

## Pakistan naval ship arrives at Ctg port on goodwill visit



UNB, Dhaka

Pakistan Navy ship "PNS Saif" arrived at the Chattogram port yesterday on a four-day goodwill visit to Bangladesh.

Chief Staff Officer of Chattogram Naval Zone warmly greeted the commander and crew of "PNS Saif". Officials from the Pakistan High Commission in Dhaka and senior officers of the Bangladesh Navy were also present.

Upon entering Bangladesh's maritime boundary, the ship was welcomed at sea by Bangladesh Navy ship "BNS Shadhinota".

During the visit, the commanding officer of "PNS Saif" and other members of the delegation are scheduled to pay courtesy calls on Commander Chattogram Naval Area, Commander BN Fleet, and Area Superintendent Dockyard.

They will also visit various historic and tourist sites, naval ships and establishments in Chattogram.

The ship will depart Bangladesh on November 12, said an ISPR press release.

## Fire breaks out at cotton depot in Tongi

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gazipur

A massive fire broke out at a cotton warehouse in Millgate area of Tongi, Gazipur, yesterday afternoon.

Firefighter Ariful Islam of the Tongi fire service said, on information, seven fighting units from Tongi, Uttara and Gazipur rushed to the scene.

According to local residents, smoke and flames were suddenly seen rising from the warehouse before the fire service teams arrived and began their efforts to extinguish the blaze.

No casualties have been reported, according to fire service authorities.

UNB adds, the fire was brought under control around 1:30pm, said Shahin Alam, senior station officer of Tongi Fire Service and Civil Defence. The extent of the damage caused by the fire could be known after investigation, he said.



PHOTO: COLLECTED

# Voices unite in melodic protest

### Cultural groups urge reconsideration of govt decision to scrap recruitment of music, PE teachers

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Protests are continuing across the country against the government's decision to cancel the recruitment of music and physical education teachers in primary schools.

In Dhaka yesterday, cultural organisations including Udichi Shilpigoshthi and Chhayanaut staged programmes condemning the decision and announced further demonstrations.

At a press conference at Jatya Press Club, Udichi Shilpigoshthi announced a two-week nationwide protest programme.

In a written statement, the organisation's general secretary Amit Ranjan Dey said the cancellation was part of a "far-reaching, politically motivated conspiracy" to remove fine arts, music, dance, and theatre from the curriculum.

He described the decision as "suicidal" and driven by "communal and politically narrow motives."

The protest programme will include cultural assemblies, human chains, and musical processions organised by

Udichi's district and branch committees in association with progressive organisations, starting today.

Central activities will include submitting a memorandum to the education ministry, holding roundtable discussions, and releasing statements from prominent citizens.

Meanwhile, another faction of Udichi announced a separate protest titled "From Udichi to Jamuna" -- a musical procession.

According to a press release by Udichi's publicity secretary Manjur Morshed Milton, the procession will begin at 4:00pm today from the organisation's central office on Topkhana Road and march towards the chief adviser's residence at Jamuna.

Cultural organisation Chhayanaut also staged a musical demonstration yesterday in front of its Shankar bus stand cultural centre in the capital, where around 700 to 800 artists, students, and well-wishers took part.

The event featured collective renditions of Rabindra Sangeet, Nazrul Sangeet, Lalon Geeti, and the national anthem.

Chhayanaut President Dr Sarwar Ali said, "We believe music is stronger than speeches -- that is why today's event was organised through music."

"For the physical and mental development of children, and for building a humane, liberal, and tolerant society, the practice of music and physical exercise is essential," he added.

In Gazipur, over 50 activists from Udichi's Gazipur and Kapasia branches held a protest in front of the Satyen Sen Sangeet Academy.

At an event at the Central Shaheed Minar yesterday, the musical group Samogeeet along with artists and cultural activists, also expressed solidarity.

On August 28, the government published the Government Primary School Teacher Recruitment Rules 2025, which included the posts of music and physical education teachers.

