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## 63 UNDECIDED TICKETS BNP juggles seat-sharing, internal feuds

SAJJAD HOSSAIN

The BNP has held back announcing candidates in 63 constituencies, partly to honour seat-sharing commitments with allies and partly over fears of internal clashes among strong contenders.

While unveiling its list of 237 potential nominees on Monday, the party kept around 30 seats open for its allies who participated in the simultaneous movement alongside the BNP. The remaining 33 seats were left vacant due to difficulties in selecting suitable candidates.

"We've already begun seat-sharing discussions with our allies and will soon finalise candidates for the remaining seats. We're currently waiting for their lists of potential nominees," said a BNP standing committee member who preferred to remain unnamed.

Meanwhile, BNP Secretary General Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir, in a Facebook post yesterday, urged party leaders and activists to keep faith in the leadership, assuring that those who did not receive nominations will be given due responsibility and respect.

Nilphamari-1 is one of the seats that remain vacant. BNP Chairperson

**"We've already begun seat-sharing discussions with our allies and will soon finalise candidates for the remaining seats. We're currently waiting for their lists of potential nominees."**

A BNP standing committee member

Khaleda Zia's nephew, Shahrin Islam Tuhin, and Jamiat Ulama-e-Islam Secretary General Monzurul Islam Afendi are both seeking nominations for the seat, making it difficult for the party to pick one over the other.

Party insiders said a decision would be made after further discussions with allies.

In Bogura-2, Nagorik Oikya nominated Mahmudur Rahman Manna. As a result, BNP did not field its own candidate.

In Patuakhali-3, BNP also refrained from nominating anyone, as Gono Odhikar Parishad President Nurul Haque Nur seeks to contest as an alliance candidate.

The party has likewise not named candidates for Jhenaidah-2 and Jhenaidah-4. Gono Odhikar Parishad General Secretary Rashed Khan and the district BNP president are both vying for the Jhenaidah-2 seat, forcing the party to delay its decision. Sources said the BNP leader may be nominated from Jhenaidah-4.

Pirojpur-1 was left open for 12-Party Alliance Chief Coordinator and Jatiya Party (Kazi Zafar) Chairman Mustafa Jamal Haider.

The situation is similar in Kishoreganj-5, where Jatiya Dal Chairman and 12-Party Alliance Coordinator Syed Ehsanul Huda wants to run.

Dhaka-13 has been kept for BNP ally Nationalist Democratic Movement (NDM) Chairman Bobby Hajjaj.

BNP is also not fielding a candidate in Dhaka-17, as Andaleev Rahman Partho, chairman of the Bangladesh Jatiya Party, is expected to contest the seat.

The party has yet to decide on Brahmanbaria-2, where former BNP lawmaker Rumeen Farhana and Ulama-e-Islam Bangladesh central leader Junayed Al Habib are both strong contenders.

In Brahmanbaria-6, Ganosamhati Andolan nominated its Chief Coordinator Zonayed Saki. The Liberal Democratic Party nominated its Secretary General Redwan Ahmed for Cumilla-7.

Other constituencies left for allies include Habiganj-1, Sunamganj-2, Sunamganj-4, Sylhet-4, Sylhet-5, Laxmipur-1, Laxmipur-4, Dhaka-7, Dhaka-9, Dhaka-10, Dhaka-18, Dhaka-20, Narayanganj-4, Chattogram-14, Chattogram-15, Narail-2, Jashore-5, and Jhalakathi-1.

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## NY MAYORAL RACE Mamdani on track to win

AFP, Queens

New Yorkers looked set to elect a young Muslim leftist as mayor yesterday as US voters cast judgment for the first time on Donald Trump's tumultuous second presidency in nationwide local elections.

While Zohran Mamdani's rise has dominated headlines, elections for governor in Virginia and New Jersey could also be revealing gauges of the US political mood nearly 10 months since Trump's return to the White House.

Democratic wins in those states may indicate a revived opposition ahead of next year's midterm elections to decide control of Congress.

Mamdani, aged just 34, is a self-described socialist who was virtually unknown before his upset victory to secure the Democratic nomination.



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**Traffic signs installed along the Dhaka-Mawa Expressway and its service lanes have been stolen, raising questions about the effectiveness of security measures put in place by the authorities concerned. The signs have been missing for over a month, putting drivers at an increased risk of accidents. The photo was taken yesterday in Keraniganj's Rajendrapur.**

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN



**Sand is being illegally extracted from a stone quarry and piled on the banks to be transported later in the cover of the night. Despite a government directive to shut down all quarries in Sylhet from August 5, this unchecked looting of natural resources continues to destroy the region's environment and scenic beauty. This photo was taken on Sunday afternoon at Sreepur in Jafalong, Sylhet.**

PHOTO: SHEIKH NASIR

## Govt finalises draft for forming police commission

BAHARAM KHAN and MOHAMMAD JAMIL KHAN

The government has finalised a draft ordinance for forming an independent police commission, aiming to ensure accountability within the force and make policing fair, transparent, and free from undue influence.

The draft Police Commission Ordinance 2025 gives the proposed commission authority to oversee promotions and postings.

Under the proposed law prepared by the law ministry, the president will appoint the inspector general of police (IGP) based on the commission's recommendation from a pool of three senior officers, each holding at least the rank of additional inspector general, for a two-year term.

The ordinance is expected to be placed before the advisory council soon, sources in the law and home ministries said. If passed, it will take precedence over other related laws and give the commission broad powers to oversee discipline, integrity, and performance within the force, and recommend reforms in policing policies and practices.

This paper has obtained a copy of the draft. The commission will also be able to recommend action against any person or entity found attempting to exert unlawful or undue

**Under the proposed law, the commission will have broad powers to oversee discipline, integrity, and performance within the force, and to recommend reforms in policing policies and practices.**

influence over police activities.

It will also investigate citizen complaints against police members and take appropriate action, ensuring confidentiality of the complainants.

The commission will function as a self-governed statutory authority, entitled to acquire and manage property, and will have the power to sue. The commission can be sued as well.

In reply to a journalist's query, Home Adviser Lt Gen (retd) Jahangir Alam Chowdhury said he could not yet explain what benefits the commission would bring or how it would

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## NEWS ANALYSIS

## Charter, RPO row deepens amid buck-passing

MOHIUDDIN ALAMGIR

November could prove decisive.

With barely a month to go before the announcement of the election schedule, many critical issues remain unresolved — the timing of the referendum on the July charter, who should issue its implementation order, and the fate of the dissenting notes, among others.

If all goes according to plan, the Election Commission is expected to announce the schedule in early December, paving the way for polls in the first half of February. The vote is seen as a crucial test for restoring credibility to Bangladesh's electoral process after three sham polls under the ousted Sheikh Hasina regime.

But two recent decisions of the interim government have further deepened the crisis.

Amid fierce debate over the mechanisms to implement the July charter, the interim government has urged political parties to reach an agreement — preferably within a week. If they fail, the government says it will act on its own.

This back-and-forth, with time running out fast, underscores the fragility of the moment.

Previously, on October 28, the consensus commission, after three rounds of talks with 30 parties, submitted its

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## Over \$248m of climate fund lost to graft

Finds TIB study

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

More than half of Bangladesh's climate fund has been lost to corruption, according to a new study by Transparency International Bangladesh (TIB).

Between 2010 and 2024, more than \$248 million of the \$459 million allocated to 891 projects under the Bangladesh Climate Change Trust (BCCT) was misused or siphoned off.

The findings indicate that political influence and collusion among members of the Trustee Board and the Technical Committee played decisive roles in project selection and approval, while BCCT officials responsible for oversight failed to prevent irregularities.

TIB found chronic implementation delays across projects.

Of the 891 projects reviewed, 62 percent had their duration extended from an average of two years to more than four years, while some four-year projects took as long as 14 years to complete.

Similar delays were recorded in internationally funded projects, where 41 percent of 51 projects were extended, pushing the average completion time to 2,978 days or more than eight years.

The study estimated that Bangladesh requires \$12.5 billion annually to address climate impacts, but has received only \$86.2 million a year on average from national and international sources between 2015 and 2023, which

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# Dhaka goes full throttle this weekend with food, fitness and fandom

RBR

Cosmopolitan Dhakaites have grown a multifarious, globally influenced character that adds sophistication to the city. In whichever length and breadth of the city you venture to, you will always find yourself in some sort of chaotic adventure. Maybe a procession demanding a three-day weekend or a mob doing whatever nonsense they do, or there can be a festival happening right in the middle of the street – food, crafts, clothes, and a friendly face.

Come winter, Dhaka's parks, alleys, and convention centres are full of fairs, weddings, reunions, picnics, tea parties, or annual events. This weekend is packed with sporty activities and cultural events.



### Book launch

The Dhaka launch of the book, 'Shattered Lands: Five Partitions and the Making of Modern Asia' by Sam Dalrymple, sponsored by Securex, will be held on Friday, 7 November, at Shahabuddin Park's Amphitheatre during Dhaka Flow Fest.

The young filmmaker and historian narrates his collection of fascinating



and intimate oral histories, and archival research he gathered for his documentary Project Dastaan.

Every time words like partitions, repatriation, refugee, and displaced community pop up in our conversation, we tend to recall the horrific memories of 1947, with the division of British India. However, the Raj, an imperial banner comprising India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Myanmar, Nepal, Bhutan, Yemen, Oman, the UAE, Qatar, Bahrain, and Kuwait, witnessed five other partitions that tore it apart.

The book is termed as a must-read history book of the year. Dalrymple will be signing his book at BOOKWORM on November 8, from 11:00am.

### Movement, meditation, creativity, and connection

Now, let's talk about the Flow Fest, a wellness organisation, where Dhaka

celebrates the most vibrant wellness weekend from November 6 to 8, at Shahabuddin Park, Gulshan, presented by United Commercial Bank Ltd.

Thrive Walkathon, on 7 November, is an event of Thrive Global, a non-profit organisation supporting a child's nutrition and education program. There will also be a five-kilometre fun run on 8 November, powered by Skechers as well. This is unmistakably great for walkathon and marathon enthusiasts.

Besides, unleash your creativity through hands-on workshops in pottery, painting, photography, and mindful crafts, engage with inspiring speakers, live music performances, and panels on modern wellbeing and resilience. Your children will also get to enjoy the outdoors with an energetic playground, with storytelling sessions,

drawing cartoons, making crafts, singing, and activities like yoga and gardening that will keep their energy channelled.

### A vibrant atmosphere

The second season of Street Food Festival will treat you to an explosion of intense and varied flavours of our Deshi street snacks. The event aims to create a mood of a Deshi kind of joy through authentic tastes, smells, and the atmosphere of Dhaka streets. The experience will go beyond just the food. I am looking forward to a simply lively social setting with music and cultural performances.

Street Food Festival will be held at Baridahra DOHS Convention Center Field from November 10 to 13 from 11:00am to 10:00pm.

AnimeCon Dhaka-Yuki Matsuri 2025 is an anticipated event, taking place on November 14, at the International Convention Center Limited (ICCL), Dhaka. Inspired by Yuki Matsuri, Japan's iconic Snow Festival, this must-visit event will be Dhaka's very own winter wonderland of snow, lights, and culture, so mark your calendar accordingly.

There will be enthralling performances like Japanese dance, cosplay, J-pop, and live music, as well as activities like anime quizzes, art and meme contests, and fun winter games for all ages. Yes, there will also be foods like ramen, Takoyaki, and hot chocolate to sweeten the deal.

So, brace yourself, because Dhaka will give you an unforgettable community fun experience this weekend.

## Charter, RPO row

FROM PAGE 1  
recommendations to the chief adviser. Unable to resolve key disputes, the commission left it to the government to decide whether the referendum will be held alongside the February election or earlier.

It proposed two alternatives with a common thread – the government will issue a July National Charter (Constitution Reform) Implementation Order, hold a referendum on it, and the next parliament will act both as a constitution reform council with "constituent power" and as a regular legislature.

About the referendum, it presented two options. One would ask voters whether they agree with the implementation order and the constitutional reform proposals included in the first schedule. The other would ask voters whether they approve the draft bill in the first schedule.

Both refer to the same set of 48 proposals on the constitutional matters.

But the second option carries more weight. It stipulates that if the constitution reform council fails to complete its work within 270 days, the bill would automatically be enacted and incorporated into the constitution. Many have termed it outright unconstitutional.

This is where the attempts to shift responsibility began.

The parties and the consensus commission could not agree on the referendum's timing, the nature of the implementation order, or which authority should issue it. So, the commission passed the buck to the government. Now, the government is passing it back to the parties.

But history offers little hope. Since the restoration

of parliamentary democracy in 1991, parties have seldom resolved crises through dialogue among themselves.

As they remain split over the charter's implementation, a change to the Representation of the People Order (RPO), 1972, has added fuel to the fire. The new amendment prohibits alliance partners from using a single party's election symbol – a practice that was previously allowed.

This has become a matter of concern for the BNP's allies, many of whom were banking on the strength of the "sheaf of paddy" to win the elections.

The BNP has strongly opposed the move, meeting with the law minister and the Election Commission to lodge its protest. Jamaat-e-Islami, the National Citizen Party, and others, however, supported the change.

Initially, the government hinted at reversing the amendment. But on Monday, it issued an official gazette confirming the change. This came even before the Election Commission held talks with political parties – raising concerns about unilateral decision-making.

These rounds of back-and-forth are unfolding even as the country awaits the polls and a peaceful transfer of power. Even a slight delay could push the election into July or August to avoid clashing with Ramadan, followed by public exams and Eid-ul-Azha. Many also opine that holding the election in July or August will be difficult, as it will coincide with the rainy season.

A 2014 study titled Autocratic Breakdown and Regime Transitions found that fewer than half of post-WWII autocratic collapses led to democratisation. Bangladesh must work hard to join the successful half.

## Over \$248m of climate fund lost

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is just 0.7 percent of the required amount.

Between 2003 and 2024, the country received only \$1.2 billion from foreign sources, an "insignificant amount given the scale of climate losses", said Iftekharuzzaman, executive director of TIB, at the report's launch event yesterday.

The climate fund was initially formed with the promise of effective action, but the reality has been "deeply disappointing and embarrassing as a citizen", he said.

"In terms of value for money, the results of climate finance are extremely poor. Even of the limited funds that were allocated, a major portion, worth over Tk 2,100 crore, has been lost to corruption and irregularities. More than half of what was financed never reached the people it was

meant for."

The outcome was "tragic", with the burden falling on the most climate-vulnerable communities.

"Instead of reaching those who are most at risk, the funds were diverted and misused for political purposes. Politically influential local elites captured the funds, while the truly climate-affected communities were left behind."

If t e k h a r u z z a m a n

described the scale of irregularities as a "severe blow to governance and accountability", adding that political interference and institutional inefficiency were evident at every level from fund managers to implementing agencies.

"We have even seen projects designed for four years taking fourteen years to complete. This is a distressing and shameful picture."

Despite these irregularities, he called climate finance a "matter of national survival" for Bangladesh.

"We are not underestimating the importance of other sectors, but for coastal and climate-affected regions, this is literally a matter of life and death."

TIB also revealed that more than 15 percent of the Climate Change Trust Fund's money had been trapped in a "fraudulent bank".

"This is nothing but the looting of public resources meant for the most vulnerable," Iftekharuzzaman said, referring to funds stuck in Padma Bank.

The bank now claims it will repay the money by 2030, but there is no guarantee of this.

"This is an unacceptable situation."

He criticised the authorities for failing to

safeguard or recover the funds despite the trustee board including ministers, secretaries and the Bangladesh Bank governor.

"The previous government did not act, perhaps because there were vested interests involved," he said.

TIB urged the government to act on its recommendations, identify and hold accountable those responsible for corruption and adopt preventive measures to stop such irregularities in the future.

The Trustee Board of the Climate Change Trust Fund must be restructured and strengthened with qualified, independent, and non-partisan individuals, Iftekharuzzaman said.

"Only by ensuring competence, independence, and integrity can this vital institution regain credibility and serve its original purpose."

## BNP juggles seat-sharing, internal feuds

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No candidates were announced for any of the three seats in Bagerhat. After the district lost one constituency as per the Election Commission's new delimitation, BNP struggled to decide which candidate to keep and which to drop.

Meanwhile, the BNP last night cancelled the nomination of Kamal Zaman Mollah for Madaripur-1.

**FEAR OF INFIGHTING**  
Of the 63 vacant seats, BNP withheld nominations in 30 due to fears of internal clashes where multiple strong contenders are competing for party tickets.

In Thakurgaon-2, the party could not immediately decide between two heavyweights: BNP

Secretary General Mirza Fakhrul Islam's younger brother Mirza Faisal Amin and former Doctors Association of Bangladesh (DAB) Secretary General Abdus Salam.

