

Ekushey Boi

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Udyan for the fair. Construction of stalls is underway, and the schedules for discussions and cultural programmes have been finalised," he said.

Regarding stall allocation, he said that of the 527 institutions that participated last year and 53 new applicants, stalls have been allotted to all 527 previous participants and 24 new institutions due to space constraints. He also addressed publishers' requests to postpone the fair until after Eid.

Bangla Academy Director General Mohammad Azam told journalists that arrangements have been made to accommodate Ramadan.

"Food stalls have been arranged for iftar, and adequate drinking water facilities will also be ensured," he said, adding that Tarawih prayers will be facilitated at the venue. Earlier this week, publishers held a press conference at the Jatiya Press Club, calling for the fair to be held after Eid-ul-Fitr and raising three other demands. They said the request to reschedule reflected the opinion of the majority of publishers in the country.



Two nosimsomns illegally ply the Khulna-Satkhira highway carrying excessive loads. The operation of such light vehicles on the busy road often leads to accidents. The photo was taken from the Kathalata area yesterday.

PHOTO: HABIBUR RAHMAN

Ongoing violence, state inaction

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authorities took no preventive steps.

Anik Roy of the Network for People's Action (NPA) said the July uprising arose from deep insecurity in everyday life, not a single issue like quota reform. "The core demand was simple -- a secure life," he said.

Prof Layeqa Bashir said she lost her job at the University of Asia Pacific following online harassment over a Facebook post on public safety and face coverings.

She claimed the university yielded to mob pressure instead of ensuring due process.

Udichi Shilpigosthi General Secretary Jamshed Anwar Tapan said attacks on Udichi and Chhayanaut

showed hostility toward cultural expression and warned that state inaction encouraged such attacks.

Labour leader Shahidul Islam recalled that workers faced violence before and after the July uprising, citing garment workers killed in Gazipur during wage protests.

Fahima Nasrin Munni, assistant international affairs secretary of BNP, linked election violence to years of flawed polls and democratic decline, highlighting the rising harassment of women.

"Bangladesh is not Afghanistan," she said.

Shafayet Hossain Chowdhury of Maizbhandar Darbar Sharif said attacks on media and cultural institutions were preceded by silence

on earlier assaults on Sufi shrines.

Masud Rana, coordinator of Bangladesh Socialist Party (Marxist), said violence could be curbed if authorities were willing to act, citing past elections where strong measures reduced unrest.

Arup Rahee, convener of Lokayoto School, and Ibnul Syed Rana of Rashtra Sangskar Andolan said violence against minorities stems from systematic marginalisation embedded in state practices.

A keynote presentation showed that between September 2024 and January 2025, 413 incidents of mob violence left 259 people dead.

The programme was moderated by NPA leader Mir Hojaiia Al Mamduh.

Festivities meet chaos in narrow

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Old Dhakaiyas do not face any discrimination."

Meanwhile, BNP candidate Hamidur Rahman expressed confidence in his victory, saying a festive and free voting environment has emerged after many years.

"Voters will cast their ballots freely in a festive atmosphere," he told The Daily Star.

"I plan to open free computer and technical training centres in every ward to build a skilled youth force," he said, also pledging women's safety and zero tolerance for terrorism and extortion.

The members of the Hindu community in Old Dhaka are also looking forward to the February 12 election.

According to them, people have had to endure various problems, including a deteriorating

law and order situation and rising commodity prices.

They hope these problems will be resolved to some extent after the election.

The Dhaka-7 constituency now has 4,79,376 voters, up from 3,43,089 in the previous election -- an increase of 1,36,287.

Other candidates include Md Abdur Rahman of Islami Andolan Bangladesh, Mohammad Saifuddin Ahmed Milan of Jatiya Party, Shafiqur Rahman of Bangladesh Republican Party, Md Habibullah of Bangladesh Khelafat Andolan, Md Shahidul Islam of Bangladesh Jatiya Party-BJP, Maksudur Rahman of Muktiyote, Shahana Selim of Jatiya Samaitantrik Dal (JSD), and independent candidate Mohammad Ishaq Sarkar.

