

BNP candidate Nazmul fined Tk 50,000 for polls code violation

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

BNP-nominated candidate Nazmul Mostafa Amin for the Chattogram-15 constituency has been fined Tk 50,000 for violating the electoral code of conduct.

The fine was imposed around 4:30pm yesterday by Executive Magistrate Maung Asen, who is responsible for ensuring compliance with the electoral code of conduct.

Confirming the matter, Maung Asen, also assistant commissioner (land) of Lohagara upazila, told The Daily Star that Nazmul reached Lohagara with a large motorcade from Chattogram via Satkania upazila to attend a programme.

When the motorcade reached the Battali area, a mobile court stopped it and fined Nazmul under Section 9 of the Code of Conduct for Political Parties and Candidates, 2025, citing a violation of Section 27, said the magistrate, who led the mobile court team.

Witnesses said Nazmul was standing through the sunroof of an SUV, surrounded by around 100 vehicles, including motorcycles, SUVs and private cars.

According to the Chattogram District Administration, this is the first enforcement of a fine for violating the electoral code since the election schedule was announced.

CA holds

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Of the July uprising and spokesperson of Inqilab Mancha and a potential independent candidate from Dhaka-8 constituency, according to Chief Adviser's Press Wing.

They urged the government to take strong action over the incident. The award winners said they are excited to receive the award from the chief adviser.

They told the chief adviser that it is necessary to enhance the unity among political parties and the people for holding the upcoming general election. About the attack on Hadi, Prof Yunus said the attack was carried out in a pre-planned manner.

"I am maintaining regular contact with the family and getting updates on Hadi's treatment. I have also spoken with political parties, and they are extending their cooperation in this regard," he said.



Nazrul Sangeet exponents came together for "Shur Shadhonar Shonali Abhijatra", a celebratory programme honouring Khairul Anam Shakil's 50-year musical journey, at the Chhayanaut Sangskriti Bhaban auditorium in the capital's Dhanmondi on Friday. A renowned Nazrul Geeti exponent, teacher, and cultural advocate himself, Shakil took to the stage and emphasised that music enriches minds, builds character, and helps a nation progress by understanding itself.

PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

DATIARCHAR BAZAR IN KURIGRAM

House being built on 'govt road, market' land

S DILIP ROY, Kurigram

A house is being constructed by encroaching on a government road and designated market land at Datiarchar Bazar in Chilmari upazila in Kurigram, causing severe disruption to traders and pedestrians.

Locals allege that the structure, built late at night to avoid public attention, has blocked the only access road to the market, sparking tension across the area. Following a written complaint from residents, Upazila Nirbahi Officer (UNO) Sabuj Kumar Basak has asked the Officer-in-Charge of Dhushmara Police Station to investigate and submit a report.

According to the locals, the 20 hands long and 8 hands wide building has already been roofed, with concreting of the floor in progress. They claim that influential resident Kalam Mia has long tried to assert ownership over the government land and has now proceeded with the construction under cover of darkness.



"All goods entering or leaving the bazar use this road. If it is blocked, the market cannot function," said trader Sahidar Rahman. "Everyone is outraged as the work began at night."



PHOTO: STAR

Azizur Rahman, general secretary of the market committee, said, "We developed this market together and built boundary walls around the designated land. Kalam never objected back then. Now he is claiming government property and constructing a house. This is illegal and unethical."

Kalam Mia, however, denied the allegations. "I am building on my own land. Earlier, part of my land was taken for the market. I did not protest when the boundary walls were built because the situation was not favourable for me at that time," he said.

Astamirchar Union Parishad Chairman

Sohrab Hossain said no one is permitted to construct structures on government roads or market land. "I tried to convince Kalam multiple times, but he did not listen. That is why a written complaint was filed. The administration has assured action after investigation," he said.

Dhushmara Police Station OC Motiar Rahman said they visited the site after receiving the complaint. "Attempts are underway to resolve the issue locally. For now, construction has been halted," he said.

UNO Sabuj Kumar Basak said legal action will follow once the police submit their investigation report.

Farmland loss

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Justice Siddiqua stressed the need for environmental education from an early age, saying children should learn about environmental law starting from class five. She expressed hope that long-term planning would empower the next generation to build the country envisioned for decades.

