

DHAKA-MYMENSINGH
Derailment halts rail link for 15 hours, sabotage suspected

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gazipur

Rail communication on the Dhaka-Mymensingh route was suspended for around 15 hours after the Dhaka bound Agniveena Express derailed in Gafargaon, Mymensingh, early yesterday due to a cut in the railway line.

Police and railway officials said the train derailed around 5:00am following an act of sabotage.

Gafargaon Police Station Officer-in-Charge AFM Atiqur Rahman said miscreants had cut about 15 feet of the railway track, forcing authorities to suspend all train services on the route.

Seepur Railway Station Officer Shamim confirmed that the line was cut in the Gafargaon area.

Station Master Mohammad Shamim said train services were halted from around 5:00am but no passenger trains were stranded at Seepur station. Rail services on the route were restored around 8:00pm after repair work, he added.



The teachers concerned collect newly printed secondary-level textbooks from the Upazila Education Office in Godagari, Rajshahi for distribution to their respective schools, ahead of the January 1 nationwide textbook distribution for class I-IX students. The photo was taken recently.

PHOTO: AZAHAR UDDIN

Make

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In a written statement, Sayeed Ahmed Khan, spokesperson of the organisation, said the inquiry commission submitted its report to the chief adviser on November 30.

He referred to recent media statements by commission head Major General (retd) ALM Fazlur Rahman, who claimed the carnage was a "pre-planned killing" orchestrated by then prime minister Sheikh Hasina with the direct backing of India, which had long been portrayed as a "BDR mutiny".

Md Faizul Alam, president of the organisation, said, "They added Section 2(a) in the commission's gazette, which legitimised the controversial trial. We objected to it."

"Even after 11 months of investigation and submission of the report, we still do not know what is in it. We demand immediate publication of the full report," he added.

Speakers at the briefing alleged that although no violent incidents took place in units outside Pilkhana on February 25 and 26, 2009, and jawans there followed army officers' commands, thousands were dismissed and imprisoned through special courts on charges of staging a "sepoy mutiny".

The BDR Kalyan Parishad placed a three-point demand: publication of the full investigation report; reinstatement of 18,519 members dismissed from Pilkhana and units across the country with compensation; release of innocent members currently in jail; and bringing the real culprits identified by the commission to justice.

Earlier, families of the officers killed in the 2009 carnage also urged the authorities to make the full report public and demanded immediate prosecution of those named in it.

BRACU launches semiconductor

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national semiconductor virtual hub, which will be developed and led by the Military Institute of Science and Technology (MIST).

In a video message, MIST Commandant Major General Nasim Parvez outlined the institute's role in structured workforce development, national training infrastructure and execution-oriented delivery.

Harish Balan, director at Synopsys, reaffirmed the company's support for Bangladesh's academic ecosystem through global-standard design tools and collaborative research.

Professor Muhammad

Yunus vows free, fair and peaceful

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yesterday at the state guest house Jamuna.

During the meeting, they discussed the upcoming February parliamentary elections and referendum, as well as trade, civil aviation, labour reforms initiated by the interim government, and overall bilateral relations between the two countries.

Jacobson, who is returning home after an eventful year in Bangladesh,

Mustafa Hussain of Purdue University, USA, said Bangladesh's transformation would be driven not by population size, but by impactful ideas, focused execution and the ability to build world-class technology brands.

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CREST has been established as a national research hub focused on advanced semiconductor technologies, including AI-centric chip design, VLSI systems, robotics, materials, packaging, testing and next-generation hardware platforms, said a press release.

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school students, mobilised the public on designated days, and motivated people to participate -- but none of this happened due to a lack of leadership and motivation," Saifur said.

"We failed to think nationally. Fragmented efforts in a few areas cannot provide protection," he added.

HM Nazmul Ahsan, associate professor at Shaheed Suhrawardy Medical College Hospital, said widespread sero-surveillance is needed to identify dominant dengue serotypes, noting that serotype 2 is linked to more severe illness.

Delayed hospital admission remains a major cause of death, he said, urging immediate admission for high-risk groups such as pregnant women, obese individuals, and those with multiple comorbidities.