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

The government later issued a revised gazette on November 2, scrapping the proposed posts.

## FERRY FARE COLLECTION 10 hurt as rival BNP groups clash again in Narsingdi

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Narsingdi

At least 10 people were injured as two rival factions of the BNP clashed again over collecting extra fares at a ferry ghat in Narsingdi yesterday morning.

Police and locals said the third round of clashes erupted in the ferry terminal area in Jirtampur under Char Dighaldi union of Madhabdi upazila after announcements were made over loudspeakers.

The violence broke out between groups led by Shahid Mia, joint convener of the Char Dighaldi union unit of BNP and member of ward-9, and Chan Mia, general secretary of ward-8 Jubo Dal.

Earlier, the two groups clashed on Monday (November 3) and Tuesday (November 4), leaving 10 people injured. Following those incidents, police had been deployed in the area, said Madhabdi Police Station Officer in Charge Md Nazrul Islam.

"Taking advantage of the absence of police early Saturday morning, tension flared up again between the two groups. The situation was later brought under control after police intervention," the OC said.

**Locals said the long-standing dispute centred on dominance and the collection of excessive ferry fares from passengers. Earlier, the two groups clashed on Monday (November 3) and Tuesday (November 4).**

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During yesterday's violence, both groups used spears and locally made weapons. Several of the injured were treated at Narsingdi Sadar Hospital, while others reportedly received treatment in secret to avoid arrest.

Contacted, Chan Mia alleged, "Four of our men were injured, and at least 20 houses were vandalised and looted. Supporters of BNP leader Shahid Mia and Awami League activists jointly attacked my home. I've filed a written complaint with the police. The attack happened because I protested against collecting Tk 20 instead of Tk 6 as ferry fare."

Denying the allegation, Shahid Mia claimed, "Members of Chan Mia's group launched a sudden attack on us early in the morning, injuring six to seven of our men. We demand justice."

Md Menhazul Alam, superintendent of police in Narsingdi, said, "The clash took place over ferry lease collections between Chan Mia and Shahid groups. The lease has now been cancelled, and the situation is under control. Necessary measures have been taken to prevent further unrest."



Unilever Bangladesh Limited CEO and Managing Director Ruhul Quddus Khan, and Corporate Affairs, Partnerships and Communications Director Shamima Akhter receive the FICCI Sustainability Game Changer Award 2025 as Champion in the Community Impact category at an award ceremony in Dhaka yesterday. The recognition honours Unilever Bangladesh's contributions to health, hygiene, livelihoods, and environmental resilience through its community-focused initiatives.

PHOTO: COURTESY

## Over 100 hurt as cops charge batons

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Earlier yesterday, the demonstration began around 9:00am. The teachers had previously announced a symbolic "pen drop" programme at Shabbagh as part of their movement.

"A group of teachers peacefully dropped their pens and informed us that they would return to the Shaheed Minar. However, another group tried to force their way through our barricade and hurled brick chips shortly after. We then dispersed them," said Masud Alam, deputy commissioner of DMP's Ramna Division.

Some police personnel were also injured, he added. The protesters said when police stopped them in front of the Public Library, they tried to break through the barricades.

"Police first fired tear gas shells and sound grenades, then charged batons and used water cannons

without provocation," said Kamruzzaman, one of the protesting teachers.

The teachers then scattered and took shelter inside the Dhaka University campus, witnesses said.

By 4:30pm, a large number of police personnel were deployed at the scene.

Brigadier General Md Asaduzzaman, director of Dhaka Medical College Hospital, said more than 100 people received primary treatment at DMCH's emergency department.

None were seriously injured so far. Most sustained injuries below the knee, while some fell sick due to the sound grenades, he added.

Inspector Md Faruq, in charge of the DMCH police camp, said at least 110 people received primary treatment at the hospital.

