

Niaz Ahmed Chowdhury passes away

CITY DESK

Niaz Ahmed Chowdhury passed away at Evercare Hospital yesterday, at the age of 80, said a press release.

He had been suffering from old-age complications and pneumonia.

He left behind his widow, Ria Chowdhury, daughter Noushin Afzal, son Nihad Chowdhury, only brother Monsur Ahmed Chowdhury, six grandchildren, and a host of relatives, friends, and well-wishers to mourn his death.

The second son of late Mozir Uddin Chowdhury from Vaddeshwar in Sylhet, Niaz worked in the private sector until 2010.

His namaz-e-janaza will be held today, after the Asr prayers at Gulshan Azad Mosque. Later, he will be buried at the Banani Graveyard.



PHOTO: TITU DAS



A fisherman couple from the Manta community, living on a boat on the Kalabor, folds their nets together by the riverside. They are keeping the nets aside due to the government's ongoing ban on hilsa fishing from October 4 to 25. The photo was taken yesterday in the Bukhainagar area of Barishal Sadar upazila.

BNP calls PR party-centric

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avoid electoral irregularities and ensure that "every vote counts."

"The first and foremost benefit of PR is that every voter can recognise that they are represented in parliament," he said.

Nagorik Oikya President Mahmudur Rahman Manna dismissed the debate, saying, "There is nothing to discuss about PR. The people of the country do not understand it, and they have no interest in it."

Biplobi Workers Party General Secretary Saiful Haque alleged that a

"motivated campaign" was being carried out to claim that 78 percent of people support PR.

Former Election Commission Secretary SM Jakoria warned that a party winning the most votes under PR might still be unable to form the government, creating a "mismatch between expectations and outcomes."

AB Party Chairman Mojibur Rahman Monju said, "If voting takes place at night, there will be no difference between an election under the PR system and the traditional first-past-the-post system."

Presenting the keynote paper, Prof Mamun Al Mostofa of Dhaka University's Political Science Department said forming an Upper House based on PR alone would not ensure accountability or strengthen democracy.

Gono Odhikar Parishad General Secretary Rashed Khan said discussions would continue to reach a consensus on the electoral system, while Ganosanghati Andolon's Executive Coordinator

Abul Hasan Rubel said PR could only be considered if people lose faith in the current one.

Hope rekindled as bone marrow unit resumes

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A bone marrow transplant replaces damaged or diseased bone marrow – the soft tissue inside bones – with healthy stem cells. These can come from the patient (autologous transplant) or a donor (allogeneic transplant).

The treatment is used for several types of blood cancer, aplastic anaemia, thalassaemia, and other related disorders.

Bangladesh's first BMT unit was established in October 2013 at DMCH's new building, following the model of Harvard Medical School's Massachusetts General Hospital.

However, the procedure was suspended when the new building was turned into a dedicated Covid hospital in May 2020. Although briefly resumed in 2023, many essential machines were non-functional, and a high infection rate forced another suspension, doctors said.

So far, 60 bone marrow transplants have been carried out at the hospital – 55 autologous and five allogeneic – with only two unsuccessful cases, according to a doctor from the unit.

NEED AND TREATMENT COST

Health Adviser Nurjahan Begum inaugurated and visited the renovated unit yesterday, expressing hope that BMT services would

soon resume at a relatively low cost.

Director General of the Directorate General of Health Services Prof Abu Jalor said around 1,000 patients need bone marrow transplants annually in Bangladesh.

However, public and private facilities together can handle only around 200 cases a year, he said, adding that priority would be given to children.

Dr Kamrul Hasan, head of the Haematology Department and the BMT unit, said preparations have begun, with the unit capable of performing 50 to 60 transplants annually across its five beds.

He said costs vary depending on the type of transplant and the patient's condition. Autologous transplants may cost Tk 5 lakh to Tk 7 lakh, while allogeneic ones may cost Tk 12 lakh to Tk 15 lakh. In private hospitals, the same procedure costs around Tk 15 lakh, compared to Tk 20 lakh to Tk 1 crore abroad.