Nazmul highlighted a severe shortage of nurses,

citing dengue wards with 100 patients staffed by only two or three nurses.

"Nurses are crucial for early detection of deterioration. Specialised training is essential," he said, referring to Sri Lanka

order, extensive security measures have been put in place, with members of the army, police, Rab, Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB), and Ansar deployed both inside and outside the campus.

Volunteers from BNCC, Rover Scouts and the Ranger Unit are also assisting in maintaining discipline.

JnU Proctor Prof Dr Tazammol Hoque said all necessary preparations had been taken to ensure a peaceful and fair election.

"Law enforcement agencies are on duty to maintain order. We hope to deliver a smooth, participatory and credible election," he said.

To maintain law and

Country saw

FROM PAGE 3

change," he said, citing Brazil, where dengue cases rose to 6.5 million by 2024.

"Our situation could worsen even faster due to our high population density," he said.

He said this year saw no effective control mechanism, such as proper insecticides, routine investigations, systematic source reduction, sustained awareness campaigns or community involvement -- apart from sporadic fogging.

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Law enforcers failed to arrest

FROM PAGE 3

Parash, chairman of Jubo League; Moinul Hossain Nikhil, its general secretary; and Saddam Hussain and Sheikh Wali Asif Enan, president and general secretary of Chhatra League, respectively.

According to the formal charge, Quader was accused on three counts of issuing directives, instigation and provocation

that allegedly led to attacks on and killings of unarmed protesters.

Senior leaders, particularly Bahauddin Nasim and Mohammad Ali Arafat, were also directly involved in facilitating the violence through planning and organisational support, while the others were charged due to their leadership positions and command roles within their

respective organisations, the prosecution said.

Meanwhile, the investigation officer (IO) resumed his deposition for the third day in the crimes against humanity case filed over the killing of Begum Rokeya University student Abu Sayed during last year's July uprising.

The tribunal fixed January 6 for resuming the IO's testimony in the case.

Workers Party, JASAD opt out

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Sazzad Hossain, the party said the February election is unconstitutional and is being organised in a one-sided manner. It also claimed that the interim government is not neutral.

JASAD accused the Election Commission of acting only to fulfil the political wishes of the

government and turning the election into a mockery.

Meanwhile, the Workers Party said it decided not to take part in the election as the EC did not take any steps to ensure participation of all political parties.

"If the government fails to do this, the interim government will have to take responsibility for the situation," the statement said.

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Office of the HEAT Sub Project

Project Name: Alor Dhara PIN-13600

Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering

North South University, Bashundhara, Dhaka-1229

Date: 30 December 2025

e-Tender Notice

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for procurement of the following package from HEAT-funded subproject (Project Identification Number: 13600):

Sl. No.	Tender ID No.	Name of works	Last Date and Time of Tender Security Submission	Tender Closing Date & Time
1	1200475	Procurement of Computers and Accessories (Laptop) for ASPM, members, researchers, and Accountant	21-Jan-2026 13:50	21-Jan-2026 14:50

These are online tenders, where only e-Tenders will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copy will be accepted.

To submit e-Tenders, registration in the National e-GP 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 registered Banks' Branches. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP Help Desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

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Sl. No.	Tender ID No.	Name of works	Last Date and Time of Tender Security Submission	Tender Closing Date & Time
1	1201851	Procurement of server computer and high-performance PC for large data analysis	21-Jan-2026 13:32	21-Jan-2026 14:32

These are online tenders, where only e-Tenders will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copy will be accepted.

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BANGLADESH ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

National Science & Technology Complex, Agargaon, Dhaka-1207

Website: www.bas.org.bd, Email: office@bas.org.bd

Election of Associate Fellows (AF) of BAS 2025

Bangladesh Academy of Sciences (BAS) announces the Election of Associate Fellows (AF) 2025 as below:

Young scientists who are below 45 (forty five) years of age on 31 December 2025 having Ph.D./D.Sc./FCPS/FRCS/MRCPS/MD/MS/MPhil or