In a statement, the DMP said all kinds of meetings, rallies, and gatherings have been banned in and around

the residence of the chief adviser at Jamuna and nearby areas. Despite the ban, the protesters ignored the restrictions and tried to move forward. To maintain order and protect key state installations, police stepped in to disperse the protest.

Abul Kashem, president of the Bangladesh Primary Teachers' Association, said, "Our strike will continue indefinitely in all government primary schools across the country until our demands are met."

The teachers' key demands include implementation of the 10th-grade pay scale, resolution of issues related to higher-grade eligibility after 10 and 16 years of service, and ensuring 100 percent departmental promotion.

Meanwhile, at a programme in Khulna yesterday, Professor Bidhan Ranjan Roy Poddar, adviser to the Ministry of Primary and Mass Education, said

they have reviewed the three demands of the protesting teachers.

"The current position for assistant teachers is the 13th grade. We have just recently promoted headteachers to the 10th grade, so how can we suddenly promote assistant teachers to the 10th grade from the 13th grade?" he asked.

"The second concern is the time scale for 10 and 16 years of service. The Pay Commission will review it, and we have no objection to that," he also said.

"Regarding the demand for 100 percent departmental promotion, we had proposed it, but the Ministry of Public Administration said the government's policy is to allow a maximum of 80 percent, keeping 20 percent reserved for new appointments. Accordingly, the policy has been implemented," the adviser added.

## GAZIPUR SAFARI PARK Another arrested over theft of lemurs

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gazipur

Another person has been arrested in connection with the theft of three lemurs from Gazipur Safari Park in March.

The suspect, Majnu Mia, 55, was arrested from the Kalaipara area of Mymensingh's Galargaon upazila on November 4, said Jasim Uddin Khan, special police superintendent (media) of the Criminal Investigation Department (CID), in a press statement issued on November 6.

Majnu, a resident of Kalaipara, is a member of an international animal trafficking ring. His statement was recorded in court under Section 164, the statement added. With his arrest, six people -- all members of the ring -- have so far been detained in

connection with the theft. They had been smuggling rare animals stolen from Gazipur Safari Park abroad.

The other arrestees are Nipel Mahmud, 33; Jewel Mia, 42; Ismail Hossain Hridoy, 26; Delwar Hossain



PHOTO: COLLECTED

Tausif, 22; and Md Sabbir Hossain Tapan, 26. Of them, Nipel worked at the park through outsourcing.

CID said three endangered and rare ring-tailed lemurs -- two males and one female -- worth Tk 3 lakh

were stolen from the park on March 23.

The next day, the park authorities filed a case with Sreepur Police Station after cleaning staff reported the theft.

The case is currently being investigated by the Gazipur District and Metro Division of CID.

Ring-tailed lemurs are endemic to Madagascar and are listed as internationally endangered.

According to the International Convention on the Conservation of Wildlife, the trade, conservation, or export of this species is strictly prohibited.

Hunting, selling, or trafficking them is also a punishable offence under the Wildlife Conservation and Protection Act, 2012 of Bangladesh.

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**e-Tender Notice for Goods**

Memo: 26.05.0000.006.07.008.25.66 Date: 06 November, 2025

**e-Tender Notice No: 01/2025-26**

This tender notice for procurement of Supply and installation of two passenger lifts with voltage stabilizers at TCB Bhaban, kawran Bazar, Dhaka e-GP Tender ID No. 1160762 is published in e-GP website. This is an online Tender, where only e-Tenders will be accepted in e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, registration on e-GP system ([www.eprocure.gov.bd](http://www.eprocure.gov.bd)) is mandatory for more details contact e-GP help desk.

Tender ID No.	Name of works	Tender Publication Date	Tender Security	Tender Last Selling Date & Time	Tender Closing Date & Time	Tender Opening Date & Time
1160762	Supply and installation of two passenger lifts with voltage stabilizers at TCB Bhaban, kawran Bazar, Dhaka.	09 November 2025	4,00,000/-	23 November 2025 16.00 pm	24 November 2025 12.00 pm	24 November 2025 12.00 pm

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