Agriculture Secretary Mohammad Emdad Ullah Mian said raising awareness about environmental disasters and ensuring access to data are essential.

He said agriculture is undergoing transformation, and the ministry is working to involve real farmers and grassroots organisations in long-term strategies based on ground realities.

Presiding over the inaugural session, ALRD Executive Director Shamsul Huda said protecting rivers, forests, hills, and farmland is inseparable from protecting human rights, dignity, and diversity.

He highlighted the role of women farmers, who contribute 72-74 percent of agricultural labour but remain invisible in policy, and stressed that they must be recognised as equal stakeholders.

He also acknowledged the contributions of marginal farmers, sharecroppers, agricultural labourers, fishers, boatmen, factory workers, and the urban poor.

The first working session on "Land and Agricultural Rights of Marginalised Communities" was chaired by researcher and former Dhaka University professor Meghna Guhathakurta.

Panellists included researcher Pavel Partha, Advocate MM Khalekuzzaman, Bangladesh Indigenous Peoples Forum President Sanjib Drong, Bangladesh Agricultural Research Institute's Robiul Islam, and poet-journalist Sohrab Hassan.

Speakers criticised existing policies on agriculture, forests, and wetlands as unfriendly to indigenous and marginalised groups.

They accused the state of facilitating multinational investment while neglecting the urban poor and landless communities.

They said indigenous and marginalised peoples play a key role in conserving biodiversity and protecting land and forests and should be recognised in government strategies to address climate change.

Echoing the spirit of the July uprising, they called for ending discrimination in land and agricultural rights to build a just and equitable society.

Rights activists, development workers, farmers, and affected communities from across the country attended the conference.

12 years on, no closure

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Of them, Hadisur Rahman Sagar, Mamunur Rashid Ripon, Abdul Gaffar, and Jahangir Hossain are now in jail, while Golam Sarwar Rahat went into hiding after securing bail.

Since the political changeover on August 5 last year, eight arrestees – Ajmir Amit, Tariqul Islam Mithu, Abu Raihan, Abdullah Al Tasnim, Syed Ziaul Islam, Al Amin, Zahidul Islam, and Rafiqul Islam Rubel – have also been granted bail at different times.

The previous Investigation Officer SM Mizanur Rahman, an inspector of the CTTC, told The Daily Star on September 24 that the case dockets would be handed over to the CID within a few days.

The handover took place in early October.

Contacted recently, the current IO HM Rezwatul Islam of CID said they had just received the case documents. "Further steps will be taken after talking to higher officials," he said.

Mohammad Zakir Hossain, a defence lawyer for two of the arrestees, said, "My clients were arrested as suspects.

They have consistently maintained their innocence and claimed to have no knowledge of the incident. Yet, year after year, they continue to suffer, though they are on bail now. This case needs a conclusion."

Supreme Court lawyer Ishrat Hasan said, "The non-submission of probe reports for years creates serious legal disadvantages. It frustrates the constitutional guarantee of a speedy and fair trial, often leading to prolonged or arbitrary detention of the accused, as well as denying victims timely justice."

"Repeated adjournments due to the absence of reports amount to an abuse of process. Such delays not only weaken the evidentiary value of the case but also erode public confidence in the criminal justice system," she added.

PRAYER TIMING
DECEMBER 14
Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha
AZAN 5-15 12-45 3-45 5-19 7-00
JAMAAT 5-50 1-15 4-00 5-22 7-30
SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

Freedom to publish will define

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deciding what to publish. "Now we are hopefully moving into an era in which apprehension about what can and cannot be published will be somewhat eased," he added.

Speakers at the event praised UPL and its founder, Mohiuddin Ahmed, for producing professional and high-standard publications that have helped introduce Bangladesh to the world.

Prof Ali Riaz, special assistant to the chief adviser, said UPL has been a leading name in academic publishing in Bangladesh since the 1980s and described it as a matter of pride.

He said Mohiuddin Ahmed managed to build and sustain such an institution despite a political culture that often undermines institutions.

Dr Debapriya Bhattacharya, distinguished fellow at Centre for Policy Dialogue, described Mohiuddin Ahmed, who died in 2021, as an optimistic, patriotic, and learned individual – something that drove him to bring out quality books as a way of establishing a knowledge-based society.

