

JAGANNATH HALL TRAGEDY Mourning Day observed at DU



DU CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka University yesterday observed Mourning Day commemorating the tragic incident at Jagannath Hall that claimed 40 lives when the roof of a hall room collapsed on October 15, 1985.

On that night, the roof of a century old auditorium then known as the Assembly Hall and used as the hall's television room, collapsed amid heavy rain, killing 26 students and 14 guests and employees, and injuring many others.

Vice Chancellor Prof Niaz Ahmed Khan, along with teachers, officials, and staffers, placed wreaths at the October Memorial Monument on the Jagannath Hall premises and observed a one-minute silence.

A discussion was held at the television room of the October Memorial Building, with the VC in the chair.

Black flags were hoisted atop all university dormitories and key administrative buildings. The university flag was kept at half-mast, while teachers, students, and employees wore black badges.

Prayer sessions were held at the Jagannath Hall courtyard, the central mosque and all hall mosques. The hall authorities also arranged an exhibition displaying photographs and documents related to the tragedy.

Prolonged inaction

FROM PAGE 3

"We are ready to move and have submitted all documents. We will relocate as soon as the project is complete," said Shafiqul Islam Milon, general secretary of the Chemical and Perfumery Merchant Association.

He said 1,600 traders are prepared to shift their godowns while keeping their showrooms in current locations.

Similar issues persist in Gazipur, where at least 31 chemical warehouses reportedly operate illegally in residential areas of Tongi, including Gazibari, Titas Gas Road, and Morkun Tekpara.

The fire service is currently investigating these facilities.

The fire at Tongi's Famous Chemical warehouse on September 22 killed four people, including three firefighters. Although the owner claimed only salt was stored, investigators

found highly flammable materials and revealed that the same owner runs 11 more unauthorised warehouses.

Md Alim Uddin, assistant inspector of the Directorate of Explosives, said some warehouses in Gazipur had permits, but illegal ones are under investigation.

After the Churihatta fire, the government built 53 modern chemical warehouses on six acres of land in Tongi's Kathaldia area through the Bangladesh Steel and Engineering Corporation. Completed in December 2024, the site remains unused as traders are reluctant to move.

Salman Mahmud Khan, deputy director of the project, said, "We have issued notices and letters, but no applications have been received so far. If they are moved to designated locations, the risk of major accidents will be greatly reduced."

Another temporary relocation project in Shyampur, completed in June 2024 to accommodate 54 warehouses, has seen only 30 warehouses rented so far.

"Traders are reluctant, but we are trying to motivate them," said Md Noor Nabi, general manager (commercial) of Bangladesh Chemical Industries Corporation.

The Bangladesh Small and Cottage Industries Corporation (BSCIC) Chemical Industrial Park in Sirajdikhan, Munshiganj, has achieved about 80 percent progress.

Project Director Hafizur Rahman said the new deadline is December 2025 after a one-year extension. "Although 80 percent of the work is done, road and drainage construction will take until April next year," he said.

Launched in 2018 on 308 acres, the project has 1,525 plots after part of the land was reassigned. Plot handovers are expected to begin in January 2026, with 1,500 stakeholders already signed up under an MoU, he added.

The BSCIC Plastic Industry Estate Project, aimed at relocating around 391 plastic factories from Old Dhaka to Sirajdikhan, is also progressing slowly.

Only 20 percent of landfilling is complete, with full development expected to take two more years, said Project Director Anis Uddin.

Initially approved in 2015 for completion by 2020, the deadline has been extended to 2025, with another extension until 2027 under review.

The BSCIC Printing Industrial Estate Project in Sirajdikhan, spread over 100 acres, has achieved 37 percent progress.

Land acquisition delays slowed the Tk 448 crore project, now targeted for completion by June 2027, said Project Director Md Rakibul Hasan.

The Electric Goods Industrial Estate in Betkabazar, Tongibari, completed in 2022 at a cost of Tk 297 crore, offers 361 plots for entrepreneurs in the light engineering and electrical goods sectors, with plot sizes ranging from 3,000 to 6,000 sq ft.

15-minute-long

FROM PAGE 3

Finally, the wall gave way.

"People from the other side pulled us out through the hole. We were dragged onto the roof of the adjacent building. Even then, the heat was scorching, but we knew we had survived," Hossain said.

Hossain, who lived with Alo and Joy in a nearby slum, said his sister and her husband had joined the factory on the first day of this month.