Similarly, BNP fears internal clashes to break out following the announcement of candidates, as multiple strong contenders are looking to get picked in Dinajpur-5, Nilphamari-3, Lalmonirhat-2, Naogaon-5, Natore-3, Sirajganj-1, Pabna-1, Jhenaidah-1, Khulna-1, Patuakhali-2, Tangail-5, Mymensingh-10, Kishoreganj-1, Manikganj-1, Munshiganj-3, Gazipur-1, Barisal-3, Chattogram-3,

Chattogram-6, Chattogram-9, Chattogram-11 and Cox's Bazar-2.

**BOGURA JUBILANT**  
Excitement swept through Bogura as BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia and acting chairman Tarique Rahman were announced as candidates for Bogura-7 and Bogura-6, respectively.

Following the announcement, leaders and activists in both constituencies brought out jubilant processions last night.

Helal Uddin, a furniture shopkeeper from Gabtoli's Mohishaban village, said, "Khaleda Zia is going to contest from our area again. We are thrilled. She will win by a landslide and bring development back to

Bogura."

Asma Begum, a grocery shopkeeper from Kadamtali, said, "It's been so long since we voted. We are happy that Khaleda Zia will contest from our area again."

Bogura Gabtoli Upazila BNP General Secretary Enamul Haque Notoon said, "Both leaders and the public are overjoyed. We will ensure Madam Zia's victory with a massive turnout."

Bogura District BNP President Rezaul Karim Badsha added, "Our beloved son Tarique Rahman symbolises youth and hope. People will elect both Khaleda Zia and Tarique Rahman by huge margins."

[Our Bogura correspondent contributed to this report.]

## Govt finalises draft

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function. "Those details will be announced once the process is complete," he said.

**MEMBER SELECTION**  
According to the draft, the commission will have seven members. The chairperson will be a retired Supreme Court judge, and the member secretary a retired police officer not below the rank of additional IGP.

Other members will include a retired district judge, a retired senior government officer, a retired head of the Police Academy or Police Staff College, a professor of law or criminology, and a human rights activist with at least 15 years of experience. At least two members must be women.

The chairperson and members will serve a four-year term and will not be eligible for reappointment. Anyone declared bankrupt, a loan defaulter, a foreign citizen, dismissed for misconduct, convicted of a crime, declared of unsound mind will be ineligible to be part of the commission.

The president will appoint them on the recommendation of a seven-member selection committee led by a justice of the Appellate Division, nominated by the chief justice. Other members will include the chairperson of the National Human Rights Commission; two MPs, one from the ruling party and one from the opposition, from the parliamentary standing

committee on home affairs; the chairpersons of the University Grants Commission and Public Service Commission; and a citizen representative nominated by the president with proven experience in human rights or governance.

### PEOPLE-FRIENDLY POLICING

The draft says the commission will help build a people-friendly, efficient and rights-compliant police force with integrity, free from political or bureaucratic interference.

It will frame policies and issue recommendations on recruitment, promotion, and posting. The commission will also advise on reforms, training, welfare, gender-friendly workplaces. It will also ensure mental and physical health support for police members.

The commission will monitor police activities to ensure those respect human rights. It will review investigations and prosecution practices, guide the use of technology and force, and hold regular public interactions to strengthen trust between the police and the public.

The commission will review existing laws and recommend amendments, if needed, and promote research on modern policing and good governance.

**COMPLAINTS, GRIEVANCES**  
The ordinance outlines

procedures for receiving and resolving public complaints and internal police grievances.

According to the draft, the commission will investigate citizen complaints against police officers, determine responsibility, and recommend appropriate action to the relevant authorities. It will ensure the safety and confidentiality of complainants, review such cases quarterly, and issue directives to prevent misuse of power by the police. To ensure fair and timely handling of complaints nationwide, the commission will also establish divisional units to conduct inquiries and resolve cases.

Within three months of the commission's formation, the police must set up an internal system to handle complaints within 90 days. If a citizen still remains dissatisfied, they may appeal within 30 days to a divisional Police Accountability Unit, which will be led by a district judge and include a senior government officer and a human rights expert with at least 10 years of experience. The unit must resolve complaints within 60 days.

A Citizen Complaint Management Board, consisting of three commission members, will hear appeals against decisions made by the accountability units within 30 days. It will have the authority to initiate investigations, summon

witnesses, and publish outcomes.

Similarly, a Police Grievance Redress Board will address complaints from police personnel regarding unfair treatment, transfers, promotions, or disciplinary actions.

The commission and its subordinate bodies will have the power to issue protection orders for complainants, witnesses, and whistleblowers. All authorities must implement the commission's directives within two months or face misconduct charges under service rules. Whistleblowers will be protected under the Public Interest Information Disclosure (Protection) Act, 2011.

**AUDIT, ACCOUNTABILITY**  
The commission will coordinate with the Ombudsman and the National Human Rights Commission to prevent overlapping jurisdictions, according to the draft.

Each year, the commission will prepare an annual report detailing its activities, the state of law and order, and recommendations for reforms. The report will be submitted to the president within three months of the fiscal year's end. It will also be placed before parliament, and published online.

The commission's financial matters will be audited by the Office of the Comptroller and Auditor General.

FROM PAGE 1  
under an alliance to use the electoral symbol of their own party, rather than that of a coalition partner.

The development came on Monday amid strong opposition on the issue from the BNP, which met the law adviser and the Election Commission to lodge its protest, while Jamaat-e-Islami, National Citizen Party, and others supported the amendment.

The government on Saturday hinted at reconsidering the amendment but issued the gazette within two days.

During previous polls, smaller partners in alliances led by major parties like the Awami League and the BNP were able to run with the larger party's symbols.

The amended RPO also bars anyone declared a fugitive by a court from contesting elections,

reintroduces the "no vote" option for voters in constituencies with just one candidate, and recognises the armed forces as law enforcement agencies during elections.

The amendments have empowered the EC to cancel voting across an entire constituency if significant irregularities are found. Previously, it could only cancel results of the polling centres concerned.

As per the amendments, candidates providing false information in affidavits will face investigation even after taking oath. If found guilty, they may lose their parliamentary seat. Candidates will need to give a complete statement of their and their dependents income and properties, at home and abroad, in their affidavits.

The new law criminalises the creation or spread of

false or misleading content, including AI-generated materials, intended to harm a candidate, influence the election, or undermine electoral integrity. Offenders using bots, fake accounts, or synthetic media will face legal action.

Through the amendments, online submission of nomination papers has been scrapped. Candidates or their proposers or seconders must now submit papers in person to the returning officer.

Postal voting will now require digital registration for expatriates, detained individuals, and public officials on election duty.

Candidates' security deposits have been raised from Tk 20,000 to Tk 50,000.

Parties may now receive donations, grants, or services worth up to Tk 50 lakh per year from individuals or

entities. Any contribution over Tk 50,000 must be made through banking channels and reflected in the donor's tax return.

Parties are also required to maintain transparent accounts and publish income and expenditure statements on their websites.

With the issuance of this RPO amendment ordinance, the process of reforming all election-related laws has been completed.

The EC has already amended the Voter List Act, the Special Provisions Act for Election Officers, and the Election Commission Secretariat Act, as well as updated policies on polling centres, domestic, and foreign observers, and journalists.

Following the RPO amendment, the EC will soon issue the code of conduct for political parties and candidates based on the revised law.

who is running as an independent.

Denise Gibbs, 46, a doctor of physiotherapy, voted at a school in Brooklyn.

"I sure hope it improves the city. I want to see it decrease divisiveness and increase livelihoods of working class households and services for children," she said wearing green scrubs.

Polls close at 9:00pm (0200 GMT Wednesday).

The race has centred on cost of living, crime and how each candidate would handle Trump, who has threatened to withhold federal funds from New York.

Syracuse University political science professor Grant Reeher said a Mamdani win would set up a clash with Trump. "Trump will treat New York City

more aggressively," he said. "There will be some kind of political showdown."

Mamdani's improbable rise highlights the Democratic Party's debate over a centrist or a leftist future.

"I think that this has to be a party that actually allows Americans to see themselves in it," Mamdani said last week.

In New Jersey, Democratic Party candidate Mikie Sherrill, a former Navy helicopter pilot, faces off against Republican Jack Ciattarelli, a businessman backed by Trump.

In Virginia's race for governor, Democratic candidate Abigail Spanberger has been polling ahead of Virginia's Republican Lieutenant Governor Winsome Earle Sears.



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## NCP, 2 other parties get EC registration

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Election Commission is set to grant registration to three new political parties, including the National Citizen Party, formed by leaders of the July uprising.

The two other parties are Bangladesher Samajtantrik Dal (Marxist) and Bangladesh Aam Janagan Party.

After months of debate over the NCP's symbol, the EC has allocated "water lily bud" (shapla koli) to the party. Bangladesher Samajtantrik Dal (Marxist) will get the "scissors" symbol, while Bangladesh Aam Janagan Party will get the "handshake" symbol.

In three circulars issued yesterday, the EC said anyone with objections must submit a written application, along with necessary documents, to the EC secretary by November 12.

The NCP applied for registration on June 22, proposing three symbols

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Workers repair a damaged section of the footpath along Moghbazar Road under the supervision of Dhaka South City Corporation, as pedestrians, including students, carefully navigate the uneven path littered with debris. The photo was taken recently.

PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON

## Be rational, ensure nat'l stability

Speakers urge political parties on reaching consensus

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Political leaders, academics and civil society members yesterday said the next seven days will be crucial in determining the future of constitutional reform, depending on whether political parties can reach a consensus.

Speaking at a roundtable in the capital, they expressed hope that parties would adopt rational positions to ensure national stability and democratic continuity.

The discussion, titled "Proposed July National Charter (Constitutional Reform) Implementation Order 2025: Citizens' Expectations and the Need for National Unity", was organised by Nagorik Coalition in association with Voice for Reform and the Bangladesh Research Analysis and Information Network (BRAIN).

A paper comparing two draft implementation orders in the July charter was presented at the event.

BNP Organising Secretary Shama Obaid said the political situation remains uncertain despite months of discussions.

Referring to the chief adviser's recent call for consensus within a week, she said the responsibility now lies with the parties, while citizens wait for clarity.

"Nine months of meetings have failed to explain what a 'yes' or 'no' vote means. You cannot rush a referendum without preparing the voters," she said.

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## PROPOSED VISIT OF ZAKIR NAIK Government to proceed with caution

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government will exercise caution regarding the proposed visit of Indian Islamic preacher Dr Zakir Naik.

The issue was discussed at a meeting of the Core Committee on Law and Order, held at the Secretariat yesterday, with Home Adviser Lt Gen (retd) Jahangir Alam Chowdhury in the chair.

About Naik's visit, the meeting instructed the authorities concerned to engage with the organisers to understand their intentions, said sources at the Chief Adviser's Office and the home ministry.

The meeting also observed that hosting such a figure before the polls should be reconsidered.

Spark Events, an event

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## Halt DAP amendment, ensure Dhaka's liveability

Speakers urge govt

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Green activists, city planners and professionals yesterday urged the government to halt its move to amend the Detailed Area Plan (DAP), calling it faulty and harmful to Dhaka's liveability.

At a press conference at Dhaka Reporters Unity, speakers said the government was pushing ahead with the amendment while ignoring the opinions of planners, environmentalists, professionals and civic organisations.

"If the amendment goes through, the number of high-rise buildings will increase, putting unbearable pressure on Dhaka's already strained transportation and utility systems. The city cannot handle such a burden. This move will push Dhaka's liveability to the brink of collapse," said Adil Mohammed Khan, president of the Bangladesh Institute of Planners (BIP).

Adil said Rajuk officially gazetted the DAP on August 24, 2022, with goals such

as area-based population distribution, urban lifeline design, transit-oriented development, block-based planning and transfer of development rights.

But within a year, in September 2023, the plan was amended to serve business interests without consulting professionals, violating its five-year update cycle, he said, adding, "Such repeated revisions are self-destructive for the city and undermine sound urban planning practices."

He said the proposed amendments would increase building heights and development intensity in most areas, doubling the Floor Area Ratio (FAR) in many cases.

"Allowing 10-11-storey buildings where only five were permitted will worsen congestion and overburden civic services," he said.

Adil said raising population density from 250 to 300 per acre was reckless. "No global city maintains a density above 200. Such changes will turn

SEE PAGE 4 COL 4

“

If the amendment goes through, the number of high-rise buildings will increase, putting unbearable pressure on Dhaka's already strained transportation and utility systems.

ADIL MOHAMMED KHAN  
President of BIP

“

Real estate developers were acting as policymakers and harming the city by occupying natural drainage channels in the name of development.

JYOTIRMOY BARUA  
Supreme Court lawyer

## European envoys push for Airbus in Biman fleet

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Envoys from France, Germany, the UK and the EU in Dhaka yesterday said adding Airbus aircraft to Biman's fleet, alongside its existing models, would help make the national carrier more flexible, resilient and competitive.

They expressed the view at a programme titled "European Dialogue on Bangladesh Aviation Growth" held at the France-German Embassy in Dhaka.

Jean-Marc Séré-Charlet, who joined Bangladesh as the new French ambassador in late September, said Bangladesh's rapid growth and strategic position between South Asia and Southeast Asia offered tremendous opportunities for collaboration with France and Europe.

"It is precisely within this context of shared ambition and partnership that Airbus stands out, and that France and Europe fully support its engagement in the country," he said.

EU Ambassador Michael Miller said, "We are requesting Bangladesh to ensure that our economic operators are allowed to compete on the basis of commercial merit. We anticipate a level playing field, meaning we need Bangladesh to ensure that EU operators are not treated less favourably than any other trading partners."

"And in this respect, the European aviation sector is a strategic priority for the European Union in Bangladesh. And as I underline this point, I look at the position of Airbus in this market. And what I want to do very clearly is to call for its inclusion in plans for the fleet renewal of Biman in line with Bangladesh's long-standing assurances of transparency and nondiscrimination."

SEE PAGE 4 COL 6



Distinguished guests and Prothom Alo employees gather to celebrate the 27th anniversary of the Bangla daily at Krishibid Institution Bangladesh auditorium in the capital yesterday.

PHOTO: PROTHOM ALO

## Prothom Alo celebrates 27th anniv

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Bangla daily Prothom Alo celebrated its 27th anniversary with much enthusiasm and fanfare yesterday.

As part of the event, a celebratory programme was held at the Krishibid Institution Bangladesh auditorium in Dhaka's Farmgate area, where employees of the daily from across the country took part.

Distinguished guests at the event included writer and businessman Alamgir Kabir, architect Marina Tabassum, actor Afzal Hossain, and lawyer and rights activist Manjur Al Matin.

The event was hosted by Prothom Alo Associate Editor Sumona Sharmin, while Executive Editor Sajjad Sharif delivered the welcome remarks.

"Over the past 27 years, the newspaper has proven its commitment to Bangladesh's democratic

SEE PAGE 9 COL 6



## KURIGRAM–CHILMARI Passengers suffer as rail project stalls

S DILIP ROY, Lalmonirhat

The 29 kilometre rail link between Kurigram Sadar and Chilmari's Ramna has long been in a dilapidated state, forcing trains to move slowly and causing frequent delays.

The journey, which should take 40 minutes, now takes nearly two and a half hours, with trains running at only 10 to 15 kilometres per hour.

The route, covering five stations – Kurigram, Panchpir, Ulipur, Balabari and Ramna – has become almost defunct, though hundreds still wait at Ramna station daily for irregular trains.

"Ramna used to be a busy station with three pairs of trains daily. Now only one runs irregularly, but we still wait as it's safer and cheaper," said passenger Nazu Mia, 60.

Alzal Hossain, a teacher from Balabari, said the flood-prone area depends on trains for affordable transport, but the poor condition of the tracks has made travel miserable.

Kurigram–Chilmari Rail Rehabilitation and Modernisation Project began in 2023 with two parts – a 19km Kurigram–Ulipur link for Tk 29 crore and a 10km Ramna–Ulipur link for Tk 33.7 crore. Work started in November 2023, with deadlines extended from January to December 2025. Project work is now stalled amid fund crisis.

"The authorities still owe us nearly half our payment,"



said Rubel Islam, project manager of Bishwas Construction Ltd, adding that 80 percent of the Kurigram–Ulipur and 25 percent of the Ramna–Ulipur segments are complete.

Lalmonirhat Railway Division engineer Shipon Islam said letters have been sent to higher authorities seeking bill approvals. "Once complete, the trains will run faster and we plan to add more services," he said.

## JASHORE SADAR UPAZILA

# 28 years on, locals still wait for bridge over Bhairab river



PHOTO: STAR

MOHSIN MILON, Benapole

For the past 28 years, residents of Purba Barandipara area in Jashore Sadar upazila have been waiting for a concrete bridge over the Bhairab river.

With every passing year, their patience wears thin, but the bridge never gets built.

For years, locals have relied on a makeshift bamboo bridge to cross the river. It often gets damaged and has to be repaired repeatedly, mostly through self-initiative.

Every day, hundreds of people from the area, including around 200 students of Sheikhhati Shafiur Rahman Model Academy,

risk their lives crossing the fragile structure to commute.

