

A race shaped

FROM PAGE 3
parties have failed us in 55 years of independence. It's time for change," he said.

The race features BNP Standing Committee member Mirza Abbas, a seasoned politician with deep-rooted influence who has twice been elected MP from this area.

His primary challenger is Nasiruddin Patwary, a leader of the National Citizen Party (NCP) and a leader linked to the July Uprising.

Backed by the II party alliance led by Jamaat-e-Islami, Patwary is campaigning on dismantling what he calls the "old political culture".

Other candidates include Meghna Alam (Gono Odhakar Parishad), Kifayatullah (IAB), Md Golam Sarwar (Janata Dal), AFM Ismail Chowdhury (Bangladesh Jasad), SM Sarwar (Bangladesh Islami Front), Tridip Kumar Saha (CPB), Zuber Alam Khan (Jatiya Party), Russel Kabir (Muktijote), and AHM Rafiquzzaman Akanda (BSD).

The constituency recently became a flashpoint after Patwary alleged he was attacked during campaigning.

He blamed Abbas's supporters, a claim the veteran leader dismissed as a "sympathy stunt".

Focusing on economic disparity, he added, "I don't believe in empty promises of jobs. I want to uproot the cause -- extortion and corruption. If the system is fixed, the youth will create their own employment."

He also criticised the Election Commission, alleging that loan defaulters and criminals

were cleared to contest. "Even EC officials appear helpless and panicked," he said.

Mirza Abbas, meanwhile, alleged that a level playing field is absent.

"My opponents are resorting to personal attacks and derogatory campaigning, which is a clear violation of the code of conduct," he said.

"I am a son of this soil. For 50 years, I have stood by the people here. If they believe I can deliver, I hope they give me their mandate," Abbas added.

His manifesto includes recovering occupied playgrounds and parks, modernising Mugga Hospital, and establishing new schools and graveyards.

He also alleged behind-the-scenes interference. "I believe a section of the government is trying to ensure the victory of a particular group. But I believe the people will deliver the right verdict on February 12," said Mirza Abbas.

Meghna Alam, the only woman in the race for Dhaka-8, called for an end to defamation.

While noting obstacles in some areas, she said she had not faced any attacks.

"I propose a policy-based debate on media, similar to developed nations, where candidates will discuss their manifestos," she told The Daily Star.

"I urge voters to ignore fear and trigger a ballot revolution to change the filthy political culture," she said.

Dhaka-8 has 2,75,471 voters -- 1,52,795 men, 1,22,675 women, and one hijra.



A female labourer dries boiled coarse Aman paddy in the sun on her home's front yard. It will be milled after two to three days and eventually sold at Tk 1,800 per maund. The photo was taken in Banaripara upazila of Barishal yesterday.

PHOTO: TITU DAS

Fact-checkers debunk two viral claims

FROM PAGE 3
the newly appointed president was accorded a reception by citizens of his home district, Pabna, at the Government Edward College ground, where he delivered the speech. At that time, Hasina was the prime minister of Bangladesh.

Dismislab found that in his speech, Shahabuddin did not say anything about bringing Hasina back to the country. The claim circulating online falsely attributes such a statement to him.

Therefore, the video claiming "Sheikh Hasina would return to Bangladesh before February this year" is old and pertains to a different incident. The speech did not mention Hasina returning to the country, added the

Dismislab report. Meanwhile, eggs were thrown at National Citizen Party (NCP) Chief Coordinator and the II-party alliance's Dhaka-8 candidate Nasiruddin Patwary on January 27 during a programme at Habibullah Bahar College in Dhaka. Following the incident, several posts circulated on social media claiming that a person standing beside Patwary at the time was a leader of the banned student organisation Bangladesh Chhatra League.

Rumor Scanner Bangladesh has verified the claim and found it to be false.

WHAT THE CLAIM SAID Social media posts alleged that an individual seen standing next to Nasiruddin Patwary during

the egg-throwing incident was a leader of Chhatra League.

WHAT THE FACT-CHECK FOUND According to Rumor Scanner, the individual in question is Zakir Mahmud, not a Chhatra League leader.

