



Freshwater fish caught from the haors and nearby water bodies of Sunamganj are brought daily to the well-known Lamakazi fish market in the Bishwanath area of Sylhet. This segment of the seasonal dried fish (shutki) industry -- worth several crores and lasting about five months during the dry season -- sustains the livelihoods of around 500 people in the haor communities. Over 300 women work from morning till evening, cleaning, drying, and sorting the golden dried fish that are supplied across the country and abroad. The photos were taken recently.



PHOTO: SHEIKH NASIR

Bank Asia holds breast cancer awareness event



CITY DESK

Bank Asia's Human Resources Division organised a "Breast Cancer Awareness Program" on October 23 as part of its initiative to promote health awareness and early detection among female employees, said a press release.

The day-long programme featured health check-up facilities provided by Sukhee (Grameen Digital Health), a pickle station by Dotline Group, and an awareness session conducted by Dr Sarkar Kamrun Jahan Jhinuk from United Hospital.

During the session, Dr Jhinuk discussed preventive care, the importance of early diagnosis, and maintaining women's health. Bank Asia said the event reflects its commitment to ensuring employee well-being and creating a supportive, health-conscious workplace.

Suicide prevention

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number may range from 10,000 to 14,000, he said.

He added that young people, particularly those under 30, and women are more affected in Bangladesh -- a contrast to global trends, where men and people over 45 are typically more at risk.

Suicide prevention in the country faces numerous challenges, including limited research and data, low public awareness, inadequate mental health services, minimal funding, criminalisation of suicidality, and poor-quality media reporting, he explained.

Mental health receives only 0.44 percent of the total health budget, with two major hospitals -- NIMH and Pabna Mental Hospital

-- absorbing 70 percent of that allocation, he said.

Actor and director Shobnom Parvin said that large-scale family planning campaigns once brought positive changes in the country, and similar efforts should be undertaken to prevent suicide.

Prof Khair Ahmed Chowdhury, additional director general (administration) of the Directorate General of Health Services, said a few students pursue studies in mental health, while most show interest in other subjects.

He added that awareness campaigns on mental health remain insufficient.

Prof Mahbubur Rahman, director of NIMH, chaired the programme.

Don't make proposals

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that the will expressed by the people during the July uprising can justify issuing revolutionary orders in its favour. Such statements are emotional."

"To fulfil the people's will, we have all chosen to follow the Constitution," he added. "This government has been formed in accordance with the Constitution and, so

far, is running the state in a lawful and constitutional manner."

Urging caution in political discourse, Salahuddin said, "We often use strong words and issue various directives driven by emotion or political satisfaction, but the foundations of those decisions will inevitably be questioned in the future."

Restructure interim

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for the upcoming national elections, individuals holding party-affiliated positions within the government, as well as those from newly formed political parties, must resign.

At the meeting, chaired by CPB President Sajjad Zahir Chandan, General Secretary Abdullah Kafi Raton presented a political report which was later adopted by the central

committee.

While there has been broad consensus on reforming many practical aspects of the constitution, no compromise can be made on its four core principles. The interim government does not have the authority to hold a referendum or issue constitutional orders on matters where political parties have failed to reach a consensus, said the press release.

Work with integrity

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release issued by the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR). Earlier in the day, the army chief was formally inducted as the 9th Colonel Commandant of the Corps of Engineers at a ceremony held at the same venue.

Upon his arrival at ECSME, Waker-uz-Zaman was received by the General Officer Commanding (GOC) of Army Training and Doctrine Command, the Engineer-in-Chief of the Bangladesh Army, and the

Commandant of ECSME.

During the conference, the army chief exchanged views with commanders and officers of the Corps of Engineers on technological advancement, research, professional skill development, and future planning.

In his address, Waker paid tribute to members of the Corps of Engineers who made supreme sacrifices during the Liberation War, as well as all valiant freedom fighters.

Safety of all citizens

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the imam of Tongi T&T Colony Mosque, Multi Mohammad Mohebbullah Miyaji, went missing on Wednesday and was rescued a day later in Panchagarh.

Later, while speaking to journalists from hospital, the imam claimed he had been receiving anonymous threatening messages for the past 11 months.

Following Juma prayers, processions and rallies were held in Dhaka and other cities, including Chattogram, Rajshahi, Gazipur, Rangpur, Kishoreganj, Faridpur, Sylhet, Nilphamari, and

Bhola. Hefazat-e-Islam Bangladesh also staged a protest rally and issued a statement demanding a ban on ISKCON.