"The bamboo bridge was built by the locals mainly to help children reach school by crossing the river," said Rezaul Islam, headteacher of the school.

"After the first bridge collapsed, the school authority built another one. Students still use it daily to attend classes and return home. However, a permanent, concrete bridge is essential for their safety."

Murad Hossain, a local resident, said a request had already been submitted to the authorities concerned for the construction of a permanent bridge, but no progress had been made so far.

During a recent meeting of the District River Protection Committee at the Jashore Collectorate, Palash Kumar Banerjee, executive engineer of Water Development Board in Jashore, proposed the construction of a bridge over the Bhairab river in front of the school.

"The proposal has been included in a new project submitted for approval. Once approved, construction of the bridge will begin," said Chowdhury Mohammad Asif Reza, upazila officer of the Local Government Engineering Department in Jashore Sadar.

## 4 more die of dengue

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Four more deaths were reported from dengue in 24 hours till yesterday morning, raising the number of fatalities from the mosquito-borne disease to 292 this year.

During the period, 1,101 more patients were hospitalised with the viral fever, raising the total infected case to 73, 923 this year, according to the DGHS.

Last year, dengue claimed 575 lives.



## Government to

FROM PAGE 3  
management company, has announced plans to bring Zakir Naik to Bangladesh for a lecture series later this month.

Shahadat Hawlader, manager of the company, told The Daily Star that they will soon announce details of the tour.

A senior official of the Special Branch of police, requesting anonymity, told The Daily Star they had not yet received any instruction regarding his visit.

The meeting also discussed training for the armed forces members deployed in the field.

A source present at the meeting said, "Members of the armed forces have been deployed nationwide since before the August 5 mass uprising, with officers later given magistracy powers."

"Amid this situation, the meeting discussed the need for training for the

armed forces members. However, the Armed Forces Division will decide how and when such training will be provided."

Several other issues were also discussed at the meeting.

After the meeting, Home Adviser Jahangir Alam briefed reporters at the secretariat. He said the meeting focused on preparations for ensuring a peaceful and credible election.

Responding to a question about possible police bias, Jahangir Alam said, "The election must be free, fair, credible, and festive. If any police member is found favouring a particular candidate or party, they will immediately be brought under the law."

He also said officials who were involved in the 2014, 2018, and 2024 elections would be reviewed before deployment this time.



### INDEPENDENT UNIVERSITY, BANGLADESH (IUB)

#### VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

**School of Engineering, Technology and Sciences**  
**Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering**

- Associate/Assistant Professor, VLSI Design and Microelectronics
- Lecturer B, Electrical and Electronic Engineering

Application Deadline: **November 14, 2025**

For detailed information and to apply, please visit:  
<http://iub.ac.bd/news-and-events/jobs-at-iub> or scan the QR code





### Bangladesh Red Crescent Society

National Headquarters  
684-686, Red Crescent Sarak, Bara Moghbazar, Dhaka-1217

#### VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS) invites application from the suitable professional candidates for the position of **Deputy Secretary General** on contractual basis based in Dhaka.


This position will be responsible for assisting the Secretary General in implementing the decisions of the Managing Board and overseeing the Society's country-wide projects and programs. Key responsibilities include planning, budgeting, budgetary control, supervision, monitoring, evaluation, reporting, and human resource development and management. The ideal candidate should possess the ability to maintain effective relationships with the Government of Bangladesh, UN agencies, IFRC, ICRC, Partner National Societies, and other national and international organizations, particularly those involved in humanitarian activities.

**The candidate should be between 50 and 62 years of age as of 16 November 2025.** The incumbent must hold at least a postgraduate degree in any discipline and have a minimum of 20 years of professional experience, including at least 10 years in a senior management position within a reputed organization such as a Government, Semi-Government, Autonomous, UN, INGO, NGO, Humanitarian, or Development organization. Proficiency in computer applications, fluency in spoken English, and a high level of proficiency in written English are essential requirements. As the Red Crescent Society is a voluntary humanitarian organization, preference will be given to candidates with experience and knowledge in crisis management, disaster mitigation, participation in national and international conferences, and work experience in the humanitarian field.

Applications should be submitted with full CV mentioning two references, two recent passport size photographs and necessary documents to The Chairman, Bangladesh Red Crescent Society, 684-686, Red Crescent Sarak, Bara Moghbazar, Dhaka-1217 by **16 November 2025**. Salary and other facilities are subject to negotiation.

*Only short-listed candidates will be called for interview.*  
*BDRCS is an equal opportunity employer.*

**Chairman**



### NCC Bank

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#### NOTICE OF INVITING QUOTATION

Sealed quotations are hereby invited by National Credit and Commerce Bank PLC. (the Bank) from reputed Companies/local Agents/Suppliers/Authorized Distributors/Service Providers for the below mentioned requirement under the terms and conditions mentioned detail in the Request for Quotation (RFQ) documents.

Service Description	Price of the Tender Document	Sale start date	Sale end date	Date and time for Tender Submission
RFQ for supplying & installing of Note Sorting Machine to NCC Bank PLC.	Tk. 2,000/- (Taka Two Thousand) only in the form of Payment Order (non-refundable) favoring National Credit and Commerce Bank PLC. by any scheduled bank of Bangladesh	November 05, 2025	November 19, 2025	November 20, 2025 on/before 11:00 AM

The schedule containing detailed Terms & Conditions may be collected from the Common Services Division, Level-5, NCC Bank PLC. Head Office, Dhaka and submit the same under sealed envelope to the Tender Box placed at Common Services Division (CSD). Manipulation or any kind of unusual approach or failure to submit offer within the stipulated time frame will be treated as "Disqualified" for the bidding. The Bank authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposal without assigning any reason whatsoever

**Vice President & Head of Common Services Division**

## Halt DAP

FROM PAGE 3

central Dhaka into vertical slums," he warned.

Though the plan mentions block-based development, increasing FAR and units will only worsen traffic congestion and overburden civic services, he said.

Several organisations, including WBB Trust, the Center for Atmospheric Pollution Studies, Bangladesh Environmental Lawyers Association and others, have submitted recommendations urging the government not to increase FAR and population density.

DTCA, UDD and IEB made similar suggestions, but the government has ignored them and yielded to pressure from real estate developers, speakers said.

Amirul Rajiv, coordinator of the Bangladesh Tree Protection Movement, said Dhaka is already struggling with shortages of open spaces, walkways, water bodies and basic utilities. "Managing the current population is already difficult. Increasing FAR will worsen the situation," he said.

Barrister Jyotirmoy Barua, Supreme Court lawyer and rights activist,

## SC to promote

FROM PAGE 3

sent a letter to the law ministry seeking her suspension and attachment to the ministry.

According to meeting sources, joint district judges will be promoted to additional district judges, senior assistant judges to joint district judges, and assistant judges to senior assistant judges. The law ministry will issue gazette notifications in this regard.

The full court did not take any decision on publishing

said real estate developers were acting as policymakers and harming the city by occupying natural drainage channels in the name of development.

"Development is not just about bricks and cement; preserving water bodies is equally essential," he said.

Environmental activist Ibnul Said Rana said proper and responsible urban planning is crucial for sustainable city development.

Citizen rights activist Mizanur Rahman from Jurain said many residents there lack basic amenities. "If this neglect continues, the crisis will only deepen," he warned.

The speakers also demanded a ban on development in agricultural, wetland and flood flow zones; legal action against encroachers; reduced FAR in elite neighbourhoods; proper setback distances to ensure air and light; and a maximum height limit for residential buildings.

Firoz Ahmed, writer and member of the Constitution Reform Commission; Gaus Piari, director of WBB Trust; and Syed Shahriar Amin, vice president of BIP, also spoke.

the Supreme Court calendar for 2026, as the government's annual calendar has not yet been released.

Meanwhile, the government yesterday appointed 41 new deputy attorneys general and 67 assistant attorneys general to represent the state in the Appellate and High Court Divisions.

## European envoys push

FROM PAGE 3

British High Commissioner Sarah Cooke reiterated the UK government's continued commitment to supporting Bangladesh's economic growth and its aspiration to become a

regional aviation hub.

German envoy Rüdiger Lotz said with Bangladesh's growing economy and emerging middle class, Biman needed modern, environmentally friendly

aircraft, and Airbus was well-positioned to provide them.

Rafael Gomez Noya, commercial sales director at Airbus, and Monal Shesh, head of marketing, also spoke.



### Bangladesh Red Crescent Society


National Head Quarter (NHQ)  
684-686, Red Crescent Sarak, Bara Moghbazar, Dhaka 1217.  
PABX: +88-02-48310188-9, Ext: 222, 258, Direct: +88-02-48316602, Web: [www.bdracs.org](http://www.bdracs.org)

#### INVITATION FOR TENDER

1. Invitation Reference, Tender ID No, and Date	Ref. No. Pro-(Log.) 391/2025, Tender ID: 68/2025, 04/11/2025
2. Procuring Entity Name	Secretary General, BDRCS
3. Name of Requisition Department	DCRM Department, National Headquarters, BDRCS, 684-686 Red Crescent Road, Bara Moghbazar, Dhaka-1217.
4. Implementation by	DCRM and Estate Department, National Headquarters, BDRCS, 684-686 Red Crescent Road, Bara Moghbazar, Dhaka-1217.
5. Budget and Source of Funds	British Red Cross (BRC), CCA Project in Narayanganj District.
6. Invitation for	"Construction work (NBS Construction-Small Scale Mitigation Work) in Narayanganj District."
7. Procurement Method	Open Tendering Method, OTM (Two Envelope)
8. Detail	"Construction work (NBS Construction-Small Scale Mitigation Work) in Narayanganj District, DCRM Department", (1) Part-A: Site & Water Hyacinth Cleaning, Soil Development & Retaining Wall Work for Ghat-1. (2) Part-B: Pond Ghat. (3) Part-C: Tree Square, Seat Bench, Seat at Pond & Name Block Work. (4) Part-D: Site Cleaning, Soil Development & Retaining Wall Work For Ghat-2 at Shumilapara, Ward-06, Narayanganj District.
9. Purchase of Tender document	Tender documents and schedules with detailed information are available at the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS) website: <a href="http://www.bdracs.org">www.bdracs.org</a> . Tender Schedule Download Link: <a href="https://bdracs.org/tender/">https://bdracs.org/tender/</a> <b>Important Details:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Interested bidders are requested to collect the tender documents within the stipulated timeframe from the mentioned link/BDRCS website.</li><li>A Tender Schedule purchase fee of <b>BDT 2000.00 (Two thousand taka only)</b> is applicable. This fee is non-refundable.</li><li>The purchase fee should be paid through <b>bkash</b> number <b>01894806393</b> (BDRCS Merchant Account).</li><li>Please mention the <b>bkash</b> transaction reference number on top of the tender schedule.</li><li>Failure to include the <b>bkash</b> transaction reference number may result in the disqualification of your bid.</li></ul>
10. Tender Schedule available from website/link	05-11-2025
11. Tender Closing Date and Time	20-11-2025 at 3:00 PM
12. Tender Opening Date and Time	20-11-2025 at 3:15 PM
13. Pre-bid Meeting Schedule	11-11-2025 at 10:00 AM at Logistics Dept. Meeting Room, NHQ, BDRCS
14. Price of Tender Document	BDT 2000.00 nonrefundable through bkash number <b>01894-806393</b> .
15. Tender Security Money	2.5 % of the Total quoted value.
16. Eligibility of Tenderer	As per tender documents.
17. Address of Tender Submission & Opening	Logistics Department Room, National Headquarters, BDRCS, 684-686 Red Crescent Road, Bara Moghbazar, Dhaka-1217.
18. Completion Time in months	As per tender documents.

**The Bangladesh Red Crescent Society reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tender or split the order without assigning any reason whatsoever and will not be bound to accept the lowest bid.**

**Dr. Kabir M. Ashraf Alam, ndc**  
Secretary General



### AHSANULLAH UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

141-142 Love Road, Tejgaon Industrial Area, Dhaka-1208.  
Phone: 02 8870422 (Ext.-201) Web: [www.aust.edu](http://www.aust.edu)  
Ref. No: AUST/Arch. & TE/OTM/Tender-08/2025-26

#### TENDER INVITATION

Ahsanullah University of Science and Technology (AUST) is inviting sealed bids from bona fide/ reputed organizations/ distributors/ business partners/agents for:

1. **Procurement of AC (Qty- 05 nos.) for Architecture dept.**
2. **Supply & Installation of lab item (Washing Color Fastness Tester) for Textile Engineering (TE) dept.**
3. **Supply & Installation of lab item (Dyeing Machine) for TE dept.**

The bidders must submit earnest money @ 2.5% of the quoted price in the form of Pay Order issued from any scheduled bank drawn in favor of "Ahsanullah University of Science and Technology" along with their offer. Interested bidders may collect schedule of tender from the Procurement Officer of AUST on all working days till Nov. 16, 2025 by 4 p.m. The sealed offer must be submitted on **Nov. 18, 2025 (Tuesday)** by 2.00 p.m. at the Treasurer office and the tenders will be opened at 02:30 p.m. on the same day (**Nov. 18, 2025**). Representatives of the participating bidders may remain present at the time of opening the tenders.

The AUST authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the tenders without showing any reason what-so-ever and is not bound to award the work order to the lowest bidder.

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POKROVSK CITY  
Russia  
closes in on  
Ukrainian  
troops

REUTERS, Moscow

Russia said yesterday that its forces were tightening their encirclement of Ukrainian troops in the city of Pokrovsk, a transport and logistics hub they have been trying to capture for over a year.

With fighting raging in the streets of the ruined city, the Russian Defence Ministry said its soldiers had cleared 35 buildings of Ukrainian troops.

It said Russian forces were also squeezing surrounded Ukrainian troops near the town of Kupiansk in the Kharkiv region.

DeepState, a Ukrainian project that maps the front line based on verified open source images, yesterday showed that Russian forces had pushed further into Pokrovsk and its environs, though it showed much of it still in grey, beyond firm control of either side.

Pokrovsk had a pre-war population of some 60,000, but most civilians fled long ago. Capturing it could give Moscow a platform to drive towards Kramatorsk and Sloviansk.



Democratic New York City mayoral candidate Zohran Mamdani holds hands with his wife, Rama Duwaji, after voting at a polling location at the Frank Sinatra School of the Arts in the Queens borough of New York City, US, yesterday. New Yorkers are projected to elect Mamdani as mayor, opening a new front in opposition to Donald Trump and raising the specter the president will retaliate against the city where he made his name.

PHOTO: AFP, REUTERS

India launches  
mass overhaul  
of voter rolls

Activists warn the move  
could lead to widespread  
disenfranchisement

AFP, New Delhi

India launched a revision of its voter rolls yesterday, expanding a contentious exercise that activists warn could fuel disenfranchisement in the world's largest democracy.

The three-month voter registration overhaul – known as the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) – kicked off in 12 states and territories, many of which are slated to hold local elections next year.

Tens of thousands of election officials and nearly half a million volunteers will go door-to-door to help residents complete voter enumeration forms.

Officials “will help the elector fill the enumeration form, collect it and submit it”, Election Commission of India chief Gyanesh Kumar told reporters while announcing the exercise.

Earlier this year, the ECI conducted a similar revision in the eastern state of Bihar, home to more than 130 million people, ahead of its state elections beginning November 6.

The process led to the exclusion of around 6.5 million names, which the ECI said was necessary to prevent the inclusion of “foreign illegal immigrants”.

Members of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) have long claimed that undocumented Muslim migrants from neighbouring Bangladesh have fraudulently registered as voters.



World to overshoot  
1.5C climate goal

Says United Nations' Environment Programme

REUTERS, Sao Paulo

The world has failed to meet its main climate change target of limiting the rise in global temperatures to 1.5 degrees Celsius, and will likely breach this threshold in the next decade, the United Nations' Environment Programme said yesterday.

The annual Emissions Gap report said because of countries' slow action to reduce planet-heating greenhouse gas emissions, it was now clear that the world would exceed the core target of the 2015 Paris Agreement - at least temporarily.

“This will be difficult to reverse – requiring faster and bigger additional reductions in greenhouse gas emissions to minimize overshoot,” UNEP said.

Lead report author Anne Olhoff said deep emissions cuts now could delay when the overshoot happens, “but we can no longer totally avoid it”.

The 2015 Paris Agreement commits countries to limit the global average temperature rise to 2°C above pre-industrial levels, and to aim for 1.5°C.

Yet governments' latest pledges to cut emissions in future, if met, would see the world face 2.3-2.5°C of warming, UNEP said.

That's around 0.3°C less warming than the UN's projection a year ago – indicating that new emissions-cutting plans announced this year by countries including top CO2 emitter China have failed to substantially close the gap.

China pledged in September to cut emissions by 7-10% from their peak by 2035. Analysts note the country tends to set modest targets and exceed them.

The findings add pressure to the UN's COP30 climate summit this month, where countries will debate how to kick-start and finance faster action to rein in global warming.

