

## Four killed in road accidents

### STAR REPORT

At least four people were killed and 14 others injured in road accidents in three districts in the last two days.

In Cox's Bazar, two persons died on the spot as a three-wheeler collided with a fish-laden pickup van coming from the opposite direction at Hnila Ali Khalil Road intersection on Teknaf-Cox's Bazar highway yesterday, said Nurul Absar, officer-in-charge of Whykong Highway Police Station.

The victims were identified as autorickshaw driver Faruk from Hnila, and passenger Ismail Hossain from Nazir Para in Teknaf, reports our Cox's Bazar correspondent.

In Cumilla, a Cox's Bazar-bound bus collided head-on with a goods-laden pickup van in Chiora area of Chaudhogram on Monday, killing one person and injuring 14 others, reports our Cumilla correspondent.

The deceased -- Abdul Jabbar -- was on the pickup, said OC Md Shahabuddin of Miyabazar Highway Police Station.

In Chattogram, a Chittagong University student and joint general secretary of the university unit of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal, Mohammad Arif, died at Chattogram Medical College Hospital after he was injured in a road accident in Hathazari on December 6, CU sources said.

The accident happened when a wood-laden chander gari (locally modified vehicle) rammed his motorcycle on the Chattogram-Khagrachhari regional highway in Charia Bazar area.



From above, the vast arable stretches of Gumai Beel in Rangunia, Chattogram -- one of the country's largest paddy storehouses -- resemble a giant nakshi kantha. Inset, farmers lay out freshly harvested paddy to dry for two to three days, a daily rhythm during the harvesting season across the beel's 2,400 hectares. The photos were taken yesterday.

PHOTO: RAJIB RAIHAN

## Railway eastern zone hikes pontage charges after 43yrs

Revision raises ticket prices by up to Tk 226

### STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

The Eastern Zone of Bangladesh Railway (BR) has revised pontage charges for the first time in nearly 43 years, resulting in fare increases ranging from Tk 5 to Tk 226 per ticket, depending on seat category. The new rates will take effect from December 20.

Pontage charges are fees collected for trains crossing bridges, culverts, or overpasses -- similar to highway tolls. The Eastern Zone last updated these charges in 1982.

Mahbubur Rahman, chief commercial manager of the Eastern Zone, said the fare adjustment was primarily to cover maintenance costs for bridges longer than 100 metres.

The charges apply to 11 bridges across six routes: Dhaka-Chattogram, Dhaka-Cox's Bazar,



STAR FILE PHOTO

Dhaka Sylhet, Chattogram Sylhet, Chattogram Jamalpur, and Dhaka Dewanganj.

On the Dhaka-Chattogram route, the commercial distance has increased from 346km to 381km. As a result, the Sonar Bangla Express' Snigdha seat fare will rise from Tk 855 to Tk 943. Similarly, first berth and AC seat fares will go up to Tk 1,133 and Tk 1,746, respectively.

On the Cox's Bazar and Parjata Express trains, Snigdha fares will

increase from Tk 1,322 to Tk 1,449, while AC seat fares will rise to Tk 1,740 and AC berth fares to Tk 2,656.

On the Dhaka-Sylhet route, Snigdha fares will rise to Tk 788 from Tk 719, and AC seat and berth fares will increase to Tk 943 and Tk 1,465, respectively.

Other routes will see similar fare adjustments, with increases for Snigdha, Shovon chair, AC seat, and AC berth tickets across various categories.

Tarek Imran, deputy chief operating superintendent of the Eastern Zone, stated that the revision reflects the construction of new bridges and the expansion of existing ones. The update, he said, would help increase railway revenue while expediting bridge maintenance.

This fare revision will affect divisions in Dhaka, Chattogram, Sylhet, and Mymensingh.

## BAF to get Eurofighter Typhoon jets

### DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

The Bangladesh Air Force yesterday signed a Letter of Intent (LoI) with Italian aerospace company Leonardo S.p.A for the acquisition of Eurofighter Typhoon combat aircraft.

Chief of Air Staff Air Chief Marshal Hasan Mahmud Khan and Italian Ambassador to Bangladesh Antonio Alessandro were present at the signing ceremony at Air Headquarters, according to BAF's official Facebook page.

Principal Staff Officer of the Armed Forces Division Lt Gen Kamrul Ahsan and representatives from both countries were present.

Under the LoI, Leonardo S.p.A will supply the jets to BAF as part of its plan to introduce advanced multi-role combat aircraft for frontline operations.

## Sirajganj clash leaves 15 Jamaat men injured

### OUR CORRESPONDENT, Jamalpur

Tension between Jamaat-e-Islami and the BNP over election campaigning in the Sirajganj-1 (Kazipur) constituency erupted into violence on Monday night, injuring around 15 Jamaat activists, said party sources.

The BNP, however, has denied involvement, blaming locals for the clash.

The incident occurred around 11:00pm at an Islamic gathering in Sonamukhi union. Jamaat-backed MP candidate and Sirajganj district ameer Maulana Shahinur Alam was attacked while leaving the venue.

Local witnesses said Shahinur had been invited as a guest to the waz mahfil, where BNP nominated candidate Selim Reza was also present. Supporters of the two candidates reportedly became agitated during the event.