Asked about challenges, Associate Professor Dr Mafruha Akter, who has been involved in 52 transplants, said apart from financial constraints, training doctors and nurses is crucial.

"A multidisciplinary approach is also important, as these patients need care for other complications. Standardising the unit will also be key," she said.

Currently, 16 trained

nurses work in the unit, said nurse-in-charge Sara Mukti Das.

Prof Sayedur Rahman, special assistant to the chief adviser for the health ministry, said trained doctors from Chittagong

Medical College Hospital and Mitford Hospital will be brought to the unit.

He said the government will establish a fund for the unit, covering part of the transplant cost, while the rest will be borne by patients.

Farewell to a beloved

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Speaking on behalf of the family, his sister, Syeda Sattar Baby, said, "We spent the last eight day-nights at the hospital. The love I saw from his students and admirers made me feel that my brother was not only a great teacher but also a beloved soul to many. For that, I express my gratitude on behalf of our family."

Professor Emeritus Serajul Islam Chowdhury, remembering his former student and colleague, said, "Manzoor was a brilliant student who began teaching early. His connection with literature was unique. He received several awards, all of which he truly deserved. He was a rare human being, completely free of arrogance."

Environment Adviser Syeda Rizwana Hasan said, "Dhaka University has lost one of its finest teachers today. Manzoor bhai was not only a teacher and writer but also an extraordinary human being. He was respected for his wisdom, humility, and integrity. Many hoped for a miracle, but his time to leave had

come."

Law Adviser Asif Nazrul, who lived next door to him on Fuller Road, said, "He had a smile that could only come from a pure heart. It was his signature. Despite our political differences, I always admired his honesty and integrity. He was immensely knowledgeable and deeply loved. His death is an irreparable loss."

Photographer Shahidul Alam said, "In 2018, when the government exerted pressure on me, Pathshala, and Drik, he took the burden upon himself to shield us. Later, when the authorities tried to manipulate our governing body, he used his influence to free us from that difficult situation."

From the Shaheed Minar, his body was taken to Dhaka University Mosque, where his namaz-e-janaza was held after the Zohr prayers. Later in the afternoon, he was laid to rest at the Martyred Intellectuals' Graveyard in Mirpur.

Manzoorul, 74, breathed his last while undergoing treatment at LabAid Hospital in Dhaka on Friday.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Office of the Superintending Engineer

MIS & Estates Circle

Roads and Highways Department

Sarak Bhaban, Tejgaon, Dhaka

E-mail: serhdmis.estate@gmail.com

Memo No. 35.01.0000.160.14.24.400

Date: 08/10/2025

Invitation for Tender (International)

1	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Road Transport and Bridges, Road Transport and Highways Division
2	Agency/Department	Roads and Highways Department (RHD)
3	Purchaser Name	Superintending Engineer Roads and Highways Department, MIS & Estates Circle Address: Sarak Bhaban, Level-5, Block- B, Tejgaon, Dhaka-1208, Bangladesh
4	Purchaser District	Dhaka
5	Invitation for	Supply, Installation, Operation and Maintenance of Plants & Equipment for Axle Load Control System under Roads and Highways Department.
6	Invitation Ref	Memo No.35.01.0000.160.14.24.400
7	Date	08 October 2025

KEY INFORMATION

8	Procurement Method	Open Tendering Method, International (One Stage Two Envelope Tendering Method, OSTETM)
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FUNDING INFORMATION

9	Budget & Source of Funds	Development Budget (GOB)
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PARTICULAR INFORMATION

10	Tender Package No.	01/RHD/SE/MIS & ESTATES CIRCLE /2025-2026
11	Tender Publication Date	12 October 2025
12	Tender Last Selling Date	25 November 2025, Time: 17:00 hours (Bangladesh Standard Time)
13	Tender Closing Date and Time	26 November 2025, Time: 12.30 hours (Bangladesh Standard Time)
14	Tender Opening Date and Time	26 November 2025, Time: 15.00 hours (Bangladesh Standard Time)
15	Name and Address of the office (s)	Address

