by the authorities to accelerate exploration activity or add newly discovered gas to the supply grid. According to a *Bonik Barta* report, only 18 wells were dug out of the planned 50; due to a lack of progress in laying pipelines, about 120 million cubic feet (mcf) of extractable gas could not be supplied to the national grid.

Activists have long alleged that cronies of the previous regime lobbied successfully to push the country towards greater dependence on LNG imports. So, one would have thought that, following the fall of that regime in August 2024, the state policy would shift towards reducing costly LNG dependence and increasing domestic gas production. Unfortunately, the present government seems inclined to continue with the old arrangements.

Even more worrying is the move to raise gas prices for fertiliser plants. Following a request from Petrobangla, the Bangladesh Energy Regulatory Commission (BERC)—the energy market regulator—has, pending a final decision after public consultation, recommended raising the gas price from Tk 16 to Tk 30 per cubic metre. We cannot but agree with Consumers Association of Bangladesh (CAB) adviser M Shamsul Alam that this price hike will increase farming costs and undermine food security.

It is worth noting here that while the textile sector has long enjoyed priority in receiving uninterrupted gas supply, the farming sector has become increasingly dependent on imported fertiliser due to shortages of gas for domestic fertiliser plants. This is not a sustainable model, and these policies must be reviewed and adjusted with prudence.

Appoint a full-time DSCC administrator

Govt must fill all vacant posts to ensure smooth service delivery

It is quite frustrating that Dhaka South City Corporation (DSCC) has been operating without a full-time administrator for over a year, with 11 other key positions also remaining vacant. This leadership vacuum has severely disrupted service delivery, increasing the sufferings of the residents. At present, Md Shahjahan Mia, an additional secretary at the Local Government Division, is serving as DSCC's administrator, while also holding the position of Managing Director of Dhaka WASA as an additional duty. This dual burden on one person has understandably compromised the functioning of both institutions.

In the absence of a permanent administrator and other key personnel at DSCC, essential services such as road repairs, mosquito control, waste management, safeguarding assets, and providing birth certificates and other documents are all progressing at a sluggish pace. With no executive officers appointed in the corporation's five out of 10 zones, service delivery there has nearly collapsed, forcing local residents to travel to the central office even for minor issues. Some residents have expressed frustration that they are not receiving basic municipal services despite paying regular taxes. They further complained that when they visit ward offices, designated officials are often absent, and important paperwork remains stalled for months. Moreover, the current administrator is also unable to regularly attend office at Nagar Bhaban, visiting only occasionally to sign files. Is this how a city corporation is supposed to operate?

Furthermore, efforts to boost revenue have stalled due to the absence of a Chief Revenue Officer, while the lack of a Property Officer has allowed re-encroachment of previously recovered lands. The absence of a Chief Urban Planner has led to uncoordinated development, posing long-term risks to the city's infrastructure. At the same time, financial transparency and accountability remain a question mark due to the vacancies of accountant and auditor positions. This is unacceptable.

After August 5, 2024, the activities of Dhaka's two city corporations came to a standstill. While Dhaka North City Corporation managed to handle the situation relatively better after the appointment of a permanent administrator, the DSCC continues to lag far behind. Moreover, the disruption created earlier this year, when BNP leader Ishraque Hossain led over a month-long siege of Nagar Bhaban demanding his reinstatement as mayor, further intensified the volatility in DSCC. We, therefore, urge the government to take immediate steps to resolve these issues. It must fill all key positions of the corporation without delay to ensure uninterrupted service delivery. More than one crore people reside in the DSCC jurisdictions, so the government must take urgent measures to alleviate their sufferings.

THIS DAY IN HISTORY

Che Guevara captured and executed



On this day in 1967, Che Guevara, a key communist figure in the Cuban Revolution and a South American guerrilla leader, was captured and later shot to death by the Bolivian army.

The harsh truth behind Bangladesh's poverty reversal



Dr Selim Raihan is professor in the Department of Economics at Dhaka University, and executive director at the South Asian Network on Economic Modeling (SANEM). He can be reached at selim.raihan@gmail.com.

SELIM RAIHAN

The recent finding from the Power and Participation Research Centre's (PPRC) survey—that over one in four people in Bangladesh now live in poverty, a sharp increase from the rate reported by the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS) in 2022—should serve as a sobering alarm bell. This represents a shift in narrative and challenges us to rethink our understanding of the country's development success story. For years, Bangladesh was considered a "poster boy" for economic growth, a country steadily moving up the ladder of advancement. But this growth apparently was on unstable footing, as is now being revealed by a confluence of crises. The question we must confront is not simply why poverty reversal (when decreasing poverty levels start to rise) is happening, but why the earlier gains proved so vulnerable in the first place.

To understand the current predicament, we have to look back at the data that shaped our previous optimism. The official BBS figures for 2022, which showed a much lower poverty rate, standing at 18.7 percent, were always somewhat puzzling. That survey was conducted in 2021, a period when the economic scars of the Covid-19 pandemic were still raw and the recovery was far from complete. That is, the point in time when the data were collected mattered. Other research organisations, like South Asian Network on Economic Modeling (SANEM), BRAC Institute of Governance and Development (BIGD), and PPRC also conducted surveys during 2020-2021, but found a sharp rise in poverty. This discrepancy means that the official snapshot of life in 2021 may have grossly underestimated the depth of economic distress households were living through. This implies that the foundation of our poverty reduction narrative was perhaps weaker than we assumed, making the recent reversal less of a sudden shock and more of a delayed acknowledgment of underlying weaknesses.

At the core of the issue is the nature of our structural transformation and the pattern of economic growth. For a long time, we have been experiencing "jobless growth." The economy was expanding, but this expansion did not translate into sufficient, high-quality employment opportunities. The connection between a rising GDP

and falling poverty was also weak, a phenomenon that economists call low elasticity of poverty reduction. Put simply, the growth was not inclusive. This means that the benefits of growth were concentrated, leading to rising inequality—a condition that global experience consistently shows countries with high inequality rarely achieve success in reducing poverty.

This exclusion is starkly visible in our most dynamic sector: ready-made garments. Workers in this multi-billion-dollar export industry are often paid a minimum wage (Tk

12,500 or \$113 per month) that falls below the poverty line income of \$4.20 per day or \$126 per month for lower-middle income countries like Bangladesh. They are the engine of our growth, yet they're not reaping their fair share of that growth. They struggle to maintain a basic standard of living, revealing a critical failure. Most private investments have not led to dignified, well-paying jobs; rather, it has deepened a cycle of low wages and high vulnerability.



VISUAL: ANWAR SOHEL

From 2022 to 2025, the economy suffered from lingering impacts of Covid, global supply shocks, and prolonged inflation, reflecting a

crisis is a constant threat to millions.

The July 2024 uprising and the subsequent formation of interim government have brought a mix of cautious optimism and deep-seated anxiety. We are seeing improvements in some economic indicators, like an increase in remittances and exports. However, we must be cautious in interpreting these macro-level improvements. We can draw a similar hypothesis of a macro-micro mismatch as we observed during the pandemic. When informal channels for remittances are blocked due to political unrest or anti-corruption drives, more money may flow through

will to truly fix these broken systems. The youth's anxiety is a direct reflection of this profound institutional distrust. The story of poverty reversal in Bangladesh is a complex one, but it has one simple moral. Growth that leaves people behind is fundamentally fragile; stability that breeds injustice is ultimately wobbly, and data that does not reflect reality is ultimately unsustainable. The PPRC numbers are a timely reminder that true development is measured not by the wealth of a few, but by the resilience and wellbeing of many. Without changing our basics, we can not alleviate poverty in Bangladesh.

When governance fails, people pay the price



Wasim Bin Habib is planning editor at The Daily Star.

WASIM BIN HABIB

Two headlines printed on the same page of Sunday's edition of *The Daily Star* left me cold. One read, "390 girls raped in first eight months this year," and the other, "417 killed, 682 hurt in road crashes in Sept." At first glance, they seem unrelated—one tied to crime and justice, the other to transport and safety. Yet, together, they reveal an unsettling pattern of governance that too often fails to protect citizens' most basic rights, which include safety and dignity.

Month after month, similar figures emerge, followed by assurances that things will change. Yet, the headlines barely differ. Whether it's the growing violence against women or the unending bloodshed on our roads, both expose deep flaws in how we govern, enforce, and care.

Take the first report of 390 girls being raped in just eight months. This is not new. Year after year, newsrooms are flooded with reports of rape, assault, and harassment. Behind every statistic lies a story of pain, trauma, and shattered trust. We have special tribunals and legal frameworks, such as the Women and Children

Repression Prevention Act, but justice often remains illusive where it matters most. Survivors face humiliation, stigma, and indifference. Justice is often delayed and therefore denied.

The justice machinery itself is weak. Law enforcement is undertrained, under-resourced, and at times, complicit. Cases drag on for years as investigations stall and witnesses are intimidated. Conviction rates are abysmally low. According to a recent report by this daily, between January and August this year, the conviction rate for crimes against children was only 0.52 percent, with a punishment rate of 0.30 percent. For crimes against women, the conviction rate stood at 2.61 percent and the punishment rate at 1.44 percent. In such a system where accountability is rare, perpetrators are emboldened by impunity.

The state's response to road safety mirrors this neglect. The second report on road crashes tells a story we have heard countless times. Despite repeated pledges by successive governments for safer roads, new laws, and awareness drives, our roads remain among the deadliest in the world,

plagued by the same institutional weaknesses and lack of accountability.

Behind each crash lies a web of preventable failures. Unfit vehicles continue to operate by paying bribes. Untrained drivers, some with fake or no licences, roam freely. Reckless driving and violations of traffic rules persist unchecked. Oversight agencies lack coordination and resources. Meanwhile, transport owners' associations—led by politically powerful figures who shift with each change of government—hold the system hostage, ensuring accountability rarely reaches those who profit from this chaos.

The Road Safety Movement 2018 briefly forced the nation to confront this disorder. It prompted the government to enact a new Road Transport Act and sparked widespread awareness and hope. However, years later, the same tragedies unfold daily on our streets. The law exists, but implementation remains weak and selective. The result is a culture of impunity where lives are lost, and lessons remain unlearned.

Both these crises, the rise in violence against women and the continuing road carnage, stem from the same root: the failure to ensure accountability and uphold the rule of law. We have laws, policies, and plans, but they are rarely enforced with sincerity or sustained commitment. Institutions act reactively, not preventively. Once public outrage subsides, inertia takes over.

Good governance is not an abstract concept, nor is it measured by the

number of laws passed or committees formed. It is about systems that serve people. It is measured by outcomes—by whether the state upholds the rule of law, whether citizens feel safe, whether institutions respond effectively, and whether accountability is real. In both road safety and violence against women, our governance fails this test. These issues must be part of the reform agenda that the interim government is now pursuing across sectors.

The absence of accountability has normalised apathy. When someone dies in a reckless driving incident or a woman becomes a victim of violence, society's response follows a predictable cycle: shock, outrage, and silence. Committees are formed, statements issued, and then everything fades—until the next tragedy.

Bangladesh's remarkable progress, from economic growth to infrastructure, rings hollow when citizens live in fear or lose their lives on unsafe roads. True progress is not about how fast we build, but how well we protect. To change course, we must treat these crises as reflections of how our institutions serve us. Road safety cannot depend on occasional drives, nor can violence against women be tackled by laws alone. Both demand sustained enforcement, empathy, and political courage.

Until that happens, the headlines will keep returning as grim reminders, month after month, that when governance fails, it is ordinary people who pay the price, with their lives, their safety, and their dignity.

Performative privacy in a surveillance economy



Saad Mahmud is a Dhaka-based communication researcher and tech journalist who writes on digital privacy, cybersecurity, and platform governance.

SAAD MAHMUD

In 2020, I lost my entire online presence. All my social media accounts were hijacked through session cookies, and I was locked out. My accounts and associated pages were later used to run Vietnamese propaganda ads. I managed to block all my cards in time, but the damage was already done. This left me devastated, embarrassed, and powerless.

Over the past five years, I have become increasingly conscious of online privacy. I have undergone a comprehensive security overhaul of my home network and its devices. I'm doing all I can to protect myself from hackers and scammers, but at the same time, I'm voluntarily sharing a lot of my data with artificial intelligence models like ChatGPT and handing over live photos and NID scans for platform verification. I also rarely mute my Google Nest speaker. All these habits often make me wonder if my digital privacy practices are just performative.

Performative privacy

After some research, I realised I'm not alone. The idea that people treat privacy more as a performance than as genuine protection is not new. A UK government-funded study conducted in 2022 found that while 77 percent of adults express concerns about online privacy, only 31 percent actively refuse marketing cookies when given the choice. This gap between people's intentions and actions is known as the privacy paradox. It shows us that online privacy is less about firm principles and more about negotiation, influenced by convenience and a growing sense of resignation.

This resignation has a name, too: privacy

cynicism. It's the sinking belief that no matter what you do, your data is already out there. And when you feel powerless, you stop trying.

Cornell Professor Helen Nissenbaum offers an alternative perspective with her concept of contextual integrity. She explains that privacy doesn't mean keeping everything a secret, but rather making sure information only moves in ways that fit the situation. For example, sharing health details with a doctor makes sense, but sharing them with an advertiser does not.

These ideas help define performative privacy in the digital space. It is a set of actions we take that gives us the illusion of being in control of our data. However, it fails to change how authorities and big tech use surveillance systems to exploit said data. Our actions may demonstrate resistance, but the structures that influence data flows rarely change.

The illusion of control via compliance

Even the actions we take towards privacy are rarely what they seem. For example, one of the preconditions for compliance is the use of cookie banners. Many countries require websites to display a banner that prompts users to give their consent before collecting data.

However, there are numerous loopholes. In a critique of California Privacy Rights Act's (CPRA) regulations, an article in *The University of Chicago Business Law Review* pointed out that 80.9 percent of cookie-consent notices contain dark patterns, such as large "accept" buttons contrasted with hidden or obscured "reject" options.

In Bangladesh, most websites do not even

bother with California Consumer Privacy Act (CCPA) or General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)-style banners. At best, you get a one-liner: "By using this site, you accept cookies." A notable example of its consequences would be when, earlier this year, the Election Commission discovered that five organisations were leaking NID data. And as Dwight Schrute said, "Identity theft is not a joke, Jim. Millions of families

leaks your data 300 billion times daily. In Europe, that number is close to 200 billion. RTB has been called the biggest data breach ever recorded. And the worst part is that it's ongoing.

This is surveillance capitalism in practice. Shoshana Zuboff, who coined this term, warned that no democracy can survive a model built on manipulating human behaviour for profit.



VISUAL: ALIZA RAHMAN

suffer every year."

Surveillance capitalism in action

My experience made me feel like I was robbed. But what's worse is that we let ourselves be robbed by Big Tech every day. And most of the time, we don't even notice.

Your data is mostly used for targeted advertising, and the system that runs the show is called real-time bidding (RTB). Every time you load a page that shows ads, your personal data (location, browsing history, device information, etc) is auctioned off to the highest bidder in milliseconds.

