

2 schoolboys die in bike accident

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kushiya

Two schoolboys were killed and another was injured in a motorcycle accident in Daulatpur upazila of Kushiya yesterday morning. The accident occurred around 8:30am at Daulatkhali village when a motorcycle carrying three seventh-grade students lost control and crashed into a roadside electric pole on the Kishorinagar road near the Daulatkhali Madrasa intersection.

The deceased were identified as Rahmat, 14, son of Hekmat Ali, and Sahabi, 14, son of Aminul Islam, both residents of Chowhaddipara in Daulatkhali village. The injured student, Saif Ali, 14, is also from the same village. All three were students of Daulatkhali Secondary School.

According to police, the boys were returning home after attending private tuition when the accident took place. Locals rushed them to Daulatpur Upazila Health Complex, where doctors declared Rahmat and Sahabi dead.

Saif was later transferred to Kushiya General Hospital. Daulatpur Police Station Officer-in-Charge Arifur Rahman said, "Necessary legal procedures are under way."

Withdraw initiatives

FROM PAGE 3
secretary of the Chevron Bangladesh Employees' Union, said workers of Chevron Bangladesh had filed a petition with the High Court in 2022 due to the company's continued failure to pay dividends owed to them from 2013 onwards.

Following hearings, the HC ruled in favour of the workers on December 10, 2024, directing Chevron Bangladesh to establish the required fund and pay 5 percent of the company's net profit to the WPPF within three months of receiving the verdict. The court also instructed the Ministry of Labour to take necessary steps to ensure the ruling's implementation.

"Chevron filed an appeal against the verdict with the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court. After a hearing on October 28 last year, the chamber court of the Appellate Division referred the appeal for regular hearing without issuing any stay on the High Court verdict. Since the civil petition is currently pending before the Appellate Division, any attempt at this stage to amend the labour rules would amount to direct interference in a sub-judice matter and constitute contempt of court," he added.

The statement said the union had met with Labour and Employment Adviser M Sakhawat Hossain on January 6 to formally convey their concerns.

"Considering the sensitivity and fragility of the energy sector, we urge the government to act responsibly. If our demands are not met at the earliest, we will be compelled to move towards tougher programmes," the statement warned.

During the press conference, the union's president, Mostafa Sohel Iqbal, vice-president SM Shahriar Abedin, and general secretary of the Tullow Bangladesh Employees' Union, Md Harun Al Rashid, were present, among others.

The two companies are currently operating in gas fields in Jalalabad, Bibiyana, Bangura, and Moulvibazar, which together account for more than 55 percent of the country's total local gas production.

Authorities failed to act on 47% Feb 12 polls vital

FROM PAGE 3
It added that nearly two-thirds of the incidents either discouraged or prevented voters and candidates from participating in the electoral process.

According to the findings, affiliates of the BNP were implicated in the highest number of cases, followed by Jamaat-e-Islami.

Chattoogram and Cox's Bazar were identified as the main hotspots, with seven and four incidents recorded respectively. The report said intimidation was the most common tactic used during the pre-election period.

Threats and harassment accounted for 33 percent of the incidents, followed by property damage (20

percent), clashes (17 percent), and obstruction of the electoral process (17 percent).

"Two-thirds of the incidents occurred in union parishes, and half took place in public spaces such as streets and marketplaces," it added.

Speakers at the briefing urged the Election Commission and law enforcement agencies to strengthen their presence in rural constituencies and ensure impartial enforcement of the law.

"With only five days remaining before the election, we hope the authorities will take appropriate measures to ensure that women and minority communities are not affected, as was

observed in previous elections," said Taskin Fahmina, advocacy director of Odhikar.

She also called on political parties to issue strict instructions from their central leadership to grassroots activists to refrain from engaging in violence.

The report recommended extending the deployment of security forces in critical constituencies beyond the planned three-day post-election period.

Odhikar's Programme Coordinator Korban Ali, Admin Director Nasiruddin Elan, and former member of the Commission of Inquiry on Enforced Disappearances Sazzad Hussain also spoke at the event.

Feb 12 polls vital

FROM PAGE 3
"Election 2026: National Unity and Expectation," was jointly organised by the Retired Armed Forces Officers' Welfare Association (RAWA) and the RAWA Research and Study Forum at the RAWA Club in Mohakhali, Dhaka.

Col (ret'd) Harun-Or-Rashid Khan presided over the seminar. He highlighted the launch of the RAWA Research and Strategic Forum, aimed at bridging the gap between academic theory and operational realism in national security.

"Our members haven't just studied national security; we have secured it," he stated. The forum's goals include keeping national security above politics, strengthening civil-military ties, and guiding future generations while representing Bangladesh's interests on the global stage.