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BAF chief orders neutrality

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go, he said the Air Force has taken on additional responsibilities beyond its regular duties and is ready to carry out all tasks assigned by the government to help make the election credible and participatory. He said deployment for the pre- and post-election period would begin in two days.

The air chief said the force has detailed around 3,730 personnel for election duty, some to be deployed in the field alongside the army for the first time, while others will remain at bases to support routine operations and serve as a reserve.

He directed those heading to the field to work strictly according to the training they received, maintain the chain of command, and coordinate with returning officers, polling officials, and the civil administration so that the overall operation runs smoothly.

Khan stressed that air force members may vote if they get the chance, but cannot campaign for any candidate or show any preference while in uniform. Any behaviour that undermines the honour of the service must be avoided, he said.

Calling February 11 to 13 the most sensitive period, including election night, the air chief instructed personnel to stay alert, respond quickly to calls, and be prepared to work beyond normal shifts if required, following the rules of engagement given by superiors.

Khan said the air force will also support the election through transport and logistics, including moving election materials and personnel to remote and hard-to-reach areas, and will remain prepared to provide assistance during the election and the post-poll period.

He urged personnel to help ensure voters can travel to polling centres without fear, cast their ballots, and return home safely, and to prevent crowds from gathering after voting.

He acknowledged that isolated untoward incidents

may occur, but said they must be contained quickly so they do not spread.

The air chief also warned personnel against getting involved in political activities while on leave and urged them to maintain discipline throughout the deployment.

NAVY BOLSTERS COASTAL SECURITY AHEAD OF POLLS
Meanwhile, the Bangladesh Navy is performing duties in 25 upazilas across 16 parliamentary constituencies to help ensure a free, fair, neutral, and peaceful election and referendum, according to a press release from the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR).

Yesterday, Navy Chief Admiral M Nazmul Hasan visited Barguna, inspected the activities and preparedness of the deployed naval contingent,

and exchanged views with election stakeholders at the Barguna deputy commissioner's office.

The meeting stressed inter-agency coordination and heightened vigilance so voters can cast ballots without fear.

The ISPR said ships have been deployed, with adequate boats on standby, in Bhola, Hatiya, Sandwip, Cox's Bazar, and St Martin's to bolster coastal and island security.

It also said technology-driven surveillance has been strengthened using drones and body-worn cameras, alongside regular patrols, foot patrols, and special drives to recover illegal arms and ammunition.

Ships, helicopters, quick response forces, and squad teams have been kept ready to respond to any situation, the ISPR added.

Political will key

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delivery, and ensuring quality, equity and accountability to achieve the target.

Hossain Zillur Rahman, executive chairman of the PPRC and convener of the UHC Forum, said political leaders should not be solely blamed for health not being prioritised, calling it a failure of civil society to highlight its strategic importance.

He warned that neglecting health would deepen poverty, slow economic growth and widen inequality, and stressed the need to better sensitise political leaders.

He also emphasised social mobilisation and school health programmes, rather than project-based approaches, to strengthen primary healthcare as the main driver of UHC.

Zahirul Islam Shakil, secretary general of the pro-BNP Doctors Association of Bangladesh, said persistent implementation gaps and systemic constraints continue to affect the health sector.

He added that BNP has already outlined a health sector plan prioritising primary healthcare and will implement it if voted to power.

KM Waliullah, senior vice president of pro-Jamaat National Doctors Forum, stressed the importance of cross-party cooperation, legal reforms to support systemic change, good governance, and corruption-free leadership.

NDF, through several workshops, provided recommendations to the Jamaat, which were reflected in the party's health sector manifesto, he said.

Proteek Izaz, president of BHRF, urged doctors to view health from a humanitarian perspective rather than a political one.

Prof Mohsin Zillur Karim, family welfare affairs secretary of BNP, NDF Office Secretary AKM Ziaul Haque, Prof MA Faiz, former director general of the Directorate General of Health Services, among others, spoke.

Little buzz, high hopes

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corruption, looting and syndicates, address mosquito control and gas shortages, and ensure playgrounds, parks, quality educational institutions and modern hospitals.

Furthermore, he vowed to conduct a "cleansing drive" across the entire area to build a society free from illegal occupation and terrorism.