The Paris Agreement temperature goals were based on scientific assessments of how each increment of global warming fuels worse heatwaves, droughts and wildfires.

Limit will be breached at least temporarily

Deep emissions cuts could pull world back below limit

UN finding adds pressure to countries at COP30 summit

For example, 2°C of warming would more than double the share of the population exposed to extreme heat, compared with 1.5°C. Warming of 1.5°C would destroy at least 70% of coral reefs, versus 99% at 2°C.

Current policies – the ones countries already have in place – would lead to even more warming, of around 2.8°C, UNEP said.

The world has made some progress. A decade ago, when the Paris Agreement was signed, the planet was on course for around a 4°C temperature rise.

But heat-trapping CO2 emissions continue to rise, as countries burn coal, oil and gas to power their economies.

Former US  
VP Dick  
Cheney  
dies at 84



AFP, Washington

Former US vice president Dick Cheney has died aged 84, US media reported yesterday, citing a statement from his family.

Cheney was the 46th vice president, serving under Republican president George W. Bush for two terms between 2001 and 2009.

The former congressman and defense secretary “died due to complications of pneumonia and cardiac and vascular disease,” according to the family's statement cited by US media.

“For decades, Dick Cheney served our nation, including as White House Chief of Staff, Wyoming's Congressman, Secretary of Defense, and Vice President of the United States,” it added.

End ‘nightmare of  
violence’ in Sudan

UN chief urges peace as  
Sudan's army-backed council  
meets on US truce proposal

AFP, Port Sudan

Sudan's army-backed authorities were due to meet yesterday to discuss a US proposal for a ceasefire in the war with the paramilitary, a government source told AFP, as the UN chief called for an end to the “nightmare of violence”.

The war, which has killed tens of thousands of people and displaced millions more over the past two years, has spread to new areas of Sudan in recent days, sparking fears of an even graver humanitarian catastrophe.

After mediating in other conflicts in Africa and the Middle East in recent months, the US administration under Donald Trump is pushing for a ceasefire in Sudan.

The army-aligned authorities had rejected an earlier truce proposal under which both they and the paramilitaries they are fighting would be excluded from a transitional political process.

The latest discussions follow an escalation on the ground, with the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces (RSF) appearing to prepare an assault on the central Kordofan region after it captured El-Fasher, the last army stronghold in Darfur region.

“The Security and Defence Council will hold a meeting today to discuss the US truce proposal,” the army-aligned government source said on condition of anonymity because they were not authorised to brief the media.

People forced to flee El-Fasher have described to AFP scenes of fear and violence.

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার	
প্রধান উপদেষ্টার কার্যালয়, সশস্ত্র বাহিনী বিভাগ	
ঢাকা সেনানিবাস	
সশস্ত্র বাহিনী বিভাগের জন্য নিরাপত্তা সামগ্রী সরবরাহের নিমিত্তে দরপত্র আহ্বান	
১। মঞ্জুরাদ/প্রতিষ্ঠান	সশস্ত্র বাহিনী বিভাগ।
২। দরপত্র পদ্ধতি	উন্মুক্ত দরপত্র পদ্ধতি (Open Tender Method)।
৩। সিডিউল সস্ত্রাহের স্থান ও সময়	আগামী ০৬ নভেম্বর ২০২৫ হতে ১২ নভেম্বর ২০২৫ তারিখ পর্যন্ত প্রতি কর্মদিবসে ০৯০০ হতে ১৪০০ ঘটিকার মধ্যে প্রধান উপদেষ্টার কার্যালয়, সশস্ত্র বাহিনী বিভাগ এর অভ্যর্থনা কক্ষ হতে ৫০০.০০ (পাঁচশত মাত্র) টাকা (অফেন্ডার যোগ্য) এর বিনিময়ে সিডিউল সস্ত্রাহ করা যাবে।
৪। দরপত্র দাখিলের শেষ তারিখ	১৯ নভেম্বর ২০২৫ (০৯০০-১২৩০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত)।
৫। দরপত্র খোলার তারিখ	১৯ নভেম্বর ২০২৫ (১২৩০ ঘটিকা)।
৬। দরপত্র দাতার যোগ্যতা	দরদাতার ২০২৫-২০২৬ অর্থ বছরের ট্রেড লাইসেন্স, ভ্যাট রেজিস্ট্রেশন সনদ, জাতীয় পরিচয়পত্র, টিআইএন সার্টিফিকেট, আয়কর প্রদানের সনদ, অনুদান কার্যের অভিজ্ঞতা সনদ, দরদাতার কোম্পানীর প্রোফাইল এবং ব্যাংক স্বাক্ষরিত সনদ থাকতে হবে। দরপত্র দাখিলের সময় এ সকল নথিাদির সত্যায়িত ফটোকপি ও দরদাতার পাসপোর্ট সাইজের সত্যায়িত ছবিসহ চাকাছ যে কোন সিডিউল ব্যাংক হতে হিসাব নম্বর ০০০২-০২১০১০০৩৮২, ট্রাস্ট ব্যাংক লিমিটেড, প্রিন্সিপাল শাখা, ঢাকা সেনানিবাস এর অনুদানে উক্ত দরের ৫% (ফেরতযোগ্য) হারে জামানত হিসেবে ব্যাংক ড্রাফট/ পে অর্ডার জমা দিতে হবে।
৭। বিশেষ নির্দেশনা	ক। দরপত্রের বিবরণসমূহ প্রয়োজ্য ক্ষেত্রে পরিবর্তিত/ পরিমার্জিত/ বাতিল করা হতে পারে। খ। কোন কাটা/ ছেঁড়া দরপত্র গ্রহণযোগ্য হবে না এবং দরপত্র খোলার সময় দরদাতাকে উপস্থিত থাকতে হবে। গ। সশস্ত্র বাহিনী বিভাগ কোন কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতিরেকে যে কোন দরপত্র গ্রহণ/ বাতিল করার ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করে। ঘ। নিরাপত্তা সামগ্রীর নাম ও সরবরাহ সজ্জাত্ত বিভিন্ন তথ্যাদি এবং অন্যান্য শর্তাবলী সিডিউলে উল্লেখ থাকবে।
তারিখঃ ০২ নভেম্বর ২০২৫	
আই এস পি আর/বিবি/৪৪০	
সিফাত আহমেদ স্কোয়াডন লিডার প্রিন্সিপাল স্টাফ অফিসারের পক্ষে	

Mountain  
storms kill  
9 in Nepal

AFP, Kathmandu

Days of ferocious snowstorms and an avalanche in Nepal's treacherous Himalayan peaks have killed nine people, including five Italian climbers, officials said yesterday.

The deaths occurred in two separate accidents since Friday. On Monday, an avalanche hit a group of 12 people at the base camp of 5,630-metre (18,471-foot) Yalung Ri peak, in central Nepal near the border with China.

Seven people died in that disaster, including three Italians, two Nepalis, a German and a French climber, Phurba Tenjing Sherpa, from expedition organiser Dreamers Destination, told AFP.

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  
Level-08, LGED Bhaban, Agargaon, Sher-E-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207  
www.lged.gov.bd  
Memo No.46.02.0000.575.07.002.25-18  
Date: 04/11/2025.  
**Corrigendum Notice-01**  
Request for Expression of Interest (REOI) for Design, Monitoring and Supervision Consulting Services (Firm Selection) vide memo no. 46.02.0000.575.07.002.25-13. Dated 07/10/2025 is hereby revised as follows:  

Provision in the Original REOI Sl. No. 5	Amendment
The Consultants shall have to submit their EOI's electronically through the ADB CMS by 11:59 PM (Manila local time) on 06 November, 2025.	The Consultants shall have to submit their EOI's electronically through the ADB CMS by 11:59 PM (Manila local time) on 17 November, 2025.

  
All other contents of the REOI shall remain unchanged.  
(Haque Sultana)  
Project Director, EAP and Assigned Officer, ISLIP  
Tel. + 880-2-44826185, email: pd.islip@lged.gov.bd  
GD-2321

১১ সিগন্যাল ব্যাটালিয়ন  
ঢাকা সেনানিবাস, ঢাকা-১২০৬  
দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি  
১। ১১ সিগন্যাল ব্যাটালিয়নের তত্ত্বাবধানে এ্যাসল্ট কোর্স গ্রাউন্ড এবং এতদসংক্রান্ত বিবিধ প্রশিক্ষণ দ্রব্যসামগ্রী ক্রয় করা হবে। আগ্রহী প্রকৃত সরবরাহকারী/মেরামতকারী সংস্থার নিকট হতে নিম্নবর্ণিত স্থানীয় কর্তৃপক্ষের বরাবরে দেশীয় মুদ্রায় সীলমোহর যুক্ত উন্মুক্ত দরপত্র আহবান করা যাচ্ছে। ক্রয়তত্ত্ব সরঞ্জামাদির তালিকা সহ বিস্তারিত বিবরণ দরপত্রের সিডিউলে উল্লেখ থাকবে।  
২। আগামী ১৫ নভেম্বর ২০২৫ ইং তারিখ অফিস চলাকালীন সময়ে (০৮৪০ ঘটিকা হতে ১৪০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত) ৭৫০.০০ (সাতশত পঞ্চাশ মাত্র) টাকা (অফেন্ডার যোগ্য) প্রদান পূর্বক প্রয়োজনীয় বিনির্দেশ/শর্তাবলী সহ দরপত্রের সিডিউল এই অফিস হতে সস্ত্রাহ করা যাবে। উক্ত সিডিউলের শর্তাবলী মোতাবেক আগামী ২৩ নভেম্বর ২০২৫ তারিখ সকাল ১১০০ ঘটিকার সময় এই অফিসে রক্ষিত দরপত্র ব্যস্তে দরপত্র ফেলতে হবে এবং ঐদিন ১১৩০ ঘটিকায় দরপত্র দাতাগণের উপস্থিতিতে দরপত্র বাস্তব খোলা হবে।  
আই এস পি আর/সেনা/৭১৫  
অধিনায়ক  
১১ সিগন্যাল ব্যাটালিয়ন  
ঢাকা সেনানিবাস  
GD-2317

বাংলাদেশ নির্বাচন কমিশন  
নির্বাচন কমিশন সচিবালয়  
বিজ্ঞপ্তি  
নং- ১৭.০০.০০০০.০২৫.৫০.০৯২.২৪ (অংশ) -৭৬৬  
তারিখঃ ০৪ নভেম্বর ২০২৫  
রাজনৈতিক দল নিবন্ধন বিধিমালা, ২০০৮ এর বিধি ৭(২) এর অধীন বিজ্ঞপ্তি  
এতদ্বারা সর্বসাধারণের অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাইতেছে যে, “বাংলাদেশ আম জনগণ পার্টি” কে, ঠিকানা: ৬৩/১, কাকরাইল, নির্মান সামাদ ট্রেড সেন্টার ২য় তলা, পাইনিয়ার রোড, রমনা, ঢাকা-১০০০, Representation of the People Order, 1972 (PO No.155 of 1972) এর Chapter VIA এর আওতায় রাজনৈতিক দল হিসাবে নিবন্ধনের জন্য দলের আহ্বায়ক ড. মোহাম্মদ রফিকুল আমীন এবং সদস্য সচিব জনাব ফাতিমা তাসনিম নির্বাচন কমিশনের নিকট একটি দরখাস্ত পেশ করিয়াছেন।  
উহাদের প্রার্থিত প্রতীক “হ্যাডশেক”।  
উক্ত রাজনৈতিক দলের নিবন্ধনের বিষয়ে কাহারও কোন আপত্তি থাকিলে প্রয়োজনীয় দলিলাদিসহ উহার কারণ উল্লেখপূর্বক ১২.১১.২০২৫ তারিখের মধ্যে নিম্নস্বাক্ষরকারীর নিকট লিখিতভাবে জানাইবার জন্য অনুরোধ করা হইল।  
আখতার আহমেদ  
সিনিয়র সচিব  
নির্বাচন কমিশন সচিবালয়  
GD-2327



## Dispute over July Charter must end

With the election approaching fast, both govt and parties should act wisely

In the febrile political atmosphere of present-day Bangladesh, the interim government is having to walk a high wire. Not long ago, the July National Charter was signed by nearly all major political parties, but that “unity” appears to be fraying as the charter implementation dispute drags on while the country is moving fast towards a planned February election.

The charter was meant to signal a democratic renewal. Instead, it has become a source of recrimination and brinkmanship. Consequently, the government has called on political parties to engage in intra-party dialogue and resolve their differences, but the invitation, perhaps to no one's surprise, has met with mixed reactions. Jamaat-e-Islami has cautiously endorsed the proposal but demanded that Chief Adviser Muhammad Yunus act as a “referee,” implying a lack of faith in the parties' ability to successfully negotiate amongst themselves. Akhter Hossain, member secretary of the National Citizen Party, was less restrained, accusing the government of playing “snakes and ladders” with reforms. He also alleged a deliberate stalling tactic and an attempt by a “faction within the government” to “sabotage the reform process and disrupt the election.”

Time is not on anyone's side. The government has given the parties a seven-day window to arrive at a unanimous decision. Whether that would resolve the impasse remains to be seen. What we can say with certainty is that both the government and the political class must act with greater urgency and responsibility going forward. Any deviation from the road to the February polls is unacceptable.

In recent days, cracks around the proposed referendum on the July Charter have widened. While the BNP insists that the referendum should be held on election day, Jamaat-e-Islami wants it as early as November. This is not a minor scheduling dispute; it also reflects deep divisions over the substance of reform. Another flashpoint is the government's amendment to the Representation of the People Order (RPO), which now bans electoral alliances from using a common party symbol. Jamaat-e-Islami, the NCP and Khelafat Majlish supported the move, arguing that a shared symbol unfairly benefits a particular political party, but BNP opposed it. The government's decision to enshrine the amendment in a gazette suggests it is determined to forge ahead.

That said, Bangladesh cannot afford a relapse into its cyclical pattern of political dysfunction. The interim government must lead decisively in that respect. At the same time, the onus lies equally on political parties to rise above narrow partisan interests. Their failure to coalesce around a shared democratic project would squander a rare opportunity for renewal. Time is running out, so the path to the February election must be cleared as soon as possible. Anything less would invite the familiar spectre of crisis back into our political life.

## Get rid of hospital brokers, theft gangs

End the suffering of patients at Habiganj Sadar Hospital

We are concerned about the situation at Habiganj Sadar Hospital where organised broker syndicates and theft gangs have been operating openly, harassing patients and their attendants. According to a report, these brokers, in collusion with some hospital staff, routinely exploit patients, demanding bribes to speed up treatment while luring many into costly private facilities. Meanwhile, theft gangs are taking advantage of the chaos to steal wallets, phones, and other valuables, leaving visitors in distress. Sadly, the 250-bed hospital has been functioning in this state for years, reflecting a serious breakdown of order and discipline there.

Abdul Kuddus, a patient from Baniachong upazila, told our reporter that he lost his wallet with cash and documents while accompanying his wife. Likewise, Sumona Akter from Chunarughat had her phone stolen by a man pretending to help her “get a serial.” Such incidents are common at the hospital. Locals say syndicates operate freely inside and around the facility, often colluding with nearby pharmacies and diagnostic centres for profit.

Bangladesh's public health sector has long been suffering from similar corruption, mismanagement, inefficiency, and lack of accountability. The shortage of adequate healthcare facilities remains a long-standing concern, and the persistent absence of doctors and medical staff at upazila and union-level centres continues to deny rural communities access to basic treatment. Patients often come to district hospitals like Habiganj Sadar Hospital due to inadequate local services, but those mostly fail to meet their needs. The problem is also widespread across public hospitals in Dhaka and other major districts, reflecting deep flaws in governance and oversight within our public healthcare system. While the Habiganj hospital authorities took steps to evict brokers in the past, these efforts failed to bring much improvement. Hospital records show that in 2018 a subcommittee was formed, and in 2019 a list of 28 brokers was made public. Recently, following new complaints, RAB conducted a raid and detained nine brokers, but many still remain active.

The authorities must take strict measures to rid the hospital of brokers and thieves with the help of the local administration. They must ensure permanent surveillance, stricter security, and a functional complaint mechanism, so that any hospital staff collaborating with brokers or thieves face exemplary punishment. The authorities must also establish a system where patients can receive the services they need without interference or suffering. Most importantly, our entire health system must be reformed to ensure that patients receive proper care without facing unnecessary hardship.

## THIS DAY IN HISTORY

Donald Trump wins the presidential election

On this day in 2024, Donald Trump won the US presidential election, defeating Kamala Harris. He became the first convicted felon to be elected to the office and the second president to win a second non-consecutive term.

# An informed referendum or a mere rubber-stamp?



WINKERS AWEIGH!

Tanim Ahmed  
is digital editor at The Daily Star.

TANIM AHMED

A referendum on 48 key proposals of the National Consensus Commission seems almost inevitable. It will either be held on the same day of the general election, or earlier, as Jamaat-e-Islami and several like-minded Islamist parties are demanding.

