

Labour rights

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billboards, and loudspeaker announcements as candidates vie to represent the constituency in parliament.

Some locals, however, are sceptical. Saphor Ali Matbor, a resident of Gazirhat in his sixties, said past MPs failed to deliver.

"We want representatives who will work to improve living standards, control commodity prices, and solve gas and water crises," he said. Jerin Tasnim Boishakh, a JU student and a Dhaka-19 voter, said election discussions among students often focus on social media trolling and narratives.

"One major party faces criticism over extortion allegations. Another is questioned over its stance on women's rights and the Liberation War. Many were initially hopeful about the NCP, formed by leaders of the July uprising, but its sudden alliance with Jamaat has left many confused," she said.

In this regard, NCP candidate Dilshana Parul told The Daily Star, "This is a temporary electoral alliance, not an ideological one. While there are differences between NCP and Jamaat, there is also unity regarding the July spirit, reforms, justice, and building a new Bangladesh."

She said she was receiving strong support from local Jamaat-e-Islami activists. Expressing optimism about her chances, she noted positive responses from female garment workers and senior citizens.

If elected, Parul pledged to establish international-standard training centres for young workers, a specialised government hospital for labourers, and state-run day-care centres for working women.

"Within the first 100 days, I will begin work on

waste management and waterlogging. I will free Savar-Ashulia from all forms of crime and extortion, de-pollute the Turag and Bangshi rivers, and develop natural parks along their banks for recreation," she said.

BNP candidate Mohammad Salahuddin expressed confidence in his chances, calling the election "a result of a 17-year struggle to restore the people's right to vote."

"Voters have faith in me because I was imprisoned and faced numerous cases during the previous regime," he said.

He pledged to prioritise the safety of female workers, ease Savar's chronic traffic congestion, and curb river pollution through stricter enforcement of environmental laws.

However, he noted a major concern. "Since the election coincides with a long holiday, it may reduce turnout, as many garment workers might leave for their village homes."

"I am working hard to bring voters to polling centres and explain the importance of voting," he said.

The densely populated seat has 7,47,070 voters – 3,79,906 men, 3,67,151 women, and 13 hijra individuals.

Jamaat wants

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"I don't know if it is true or false, but if it is true, then he did wrong. Women will never accept it," said the BNP leader.

Fakhrul, who is contesting the Thakurgaon-1 constituency, highlighted the importance of female education and employment. "If our girls don't go to school and college, where will they get jobs? Men and women must live in Bangladesh with equal rights," he said.

Women's inclusion in state systems key to justice

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She also emphasised early education for girls on personal, online, and physical safety at school and college levels, similar to basic safety training for children.

She added that the party aims to establish a one-stop, umbrella solution covering victim support services across sectors.

Humayra Noor of the NCP proposed structural reforms, including all-female police cells, guaranteed anonymity for victims, improved daycare facilities, and safe public transport.

She said her party plans a Tk 10,000 crore allocation for women and youth to promote entrepreneurship through simplified registration, tax

exemptions, and financial independence.

She also emphasised the need to move beyond token gestures towards genuine empowerment, sharing targeted support plans in education – especially through loans – and in science and technology.

She said her party advocates increasing women's seats in parliament to enable those who have lagged to step forward.

Luna Noor of the Communist Party of Bangladesh called for ratifying international human rights charters and introducing a uniform family code, noting that ideological barriers must also be dismantled.

Prof Habiba Akter

Chowdhury, political secretary of Jamaat-e-Islami, stressed comprehensive education and political accountability to ensure women receive their rights and protection from violence.

On legal discrimination, she said Bangladesh already allows communities to follow their respective personal laws.

BNP's Mahbuba Habiba noted that political parties must handle these sensitive laws cautiously, as change cannot happen overnight. She, however, emphasised that inclusive development and equal opportunities are essential.

She argued that reserved seats alone are ineffective without transparency and merit-based selection, calling instead for

minimum candidate quotas and leadership opportunities for women.

Maheen Sultan, senior fellow at BRAC Institute of Governance and Development, identified access to legal information, dedicated facilitators, and financial independence as key to survivor empowerment.

She warned that women without livelihoods are often forced back into abusive situations and called for state-funded social protection and legal aid.

Senior lawyer Fawzia Karim Firoze said political promises must be backed by research and evidence-based planning.

She said judges are often unsure about the type of orders to issue,

leaving victims without the protection they are entitled to.

She stressed the need for an effective screening mechanism in judicial recruitment and examinations to ensure integrity, and called for clear public information displays in courts and government offices.

She also highlighted that key service institutions, including victim support centres, lack a sustainable revenue framework, which results in uncertainty and disruption.