Hinting at the BNP candidate, Kamal alleged that they are violating the electoral code of conduct, and formal complaints have been lodged with the administration. "People no longer want looters or occupiers in power," he said, expressing hope that voters would support Jamaat.

Meanwhile, BNP candidate Md Nabiullah Nabi called on rivals to engage in healthy politics free of hostility. "I am fully optimistic about victory and believe I will win by a large margin," he said.

A long-time resident of the area, Nabi said he has been involved in politics for 45 years and previously served as a commissioner. "I have always stood by the

people and share a close bond with all generations," he said, urging voters to cast their ballots fearlessly for the "Sheaf of Paddy" for a beautiful Bangladesh. He identified waterlogging as the constituency's main problem, blaming housing companies for illegally filling water bodies.

If elected, he said he would work to recover occupied water bodies and eliminate drugs and terrorism.

According to him, people are eager to vote after years of misrule and see a fair electoral environment taking shape this time.

Other candidates in the race include Syed Mohammad Ibrahim of Gono Odhikar Parishad, Md Ibrahim of Islami Andolan Bangladesh, Tofazzal Hossain Mostafa of the Communist Party of Bangladesh, Md Taifur Rahman Rahi of Muktiyote, Shahinur Akter Sumi of Socialist Party of Bangladesh (Marxist), Md Humayun Kabir of the LDP, Mir Abdus Sabur of Jatiya Party, Md Golam Azam of Bangladesh Labour Party, and Md Saiful Alam of Bangladesh Congress.

Prioritise rights

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organised by DRW with support from Transparency International Bangladesh at its Dhanmondi office.

Disability inclusion expert Dr Nafeesur Rahman said the National Action Plan on Disability, adopted in 2019, remains unimplemented and there is no dedicated budget for the sector. Coordination committees mandated by law rarely meet, while monitoring and reporting mechanisms remain weak.

He criticised the government's Rules of Business for placing most disability-related responsibilities under the Ministry of Social Welfare, limiting the involvement of other ministries.

He called for structural reforms to engage the ministries of education, health, youth development, and women and children's affairs.

Speakers also said Bangladesh has fallen behind in fulfilling its international commitments under the CRPD, urging legal and policy reforms, strengthening the national monitoring committee, and preparing a roadmap to submit pending reports.

They noted that disability-related data are largely absent from the Sustainable Development Goals framework, calling for the inclusion of disability indicators in national surveys and priority datasets.

The organisations proposed reserved seats for persons with disabilities in parliament and local government bodies, improved accessibility in education, health, employment and transport, increased disability allowances, and stronger support for grassroots disability organisations.

They also urged the Election Commission to run a public awareness campaign on facilities for voters with disabilities.

TIB Executive Director

Dr Iftekharuzzaman said a fair election is impossible without equal voting access for all citizens, particularly marginalised groups and persons with disabilities.

"An election cannot be truly fair if some voters cannot exercise their rights on equal terms," he said, stressing the need for safe transport and support for voters with disabilities.

"Even if postal or electronic voting is not possible, at a minimum, all voters with disabilities must be able to cast their ballots safely and independently."

He added that all political actors must advance disability rights before, during and after the election through action plans aligned with national and international commitments.

Amrita Rejina Rozario, country director of Sightsavers Bangladesh, highlighted the need for accessible polling stations, safe transport for wheelchair users, protection for women from harassment, and continued disability inclusion beyond the election.

She urged the incoming government to address the lack of parliamentary representation for persons with disabilities and take concrete steps to ensure their participation in governance.

DRW member Md Jahangir Alam said there is still no clarity on whether registered voters with disabilities can vote through postal ballots or electronic means.

He raised concerns about accessibility at polling stations, including the use of assistive devices, caregivers and interpreters.

DRW President Monsur Ahmed Chowdhury, Member Secretary Khandaker Zahurul Alam, disability youth activist Md Abdullah, and Access Bangladesh Foundation Chairperson Mohua Paul also spoke at the event.