In the US alone, Google's ad exchange

So how do they get away with it? Are there no laws protecting us from this?

In Europe, the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) is the gold standard for data protection. Each European country has its own regulator that enforces the GDPR. So far, these regulators have issued over 6 billion pound in penalties. However, Big Tech continues to evade scrutiny because the regulators are slow, causing cases to drag on for years, and fines become just another operating cost for them. Meanwhile, the auction keeps running. Thus, the GDPR has proved that strong privacy laws can be written, but enforcing them against Big Tech

Can participatory budgeting work in Dhaka?



Shaikh Afnan Birahim is a postgraduate student of computing science at the University of Glasgow, UK.

SHAIKH AFNAN BIRAHIM

Democracy in Bangladesh often feels like a ritual performed every few years at the ballot box. Citizens queue to cast votes, political parties campaign fiercely, and once the ballots are counted, the machinery of governance continues at a distance. For most Dhaka residents, the inner workings of city governance, primarily how funds are allocated, remain hidden. The streets are paved, drains are dug, contracts are awarded, yet very few citizens know how or why these priorities were chosen. This distance between taxpayers and decision-makers erodes trust, weakens accountability, and fuels a culture of cynicism.

But democracy can be more than the right to vote every five years. Across the world, a new practice is reshaping how cities make decisions: participatory budgeting (PB). The idea is simple yet radical: ordinary citizens directly deliberate and decide how portions of a city's budget are spent. What began as an experiment in Brazil's Porto Alegre in 1989 has since spread to more than 7,000 cities worldwide, giving people a real say in projects—ranging from clean water systems to playgrounds. In Porto Alegre, slum residents gained paved roads, schools, and sanitation because they had a voice in budget allocation.

In Bangladesh, too, at the union parishad

level, NGOs and international agencies have supported "open budget sessions" where villagers could hear about allocations and suggest priorities. The United Nations has documented several of these grassroots experiments, noting that they encourage dialogue and raise awareness. Yet in practice, these sessions often fall short of genuine power-sharing: the budget is still prepared behind closed doors, with limited capacity for citizens to redirect spending.

Nowhere is the gap more evident than in Dhaka. A 2020 study of Dhaka South City Corporation revealed that 96 percent of respondents were unaware of the corporation's budget, and only four percent were aware of the corporation's development projects. Officials often declined to provide information proactively, which reinforces the fact that the city's finances are a mystery to ordinary taxpayers. If most residents of a megacity remain unaware of how public money is spent, can we truly call this an inclusive democracy?

Dhaka is uniquely in need of participatory budgeting because its governance is very fragmented. Authority is divided between two city corporations, Rajuk, ministries, and utility boards, creating overlaps and gaps that leave citizens with little clarity on who is

responsible for what. In such a system, giving residents a direct role in deciding even a share of local budgets could help clarify the process and make governance feel more tangible, visible, and accountable.

Participatory budgeting in Dhaka could start modestly. Imagine if each ward set aside just one to two percent of its annual development funds for citizen decision. Residents could propose projects, deliberate

Dhaka is uniquely in need of participatory budgeting because its governance is very fragmented. Authority is divided between two city corporations, Rajuk, ministries, and utility boards, creating overlaps and gaps that leave citizens with little clarity on who is responsible for what. In such a system, giving residents a direct role in deciding even a share of local budgets could help clarify the process and make governance feel more tangible, visible, and accountable.

in local meetings, and cast their votes. In one neighbourhood, the priority might be drainage; in another, safe pedestrian crossings; in another, community clinics. The process could be supported through hybrid mechanisms: digital platforms and SMS voting for younger and more connected residents, combined with ward sabha (public

assemblies) for those without internet access.

However, a significant risk can be elite capture, where wealthier or better-organised groups may hijack the process to secure benefits for themselves. This problem has been noted in global studies, and recent research suggests safeguards, such as ranked voting systems or point-based allocations to ensure more equitable outcomes. In Dhaka, such mechanisms could be coupled with geographic fairness rules, ensuring that each ward or cluster receives a minimum allocation.

Another obstacle is bureaucratic resistance. City officials and councillors may see participatory budgeting as a threat to their discretion, or as yet another burden. Overcoming this requires both political will and legal backing. The city corporations would need to institutionalise PB in their regulations, publish transparent dashboards showing which projects were voted for and how much was allocated, and invite citizens to track whether implementation matches promises. If the Governance Innovation Unit, which already promotes public sector innovation, were to support this experiment, it could lend crucial legitimacy.

Participation must also be inclusive. Dhaka's poor women and marginalised groups are often excluded from formal politics. Yet, international practice shows that participatory budgeting can empower precisely those groups if designed with sensitivity. Gender-responsive budgeting is one pathway to ensuring that issues like sanitation, lighting, and childcare, which disproportionately affect women, are prioritised. Rotating facilitators, translation for low-literacy participants, and quotas for representation can all help broaden the range of voices that get heard.

If such a pilot were launched in Dhaka, say, in two wards of each city corporation, the results could be transformative. Citizens would see that their taxes actually translated into visible outcomes they chose. Authorities would face more substantial incentives to deliver, as projects would be directly linked to citizen votes. Over time, participatory budgeting could become embedded in city culture, just as open budget sessions have slowly taken root at the village level. The efficiency of local government, often questioned in Bangladesh, could be revamped through this practice of shared power.

The larger point is that democracy cannot remain a passive spectator sport. Casting a ballot is essential, but it is not enough to create trust in institutions. What sustains democracy is the everyday experience of being heard and seeing one's choices reflected in tangible improvements. For Dhaka, with more than 20 million residents and countless infrastructural challenges, the stakes are high.

The shift from vote to voice will not happen overnight. It will demand experimentation, safeguards, and perhaps some failures. However, dismissing the idea is to resign ourselves to a city where budgets are drawn up in secrecy and citizens remain perpetually in the dark. Participatory budgeting offers a chance, slight at first but potentially profound, for Dhaka to show that democracy can be more than symbolic.

When residents of this city can point to a new drainage system, a repaired footpath, or a community library and say, "We chose this," democracy will no longer be only about elections. It will be about everyday voice, and everyday power. That is a vision worth striving for.

CROSSWORD
BY THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

- 1 Skating category
- 6 Angel toppers
- 11 Snowy bird
- 12 Make suitable
- 13 Mob foe
- 15 Filmmaker Burns
- 16 Pale
- 17 Historic time
- 18 Waterproofing stuff
- 20 Beam of light
- 21 Tick off
- 22 Lug
- 23 Incline
- 26 Grew dimmer
- 27 Sunset site
- 28 Card symbol
- 29 Drama division
- 30 West African nation
- 34 Goat sound
- 35 Finish
- 36 "Caught you!"
- 37 2, 3, or 5
- 40 Fielder's goof
- 41 Like the ice caps
- 42 Ocean trenches
- 43 Squalid

DOWN

- 1 Quick kisses
- 2 Be of one mind
- 3 "Three Sisters" sister
- 4 "Stand" band
- 5 "Harvey" star
- 6 Regular hangout
- 7 TV spots
- 8 Subsequently
- 9 Run
- 10 Got off course
- 14 Vault setting
- 19 Dryer fuzz
- 22 Race goal
- 23 Under a pile of work
- 24 "Smiley's People" author
- 25 "Top Hat" star
- 26 Pitcher's motions
- 28 Ivy League school
- 30 Prophets
- 31 Roof feature
- 32 In the future
- 33 Bird on a court
- 38 Swabbing tool
- 39 One of the Stooges

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SUNDAY'S ANSWERS

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WRITE FOR US. SEND US YOUR OPINION
PIECES TO
dsopinion@gmail.com.

Aurthohin dedicates 'Phoenixer Diary 2' to A K Ratul

The band revealed that the album will officially drop on October 17, 2025, across all major streaming platforms, including YouTube Music, Spotify, Apple Music, Tidal, and Qobuz.

NAVEEN ISLAM TOREE

Celebrated Bangladeshi rock band Aurthohin officially announced the release of its much-anticipated album *Phoenixer Diary 2* at a press conference held today at Skyfall Rooftop Restaurant in Mohakhali, Dhaka. The event was organised by Cool Exposure.

Though the event was delayed due to the rain, anticipation ran high when Saidus Salehin Khaled Sumon (Bassbaba Sumon), Mark Don and Ehtesham Ali Moen took the stage to unveil what they described as a "darker, more dramatic chapter" in the band's musical journey.

The band revealed that the album will officially drop on October 17, 2025, across all major streaming platforms, including YouTube Music, Spotify, Apple Music, Tidal, and Qobuz. The announcement also included details of a highly secret "Listening Party" for Aurthohin's



PHOTOS: THABIT AL BASHAR

dedicated fan community, known as "Adbhut", which will take place on October 10.

Comprising eight tracks, the album continues the unfinished story introduced in *Phoenixer Diary 1*, which pioneered the Bangla Nu Rock genre later recognised by Spotify. While the first album explored themes of endurance and rebirth, the sequel depicts the Phoenix's transformation from a symbol of hope to one of destruction — consumed by vengeance after

great loss.

In a statement, Aurthohin described the album as "darker, more intense, and musically richer" than its predecessor. It features collaborations with Grammy-nominated guitarist Frank Gambale; saxophonist Bob Franceschini, known for his work with Mike Stern and Paul Simon; bassist Bubby Lewis, who has played with Snoop Dogg, Stevie Wonder, and Dr Dre; and Ahnaf, son of frontman Bassbaba Sumon.

The band dedicated the album to the late sound engineer and artiste AK Ratul, whose contribution to Bangladesh's rock music community remains profound. While talking to The Daily Star, frontman Bassbaba Sumon said the team worked under intense emotion and urgency to honour him. "We finished the entire album in only eight days — pushing ourselves beyond limits to complete what Ratul had helped us begin," he said. Sumon added that a separate tribute song for Ratul might be released later as a standalone track. He said, "He has been so mixed with our lives. I wanted to write a few lines just for him."

With its international collaborations and ambitious production, *Phoenixer Diary 2* marks an important evolution for Bangladeshi rock music, reaffirming Aurthohin's role as one of the country's most influential rock bands.

Aurthohin also extended gratitude to Mercedes-Benz Bangladesh for sponsorship, and to Shell, Framework Finance Limited, Get Set Rock, and Verse Imagine for their support.

Ministry of Cultural Affairs to celebrate Ustad Allaiddin Khan at Lalbagh Fort

The Ministry of Cultural Affairs, in association with Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy, will organise a classical music evening today (October 8) at 7 pm at the historic Lalbagh Fort in Old Dhaka.



The event is part of the ministry's ongoing initiative to honour legendary figures who have significantly enriched Bangladesh's cultural and artistic heritage.

The programme will mark the 163rd birth anniversary of Ustad Allaiddin Khan, the maestro of classical music, revered as the **music emperor** for his unparalleled contributions to South Asian classical traditions.

Ustad Allaiddin Khan's great-grandson, Ustad Shiraz Ali Khan, will perform on stage, accompanied by Sri Aarchik Banerjee on tabla. The event is by invitation only.

WHAT'S THE HAPS?

Chhader Chhobi

Chhader Chhobi: Morshum Char, Porbo Dui invites cinephiles to an evocative rooftop screening celebrating Bangladeshi storytelling.



This edition features three acclaimed documentaries by filmmaker and visual artist Molla Sagar — *Siren*, *Dudh-Koyla*, and *Dadu*. The evening concludes with an intimate conversation exploring his cinematic vision and creative journey.

Date: Saturday | October 11, 2025
Time: 6:30 pm onwards
Venue: 101 Indira Road

Shatabdi Wadud named Prachyanat Chief Secretary

Prachyanat, one of Bangladesh's most prominent theatre troupes, has announced its new executive committee for the 2025–27 term.

At the general meeting held on September 24, the troupe announced several key appointments to strengthen its leadership and training initiatives.

Acclaimed stage and film actor Shatabdi Wadud was appointed as the theatre group's chief secretary, while

renowned acting specialist and stage persona Sahana Rahman Sumi was concurrently appointed as secretary of the Prachyanat School of Acting and Secretary of Training.

Other appointments include Arif Reza Khan as Finance Secretary, Bin-e Amin as Information Technology and Communications Secretary, and Tanji Kun as Production and Publications Secretary.



Adnan Al Rajeev's 'Ali' bound for Spain after Cannes honour

Ali, a 15-minute Bangladeshi short directed by Adnan Al Rajeev, has been selected for the official short-film programme at the 70th Valladolid International Film Week (Seminci) in Spain. The festival runs from October 24 to November 1.

Previously the film earned a Special Mention from the jury in the short-film section at the prestigious 78th Cannes Film Festival, this year. The film represents a growing trend of international co-production for Bangladeshi shorts, pairing local storytellers with overseas partners to reach broader festival audiences.



NEWS

Trio win Nobel for revealing quantum

FROM PAGE 16
"This year's Nobel Prize in Physics has provided opportunities for developing the next generation of quantum technology, including quantum cryptography, quantum computers, and quantum sensors," the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences, which awards the prize, said in a statement.

Quantum computers use principles of quantum mechanics to make complex calculations, predict outcomes and perform analysis that in some cases could take traditional computers millions of years.

The field is considered to have the potential to help solve some of humanity's most pressing concerns, such as tackling climate change. But it also faces challenges, including improving the accuracy of its chips, and timelines for commercially viable quantum computing remain disputed.

British-born Clarke is a professor at the University of California, Berkeley, in the United States.

Devoret, who was born in France

and was congratulated on X by French President Emmanuel Macron, is a professor at Yale University and the University of California, Santa Barbara, also in the United States, where Martinis is also a professor.

Martinis, an American, headed Google's Quantum Artificial Intelligence Lab until 2020. At Google, Martinis was part of the research team who in 2019 said they had achieved "quantum supremacy", in which a computer harnessing the properties of sub-atomic particles did a far better job of solving a problem than the world's most powerful supercomputer.

Devoret, besides his professorship, is also the chief scientist of Google Quantum AI. It is the second straight year that a Nobel has been won by scientists with Google ties. The 2024 chemistry prize was awarded to Demis Hassabis and John Jumper at Google DeepMind while Geoffrey Hinton, who worked for Google for more than a decade, won for physics the same year.

The Nobel physics prize is awarded

by the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences and includes a prize sum totalling 11 million Swedish crowns (\$1.2 million) that is shared among the winners if there are several, as is often the case.

The Nobel Prizes were established through the will of Alfred Nobel, who amassed a fortune from his invention of dynamite. Since 1901, with occasional interruptions, the prizes have annually recognised achievements in science, literature, and peace. Economics was a later addition.

Physics was the first category mentioned in Nobel's will, likely reflecting the prominence of the field during his time. Today, the Nobel Prize in Physics remains widely regarded as the most prestigious award in the discipline.

Past winners of the Nobel physics prize include some of the most influential figures in the history of science, such as Albert Einstein, Erwin Schrodinger, Max Planck and Niels Bohr, the latter three all pioneers of quantum theory.