The consensus commission proposed that key proposals relating to the constitution be put to a referendum with the following question: “Do you approve the July National Charter (Constitutional Reform) Implementation Order, 2025, and the proposals for constitutional reforms included in the first schedule of this order?”

Alternatively, the referendum question will refer to a draft bill containing these proposals. This bill will provide the incoming parliament, which will double as a constituent assembly, 270 days to address the proposals and incorporate them into the constitution or, presumably, reject them. However, the bill will stipulate, if there is no decision within 270 days, then these proposals will be considered to have become part of the constitution by default.

This article does not intend to address the absurdity of such a proposition that contemplates the possibility of sweeping changes in the constitution taking effect even while there is a sitting parliament. However, such a spectacular travesty begs to be mentioned even if in passing.

Coming back to the referendum, both alternatives boil down to essentially the same thing. Voters would have to either say yes or no to the entire set of 48 proposals in one go. This article argues that it is not just impractical but also undemocratic.

Let us begin with why it is impractical.

The 48 proposals in question are a result of months-long negotiations between the parties, and yet, some have only relented with notes of dissent to register their disagreement. There are different viewpoints about several proposals. Some consider them too bold, some not bold enough. The underlying rationale during the political negotiations was, of course, how these would play out in real life and encumber or facilitate governance,

which made agreement even more complex.

For instance, while the upper chamber of the parliament was widely accepted, the current proposals do not give it sufficient power to shut down a bill. The upper chamber can, at best, refuse to ratify a bill that the lower chamber floats. But it will be up to the lower house to amend it as per the upper house's recommendations or send it directly to the president



FILE VISUAL: ANWAR SOHEL

for approval, provided the bill passes a second round of votes in the lower house. Parties have even objected to the upper house having any say in constitutional amendment if it is constituted based on proportional representation.

Even a simple proposal that people of Bangladesh will be called Bangaleeshi, omitting the mention of “Bangalee,” as a nation, will face opposition from some people, as it would seem to be doing away with a core element of their identity. Several parties have already objected to changing the basic principles of the state, insisting that the original—democracy, nationalism, socialism and secularism—be kept.

covered the consensus commission exhaustively, read the entire July charter several times, and keenly followed the entire process from the constitution reform commission, a fair bit of confusion about the significance of the proposals remains. One can only imagine how difficult it would be for a lay person to understand them.

A sound understanding of the proposals could have been achieved through discussions and debates coupled with an active dissemination programme across the country. There has been nothing of the sort. Neither the government nor the parties, which endorsed the proposal for the referendum, took any steps to explain

to practicalities, then, parties would simply campaign for voters to say “yes” or “no” based on their rhetoric from the podiums and social media posts without explaining why.

Judging by the government's enthusiastic attempts not to ruffle anyone's feathers, it will probably shirk away from its responsibility of disseminating and explaining the proposals. As such, all that we are heading for in the name of a referendum is a mere rubber-stamp on the much-vaunted reforms from those who would be most affected—the people. Sadly, the political parties and the government are all complicit in this treachery. That is hardly the spirit of July.

# Is reducing women's worlds our fix for their lack of safety?



MIND THE GAP

Barrister Noshin Nawal  
is a columnist for The Daily Star. She can be reached at nawalnoshin1@gmail.com.

NOSHIN NAWAL

Somewhere between Dhanmondi and Mohammadpur, a young woman fought for her dignity on a moving bus with nothing but her sandal. The bus helper was harassing her while the other passengers sat frozen in silence. She did not have a weapon or backup. She had her sandal, her voice, and her refusal to be silent. The video went viral, of course. We Bangladeshis love a bit of drama, as long as it is happening to someone else.

But here is the part that keeps gnawing at me: the women on that bus, the ones who stayed quiet, watched, and did not move. Because while the man's act was criminal, the silence of the women was cultural. Conditioned. Generational. The kind of silence handed down like heirloom jewellery, wrapped in fear and polished with caution. And that silence is exactly what is being weaponised now, not just on buses but in politics. Take a political party's latest offering to womanhood: five-hour work shifts for mothers. A new policy to “honour” women by reminding them their primary job is motherhood, not survival. How

kind. How thoughtful. Nothing says empowerment like shorter shifts and longer sermons on modesty.

They insist they are not forcing women to adhere to a particular dress code. They are simply pointing out how “ninety percent of the girls [in Dhaka's industrial areas] go out dressed modestly.” Translation: We did not make the rule; we are just applauding the obedience. And when they say women will “choose what to wear”, they really mean “choose whatever we approve of”. All this talk of protecting women's “honour” is starting to sound less like policy and more like public relations. Because when you reduce women's working hours, lecture them on decency, and talk endlessly about how fragile their “honour” is, you are not protecting them. You are isolating them. You are shrinking their world until the safest place left is silence.

When that girl on the bus screamed, no one stood by her. Not one woman said “stop”. Not one voice joined hers. Maybe they were afraid. Maybe they thought, “better her than me”. But here is the truth: today it is

her, tomorrow it is you. The war on women does not need an army. It thrives on apathy. We keep saying “not all men”, but let us start saying “not enough women”. Not enough women are standing up, speaking up, linking arms, or even offering a hand when another is humiliated. Not enough of us are refusing to stay quiet when patriarchy gets a microphone and we get a curfew.

When political parties start deciding when we can work, what we can wear, and when it is appropriate to exist, women must stand by women. Loudly. Uncomfortably. Publicly. Because the only antidote to a society that silences women is a sisterhood that shouts back. This constant obsession with regulating women's behaviour has become the perfect distraction from everything else going wrong in the country. The economy is gasping for air, inflation is eating through people's savings, public transport is a daily battleground, and justice is something you only see on posters. But somehow, the biggest topic of national debate has become whether women are being “modest enough”.

It is almost clever. If you keep women busy defending their clothing, they will not have the time or energy to demand fair wages, safe roads, or functioning courts. If you tell them they must work less to protect their dignity, you also quietly cut them out of leadership and opportunity. And if you preach “modesty” as a virtue, you ensure that every time a woman

is harassed, someone will ask, “What was she wearing?” instead of “Why was he not stopped?” This is how control is disguised as protection. They will not build safer buses or train transport workers on harassment prevention, but they will tell you to dress modestly before boarding a bus.

The truth is, women's honour has never been under threat because of what women wear. It is under threat because of what men get away with. It is under threat because when women raise their voices, other women are too scared to echo them. Bangladeshi women have marched for independence, fought dictatorships, and built industries. But now, as politics becomes more regressive and public spaces more hostile, women seem to be shrinking again—not because we lack courage, but because we have been trained to face danger alone.

That girl on the bus should not have had to fight alone. She should have been surrounded by a chorus of women saying “enough”. Women in this country owe that to one another. Because no policy, no prayer, and no paternal sermon will save us from a culture that tells us our safety depends on silence. The next time a woman raises her shoe, her voice, or her truth, do not just film her. Stand beside her. Because silence is not safety. Silence is surrender. And in a country where women are told to work less, talk less, and wear more, standing by one another is not rebellion. It is survival.







# Raspu nima festival to screen Manipuri anthology 'Nunshipi'

The Manipuri community's largest festival, Raspu  
nima, will feature a special screening of Manipuri films today in Kamalganj, Moulvibazar. The programme will showcase the anthology film *Nunshipi (Pity Women)*, comprising three short films – *Inaphi*, *Tiras*, and *Hunashori* – each depicting the struggles of working Manipuri women.

Written and directed by Shuvasish Sinha under the Tahara banner, the shorts have been screened and awarded at various international film festivals. The films' producers are Uttam Kumar Singh and Sajedul Islam, with cinematography by Abid Mallik and music by Sharmila Sinha.

Jyoti Sinha stars in the lead role alongside an ensemble cast. Two screenings will be held today at 4.30pm and 8.30pm at the Manipuri Lalitkala Academy.



# Animal abuse must stop: Jaya Ahsan



PHOTOS: COLLECTED

**SADI MOHAMMAD SHAHNEWAZ**

It was sultry afternoon when Jaya Ahsan, seemingly in a serious mood, joined a roundtable at The Daily Star. The roundtable was the first of its kind in the organisation, focusing on the welfare of stray animals, their population management, and the state's responsibility toward the voiceless.

As the roundtable took shape, the National Award-winning actress attentively listened to the observations of Dr Md Shahinur

Alam, Director of the Department of Livestock's Medicine Store; Brigadier Imrul Quais Chowdhury, Chief Health Officer of Dhaka North City Corporation; Rubaiya Ahmad, Founder and Chairperson of Obhoyaronno – Bangladesh Animal Welfare Foundation; Dr Cynthia Farid, lawyer at the Bangladesh Supreme Court; Zafar Sobhan, lawyer, journalist, and animal welfare activist; Saqeb Mahbub, lawyer at Mahbub & Co; and Dr

Nusrat Jahan, Senior Associate Veterinarian at Bangladesh Animal Care Centre.

"I've learned a lot today," said Jaya, noticeably grimmer than her usual demeanor. "I will say that in my industry, there are barely proper guidelines for human beings – and in a country where animals are seen as 'less', it's really challenging to ensure their rights, especially on sets."

Jaya Ahsan played an instrumental role in ensuring justice for elephants. Responding to a writ filed by popular actress Jaya Ahsan and PAW Foundation Founder and Chairman Rakibul Haque Amil, a court suspended the issuing and renewal of licenses to adopt elephants from the wild.

The actress continued with an anecdote from a set: "Once, I saw a monkey kept on a set for hours, and the crew were clearly trying to hide it from me." Once confronted, they simply said that they were properly feeding the animal, as a justification for keeping it for so long. "This is the state of 'animal welfare', even in the minds of artistes."

J a y a emphasised the need for artistes to genuinely understand the importance of animal rights and empathy toward them. "While there are many artistes who adopted the 'animal lover' moniker purely out of fashion, at the very least, they now know what it's like to care for a cat or a dog, which will inspire empathy when they deal with a stray."

"While we have a long way to go, we must tread the path together," concluded Jaya.



## WHAT'S THE HAPS?



### 'Café de Volte'

**Café de Volte**, a Hunt Inc production, unfolds in the quiet town of Jinjira, where civility conceals corruption. Directed by Diana Meriline, the play follows Max D'Rosario, a brilliant Bengali Christian chef whose restaurant launch turns into a dark reckoning – a blood-soaked fable of power, morality, and survival.

**DATE:** WEDNESDAY | NOV 5, 2025  
**TIME:** 7 PM-10PM  
**VENUE:** STUDIO THEATRE HALL, BSA



## Who'll star in Raihan Rafi's eerie thriller 'Andhar'?

Filmmaker Raihan Rafi has unveiled the final cast of his upcoming supernatural thriller *Andhar* during an episode of the *Geek Myth* podcast. The star-studded lineup includes Siam Ahmed, Chanchal Chowdhury, Nazifa Tushi, Mostofa Monwar, Afsana Mimi, Gazi Rakayet, Tanzika Amin, Farrukh Ahmed Rehman, and Swarnali Choity in key roles.

The podcast was hosted by Cryptic Fate's Shakib Chowdhury, one of the film's three writers alongside Bassbaba Sumon and Adnan Adib Khan. Described as a horror story rooted in Bangladeshi culture, *Andhar* blends mystery, emotion, and thriller elements.

The technical crew features Sumon Sarker as DOP, Shihab Nurun Nabi as Art Director, and Arafat Mohsin Nidhi as Composer, among other prominent names.

# NEWS

## BNP men protest party ticket snubs

**FROM PAGE 12**

Yasin, former convener of Cumilla South District BNP, was denied nomination, while BNP Chairperson Khaleida Zia's Adviser Md. Monirul Haque Chowdhury got the party ticket.

In Madaripur-1, supporters of BNP leader Sajjad Hossain Lavlu Siddique, who was denied the party's nomination, blocked the Dhaka-Bhanga Expressway for nearly two hours on Monday night after Kamal Zaman Molla was announced the party's candidate for the constituency.

However, Molla's nomination was halted due to "unavoidable reasons", said a press release signed by BNP Senior Joint Secretary General Ruhul Kabir Rizvi yesterday.

In Chattogram, the BNP yesterday expelled four of the partymen over their alleged involvement in nomination-related violence in Sitakunda upazila.

Their activities were "against public interest" and violated party discipline, said a press release signed by Rizvi.

The BNP awarded the party ticket to Kazi Salauddeen for Chattogram-4 constituency.

Protesting the decision, supporters of Aslam Chowdhury, who was denied nomination, blocked the roads of Kadam Rasul, Bhatiar Bazar and Jalil Gate areas along the Dhaka-Chattogram Highway. They also set fire to a railway track nearby.

Earlier on Monday, the BNP unveiled a list of potential candidates for 237 constituencies to contest under the party banner in the upcoming 13th National Election expected to be held in February next year.

The nominees for the remaining 63 seats are yet to be decided.

Hours after the announcement, protests also broke out in several constituencies, including Madaripur, Chattogram, Kushia and Meherpur, against the announced nominees.

[Our correspondents from Tangail, Shariatpur, Cumilla and Chattogram contributed to the report]

## Ex-DMP chief

**FROM PAGE 12**

He said that around 2:15pm on July 19, Rampura police OC Mashur Rahman and additional deputy commissioner (ADC) of DMP's Khilgaon Zone Rashedul Islam arrived at the station with a BGB armoured personnel carrier (APC) and ordered police to open fire on protesting students and locals near the station.

"As a result of the firing, a man named Nadeem was killed near the Banasree Jame Mosque next to the police station. Another, Maya Islam, was also killed, and a child, Musa Khan, was injured nearby," Kibria told the tribunal.

He added that after internet services were restored, a video went viral showing police shooting a man hanging from the ledge of an under-construction building near the police station. At a subsequent meeting chaired by ADC Rashedul on July 29, the footage was screened at the station, and officers identified SI Tarikul Islam Bhuiyan and ASI

Chanchal Chandra Sarkar as the shooters.

Kibria, now posted at Badda Police Station, also identified ASI Chanchal, the only accused currently in custody, in the dock.

During cross-examination, Chanchal's counsel, Sarwar Jahan Nippon, argued that Kibria's claim that he recognised the accused from the video was based on an assumption, which the witness denied.

Amir Hossain, state defence counsel for four absconding accused, also cross-examined the witness. Both he and Sarwar claimed Kibria was not telling the truth, which the witness also denied.

Meanwhile, Constable Abu Bakkar Siddiq, assistant librarian of the International Crimes Tribunal's Investigation Agency, also testified yesterday.

He said the case's investigation officer, Syed Abdur Rouf, had collected videos, audio clips, UN reports, newspaper reports, and other documents from the agency's

library as evidence.

The tribunal set November 10 for recording the next testimony in the case.

Meanwhile, the ICT-2 yesterday once again deferred the recording of testimony in the case over the killing of Begum Rokeya University student Abu Sayed, who was shot dead near campus during the July uprising, as the prosecution witness failed to appear before the court for the third time.

The tribunal allowed a time petition and fixed November 10 for the next hearing.

Defence counsel Azizur Rahman Dulu told the tribunal that although the prosecution repeatedly sought time for witness attendance, it did not serve copies of the petitions to the defence, as required by law.

"It is the prosecution's duty to prove the charges by producing witnesses, but it has failed to ensure their presence before the tribunal on three consecutive dates," he said.

## Merging 5 lenders

**FROM PAGE 12**

financial institutions, converted specially. They will be designated as Class-B shareholders.

The remaining Tk 7,500 crore will come from the deposits of other institutional depositors, excluding banks, financial institutions and multinational companies, converted specially. They will be designated as Class-C shareholders.

Finance ministry officials said that they had already prepared the application and relevant documents for the bank's licence, which were sent to the law ministry for vetting last week.

Once the vetting is completed, they will be forwarded to the BB, they said.

After forming the new bank, depositors will primarily get their funds.

As part of the move, the central bank has drawn up a detailed roadmap outlining specific timelines for the repayment process.

This will be announced soon through an official gazette, with the repayment schedule taking effect from the date mentioned in it. A draft of that gazette has already been prepared.

Savings of up to Tk 2 lakh, which will be treated as protected deposits,

will require no wait and will be paid immediately after the merger.

The repayment schedule for individual depositors will be divided into two categories, according to the draft of the official circular.

Depositor repayments will get the highest priority as public confidence in the banking sector depends on it.

On the other hand, the BB has finalised five proposed names as administrators for the Shariah-based banks that are under consideration for a merger.

The banking regulator is likely to send administrators to those banks this week.

As part of the move, Mansur invited the managing directors and chairmen of the five banks today.

## Attacks on journos up

**FROM PAGE 12**

and the occupation of establishments," the report said.

In October, at least 48 journalists were harassed or assaulted in 34 incidents – an increase from the previous month.

The HRSO also documented 35 incidents of violence against workers, leaving 11 dead and 116 injured. In addition, 36 workers died in workplace accidents.

