

## Unregistered medicines prescribed at BMU

Committee finds

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A committee of Bangladesh Medical University has found unregistered medicines in prescriptions issued by some physicians of the university.

The committee has recommended formulating a guideline with provisions for punishment if such medicines are prescribed.

It also advised raising awareness to ensure that university physicians do not prescribe or suggest unregistered medicines for patients, according to a press release issued by the university.

The committee, led by Mohammad Abu Hena Chowdhury, dean of the Medical Technology Faculty of BMU, submitted its report to Vice Chancellor Prof Shahinul Alam yesterday.

Contacted, Abu Hena said they had reviewed prescriptions over the last three months and found unregistered medicines, prompting the recommendation to formulate a guideline to prevent the practice.

He, however, declined to give further details.

The committee also recommended printing and distributing leaflets throughout the university to raise awareness, organising seminars and symposiums, and making physicians aware of the possible punishments for prescribing unregistered medicines.

It further suggested installing large signboards at the indoor and outdoor facilities of BMU and at all entrances of the university. Letters should be sent to the chairmen of each department so they can make physicians and students aware of the issue.

Additionally, lists of medicines registered by the Drug Administration and Bangladesh Standards and Testing Institution should be supplied to every department and outpatient facility, the report added.



Leaders and activists of eight like-minded political parties, who are waging a simultaneous movement to press home their five-point demand, gather at Dhaka's Paltan intersection yesterday to submit a memorandum to the chief adviser. The parties include Jamaat-e-Islami, Islami Andolan Bangladesh, Bangladesh Khilafat Majlis, Bangladesh Khilafat Andolan, Bangladesh Nezam-e-Islam Party, Jatiya Ganatantrik Party, and Bangladesh Development Party.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

## Farmers in Pirojpur turn to betel nut for higher profits

KMHABIBUR RAHMAN, Pirojpur

A growing number of farmers in Pirojpur are switching from paddy and other low-yield crops to betel nut, locally known as “supari”, attracted by its profitability.

Nearly every household across the seven upazilas of Pirojpur is now engaged in commercial betel nut cultivation, with the local produce collected by wholesale buyers and supplied nationwide.

Locals said buyers from Pirojpur and other districts come directly to purchase betel nuts from growers. Improved communication to the region has enhanced accessibility and boosted trade.

Rafiqul Islam, a trader in Indurkani upazila, said he buys betel nuts directly from growers and sells to wholesalers.

“Demand for betel nuts remains high throughout the season. Prices change depending on demand,” he said.

Some traders soak nuts in water for two to three months before

selling them, while others store the nuts after drying them in the sun. Small traders often purchase from growers to resell to large buyers. This seasonal trade creates temporary employment for many local people.

Mizanur Rahman from the Lahuri area in Indurkani upazila said most lands in his area are now betel nut gardens.



“Returns from paddy cultivation are low, which is why farmers are shifting to growing betel nuts,” he said.

Betel nut trees bear fruit within five years and yield abundantly for 25 to 30 years, sometimes even up

to 50 years.

Rivers like Kacha, Baleshwar, Swandha, and Kaliganga enrich the soil and sweeten water in the region, aiding high-quality betel nut production, growers said.

Each tree produces nuts worth Tk 200 to Tk 500 annually, and one decimal of land yields Tk 4,000 to Tk 4,500 – about eight to nine times more than paddy. Betel nut trees are also less vulnerable to storms, reducing risk, according to growers.

The harvest season runs for four months starting in September.

According to the Department of Agricultural Extension (DAE) in Pirojpur, betel nuts are being cultivated on 4,669 hectares of land this year. Last year, the district produced 53,205 tonnes of betel nuts, with the highest output recorded in Sadar and Mathbaria upazilas.

Md Abdullah Al Mamun, additional deputy director of DAE in Pirojpur, said, “The soil and water here are ideal for its cultivation, while pest attacks are few. Growers receive regular guidance from us.”

## NAT'L POLLS EC okays 66 local observer organisations

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Ahead of the upcoming 13th national parliamentary election, the Election Commission has registered 66 local observer organisations, the EC said in a circular last night.

On September 28, the commission published a preliminary list of 73 local observer organisations eligible to monitor the upcoming polls. After completing the necessary procedures, the EC has now given final approval to 66 of them.

As per the Election Observation Policy 2025, the EC invited applications from qualified non-governmental organisations interested in registering as election observer bodies.

## Banned poppy seeds worth Tk 6.5cr seized

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

The Chattogram Customs House has seized around 25 tonnes of poppy seeds, valued at about Tk 6.5 crore, imported illegally through the port under false declaration.

According to customs officials, acting on a tip-off, the Audit, Investigation and Research (AIR) wing of the customs house recently inspected two containers at the port and recovered the banned items.