NCP presses EC for 'shapla' symbol

FROM PAGE 16
The letter further expressed hope that the EC would amend Rule 9(l) of the Election Conduct Rules, 2008 and allocate one of the following symbols in favour of NCP: shapla (water lily), White shapla or Red shapla.

Ahead of the upcoming 13th parliamentary election, the EC increased the number of electoral symbols from 69 to 115 for registered parties and independent candidates.

But "shapla", due to being the national emblem of Bangladesh, was not reserved as an election symbol under Rule 9(l) of the Election Conduct Rules, 2008.

When applying for registration on June 22, the NCP had sought Pen and Mobile as its party symbol other than shapla — which was previously sought by Mahmudur Rahman Manna's Nagorik Oikya.

Then on August 3, the NCP sent another letter to the EC mentioning its preference for the shapla, White shapla and Red shapla symbols.

The EC remained firm. On September 30, the EC asked the party to select an alternative from its reserved list of 50 symbols by October 7.

Regarding the matter, EC Senior Secretary Akhtar Ahmed said that the NCP will not be allocated the shapla symbol as it is not included in the EC's reserved symbol list and asked the NCP to submit an alternative proposal.

A final decision would be made through mutual agreement, he added.

China PM to visit N Korea this week

AFP, Beijing

China's premier will pay an official visit to North Korea this week, Beijing said Tuesday, announcing the high-level diplomatic engagement to the isolated nuclear state.

Despite periods of strained ties between China and North Korea over Pyongyang's nuclear programme, the neighbours have maintained a close relationship in recent years.

Growth outlook brightens

FROM PAGE 1
"The economy has shown resilience, but this cannot be taken for granted," said Jean Pesme, World Bank Division director for Bangladesh and Bhutan.

Inflation averaged 10 percent during FY25 but has begun to ease as monetary policy tightened and the taka stabilised after months of volatility. The local currency depreciated by 8.7 percent over the year, boosting exports but keeping import costs high. The World Bank expects inflation to moderate to 5.5 percent by FY27, assuming global commodity prices remain contained.

LABOUR MARKET WEAKNESS, POVERTY

The report highlighted a marked deterioration in labour market conditions. The labour force participation rate fell from 60.9 percent to 58.9 percent between 2023 and 2024, driven by a sharp decline in female participation — down 3.1 percentage points to 38.4 percent.

That decline meant 30 lakh more working-age people were outside the labour force, of whom 24 lakh were women. Total employment dropped during that period by almost 20 lakh to 6.91 crore.

All major sectors lost jobs, with services hardest hit (-3.6 percent), followed by agriculture (-2.1 percent) and industry (-2 percent). Unemployment rose only marginally to 3.7 percent, as many discouraged workers simply stopped looking for work. The World Bank warned that this trend "masks deeper labour market distress," especially among youth and women.

The national poverty rate is estimated to have climbed to 21.2 percent in FY25 from 20.5 percent in FY24, "reflecting the combined impact of slower growth, high inflation, and deteriorating labour market conditions", according to the report. It forecast that poverty would ease to 19.1 percent by FY26, though that would still be higher than the 18.7 percent recorded in FY22.

Persistently high inflation eroded purchasing power across households, but the impact was sharpest for low-paid workers, whose real wages fell by almost 2 percent in FY25, the report said.

"Poverty at the \$3 line is projected to rise to 8.9 percent, pushing about 12 lakh more people into poverty."

Inequality, however, is expected to narrow slightly as income pressures were felt broadly across the distribution. Migration and remittances provided an important cushion; with more than

one million people leaving annually, remittance-receiving households remained relatively more resilient.

Bangladesh registered its first current account surplus in eight years — \$149 million in FY25, supported by robust remittances, which rose by 26.8 percent, and an 8.8 percent increase in exports led by the garment sector.

However, fiscal pressures intensified. The budget deficit widened to 4.7 percent of GDP, as revenue collection weakened to 6.8 percent of GDP, among the lowest in Asia. Rising subsidies and debt servicing costs strained public finances, with public debt climbing to 38 percent of GDP.

The World Bank warned that delayed reforms in tax policy and energy pricing — both part of the IMF programme — risked undermining debt sustainability and investor confidence.

Bangladesh's banking sector is still under severe strain, the report said, with non-performing loans reaching 24.1 percent by March 2025 — the highest in South Asia. The system-wide capital adequacy ratio fell to 6.3 percent, well below the regulatory minimum.

Investor sentiment, it said, remains cautious. However, the World Bank expects the pace of reforms to pick up following the election, provided stability is restored and policy continuity ensured.

"With the conclusion of the national election in FY26 and the resulting dissipation of political uncertainty, growth is projected to gain momentum from FY27 onward," it said.

LDC GRADUATION

Regarding the forthcoming graduation from Least Developed Country (LDC) status in November 2026, the report said it may not adversely affect export performance immediately due to the continuation of preferential tariff rates until 2029 for the European Union, Bangladesh's largest export market.

LDC graduation would be an opportunity to carry out comprehensive reforms to expand trade, strengthen private sector competitiveness, and promote economic diversification.

Policy clarity and accelerated reforms following the election could support a faster-than-expected growth rebound, job creation, and poverty reduction, it added.

Bangladesh is among South Asian countries that rank among the least open to international trade and finance. The region's high tariffs protect sectors where employment opportunities are shrinking.

Reforms failed to address inequality

FROM PAGE 16
Asian country. This inequality is not just economic; it has led to state capture by the financial elites of our respective societies, which has compromised the nature of democracy."

Sobhan went on to accuse the policymakers and economists, whom he dubbed the "G-parties".

"When you talk about inequality, you talk about social protection, welfare programmes and inclusive growth — but without structural change. The structural sources of inequality, injustice, and the perpetuation of poverty have completely escaped those of you who wanted a fairer society."

Referring to his book "Challenging the Injustice of Poverty", Sobhan said that genuine progress requires addressing systemic issues such as unequal access to land, finance and education that lock millions into low-income traps.

The Global South is now gaining strength in terms of resources but domestic inequality threatens to undercut that progress.

"The Global South has reconstructed itself with the capacity

to become the dominant region. But where we have failed is in addressing internal distribution. It is now the North that is retreating from globalisation into protectionism, unable to compete with the dynamism of the South, particularly Asia."

Sobhan urged the new generation of policymakers, researchers and economists to take up the unfinished agenda of structural reform.

"This is the world as it is. We made some contribution to it."

The state had used its power to create and reinforce economic disparities between East and West Pakistan.

"These were not market-driven disparities; they were state-driven. The Pakistani state, while promoting a strong private sector, had itself created and patronised that sector."

Because the private sector was heavily concentrated among non-Bengalis from West Pakistan, the result was a systemic transfer of resources from East to West.

"When we began to address the implications of the strong state, the issue of nationalisation came to the fore, both during Bhutto's

time in Pakistan and later during Bangabandhu's period in Bangladesh. Our original belief was that the Six Points, even within a united Pakistan, would not be enough to change the structure of disparity," he added.

Leftist and rightist ideologies and policies continue to dominate discourse, said Planning Adviser Wahiduddin Mahmud.

"But what we have not yet figured out is how to build a system of governance. That is the real task before us. The debates on ideology and policy can come later. Our current objective is far more fundamental to ensure a meaningful, effective and representative democratic transition."

The interim government wants to establish strong and independent state institutions, which will function under democratic accountability.

Within such a framework, human rights and citizens' rights must be safeguarded and disparities in power and income among different social classes must be reduced.

"We seek a democratic system based on accountability, where political and economic power are fairly distributed."

বিজ্ঞপ্তি

নম্বর: ৩০.৩৪.০০০০.০৭৩.৩৫.০০০.২৫-৬২২ তারিখ: ০৭-১০-২০২৫ খ্রি.
ট্রাফিক হেল্পার (ক্যাডুয়াল) পদের লিখিত পরীক্ষার বিজ্ঞপ্তি

বিমান বাংলাদেশ এয়ারলাইন্স লিমিটেড এর নিয়োগ বিজ্ঞপ্তি সূত্র নং: ৩০.৩৪.০০০০.০৭৩.২৯.০০০.২৪/৯৮৩ তারিখ: ২৩-১২-২০২৪ খ্রি. এর মাধ্যমে প্রকাশিত নিয়োগ বিজ্ঞপ্তির অন্তর্ভুক্ত ট্রাফিক হেল্পার (ক্যাডুয়াল) পদে আবেদনকারী প্রার্থীদের লিখিত পরীক্ষা আগামী ১০-১০-২০২৫ খ্রি. শুক্রবার বেলা ০৩.০০ টায় নিম্নবর্ণিত কেন্দ্রসমূহে অনুষ্ঠিত হবে:

ক্র: নং	রোল নম্বর	কেন্দ্রের নাম	তারিখ ও সময়
০১	২৮০০০০০১--২৮০১২৬০০	বি এ এফ শাহীন কলেজ, জাহাঙ্গীর স্টেট, ঢাকা ক্যান্টনমেন্ট, ঢাকা।	১০-১০-২০২৫ খ্রি. শুক্রবার বেলা ০৩.০০ টা
০২	২৮০১২৬০১--২৮০১৫৫৬৫	সিভিল এডভান্সড স্কুল এন্ড কলেজ, তেজগাঁও ঢাকা।	বেলা ০৩.০০ টা

উল্লিখিত পদে আবেদনকারী প্রার্থীগণ <http://bbal.teletalk.com.bd/bbal6/admitcard/> লিংকে সরাসরি ক্লিক করে প্রবেশপত্র ডাউনলোড করতে পারবেন। ডাউনলোডকৃত প্রবেশপত্রের রসিদ প্রিন্টসহ বর্ণিত প্রার্থীগণকে ১০-১০-২০২৫ খ্রি. শুক্রবার বেলা ২.০০ টার মধ্যে নির্ধারিত পরীক্ষা কেন্দ্রে উপস্থিত হওয়ার জন্য অনুরোধ করা হলো।

উল্লেখ্য, মোবাইল ফোন, ক্যালকুলেটর, ঘড়ি অথবা যে কোনো ধরনের ইলেকট্রনিক ডিভাইসসহ পরীক্ষা কেন্দ্রে প্রবেশ সম্পূর্ণরূপে নিষিদ্ধ। কোনোভাবেই এর ব্যত্যয় ঘটানো যাবে না।

বিশেষ দৃষ্টব্য: ১০-১০-২০২৫ খ্রি. শুক্রবার পরীক্ষা শুরু হওয়ার (বেলা ০৩.০০ টার) পর কোনো প্রার্থীকে পরীক্ষা কেন্দ্রে প্রবেশ করতে দেয়া হবে না।

যথাযথ কর্তৃপক্ষের নির্দেশক্রমে-


বিমান বাংলাদেশ এয়ারলাইন্স
 আকাশে শান্তির বীড়

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Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
 Ministry of Shipping
 Payra Port Authority
 Kalapara, Patuakhali- 8650
www.ppa.gov.bd

Memo No.: 18.21.7866.000.000.07.0001.25/12 Dated: 06-Oct-2025

Corrigendum Notice

The Tender Package named “Supply, installation, testing & commissioning of on-grid solar system on rooftop of Container Freight Station (CFS), Substation at Payra Port, Patuakhali.” published on 08/09/2025 is hereby amended as follows:

Serial Number	Topic Informations	Previous Dates	Corrigendum
01	Tender Last Selling Date and Time	07-Oct-2025; 23:00	14-Oct-2025; 23:00
02	Tender Closing and Opening Date and Time	08-Oct-2025; 11:00	15-Oct-2025; 11:00



06110125
Mohammad Ali
 Project Director
 Solar power Generation project (BCCT Fund)
 Payra Port Authority

GD-2175

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার

স্বরাষ্ট্র মন্ত্রণালয়
 ন্যাশনাল টেলিকমিউনিকেশন মনিটরিং সেন্টার
www.ntmc.gov.bd

স্মারক নং- ৪৪.১০.০০০০.০০০.০০৪.২৮.০০১.২৪-১১১২ তারিখ: ২২ আশ্বিন ১৪৩২ বঙ্গাব্দ
 ০৭ অক্টোবর ২০২৫ খ্রিষ্টাব্দ

নিয়োগ বিজ্ঞপ্তি

স্বরাষ্ট্র মন্ত্রণালয় এর আওতাধীন ন্যাশনাল টেলিকমিউনিকেশন মনিটরিং সেন্টার (এনটিএমসি) এর রাজস্ব খাতভুক্ত নিয়োগ পদে অস্থায়ীভাবে সরাসরি নিয়োগের লক্ষ্যে পদের পার্শ্বে বর্ণিত শর্তে প্রকৃত বাংলাদেশি নাগরিকদের নিকট থেকে অনলাইনে (<https://ntmc.teletalk.com.bd> ওয়েব সাইটে) আবেদন আহ্বান করা যাচ্ছে:

ক্রমিক নং	পদের নাম, গ্রেড ও বেতন স্কেল (জাতীয় বেতন স্কেল, ২০১৫ অনুযায়ী)	পদের সংখ্যা	শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতা	যে সকল জেলার প্রার্থীরা আবেদন করতে পারবেন
১	১	৩	৪	৫
১।	গাড়ি চালক (গ্রেড-১৬) বেতন স্কেল: ২৩০০-২২৪২০/-	০১ (এক) টি	ক) কোনো স্বীকৃত বোর্ড হতে জুনিয়র ড্রাইভিং বা সমমানের পরীক্ষায় উত্তীর্ণ; খ) হালকা যানবাহন চালনার ড্রাইভিং লাইসেন্সসহ গাড়ি চালনায় অনূন ২ (দুই) বৎসরের বাস্তব অভিজ্ঞতা; এবং গ) গাড়ি চালনায় ব্যবহারিক পরীক্ষায় উত্তীর্ণ;	সকল জেলা
২।	অফিস সহায়ক (গ্রেড-২০) বেতনস্কেল: ৮২৫০-২০০১০/-	০২ (দুই) টি	কোন স্বীকৃত বোর্ড হতে মাসিক ড্রু সার্টিফিকেট বা সমমানের পরীক্ষায় উত্তীর্ণ;	সকল জেলা

২। আবেদন ফরম পূরণ এবং পরীক্ষায় অংশগ্রহণের ক্ষেত্রে নিম্নবর্ণিত শর্তাবলী অবশ্যই অনুসরণ করতে হবে:

- আবেদনকারীকে বাংলাদেশের স্থায়ী নাগরিক হতে হবে;
- প্রার্থীর বয়স ১ অক্টোবর ২০২৫ তারিখে ১৮-৩২ এর মধ্যে হতে হবে। বয়স প্রমাণের ক্ষেত্রে এফিডেভিট গ্রহণযোগ্য নয়;
- সরকারি, আধা-সরকারি ও স্বায়ত্তশাসিত প্রতিষ্ঠানে চাকরির প্রার্থীদের অবশ্যই যথাযথ কর্তৃপক্ষের অনুমতিক্রমে আবেদন করতে হবে এবং মৌখিক পরীক্ষার সময় নিয়োগকারী কর্তৃক প্রদত্ত অনাপত্তি ছাড়পত্রের মূলকপি জমা দিতে হবে;
- চাকুরির আবেদন ফরমে (Applicant's Copy) সর্বশেষ শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতাসহ সকল শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতা উল্লেখ করতে হবে। অনাথায় চাকুরির জন্য নির্বাচিত হলে চাকুরির আবেদনে উল্লিখিত সনদ ব্যতীত চাকুরির আবেদনের পূর্বে অর্জিত অন্যান্য শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতার সনদপত্র অন্তর্ভুক্ত করার সুযোগ থাকবে না;
- নিয়োগের ক্ষেত্রে সরকারের বিদ্যমান বিধি-বিধান এবং পরবর্তীতে এ সংক্রান্ত বিধি-বিধানের কোন সংশোধন হলে তা অনুসরণ করা হবে;
- নিয়োগের ক্ষেত্রে সরকারের সর্বশেষ সংশোধিত কোটা পদ্ধতি অনুসরণ করা হবে। তবে পরবর্তীতে এ সংক্রান্ত বিধি-বিধানের কোনো সংশোধন হলে তা অনুসরণ করা হবে;
- লিখিত, বাবহারিক (প্রয়োজ্য ক্ষেত্রে) ও মৌখিক পরীক্ষায় অংশগ্রহণের জন্য পরীক্ষার্থীদের কোনো প্রকার টিএ/ডিএ প্রদান করা হবে না;
- কর্তৃপক্ষ বিজ্ঞপ্তিতে উল্লিখিত পদের সংখ্যা হ্রাস/বৃদ্ধি এবং বিজ্ঞপ্তি বাতিল করার অধিকার সংরক্ষণ করেন;
- সরকারের পূর্বনুমিত ব্যতিরেকে কোনো প্রার্থী কোনো বিদেশী নাগরিককে বিবাহ করে থাকলে বা বিবাহ করার জন্য প্রতিজ্ঞাবদ্ধ হলে তিনি আবেদন করার জন্য অযোগ্য বলে বিবেচিত হবেন;
- এ নিয়োগ বিজ্ঞপ্তিতে বর্ণিত শূন্য পদ পূরণে “ন্যাশনাল টেলিকমিউনিকেশন মনিটরিং সেন্টার (কর্মচারী) নিয়োগ বিধিমালা, ২০২০” অনুসরণ করা হবে। এছাড়াও নিয়োগ সংক্রান্ত বিদ্যমান সরকারি যাবতীয় বিধি-বিধান/আদেশ/নিয়মাবলী এবং পরবর্তীতে এ সংক্রান্ত বিধিতে কোনো সংশোধন হলে তা অনুসরণ করা হবে;
- ২৬ মে ২০২৪ তারিখে প্রকাশিত নিয়োগ বিজ্ঞপ্তি অনুসারে ড্রাইভার পদে অনলাইনে আবেদনকারীদের পুনরায় উক্ত পদে আবেদন করার প্রয়োজন নেই। তবে অফিস সহায়ক পদের ক্ষেত্রে তা প্রযোজ্য নয়;
- অনলাইন ব্যতীত কোনো আবেদন গ্রহণ করা হবে না;
- নিয়োগ সংক্রান্ত যে কোনো বিষয়ে নিয়োগকারী কর্তৃপক্ষের সিদ্ধান্তই চূড়ান্ত বলে গণ্য হবে;

৩। আবেদনপত্র পূরণ সংক্রান্ত শর্তাবলি:

- পরীক্ষায় অংশগ্রহণের আগ্রহী প্রার্থীগণ <https://ntmc.teletalk.com.bd> এই ওয়েব সাইটে আবেদনপত্র পূরণ করতে পারবেন। আবেদনের সময়সীমা নিম্নরূপ:
 - Online-এ আবেদনপত্র পূরণ ও আবেদন ফি জমাদান পূরণ তারিখ ও সময়: ৯ অক্টোবর ২০২৫ খ্রি: তারিখ সকাল ৯.০০ ঘটিকা;
 - Online-এ আবেদনপত্র জমাদানের শেষ তারিখ ও সময়: ০১ অক্টোবর ২০২৫ খ্রি: বিকাল ৫.০০ ঘটিকা;
 উক্ত সময়সীমার মধ্যে USER ID প্রাপ্ত প্রার্থীগণ Online-এ আবেদনপত্র Submit এর সময় থেকে পরবর্তী ৭২ (বাহাত্তর) ঘণ্টার মধ্যে SMS এ পরীক্ষার ফি জমা দিতে পারবেন।
- Online আবেদনপত্রে প্রার্থীর রসিদ ছবি (সর্বোচ্চ ৩০০x৩০০ pixel) ও স্বাক্ষর (সর্বোচ্চ ৩০০x৩০০ pixel) স্ক্যান করে নির্ধারিত স্থানে Upload করবেন। ছবির সাইজ সর্বোচ্চ 100 KB ও স্বাক্ষরের সাইজ সর্বোচ্চ 60 KB হতে হবে।
- 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।
- প্রার্থী Online-এ পূরণকৃত আবেদনপত্রের একটি রসিদ প্রিন্টকপি পরীক্ষা সংক্রান্ত যে কোনো প্রয়োজনে সহায়ক হিসেবে সংরক্ষণ করবেন এবং মৌখিক/বাবহারিক পরীক্ষার সময় এক কপি জমা দেবেন।
- SMS প্রেরণের নিয়মাবলী ও পরীক্ষার ফি প্রদান: Online-এ আবেদনপত্র (Application Form) যথাযথভাবে পূরণ করে নির্দেশনা মোতাবেক ছবি এবং স্বাক্ষর Upload করে আবেদনপত্র Submit করা সফলভাবে সম্পন্ন হলে কম্পিউটারে ছবিসহ Application Preview দেখা যাবে। আবেদনপত্র Submit করা সম্পন্ন প্রার্থী User ID, ছবি এবং স্বাক্ষরযুক্ত একটি Applicant's copy পাবেন। যদি Applicant's Copy তে কোন তথ্য ভুল থাকে বা অস্পষ্ট ছবি (সম্পূর্ণ কালো/সম্পূর্ণ সাদা/মোলা) বা ছবি/স্বাক্ষর সঠিক না থাকে তাহলে পুনরায় আবেদন করতে পারবেন। তবে আবেদন ফি জমাদানের পরে আর কোন পরিবর্তন/পরিমার্জন/পরিবর্তন গ্রহণযোগ্য নয় বিধায় আবেদন ফি জমাদানের পূর্বেই প্রার্থী অবশ্যই উক্ত Applicant's copy তে তার সাম্প্রতিক তোলা রসিদ ছবি, নির্ভুল তথ্য এবং স্বাক্ষর সংযুক্ত থাকে ও সঠিকতার বিষয়টি PDF Copy ডাউনলোডপূর্বক নিশ্চিত করে রসিদ প্রিন্ট করে সংরক্ষণ করবেন। উক্ত Applicant's copy প্রার্থী প্রিন্ট অথবা Download করে সংরক্ষণ করবেন। Applicant's copy-তে একটি User ID নম্বর দেয়া থাকবে এবং User ID নম্বর ব্যবহার করে প্রার্থী নিয়োগ পত্রটিতে যে কোনো Teletalk pre-paid mobile নম্বরের মাধ্যমে ০২ (দুই) টি SMS করে ক্রমিক নং ১ এ বর্ণিত ড্রাইভার পদের জন্য আবেদন ফি বাবদ ১০০/- (একশত) টাকা ও Teletalk এর কমিশন চার্জ (ভ্যাটসহ) ১২/- (বার) টাকাসহ অফেরতযোগ্য মোট ১১২/- (একশত বার) টাকা, ক্রমিক নং ২ এ বর্ণিত অফিস সহায়ক পদের জন্য আবেদন ফি বাবদ ৫০/- (পঞ্চাশ) টাকা ও Teletalk এর কমিশন চার্জ (ভ্যাটসহ) ৬/- (ছয়) টাকাসহ অফেরতযোগ্য মোট ৫৬/- (ছাপাশ) টাকা এবং অনগ্রসর নাগরিকদের ক্ষেত্রে নূ-গোষ্ঠী, শারীরিক প্রতিবন্ধী, তৃতীয় লিঙ্গের প্রার্থীগণ সকল গ্রেডে আবেদন ফি বাবদ ৫০/- (পঞ্চাশ) টাকা ও Teletalk এর সার্ভিস চার্জ ৬/- (ছয়) টাকাসহ অফেরতযোগ্য মোট ৫৬/- (ছাপাশ) টাকা আবেদন সাবমিট করার সময় থেকে ৭২ (বাহাত্তর) ঘণ্টার মধ্যে জমা দিবেন।

বিশেষভাবে উল্লেখ্য, “Online-এ আবেদন পত্রের সকল অংশপূরণ করে Submit করা হলেও পরীক্ষার ফি জমা না দেয়া পর্যন্ত Online আবেদনপত্র কোন অবস্থাতেই গৃহীত হবে না”।

প্রথম SMS : NTMC <space> User ID লিখে Send করতে হবে 16222 নম্বরে।
 Example: NTMC ABCDEF & send to 16222

Reply : Applicant's Name, Tk. will be charged as application fee. Your PIN is 12345678. To pay fee Type NTMC <space> Yes <space> PIN and send to 16222.

দ্বিতীয় SMS: NTMC <space> Yes <space> PIN লিখে Send করতে হবে 16222 নম্বরে।
 Example: NTMC Yes 12345678 and send to 16222.

Reply: Congratulations! Applicant's Name, Payment completed successfully for NTMC Application for post name xxxxxxxx User ID is (ABCDEF) and Password (xxxxxxx)

- প্রবেশপত্র প্রাপ্তির বিষয়টি <https://ntmc.teletalk.com.bd> ওয়েব সাইটে 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 বাধ্যনীয়।
- SMS-এ প্রেরিত User ID এবং Password ব্যবহার করে পরবর্তীতে রোল নম্বর, পদের নাম, ছবি, পরীক্ষার তারিখ, সময় ও স্থান/কেন্দ্রের নাম ইত্যাদি তথ্য সংবলিত প্রবেশপত্র প্রার্থী Download পূর্বক রসিদ প্রিন্ট করে নিবেন। প্রার্থী প্রবেশ পত্রটি লিখিত পরীক্ষায় অংশগ্রহণের সময় এবং উত্তীর্ণ হলে মৌখিক ও বাবহারিক পরীক্ষার সময়ে অবশ্যই প্রদর্শন করবেন।
- শুধুমাত্র Teletalk pre-paid মোবাইল ফোন থেকে প্রার্থীগণ নিম্নবর্ণিত SMS পদ্ধতি অনুসরণ করে নিজ নিজ User ID এবং Password পুনরুদ্ধার করতে পারবেন।
 - User ID জানা থাকলে NTMC <space> Help <space> User <space> User ID & Send to 16222
 Example: NTMC Help User ABCDEF & Send to 16222
 - PIN Number জানা থাকলে NTMC <space> Help <space> PIN <space> PIN Number & Send to 16222
 Example: NTMC Help PIN 12345678 & Send to 16222

৪. বিজ্ঞপ্তি পত্রিকা ছাড়াও এনটিএমসি'র ওয়েবসাইট www.ntmc.gov.bd এবং স্বরাষ্ট্র মন্ত্রণালয়ের জননিরাপত্তা বিভাগের ওয়েবসাইট www.moha.gov.bd অথবা QR Code স্ক্যান এর মাধ্যমে টেলিটকের জবপোর্টাল (<https://alljobs.teletalk.com.bd/ntmc>) ওয়েবসাইটে সরাসরি প্রবেশ করেও পাওয়া যাবে। নিয়োগ পরীক্ষার তারিখ, সময় ও অন্যান্য তথ্য www.ntmc.gov.bd ওয়েবসাইটে প্রকাশ করা হবে এবং SMS এর মাধ্যমে জানিয়ে দেয়া হবে।

৫. অনলাইনে আবেদন করতে কোনো সমস্যা হলে টেলিটক নম্বর থেকে ১২১ অথবা alljobs.query@teletalk.com.bd ই-মেইলে যোগাযোগ করা যাবে। এছাড়া টেলিটকের জবপোর্টাল এর কেসবুক পেজ <https://www.facebook.com/alljobsbdteletalk> এ মেসেজ এর মাধ্যমে যোগাযোগ করা যাবে। (মেইল/ মেসেজ এর subject-এ Organization Name: NTMC, Post Name: Driver & Office Assistant Applicant's User ID & Contact Number অবশ্যই উল্লেখ করতে হবে)।

৬. ডিক্লারেশনঃ প্রার্থীকে আবেদনপত্রের ডিক্লারেশন অংশে এ মর্মে ঘোষণা দিতে হবে যে, প্রার্থী কর্তৃক আবেদনপত্রে প্রদত্ত সকল তথ্য সঠিক এবং সত্য। প্রদত্ত তথ্য অসত্য বা মিথ্যা প্রমাণিত হলে অথবা কোন অযোগ্যতা ধরা পড়লে বা কোনো প্রত্যারণা বা দুর্নীতির আশ্রয় গ্রহণ কিংবা পরীক্ষায় নকল বা অসুপায় অবলম্বন করা হলে, পরীক্ষার পূর্বে বা পরে এমনকি নিয়োগের যে কোনো পর্যায়ে প্রার্থী বাতিল করা হবে এবং সংশ্লিষ্ট প্রার্থীর বিরুদ্ধে আইনগত ব্যবস্থা গ্রহণ করা যাবে।

৪। প্রার্থীর যোগ্যতা যাচাই :

প্রার্থী কর্তৃক প্রদত্ত কোনো তথ্য বা দাখিলকৃত কাগজপত্র জাল, মিথ্যা বা ভুল প্রমাণিত হলে কিংবা পরীক্ষায় নকল বা অসুপায় অবলম্বন করলে সংশ্লিষ্ট প্রার্থীর প্রার্থীতা বাতিল করা হবে এবং তার বিরুদ্ধে যথাযথ আইনানুগ ব্যবস্থা গ্রহণ করা হবে। ভুল তথ্য/জাল কাগজপত্র প্রদর্শিত হলে পরীক্ষায় উত্তীর্ণ যে কোনো প্রার্থীর প্রার্থীতা বাতিল করার ক্ষমতা কর্তৃপক্ষ সংরক্ষণ করেন। মৌখিক পরীক্ষার সময় নিম্নবর্ণিত কাগজপত্রের মূলকপি প্রদর্শনপূর্বক প্রতিটির ০২টি করে সত্যায়িত ফটোকপি (প্রথম শ্রেণির গেজেটেড কর্মকর্তা কর্তৃক সত্যায়িত) দাখিল করতে হবেঃ