The report further noted a rise in incidents of violence against women and children.

## Tanzania lifts some restrictions after election violence

**AFP, Nairobi**

Some Tanzanians were venturing out yesterday as restrictions, including a curfew and an internet blackout, were partially lifted after elections erupted into violence that the opposition says has left hundreds dead.

The country's electoral commission said President Samia Suluhu Hassan won the October 29 poll with 98 percent of the vote. The opposition has declared the election a "sham".

A total internet blackout in place since protests broke out on election day has been partially eased, but verifiable information out of the east African country remains tricky.

## A family affair in Kurigram-4

**FROM PAGE 12**

The Daily Star that both brothers would come to seek their support. "It's a tricky situation for the family. We can't openly support one over the other. We'll probably cast our votes quietly without revealing our choice."

Talking to this correspondent, Jamaat candidate Mostak said he respects his elder brother Azizur, but there is no room for concessions in politics.

Jamaat is an ideological party that stands united under its leadership, while BNP, on the other hand, suffers from internal divisions, he said. "People understand that the wave of support for Jamaat is strong, and Inshallah, victory will be ours."

Azizur claimed that his younger brother once worked for him. "Now he [Mostak] has been made a Jamaat candidate to disrupt our family harmony, but that won't happen. BNP's decision to nominate me has foiled their plan. The people are with the BNP, and victory will be ours."

## 13 killed in road crashes

**from page 12**

The identities of the deceased could not be known immediately, said police.

The accident took place in the Kadamtoli area when a Dhaka-bound Ena Paribahan bus from Sylhet collided head-on with a Royal Paribahan bus coming from Cumilla around 12:30pm, said OC Shuvo Ranjan Chakma of Shayestaganj Highway Police.

Two died on the spot, while another died at the hospital, he added.

The injured were taken to Habiganj Sadar Hospital and Madhabpur Upazila Health Complex, the OC said, adding that several were in critical condition.

Traffic on the highway remained suspended for about an hour.

In Thakurgaon, two were killed in separate accidents in Bhulli and Khochabari villages in Thakurgaon Sadar.

The deceased are Liakat Ali, 60, of Chareswari village in Thakurgaon Sadar upazila, and Maya Rani, 40, of Muralipur village in Dinajpur's Birganj, said police.

Bhulli OC Saiful Islam Sarker said Liakat was going towards Boda on a bicycle when a motorcycle coming from the opposite direction hit him.

He was taken to Thakurgaon General Hospital where doctors declared him dead.

In another accident, Maya Rani was on her way to attend a wedding in Shibrampur village with her husband on a motorcycle.

Around 4:30pm, when they reached Gorurhat village in Khochabari area, a cattle-laden Nasimon hit their motorcycle and ran over Maya after she fell.

Locals rescued her and took her to Thakurgaon Sadar Hospital where she died around 5:00pm, said Ramjan Ali, SI of Thakurgaon Sadar police.

In Tangail, two were killed when a bus hit an auto-rickshaw at Deohata in Mirzapur.

The deceased are auto-rickshaw driver Rahij Shikder, 46, of Ranashal village, and passenger Abdul Hamid, 60, of Deohata village.

Sohel Sarwar, OC of Gorai Highway Police, said the accident happened on the Dhaka-Tangail highway around 12:30pm when the auto-rickshaw tried to get on the opposite side of the highway. The two died on the spot.

Efforts are underway to seize the bus, he said.

[Our correspondents from Noakhali, Moulvibazar, Thakurgaon and Tangail contributed to this report.]





Ganesh Biswas sells handcrafted fish baskets made from split bamboo, carrying them on his head. Each basket sells wholesale for Tk 120 and retail for Tk 150. The photo was taken yesterday at Char Aicha, a village in Barishal Sadar upazila.

PHOTO: TITU DAS

## Be rational, ensure nat’l stability

FROM PAGE 3

“If there is a lack of trust, it must be addressed first. Without that, reforms or elections will not matter.”

Supreme Court lawyer and Jamaat representative Shishir Manir said, “BNP identifies as a reformist party, but where is the reform now?”

He said if BNP calls the omission of its dissent notes from the July charter a “deception”, the same could be said about Jamaat and the NCP. “The exclusion was a policy decision, not deceit,” he added, urging BNP to review the charter and the draft orders carefully.

NCP Joint Convener Khaled Saifullah said

extreme positions by some parties have made compromise difficult. “Let us not use notes of dissent as tools for negotiation. Let us go to the people and hear directly what they want -- that is the true purpose of the referendum,” he said.

Amar Bangladesh Party Chairman Mojibur Rahman Monju said leaders show flexibility in private but appear rigid before the media, which fuels mistrust.

Ganosamhati Andolon Chief Coordinator Zonayed Saki said the July movement created “revolutionary potential” but did not complete the transition.

He warned that turning the reform process into a political contest could derail the transition.

Dhaka University Professor Asif Mohammad Shahan said ambiguities remain in the draft orders, particularly regarding terms that could affect the powers of the next parliament.

Syed Hasib Uddin Hossain, general secretary of Rashura Sangskar Andolan, said all parties want an election, but what matters most is ensuring that the process is properly executed.

Author Rashed AM Titumir and Naem Ahmad, chief organiser

of Nagorik Coalition, also spoke.

Fahim Mashroor, joint convener of Voice for Reform, moderated the discussion.

On Monday, the government asked political parties to submit a unified decision within a week amid disputes over the July charter and the proposed referendum.

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PRAYER  
TIMING

NOVEMBER 5

Fazr	Zohr	Asr	Maghrib	Esha
AZAN 4-55	12-45	4-00	5-30	7-15
JAMAAT 5-30	1-15	4-15	5-34	7-45

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF BANGLADESH  
HIGH COURT DIVISION  
STATUTORY ORIGINAL JURISDICTION  
COMPANY MATTER ON-1919 OF 2025

An application under section 81 (2) read with section 85(3) of the Company Act, 1994

**AND IN THE MATTER OF:** **Abdur Rouf**, son of Late: Abdul Gani& Late: Jahura Bibi, Executive director of Sylhet Homes Pvt. Ltd. Address: Raja Mansion (2nd Floor), Zinda Bazar, Sylhet.

.....**Petitioner.**

**-VERSUS-**

The Registrar of Joint Stock Companies and Firms and others

.....**Respondents.**

Notice is here by given that an application under Section 81(2) and 85(3) read with Section 396 of the Companies Act 1994 was moved in petitioner to Condonation of delay in holding the year 2022, 2023, 2024 and 2025 Annual General Meeting of the Company named and **Sylhet Homes Pvt. Ltd.** Hon'ble Company Judge **Mr. Justice Ahmed Soheli** has admitted the said application on 29th October, 2025 if any person interested in the said application may appear on the date of hearing either himself or through his Advocate. Acopy of said application may be obtained from the undersigned on payment of prescribed fees.

**Md. Monirul Islam**  
Advocate, Supreme Court of Bangladesh  
Hall Room No. 01 (Main), Supreme Court Bar Building, Dhaka.  
Mobile No. 01723-210745

STATUTORY NOTICE

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF BANGLADESH  
HIGH COURT DIVISION  
STATUTORY ORIGINAL JURISDICTION  
COMPANY MATTER NO. 1863 OF 2025

An application under Section 81(2) and 85(3) read with Section 396 of the Companies Act. 1994.

**AND IN THE MATTER OF:** **Juang Sabine Shih Ping**, Managing Director, Jintex Chemical Bangladesh Ltd., Address-12F, No.126, Section. 4, Nanking East Road, Taipei City 10595 Taiwan.

.....**Petitioner.**

**VERSUS**

1. Jintex Chemical Bangladesh Ltd., represented by its Director, Tsai, Shu-Fen, Address - 5F., No. 75, Sec. 3, Nangang Rd., Nangang Dist., Taipei City 115, Taiwan (R.O.C.).

2. The Registrar of Joint Stock Companies and Firms, 1, Kawan Bazar, 6th Floor, TCB Bhaban, Dhaka.

.....**Respondents.**

Notice is hereby given in the effect that an application under Section 81(2) and 85(3) read with Section 396 of the Companies Act. 1994, was moved before the Hon'ble High Court Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh by the petitioner for condoning the delay of holding the Annual General Meetings of "Jintex Chemical Bangladesh Ltd." the Hon'ble Company Judge, Mr. Justice Ahmed Soheli has admitted the said application on 20.10.2025. Any person interested in the said application may appear before the Hon'ble Court. A copy of the said application may be obtained from the undersigned on payment of charges.

**Shahinoor Alam**  
Advocate, Supreme Court of Bangladesh  
Room No. 5006 (Annex), Mob: 01727983838.

হাউজিং এন্ড বিল্ডিং রিসার্চ ইনস্টিটিউট

গৃহায়ন ও গণপূর্ত মন্ত্রণালয়

১২০/৩, দাবুস-সালাম, মিরপুর, ঢাকা-১২১৬

ফ্যাক্সঃ ৫৮০৫৫১৯৪

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তারিখঃ ০৪/১১/২০২৫

রিসার্চ ফেলো নিয়োগ বিজ্ঞপ্তি

হাউজিং এন্ড বিল্ডিং রিসার্চ ইনস্টিটিউট (এইচবিআরআই) গৃহায়ন ও গণপূর্ত মন্ত্রণালয়ের অধীনস্থ গৃহায়ন ও নির্মাণ বিষয়ক জাতীয় গবেষণা প্রতিষ্ঠান। অত্র প্রতিষ্ঠানের গবেষণা কার্যক্রম অরাজিত করার লক্ষ্যে এইচবিআরআই গবেষণা খাতের আওতায় অস্থায়ী ভিত্তিতে নিম্নবর্ণিত বিভাগের অধীনে ফেলোশীপ প্রদান করা হবে;

ক্রমিক নং	বিভাগের নাম	ফেলোশীপ সংখ্যা
০১	মৃত্তিকা বিভাগ	০১ (এক) টি
০২	গৃহায়ন বিভাগ	০১ (এক) টি
০৩	নির্মাণ ও কাঠামো বিভাগ	০১ (এক) টি

উক্ত ফেলোশীপের জন্য আগ্রহী প্রার্থীদের নিকট হতে নির্ধারিত ছকে সুনির্দিষ্ট গবেষণা প্রকল্প প্রস্তাবনাসহ দরখাস্ত আহ্বান করা যাচ্ছে। উল্লেখ্য যে, প্রস্তাবিত প্রকল্পের মেয়াদ কোনক্রমেই ০২ (দুই) বছরের অধিক হবেনা।

শর্তাবলীঃ

- ন্যূনতম যোগ্যতাঃ স্বীকৃত বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় হতে পুরকৌশল/ স্থাপত্য/ সয়েল মেকানিক্স এন্ড ফাউন্ডেশন ইঞ্জিনিয়ারিং বিষয়ে স্নাতক/ স্নাতকোত্তর ডিগ্রী।
- শিক্ষার কোনো স্তরে তৃতীয় শ্রেণী গ্রহণযোগ্য নয়।
- স্নাতক পর্যায়ে প্রথম শ্রেণী এবং স্নাতকোত্তর গবেষণা/ থিসিস গুণের প্রার্থীদের অগ্রাধিকার দেয়া হবে।
- সরকারী, আধা-সরকারী ও স্বায়ত্বশাসিত সংস্থা অথবা বেসরকারী কোন প্রতিষ্ঠানে চাকরিরত প্রার্থীকে এইচবিআরআই ফেলোশীপের জন্য বিবেচনা করা হবে না।
- প্রার্থীর বয়স ২৬-১১-২০২৫ তারিখে সর্বোচ্চ ৩২ (বত্রিশ) বছর হতে হবে। বিশেষ যোগ্যতাসম্পন্ন প্রার্থীদের ক্ষেত্রে ওভারজা ও বয়স শিথিলযোগ্য।
- সর্বসাকুল্যে মাসিক ভাতার পরিমাণ ৩৫,০০০/- (পঁয়ত্রিশ হাজার)।
- আবেদন ফরম নিম্ন-স্বাক্ষরকারী দপ্তর হতে সরাসরি অথবা [www.hbri.gov.bd](http://www.hbri.gov.bd) ওয়েব সাইট থেকে সংগ্রহ করা যাবে। বিস্তারিত তথ্যের জন্য অত্র অফিসে যোগাযোগ করা যেতে পারে।
- আবেদন পত্রের সাথে সদ্য তোলা ০৩ (তিন) কপি পাসপোর্ট সাইজের ছবিসহ সকল শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতার সনদপত্রের সত্যায়িত অনুলিপি সংযোজন করতে হবে। আবেদনপত্র সরাসরি/ডাকযোগে ২৬-১১-২০২৫ তারিখের মধ্যে প্রজেক্ট অফিসার, হাউজিং এন্ড রিসার্চ ইনস্টিটিউট বরাবর পৌছাতে হবে।
- নিয়োগপ্রাপ্ত ফেলো প্রস্তাবিত সময়ের পূর্বে চাকুরী হতে ইত্তফা প্রদান করতে চাইলে তাকে অবশ্যই প্রস্তাবিত প্রকল্পটির সুষ্ঠুভাবে সম্পন্ন করতে হবে এবং প্রজেক্ট কমপ্রিশান রিপোর্ট দাখিল করতে হবে।
- কর্তৃপক্ষ কোনো কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতিরেকে বিজ্ঞপ্তিতে প্রকাশিত পদের সংখ্যা পরিবর্তন করতে পারবেন।

০৪/১১/২৫

০৪.১১.২৫

(মোঃ ইবনুল ওয়্যারাহ)

প্রজেক্ট অফিসার (অ. দা.)

হাউজিং এন্ড বিল্ডিং রিসার্চ ইনস্টিটিউট

GD-2323

## DU show-causes 403 BCL activists over July violence

### DU CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka University authorities have show-caused 403 leaders and activists of the banned Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) over their alleged involvement in attacks on protesting students during the July uprising, between July 15 and August 5, 2024.

The show-cause notice, signed by Proctor Prof Saifuddin Ahmed, also the member secretary of the university's probe committee on the July incidents, was issued on November 2 and circulated to the media by the DU Public Relations Office yesterday.

The notice said an earlier fact-finding committee had identified 128 students and recommended their suspension. Later, a five-member investigation committee formed by the syndicate found the involvement of a total of 403 students, including the 128.

The accused have been asked to submit written explanations within seven working days stating why they should not be expelled from the university.

## NCP, 2 other parties

### FROM PAGE 3

-- "shapla" (water lily), "kalam" (pen) and "mobile phone". Earlier, Nagarik Oikya and Bangladesh Congress had also sought the water lily symbol.

Later, in letters sent on August 3 and September 24, NCP revised its preferences, stating that it wanted a white or red water lily.

On September 30, the EC sent a letter to NCP asking it to choose one symbol from the approved list of 115 and submit its choice by October 7.

Another letter later extended the deadline to October 19. On that day, NCP wrote to the EC seeking clarification on the criteria used to include or exclude symbols from the list.

Earlier, on July 9, the EC decided not to include the water lily as an electoral symbol under the Election Conduct Rules.

The NCP then wrote to the EC again, arguing that the commission's reasoning was not "legally correct" and its refusal had no legal basis.

On October 30, the EC incorporated the water lily bud into its reserve list of electoral symbols for both political parties and independent candidates.

That same day, EC Secretary Akhtar Ahmed said the inclusion was not linked to any party's demand, noting a difference between "water lily" and "water lily bud".

Finally, on November 2, the NCP accepted "water lily bud" as its electoral symbol following a meeting with the chief election commissioner.

## Prothom Alo celebrates

### FROM PAGE 3

journey through objective journalism," Sajjad said, adding that this sense of responsibility must continue in the future.

Alamgir Kabir praised Prothom Alo for remaining true to its principles, saying that while many lose direction due to greed, the newspaper has stayed steadfast and truthful in its service to the nation.

Marina Tabassum stressed the importance of fact-based, investigative journalism in today's information-saturated era, commending Prothom Alo for its in-depth reporting and urging for even more of it.

Attending the event, The Daily Star Editor and Publisher Mahfuz Anam praised Prothom Alo's

leadership, journalistic quality, and integrity.

He highlighted both the opportunities and challenges of the present time, where freedom of expression has expanded, but misinformation and hate speech have also proliferated.

He said journalists must now be more cautious and truthful than ever.

In his concluding remarks, Prothom Alo Editor Matiuur Rahman paid tribute to late Transcom Group Chairman Latifur Rahman and recalled the founding vision of Prothom Alo -- to build an independent, neutral newspaper serving the nation through journalism.

He said the newspaper had faced many challenges

since its inception and warned that new ones had emerged, including the growing influence of right-wing politics and the rise of artificial intelligence.

"We must embrace these changes," he said. "While remaining true to the spirit of the Language Movement and Liberation War and the ideals of free, progressive thought, we also need to become technologically advanced and AI driven as an institution."