Talking to The Daily Star, Shafiqul said that in recent times, various types of protests and discussions have been taking place regarding religious groups or issues, and the government is active in these matters.

"Ensuring religious, social, and peaceful coexistence is one of the government's priorities," he said. The government is calling upon everyone not to be misled by any propaganda, he added.

Rezaur Rahman

FROM PAGE 3
His body has been kept in the hospital mortuary. The burial will take place after the return of his younger daughter from the United States.

Born in Dhaka in 1944, Rezaur was the elder brother of Prothom Alo Editor and Publisher Matiuur Rahman.

He completed his MSc in Biology from the Dhaka University in 1965 and earned a PhD in Entomology from the Czech Academy of Sciences in 1979.

Rezaur began his career as a lecturer in zoology at Rajshahi Government College. He later spent 35 years at the

Bangladesh Atomic Energy Commission, conducting research on insect control, and also taught part-time at Jahangirnagar University.

He carried out notable research in Vienna on managing harmful fruit flies, which was published in the Journal of Economic Entomology in the US.

Rezaur authored several science textbooks, popular science books, and numerous essays. He also wrote novels and short stories.

He received the Bangla Academy Literary Award in 2024 for his contribution to science literature.

Rebranding for returning to resistance roots

FROM PAGE 3
"Our political philosophy was based on building an inclusive Bangladesh where all citizens enjoy equal dignity. Our initial goal was to dismantle the fascist system, and when the quota reform movement began, we joined it without hesitation."

Leaders, including Nahid Asif Mahmud, and Abdul Kader, played key roles in the Students Against Discrimination movement, which ultimately led to the fall of the Awami League government on August 5, 2024.

Gonotantrik Chhatra Shokti was dissolved on September 14, 2024.

Later, on February 26, 2025, BGCS was formed with Baker as central convener and Kader as DU convener.

Explaining the rebranding after only eight months, Baker said, "Over this period, many people joined and some tried to exert influence. We accepted that to a certain point to keep everyone together. Now, we are bringing policy-level changes and restructuring our leadership."

"We will revise our workshop methods and work to culturally translate our political philosophy. We have already stated NCP will be our ideological ally," he added.

"By ideological ally, we don't mean a mother party. They will not influence our policies. We will make independent decisions and never compromise on our principles," he said.

Addressing public

perceptions, Baker added, "Because some student leaders from the July uprising later joined the interim government, many assumed BGCS was aligned with it. But we never saw ourselves that way. Our political path is anti-establishment and that is far more connected to our ideals."

He said the current establishment is failing to serve public welfare, and their struggle continues as an extension of Gonotantrik Chhatra Shokti's mission.

On future plans, Baker said, "In the first phase, we will visit districts; in the second, we will strengthen our organisational groundwork. We currently have 14 organisational

zones, which will be reduced to 10."

Activist and former DU student Tuhin Khan, who attended the 2023 launch event of Gonotantrik Chhatra Shokti, told The Daily Star, "As a platform of resistance against power, Jatiyo Chhatra Shokti has the potential to do well."

"The previous Chhatra Shokti was effective as a resistance force precisely because it had no mother party. If Jatiyo Chhatra Shokti can maintain that distance from power and continue as a genuine force of resistance, it will fulfil the original mission of Gonotantrik Chhatra Shokti. But ultimately, their actions will reveal what they stand for," he added.

Violence erupts over

FROM PAGE 4
not allow Nasir's burial or funeral prayers.

"They've surrounded our home from three sides and threatened to attack again if we try to bury my uncle. They said this isn't the last murder, more will follow," said Khayesh Mia, Nasir's nephew.

For the past three days, villagers have been rattled with several rounds of violent clashes, vandalism, and arson.

The feud reportedly began on Friday afternoon following the death of Mosammat Begum, widow of Abdul Hasim Mia of the village. Her four elder sons, who are loyal to Harunur Rashid, allegedly buried her in haste before their younger brother Nurul Haque could return from Cumilla to

see her body. This led to a dispute and soon escalated into full-blown violence between factions of two extended families backed by the rival groups of Harun and Sachhu.

Locals recalled that around five months ago, the same groups had engaged in another violent conflict, this time following a dispute over a Tk 200 gambling debt during a ludo game.

Confirming the matter, Amitabh Das Talukdar, inspector (investigation) of Brahmanbaria Sadar Model Police Station, said police rushed to the spot and brought the situation under control.

A police team has been deployed in the area to maintain order, he said, adding that no case has been filed over Nasir's killing yet.

Plaintiff assaulted

FROM PAGE 4
Magistrate's Court in Narayanganj.