During the verification process, Rumor Scanner traced multiple social media posts to identify Zakir Mahmud's personal Facebook profile. A review of the profile found no evidence linking him to Chhatra League.

On the contrary, Rumor Scanner found that Zakir Mahmud actively participated in the July uprising. On March 20 last year, he shared a banner on his Facebook profile reading, "Ban Awami League or death (Awami

League nishiddhokoron, othoba mrittu)." In the caption, he wrote, "If blood is needed, take blood; bury Awami League."

Rumor Scanner noted that similar claims identifying Zakir Mahmud as a Chhatra League leader had also circulated on social media in July last year. At that time, the fact-checking organisation contacted Zakir Mahmud directly.

He told Rumor Scanner that he is an honours third-year student of Habibullah Bahar College and is not affiliated with Chhatra League.

He further said that he was injured by police gunfire during the July uprising and shared several photographs showing his injuries as supporting evidence.

3-yr-old dies

FROM PAGE 3
Citing doctors, the OC said, "Firefighters rescued the boy and rushed him to the upazila health complex, where on-duty doctors declared him dead."

"Doctors told us that the child was 'brought dead' to the hospital," he added.

Assistant Superintendent of Police (Rangunia Circle) Balayat Hossain said, "Upon receiving the news, five units of fire service, along with police, rushed to the scene."

He added, "A team of army also joined rescue efforts around 7:30pm."

Abdul Mannan, deputy director of Chattogram Fire Service, told The Daily Star, at 8:00pm, "It appears that a very narrow pit, about 25-30 feet deep, was dug several years ago for a government project. I do not know why it was not filled up afterwards. We

dug another pit adjacent to it to rescue the boy within a short time."

A video circulating on Facebook shows local residents trying to rescue the child using bamboo poles. In the video, a young man can be seen asking the child to hold on to the bamboo.

The child's uncle, Shah Alam, said in a Facebook live video that Misbah fell into the pit while playing with other children and had managed to hold onto a bamboo stick for more than an hour.

A similar incident took place on December 10 last year.

Two-year-old Sajid fell into an abandoned 30-foot-deep tube-well pit in Tanore, Rajshahi.

His body was recovered nearly 32 hours later, highlighting the dangers posed by unattended deep pits.

5 student unions

FROM PAGE 3
Reading the statement, Farhad said through these rallies, they will call upon people from all walks of life to take a position in favour of "yes" in the referendum in a peaceful, democratic, and inclusive manner.

The five student unions are the Dhaka University Central Students' Union (Ducus), Jahangirnagar University Central Students' Union (Jucus), Rajshahi University Central Students' Union (Rucus), Chittagong University Central Students' Union (Cucus), and Jagannath University Central Students' Union (JnUcsu).

Organisers said the rallies aim to clarify

the importance of the referendum to the public, end politics of confusion and fear, and build consolidated awareness in favour of state reforms.

Similar rallies will be organised gradually in all divisional cities.

Alongside elected student representatives, participants are expected to include members of the families of the July martyrs and injured fighters, imams of mosques, priests of temples, presidents of business associations and press clubs, heads of Shilpakala Academy and sports organisations, representatives of the working class, and professionals, including teachers and doctors.

Govt approves

FROM PAGE 3
principle and that the price would be known after final approval from the purchase committee.

The move comes amid continued criticism of Rab at home and abroad over allegations of human rights violations.

The interim government's Commission of Inquiry on Enforced Disappearances has recommended abolishing Rab and submitted its report to Chief Adviser Prof Muhammad Yunus. International rights groups, including Human Rights Watch, have also called for the force to be disbanded.

Against this backdrop, questions have been raised about the procurement as the interim government nears the end of its tenure.

Home Ministry Senior Secretary Nasimul Gani defended the decision to avoid open tendering, saying, "We are keeping government money within the government."

He said Pragati Industries, Bangladesh's first vehicle-manufacturing company, is state-owned, which is why the ministry opted to procure the vehicles from the company.

According to the home ministry proposal, the vehicles will be procured under the project "Enhancement of Rab Forces' Operational Capability (1st Revised)," implemented by Rab under Bangladesh Police with government funding.