"They took me to the factory that morning too. I hoped to get a job," he said.

Moments before the fire, someone from the factory called him to the third floor to show him how to cut fabric.

"Suddenly, there was a loud sound outside, followed by bright flames. Thick white smoke filled the room. We couldn't see anything or breathe," he said.

Mohammad Rajib, an employee of a nearby washing plant, was among the rescuers who risked their lives to save them.

"We were six people on the roof of our building when we heard faint cries for help," Rajib said. "The building was already on fire, and time was running out. We used a sledgehammer to break the wall and pulled them out one by one."

Three of those rescued were taken to hospital through the fire service. Hossain received primary care and was sent home.

Alo's mother, Yasmin, said they identified her daughter and son-in-law from their clothes but were asked to wait for DNA results before taking the bodies.

Hossain said there were about 16 to 18 people on the third floor when the fire started.

The blaze at the Rupnagar garment factory and chemical warehouse killed at least 16 people and injured several others.



Moyna Sana sells ducklings, usually placing them in a basket and carrying it on her head as she travels across villages in Koyra upazila, Khulna. She collects the ducklings from farms and sells each for Tk 90-120 to make a living. Moyna manages to sell 80 to 100 ducklings daily, from morning until late afternoon. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: HABIBUR RAHMAN

Canal grabbed for fish farming

S DILIP ROY, *LaMonirhat*

A local influential person has allegedly grabbed a canal for fish farming in the China Bazar area of Kurigram's Rajarhat upazila.

The canal – Dudhkhawar Khal – has been turned into a private fish enclosure spanning around a 400-metre stretch along the Teesta-Kurigram railway line over the past three years.

Although the canal is government-owned under the Water Development Board, no step has yet been taken to reclaim it from illegal encroachment.

Locals said the canal once served as the only drainage channel for nearby wetlands and croplands.

Altaf Hossain, the local influential,

blocked the canal's natural flow to make a fish enclosure, preventing water from passing through and causing severe waterlogging in the surrounding farmlands.



"Over the past three years, the canal's water flow has stopped, and our lands remain waterlogged round the year," said Abul Kashem, 70, a farmer.

"BWDB officials came here, looked around, and left without

taking any action," said Nazim Uddin, 65, another farmer.

Altaf Hossain, however, refuted the allegations. "I have land adjacent to the canal. I made embankments on three sides of the canal to facilitate fish farming and installed pipes to ensure the flow of water. Water does not remain stagnant now. I have already applied for a lease of the canal," he said.

Contacted, Rakibul Hasan, executive engineer of BWDB in Kurigram, said there is no provision to lease out the canal.

He said he has visited the spot and directed the encroacher to vacate the canal and remove the embankments. "If he fails to do so within this month, legal action will be taken," he added.

BNP will create 1 crore jobs if voted to power: Fakhrul

OUR CORRESPONDENT,
Thakurgaon



BNP Secretary General Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir yesterday pledged that his party will create employment opportunities for one crore people if voted to power.

Speaking at a gathering in Thakurgaon, Fakhrul said each family would receive a "family card" to ensure women get priority access to various services. "We will improve the healthcare system," he said, adding that the BNP would increase allocations for education and prioritise technical education at schools and colleges.

Fakhrul said the BNP envisions a bicameral parliament to strengthen democracy. "There will be two chambers – a lower house and an upper house. Members of the lower house will be elected directly by your votes," he said.

"Representatives of the upper house will be selected based on the proportion of seats each party wins, while individuals from different sectors will also be nominated. In this way, no single party will have absolute control. We will be freed from fascism," he added.

"Let us not divide the country anymore. We have already suffered a lot. We want to see a democratic Bangladesh built with everyone's participation – through love, harmony, and brotherhood."

4 die of dengue

CITY DESK

At least four dengue patients died while 758 others were hospitalised in the 24 hours till 8:00am yesterday.

The deaths were reported in Dhaka and Barishal, according to the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS).

With the new deaths and cases, the total number of deaths rose to 242 while total cases rose to 57,015 this year. Among the total cases, 54,118 dengue patients have been released so far.

Currently, 2,655 dengue patients are undergoing treatment at different hospitals across the country, 1,719 of whom are from outside Dhaka.