Brig Gen (ret'd) Nasimul Gani stressed the need for capable, honest, and patriotic leadership that serves the public interest rather than personal or group gain.

"Protecting the vote now means protecting the state, not just winning an election," he said.

He called for a transparent investigation into past political violence, disappearances, and killings, asserting that

impunity weakens the state, while justice strengthens it. Dilara Chowdhury, a former professor at Jahangirnagar University, said, "A neighbouring country wants to sabotage our election and create chaos here. They want to cause instability, as it would benefit them. Therefore, holding a free and fair election is crucial, despite the challenges ahead."

Maj (ret'd) Niaz Ahmed Jaber raised alarms about foreign interference aimed at destabilising the election, citing reports of an embassy declaring "non-family stations" and alleged manipulation of political events through AI-generated rumours.

He warned that failing to hold a fair election would equate to a defeat for the legacy of the July uprising. Lt Col (ret'd) Modasser Hossain said, "We fought for freedom not just for political reasons, but as a nation in 1971." Bangladeshis are capable of defending their land from any foreign threat, he added.

During the question-and-answer session, speakers collectively called for a united stand against a "kleptocracy" and "mafiaocracy," demanding that loan defaulters and money launderers be barred from participating in politics to ensure quality leadership in parliament.

Pabna races heat up

FROM PAGE 3
candidate Hasan Zafir Tuhin faces a challenge from independent aspirant KM Anwarul Islam, also a former BNP lawmaker. This, in turn, has boosted the prospects of Jamaat candidate Moulana Ali Asgar.

Similarly, in Pabna-4, BNP candidate Habibur Rahman Habib is challenged by the party's rebel Jakaria Pintu, prompting Jamaat's Abu Taleb Mondol to express confidence in victory.

In Pabna-5, the contest pits BNP candidate Advocate Shamsur Rahman Shimul Bishwas against Jamaat's Principal Iqbal Hossain.

Analysts have opined that "silent" Awami League voters could determine outcomes, depending on whether they boycott or tactically support candidates.

"People were deprived of their voting rights during the fascist regime. BNP has been fighting for democracy for a long time. Voters will make the right decision," said BNP's Habibur Rahman Habib. He expressed hope of garnering support from AL voters.

Jamaat's Abu Taleb Mondol said, "People do not want to see the extortionists, criminals return to power. People are united for a change. We expect to win all seats." He added that security concerns remain due to threats and attacks.

Citing fears over security, Abdul Matin Khan, president of the Pabna district unit of Shushashoner Jonno Nagorik (Shujan), said ensuring voters' safe access to polling centres would be the main challenge.

Religious lens oversimplifies

FROM PAGE 3
as the 'bricks' of the language. To view these merely through a religious lens is to oversimplify language based on prejudice," Musa added.

Highlighting the anthropological depth of early colonial scholars like William Carey, Musa said, "Carey's book 'Kathopakathan' documented even the colloquial quarrels of women in slums ('maiya kondol'). He grasped the living language in a way that many of us today do not."

Emphasising the power and responsibility inherent in language, Musa said, "Language is an astonishing human asset. The more refined, sharp, and meaningful it is made, the more beautiful life becomes. One of the main reasons for the current political and social danger in our society is the lack of a sense of proportion (matra-gyan) in our use and application of words."

Researcher Md Chengish Khan spoke about the historical "displacement" of the language. He said that the Sanskrit-heavy Bangla prose made popular in the 19th century was deliberately created at Fort William College, marginalising the existing language of the common people.

He said William Carey and his pundits purged Arabic and Persian words from the prose, words which had previously been markers of the "Khandani" or elite class.

Chengis explained that a

"100-year gap" followed the 1857 Sepoy Mutiny, during which Muslims withdrew from British education. This absence allowed the Sanskritised prose style to become the standard.

He highlighted the counter-narrative that emerged in the 1940s through the East Pakistan Renaissance Society, particularly the vision of Abul Mansur Ahmad.

Abul Mansur Ahmad envisioned a "Dhakaiya Bangla" standard that would reflect the reality of East Bengal's Muslim majority, distinct from the Calcutta standard. He said just as Assamese developed as a separate language, East Bengal's language had its own distinct character.

Researcher Tahmidul Zami described the bond between Bangalee Muslims and their language as historically "fractured". Tracing this tension to the pre-colonial era, he said early poets like Shah Muhammad Sagir had to explicitly justify writing in Bangla, validating it against religious expectations.

Zami said the colonial census helped solidify a distinct "Bangalee-Muslim" identity. This created a dilemma where the community felt torn between their "mother tongue" (Bangla) and a desire for a "national language" (Urdu or Arabic).

He said that for a significant period, many educated Muslims believed that while Bangla was spoken at home, their cultural and national identity was tied to Urdu.