Mitali Jahan, programme manager at BRAC, argued that strong political commitment is required to transform legislation into tangible protection. Naripokkho member

Rina Roy urged the state to act as the primary guarantor of rights and called for a Uniform Family Code to ensure equality.

She demanded that political parties move beyond verbal promises and include written commitments in their manifestos to eliminate all forms of legal discrimination against women.

Prapti Taposhi, organiser of Shekol Bhangar Podojatra; Banani Biswas, general secretary of Bangladesh Dalit and Indigenous Women Federation; Karishma Jahan, Supreme Court advocate; and Tanjim Ferdous, head of Strategic Partnership at The Daily Star, also spoke at the event, among others.

33% food samples

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children, including chips and items never tested before, he also said.

Mostafa drew attention to several critical product specific findings. For instance, 65% of chips tested contained acrylamide, a chemical that increases with frying or burning.

Also, some edible oils failed to meet nutritional standards, and certain mustard oils were found adulterated by mixing with soybean oil, he added.

Mostafa stressed that while Bangladesh is still developing specific national limits, the BFSA used references from international standards, such as the European limit of 0.75 ppm for acrylamide, which many local samples exceeded.

He also highlighted initiatives to train producers in using safer alternatives to reduce health risks.

He further stressed that these efforts are part of a data-driven, long term strategy to ensure safe and nutritious food for the public, build robust food safety monitoring, and support informed policymaking and research.

As per BFSA's data, the extent of adulteration, contamination, or low nutritional content in food samples is on the rise in recent years – 8.5% in FY 2022-23 and 15.4% in 2023-24.

Food Adviser Ali Imam Majumder highlighted emerging challenges, including overuse of fertilisers and pesticides in cultivation, and the use of hormones in livestock for higher yields.

BFSA Chairman Zakaria said for the first time, the BFSA has started compiling the test results into a database and has also initiated efforts to publish them online.

People's Republic of Bangladesh

Metropolitan Senior Special Judge Court, Dhaka.

Present: Mr. Md. Sabbir Faiz
(Metro Sessions Judge)
Metropolitan Senior Special Judge, Dhaka.

Permission Petition No.42/2026

Order No.- 01, Date: 11-01-2026

Investigation officer Mr. Mohd. Kamruzzaman, BP no.7502006224, Inspector of Police, Financial Crime, Organized Crime, CID, Bangladesh Police, Dhaka submitted a petition under Memo-CI/Financial Crime/225, Dated:-08.01.2026, Source Memo-Financial Crime/BFIU/Verification/55-2025/7786, Dated:-06.11.2025 under sections 2(*) of the Money Laundering Prevention Act, 2012(ammendment-2015) to freeze assets of accused A.H.M Khairuzzaman Liton and 41 Bank accounts and his family members and also related to his interests under section 14(1) of the Money Laundering Prevention Act, 2012.

The petition is taken up for hearing,

Heard learned Additional Public Prosecutor and gone through the petition as well as the records. It is found that an enquiry is undergoing against the aforesaid alleged accused A.H.M Khairuzzaman Liton and 41 Bank accounts and his family members and also related to his interests under section 14(1) of the Money Laundering Prevention Act, 2012.

It appears from the record that the alleged offender has acquired huge amount of illegal wealth beyond his known source of income by adopting illegal means and if those assets are not attached and freed those assets will be laundered or transferred and those can not be possible to be forfeited after trial which will frustrate this case. Hence those assets need to be freed and attached.

Considering the facts and circumstances, I am convinced to allow the petition submitted by Investigation officer Mr. Mohd. Kamruzzaman, BP no.7502006224, Inspector of Police, Financial Crime, Organized Crime, CID, Bangladesh Police, Dhaka and accordingly the assets as mentioned in the petition are hereby freed and attached until further order as per section 14(1) of the Money Laundering Prevention Act, 2012.

It is hereby further ordered that the copy of this order be issued to the Director, Bangladesh Financial Intelligence Unit (BFIU), Bangladesh Bank, Head Office, Motijheel, Dhaka to the effect that while the freezing order is in effect regarding the said accounts, the account holders will not be allowed to withdraw any money. But they will be at liberty to deposit only.

Let this order be published in the Government Official Gazette along with widely circulated one daily Bengali and one daily English newspaper under section 14(3) of the Money Laundering Prevention Act, 2012 for information of the citizens at large.

Let this order along with the photy copy of the application be sent to Investigation officer Mr. Mohd. Kamruzzaman, BP no.7502006224, Inspector of Police, Financial Crime, Organized Crime, CID, Bangladesh Police, Dhaka and Publication department, Tejgaon, Dhaka; Director, Bangladesh Financial Intelligence Unit (BFIU), Bangladesh Bank, Head Office, Motijheel, Dhaka, and other concerned authorities for necessary action.

Inform all concerned Authorities at once.

Directed & Corrected by me.