Import documents show that Adib Trading, a Chattogram-based firm, imported the consignment from Pakistan by declaring it as bird food. The consignment was handled by MH Trading Customs C&F Agent Ltd as the clearing and forwarding agent.

The shipment, weighing about 32 tonnes, was declared for release on October 14. Following intelligence information, the AIR wing suspended its release and, on October 22, conducted a physical examination in presence of the depot authority and representatives of the importer and agent.

During the inspection, customs officials found that approximately 7 tonnes of bird food had been placed outside the containers to conceal about 25 tonnes of poppy seeds hidden behind them.

Samples from the seized goods were sent for laboratory tests to the Plant Quarantine Wing at Chattogram Port, the Nanotechnology Centre of Dhaka University, and the Khulna University of Engineering and Technology (Kuet).

Reports from the plant quarantine office and Kuet confirmed that the consignment contained poppy seeds.

Deputy Commissioner of Customs HM Kabir told The Daily Star that if the poppy seeds are germinable, they fall under the category of “Class A” narcotics as defined in the Narcotics Control Act, 2018. “Import of poppy seeds is completely prohibited under the Import Policy Order 2021-2024. Legal action is underway against the importer for false declaration and attempting to bring in banned goods,” he said.

## Auto-rickshaw driver shot in Ctg

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A 37-year-old auto-rickshaw driver was injured after being shot by unidentified assailants in the Kuwaish Chalitatali area in Chattogram yesterday afternoon.

The injured – identified as Md Idris Ali – is from Bahaddarhat Kancha Bazar.

Nurul Alam Ashik, in-charge of the Chattogram Medical College Hospital (CMCH) Police Camp, said, “Around 1:45pm, as Idris Ali was driving his auto-rickshaw in the Chalitatali area, unidentified assailants opened fire, targeting him. He was shot in the knee and collapsed on the road.”

Locals took Idris to CMCH around 2:45pm.

When contacted, Jasim Uddin, officer-in-charge of Bayezid Bostami Police Station, said he was not aware of the incident.

The incident comes after a fatal shooting in the same area last night, when Sarwar Hossain Babla was killed as assailants opened fire during an election campaign for BNP candidate Ershad Ullah.

কর্মাগিয়াল স্পেস বিক্রয়

মতিঝিল সংলগ্ন নয়া পল্টনে আধুনিক ডিজাইনের প্রায় নতুন বিল্ডিং, সকল প্রকার সুযোগ-সুবিধাসহ ৭১০৭ বর্গফুটের কর্মাগিয়াল ফ্লোর বিক্রয় হইবে।

যোগাযোগ : ০১৭২৩৪১৬৮৮৮

## Let melodies live on in every school

FROM PAGE 3  
is integral to the nation's identity.

At DU, the programme began around 11:30am in front of the Aparajeyo Bangla sculpture.

“Civilisation survives on the foundation of art, literature, and culture. Excluding music from

primary education will hinder the mental and physical growth of future generations,” said Azizur Rahman Tuhin, a faculty member of the Department of Music.

At JnU, students and teachers gathered at Sculpture Square around 11:00am, sang protest

songs, and brought out a procession.

“This protest is not for our personal gain. We want melodies to live on in every school,” said Nusrat Chowdhury Zafrin, a student of the 2019-20 session.

Prof Bajlur Rashid Khan, chair of JnU's Department of Printmaking, said, “Music nurtures a healthy mind, while physical education builds a healthy body. Both are essential for children's overall development.”

At RU, students of the Department of Music demonstrated in front of the Senate Building and submitted a memorandum to the vice-chancellor. Faculty and students from other departments also joined in solidarity.

“Music and PE help children develop physically, mentally, and creatively. When these are compulsory in many countries, why should Bangladesh abolish them?” said Jahin Biswas Esha, a student of the department.

Harunur Rashid, a teacher of Islamic History and Culture, said, “Cultural activities are part of a nation's identity. The government should strengthen, not eliminate, music education.”

At CU, students from the Departments of Music and Physical Education gathered at the Shaheed Minar around 11:00am.

They presented a five-point demand, including reinstating the posts, introducing similar positions at secondary levels, creating a dedicated “music teacher” post in the education cadre, and prioritising music

graduates in these recruitments.

Students of Jahangirnagar University held a similar protest on Monday.

On August 28, the government published the Primary School Teacher Recruitment Rules 2025, which included these posts.

Several religion-based groups opposed the move, calling instead for the recruitment of religious instructors.

Subsequently, the government issued a revised gazette on Sunday, dropping the proposed posts.

On Tuesday, it clarified that the plan to recruit 2,500 teachers across clusters had been scrapped based on the secretaries' committee's recommendation, which cited limited impact and potential disparities.

With 65,569 government primary schools nationwide, the committee deemed the proposed structure unfeasible. However, future recruitment may be considered subject to budget availability, the clarification added.