- সদা তোলা রসিদ ০২ (দুই) কপি পাসপোর্ট সাইজের সত্যায়িত ছবি;
- প্রার্থীর সকল শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতার সনদপত্র (অভিজ্ঞতার সনদপত্রসহ);
- প্রার্থী যে ইউনিয়ন/পৌরসভা/ সিটি কর্পোরেশন/ ক্যান্টনমেন্ট বোর্ডের বাসিন্দা সে ইউনিয়ন পরিষদের চেয়ারম্যান/পৌরসভার মেয়র/সিটি কর্পোরেশনের ওয়ার্ড কাউন্সিলর/ ক্যান্টনমেন্ট বোর্ডের প্রধান নির্বাহী কর্মকর্তা কর্তৃক প্রদত্ত নাগরিকত্ব সনদপত্র;
- মুক্তিযোদ্ধা/শহিদ মুক্তিযোদ্ধা/ শীরাঙ্কনার সন্তান হিসেবে আবেদনকারী প্রার্থীকে পিতা/মাতার মুক্তিযোদ্ধা/মুক্তিযোদ্ধা (বীরাঙ্কনা) সনদের সত্যায়িত কপি জমা দিতে হবে। এক্ষেত্রে সনদ হিসেবে নিম্নের যে কোন একটি গ্রহণযোগ্য বিবেচিত হবেঃ
 - মুক্তিযুদ্ধ বিষয়ক মন্ত্রণালয় কর্তৃক জারিকৃত ২৬.০২.২০০২ তারিখের মুঃবিঃঃঃসনদ-১/প-১/২০০২/০২ নং প্রজ্ঞাপন অনুযায়ী মুক্তিযুদ্ধ বিষয়ক মন্ত্রণালয়ের ইস্যুকৃত পিতা/মাতার মুক্তিযোদ্ধা/মুক্তিযোদ্ধা (বীরাঙ্কনা) সনদ; অথবা
 - মুক্তিযুদ্ধ বিষয়ক মন্ত্রণালয়ের ০১.০২.২০০৯ তারিখের মুঃবিঃসনদ-১/প-৩/০১/০২/১৪০ নং প্রজ্ঞাপন অনুযায়ী ১৯৭৭ থেকে ২০০১ সাল পর্যন্ত সরকার প্রধান কর্তৃক প্রতিষ্ঠাকৃত এবং মুক্তিযোদ্ধা সংসদ কর্তৃক ইস্যুকৃত পিতা/মাতার মুক্তিযোদ্ধা সনদ;
- শারীরিক প্রতিবন্ধী কোটার প্রার্থীদের সমাজসেবা অধিদপ্তরধীন জেলা সমাজসেবা কার্যালয়/উপজেলা সমাজসেবা কার্যালয়/শহর সমাজসেবা কার্যালয় কর্তৃক প্রদত্ত পরিচয়পত্র (আইডি কার্ড) এবং তৃতীয় লিঙ্গের প্রার্থীদের ক্ষেত্রে সংশ্লিষ্ট জেলার সিভিল সার্জন কর্তৃক প্রদত্ত সনদের সত্যায়িত কপি দাখিল করতে হবে;
- নূন-গোষ্ঠী সম্প্রদায়ভুক্ত প্রার্থীদের ক্ষেত্রে সংশ্লিষ্ট জেলা প্রশাসক কর্তৃক প্রদত্ত সনদপত্র দাখিল করতে হবে;
- কোনো প্রার্থী বিদেশ হতে তার অর্জিত কোনো ডিগ্রিকে উল্লিখিত পদের পার্শ্বে বর্ণিত কোনো শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতার সমমানের বলে দাবি করলে তাকে সে মর্মে সংশ্লিষ্ট ইকুইভ্যালেন্স কমিটি কর্তৃক প্রদত্ত ইকুইভ্যালেন্স সনদের মূলকপি এবং সত্যায়িত কপি মৌখিক পরীক্ষার সময় অবশ্যই দাখিল করতে হবে;
- ইউনিয়ন পরিষদের চেয়ারম্যান/পৌরসভার মেয়র/সিটি কর্পোরেশনের ওয়ার্ড কাউন্সিলর/ প্রথম শ্রেণির গেজেটেড কর্মকর্তা কর্তৃক প্রদত্ত চারিত্রিক সনদপত্র;
- জাতীয় পরিচয়পত্র/জন্মসনদ (প্রয়োজ্য ক্ষেত্রে) এর সত্যায়িত অনুলিপি;
- Online-এর পূরণকৃত আবেদনপত্রের কপি (Applicant's Copy);
- প্রবেশপত্রের কপি;

৫। অনলাইন-এ আবেদনপত্র পূরণ/আবেদনের সময় মুক্তিযোদ্ধা/ শহিদ মুক্তিযোদ্ধা ও বীরাঙ্কনার সন্তান/নূন-গোষ্ঠী/ শারীরিক প্রতিবন্ধী ও তৃতীয় লিঙ্গের কোটার প্রার্থীতা দাবি না করলে পরবর্তীতে নতুন করে কোনো কোটার প্রার্থীতা দাবি গ্রহণযোগ্য হবে না।

৬। লিখিত, বাবহারিক (প্রয়োজ্য ক্ষেত্রে) ও মৌখিক পরীক্ষার সময়সূচী www.ntmc.gov.bd এবং www.moha.gov.bd ওয়েবসাইটে প্রকাশ করা হবে। মৌখিক ও বাবহারিক পরীক্ষার (প্রয়োজ্য ক্ষেত্রে) জন্য আলাদাভাবে কোন প্রবেশপত্র/সাক্ষাৎকারপত্র প্রেরণ করা হবে না। লিখিত পরীক্ষার প্রবেশপত্রই মৌখিক ও বাবহারিক পরীক্ষার (প্রয়োজ্য ক্ষেত্রে) প্রবেশপত্র হিসেবে গণ্য হবে।

৭। উপরে উল্লেখ করা হয়নি এমন যে কোনো বিষয়ে সরকার কর্তৃক জারিকৃত সর্বশেষ বিধি-বিধান প্রযোজ্য হবে।

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

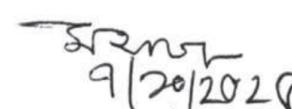
স্বাক্ষরিত/-
 রিপোর্ট জেনারেল ইকরাম আহমদ ভূইয়া, এইচডিএমসি, এএফডব্লিউসি, পিএসসি
 পরিচালক
 ন্যাশনাল টেলিকমিউনিকেশন মনিটরিং সেন্টার

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গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার হাসপাতাল ও ক্লিনিক সমূহ স্বাস্থ্য অধিদপ্তর টিবি গেইট, মহাখালী, ঢাকা-১২১২।				স্বাস্থ্য পরীক্ষার তারিখ ও সময়	২৭তম বিসিএস পরীক্ষার ফলাফলের ভিত্তিতে সাময়িক ভাবে নির্বাচিত প্রার্থীদের রেজিস্ট্রেশন নম্বর	স্বাস্থ্য পরীক্ষা অনুষ্ঠিত হওয়ার স্থান				
স্মারক নং-স্বা:অধি:/হাস:/মে:বোর্ড/২৭তম বিসিএস/২০২৫/১৫২০				তারিখ-০৭-১০-২০২৫ খ্রি.						
বিষয়- ২৭তম বিসিএস পরীক্ষা-২০০৫-এর ফলাফলের ভিত্তিতে বাংলাদেশ সিভিল সার্ভিসের বিভিন্ন পদে সাময়িকভাবে সুপারিশকৃত ৩৫৬৬ (তিন হাজার পাঁচশত ছিয়াট্ট) জন প্রার্থীদের স্বাস্থ্য পরীক্ষার সময়সূচী।										
সংশ্লিষ্ট সকলের অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাইতেছে যে, ২৭তম বিসিএস পরীক্ষা-২০০৫-এর ফলাফলের ভিত্তিতে বাংলাদেশ সিভিল সার্ভিস এর বিভিন্ন পদে সাময়িকভাবে মনোনীত প্রার্থীদের স্বাস্থ্য পরীক্ষার জন্য নিম্নোক্ত সময়সূচী অনুযায়ী স্বাস্থ্য অধিদপ্তর কর্তৃক গঠিত সংশ্লিষ্ট মেডিকেল বোর্ডের সম্মুখে উপস্থিত হইতে হইবে।										
স্বাস্থ্য পরীক্ষার তারিখ ও সময়	২৭তম বিসিএস পরীক্ষার ফলাফলের ভিত্তিতে সাময়িক ভাবে নির্বাচিত প্রার্থীদের রেজিস্ট্রেশন নম্বর	স্বাস্থ্য পরীক্ষা অনুষ্ঠিত হওয়ার স্থান	২৭তম বিসিএস পরীক্ষার ফলাফলের ভিত্তিতে সাময়িক ভাবে নির্বাচিত প্রার্থীদের রেজিস্ট্রেশন নম্বর	স্বাস্থ্য পরীক্ষা অনুষ্ঠিত হওয়ার স্থান	২৭তম বিসিএস পরীক্ষার ফলাফলের ভিত্তিতে সাময়িক ভাবে নির্বাচিত প্রার্থীদের রেজিস্ট্রেশন নম্বর	স্বাস্থ্য পরীক্ষা অনুষ্ঠিত হওয়ার স্থান				
১২-১০-২০২৫ খ্রি সকাল ৮.৩০ ঘটিকা	033648 090758 054100 053185 052252 044557 111113 014761 041581 012539 083412 061103 042974 089961 067232 051694 090138 041939 093384 047917 013054 044536 053323 054067 041481 010660 106176 054074 045106 052277 016271 033666 036939 036803 016206 008539 081802 000850 056010 041544 046659 012935 122587 045658 085829 054049 067408 042797 015964 111927 053847 063928 058068 082510 090646 014340 046870 067272 051691 055433 054037 038251 017603 062232 042704 034431 043692 043977 049156 000357 143660 061118 055090 013127 083663 014786 000358 058134 129969 045812 033626 000694 042967 104499 055444 001613 053535 012165 052265 014491 024719 053614 063682 010798 056086 056211 057906 030860 020857 053065	ঢাকা মেডিকেল কলেজ হাসপাতাল, ঢাকা।	013628 054284 015129 026567 047978 063021 137909 047433 049144 083519 041409 039725 015128 125803 054115 013967 007096 052210 080986 017057 090236 047479 020614 014449 041433 063121 024755 047989 034969 129879 012144 042976 000052 031013 003661 006484 085775 083581 035295 021745 048660 024062 006428 043918 079453 123827 001128 080802 137646 088904 056553 033787 001043 036238 006581 034456 013310 001113 034746 082929 088537 113426 083340 008974 031682 042842 015813 003333 057292 022433 062162 021326 006141 014318 078592 130167 051654 011679 016155 074575 069633 046728 057352 022999 028328 013992 123942 018000 066247 100678 100276 030740 086142 129912 113409 085649 034312 054263 108094 100510	ঢাকা মেডিকেল কলেজ হাসপাতাল, ঢাকা।						
	১৩-১০-২০২৫ খ্রি সকাল ৮.৩০ ঘটিকা	021088 044534 105124 031949 044636 000193 020530 021673 067725 047957 111920 030540 053319 025461 057267 032192 054065 056741 129255 041480 045787 045341 020348 100516 036359 037977 000872 048350 047200 041031 106180 058188 005727 075017 045638 083997 031088 053585 034946 014329 047273 062509 040233 024763 056505 054360 044527 043645 048176 037087 000570 046965 083523 039162 014542 089600 041539 123174 026871 031332 024330 040753 013898 000962 002236 002510 054050 024746 051508 039258 045344 036813 086096 103219 086838 049081 057775 045908 089487 121948 027091 016270 067348 021034 031769 000556 000404 000667 044860 013351 111875 047106 022399 126408 061940 011863 130555 033207 109488 051657	স্যার সলিমুল্লাহ মেডিকেল কলেজ ও মিটফোর্ড হাসপাতাল, ঢাকা।	012513 034958 125941 070227 025143 017065 150471 070315 120096 113832 018962 020199 082889 039326 025184 111191 127141 047903 025837 058564 058115 063916 041598 004339 019792 036275 085542 008724 126221 036811 113235 158535 054236 011485 057858 034966 122365 129100 056399 093390 005728 093193 056898 034965 003560 015176 003257 056548 084658 001069 125450 024135 084132 063619 101309 120175 055264 087494 113664 121591 130236 045371 071945 158118 056566 036398 033632 033825 035236 022084 055840 124831 061086 031879 037861 032571 111816 106173 087176 104512 062271 113211 045445 122048 034928 047943 092526 085543 070461 005405 102064 143628 126860 112041 069663 072313 120615 016069 041147 126728	ঢাকা মেডিকেল কলেজ হাসপাতাল, ঢাকা।					
		১৩-১০-২০২৫ খ্রি সকাল ৮.৩০ ঘটিকা	000558 034992 053249 044511 008701 058338 022171 022180 084421 074883 039702 034923 129341 003957 076051 020507 034921 080945 006613 056535 056690 039224 028898 130129 013750 063361 000391 052804 023020 066257 071707 127310 045704 043534 031758 013693 039767 011044 035717 056606 002020 058584 035227 033639 026182 123829 067654 058539 040391 002573 005792 032182 156292 031886 064299 015837 091839 103647 023317 031073 000948 073880 079391 019700 003650 076631 062045 025743 059763 084871 038326 151384 139893 083948 036165 111539 018003 031238 042082 077063 055318 003089 073745 030733 013192 078895 033618 034188 064430 007673 143817 051615 102110 051350 011832 066156 106836 107355 045035 045818	শহীদ সোহরাওয়ার্দী মেডিকেল কলেজ হাসপাতাল, শেরেবাংলা নগর, ঢাকা।	055538 104728 064045 045709 037540 103318 024714 037449 042997 045019 045017 015940 109138 065377 047755 032766 109719 141177 061513 060022 130080 078065 156257 124842 042817 070732 054212 035108 043138 035045 055130 028330 054215 032523 045427 052431 010752 002289 129114 036170 085812 111368 005261 063247 020447 054208 073977 102012 150399 053640 082108 126231 057268 005803 029540 034944 048433 045025 021681 086233 069921 084251 054288 029538 033625 027530 068025 007949 052123 155494 056531 120526 014293 102146 102205 108294 038596 003652 072489 035353 069218 124638 084327 017259 125908 120708 000859 052104 120486 102727 124720 026080 007628 100740 078546 034466 109750 091590 004515 004106	জাতীয় হৃদরোগ ইনস্টিটিউট ও হাসপাতাল, শেরেবাংলা নগর, ঢাকা।				
			১৩-১০-২০২৫ খ্রি সকাল ৮.৩০ ঘটিকা	024670 084053 018927 048302 019302 006647 044522 012488 003256 047954 051690 012163 031286 056941 047985 054285 046409 030215 053140 004214 005771 050480 036344 034501 031716 034976 014773 039170 016687 106700 019577 031784 024647 052267 012510 129052 061848 025946 034251 047393 003925 086132 011344 046919 038066 056532 001862 085992 142772 013999 071863 045796 060856 129637 054268 026483 014704 053629 011873 122371 063551 027757 051689 052279 052278 055300 091325 024983 012330 000585 013312 089912 034072 071431 034341 000579 055575 000388 021061 025320 043078 042345 017476 104510 102912 087069 008618 035259 102204 130402 051668 041431 039160 104409 036440 085379 032875 051783 036984 025494	জাতীয় হৃদরোগ ইনস্টিটিউট ও হাসপাতাল, শেরেবাংলা নগর, ঢাকা।	055538 104728 064045 045709 037540 103318 024714 037449 042997 045019 045017 015940 109138 065377 047755 032766 109719 141177 061513 060022 130080 078065 156257 124842 042817 070732 054212 035108 043138 035045 055130 028330 054215 032523 045427 052431 010752 002289 129114 036170 085812 111368 005261 063247 020447 054208 073977 102012 150399 053640 082108 126231 057268 005803 029540 034944 048433 045025 021681 086233 069921 084251 054288 029538 033625 027530 068025 007949 052123 155494 056531 120526 014293 102146 102205 108294 038596 003652 072489 035353 069218 124638 084327 017259 125908 120708 000859 052104 120486 102727 124720 026080 007628 100740 078546 034466 109750 091590 004515 004106	জাতীয় হৃদরোগ ইনস্টিটিউট ও হাসপাতাল, শেরেবাংলা নগর, ঢাকা।			
				১৩-১০-২০২৫ খ্রি সকাল ৮.৩০ ঘটিকা	031715 029726 066971 050433 043718 091928 034996 028962 016413 041410 041417 080514 089342 020219 012278 054756 050772 059001 086909 061919 022143 054080 024993 102773 054029 031787 033638 042969 014464 015616 056569 014445 045766 054045 054041 014413 018684 010753 013934 053187 034905 042975 041437 111694 000569 110248 048668 067201 082011 041438 084482 058565 090721 017461 030493 011031 032065 047320 012373 034947 001366 056657 045722 101303 034934 040345 063392 042996 012571 035235 041425 036574 038860 044520 052269 089976 055837 153918 067256 043109 015840 052307 012143 054111 003674 008330 022147 067857 043031 047987 016746 054017 031759 001618 019799 047913 052284 001871 012832 012527	জাতীয় কিশোরী ডিজিজেস এন্ড ইউরোলজী হাসপাতাল, শেরেবাংলা নগর, ঢাকা।	024752 106128 100600 071090 015282 085047 054204 034997 075863 048178 023680 087079 027954 039046 071557 031383 051070 005794 025551 062337 060646 052028 111659 109351 120586 143673 066673 021149 124070 152979 087790 072418 075666 052030 068941 111635 101516 059891 102876 082791 039053 135191 122886 000701 010749 025770 047536 053019 055455 070010 054251 076973 153726 140971 122138 123825 051262 074265 047130 040503 039837 031047 106654 067452 000669 090883 100835 143320 002749 114892 039181 029048 054176 092062 054018 056461 039324 035123 087206 006491 086778 064851 056567 067267 067260 034427 006070 005998 003917 048601 080851 123043 015263 127227 002039 121631 022110 064784 026520 043889	জাতীয় মানসিক স্বাস্থ্য ইনস্টিটিউট ও হাসপাতাল, শেরেবাংলা নগর, ঢাকা।		
					১৩-১০-২০২৫ খ্রি সকাল ৮.৩০ ঘটিকা	025614 041394 053683 020819 023451 071223 045645 068852 027200 051856 001758 060926 054258 103811 103904 086664 014136 052285 015036 057266 031930 011244 024473 018625 014412 052656 042782 039171 042431 047911 006390 102546 084034 089743 044558 086159 017833 063973 125508 087099 030771 057652 075200 001830 005306 024444 067230 010725 007643 007254 018520 108707 062857 053263 024788 038190 034516 083025 000711 025301 065681 091912 033687 082821 026013 017080 019978 114860 041395 065668 001848 057880 031041 003437 013503 052253 090597 068224 056765 033652 019370 034220 000635 035701 024747 000891 031777 053278 091072 017457 001826 029082 054088 015901 032654 012596 035584 033967 015289 016656	জাতীয় মানসিক স্বাস্থ্য ইনস্টিটিউট ও হাসপাতাল, শেরেবাংলা নগর, ঢাকা।	093702 093114 043961 000042 042835 047723 070286 038127 058259 054240 042932 017521 039972 029243 071273 062467 002678 046808 012355 122296 015942 028108 060188 031347 065215 086625 015541 092325 019351 014820 120825 040695 130031 059881 057562 123794 040196 048506 056805 056054 025869 049382 046881 042981 086278 057990 080056 046718 048338 110176 047798 024113 127291 113859 010415 004858 128754 141303 060365 003920 105424 120704 028333 041129 010635 084533 091539 066704 029030 003919 026071 003918 057278 071872 034656 123898 028113 124798 036726 056105 074203 104007 056052 128977 034737 060363 005862 111620 016171 052009 032882 044030 082572 001450 055180 047848 047663 052384 129376 004306	জাতীয় অর্থোপেডিক হাসপাতাল ও পুনর্বাসন প্রতিষ্ঠান, শেরেবাংলা নগর, ঢাকা।	
						১৩-১০-২০২৫ খ্রি সকাল ৮.৩০ ঘটিকা	069877 036607 032794 012294 058586 029265 047752 034790 036807 000263 056971 014361 025349 002722 089611 115284 033277 040761 048910 056828 093704 129221 003939 007000 052024 060110 040392 013969 058451 153896 029168 046856 035325 079571 086508 068717 067240 139018 079250 142626 048097 044523 005604 003940 051782 021862 047765 045284 005099 012496 069845 035422 024372 048320 055777 063388 063537 017003 013409 000445 055733 044845 051351 063488 082342 021139 090487 115069 056538 090148 057401 077748 020310 065009 037533 033712 003337 024022 030890 038922 035071 063484 062677 092073 006896 082335 016052 081045 003787 044530 093703 004534 051412 008908 048442 060580 064735 070906 015433 083231	জাতীয় অর্থোপেডিক হাসপাতাল ও পুনর্বাসন প্রতিষ্ঠান, শেরেবাংলা নগর, ঢাকা।	000524 036241 024382 040177 090804 025444 049211 011398 033833 000080 015284 047623 011905 012123 013925 036900 083936 037764 039639 044328 014379 129431 024425 031043 033090 033795 004386 000888 025445 089613 120685 039382 031420 055092 011267 014435 054061 030289 052243 012608 000183 120343 048264 003600 053802 000990 001053 062280 045140 034122 003603 007954 041774 016294 052247 086164 122780 121857 015057 052244 036239 130188 046533 047636 003780 121519 043998 008891 021199 123917 125608 054248 046048 010479 129519 120334 107113 033758 025449 000602 031909 092918 031114 043690 046782 027258 046605 052149 006495 121895 031872 039861 013201 013410 004075 053402 124603 130190 122135 041561	জাতীয় বক্ষ ব্যাধি ইনস্টিটিউট ও হাসপাতাল, মহাখালী, ঢাকা।
							১৩-১০-২০২৫ খ্রি সকাল ৮.৩০ ঘটিকা	040397 104970 000483 090484 057732 028120 002299 050819 031888 007300 028870 056649 015206 034741 101613 058095 013699 040204 046554 014527 067854 053091 045072 056539 016153 005937 092573 045082 143196 047332 013719 020510 038647 024002 045076 006249 082127 035070 036215 011202 069191 071924 059614 056560 030625 032003 048204 108251 015784 055613 004390 017839 028805 0		