The programme began at 10:00am with the national anthem sung by Prothom Alo staff, followed by a short documentary highlighting the newspaper's achievements. Managing Editor Anisul Hoque formally closed the event.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Ministry of Health and Family Welfare

Health Services Division

Health Economics Unit

14/2, Topkhana Road (3<sup>rd</sup> Floor), Dhaka-1000

www.heu.gov.bd

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI)

for Procuring Services of a Research/ Consultancy firm (National) for Conducting "Gender Responsive Health Care System in Bangladesh: Addressing the Dual Burden Challenge of Climate Change and Health Inequities"

Memo No. 45.05.0000.000.005.31.0003.25.459	Dated: 04/11/2025 CE	
SL NO	PROCURING AGENCY INFORMATION	
1.	Ministry / Division	Health Services Division, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
2.	Agency	Health Economics Unit (HEU)
3.	Name of The Procuring Entity	Director (Administration), HEU
4.	Procuring Entity District	Dhaka
5.	Type of Organization	Consultancy Firm/ Research Organization
5.	EOI Ref. No.	45.05.0000.000.005.31.0003.25.459
6.	Date	04/11/2025 CE
	KEY INFORMATION	
7.	Procurement Sub-Method	Quality and Cost Based Selection (QCBS)
	FUNDING INFORMATION	
8.	Budget and Source of Funds	Funds of Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh (GOB-Operating Budget), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MOHFW)
	PARTICULAR INFORMATION	
9.	Project / Program Name (If Applicable)	Gender Responsive Health Care System in Bangladesh: Addressing the Dual Burden Challenge of Climate Change and Health Inequities
10.	EOI closing date and time	Date: 24/11/2025 CE Time: 02:00 PM
11.	Brief Description of the Assignment	Bangladesh has achieved notable progress in expanding healthcare access, yet deep inequities persist across regions and population groups, disproportionately affecting women, the poor, people with disabilities, and gender-diverse individuals. As one of the most climate-vulnerable countries, Bangladesh also faces frequent floods, cyclones, and heat stress, which exacerbate existing health and social disparities. A gender-responsive health system—one that integrates gender and equity considerations into policy, planning, and service delivery—is essential to address these intertwined challenges. The aim of the study is to examine how gender, climate change, and health inequities intersect in Bangladesh and how the health system can become more gender-responsive to tackle these overlapping challenges.
12.	Experience, Resource and Delivery Capacity	To be selected, the organization MUST fulfill the following criteria: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Proven expertise in conducting research on gender, equity, and health systems, preferably within the context of Bangladesh.</li><li>Strong understanding of the interlinkages between climate change, health, and social vulnerability, including experience in climate-resilient health or social protection studies.</li><li>Experience in health policy analysis, institutional assessments, and formulation of evidence-based recommendations for system strengthening and inclusivity.</li><li>Proven record of producing high-quality analytical and policy reports in English, meeting international research and documentation standards.</li></ul> Applicants fulfilling the following criteria shall be given SPECIAL CONSIDERATION in the selection process: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Prior experience working with government institutions—particularly the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) or Health Economics Unit</li></ul>
13.	Other details (if applicable)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>JVCA is not allowed for this service procurement</li><li>02 copies of the EOI (01 Original and 01 Copy) should be submitted in a SEALED ENVELOPE clearly marked 'Request for EOI for conducting 'Gender Responsive Health Care System in Bangladesh: Addressing the Dual Burden Challenge of Climate Change and Health Inequities' to the undersigned.</li></ul>
14.	Association with external firm	Not Applicable
15.	Indicative start date (month/year)	January, 2026
16.	Indicative completion date (month/year)	September, 2026
	PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS	
17.	Name of Official Inviting EOI	Dr. Mohammad Shawkat Hossain Khan
18.	Designation of Official Inviting EOI	Director Admin. (Deputy Secretary), Health Economics Unit, Health Services Division, MoHFW
19.	Address of Official Inviting EOI	Health Economics Unit, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Floor, 14/2, Topkhana Road, Dhaka 1000.
20.	Contact details of Official Inviting EOI	Telephone- +88 09666782278; ext: 715, E-mail: shawkat9294@gmail.com
21.	Detail Information	www.heu.gov.bd; www.cptu.gov.bd
The Procuring Agency reserves the right to accept/ reject any/ all EOIs without any reason whatsoever & without incurring any liability to the affected applicant(s).		

Dr. Mohammad Shawkat Hossain Khan  
Director Admin. (Deputy Secretary)  
Health Economics Unit  
Health Services Division, MoHFW

GD-2324



LAW OPINION

Transitional solutions for refugee protection through the lens of the Rohingya crisis

SAKHAWAT SAJJAT SEJAN AND SUMAIYA ISLAM,

Around the world, many people are forced to leave their houses, country of origin and cross borders to find dignity and safety from conflict, persecution and gross violation of human rights. Their journeys demonstrate both the failure of states to uplift protection under international norms and human resilience. Often the refugees go to host countries where they absolutely depend on the goodwill of host governments, and in many cases these host states are not signatory to the UN Refugee Convention and its 1967 Protocol. This gap in legal frameworks drags millions of refugees to darkness without formal legal status, dependent on humanitarian aid and limited to no access to education and employment. The principle of non-refoulement and customary international law guide that refugees shall not be returned to danger, but they do not force host countries to give permanent legal protection to the refugees. As an outcome, all the non-signatory countries opt ad-hoc or short-term humanitarian mechanisms, which often fail to assure sustainable, secured and dignified life for the refugees.

Bangladesh has demonstrated exemplary kindness in hosting nearly one million Rohingyas who fled persecution and violence happened in Myanmar in 2017. This presence of the refugees for a long time has created complicated challenges for the state. On the other hand, the Rohingyas are encamped in the overcrowded camps with limited access of necessary services and rights. They neither have legal employment nor formal education. In addition to that, they lack formal refugee status which prevent them from pursuing usual livelihoods. There are insufficient employment opportunities with a few irregular or informal works, that makes most refugees dependent on international aid. These sufferings have caused hopelessness and distress causing many to pursue risky journeys through the sea for a better life elsewhere. Despite the frequent attempts by Bangladesh a n d

international community to actuate repatriation, the Rohingyas' hope of returning to Myanmar seems dim in the current situation of insecurity and danger. The whole crisis now turned into a complex protracted refugee crisis, asking not just for empathy but practical and innovative solutions.

In the current scenario, transition solution evolves as a humane and pragmatic approach of refugee protection. These solutions may be used to fill in the gap between long term durable solutions and emergency humanitarian response. By nature, transitional solutions will be different from local integration, voluntary repatriation and resettlement. Transitional solutions will reinforce resilience, prepare host communities and refugees for sustainable future and promote self-reliance among the refugees. Transitional solutions acknowledge displacements as not only a humanitarian crisis but also a governance and developmental challenge that asks for multilateral efforts from international agencies, host country and the refugees themselves. This approach connects protection and empowerment, assuring that refugees can live a safe and dignified life while waiting for the permanent conventional solutions.

The core element of transitional protection frameworks is the principle of temporary refuge. This principle is recognised by the international refugee law and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. This principle allows refugees fleeing armed conflict to take refuge in a host state, while obligating the host state to provide shelter to the refugees for a specific period. This system does not ask for permanent protection or solution to the refugees while focusing on temporary protection. Bangladesh may practice this principle by delivering temporary protection status to the Rohingyas. Temporary permits or temporary identification cards may be provided. Refugees will be brought under the scope of administrative and legal mechanisms of the country. This will not only help to reduce exploitation but also permit access to

limited employment, healthcare and education. Temporary refugee doctrine would also guide Bangladesh to comply with international refugee protection standards while conserving the country's absolute discretion to fix the duration and stipulation of their stay in the country. On a different note, it would give the Rohingya refugees a sense of safety, security, and inclusivity by replacing their present condition of uncertainty with an organised, rights-based, and dignified existence.

The next aspect of transitional protection is local settlement, an approach that has been utilised to balance refugee welfare with the interest of states. Local settlement provides areas for the refugees where they are permitted to participate, live and work in limited educational and economic activities

**In the current scenario, transition solution evolves as a humane and pragmatic approach of refugee protection. These solutions may be used to fill the gap between long term durable solutions and emergency humanitarian response. By nature, transitional solutions will be different from local integration, voluntary repatriation and resettlement.**

without being fully integrated into the host society. This model was successfully applied by the African states during mass influxes and displacement in the 1960s and 1980s. The refugees were made self-reliant and burden on the host states was reduced. Local settlement has several forms such as spontaneous settlement, state-sponsored settlement and agricultural settlement. Bangladesh may choose to adopt any of them. For example, spontaneous settlement would permit refugees to opt for livelihoods and residence by themselves, state-sponsored settlement would include infrastructural support and government planning, and lastly the agricultural settlement would provide refugees land for cultivation. Bangladesh is applying

these models of local settlement without any planned scheme. Hence a blended model blending these approaches will be most effective if applied in a formalised mechanism. Local settlement will increase productivity, contribute to the economic growth and reduce dependency on aid by giving monitored access to vocational training and income generating activities for the refugees. It will also reduce security concerns in the host state by minimising illegal economic activities within the camps.

Local solution is another approach related to local settlement. This is introduced and discussed by the Global Compact on Refugees 2018. Local solutions give temporary legal stay by ensuring access to necessary rights, such as social protection, healthcare, housing, decent work and education without implicating permanent integration of refugees. The purpose of the approach is not to naturalise or integrate refugees but to assure their dignified life while planning for future permanent solutions under the convention. In the scenario of Bangladesh, formalised local solutions approach would permit Rohingyas to join the education system, skill development programs and small scale enterprises coordinated by international organisation and government. This will benefit the refugees through acquired skills which might be utilised for their eventual return to Myanmar, additionally it would help refugees to contribute to the host community in the development initiatives. Self-reliant and empowered refugees usually do not engage in irregular movements and get involved in crime, maneuvering local solutions as win-win scheme for the host country and refugees. Internal relocation is considered as another dimension of temporary refugee protection. This involved movement of refugees within the host countries to more suitable, and safer places for economic activity. Though relocation is sometimes seen as a management strategy, it can also contribute to developmental schemes if adequately utilised. To execute internal relocation alternative two tests have to be pursued, i.e., relevance test and reasonableness test. Relevant test asks whether the relocation area is accessible and secured, while the reasonableness test sees whether the refugees would lead a dignified and normal life in the relocated place. Bangladesh's

instance of relocating Rohingyas to Bhasan Char can be defined under this approach by shedding light on agricultural productivity, livelihood generation and skills training. Instead of encampment strategy, internal relocation can work as a method for human development and self-sufficiency, guided by technical assistance and international aid.

These transitional solutions, i.e., local settlement, internal relocation, local solution and temporary refuge create compact protection mechanism that connects immediate humanitarian necessities and long-term durable solutions. They establish pathways for the refugees to work productively, stay lawfully and buckle up for their eventual return to their state of origin. For Bangladesh, adopting and executing such a legal framework in combination with the transitional solutions would uphold its moral leadership in the protection of refugees, minimise dependency on aid and upgrade national security by recognising the core causes of unrest in the refugee camps. From the perspective of international community, aiding this new arrangement of refugee protection through burden-sharing, expertise and funding would uplift international commitments to sustainable development and human rights. The Rohingya crisis cannot be solved overnight, hence the hopes of repatriation stay dim in the current situation of Myanmar. Until and unless Myanmar assures accountability, security and citizenship, return is not a pragmatic option. Simultaneously, Bangladesh carries the opportunity to initiate a new approach of refugee management based on human dignity, law, and rights. Hence, transition protection is the pragmatic middle path, that not only supports refugees and host community but also keeps the gate open for eventual repatriation. Through this approach, Bangladesh can transform the Rohingya crisis into a story of shared responsibility, resilience, and empowerment from despair, distress, and dependence. Transitional solutions are not the finishing points of the journey, rather they are the nexus to carry both the host nations and refugees towards more sustainable and just future.

**The writers are Assistant Professor (Law), Bangladesh University and Lecturer (Law), Manarat International University, respectively.**



FILE PHOTO: REUTERS

RIGHTS AND REMEDIES

Death by negligence and our legal rights

TASHDIA TARAFDAR RIDISHA

The recent Farmgate tragedy, in which a man lost his life after being struck by a bearing pad falling from the Metrorail infrastructure, comes as a timely reminder of how public safety is too often sacrificed to negligence. Besides the tragedy, this incident raises fundamental questions related to accountability, legal responsibility, and the state's duty towards guaranteeing people's safety.

Generally, in tragic incidents like this, the law of tortious liability comes into action. Negligence in tort law comes in play when an

authority or person fails to exercise 'reasonable care' to avoid injury or loss to another human being. The Metrorail authorities, including contractors and relevant regulatory bodies, clearly owe a duty of care to the public, especially when they had the knowledge that pedestrians regularly pass through such areas. Using proper equipment, machinery, or material, which do not potentially put lives at risk, is not only a moral obligation but also a legal obligation.

Here, the occurrence in question could invoke the legal doctrine of 'res ipsa loquitur', meaning 'the thing speaks for itself'. It is a rule of law in



which the incident is of such a nature that it would tend to generate a presumption of negligence on the defendant's part. Hence, the burden falls squarely on the defendant, and he/she has to prove that they were not negligent.

For too long, the perception has persisted that tort law has little

practical application in Bangladesh. However, recent judicial decisions have negated such views. In 2015, a 5-year-old boy named Nirab died after he fell into an open sewer in Dhaka. The government authorities, WASA and DSCC, were made subject to a writ petition by the Children's Charity Foundation to claim compensation.

The High Court Division (HCD) of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh ordered the government to explain why it should not compensate the family. The case shows that the state can be held liable for negligence and proves that citizens have enforceable rights when state negligence causes harm or death.

Thus, it can be said that the victim's family in the present case has a clear legal right to approach the HCD under Article 102(1) of the Constitution, exercising the court's writ jurisdiction to seek compensation for violation of the fundamental right of life and safety. In fact, writ petitions are often more likely to provide relief than traditional civil actions, especially against public authorities.

On the other hand, the victim's family can *arguably* pursue a civil claim under the Fatal Accidents Act, 1855. According to this law, the relatives of a person who is killed by the negligence of another party are entitled to be compensated for

wrongful death. Given the scale and nature of the damages, the claim ought to be one for large damages to compensate both for the emotional and financial loss incurred by the dependents.

This disaster cannot be brushed off as merely an isolated or unfortunate accident. It reflects basic issues in monitoring the infrastructure development, ensuring safety, and addressing liability in Bangladesh. The Government and Metro Rail authorities must conduct an independent inquiry, pay compensation to the victim's family immediately, and adopt stronger safety protocols. More importantly, the legal community and civil society should push for more effective tort law reforms *e.g.*, more linear and categorical procedures for compensation claims by the public and better mechanisms for enforcing state liability.

**The writer is law student at BRAC University.**

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# PAY BOOST FOR WOMEN, but equality still elusive

SAMSUL AREFIN KHAN

Step into the Sher-e-Bangla National Cricket Stadium in Mirpur, and the contrast is striking. Rows of sleek cars gleam in the parking lot -- most owned by men's national cricketers, board directors, coaches, and staff. Among them, there's barely a sign of a car belonging to a woman cricketer. The scene reflects a reality that speaks louder than any statistic. Even after years of representing the country, most women cricketers

cannot afford to enjoy the comforts that male counterparts take for granted. Recently, Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) announced a 35 percent pay rise for women's cricketers and aligned their daily allowances and tour fees with the men's team. Players in four categories will now earn Tk 80,000–Tk 1,60,000 a month. The BCB also expanded the women's national contract list from 30 to 35, though monthly salaries remain Tk 30,000. By contrast, 21 male national

cricketers earn between Tk two lakh and Tk 10 lakh, while another 100 first-class players take home Tk 30,000–40,000. Pay disparity is not unique to Bangladesh, but boards in India, Australia, and New Zealand already offer equal match fees. In Bangladesh, men earn Tk 2 lakh–Tk 8 lakh per international match, compared to Tk 50,000–Tk 1 lakh for women. The BCB deserves credit for progress, but the scenario is far from ideal. Women's wing chairman and former national spinner Abdur Razzak had informed The Daily Star that they aim to "increase match fees gradually".


For many players, survival remains the pressing concern. One who lost her central contract after two years admitted thinking of quitting. She described earnings that are "barely enough to survive". Limited matches make things worse. "In domestic cricket, it's even worse -- the men's cricketers got Tk 40,000 per match in the NCL T20 this year, while we got Tk 3,000 last

• A total of 21 male cricketers and 15 female cricketers are currently under the BCB's central contract.

• While there are three categories -- A, B, and C -- with monthly salaries of Tk 40,000, Tk 35,000, and Tk 30,000, respectively, for the 100 nationally contracted male cricketers, the 35 female cricketers under national contract are not categorised and receive Tk 30,000 per month.

• In the recent NCL T20, male cricketers received Tk 40,000 as match fee, whereas in the last women's NCL, players received only Tk 3,000.

