

## 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 Shamima 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

FROM PAGE 3

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.

## 'Extortionists', traders clash

FROM PAGE 3

and remove him from the committee failed, prompting growing frustration and the announcement of the human chain programme. Traders from other markets in Karwan Bazar also joined the protest.

After the attack, traders regrouped with sticks and chased the attackers away before bringing out a procession, chanting slogans against extortion. Additional police and army personnel later arrived and restored order.

Contacted, Rahman said he is a businessman in the market with dealerships of at least six companies. "I collect service charges to run the market. That is not extortion," he said.

"They want to remove me

from my elected position without an election. As I opposed their move, they are trying to brand me an extortionist," he said, blaming leaders of the previous Awami League-era committee and some new trader leaders seeking to abolish the committee forcefully.

He, however, admitted, without naming anyone, that some people extort traders in Karwan Bazar.

Dhaka North City

unit BNP joint convener Anwaruzzaman Anwar acknowledged the dispute over the committee and called for action against those responsible following a proper investigation.

## Yunus vows free, fair and peaceful

FROM PAGE 3

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, appreciated the leadership

of the chief adviser over the past 17 months and reiterated the support of the US government for the February elections, said the Chief Adviser's press wing yesterday.

They also discussed funding for Rohingya humanitarian assistance.

The chief adviser thanked the US for its continued support for the Rohingyas.

He also thanked the

US chargé d'affaires for her "critical work" during her year-long tenure and for being a "friend to Bangladesh", and extended an invitation to her to visit in future.

National Security Adviser Dr Khalilur Rahman and SDGs Affairs Principal Coordinator and Senior Secretary Lamiya Morshed were also present at the meeting.

## First-ever JNU student union

FROM PAGE 3

Jannatul Maua Lisa, a student of Anthropology, said, "A single vote could shape the future of Jagannath University, and we want to entrust the university's future to those who can safeguard this responsibility," she said.

"We will vote for those who have worked in the past and are willing to work to resolve the long-standing issues faced by the university," she added.

Four panels are contesting the JNU central union election – the JCD-backed Oikkobodhho Nirbikar Jobian, the Chhakra Shakti-backed Oikkobodhho Jobian, the

Socialist Students' Front-backed Maulana Bhashani Brigade, and the Islami Chhakra Shibir-supported Odommo Jobian Oikko panel.

In the hall union elections, three panels are competing – the Socialist Students' Front-backed Rokuya Parishad, the Shibir-supported Odommo Jobian Oikko, and the Chhakra Dal-backed Oporajitar Ogorojatra panel.

Ahead of the election, CCTV cameras have been installed at every centre, and the entire vote-counting process will be broadcast live, according to the JNU Election Commission.

To maintain law and

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.

### NATIONAL CREDIT AND COMMERCE BANK PLC.

COMMON SERVICES DIVISION  
Head Office: NCC Bank Bhaban, 13/1-2, Toyenbee Circular Road  
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Sealed quotations are hereby invited by National Credit and Commerce Bank PLC. (the Bank) from reputed Companies/local Agents/Suppliers/Authorized Distributors/Service Providers for the below mentioned requirements under the terms and conditions mentioned detail in the Request for Quotation (RFQ) documents.

Items Description	Price of the tender document	Sale start date	Sale end date	Date and time for Tender Submission
Item 1: RFQ for renewing & implementing of Endpoint Security Solution - Extended Detection and Response (XDR) for Workstations of NCC Bank PLC.	Tk. 2,000/- (Taka Two Thousand) only (for each item) in the form of Payment Order (non-refundable) favoring National Credit and Commerce Bank PLC. by any scheduled bank of Bangladesh	December 30, 2025	January 07, 2026	January 08, 2026 Time: on/before 11:00 AM
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The schedule containing detailed Terms & Conditions may be collected from the Common Services Division, Level-5, NCC Bank PLC. Head Office, Dhaka and submit the same under sealed envelope to the Tender Box placed at Common Services Division (CSD). Manipulation or any kind of unusual approach or failure to submit offer within the stipulated time frame will be treated as "Disqualified" for the bidding. The Bank authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposal without assigning any reason whatsoever.

Vice President &  
Head of Common Services Division



## Workers Party

FROM PAGE 3

is unconstitutional and is

being organised in a one-

sided manner.

It also claimed that the

interim government is not

neutral.

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.

In its statement, the party

claimed it is being isolated

through political pressure.

## 50 homes gutted in Rohingya camp fire

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Cox's Bazar

At least 50 homes were gutted in a fire at Leda Rohingya refugee camp (Camp 24) in Hnila union of Teknaf upazila, Cox's Bazar on Sunday night.

The fire broke out around 10:00pm, and four firefighting units brought it under control around 1:00am, officials said.

Mohammad Alam, chairman of the Leda camp, said around 70,000 Rohingyas live in the camp.



The shelters, made of bamboo and tarpaulin, are built close to one another, allowing the fire to spread rapidly. He said the blaze was initially suspected to have originated from a cooking stove.

Syed Md Morshed Hossain, deputy assistant director of Cox's Bazar fire service, said there were no reports of casualties.

Muhammad Kausar Sikder, commander of Teknaf-16 Armed Police Battalion, said the cause of the fire is being investigated.

Khanjada Shahriar Bin Mannan, camp in-charge of the Leda camp under the Refugee Relief and Repatriation Commissioner's office, said a full assessment of the damage had not yet been completed.

## BRACU launches semiconductor

FROM PAGE 3

Attending as the chief guest, Md Anwar Hossain, secretary of the Ministry of Science and Technology, underscored the country's commitment to research-led technological advancement and innovation-driven economic transformation.

MA Jabbar, president of the Bangladesh Semiconductor Industry Association (BSIA) and managing director of Neural Semiconductor Ltd, delivered the keynote address, highlighting the importance of indigenous capability building, industry-academia collaboration and export-oriented semiconductor growth.

"We could have involved 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 as an example.

He also stressed the need for better logistics, including adequate fluids beyond normal saline and access to bedside ultrasound, haematoctrit machines and CBC analysers in health facilities.

Nazmul added that doctors need further training, noting that some private hospitals fail to follow protocols, resulting in higher mortality despite better facilities.

Public health expert Mohammad Mushtuq Hussain said early detection and decentralised care are key to reducing deaths.

### 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](mailto:helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd)).

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