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ইসলামী ব্যাংকিং সেবা প্রদানে 'ইসলামী ব্যাংকিং কর্ণার' পূবালী ব্যাংকের প্রায় সকল শাখা এবং উপশাখায়

Yunus calls
for quality,
inclusivity
in BNCC

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Chief Adviser Prof Muhammad Yunus has called for improving the quality and inclusivity of the Bangladesh National Cadet Corps (BNCC) as part of a long term vision to engage youth in leadership, discipline, and national development.

"We all support BNCC, but we need to ensure quality and have good, credible instructors. We must pay attention to this and adopt a futuristic approach," he said after a presentation by BNCC

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Long tailbacks formed near the Matsya Bhaban in the capital yesterday afternoon. A joint rally by eight like-minded parties, including Jamaat-e-Islami, at Purana Paltan brought traffic in Dhaka to a standstill. The situation became normal in the evening.

PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

Traffic slows in
some spots amid
eight-party rally

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Traffic in Dhaka came to a standstill in some key places yesterday afternoon after a joint rally by eight like-minded parties, including Jamaat-e-Islami and Islami Andolan Bangladesh, commenced at Purana Paltan.

Activists began gathering at the venue from 1:00pm, blocking key intersections in the vicinity and causing a complete shutdown of traffic between the Kadam Foara and Dainik Bangla intersections.

Police set up barricades at both ends, while Jamaat activists were seen helping direct traffic alongside traffic police. The road closure led to gridlocks on adjacent routes, while metro rail stations in the area witnessed unusually large crowds.

Traffic Sergeant Minjis Alam Jibon, on duty at Kadam Foara, said police had placed barricades before 1:00pm.

"This stretch from Kadam Foara to Dainik Bangla is one of Dhaka's busiest roads. It already has heavy traffic, and today's closure has worsened congestion, stretching up to Matsya Bhaban and even Shahbagh," he said.

Many commuters faced long delays.

Sifat Habib, a passenger travelling from Farmgate to Kadam Foara, said, "I didn't expect so much traffic. It took more than an hour to reach here from Shahbagh -- it usually takes 15 to 20 minutes."

He said he was heading to Baitul Mukarram Market but would now have to walk the rest of the way due to the closure.

Vehicles heading towards Dainik Bangla from Kadam Foara were diverted through Abdul Gani Road and Gulistan, resulting in heavy congestion on those alternative routes as well. The situation became normal in the evening after the rally ended, said traffic officials.

'Will maintain
our funding
for Rohingyas'
Says Médecins Sans
Frontières

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

With humanitarian funding declining for Rohingya communities in Cox's Bazar, Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) yesterday said it would maintain its current level of funding in Bangladesh.

"We intend to maintain our level of funding," said Orla Murphy, MSF's country representative, at a Café de Press event held at a hotel in Dhaka.

The Bangladesh chapter of the international medical humanitarian organisation organised the event to share updates on its activities in the country.

A humanitarian crisis is unfolding in the Rohingya camps due to funding shortages and continued arrivals from Myanmar's conflict-hit Rakhine state,

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EC bans posters, drones
in campaignsIssues code of conduct for national elections with
guidelines for social media

AHMED DEEPTO

The Election Commission has introduced a comprehensive code of conduct that bans the use of posters and sets clear guidelines for the use of social media during election campaigns.

The commission issued the code late Monday night ahead of the 13th national election, expected in the first half of February.

It outlines detailed dos and don'ts for candidates and political parties.

The new rules introduce stricter measures, including the possibility of disqualifying candidates for serious breaches of conduct.

The new code also bars members of the Advisory Council from participating in election campaign.

It further requires individuals serving or nominated as chairpersons or members of the governing bodies of educational

AT A
GLANCE

- No political activities or campaigns in schools
- No decorative lighting; only digital billboards may use illumination
- Advisory Council members barred from taking part in campaigns
- No use of AI for deceptive or manipulative content
- No spreading of hate speech, misinfo, or fake materials online

institutions to resign from those positions once their candidacy is finalised. It also prohibits campaigning at educational institutions.