• Recently, the BCB equalled the day allowance and tour fee for male and female cricketers. From now on, both will receive USD 75 as day allowance and USD 50 as tour fee per day during international assignments, except during ICC and ACC events.



• In last year's women's DPL, many female cricketers did not receive the promised remuneration from their respective clubs. A few top players earned around Tk 9-10 lakh, while some others reportedly played for wages of around Tk 20-30 thousand.

## Joy returns to Test squad

SPORTS REPORTER

Mahmudul Hasan Joy was recalled as Bangladesh announced a 14-member squad for the upcoming two-match Test series against Ireland, starting on November 11 in Sylhet. The Tigers last played Test cricket in June against Sri Lanka, where they lost 1-0. Three players from that squad -- off-spinner Nayeem Hasan, Anamul Haque Bijoy and Mahidul Islam Ankon -- were left out. Joy earned his place back after scoring a century in the recent National Cricket League T20. The second Test will be played at the Sher-e-Bangla National Cricket Stadium in Mirpur. **SQUAD:** Najmul Hossain Shanto (Captain), Shadman Islam, Mahmudul Hasan Joy, Mominul Haque, Mushfiqur Rahim, Litton Das, Jaker Ali, Mehidy Hasan Miraz, Taijul Islam, Khaled Ahmed, Hasan Mahmud, Nahid Rana, Ebadot Hossain, Hasan Murad

## Beyond technique: Ashraful focuses on the mental side

After more than a decade, former Bangladesh captain and arguably the most naturally gifted batter the country has ever produced, **Mohammad Ashraful**, is set to return to the national setup but in a different role. The Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) has appointed him as the specialist batting coach for the upcoming home series against Ireland this month. Few understand Bangladesh's persistent batting woes better than Ashraful. In an interview with *The Daily Star's Bishwajit Roy*, he shared his thoughts on his new role.

**On his appointment** It's undoubtedly an exciting and proud moment for me. I've played for and captained the national side, and now I'm returning as a coach. That's very special. I completed my Level 3 coaching certification three years ago and gained experience through roles in the DPL, BPL, and NCL. My stint with Rangpur Riders, in particular, gave me valuable insights. But working with the national team is a completely different challenge; every move will be under scrutiny. **On the challenges ahead** The expectations are higher than ever, and results are what matter. But I'm optimistic because I'll be working with players I know well -- experienced names like Litton Das, Mehidy Hasan Miraz, and Mushfiqur Rahim, who've all spent over a decade in international cricket. **On his goals and Bangladesh's batting issues** My main focus will be on the



mental side of batting. At this level, there's little scope to change a player's technique. In my view, technique isn't our biggest issue, it's the mental side of the game. We often lack game understanding and awareness, which is why our batters get good starts but fail to convert them. This has been a persistent problem since my playing days. To build a strong batting unit, players must think for

themselves -- develop individual game plans and read match situations better. My experience playing in England taught me the value of understanding your game. Talent alone doesn't guarantee success if you don't understand your own game and can't read the game. Take Litton's recent T20I innings or Soumya's [Sarkar] knock against West Indies -- both show lapses in game

awareness. Mushfiqur Rahim, on the other hand, succeeds because of his discipline and cricketing intelligence. **On bridging the gap between domestic and international cricket** The biggest question in our cricket is why players fail to carry their domestic form into the international arena. Again, it comes down to game awareness and individual planning. Domestic and international cricket may look similar, but the standard is vastly different. At the top level, you face five quality bowlers on challenging surfaces. You must adapt quickly and understand your game deeply. Many players fail because they treat international matches like domestic ones. It's crucial to know when to take risks and when to hold back. If you're always chasing runs without reading the game, you'll struggle. That's the area I want to address -- helping players think smarter and respond better to match situations.

In-form forward Erling Haaland will aim to become the first player to score in five consecutive Champions League appearances for three different teams (Manchester City, Borussia Dortmund, and Salzburg) when Manchester City host his former club, Borussia Dortmund, on Wednesday. It will be the seventh Champions League meeting between the two sides, with Dortmund winning only once in the previous six (D2 L3).

PHOTO: MANCHESTER CITY



## The irony in Cabrera's methods

SPORTS REPORTER

Top European leagues, along with the Champions League and Europa League, are still in full swing, with fixtures even scheduled on the eve of the upcoming international break from November 10 to 18. But in contrast, Bangladesh's footballers have already shifted their focus to international duty, gearing up for the Asian Cup Qualifier against India on November 18 -- the final day of the international window. They will also play a friendly against Nepal on November 13. While the global football conversation revolves around player burnout amid relentless schedules, Bangladesh's situation remains quite the opposite. Here, players are not overworked by fixtures but by the structure that sidelines domestic football for prolonged national camps. Head coach Javier Cabrera, who returned from a family visit to Spain and joined the ongoing camp on Tuesday, has once again opted for an extended training camp -- an uncommon practice globally, especially when it comes at the expense of domestic competitions. It seems only in Bangladesh that league football routinely pauses to accommodate the national coach's



PHOTO: FIROZ AHMED

plans. Yet Cabrera remains steadfast in his methods, continuing to rely on a familiar pool of 28 to 30 players for international fixtures. His reasoning, however, appears to contradict his own approach. "The last three international windows are very close to one another. We always prepare in a similar way, with similar ideas. So, it's normal to give continuity to the same group," Cabrera said when asked whether Bangladesh have only 30 players of international quality. Ironically, the coach for whom the domestic play gets halted also acknowledges that the absence of regular competition hinders the discovery of new talent. "We don't

have a consistent league or regular competition to see new players performing at a high enough level for national selection. That's why around 90 to 95 percent of the squad has remained unchanged in the past three months," he explained. Cabrera also defended his decision not to expand the training squad: "If you start with 22 players and later add 12 more, the total becomes 30-35, and the quality of training drops. It's best to keep 25-27 players; otherwise, the difference in quality becomes too big." As the camp continues, questions linger -- whether this approach truly serves the long-term growth of Bangladesh football, and whether clubs, in a country where league culture still struggles to thrive, have what it takes to challenge it. Teams like Bashundhara Kings and Mohammedan have sent players late to such camps. Kings even requested extra rest for their footballers after their AFC Challenge League campaign, confirming they would release them on November 7 -- eight days after the camp had already begun. And so, as Bangladesh resumes another long training stretch, the country's football still waits for balance -- between preparation and progress.

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বাংলাদেশ

বাংলাদেশ নির্বাচন কমিশন

নির্বাচন কমিশন সচিবালয়

বিজ্ঞপ্তি

নং- ১৭.০০.০০০০.০২৫.৫০.০৯২.২৪ (অংশ) -৭৬৫

তারিখঃ ০৪ নভেম্বর ২০২৫

রাজনৈতিক দল নিবন্ধন বিধিমালা, ২০০৮ এর বিধি ৭(২) এর অধীন বিজ্ঞপ্তি

এতদ্বারা সর্বসাধারণের অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, “জাতীয় নাগরিক পার্টি-এনসিপি”

কে, ঠিকানা: রূপায়ন ট্রেড সেন্টার (২য় তলা) ১১৪, কাজী নজরুল ইসলাম এভিনিউ, বাংলামোটর, ঢাকা- ১২০৫, Representation of the People Order, 1972 (PO No.155 of 1972) এর Chapter VIA এর আওতায় রাজনৈতিক দল হিসাবে নিবন্ধনের জন্য দলের আহ্বায়ক জনাব মোঃ নাহিদ ইসলাম এবং সদস্য সচিব জনাব আখতার হোসেন নির্বাচন কমিশনের নিকট একটি দরখাস্ত পেশ করিয়াছেন। উহাদের প্রার্থিত প্রতীক “শাপলা কলি”।

উক্ত রাজনৈতিক দলের নিবন্ধনের বিষয়ে কাহারও কোন আপত্তি থাকিলে প্রয়োজনীয় দলিলাদিসহ উহার কারণ উল্লেখপূর্বক ১২.১১.২০২৫ তারিখের মধ্যে নিম্নস্বাক্ষরকারীর নিকট লিখিতভাবে জানানোর জন্য অনুরোধ করা হইল।

আখতার আহমেদ

সিনিয়র সচিব

নির্বাচন কমিশন সচিবালয়

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## BNP men protest party ticket snubs

STAR REPORT

Protests by BNP men continued in several constituencies against their preferred leaders not getting the party tickets for the next national election.

In Tangail-3, supporters of former minister Lutfar Rahman Khan Azad yesterday blocked roads in Ghatail upazila demanding his nomination after SM Obaidul Haque Nasir, the party's central committee member, bagged the ticket.

The protesters blocked the road for around 30 minutes at Ghatail College intersection of Tangail-Mymensingh highway at Ghatail College intersection.

In Tangail-5, BNP men staged demonstration in the district town demanding nomination for the party's central Publicity Affairs Secretary Sultan Salauddin Tuku. The seat remains vacant.

In Cumilla-6, supporters of Hazi Aminur Rashid Yeasin brought out torch procession and staged a demonstration on Monday night at the city's Kandirpar area demanding his nomination.

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PHOTO: TITO DAS

A floating restaurant made with plastic barrels, wood, and tarpaulin on a canal in Shimulia village of Jhalakathi. Such restaurants have drawn people's attention, and food lovers flock there, especially on holidays and weekends. The photo was taken recently.

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## A family affair in Kurigram-4

Brothers pitted against each other with BNP, Jamaat tickets

S DILIP ROY, Lalmonirhat

Voters in Kurigram-4 (Chilmari, Roumari, and Char Rajibpur) are in a spot of bother as two brothers are set to run against each other, with BNP and Jamaat-e-Islami tickets.

This turn of events has left relatives and villagers bewildered, as the bothers have been making sharp remarks against each other in public events.

BNP has primarily nominated Azizur Rahman, while his younger brother Mostafizur Rahman Mostak has been chosen by Jamaat. They are from Jadurchar village of Roumari upazila.

The unusual sibling rivalry has captured the attention of voters throughout the constituency. Locals say both are well-known in the area, but their simultaneous candidacies have left voters uneasy and reluctant to openly support either side.

Locals said the brothers have already begun campaigning.

Sahab Ali, a grocery shop owner in Char Rajibpur, said, "Neither of the brothers is very popular or has done much for public welfare. If a stronger candidate from another party contests, neither of them stands a chance. Their rivalry could even spark family disputes or lead to clashes."

Their relative, Mohsin Ali from Chilmari, told

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## Attacks on journos up in October

HRSS says political violence killed 117 people this year

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Political violence killed at least 117 people and injured 6,092 others in 756 incidents across the country till October, the Human Rights Support Society (HRSS) said yesterday.

In its monthly report, the HRSS said incidents of political violence and attacks on journalists increased in October.

Last month alone, the organisation recorded 64 incidents of political violence in which at least 10 people were killed and 513 others injured. Of these, 57 stemmed from internal feuds within the BNP or clashes between the BNP and other parties.

BNP's intra-party conflicts accounted for nine of the 10 deaths, the report added.

"Most of these violent incidents stemmed from power struggles, political rivalries, clashes over rallies, disputes regarding committee formation, extortion,

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## UN chief decries 'continued violations' of Gaza ceasefire

Heavy Israeli shelling hits Khan Younis as drones circle the skies

AGENCIES

United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres yesterday warned against violations of the ceasefire in Gaza that halted two years of devastating war in the Palestinian territory.

Addressing reporters on the sidelines of the Second World Summit for Social Development in Doha, Guterres said he was "deeply concerned about the continued violations of the ceasefire in Gaza. They must stop and all parties must abide by the decisions of the first phase of the peace agreement."

Since midnight and into yesterday morning, massive Israeli activity was conducted in the eastern parts of Khan Younis. Heavy Israeli shelling hit several farms and housing facilities in Khan Younis as drones circle Gaza's skies. UNRWA said around 75,000 displaced Palestinians are sheltering in its schools and facilities, many of which are damaged and severely overcrowded, reports Al Jazeera online.

"For many displaced women and girls, daily life means coping without dignity, safety, or adequate hygiene. Limited access to healthcare and basic hygiene supplies makes each day a struggle," UNRWA said in a social media post.

The United Nations said yesterday it had distributed food parcels to one million people in Gaza since the ceasefire, but warned it was still in a race to save lives.

Turkish Foreign Minister Hakan Fidan said on Monday evening that countries are still working on a UN Security Council mandate for

an international stabilisation force in Gaza, and will decide on any troop deployments once a framework is complete.

Fidan spoke after he and ministers from several Muslim-majority countries met in Istanbul to discuss the fragile US-brokered ceasefire in Gaza, reports Reuters.

Cyprus wants to create a regional organisation



to promote security in the Middle East, its president said yesterday, saying it could be a platform to anchor stability in one of the world's most volatile neighbourhoods.

Discussing the idea publicly for the first time, President Nikos Christodoulides said Nicosia was working on "maturing the necessary political conditions" to create a regional safety and cooperation organisation.

"If you like, a sort of Nato or a sort of OSCE of the Middle East, that would underline the benefits of promoting regional cooperation," Christodoulides told a conference in Nicosia.

## Merging 5 lenders, new Islami bank launches this month

REJAUL KARIM BYRON and MD MEHEDI HASAN

Sammilito Islami Bank, a new Shariah-based state-run bank that will be formed through the merger of five troubled banks, is set to launch this month, said Bangladesh Bank Governor Ahsan H Mansur.

"We are keeping the Letter of Intent ready -- it will be issued as soon as the application is submitted," he told The Daily Star on October 30.

Once the new bank is launched, depositors will get a maximum of Tk 2 lakh from the deposit insurance fund.

The development comes after the finance ministry and the BB put in all-out effort to establish the new lender for the interest of depositors of the five troubled banks: First Security Islami, Union, Global Islami, Social Islami and EXIM. The Daily Star has learnt from people involved with the proceedings.

Despite state ownership, the bank will function in a competitive banking environment, Mansur said, adding that the government will remain a temporary owner.

"It will be the bank with the highest capital base," he said.

The authorised capital of the bank will be Tk 40,000 crore (each share of Tk 10, totalling 4,000 crore shares).

However, the paid-up capital of the bank will be Tk 35,000 crore.

Of this, Tk 20,000 crore will be provided by the government, designated as Class-A shareholders, according to the draft notification of the finance ministry.

Another Tk 7,500 crore will come from the permanent deposits of other depositors in the transferring banks and

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## JULY CHARTER Ganatantra Mancha blames govt for deadlock

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Leaders of Ganatantra Mancha yesterday said the interim government has to take responsibility for resolving the crisis over the implementation of the July charter.

Both the National Consensus Commission led by Prof Muhammad Yunus and the government bear responsibility for the political deadlock created around the July charter and the referendum, said the leaders at an emergency meeting held at Bangladesh Rastro Songskar Andolan's central office.

The leaders said the government is trying to evade responsibility by putting the onus on political parties to reach an understanding amidst an impasse.

The meeting was attended by Rastro Songskar Andolan president and coordinator of the combine Hasnat Quaiyum, Biplobi Workers Party general secretary Saiful Huq, Ganosamhati Andolan chief coordinator Zonayed Saki, Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal senior vice president Tania Rob, Nagarik Oikya general secretary Shahidullah Kaiser and Bhashani Janashakti Party Secretary General Abu Yousuf Salim.

The leaders believe that it is the

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## 13 killed in road crashes

6 die as truck hits auto-rickshaw

STAR REPORT

All six people on a CNG-run auto-rickshaw were killed after a truck hit the vehicle in Noakhali's Kabirhat yesterday.

With this, at least 13 people were killed in separate road accidents in Noakhali, Habiganj, Thakurgaon, and Tangail yesterday.

In Noakhali, the accident took place around 2:30pm in front of Kabirhat Islamia Alim Madrasa, when the auto-rickshaw driver lost control of the vehicle after its front axle broke and got on the opposite lane, said police and witnesses.

Md Rubel Mia, a witness, said a truck coming from the opposite direction hit the auto-rickshaw and dragged it for a distance.

The victims are Md Suman, 30, of Companiganj upazila; auto-rickshaw driver Md Shah Alam, 47, of Basurhat municipality in Companiganj; Tanim Hasan, 22, a student of Noakhali Government College from Senbug; Monira Begum, 22, of Rampur village, Companiganj; Kulsum Akhter, 45, of the same village; and Israt Jahan, 22, a third-year honours student at Noakhali Government College.

Md Shahin Mia, officer-in-charge of Kabirhat Police Station, said three died on the spot. One survivor was declared dead at Kabirhat Upazila Health Complex and two were declared dead on arrival at Noakhali 250 Bed General Hospital.

The truck driver abandoned the vehicle and fled the scene.

In Habiganj, three were killed and 20 others injured in a head-on collision between two buses on the Dhaka-Sylhet highway in Shayestaganj upazila.

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PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

Police seized several battery-run rickshaws in the capital's Shyamoli area yesterday for getting on a thoroughfare. Law enforcers have launched a drive against such vehicles, which are banned on major roads, as they often cause accidents and congestion.

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