From page-12		স্বাস্থ্য পরীক্ষার তারিখ ও সময়	২৭তম বিসিএস পরীক্ষার ফলাফলের ভিত্তিতে সাময়িক ভাবে নির্বাচিত প্রার্থীদের রেজিস্ট্রেশন নম্বর	স্বাস্থ্য পরীক্ষা অনুষ্ঠিত হওয়ার স্থান	স্বাস্থ্য পরীক্ষার তারিখ ও সময়	২৭তম বিসিএস পরীক্ষার ফলাফলের ভিত্তিতে সাময়িক ভাবে নির্বাচিত প্রার্থীদের রেজিস্ট্রেশন নম্বর	স্বাস্থ্য পরীক্ষা অনুষ্ঠিত হওয়ার স্থান
১৪-১০-২০২৫ ইং সকাল ৮.৩০ ঘটিকা	101657 018916 110251 101068 000907 033569 035423 003687 019453 053687	ঢাকা মেডিকেল কলেজ হাসপাতাল, ঢাকা।			১৫-১০-২০২৫ ইং সকাল ৮.৩০ ঘটিকা	101105 041204 086048 018065 157881 028472 043856 067690 107478 065193	স্যার সলিমুল্লাহ মেডিকেল কলেজ ও মিটফোর্ড হাসপাতাল, ঢাকা।
	002173 061503 091009 023117 068653 052236 130501 042443 028297 000352						
	090395 026610 021650 000664 077802 066746 005939 005378 031959 023517						
	121573 128104 039608 103396 079179 000886 028574 021821 003947 045104						
	008040 071199 000840 081615 037321 056844 124494 001922 033888 047035						
	010392 008212 016676 004464 033713 062800 030298 017445 043916 084229						
	054355 036696 020791 061208 045008 024165 090541 035279 041966 125602						
	053890 015962 127438 035570 027242 001541 111276 022545 029701 093113						
	038386 092944 012762 045092 004652 046769 020115 020439 126661 081785						
	020755 005501 069908 103716 053975 120991 081077 054836 047151 043997						
043267 093275 035708 015269 013423 005516 007958 080392 045268 114828	স্যার সলিমুল্লাহ মেডিকেল কলেজ ও মিটফোর্ড হাসপাতাল, ঢাকা।			১৫-১০-২০২৫ ইং সকাল ৮.৩০ ঘটিকা	086118 053702 033629 101337 042424 070897 029267 026914 158356 040580	শহীদ সোহরাওয়ার্দী হাসপাতাল, শেরেবাংলা নগর, ঢাকা।	
112278 024426 046068 011087 032730 014714 012553 035911 027290 015565							
069586 010572 052248 052694 002170 037826 130399 044057 060443 123698							
121008 016577 037563 120320 125777 003212 016214 083249 056620 014768							
052448 057421 015630 047079 074262 127513 040611 005764 026280 018186							
074553 124987 120399 036272 033804 008234 150540 008559 010965 049474							
129844 056521 025448 045711 024369 012555 011191 089483 157263 030513							
044389 013753 053771 056416 003726 016919 014093 064086 130494 082591							
084732 008644 011672 003601 129411 038011 053776 092585 076184 044204							
002871 029015 123707 037272 059650 028607 015429 100675 009160 077326							
007541 082899 090388 075105 084755 044000 070899 018149 042643 063959	শহীদ সোহরাওয়ার্দী হাসপাতাল, শেরেবাংলা নগর, ঢাকা।			১৫-১০-২০২৫ ইং সকাল ৮.৩০ ঘটিকা	113625 018732 127373 079645 071398 155433 049323 011418 043170 059513	জাতীয় হৃদরোগ ইনস্টিটিউট ও হাসপাতাল, শেরেবাংলা নগর, ঢাকা।	
062353 039366 023871 044895 087741 041436 017448 122554 043497 005762							
049203 120656 059883 038351 040051 033126 000072 027998 016298 033667							
045215 155142 090765 068152 037847 088961 003443 011495 032900 049300							
057805 025415 036283 124165 071036 036214 036122 032835 130081 017444							
102807 004027 019236 008726 005763 054059 129354 062393 128713 084501							
013981 006714 048529 008277 017446 037690 035428 034943 125444 090645							
020586 007932 029674 003454 043280 049486 009084 027188 037271 017447							
061141 127600 123591 125325 106393 002399 046709 039828 125105 029314							
034229 042791 051745 080935 059311 056424 033866 084063 053606 082076							
033097 121615 034983 022700 036594 006172 105078 041847 111846 058575	জাতীয় হৃদরোগ ইনস্টিটিউট ও হাসপাতাল, শেরেবাংলা নগর, ঢাকা।			১৫-১০-২০২৫ ইং সকাল ৮.৩০ ঘটিকা	077673 052167 008285 143602 100087 033398 020694 053605 101480 015927	জাতীয় কিডনী ডিজিজস এন্ড ইউরোলজী হাসপাতাল, শেরেবাংলা নগর, ঢাকা।	
020803 120143 138756 044013 079973 087465 037802 008146 126195 018718							
157580 092561 087580 088029 013052 106778 105513 053126 035941 012262							
048403 015028 000889 043993 111555 038105 082670 009407 087334 129257							
124094 083135 037685 089488 004293 055093 046208 061252 021346 055383							
051876 093373 110591 025451 073759 045093 057220 032144 156114 155408							
112274 055353 036304 020357 121248 022477 037808 130185 125116 059979							
092902 082012 093663 114870 065329 055755 008111 081206 016295 143381							
060657 035276 052509 130439 109897 121975 005546 083187 047125 029936							
054475 090225 012998 080304 057221 041927 032585 052235 125978 028822							
128594 063612 034050 000552 001498 004417 056655 013386 011887 077327	জাতীয় কিডনী ডিজিজস এন্ড ইউরোলজী হাসপাতাল, শেরেবাংলা নগর, ঢাকা।			১৫-১০-২০২৫ ইং সকাল ৮.৩০ ঘটিকা	064707 017915 075967 088448 004569 006232 007395 012974 051755 088409	জাতীয় মানসিক স্বাস্থ্য ইনস্টিটিউট ও হাসপাতাল, শেরেবাংলা নগর, ঢাকা।	
038839 066601 039312 079729 023038 022581 077440 157694 026504 070612							
022960 049115 065502 036617 052520 039718 043827 075851 036243 130204							
014124 040332 023677 058576 153231 001816 004289 049669 017496 027779							
042378 025577 040769 034882 006711 014899 043999 027010 103070 073776							
065576 125243 008137 028995 036591 041964 128454 053925 021115 016145							
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101906 055403 007805 124188 031288 050459 019540 025230 026241 059861							
064744 024694 137888 068675 001819 067847 051898 010662 003548 046872							
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158238 020005 016717 068028 058174 037492 025237 023499 025566 005838	ঢাকা মেডিকেল কলেজ হাসপাতাল, ঢাকা।			১৫-১০-২০২৫ ইং সকাল ৮.৩০ ঘটিকা	061211 086824 030861 017460 066684 067791		
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২। প্রার্থীদের জন্য নির্দেশিকাঃ-
ক) স্বাস্থ্য পরীক্ষার ফি বাবদ ৫০০ (পঞ্চাশ) টাকা অন-লাইন ট্রেজারী চালানের (১৪৪১২৯৯) মাধ্যমে বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংক/সোনালী ব্যাংক পিএলসি বা যে কোন রাষ্ট্রায়ত্ত্ব ব্যাংকে মহাপরিচালক, স্বাস্থ্য অধিদপ্তর, স্বাস্থ্য সেবা বিভাগ, স্বাস্থ্য ও পরিবার কল্যাণ মন্ত্রণালয়, ঢাকায় জমা দিয়ে তার মূল কপি এবং স্বাস্থ্য পরীক্ষার জন্য মেডিকেল বোর্ডের সদস্যদের ফি বাবদ অতিরিক্ত নগদ ৫০/- টাকা বোর্ডের নিকট দাখিল করিতে হবে।
খ) যে তারিখে মেডিকেল বোর্ড অনুষ্ঠিত হবে সে তারিখের অব্যবহিত পূর্বে ০৫ (পাঁচ) কর্মদিবসের মধ্যে নিম্নবর্ণিত স্বাস্থ্য পরীক্ষাসমূহ এক বা একাধিক সরকারি স্বাস্থ্য সেবা প্রতিষ্ঠান হতে করতে হবে এবং পরীক্ষাসমূহের রিপোর্ট ন্যূনতম মেডিকেল অফিসার কর্তৃক স্বাক্ষরিত হতে হবে।
i) CBC ii) FBS/RBS iii) Urine R/E iv) HBsAg v) VDRL vi) HIV vii) CXR(P/A view) viii) Blood grouping & Rh typing ix) Ophthalmological test x) ECG xi) Urine for Dope test.
গ) পিএসসি কর্তৃক প্রদত্ত প্রিলিমিনারী পরীক্ষার ছবিসহ প্রবেশপত্র সংগে আনতে হবে।


৯/১০/২০২৫
(ডাঃ আবু হোসেন মোঃ মঈনুল আহসান)
পরিচালক (হাসপাতাল ও ক্লিনিক সমূহ)
স্বাস্থ্য অধিদপ্তর, মহাখালী, ঢাকা।
Email: directorhospital@id.dghs.gov.bd
ফোন: ০২-৫৫০৬১৫০ ফ্যাক্স নং: ০২-৫৫০৬১৫১



LAW REVIEW

SIGNIFICANCE OF REFORMS AROUND ARREST PROCESSES

CYNTHIA KARIM

One major roadblock is the reluctance among police officers to go by new protocols on arrests, often due to entrenched habits or fear of increased scrutiny. Furthermore, the significant lack of comprehensive training on these procedures means many officers may be unaware of their legal obligations. On the other hand, insufficient awareness among citizens about their rights during arrest further weakens the reform's impact, as arrestees may not be aware of what protections they are entitled to.

