



Farmers harvest early varieties of onions beside the Belpukur Bypass Road in Puthia upazila of Rajshahi yesterday. Farmers have cultivated onions extensively this season and are selling the vegetable at high prices in hopes of better returns.

PHOTO: AZAHAR UDDIN

Only 4.24% of candidates

FROM PAGE 3
Although the Constitution guarantees equal rights, women continue to be sidelined in direct parliamentary representation, it added.

Under the Representation of the People Order (RPO), political parties are required to reserve at least 33 percent of positions in central and party committees for women. However, most major parties have failed to meet this requirement. The Election Commission has extended the deadline for compliance by 2030, but non-compliance persists, with parties often citing a lack of qualified female leaders.

The FWPR described the situation as a self-perpetuating crisis, where the failure to empower women continues to reinforce the status quo.

The July National Charter 2025 mandates that political parties nominate at least five percent women candidates in parliamentary elections, with a long-term goal of increasing the figure to 33 percent.

However, EC data shows that 30 of the 51 parties contesting the election did not nominate a single woman.

According to EC data, BNP submitted 328 nomination forms, of which only 10 were

women — just 3.02 percent. Jamaat-e-Islami submitted 276 nominations but did not nominate any women, despite claiming 40 percent female representation in its party committees.

In contrast, Jatiya Party (GM Kader) and BASAD (Marxist) each nominated nine women candidates. Smaller parties such as JASAD, Ganosamhati Andolon, and AB Party also nominated women candidates. Together, these parties nominated around 35-40 women, accounting for about 32 percent of all women candidates.

However, the National Citizen Party (NCP), which emerged from mass movements, nominated only three women out of its 44 candidates.

The forum said it would continue monitoring women's political participation and advocate for reforms to ensure women's voices are represented in national politics.

The FWPR comprises Khubdhoo Nari Samaj, Gono Shakkhorota Abhijan, Durbar Network Foundation, Nagarik Coalition, Nari Udyog Kendra, Nari Grantha Prabartana, Nari Sanghati, Naripokkho, Narir Daake Rajniti, Feminist Alliance of Bangladesh, Bangladesh Nari Mukti Kendra and Voice for Reform.

ACC sets up

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Under the operational framework, team members will remain attached to the ACC wing under which they are formed. The team leader will act as the controlling officer and will be responsible for preparing the annual confidential reports (ACR) of team members.

Each team will also have one constable or support staffer with typing skills. All ongoing investigation files will be brought under the special teams. However, comparatively low-priority cases will be transferred to ACC officials who are not part of these teams.

Members of the 15 teams will not be assigned to any other task force, except for ongoing joint investigation teams. Those already serving in joint teams will continue until completion of their high-profile assignments.

The ACC director general or director will supervise ongoing investigations. Individual investigations will not be assigned separately to team members.

The teams will regularly update the commission on the progress of cases in their custody and will brief it after every weekly meeting.

Charge 3 states that Salman and Anisul ordered and facilitated lethal attacks in the Mirpur-10 area, killing Akhtaruzzaman and injuring numerous protesters.

Charge 4 alleges that at their instigation, coordinated attacks on August 4, 2024, killed at least 12 people and injured

PRAYER TIMING
JANUARY 13

Fazr	Zohr	Asr	Maghrib	Esha
AZAN	5-30	12-45	4-00	5-36
JAMAAT	6-05	1-15	4-15	5-40
				7-30

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

Law and order yet

FROM PAGE 3
However, he added that minor issues should ideally be resolved through discussions.

Responding to a question about improving relations with India, the BNP leader said Bangladesh would seek to pursue its demands while maintaining mutual respect between the two countries.

"If we can conduct ourselves diplomatically with them, their unfriendly attitude towards us will diminish," he said.

On the Teesta water-sharing issue, Fakhrul said BNP remains committed to resolving the problem. "We will engage in discussions with India regarding the Teesta, Padma, and other shared rivers to secure a fair share of water resources," he added.

Regarding recent remarks by Prof Ali Riaz, special assistant to the chief adviser, who said the upcoming referendum aims to ensure that future rulers of the country do not turn fascist, Fakhrul said those who constantly fear fascism and do nothing themselves, while making big statements from abroad, may feel that way.

"We know how to drive fascism away. We know how to fight, and we also know how to endure repression," he said.

Asked about allegations that BNP candidates are trying to attract votes from supporters of the banned Awami League, Fakhrul said this does not apply to everyone. "We are reaching out to the people," he added.