The victim's family said that Shakhawat was being representing the accused, Ismail, in the case.

As it was the date for a court appearance yesterday, the plaintiff and his family went to the court premises around noon.

According to the complaint, they had an altercation with some junior lawyers over the pending case. Upon seeing them, Shakhawat allegedly instructed the junior lawyers and assistants to attack the family.

The complaint named Shakhawat, junior lawyers Advocate Khurshed Alam, Advocate Al-Amin, and Shakhawat's legal assistant (muhuri) Hiron Badsha as the accused.

A video of the incident has since gone viral on social media.

Irfan's son Jidan said, "As soon as my father was spotted, Shakhawat Hossain started threatening him. Then he ordered his juniors to beat my father. When I tried to stop them, they attacked me too. I am an international-level professional boxing player, and I suffered a serious head

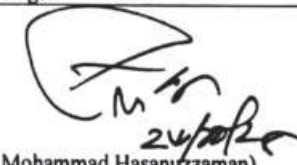
PRAYER TIMING

OCTOBER 27

Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha
AZAN 4:50 12:45 4:00 5:32 7:15
JAMAAT 5:25 1:15 4:15 5:35 7:45

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

BANGLADESH ELECTION COMMISSION				
Electoral Training Institute				
ETI Bhaban, Agargaon, Dhaka-1207.				
Invitation for Tenders				
1	Ministry/Division	Bangladesh Election Commission		
2	Agency	Election Commission Secretariat		
3	Procuring Entity Name	Director General, Electoral Training Institute		
4	Procuring Entity District	Dhaka		
5	Invitation for	Procurement of Services through Outsourcing (08 manpower of category 1, 4 and 5)		
6	Invitation Ref. No. & Date	17.01.0000.109.11.001.25- 485 Dated: 26 October 2025		
KEY INFORMATION				
7	Procurement Method	Open Tendering Method (OTM)		
FUNDING INFORMATION				
8	Budget and Source of Funds	GoB (Revenue)		
PARTICULAR INFORMATION				
9	Tender Package No.	ETINCS - 02/2025		
10	Tender Package Name	Procurement of Services through Outsourcing (08 manpower of category 1, 4 and 5)		
		Date	Time	
11	Tender Publication Date	27 October 2025		
12	Pre-Tender Meeting Date and Time	05 November 2025 12:30 P.M.		
13	Tender Last Selling Date and Time	09 November 2025 05:00 P.M.		
14	Tender Closing Date and Time	10 November 2025 02:00 P.M.		
15	Tender Opening Date and Time	10 November 2025 02:30 P.M.		
16	Name & Address of the office(s)	Address		
17	Selling Tender Document (Principal)	Assistant Director (Admin) Room No-407, (Floor-4th), ETI Bhaban, Agargaon, Dhaka-1207.		
NO CONDITIONS APPLY FOR SALE, PURCHASE OR DISTRIBUTION OF TENDER DOCUMENTS				
18	Receiving Tender Document	Director (Admin), Electoral Training Institute, Agargaon, Dhaka-1207 (Room No-501)		
19	Opening Tender Document			
20	Pre-Tender Meeting			
INFORMATION FOR TENDERER				
21	Eligibility of Tenderer	1. Tender shall have the legal capacity to enter into the contract under the applicable law. 2. Tenderers shall have to fulfil its obligation/obligations to pay taxes under the provisions of laws and regulations of Bangladesh. 3. Detail information has been provided in the tender document.		
22	Brief Description of Services	Selection of firm for manpower services through Outsourcing (08 manpower of category 1, 4 and 5). Details specified in the Tender Document		
23	Price of Tender Document (Tk.)	BDT 1500.00 (One thousand five hundred taka only) Non-refundable.		
24	Package No.	Identification of Package	Location	Tender Security Amount (Tk.) Completion Time in Months
25	ETINCS- 02/2025	Procurement of Services through Outsourcing (08 manpower of category 1, 4 and 5)	Dhaka	60,000.00 (Sixty thousand taka only) 12 Months
PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS				
26	Name of Official Inviting Tender	Mohammad Hasanuzzaman		
27	Designation of Official Inviting Tender	Director General, Electoral Training Institute		
28	Address of Official Inviting Tender	ETI Bhaban, plot E,14/Z-A,Agargaon, Dhaka-1207.		
29	Contact details of Official Inviting Tender	Telephone:02-55006504		
30	The Procuring Entity reserves the right to reject all the Tenders or Cancel the Tender proceedings.			


 (Mohammad Hasanuzzaman)
 Director General
 Electoral Training Institute,
 Dhaka

GD-2253