The vehicles are needed in FY2025-26 to address shortages and strengthen Rab's capacity to maintain law and order ahead of the upcoming election, said the proposal.

It noted that the Open Tendering Method would take time and sought approval under Section 68 of the Public Procurement Act (PPA) 2006, citing urgent necessity to proceed through direct procurement.

The document added that the Finance Division has consented to the procurement plan and that the Economic Affairs Committee recommended in principle approval.

The project was initiated in 2018 during the previous Awami League government and approved by Ecnc on November 7 that year. It is scheduled to run from December 1, 2018, to December 31, 2026.

Bangladesh

FROM PAGE 3
security cooperation division.

Brig Gen Md Humayun Kabir, director of the Military Training Directorate, was present at the opening and closing ceremonies, according to the ISPR release.

During the discussions, the two sides reviewed areas of military cooperation, professional development, and strategic engagement. They discussed holding multiple joint trainings and exercises, and explored innovative training methods aimed at strengthening military capability.

The delegations also reaffirmed their interest in further strengthening ongoing strategic cooperation between the two armies, the release said. They agreed on taking effective steps to contribute to regional security and on coordinated preparedness to respond to natural and man-made disasters. The talks also placed emphasis on technological support and readiness to address global challenges, ISPR added.

Take urgent action

FROM PAGE 3
Family Welfare, highlighted the need for stricter regulation of private hospitals performing C-sections without proper licences.

Md Abu Jafor, director general of the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS), called for collective measures to address the issue, saying the government cannot do it alone.

Khurshid Talukder, director (Research) at AWCH, said, "Currently, quality antenatal care in our country is only 22 percent. We must improve basic services, with a goal to increase hospital deliveries to 90 percent by 2030."

Prof Ferdousi Begum, head of the Obstetrics and Gynaecology Department at AWCH, said alongside clinical measures, non-clinical interventions and midwives play a crucial role in promoting natural deliveries.

Prof Anjuman Ara, an obstetrician and gynaecologist, said,

"The C-section rate in Bangladesh is alarmingly high, with nearly half of all deliveries being caesareans, particularly in private hospitals."

"To tackle this, we implemented 11 interventions at our hospital to reduce the C-section rate from 65 percent to 42 percent in two years. The interventions include counselling mothers on the benefits of natural delivery, waiting for labour pain to progress naturally, and using the Robson Classification to identify high-risk groups," she added.

Dr Dabir Uddin Ahmed, CEO of AWCH, delivered the welcome address.

PRAYER TIMING	
JANUARY 29	
Fazr	Zohr
5:35	12:45
Asr	Maghrib
4:15	5:46
7:15	
JAMAAT	6:10
1:15	4:30
5:50	7:45

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

জুলাই গণঅভ্যুত্থান স্মৃতি জাদুঘর
সংস্কৃতি বিষয়ক মন্ত্রণালয়
শেরে বাংলা নগর, ঢাকা

নিয়োগ বিজ্ঞপ্তি

আপনি কি জুলাই স্পিরিট হ্রদয়ে ধারণ করেন?
আপনি কি মনে করেন জুলাই অভ্যুত্থান নতুন বাংলাদেশের সম্ভাবনা তৈরি করেছে?
আপনি কি ইতিহাস নিয়ে আর্কিহিট কিংবা জাদুঘরের সাথে কাজ করতে আগ্রহী?
তবে আমরা আপনাকেই খুঁজছি