Charges framed

FROM PAGE 3
directing law enforcers and party cadres to use lethal weapons, resulting in the killing of Sifat Howlader and serious injuries to many others on July 20, 2024.

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Charge 4 alleges that at their instigation, coordinated attacks on August 4, 2024, killed at least 12 people and injured

many others in Dhaka city. Charge 5 alleges that the accused continued curfew-backed repression on August 5, 2024, resulting in the killing of 15 people in Dhaka.

The prosecution said the alleged acts amount to murder, complicity and conspiracy under the International Crimes (Tribunals) Act, 1973.

Over 5 lakh

FROM PAGE 3
He also said 1,191 Ansar Battalion striking force teams would be deployed nationwide. Each team will consist of 10 members, bringing the total to 11,910, which he said would make the overall election security arrangement more structured and effective.

Earlier, the home adviser inspected the parade, took the salute and distributed awards among four trainees selected as the best in four categories.

The best trainees were Assistant Director Shamim Reza of the 41st BCS Ansar cadre, upazila trainer Sohanur Rahman Russel, Sepoy Md Selim Shahriar of the 26th Ansar Battalion batch and Sepoy Md Maruf Rana of the 27th batch.

A total of 3,237 trainees completed the passing-out parade, the highest number in Ansar history. The trainees included 15 officers of the 41st BCS Ansar cadre, 88 upazila trainers and trainers-in-training, 1,010 members of the 26th Ansar Battalion batch and 2,124 members of the 27th batch.

Proposed training areas include handicrafts, cottage industries, small businesses, computer literacy and digital skills. Participants would receive microcredit on easy terms and equipment support to start or expand income-generating activities.

"These programmes are designed to bring women into the economy on their own terms," a BNP official said. "Not everyone can migrate to cities or take up factory work. Localised skills and small enterprises can transform household economies."

In its 31-point outline, the BNP committed to programmes aimed at empowering women and ensuring their effective participation in national development.

The party also pledged to work towards increasing women's representation in local government bodies.

BNP Standing Committee member Selima Rahman said, "These plans are not promises made just to get women's votes but are meant to empower them. Women must be made self-reliant through employment. If women at the grassroots level can be made self-reliant through family cards, their dignity in society will also increase."

"If the people elect us in the upcoming election, we will implement these plans," she added.

BNP leaders said this would help address shortages in frontline healthcare while creating jobs for women, particularly in rural and semi-urban areas.

The party also said upazila health complexes would be strengthened to provide full maternal care, including safe childbirth, as well as comprehensive newborn and child healthcare.

"Maternal and child health outcomes depend heavily on access to timely and quality services at the local level," a BNP health policy adviser said.

"Strengthening upazila facilities will reduce pressure on tertiary hospitals and save lives."

The BNP also pledged targeted employment programmes for uneducated rural women and homemakers, focusing on skills training and income generation.

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BNP pledges 'Family Card'

FROM PAGE 3
cover 50 lakh women across the country, focusing on low-income households, female-headed families, and economically vulnerable women, the party said.

Meanwhile, to improve safety and mobility, the BNP pledged to introduce dedicated bus services for women in cities and on key transport routes.

In the health sector, the party pledged to recruit around one lakh new health workers nationwide, with 80 percent being women.

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BNP leaders said the pledges have been printed in leaflets and distributed door to door since the official campaign began.

Senior leaders also acknowledged that outreach to female voters at the grassroots had been weak in the past, prompting the party to take new initiatives ahead of the election, said party insiders.

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Journo Mir Bashir Uddin Jewel passes away

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Munshiganj

Munshiganj Press Club President Mir Bashir Uddin Jewel passed away at the age of 52 early yesterday.

He breathed his last around 1:30am while undergoing treatment at the National Institute of Cardiovascular Diseases (NICVD) in Dhaka after suffering a cardiac arrest, said family members. Jewel was serving as the Munshiganj district correspondent of Maasranga Television and The Daily Ittefaq.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Project Director
Accelerating and Strengthening Skills for Economic Transformation (ASSET) Project
Directorate of Technical Education
Plot -F-4/B, Agargaon, Sher-E-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207
www.asset-dte.gov.bd

Memo No: 57.03.0000.051.07.956.25-133 Date: 12 January, 2026

e-Tender Notice No: 09/2025-26

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

Tender ID No.	Package No.	Package Description	Tender Document last selling Date and Time	Tender Closing/Opening Date and Time
1212987 (Re-Tender)	CP-GD-38	Supply and installation of Hospital Furniture for Nursing and Midwifery Labs	28-Jan-2026 17:00	29-Jan-2026 15:00

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. To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is mandatory.