Selling Tender Document	Project Manager (Executive Engineer) Roads and Highways Department, Axle Load Control Stations Project Address: Sarak Bhaban, Block- B, Room No: 522, Tejgaon, Dhaka-1208, Bangladesh
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1) Receiving Tender Document (Primary place)	Superintending Engineer Roads and Highways Department, MIS & Estates Circle Address: Sarak Bhaban, Level-5, Block- B, Room No: 526 Tejgaon, Dhaka-1208, Bangladesh
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2) Receiving Tender Document (Secondary place)	1. Divisional Commissioner, Dhaka Division, 1st 12 Storied Government Building, Segun Bagicha, Dhaka-1000 2. Additional Chief Engineer, RHD Dhaka Zone, Roads and Highways Department, Alenbari, Tejgaon, Dhaka-1208.
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Opening Tender Document	Office of the Superintending Engineer Roads and Highways Department, MIS & Estates Circle Address: Sarak Bhaban, Level-5, Block- B, Room No: 526 Tejgaon, Dhaka-1208, Bangladesh			
16	Place / Date / Time of Pre-Tender Meeting	30 October 2025 Time: 15.00 hours (Bangladesh Standard Time), Conference Room-306 ; Technical Services Wing, Roads and highways Department, Block- A, Sarak Bhaban, Tejgaon, Dhaka-1208, Bangladesh		
INFORMATION FOR TENDERER				
17	Eligibility of Tenderer	Eligibility of Tenderer has been mentioned in the Section 2 of Tender Data Sheet (TDS).		
18	Brief Description of Goods or Works	Supply and Installation of plant/equipment for Axle Load Control Stations (ALCS) (17 stations situated all over Bangladesh and 01 Axle Main Control Center, AMCC at RHD Headquarter) comprising - Pre-selection Sub-System (HS-WIM) - Station Evasion Control Sub-System - Axle Load Control Station Computer Sub-System - In-Station Truck Traffic Management Sub-System, - Axle Load Measurement and Enforcement Sub-System (LS-WIM) - Axle Load Control Back Office Sub-System (in Dhaka) - CCTV Sub-System, IT Network Sub-System - Other necessary infrastructure works		
19	Identification of Lot	Location	Price of Tender Document	Tender Security Amount
	Supply, Installation, Operation and Maintenance of Plants & Equipment for Axle Load Control System under Roads and Highways Department	17 stations situated all over Bangladesh and 01 Axle Main Control Center (AMCC) at RHD Headquarter.	BDT 12,000	BDT 45 million or US\$ 375,000
20	Name of Official Inviting Tender	K.M. Noor-E-Alam		
21	Designation of Official Inviting Tender	Superintending Engineer		
22	Address of official Inviting Tender	Superintending Engineer Roads and Highways Department, MIS & Estates Circle Address: Sarak Bhaban, Level-5, Block- B, Room No-526, Tejgaon, Dhaka-1208, Bangladesh		
23	Contact details of Official Inviting Tender	Mobile No.: 01711040772; 01730782512 e-mail address: serhdmis.estate@gmail.com		
24	Procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all tender without assigning any reason whatsoever.			

Special Instructions:

- No tender will be received after the deadline of submission.
- If it is not possible to receive/open the tender on the scheduled date for any unavoidable circumstances, the same will be received/ opened on the next working day at the same time and venue.
- The procuring Entity reserves the right to exclude or decrease the quantity of tender items for which no claim will be entertained.
- CD, VAT, Taxes and other charges/expenses have to be paid by the Contractor as per latest Rules of the Government of Bangladesh.

K.M. Noor-E-Alam

Superintending Engineer, RHD
MIS & Estates Circle

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