"We remember him more and more when we find ignorance all around," he said.

Dr Debapriya said Mohiuddin Ahmed taught him that institutional education alone does not define learning, and lamented that he did not receive state recognition. "We, therefore, dearly call him publisher emeritus," he said.

The Daily Star Editor and Publisher Mahfuz Anam fondly recalled his memories of Mohiuddin Ahmed, who always advocated for quality books that he strongly believed are a vehicle for building a knowledge-based society.

He said Mohiuddin Ahmed was a dedicated soul for the intellectual development – something that can be a lesson for others to follow.

Noted photographer Shahidul Alam said Mohiuddin Ahmed consistently stood for truth and justice and protested what he considered unfair.

Former adviser to a caretaker government, Rasheda K Choudhury, said she learned a great lesson from Mohiuddin, who not only led an essential institution for many years,

but also developed the next ladder of leadership.

Noted actor Ramendu Majumder, Prof Swapan Adnan, Prof Syeed Ferdous, Prof Perween Hasan,

Remembering

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a faction of Chhatra Union, said one of the exhibitions, "Razakarer Amolnama", features various articles published in the Daily Sangram. Another, "Bijoy Gatha", highlights the nation's victory in the Liberation War.

The exhibition, "Opurno Gonojuddho", portrays the struggles people faced even after independence, while "Jara Chilen Jara Achen" focuses on the left-leaning intellectuals martyred on December 14, 1971.

The remaining arrangement, "Gonohotar Sakkho", documents both the mass killings carried out by the Pakistani Army and the struggles of women during the war.

Meghmalla Bosu, president of the DU unit of the Chhatra Union, said the Awami League "monopolised" the Liberation War narrative

Dr Tawfique Joarder, ornithologist Enam-Ul-Haque, and UPL Managing Director Mahrukh Mohiuddin also spoke, among others.

during its rule, erasing its "people's war character". He said the anti-liberation forces have been attempting to "diminish the war's significance since the July uprising".

"We organised this event primarily to counter these intellectual distortions. Through meticulous research, we've brought forward the reality of the people's war. We've also highlighted the genocide and exposed how Razakars manufactured consent for genocide," he said.

Regarding the event, Maen Ahmed, general secretary of the unit, said this year's victory month holds special significance as an "organised group has been questioning the Liberation War since the July uprising".

"We see this time as both a crisis and an opportunity full of possibilities," he added.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Divisional Forest Officer
Social Forest Division, Kushtia
www.forest.kushtia.gov.bd

Memo No. 22.01.5000.341.10.002.25.1711 Date: 11.12.2025

e-Tender Notice

e-Tenders are invited in the National e-GP Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for following Packages as follows:

Sl No.	Tender ID No.	Reference No.	Name of work	Tender last selling (date and time)	Last date & time for security submission	Tender/proposal closing & opening date and time
01	1194425	SFDK/2025-26/Tender-1	Construction of Boundary wall at Bheramara SFNTC, Bheramara, Kushtia	28-Dec-2025 12:00	28-Dec-2025 13:00	28-Dec-2025 14:00
02	1194161	SFDK/2025-26/Tender-2	Repair & Maintenance work of different Centre of Social Forest Division, Kushtia (a. Damaurhuda SFPC Office Building b. Divisional Forest Officer's Office Room, c. Chuadanga SFNTC Office Building d. Jibannagar SFNTC Office Building)	28-Dec-2025 12:00	28-Dec-2025 13:00	28-Dec-2025 14:00
03	1194177	SFDK/2025-26/Tender-3	Repair, Maintenance & upgradation of different civil works of Social Forest Division, Kushtia (a. Grill height increase works of Mujibnagar Complex b. Soil filling & repairing of surface drain of the DFO's residential area c. Repair & maintenance of boundary wire net in Mirpur SFPC)	28-Dec-2025 12:00	28-Dec-2025 13:00	28-Dec-2025 14:00

01. This is an online tender where only e-Tenders will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted.
02. e-Tender registration in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required to submit the tender.
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GD-2735

Md. Rezaul Alam
Divisional Forest Officer
Social Forest Division, Kushtia