Bangladesh has recently introduced section 46A to the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC), 1898, a reform aimed at ensuring transparency, accountability, and fundamental fairness during the process of arrest. In a country like Bangladesh, where allegations of arbitrary detention and custodial abuse are fairly and disturbingly common, this amendment could mark the dawn of change. The High Court Division (HCD), in *Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust (BLAST) v Bangladesh (2003)* issued 15 concrete directives, such as mandating disclosure of arresting officers' identity, prompt medical examination, access to legal representation, and timely family notification to align arrest and remand practices with constitutional and international human rights standards. Consequently, these safeguards were codified into law via the Code of Criminal Procedure (Second Amendment) Ordinance, 2025 on 10 August 2025, when it was officially gazetted.

Under the recently incorporated section 46A of the CrPC, several important safeguards have been introduced to ensure transparency and accountability during arrest procedures. Officers making an arrest must wear a visible and legible identification tag and disclose their identity to the arrested person as well as any bystanders. A written memorandum of arrest must be prepared at the time, attested by a family member or a local witness, and where no such witness is available, the reasons thereof must also be recorded. If the arrested individual shows any signs of injury, immediate medical attention must be provided, and the injury must be documented by a registered practitioner. Additionally, when an arrest occurs away from the individual's residence, family members, a relative, or a nominated friend must be notified within 12 hours. Crucially, the arrestee must also be allowed to consult an advocate of their choice or meet a close relative.

The introduction of section 46A marks a significant step forward in safeguarding fundamental rights during the arrest process (Articles 33 and 35 of the Constitution of Bangladesh) in Bangladesh. One of the most crucial impacts is successful implementation of this provision potentially could be prevention of enforced disappearances and arbitrary arrests, which have long been a concern among human rights advocates. By mandating clear identification of arresting officers and timely notification to family members or friends, the amendment injects much-needed transparency into a process often shrouded in secrecy. Importantly, the requirement to prepare a memorandum of arrest and document any injuries create a vital paper trail, which is essential for ensuring accountability and deterring misconduct. Such documentation not only protects the arrested individual but also shields honest law enforcement officers who follow due procedure from false allegations. Together, these provisions foster a more just and accountable policing system, reinforcing the rule of law and promoting public trust in legal institutions. While implementation challenges remain, section 46A sets a positive legislative instance in protecting citizens' rights in Bangladesh's criminal justice system.

Before the introduction of this section in Bangladesh, the arrest process lacked transparency and accountability. Arresting officers often did not disclose their identities, detainees were denied timely legal access, and families remained uninformed.

Internationally, Bangladesh is bound to implement these provisions regarding arrest and detention under various human rights treaties, particularly the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), which Bangladesh ratified in 2000. The ICCPR obliges states parties to ensure protection against arbitrary arrest and detention and grants the right to be informed of reasons for arrest (Article 9), access to legal counsel

(Article 14), and protection from torture or ill-treatment (Article 7). Additionally, Bangladesh has endorsed the UN Convention Against Torture (CAT) and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), both of which emphasise fair legal procedures and humane treatment during arrest and detention. Therefore, codifying safeguards like those in section 46A aligns Bangladesh's domestic law with its international legal obligations, reinforcing its commitment to both human rights and the rule of law.

While section 46A introduces important reforms to ensure transparency and accountability during arrests, several challenges may hinder its effective implementation. One major roadblock is the reluctance among police officers to go by new protocols, often due to entrenched habits or fear of increased scrutiny. Furthermore, the significant lack of comprehensive training on these procedures means many officers may be unaware of their legal obligations. On the other hand, insufficient awareness among citizens about their rights during arrest further weakens the reform's impact, as arrestees may not be aware of what protections they are entitled to. Moreover, the absence of an independent monitoring mechanism leaves enforcement largely dependent on internal police accountability, which has historically been inadequate.

To overcome these challenges, a structured and continuous training program for law enforcement personnel is essential to ensure proper understanding and compliance with section 46A. Simultaneously, legal aid organisations and civil society groups should play an active role in monitoring arrests and advocating for the rights of detainees. Together, these measures can bridge the gap between law and practice, making the amendment truly effective in protecting citizens' rights.

The writer is Lecturer at the Department of Law, State University of Bangladesh.

COURT CORRIDOR

The enduring crisis of administrative corruption

PARVEZ RAHMAN

One of the enduring maledictions that plagues Bangladesh is bribery and corruption, which is prevalent across sectors, including our judiciary. Reform proposals on the independence of judiciary, or a separate secretariat of the judiciary are certainly promising. However, even if the proposals are materialised, we will not be able to reap the benefit of their implementation, if the problem of corruption is not dealt with first. This is because corruption poses a significant barrier to rendering true justice to litigants. A survey conducted by the Transparency International Bangladesh (TIB) released on 3 December 2024 revealed that 62.3% of surveyed households had become victims of corruption while seeking judicial services. Usually, the litigants seeking judicial service cannot have direct access to the judges of a court. Here, the administrative officers of a court i.e., bench officers, staff, and clerks often stand in the way of justice.

While judges play the central role in delivering justice, court staff - including clerks, bailiffs, typists, record keepers, and other administrative personnel - also hold significant influence over the judicial process. Law practitioners are often inclined to seek dates of their hearing at their convenience from a peshkar (court clerk) or bench officer. Though the duty of fixing a date for the hearing is theoretically upon the judges, practically, such is carried out by the staff. Corruption occurs when the court staff intentionally delay hearings or final decisions in a case. The delay in such cases often occurs due largely to benefit one party, allowing them time to manipulate the situation. Such practice can be widely noticed in almost every district court, even at the higher judiciary.



Record manipulation (tampering with or losing case documents) holds a significant place in the sphere of administrative corruption. In this form of corruption, important case documents get intentionally misplaced, altered, or destroyed from the court offices. One news report from January 2025 by the Daily Prothom Alo found that Case Dockets (CDs) of 1,911 cases from the Chattogram court are missing. This is just one example of many such incidents.

One of the least discussed yet critical areas of corruption within the judicial system involves the issuance of summons. The summons issuers, entrusted with delivering court summons and notices, often engage in corrupt practices that obstruct dispensation of justice. Instances include deliberately delaying the delivery of summons, falsely reporting that the concerned party could not be located, or demanding unofficial payments to fulfil their regular duties. In some cases, they collude with litigating parties to manipulate service records, thereby causing undue delays or *ex parte* proceedings.

However, the recent 2025 amendment to the Code of Civil Procedure (CPC) seeks to address this issue by introducing a more efficient and transparent mechanism for the service of summons. Under the amended provisions, summons may now be served through electronic means such as Short Message Service (SMS) and telephone calls. This reform aims to reduce the chances of manipulations, minimise delays, and ensure greater accountability in the service process.

Notwithstanding the major reform proposals suggested by the Judicial Reform Commission, without uprooting the structure of administrative corruption, a judiciary embodying the aspirations of the July uprising may never dawn. To effectively address administrative corruption within the judiciary, a multifaceted reform strategy is needed. A well-calibrated system of incentives, both positive (adequate remuneration, career progression, and conducive working conditions) and negative (proportionate and enforceable sanctions), should be institutionalised to deter corrupt practices. Moreover, regular and focused capability strengthening initiatives must be introduced to aggrandise the administrative competence of court personnel, having recourse to international best practices.

The integrity and accountability of court operations further depend on the conduct of presiding officers; thus, having strict and principled judges who apply both corrective and developmental disciplinary measures is critical. Additionally, performance evaluation mechanisms, particularly Annual Confidential Reports require reform to ensure objectivity, transparency, and protection against misuse by senior officers. Finally, fostering a professional yet collaborative working relationship between judges and court staff can promote institutional cohesion while upholding ethical standards, especially for newly appointed judges navigating the court system.

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INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW

Trademark law and the curious case of Sattar Buksh



they were known for their local, relatable, and humorous approach to food.

Starbucks objected to Sattar Buksh's name and visual similarity to its brand, issuing a cease-and-desist letter to them, citing that such resemblance will likely create confusion among the consumers regarding the origin of the services, dilute its famous trademark's distinctiveness and may potentially tarnish its reputation too. Section 86(3) of the Trade Marks Ordinance, 2001 of Pakistan allows the owner of a well-known trademark to seek restrain by injunction the use of a trademark in Pakistan which, or the essential part of which, is identical with or deceptively similar to their trademark, in relation to identical or similar goods or services, where the use is likely to confuse or where such use causes dilution of the distinctive quality of the well-known trademark.

In response to the action, Sattar Buksh, apart from justifying the cultural and parody-based side of their actions and clarifying that their name was from a 500-year-old Arabic source, made changes to their logo and also added a disclaimer to their Facebook page stating that they are not affiliated with Starbucks. Perhaps due to these adjustments, Starbucks has not opted to pursue litigation.

Although it is being hailed as a decisive win of local creativity and cultural expression over corporate dominance, the "alleged win" is perhaps owed to the steps taken by Sattar Buksh to make reasonable adjustments to its logo and make efforts to separate its identity from that of Starbucks.

Trademark anti-dilution protection, a concept originated in the German legal system and later adopted by other jurisdictions, is a legal mechanism to protect well-known brands from infringement of their trademarks. This protection applies to those infringements that blur the connection between brands, tarnish its reputation due to the difference in quality, or the violator

relying on the trademark of the famous brand to sell its own goods. Article 6bis of the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property, 1883 and article 16 of the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) contains protection for the "well-known marks." The Jordanian High Court of Justice in *Amana v Adidas (2011)* even went on to extend this protection when the opposing parties are dealing with non-competing goods and services. Similarly, in India, a café named Sardarbuksh Coffee was forced to change its name after Starbucks successfully established trademark infringement through deceptive similarity in the Delhi High Court. However, in the case of Starbucks Corporation v Wolfe's Borough Coffee, Inc. d/b/a Black Bear Micro Roastery, Starbucks failed to establish the claim of trademark dilution against a company, which marketed coffee named "Charbucks," due to weak similarity.

We can only argue what the outcome would have been if Sattar Buksh had been sued. But trademark dilution is a strong legal remedy in the hands of the owner of a well-known mark. If Sattar Buksh had not changed their logo and made the necessary changes, they could have possibly landed in legal complications, especially since the parody and cultural elements of their defence would hardly be valid under the trademark regime.

This case is important in our context as well since local businesses in Bangladesh often plagiarise the brand names and logos of famous brands. Sections 26(3) and (7) of the Trademarks Act, 2009 consider the use of a well-known mark an act of trademark infringement. As such, even giants such as Facebook and Adidas can sue local businesses in Bangladesh for using their names and logos in a deceptive manner.

The writer is lecturer (on study leave) at the School of Law, Chittagong Independent University.

If Sattar Buksh had not changed their logo and made the necessary changes, they could have possibly landed in legal complications, especially since the parody and cultural elements of their defence would hardly be valid under the trademark regime

ARAFAT IBNUL BASHAR

Recently, a local café in Pakistan named Sattar Buksh, known for its branding, which resembled that of the global coffee giant Starbucks, has been making headlines for "winning a trademark battle" against the corporate giant. However, the dispute never actually made its way to court.

Starbucks Corporation, a globally recognised coffeehouse chain with thousands of branches worldwide, exists since 1971 and their distinctive green siren logo of the brand is globally recognisable as synonymous with coffee culture. But they have no branch in Pakistan. Sattar Buksh café, on the other hand, has been operational since 2013 in Karachi, Pakistan. The name and logo of the café - a round green logo containing a mustached man in place of Starbucks' mermaid - resembled Starbucks, though the founders contended that it was a satire with cultural elements, with their menu and identity being rather unique. Aside from their phonetic (name wise) and visual resemblance to Starbucks,

'Expectations high' as Hamza urges stronger collective mindset

SPORTS REPORTER

Leicester City midfielder Hamza Choudhury believes Bangladesh can secure a home win against Hong Kong, China in their Asian Cup Qualifier on October 9, provided the players show greater self-belief.

The 28-year-old, who arrived in Dhaka on Monday with his family, is set to make his third appearance for Bangladesh after featuring against India and Singapore. Since joining the squad, Hamza has been working closely with coach Javier Cabrera, who has emphasised defensive organisation and quick transitions in attack.

"The coach is the one who take big decisions. He asked me how I can help the team by using my experience," Hamza said yesterday after his second training session at the National Stadium.

"But every game is different, the opponents are different, so we need to have a different mindset... Hong Kong are a different challenge, but we need to stick to the game plan."

Reflecting on the 3-1 defeat to Singapore, he admitted the team "let themselves down" with two sloppy goals and missed chances, including a possible penalty. He also expressed regret for missing a key opportunity but promised to bounce back.

"I felt really bad after missing... but that's football. I'll take my chances next time. In my heart, my expectations are very high, and I think I can deliver."

Still, Hamza remained upbeat. "The last thing we need is to increase our self belief because the boys are hard-workers, talented and aggressive." He added, "The biggest thing for us, especially as a nation, is to stick together."

Asked about comparisons with Lionel Messi as Bangladesh's biggest star, he laughed off the notion. "Even if Messi played for Bangladesh, we'd still have the troubles of trying to get the tactics right and building the team spirit."