০৪ ফেব্রুয়ারি ২০২৬ তারিখের মধ্যে আবেদন করুন

জুলাই গণঅভ্যুত্থান স্মৃতি জাদুঘরের রাজস্বখাতে সৃজিত, ব্যবস্থাপক (গ্রহণকার, মুদ্রণ ও প্রকাশনা) ১টি, উপ-পরিচালক (প্রশাসন ও অর্থ) ১টি, উপ-পরিচালক (প্রশিক্ষণ) ১টি, ডেপুটি কিউরেটর (নিদর্শন সজ্জা, রেজিস্ট্রেশন ও সংরক্ষণ) ১টি, ডেপুটি কিউরেটর (নিদর্শন প্রদর্শন ও প্রদর্শনী) ১টি, উপরতন গবেষণা কর্মকর্তা ১টি, রক্ষণাবেক্ষণ প্রকৌশলী ১টি, ডেপুটি মাস্ট্রিনিজিয়া ব্যবস্থাপক ১টি, হিসাবরক্ষণ কর্মকর্তা ১টি, সহকারী পরিচালক (প্রশাসন) ১টি, সহকারী পরিচালক (প্রশিক্ষণ) ১টি, নিরাপত্তা অফিসার ১টি, সহকারী কিউরেটর (নিদর্শন সজ্জা) ১টি, সহকারী কিউরেটর (রেজিস্ট্রেশন ও সংরক্ষণ) ১টি, গবেষণা সহকারী (নিদর্শন প্রদর্শন) ১টি, ডিসপ্রে অফিসার ১টি, গ্রাফিক্স ডিজাইনার ১টি, রেজিস্ট্রেশন অফিসার ১টি, গবেষণা কর্মকর্তা ১টি, সহকারী রক্ষণাবেক্ষণ প্রকৌশলী ১টি, ডিজিটালকার ১টি, সহকারী মাস্ট্রিনিজিয়া ব্যবস্থাপক (প্রোগ্রামার) ১টি, সহকারী মাস্ট্রিনিজিয়া ব্যবস্থাপক (সংরক্ষণ) ১টি, অডিওভিজুয়াল প্রোগ্রাম অফিসার ১টি, শিফা অফিসার ১টি, জনসংযোগ কর্মকর্তা ১টি, অডিওভিজুয়াল ম্যানেজার ১টি, সাইট্রেরিয়ান ১টি, প্রকাশনা কর্মকর্তা ১টি, প্রশাসনিক কর্মকর্তা (প্রশাসন ও সংস্থাপন) ১টি, সহকারী নিরাপত্তা অফিসার ১টি, সহকারী রেজিস্ট্রেশন অফিসার ১টি, এসিস্ট্যান্ট ডিসপ্রে অফিসার ১টি, রেপ্লিকা ম্যানুফেকচারার ১টি, সহকারী গবেষণা কর্মকর্তা ১টি, ফিল্ম এসিস্ট্যান্ট সাইট্রেরিয়ান ১টি, ফিল্ম এডিটর ১টি, স্মিট ক্যামেরাম্যান ১টি, উপ-সহকারী প্রকৌশলী (পুরকৌশল) ১টি, উপ-সহকারী প্রকৌশলী (বেসুতিক) ১টি, সহকারী জনসংযোগ কর্মকর্তা ১টি, সৌখ্য মিজিয়া সম্পাদক ১টি, উৎসর্গ প্রদর্শক ১টি, সহকারী হিসাবরক্ষণ কর্মকর্তা ১টি, হিসাবরক্ষক ১টি, নিরাপত্তা পরিদর্শক ১টি, সিসিটিভি পরিদর্শক ১টি, সিসিটিভি ব্যবস্থাপক ১টি, রেজিস্ট্রেশন সহকারী ১টি, সহকারী সজ্জাহক ১টি, গবেষণা সহকারী ১টি, সাউন্ড রেকর্ডিং ১টি, জনসংযোগ সহকারী ১টি, সহকারী সাইট্রেরিয়ান কাম-ক্যাটালগার ১টি, মডেলার ১টি, অফিস সহকারী কাম-কম্পিউটার মুদ্রাক্ষরিক ১টি, ক্যাশিয়ার ১টি, স্টোর সহকারী ১টি, রেকর্ড কীপার ১টি, বিক্রয় সহকারী ১টি, আইসিটি সহকারী ১টি, অফিস সহায়ক ১টি, ফটো স্টুডিও শূন্য পদে জনবল নিয়োগের নিমিত্ত বাংলাদেশের স্থায়ী নাগরিকদের নিকট হতে দরখাস্ত আবেদন করা যাচ্ছে। বিশেষায়িত জাদুঘর বিদায় বিশেষ যোগ্যতা সম্পন্ন ব্যক্তির ক্ষেত্রে নিয়োগের যে কোন শর্ত শিথিলযোগ্য। আবেদনপত্র গ্রহণের শেষ তারিখ: ০৪ ফেব্রুয়ারি ২০২৬ (বিকাল ০৫:০০টা পর্যন্ত)। আগ্রহী উপস্থিত প্রার্থীগণকে <https://july36.gov.bd/notice> এ সরাসরি প্রবেশ করে আবেদন করার জন্য অনুরোধ করা হলো।