Sd/-
Metro. Senior Spl Judge, Dhaka.
Memo Number: 11/01/26

Sd/-
(Md. Sabbir Faiz)
Metro. Senior Special Judge, Dhaka.
Date: 11/01/26

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh					
Office of the Inspector General Bangladesh Police Police Headquarters, Dhaka					
Invitation for International Tender					
Memo No. 44.01.0000.058.07.019.25/157	Date: 02/02/2026				
Sealed tenders are hereby invited from the Manufacturers/suppliers in their official pad for supply of following items as required by Bangladesh Police in FY 2025-2026.					
1	Ministry/Division: Ministry of Home Affairs.				
2	Agency: Bangladesh Police				
3	Procuring entity name: AIG (Arms & Ammunition), Bangladesh Police.				
4	Invitation for: To Purchase 1) 7.62x51 mm Cartridge for Bangladesh Police				
5	Invitation Ref. No.: 44.01.0000.058.07.019.25/05(2025-2026)				
6	Date: 02/02/2026				
KEY INFORMATION					
7	Procurement method: One Stage Two Envelope (International Tender)				
FUNDING INFORMATION					
8	Budget and source of funds: Revenue Budget (GOB)				
PARTICULAR INFORMATION					
9	Tender publication date: 03 February 2026				
10	Tender last selling date: 15 March 2026				
11	Tender closing date and time: 16 March 2026 at 12.00 hrs				
12	Tender opening date and time (Technical offer only): 16 March 2026 at 12.30 hrs				
Name & address of the office					
13	Name & address of the office: Bangladesh Police, Police Headquarters, 6, Phoenix Road, Fulbaria, Dhaka.				
	Selling tender document: AIG (Arms & Ammunition), Bangladesh Police, Police Headquarters, Dhaka.				
	Receiving tender document: AIG (Arms & Ammunition), Bangladesh Police, Police Headquarters, Dhaka.				
	Opening tender document: NCCOM Building (Conference Room 2 Floor), Bangladesh Police, Police Headquarters, Dhaka.				
14	Place/date/time of pre-tender meeting (optional): 09 March 2026, at 12.00 hrs. NCCOM Building (Conference Room 2nd Floor), Bangladesh Police, Police Headquarters, Dhaka.				
INFORMATION FOR TENDERER					
15	Eligibility of tenderer: 1) Up-to-date Export license 2) Written confirmation authorizing the signatory of the tender in accordance with the Memorandum of Association and Articles of Association of the Principal 3) Provide the legal and financial capacity of the tenderer with affidavit 4) Original full Brochure of products of the Principal 5) Other requirements are described in the standard tender document [PG SA].				
16	Brief description of goods				
Sl. No.	Description of Good	Quantity	Price of tender document (non-refundable)	Tender security in (USD)	Completion time (Date of Opening of L/C)
1	7.62x51 mm Cartridge	1,50,000 Pcs	12,000/-	6,130.00 USD	120 days
PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS					
17	Name of the official inviting the tender	Md. Moniruzzaman, BPM-Sheba			
18	Designation of the official inviting the tender	Assistant Inspector General (Arms & Ammunition)			
19	Address of official inviting the tender	Assistant Inspector General (Arms & Ammunition), Room No. 315 (2nd Floor), 6, Phoenix Road, Police Headquarters, Dhaka.			
20	Contact details of official inviting the tender	Phone: 02-47120270, Fax: 02-55101641 E-mail: aiga_a@police.gov.bd & aigarmsbd@gmail.com			
21	The tenderers shall submit their Technical and Financial offer in separate sealed envelope. Furthermore both envelopes shall be covered by an outer envelope which is sealed.				
Special instructions					
22	a) No tender will be received after the deadline of submission time & date. b) The procuring entity reserves the right to reject all tenders or annul the tender process without assigning any reason. c) The Procuring entity also reserves the right to omit, increase and/or decrease the quantity of any item(s) of the tender. d) If not possible to receive/open the tender on the scheduled date for any unavoidable circumstance, the same will be received/opened on the next working date at the same time & same venue. e) Evaluation will be on item by item basis. f) Date of financial offer opening will be duly informed to the Technically Responsive Tenderers and their local agents. g) The Tenderer must comply with all requirements as per the tender data sheet provided with the tender schedule. h) The Tender Security shall be in the form of an irrevocable bank guarantee issued by an internationally reputable bank and shall require to be endorsed by its any correspondent bank located in Bangladesh. i) The Procurement will be performed according to the Public Procurement Act-2006 and Public Procurement Regulation 2025.				

26/02/2026
Md. Moniruzzaman, BPM-Sheba
BP-7806119738
Assistant Inspector General (Arms & Ammunition)
For Inspector General, Bangladesh Police
Police Headquarters, Dhaka
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