Sensing tensions, Selim Reza calmed his followers and left the stage. The attack on the Jamaat candidate occurred later as he departed.

Shahinur told The Daily Star that "BNP activists had carried out a pre-planned attack."

Selim Reza countered, saying the Jamaat candidate "had arrived with a show of force, accompanied by Jamaat cadres from nearby upazilas and some Awami League supporters. Locals did not take it well, and the situation turned into a clash. BNP had no role in the incident."

Kazipur Police Station OC Shah Enayetur Rahman said no written complaint had been filed yet. "We will take action after investigation if a complaint is lodged."

## Section 144 imposed in Ajmiriganj following clash

### OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

The local administration has enforced Section 144 in Ajmiriganj upazila of Habiganj district following a clash between two rival groups that left one man dead and several injured.

The restriction was imposed yesterday afternoon by Ajmiriganj UNO and Executive Magistrate SM Rezaul Karim.

According to the order, the ban will remain in effect from 1:00pm yesterday to 1:00pm today.

Police and local sources said tension had been brewing for days between supporters of Hannan Mia of Kumudpur in Kakailchhe and those of Al Quran Saudagar of Sarkar Hati over establishing dominance in the area.

On Monday evening, the two sides clashed violently at Kakailchhe Bazar, leaving at least 20 people injured. Several shops were vandalised and looted during the incident, locals reported.

Fresh violence broke out again around 8:00am yesterday when both groups attacked each other with locally made weapons.

A man named Russell Mia, 45, was critically injured and taken to Ajmiriganj Upazila Health Complex, where doctors declared him dead.

### TENDER NOTICE

Sealed tender hereby invited by Prime Bank PLC. from reputed companies in the relevant field for providing below item:

Name of Item	Period of Sale (Tender)		Last Date of Submission
	From	To	
Request for Proposal (RFP) for Creative Retainer Agency for Prime NOW	10.12.2025	29.12.2025	29.12.2025

Details are given on the Prime Bank website. <https://www.primebank.com.bd/tenders>

**Prime Bank**

### পাত্যাত শ্রিন্দ বাংলাদেশ পিএলজি

(An Enterprise of Bangladesh Power Development Board)

Grid Bhaban, Avenue-3, Jahurul Islam City, Aftabnagar, Badda, Dhaka-1212

মার্ক নং- ২১.১১.০০০০.১১.০১.০০২.২৪.১০৪০

e-Tender বিজ্ঞপ্তি

ID	Title of Works
1192513	Supply, Installation, Testing & Commissioning of IP Camera/Surveillance System at Palashbari 132/33 kV Grid Sub Station Under GMD, Power Grid, Bogra.
আগুন্তী টিকাদারী প্রতিষ্ঠানকে <a href="http://www.eprocure.gov.bd">www.eprocure.gov.bd</a> সাইটের মাধ্যমে দরপত্রে অংশগ্রহণের জন্য অনুরোধ করা যাচ্ছে।	
মোঃ মামনুর রশীদ সরদার, নির্বাচী প্রকৌশলী, জিএমডি, বগুড়া	

Bangladesh Land Port Authority

Ministry of Shipping

Accelerating Transport and Trade Connectivity in Eastern South Asia (ACCESS) – Bangladesh Phase I: (BLPA Component) Project

Plot No. F-19/A, Sher-E-Bangla Nagar, Agargaon, Dhaka-1207.

Memo No.: 18.15.0000.023.14.022.24-481

Date: December 09, 2025

### e-GP Tender Notice

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of the following works package:

SI	Tender ID No.	Name of Package	Last Date and Time for Tender Selling	Last Date and Time for Tender Security Submission	Tender Closing Date and Time
I	1176832	Construction of Port Building, Parking Facilities for passenger with ancillary works at Benapole Land Port (Package No.: BLPA-W1A)	11-Jan-2026, 13:00	11-Jan-2026, 14:00	11-Jan-2026, 16:00

This is online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP System Portal and no offline hardcopy will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required. The fees for downloading the e-Tender Documents from the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through any Branch of registered Bank up to date and time mentioned in the notice. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP Help Desk ([helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd](mailto:helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd)).

Sd/-  
(Md. Ruhul Amin Miah)  
Project Director (Joint Secretary)  
(Service ID-15346)  
Access-BLPA Project

E-mail: [pdaccessblpa@gmail.com](mailto:pdaccessblpa@gmail.com)

GD-2699

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

## FAME to stage Tagore's 'Valmiki Protibha' Dec 11-12

### STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

FAME, a theatre troupe in Chattogram, is set to stage the fifth and sixth performances of Rabindranath Tagore's drama "Valmiki Protibha" at Theatre Institute Chittagong auditorium on December 11 and 12.

Both performances will begin at 7:10pm, says a press release.

The dance drama narrates the story of the transformation of Ratnakar, a feared bandit, into sage Valmiki, who later went on to author the epic "Ramayana".

Conceived and directed by Tilottama Sengupta, the performance features students from FAME's Dance, Drama, and Children's Theatre departments.

The production is dedicated to the memory of Rumel Barua, a student of FAME's Drama department.

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