জনজিম ওয়াহাব
মহাপরিচালক (অতিরিক্ত দায়িত্ব)
জুলাই গণঅভ্যুত্থান স্মৃতি জাদুঘর
শেরে বাংলা নগর, ঢাকা

জিডি-২১৭

গণভোট ২০২৬
সংসদ নির্বাচন
দেশের চারি
আপনার হাতে

নিয়োগ শাখা

নম্বর: ৩০.৩৪.০০০০.০৭৩.৩৫.০০০.২৬.৬১ তারিখ: ২৮/০১/২০২৬ খ্রি.

প্রাথমিক বাছাই ও লিখিত পরীক্ষার সংশোধিত বিজ্ঞপ্তি

অনিবার্য কারণবশতঃ বিমান বাংলাদেশ এয়ারলাইন্স লিমিটেড এর ম্যাটেরিয়াল ম্যানেজমেন্ট অ্যাসিস্ট্যান্ট পদের পূর্ব নির্ধারিত প্রাথমিক বাছাই ও লিখিত পরীক্ষা আগামী ৩১-০১-২০২৬ খ্রি. শনিবার সকাল ১০.০০ টার পরিবর্তে দুপুর ০২.৩০ টায় তেজগাঁও কলেজ, ১৬ ইন্দিরা রোড, ফার্মগেট, ঢাকা-১২১৫ কেন্দ্রে অনুষ্ঠিত হবে। উল্লেখ্য, ইতিপূর্বে ইস্যুকৃত প্রবেশপত্রই এক্ষেত্রে বলবৎ থাকবে।

পদের নাম	কেন্দ্রের নাম	পরীক্ষার তারিখ ও সংশোধিত সময়
ম্যাটেরিয়াল ম্যানেজমেন্ট অ্যাসিস্ট্যান্ট	তেজগাঁও কলেজ, ১৬ ইন্দিরা রোড, ফার্মগেট, ঢাকা।	তারিখ: ৩১-০১-২০২৬ খ্রি. সংশোধিত সময়: দুপুর ০২.৩০ টা

বিস্তারিত তথ্যের জন্য বিমান ওয়েবসাইট www.biman.gov.bd এবং www.biman-airlines.com ভিজিট করার জন্য অনুরোধ করা হলো।

যথাযথ কর্তৃপক্ষের নির্দেশক্রমে-
মোঃ শফিকুল ইসলাম
ব্যবস্থাপক প্রশাসন

বিমান
বাংলাদেশ এয়ারলাইন্স
আকাশে শান্তির বীড়

GD-215

BANGLADESH HOUSE BUILDING FINANCE CORPORATION
Common Service Department
Head Office, 22 Purana Paltan, Dhaka-1000
Website: www.bhbfc.gov.bd

Reference : HB/HO/CS/Store/Stationery-1009/6123

e-Tender Notice

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

e-Tender ID No.	Package No.	Name of the Work	Last Date and Time for Tender/Proposal Security Submission	Tender/Proposal Closing & Opening Date and Time
1219892	HB/HO/CS/Store/Stationery-1009	Supply of stationery & crockeries goods for Bangladesh House Building Finance Corporation (BHBFC).	08 February 2026 Time: 13:00	08 February 2026 Time: 14:00

This is online tender where only e-tender 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 required. The fees for downloading the e-Tender Documents from the National e-GP System portal have to be deposited online through any e-GP registered Bank's Branches. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

Sd/-
(C M Room)
Deputy General Manager
Common Service Department
E-mail: dgm.cs@bhbfc.gov.bd
Tel : +88-02-223381754

GD-212