"Football is never about one person, especially not me."



RABEYA BLITZ SPARKS HOPE

Pacer Marufa Akter once again led Bangladesh's bowling with her firepower, showcasing a unit capable of troubling any opponent during the ICC Women's World Cup clash against England in Guwahati yesterday. But 20-year-old all-rounder Rabeya Khan, who debuted in T20Is in 2019 and broke into the ODI setup in December 2022, also stole the spotlight with an aggressive unbeaten 43 off 27 balls, smashing six fours and a six. Sobhana Mostary's steady 60, combined with Rabeya's blitz, helped Bangladesh post 178. Regardless of the result, Rabeya's fearless knock gave the team something to defend and a glimpse of the batting aggression the Tigresses urgently need.

PHOTO: AFP

- Bangladesh and Afghanistan have faced each other in 19 ODIs. The Tigers have won 11 of those encounters, while Afghanistan have won 8.
- Afghanistan and Bangladesh are tied 2-2 in bilateral ODI series results.
- Afghanistan have played three ODIs in 2025, winning and losing one, with the other match producing no result.
- Bangladesh have played five ODIs in 2025, winning one and losing four.
- Mohammad Nabi is the only player remaining from the first ODI between Bangladesh and Afghanistan, held in Fatullah in 2014.



Tigers seek ODI reset after T20 surge

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh will look to revive their fortunes in the 50-over format and build on their recent T20 success when they face Afghanistan in the first of three ODIs at the Zayed Cricket Stadium in Abu Dhabi today.

The Tigers have been in fine touch in the 20-over format, winning four consecutive bilateral series against Sri Lanka, Pakistan, the Netherlands and Afghanistan, and reaching the Super Four stage of the Asia Cup; and nearly making it through to the final. Their form ODIs, however, paints a contrasting picture.

Since November last year, Bangladesh have lost three successive ODI series -- to Afghanistan, West Indies and Sri Lanka. Their last series win in this format came in March 2024 at home against Sri Lanka.

The slump has also been reflected in the ICC ODI rankings, where Bangladesh currently sit 10th -- outside the zone for direct qualification to the 2027 World Cup. As per the qualification process, hosts South Africa and Zimbabwe will gain automatic entry, along with the top

eight ranked teams as of March 31, 2027. The remaining four spots will be decided through qualifying tournaments.

For Bangladesh, the goal is clear -- rebuild ODI confidence and climb the rankings. A series win over Afghanistan would do both, but it will require a fresh approach after recent inconsistency in both batting and bowling.

The inclusion of in-form right-hander Saif Hassan, who has earned his maiden ODI call-up after a string of impressive T20 displays, signals the start of that rebuilding phase. Saif is expected to open the innings alongside Tanzid Hasan Tamim, with fellow opener Mohammad Naim yet to join the squad due to visa issues.

The middle order hinges on Towhid Hridoy, Jaker Ali and Shamim Hossain, with skipper Mehidy Miraz adding depth down the order. Spin duties fall to Rishad Hossain and Tanvir Islam, while the pace attack -- Taskin Ahmed, Mustafizur Rahman, Tanzim Sakib, Hasan Mahmud and Nahid Rana -- is set to rotate through the series.

The final two ODIs will also be held at the same venue on October 11 and 14.

NCL T20 Chattogram finish top in league stage

SPORTS REPORTER

Yasir Ali's unbeaten half-century guided Chattogram Division to a five-wicket win over Dhaka Division, helping them finish the league stage of the National Cricket League (NCL) T20 on top of the points table at the Sylhet Outer Stadium on Tuesday.



Chasing 120 in a curtailed 13-over contest, Chattogram slipped to 36-4 before Yasir struck a blistering 27-ball 53. Irfan Shukkur added a 15-ball 30 as Chattogram reached 123-5 in 12.2 overs to complete their fifth win. Dhaka's Mahfuzur Rahman Rabby (3-11) and Ripon Mondol (2-13) shared all five wickets.

Earlier, after being sent to bat, Dhaka managed 119-6 in 13 overs. Mosaddek Hossain remained unbeaten on 31 off 27 balls after quick cameos from Ashkur Rahman Shibli (16 off eight) and Jishan Alam (21 off seven). Left-arm spinner Hasan Murad claimed 3-21 for Chattogram.

With 11 points, Chattogram confirmed their place in the first qualifier against Khulna Division, who finished second with 11 points but with an inferior run rate following yesterday's win over Sylhet. Despite the defeat, Dhaka also made the playoffs and will face Rangpur Division in the Eliminator.

The eliminator and first qualifier will be held on October 9, followed by the second qualifier on October 10, while the final is scheduled for October 12.

Bulbul's new tenure kicks off with BPL in focus

ABDULLAH AL MEHDI

After a short, four-month tenure where he had to navigate with only a handful of directors, Aminul Islam Bulbul now has a full-fledged Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) following the October 6 elections.

The newly-elected board announced its standing committees, with the Bangladesh Premier League (BPL), country's lone franchise-based T20 tournament, quickly emerging as the main priority in its first meeting yesterday.

Concluding the meeting, Iftekhar Rahman Mithu, who retained his position as chairman of the umpires committee, announced the chairpersons of the standing committees. Bulbul himself will head the BPL Governing Council, with Iftekhar serving as BPL member secretary.

Mithu, joined by new directors Abdur Razzak, Shanian Tanim, Amzad Hossain, and Khaled Masud Pilot, noted that the committees have been formed for an initial two-month period.

"We have formed the committees for two months and anyone can come



forward if they are not comfortable and discuss with the president," Mithu said.

Asked whether the new president has outlined a vision for the board, Mithu immediately highlighted the BPL.

"Yes, a plan outline has been given on when we will provide the EOI, provide media rights, and then receive them," he said.

Pressing further for an overview of

the board's plans, Mithu reiterated the BPL focus.

"I am talking about BPL since it's the burning issue right now. Mahbub [Anam] bhai took it to a certain level wonderfully, but there was a gap which we will have to fill in one to two months," he explained.

Mahbub Anam had served as BPL chairman before the last board's tenure ended. Mithu added that agreements with marketing and

sports management firm IMG are at an advanced stage.

The new board intends to hold the BPL in the December-January window. However, insiders caution that the timeframe may be too short for any company -- even IMG -- to organize a truly polished event.

"It's very difficult and challenging for us. It will happen, inshallah. Those of us here in the committees, our movements have begun and we don't have time to even waste an hour. We had the option to hold the tournament or not hold it at all. The board has taken a courageous step so that everyone together will put in their full effort to hold a beautiful BPL," Mithu said.

Interestingly, former BCB president Faruque Ahmed, who elected vice-president this time, was not included in any of the standing committees. Faruque had been ousted from the top job due to last year's lackluster BPL one of the reasons.

"There is no reason to be surprised [that I am not in any standing committees]. I did not want to be in any of the committees," Faruque told this newspaper.



Novak Djokovic struggles with soaring temperatures and punishing humidity during his round of 16 match against Jaume Munar at the Shanghai Masters yesterday. "It's the same for every player out on the court, but it's brutal," Djokovic said after he battled to victory. After a string of retirement of several high-profile players, including defending champion Jannik Sinner and Casper Ruud, the governing body of men's tennis could consider a formal heat rule.

PHOTO: AFP



NCP presses EC for 'shapla' symbol again

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The National Citizen Party has once again urged the Election Commission to allocate the shapla (water lily) as its election symbol, along with submitting seven sample designs of the symbol to the Commission.

In a letter signed by its convener Nahid Islam to the Election Commission secretariate yesterday, the party stated that the shapla symbol has developed a deep emotional and symbolic connection with the people, making it impossible for the NCP to accept any alternative symbol from the EC's list.

The NCP accused the Election Commission of deliberately delaying the party's registration process and of engaging in "undesirable, unlawful, discriminatory and arbitrary behaviour" by not allocating the shapla symbol.

The party also said the EC is intentionally depriving NCP of participation in the electoral process, thereby calling into question the commission's sincerity in ensuring a level playing field.

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Palestinians gather to receive food from a charity kitchen in Nuseirat, central Gaza Strip, yesterday. Israel has de-escalated its offensive in Gaza since US President Donald Trump called on it to halt its bombing campaign. At least 104 people have been killed in Gaza by Israeli forces since Friday.

PHOTO: REUTERS

Reforms failed to address inequality

Says Rehman Sobhan

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

South Asian countries, including Bangladesh, have failed to tackle widening inequality despite decades of policy reforms and economic growth, said Rehman Sobhan, chairman of the Centre for Policy Dialogue.

"Despite all the reforms that have taken place, nowhere are we seeing any serious effort to correct the widening inequalities created over the last 17 years."

He said at a seminar on the book "Apostles of Development: Six Economists and the World They Made" held in the capital, organised by the Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies.

"Even in a country where a professor [Muhammad Yunus] is at the helm, we are not addressing the problem of inequality in our reforms in any meaningful way."

The prevailing policy frameworks across South Asia, including Bangladesh, continue to focus on short-term welfare or growth incentives without confronting the structural causes of injustice.

These injustices include concentrated asset ownership, elite influence over policymaking and limited access to opportunities for marginalised groups.

"We have grown, we have reduced poverty, but we have also become a much more unequal society in every South

SEE PAGE 10 COL 1



Trio win Nobel for revealing quantum physics in action

REUTERS, Stockholm

US-based scientists John Clarke, Michel Devoret and John Martinis won the 2025 Nobel Prize in Physics for "experiments that revealed quantum physics in action", paving the way for the development of the next generation of digital technologies.

"My feelings are that I'm completely stunned. Of course it had never occurred to me in any way that this might be the basis of a Nobel Prize," Clarke told the Nobel press conference by telephone on Tuesday.



"I'm speaking on my cell phone and I suspect that you are too, and one of the underlying reasons that the cell phone works is because of all this work."

Quantum mechanical behaviours are well studied at the level of the incredibly small - atoms and sub-atomic particles - but are often seen as bizarre and unintuitive compared with classical physics and its far larger scale.

The Nobel winners carried out experiments in the mid-1980s with an electronic circuit built of superconductors and demonstrated that quantum mechanics could also influence everyday objects under certain conditions.

"It is wonderful to be able to celebrate the way that century-old quantum mechanics continually offers new surprises. It is also enormously useful, as quantum mechanics is the foundation of all digital technology," Olle Eriksson, chair of the Nobel Committee for Physics, said.

Quantum technology is already ubiquitous, with transistors in computer microchips an everyday example.

SEE PAGE 10 COL 1

Three powers threatening Bangladesh

Says Salahuddin

UNB, Dhaka

BNP Standing Committee member Salahuddin



Ahmed yesterday said that Bangladesh is facing growing external pressure, with a global superpower and two regional powers reportedly trying to extend their influence.

"Right now, three powers are competing to establish hegemony here - two regional powers and one global superpower. Each has its own interests, but all three will harm Bangladesh's interests in the same way," he said.

The BNP leader made the remarks while speaking at a discussion organised by Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal at Dhaka University's TSC auditorium, marking the sixth death anniversary of Buet student Abrar Fahad.

Salahuddin described Abrar as a "strong voice against domination", saying he became a martyr because he spoke out against Indian hegemony.

"If he [Abrar] had criticised Sheikh Hasina, he might have gone to jail. But because he spoke

SEE PAGE 6 COL 4

'Real chance' of peace in Gaza, beyond: Trump

Vows to make parties adhere to a deal, if agreed; Hamas sets conditions in Egypt talks

AGENCIES

US President Donald Trump yesterday voiced optimism that there was a "real chance" to end the carnage in Gaza, as Israel marked the second anniversary of the October 7 attack.

Indirect negotiations between Israeli and Hamas negotiators are being held in the Egyptian resort town of Sharm El Sheikh, based on a 20-point plan proposed by Trump last month.

"There's a real chance that we could do something," Trump told reporters in the Oval Office, adding that US negotiators were also involved in the talks.

"I think there's a possibility that we could have peace in the Middle East. It's something even beyond the Gaza situation. We want a release of the hostages immediately."

Trump said the United States would do "everything possible to make sure everyone adheres to the deal" if Hamas and Israel do agree on a ceasefire.

On the second day of talks, Hamas yesterday said it wants to reach a deal to end the war in Gaza based on Trump's plan, but still has a set of demands, a statement signalling that indirect talks with Israel in Egypt could be difficult and lengthy.

The talks appear the most promising yet for ending a war that has killed tens of thousands of Palestinians and devastated Gaza since the October 7, 2023 attack on Israel by Palestinian groups.

"The (Hamas) movement's delegation participating in the current negotiations in Egypt is working to overcome all obstacles to reaching an agreement that meets the aspirations of our people in Gaza," Senior Hamas official Fawzi

Barhoum said in a televised statement.

He said a deal must ensure an end to the war and a full Israeli withdrawal from the Gaza Strip - conditions that Israel has never accepted. Israel, for its part, wants Hamas to disarm, something the group rejects.

Hamas wants a permanent, comprehensive ceasefire, a complete pullout of Israeli forces and the immediate start of a comprehensive reconstruction process under the supervision of a Palestinian "national technocratic body", he said.

➤ Hamas wants full Israeli withdrawal, seeks int'l guarantee

➤ Qatari PM, Turkey FM to join peace talks

➤ Israeli strikes kill 6 across Gaza

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu did not immediately comment on the status of the talks.

Trump's 20-point plan proposes an immediate end to fighting and the release of 48 hostages, only 20 of whom are thought to be alive, in exchange for hundreds of detained Gazans. The plan stipulates that once both sides agree to the proposal, "full aid will be immediately sent into the Gaza Strip".

It also states that Hamas will have to be

NOT JUST NUMBERS PAGE -7

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Businessman shot dead in broad daylight

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Unidentified assailants shot a businessman dead after ambushing his SUV in broad daylight in Hathazari upazila of Chattogram yesterday.

The victim is Abdul Hakim, 55, a herbal medicine businessman, of Panchkhain village in Bagoan union under Raozan, police said.

The incident occurred in the Madunaghat area in the afternoon, where the attackers came on motorbikes, blocked Hakim's SUV, and fired indiscriminately, in the presence of bystanders.

Police and locals said Hakim had recently got involved in local BNP politics in Raozan upazila.

Confirming the incident, Additional Superintendent of Police (Hathazari Circle) Kazi Tarek Aziz told The Daily Star, "He was taken to Evercare Hospital after being rescued from his vehicle in critical condition. The reason behind the incident is yet to be known."

A video circulating on social media showed three bullet holes on the SUV's windshield. Hakim, seated next to the driver, was seen bleeding heavily as passersby pulled him from the vehicle. The car's side window had several bullet holes.

Another video showed three people wearing helmets riding up to the vehicle on motorcycles and shooting at the vehicle using pistols.

Hakim's body was sent to Chattogram Medical College morgue for autopsy.







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বছর পেরিয়ে

একসাথে, সমৃদ্ধির পথে

এই আশ্বিনের পথচলায় গ্রাহকের শক্তি, সাফল্যই সাহস। তাই তো, আগামীর পথে যাত্রা দুর্নিবার।

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