Additional penalties have also been specified, and all parties and candidates must sign a written

pledge to comply with the code, according to the EC.

The draft makes it mandatory for political parties and candidates to formally commit to following the code.

Election Commissioner
SEE PAGE 10 COL 4Armed forces'
magistracy
extended till
February 28

UNB, Dhaka

The government has once again extended the magistracy power of commissioned officers in the army, navy, and air force until February 28 next year, effective from today, according to a notification from the Ministry of Public Administration.

According to the notification, commissioned officers holding the rank of captain and above in the Bangladesh Armed Forces have been granted special executive magistrate powers across the country.

The government initially granted the magistracy power to commissioned army officers on September 17 last year for 60 days to improve law and order. It was subsequently extended on January 12, March 13, May 13, and July 13 this year.

'Jamaat will
cease to exist
after next polls'
Says Fakhrul

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Thakurgaon

BNP Secretary General Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir yesterday said Jamaat-e-Islami would "cease to exist" after next year's national election, urging people to remain cautious of their "hypocrisy".

"Jamaat says PR [proportional representation system] must be introduced or elections won't happen. Why are you so afraid of votes? Because you know you won't exist after the election," he said at a views-exchange meeting organised by BNP in Thakurgaon Sadar.

Mentioning that he does not understand PR, Fakhrul said people won't accept it. "We have always voted for candidates by their symbols -- sheaf of paddy, boat, or scale. Now, they say we must vote for parties, and that the parties will decide who becomes an MP."

Fakhrul also dismissed NCP, saying, "They claim to be a party, but I don't see them anywhere. They won't get votes. Yet, they echo Jamaat, demanding PR and certificates before elections."

SEE PAGE 10 COL 1

Not facing
pressure from
any quarterSays ICT prosecution
over Hasina verdict

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The ICT prosecution yesterday said it was not facing pressure from any quarter despite escalating violence ahead of the impending verdict in the crimes against humanity case against ousted prime minister Sheikh Hasina.

ICT prosecutor Gazi Monawar Hossain Tamim told reporters that the tribunal was functioning as usual and that proceedings were taking place on schedule.

On November 13, the tribunal will fix the date for delivering the verdict in the case. Tamim said the Awami League and other political organisations were expected to announce programmes centring the verdict.

"We think the police and other law enforcement agencies are working for state security," he added.

The tribunal area has
SEE PAGE 4 COL 1NOMINATION FORM
NCP likely to
extend deadlineTasnim Jara collects form
for Dhaka-9

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The National Citizen Party has seen a sharp rise in the collection of nomination forms ahead of the upcoming national election, although most of its top leaders have yet to join the race.

The party is likely to extend the deadline for collecting nomination forms, which was initially set to end tomorrow (November 13).

According to the party's Election Monitoring Committee, nearly 300 nomination forms have been collected over the past five days through both online and offline channels.

As of 6:00 pm yesterday, no prominent central committee leader had collected a nomination form, except for Senior Joint Member Secretary Tasnim Jara.

Meanwhile, NCP's Chief Organiser (South), Hasnat Abdullah, said there is no possibility of forming alliances with parties that oppose reform initiatives.

"Our convener, Nahid Islam, has already made it clear that we may form alliances with political forces that stand for reforms, stand for Bangladesh, oppose Indian hegemony, and uphold communal harmony," Hasnat said.

Yesterday, Tasnim Jara collected nomination form for Dhaka-9, which includes the Sabujbagh, Khilgaon, Mugga, and Manda areas. "It's my home. I was born and brought up in Khilgaon, spending most of my life among its people," she told The Daily Star.



Children beam with joy as they gather water lilies from a nearby wetland, the blooms draped playfully around their necks like garlands. With winter approaching, lilies paint the wetlands in shades of green and pink, offering both beauty and a seasonal delicacy for local families. The photo was taken recently in Rajshahi's Kharkhari City Bypass area.

PHOTO: AZAHAR UDDIN