This sentiment only

began to shift with the rise of the "Anglo-Sanskritic" reality of the colonial state. Zami also challenged the idea that "Musalmami Bangla" was a universal dialect, suggesting it was likely a mixed language born of trade in specific regions like Hooghly.

The session was moderated by The Daily Star journalist Emran Mahfuz, with a welcome speech delivered by another journalist, Shamsuddoza Sajen.

Girl hit by stray

FROM PAGE 3
Huzaiifa, a third grader from the Teschi Bridge area of Whykong union, was shot during clashes between the Arakan Army and Rohingya armed groups inside Myanmar.

She was taken to Chattogram Medical College Hospital and later shifted to NINS after doctors at CMCH failed to remove the bullet lodged in her throat.

Humayun Kabir said the bullet remained stuck in her throat, but she suffered a stroke after it damaged the veins that supply blood to the brain.

This also increased pressure on her brain, and she was put on mechanical ventilation (life support), he said, adding that she had been given medication to reduce the pressure.

Invitation for Tender Supplying Pitch Soil

Bangladesh Cricket Board

Ref No.: BCB/Grounds/ T&P / Pitch Soil / 2026/93 Date: 08th February 2026

Sealed Tenders are hereby invited from the experienced & bonafide Authorized Contractor/ Organization/Firm for supplying Pitch Soil Approx. 3.10 Lac cft as per terms and conditions stated in the Tender Schedule:

1	Organization	Bangladesh Cricket Board
2	Procuring Entity Name	Chief Executive Officer, BCB
3	Invitation for	Supply of Pitch Soil (Brown Soil 2.90 Lac cft and Black Soil 20 thousand cft) approx. 3.10 Lac cft for Cricket Pitches.
4	Procuring Entity District	BCB designated venues across Bangladesh (List attached with schedule)
5	Invitation Ref:	BCB Grounds/T&P / Pitch Soil /2026/93
6	Procurement Method	Open Tendering Method (OTM).
7	Budget and source of Fund	Bangladesh Cricket Board
8	Tender Publication Date	08/02/2026
9	Tender Last Selling Date	24/02/2026
10	Tender Closing date and time	24/02/2026 at 12.30 pm
11	Tender Opening date and time	24/02/2026 at 1.00 pm
12	Name and address of the selling tender	Finance & Accounts Department of Bangladesh Cricket Board at Sher-e-Bangla National Cricket Stadium, Mirpur-2, Dhaka 1216, Bangladesh.
13	Place of receiving & Opening tender	Management Office of Bangladesh Cricket Board at Sher-e-Bangla National Cricket Stadium, Mirpur-2, Dhaka 1216, Bangladesh.
14	Place / Date / Time of Pre-Tender meeting (Optional)	To be notified.
15	Scope of Supply	The following is the scope of supply that the tenderers must adhere to and ensure: i) Supply of Brown Soil and Black Soil suitable for cricket pitch preparation. ii) Soil must be free from stones, roots, debris, organic matter, and foreign materials. iii) Clay content must align with the percentage as prescribed. iv) Transportation and delivery to be made at the designated venues as instructed by the BCB from time to time. v) Quantity may vary depending on requirements for respective venues.
16	Eligibility and Qualification of Tenderers	The tenderers must meet the following criteria to be eligible: i) Minimum 3 (three) years of experience in supplying soil or similar materials. ii) Prior experience in supplying materials for sports grounds / cricket grounds (preferred). iii) Possess the capability to deliver the requisite quantity and meet the delivery time-frame. iv) Possess valid business legal documents, i.e., Updated Trade License, valid TIN Certificate, VAT/BN Registration Certificate and Latest Tax Return Certificate.
17	Price & Payment method of Tender Document (BDT)	BDT 5,000/- (Five Thousand) Each Schedule non-refundable. Tender Document can be purchased upon cash payment.
18	Particulars	Location Tender Security Completion/ Delivery Time in Week / Month Supply of Pitch Soil (Brown Soil 2.90 Lac cft and Black Soil 20 thousand cft) approx. 3.10 Lac cft for Cricket Pitches. Different Venues across Bangladesh (Venue / Stadium List is attached in the schedule) BDT 10% of the Quoted Value. Total 6 (Six) weeks (First 2 (Two) weeks-40%, Second 2 (Two) weeks-30% and third 2 (two) weeks-30%).
19	Address of the Official Inviting Tender	Bangladesh Cricket Board, Sher-e-Bangla National Cricket Stadium, Mirpur-2, Dhaka 1216. Phone # +88 028031001-4.
20	The BCB reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason. Further, BCB also reserves the right to cancel the entire tender process and / or modify, add or alter the terms of the document and/ or the conditions for Tender by issuing an addendum(s) at any time prior to the submission of the Tender.	