The fees for the e-Tender Document Price have to be deposited online through any registered Bank's Branches up to 5:00 PM of one day before the Closing Date.

Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd)

Mir Zahid Hasan
 Project Director (Additional Secretary)
 ASSET Project
 Telephone: 880-02-41024953
 E-mail: pd@asset-dte.gov.bd

GD-91

TUESDAY, JANUARY 13, 2026, POUH 29, 1432 BS
Mawlana Bhashani Science and Technology University (MBSTU) EDGE Project, Department of ICT
Santosh, Tangail-1902

Invitation for Tender

01	Ministry/Division	ICT
02	Agency/Organization	Dept. of Information & Communication Technology, Mawlana Bhashani Science and Technology University Santosh, Tangail-1902.
03	Procurement entity name	Co-Ordinator EDGE Project, ICT Department
04	Invitation for	Procurement of Supply of Training KIT
05	Invitation Ref. No.	EDGE-MBSTU/ICT/Proc/OTM(01)/2025-26
06	Date	13.01.2026

KEY INFORMATION

07	Procurement method	Open Tendering Method (National)
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FUNDING INFORMATION

08	Budget and source of fund	Revenue Budget
09	Tender name	Procurement of Supply of Training KIT for EDGE Project, ICT Department Office, MBSTU

	Date	Time
10	Tender publication date	13.01.2026
11	Tender collection date	13.01.2026 10:00am
12	Tender pre-bid meeting	N/A
13	Tender last selling date	24.01.2026
14	Tender closing date & time	25.01.2026 02:00pm
15	Opening date and time	25.01.2026 02:30pm

16	Name & address of the office selling tender document	EDGE Project Office, ICT Department, Mawlana Bhashani Science and Technology University (MBSTU), Santosh, Tangail.
	Receiving tender document	do
	Opening tender document	do

INFORMATION FOR TENDERER

17	Eligibility of tenderer	i) Tenderer will have legal, financial, professional capability to deliver and install the tendered items (as per PPR-2025) and have 03 (Three) years' experience in the relevant field. ii) The minimum specific experience as Supplier in supply of Goods of at least One (1) contract successfully completed within last 03(Three) years, with a value of at least Tk. 30 (Thirty) lakh.
18	Brief description of related services	As per schedule
19	Brief description of related services	As per schedule
20	Price of tender document (Tk.)	1,000.00
21	Tender security amount (Tk.)	50,000.00
22	Name of official inviting tender	Co-Ordinator, EDGE Project, ICT Department, MBSTU
23	Designation of official inviting tender	Co-Ordinator
24	Address of official inviting tender	EDGE Project Office, ICT Department, Mawlana Bhashani Science and Technology University (MBSTU), Santosh, Tangail.
25	Contact details of official inviting	Phone No. 01817429260
26	The Procuring Entity reserves the right to accept or reject all tenders.	

GD-83

Co-Ordinator EDGE Project, Dept. of ICT, MBSTU

Dhaka South City Corporation
Zone-5 (Sayedabad)
www.dhakasouthcity.gov.bd

Ref No. 46.207.000.21.16.0002. 2026
 Dated: 11/01/2026

e-Tender Notice

e-Tenders are invited in e-GP Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) by Executive Engineer, Zone-5, Dhaka South City Corporation for the procurement of following package, which will be available at e-GP website from 12/01/2026 at 22.00pm.

Sl No.	Tender ID, Ref No. & Package No.	Name of works	Last selling date and time	Tender closing date & time
1	Tender ID-1207438 e-GP/DSCC/Z-05/25-26/PR	Repairing works of damaged road due to recent heavy rainfall under Zone-5, DSCC	26-Jan-2026 12:00	27-Jan-2026 12:00
2	Tender ID-1209836 e-GP/DSCC/Z-05/25-26/Cutting/Group-KA	Repairing works of road cutting done by different organizations under Engineering Division Zone-05 of DSCC(Group-Ka)	26-Jan-2026 12:00	27-Jan-2026 12:00
3	Tender ID-1209837 e-GP/DSCC/Z-05/25-26/Cutting/Group-KHA	Repairing works of road cutting done by different organizations under Engineering Division Zone-05 of DSCC (Group-Kha)	26-Jan-2026 12:00	27-Jan-2026 12:00

This is an online tender, where only e-Tenders will be accepted in e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, please register on e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>).

ডিএসসিসি/পিআরডি/১৬৬/২০২৫-২৬

Md. Lutfor Fakir
 Executive Engineer
 Zone-5 (Sayedabad)
 Dhaka South City Corporation

GD-88