বাংলাদেশ রপ্তানী প্রক্রিয়াকরণ এলাকা কর্তৃপক্ষ
ঈশ্বরদী ইপিজেড মেডিকেল সেন্টার ট্রাস্টি বোর্ড
ঈশ্বরদী ইপিজেড, পাকশী, পাবনা।



সূত্র নং : ০৩.০৬.৭৬৩৯.৩৮২.০২.৭০.২০২৬-২৪২৮

তারিখ : ২৯-০১-২০২৬

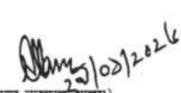
: নিয়োগ বিজ্ঞপ্তি :

ঈশ্বরদী ইপিজেড মেডিকেল সেন্টার ট্রাস্টি বোর্ডের অধীন ঈশ্বরদী ইপিজেড মেডিকেল সেন্টারে স্থায়ী পদের বিপরীতে নিম্নবর্ণিত শূন্য পদে ০১ জন মেডিকেল অফিসার, ০১ জন ডেন্টাল সার্জন (চুক্তিভিত্তিক) ও ০১ জন ডেন্টাল টেকনিশিয়ান (চুক্তিভিত্তিক) এবং স্থায়ী পদে ০১ জন গাড়ী চালক নিয়োগের লক্ষ্যে বাংলাদেশের প্রকৃত নাগরিকদের নিকট হতে দরখাস্ত আহ্বান করা যাচ্ছে :

ক্রম নং	পদের নাম ও বেতন গ্রেড	পদ সংখ্যা	বয়স (২৬/০২/২০২৬ পর্যন্ত)	শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতা
০১.	মেডিকেল অফিসার-স্থায়ী গ্রেড-৯ম	০১ জন	অনুর্ধ্ব ৩২ বৎসর;	এমবিবিএস ডিগ্রী। প্রার্থীকে BMDC এর রেজিস্ট্রেশন গ্রাণ্ড হতে হবে।
০২.	ডেন্টাল সার্জন (চুক্তিভিত্তিক) গ্রেড-৯ম (বেতন সর্বসাকুল্যে)	০১ জন	অনুর্ধ্ব ৩২ বৎসর	বি.ডি.এস ডিগ্রীধারী। প্রার্থীকে BMDC এর রেজিস্ট্রেশন গ্রাণ্ড হতে হবে।
০৩.	ডেন্টাল টেকনিশিয়ান (চুক্তিভিত্তিক) গ্রেড-১১তম (বেতন সর্বসাকুল্যে)	০১ জন	অনুর্ধ্ব ৩২ বৎসর	সরকার কর্তৃক স্বীকৃতিপ্রাপ্ত প্রতিষ্ঠান হতে ০৩ (তিন) বছর মেয়াদী ডিপ্লোমা ইন মেডিকেল টেকনোলজি (ডেন্টাল)।
০৪.	গাড়ী চালক-স্থায়ী গ্রেড-১৬তম	০১ জন	অনুর্ধ্ব ৩২ বৎসর	অটম শ্রেণী পাশ এবং সরকার কর্তৃক নির্ধারিত কর্তৃপক্ষ হতে গাড়ী চালনার পেশাদার লাইসেন্স গ্রাণ্ড।

শর্তাবলী :