Real Estate & Housing Association of Bangladesh		
National Plaza, 5th & 6th Floor, 1/G Free School Street, Sonargaon Road, Dhaka-1205		
Tel : +8802- 9632570-74, Fax : 8619919 E-mail : info@rehab-bd.org, Web Site : www.rehab-bd.org		
INVITATION FOR TENDER (IFT)		
1. Organization		
Real Estate & Housing Association of Bangladesh		
2. Invitation for		EVENT, OPENING EVENT, MEDIA & FOOD MANAGEMENT FOR REHAB FAIR-2025
3. Invitation ref. No.		REHAB/Engg./Fair/ ten-event (A)-1/RTF-2025/ 10/
4. Event Date		24-27 December, 2025,
5. Venue:		Bangladesh China Friendship Conference Center (BCFCC), Dhaka.
Key Information		
6. Procurement Method		Open Tendering Method (One Stage Two Envelope)
Particular Information		
7. Tender Name	Event management for Event /Opening Event/ Media/ Food	
8. Tender Selling, Closing, Opening Date and Time	Last Selling Date 05 November, 2025 at: 5:00 PM	Closing Date & Time 06 November, 2025 at: 3:00 PM
9. Pre Bid Discussion Meeting	04 November, 2025 at: 4:00 PM	Tender Opening Time 06 November, 2025 at: 4:00 PM
10. Address of the office for selling Tender	REHAB, National Plaza, 5th Floor, 1/G Free School Street, Sonargaon Road, Dhaka-1205	
INFORMATION FOR TENDERER		
11. Eligibility of Tenderer	According to Tender Date Sheet (TDS)	
12. Brief Description of Works	Event, Opening Event, Media & Food Management	
13. Price of Tender Document (Non-Refundable)	Event Part : 30,000/- BDT	Opening Event: 5,000/- BDT
	Media Part : 20,000/- BDT	Food Part : 15,000/- BDT
14. Tender Security Amount (Tk.)	i) Event : 2,60,000 BDT	ii) Opening Event: 30,000 BDT
	iii) Media: 2,25,000 BDT	iv) Food: 1,00,000 BDT
15. SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:-	REHAB reserves the right to accept or reject any/all tenders without assigning any reason.	

UTTARA BANK PLC.

JOB OPPORTUNITY

Applications are being invited from the eligible candidates for appointment of 01 (one) Consultant (Medicine) and 01 (one) Consultant (Gynaecology) on contractual basis for Uttara Bank PLC. Only male candidates can apply for the post of Consultant (Medicine) and only female candidates can apply for the post of Consultant (Gynaecology).

1. Name of the post
 (a) Age
 (b) Academic qualification

(c) Honorarium

2. Name of the post
 (a) Age
 (b) Academic qualification

(c) Honorarium

3. Necessary documents to be submitted:
 (a) Bio-data
 (b) 02 (two) copies of recent passport size photograph.
 (c) Attested copies of academic certificate.
 (d) Photocopy of NID.
 (e) Contact address with mail ID and Mobile No.

4. The Application to be sent by post/courier service/in person and the same must be reached to the General Manager, Human Resources Division, Uttara Bank PLC., Head Office, 47, Bir Uttara Shahid Ashfaque Samad Sarak (Old 90, Motijheel C/A), Motijheel, Dhaka-1000, Bangladesh by 4.00 PM on 23.10.2025.

The selected candidates shall be required to remain present for duty at Bank's Head Office for 07 (seven) hours (presently from 9.00 AM to 4.00 PM) in every working day to provide services. Only the short listed candidates will be called for Viva-voce. The Bank reserves the right to accept/reject any application or cancel the recruitment process without assigning any reason.

General Manager,
 Uttara Bank PLC.,
 Human Resources Division (3rd floor),
 Head Office, Dhaka,
 Telephone No. 22355784

NORTH SOUTH UNIVERSITY

Center of Excellence in Higher Education

TENDER NOTICE

Tender No. NSU/25-26-T04

North South University is inviting sealed offers from bona fide/ reputed organizations/ producers/ suppliers for making and supplying convocation items, in various lots as mentioned below and described in the tender schedule.

Details of the items:

Lot: 1- Convocation attires (Gown, hood, cap, tassel)

Lot: 2- Gown bag

Lot: 3- Certificate folder

Lot: 4- Executive bag

Lot: 5- Thermal vacuum coffee mug

Lot: 6- Crest

Interested bidders may collect a schedule of tender within banking