Chief Executive Officer
Bangladesh Cricket Board
Management Office: Sher-e-Bangla National Cricket Stadium, Mirpur-2, Dhaka 1216
Tel: +880 2 8031001-4, Fax: 803 1199

Tender Notice

Sealed Tender are hereby invited from consulting firm, NGO or specialized mapping agency/entity for GPS technology and satellite imagery assisted comprehensive mapping and listing exercise to create accurate base map and GIS and target group data base for the project titled "Health System Resilience for Improved SRHR in Bangladesh" in Chattogram City Corporation Area with a particular focus on Slum Areas.

Please visit the link to view the full TOR(Terms of Reference):

- [Terms of Reference \(ToR\) for GPS Technology-Assisted Mapping and Listing Exercise](#)

Last date for submission of the tender is 19.02.2026. All documents in support of the legal status of the Consulting firm/NGO/Agency/Entity should be enclosed with the tender along with a signed copy of the ToR (in all pages).

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার

বেসরকারি শিক্ষক নিবন্ধন ও প্রত্যয়ন কর্তৃপক্ষ (NTRCA)

স্মারক নং: ৩৭.০৫.০০০০.০০০.০১১.৩১.০০০১.২৫-৫৪ তারিখ: ২৪ মাঘ ১৪৩২ বঙ্গাব্দ
০৭ ফেব্রুয়ারি ২০২৬ খ্রিষ্টাব্দ

বিজ্ঞপ্তি

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এতদ্বারা জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, এমপিওভুক্ত শিক্ষাপ্রতিষ্ঠানের (স্কুল, কলেজ, মাদ্রাসা ও কারিগরি) শিক্ষকের শূন্যপদ সংক্রান্ত তথ্য অনলাইনে সংগ্রহের উদ্দেশ্যে এনটিআরসিএ কর্তৃক প্রতিষ্ঠানসমূহের ই-রেজিস্ট্রেশন কার্যক্রম আগামী ০৯ ফেব্রুয়ারি ২০২৬ তারিখ থেকে ২২ ফেব্রুয়ারি ২০২৬ তারিখ পর্যন্ত সময়ের মধ্যে সম্পন্ন করা হবে। এ সংক্রান্ত বিস্তারিত তথ্য এনটিআরসিএ-এর ওয়েবসাইটে (www.ntrca.gov.bd) "ই-রেজিস্ট্রেশন" সেবাবন্ডের ই-রেজিস্ট্রেশন নির্দেশিকা মেন্যুতে পাওয়া যাবে।

২। উল্লেখ্য "এনটিআরসিএ এর আইন ২০০৫ এবং পরিপত্র অনুসারে এমপিওভুক্ত শূন্যপদের ক্ষেত্রে ই-রেজিস্ট্রেশন এবং ই-রিকুইজিশন করা বাধ্যতামূলক। অন্যথায় প্রতিষ্ঠান প্রধান ও প্রতিষ্ঠানের এমপিও বাতিলকরণসহ আইনানুগ ব্যবস্থা গ্রহণ করা হবে"।

৩। এমতাবস্থায়, সংশ্লিষ্ট শিক্ষাপ্রতিষ্ঠান প্রধান ও উপজেলা মাধ্যমিক শিক্ষা অফিসারগণকে উপরোল্লিখিত নির্দেশিকা অনুসরণে নির্ধারিত সময়ের মধ্যে ই-রেজিস্ট্রেশন কার্যক্রম সম্পন্ন করার জন্য নির্দেশক্রমে অনুরোধ করা হলো। উল্লেখ্য, ই-রেজিস্ট্রেশন ব্যতীত কোন শিক্ষাপ্রতিষ্ঠান কর্তৃক শূন্যপদের চাহিদা এনটিআরসিএ-তে প্রেরণের সুযোগ নেই।

জিডি-২৭৪

ই-মেইলঃ director_exam@ntrca.gov.bd

বাংলাদেশ ইন্সটিটিউট অব গভর্নেন্স এন্ড ম্যানেজমেন্ট (BIGM) এবং স্কিপ

(ঢাকা বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় অধিভুক্ত) এবং স্কিপ

স্কিলস্ ফর ইন্ডাস্ট্রি কম্পিটিভিনেস এন্ড ইনোভেশন প্রোগ্রাম (SICIP)

অর্থ বিভাগ, অর্থ মন্ত্রণালয়, গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার।

'স্ট্র্যাটজিক ম্যানেজমেন্ট' শীর্ষক প্রশিক্ষণ কোর্স - ৩য় (সামগ্রিকভাবে ৮ম) ব্যাচ

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কোর্স সংক্রান্ত তথ্য	আবেদনকারীর যোগ্যতা
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