[Our DU, JnU, RU, and CU correspondents contributed to this report.]

PRAYER  
TIMING

NOVEMBER 7

Fazr Juma Asr Maghrib Esha  
AZAN 5-00 12-30 3-45 5-25 7-00  
JAMAAT 5-35 1-15 4-00 5-30 7-30

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

Bank Resolution Department

Bangladesh Bank  
Head Office, Dhaka.

-: NOTICE :-

Subject: Bringing under Resolution and Appointment of Administrator to Export Import Bank of Bangladesh PLC (EXIM Bank), First Security Islami Bank PLC, Global Islami Bank PLC, Social Islami Bank PLC and Union Bank PLC

It is hereby notified for the information of the general public that, Export Import Bank of Bangladesh PLC (EXIM Bank), First Security Islami Bank PLC, Global Islami Bank PLC, Social Islami Bank PLC and Union Bank PLC have been brought under resolution by virtue of the powers vested under Section 15 and 16 of the Bank Resolution Ordinance, 2025, and accordingly, with the approval of the competent authority, the following Bangladesh Bank officials have been appointed as the Administrator to these banks under Section 16 and 20 of the Bank Resolution Ordinance, 2025:

| Sl. | Name of the Bank                     | Name of the appointed Administrator                |
|-----|--------------------------------------|--|
| 1.  | Export Import Bank of Bangladesh PLC | Mr. Md. Sawkatul Alam, Executive Director          |
| 2.  | First Security Islami Bank PLC       | Mr. Muhammad Badiuzzaman Dider, Executive Director |
| 3.  | Global Islami Bank PLC               | Mr. Md. Muksduzzaman, Director                     |
| 4.  | Social Islami Bank PLC               | Mr. Md. Salah Uddin, Executive Director            |
| 5.  | Union Bank PLC                       | Mr. Md. Muksduzzaman, Director                     |

The Administrators of the banks under resolution have assumed charge with effect from 05 November, 2025.

The administrators appointed by Bangladesh Bank shall perform the overall managerial and administrative responsibilities of their respective banks. During their tenure all kinds of regular banking functions of those banks shall continue as usual, as permitted by Bank Resolution Ordinance, 2025. The interests of the depositors shall remain safe and secured and the detailed plan in this regard will be communicated to all concerned in due course.

Your full cooperation is earnestly requested in this initiative taken in the interest of the public.

DGP: 48/2025-3007  
Date: 06-11-2025

Director (BRD)  
Bangladesh Bank

ব্যাংকিং ও আর্থিক সেবা পেতে-হয়রানির শিকার হলে কিংবা কোনো অভিযোগ থাকলে ১৬২৩৬ নম্বরে ফোন করুন।

GD-2362

DIRECTORATE GENERAL DEFENCE PURCHASE  
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE  
NEW AIRPORT ROAD, TEJGAON, DHAKA –1215  
Web : [www.dgdp.gov.bd](http://www.dgdp.gov.bd)  
Email : [adp5army1@dgdp.gov.bd](mailto:adp5army1@dgdp.gov.bd)

TENDER NOTICE

1. Sealed Tenders in Local Currency are invited from bonafide Manufacturer(s) /Supplier(s) (Enlisted Firms in DGDP) for supply of the following items for Bangladesh Army.

| Ser No | Name of Items & Qty   | Schedule Selling Date | Tender Opening Date | Tender No | Cost of I/T |          |
|--------|---|-----------------------|---------------------|-----------|-------------|----------|
|        |   | From                  | To                  |           |             |          |
| 1.     | <b>Item No-1:</b> Bed Sheet Offrs (Single) and Pillow Case Offrs, Qty-6,000 Set (Wind Chime Stripe-1,000 Set, Skyway Stripe-1,000 Set, Starligh Blue Stripe-1,000 Set, White Stripe-1,000 Set, Two Color Print-1,000 Set and Three Color Stripe-1,000 Set).<br><br><b>Item No-2:</b> Bed Sheet Offrs (Double) and Pillow Case Offrs, Qty-18,000 Set (Wind Chime Stripe-3,000 Set, Skyway Stripe-3,000 Set, Starligh Blue Stripe-3,000 Set, White Stripe-3,000 Set, Two Color Print-3,000 Set and Three Color Stripe-3,000 Set). | 09-11-25              | 18-12-25            | 21-12-25  | 219.257.25  | 5,000.00 |

2. Tender Schedule with detailed specifications/conditions will be available on payment as per I/T selling rate (Non-refundable) during office time between 0800 hour to 1300 hour. The Tender can be dropped latest by 1125 hour on opening date (21-12-2025) and shall be opened at 1130 hour on the specified date of opening in presence of all Tenderers (If present).

Dated: November 2025  
আই এস পি আর/বিবিধ/৪৪৫

Major  
For Director General

GD-2358