- নির্ধারিত চাকরীর আবেদন ফরমে দরখাস্ত আগামী ২৬/০২/২০২৬ তারিখের মধ্যে ডাক যোগে সদস্য সচিব, ঈশ্বরদী ইপিজেড মেডিকেল সেন্টার ট্রাস্টি বোর্ড, ঈশ্বরদী ইপিজেড, পাকশী, পাবনা বরাবরে অফিস চলাকালীন সময়ের মধ্যে পৌঁছাতে হবে। অত্র অফিসে সরাসরি কোন দরখাস্ত গ্রহণ করা হবে না। উল্লেখিত তারিখের পর ডাক যোগে অথবা অন্য কোন উপায়ে প্রেরিত আবেদনপত্রসমূহ গ্রহণ করা হবে না এবং আবেদনপত্র সমূহ বাতিল বলে গণ্য হবে। বয়স প্রমানের জন্য এফিডেভিড গ্রহণযোগ্য নয়। আবেদনপত্রের নমুনা বেপজা এর ওয়েবসাইট: www.bepza.gov.bd থেকে ডাউনলোড করা যাবে।
- আবেদনপত্রের সাথে যে কোন তফসিলি ব্যাংক হতে IEPZ-MCTB পাকশী, ঈশ্বরদী, পাবনা এর অনুকূলে মেডিকেল অফিসার পদের জন্য ২০০/- (দুইশত) টাকা, ডেন্টাল সার্জন (চুক্তিভিত্তিক) পদের জন্য ২০০/- (দুইশত) টাকা, ডেন্টাল টেকনিশিয়ান (চুক্তিভিত্তিক) পদের জন্য ১৫০/- (একশত পঞ্চাশ) টাকা এবং গাড়ী চালক পদের জন্য ১০০/- (একশত) টাকার ব্যাংক ড্রাফট/প-অর্ডার (অফেরতযোগ্য) সংযুক্ত করতে হবে। দরখাস্তের সাথে নিম্নলিখিত কাগজপত্র দাখিল করতে হবে:
 - প্রথম শ্রেণীর গেজেটেড অফিসার কর্তৃক সত্যায়িত সকল শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতার সনদপত্র ও অভিজ্ঞতার সনদপত্র (যদি থাকে)।
 - প্রথম শ্রেণীর গেজেটেড অফিসার কর্তৃক সত্যায়িত সদ্যতোলা ৩ (তিন) কপি পাসপোর্ট সাইজ রসিন ছবি।
 - প্রথম শ্রেণীর গেজেটেড অফিসার কর্তৃক প্রদত্ত চারিত্রিক সনদপত্র।
 - স্থানীয় ইউনিয়ন পরিষদের চেয়ারম্যান/সিটি কর্পোরেশনের ওয়ার্ড কাউন্সিলর/পৌরসভার পৌর মেয়র কর্তৃক প্রদত্ত নাগরিকত্ব সনদপত্র।
 - প্রথম শ্রেণীর গেজেটেড অফিসার কর্তৃক সত্যায়িত জাতীয় পরিচয় পত্রের কপি (NID)।
- দরখাস্তের খামের উপরের মাথামানে প্রার্থিত পদের নাম এবং নিজ জেলার নাম স্পষ্টাক্ষরে উল্লেখ করতে হবে;
- চাকরিরত প্রার্থীদের অবশ্যই যথাযথ কর্তৃপক্ষের মাধ্যমে আবেদন করতে হবে এবং মৌখিক পরীক্ষার বোর্ডে কর্তৃপক্ষের অনাপত্তিপত্র দাখিল করতে হবে;
- ক্রটিপূর্ণ, অসম্পূর্ণ এবং বিলম্বে আবেদনপত্র কোন কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতিরেকেই বাতিল বলে গণ্য হবে;
- কর্তৃপক্ষ কোন কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতিরেকে যে কোন দরখাস্ত গ্রহণ বা বাতিলের ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করেন এবং এ নিয়োগ বিজ্ঞপ্তি প্রচারের কারণে কর্তৃপক্ষ নিয়োগ প্রদান করতে কিংবা লিখিত/মৌখিক পরীক্ষার কার্ড ইস্যু করতে বাধ্য থাকবে না। আবেদন পত্রের সাথে দাখিলকৃত কোন কাগজপত্র ফেরত প্রদান করা হবে না। নিয়োগের ক্ষেত্রে কর্তৃপক্ষের সিদ্ধান্ত চূড়ান্ত বলে গণ্য হবে;
- কোন তদবীর বা সুপারিশ প্রার্থীর অযোগ্যতা বলে বিবেচিত হবে। প্রার্থীকে লিখিত/মৌখিক পরীক্ষায় অংশগ্রহণের জন্য কোন টিএ/ডিএ প্রদান করা হবে না।


 (মুহাম্মদ নাজমুল ইসলাম)
 অতিরিক্ত নির্বাহী পরিচালক (ক্যা অফ ও শিফ্ট স্যু)
 ও
 সদস্য সচিব
 ঈশ্বরদী ইপিজেড মেডিকেল সেন্টার ট্রাস্টি বোর্ড।

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