

## Govt recommends withdrawal of 24,000 politically motivated cases

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The interim government has recommended the withdrawal of 23,865 cases it identified as politically motivated and filed during the tenure of the Awami League government, paving the way for relief to nearly five lakh people.

The cases were lodged between January 6, 2009, and August 5, 2024, against leaders and activists of various political parties, including the BNP, Jamaat-e-Islami, Hefazat-e-Islam and Gano Odhikar Parishad, according to a law ministry press release.

In order to facilitate the withdrawal process, the interim government on September 22, 2024, formed district-level committees

led by deputy commissioners, alongside an inter-ministerial committee headed by Law Adviser Asif Nazrul.

The inter-ministerial committee invited applications from political parties seeking withdrawal of what they described as harassment cases filed by the previous government.

Based on applications submitted by the affected parties, the committee scrutinised the cases through 39 meetings held at different times.

Following the review, the committee recommended the withdrawal of 23,865 cases, the press release said, adding that the process of reviewing applications and recommending further withdrawals is still ongoing.



Farmers transplant IRRI and Boro paddy seedlings in Rajshahi's Rajabari area. The cultivation of these varieties is in full swing across the northern Barind region. The photo was taken recently.

PHOTO: AZAHAR UDDIN

## Sultan Ara Khan's death anniversary today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The eighth death anniversary of Sultan Ara Khan, wife of Shafiqul Alam Khan, a retired employee of Karnaphuli Paper Mills Ltd in Chattogram, will be observed today.

Sultan Ara passed away at a hospital in Dhaka on February 9, 2018.

A milad mahfil and Qurankhwan will be held today at Khurshid and Associates, chamber of her eldest son senior lawyer Khurshid Alam Khan, at 204 Bijoyagar in Dhaka.

## Woman found murdered at home

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

Police recovered a throat-slit body of a woman from her residence in Bhaluka upazila of Mymensingh on Saturday night.

The deceased was identified as Rahima Khatun, 38, wife of Billal Hossain, a quilt and mattress trader of Gangatia Madhyapara area.

Quoting locals, Bhaluka Model Police Station Officer-in-Charge Mohammad Jahidul Islam said Rahima put her two children to bed after dinner on Saturday and went to sleep in her room, leaving the door unlocked as her husband usually returned home late.

"Around 10:00pm, unidentified assailants entered the house and killed her by slitting her throat with a sharp weapon," the OC said.

Police recovered the body and sent it to Mymensingh Medical College Hospital morgue for autopsy.

An additional Superintendent of Police Abdullah Al Mamun said, "Those responsible will be brought to justice."

No case was filed till last evening.

## Health gets priority, many plans unrealistic Civic amenities top voter demands

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the health sector faces major challenges, including inadequate funding, shortages of health workers, high out-of-pocket expenses, unequal access to services and weak governance.

As thousands of people continue to be deprived of quality treatment, the rise in the total fertility rate for the first time in 50 years has fuelled fresh concerns, as failure to control population growth may undermine other policy efforts.

Against the backdrop, major political parties – including BNP, Jamaat-e-Islami, Islami Andolan Bangladesh (IAB), National Citizen Party (NCP) – brought the health issues in their manifestos prominently.

BNP projected 22 health agendas, including raising health expenditure to five percent of GDP, issuing e-health cards to everyone, ensuring free and quality primary healthcare, recruiting one lakh health workers, and initiating public-private partnerships to tackle the rising burden of non-communicable diseases.

Jamaat proposed 37 health agendas, including providing free treatment for people under five and those over 60; ensuring

optimum use of the existing capacity of health facilities within one year of forming the government; gradually tripling the health budget; and banning partisan politics in medical colleges and hospitals.

IAB outlined 13 points, including transforming all government hospitals into world-class facilities, making union and upazila health complexes self-sufficient, and strictly enforcing measures to curb irregularities in the private healthcare sector.

NCP proposed three agendas, including the creation of specialised healthcare zones in the northern and southern regions, and a GPS-tracked National Ambulance and Pre-Hospital Emergency Care System.

"It is good to see that health has received prominence in the political parties' manifestos," said Prof Hamid.

"But some of the pledges are very challenging to achieve, and some are highly ambitious," he said.

BNP rightly emphasised primary healthcare and promised to issue e-health cards, which would store all health records of an individual and help solve certain problems, he added.

Besides, it also promised to prevent corruption in the

health sector, introduce a national ambulance pool and emergency services, and establish an accreditation council to ensure the quality of health facilities, which are all positive measures, he added.

He said Jamaat has promised to gradually triple the health budget, fill all vacant posts at health facilities, and enhance the capacities of upazila and district hospitals to reduce pressure on facilities in Dhaka, which he described as commendable.

It also pledged to stop prescribing unnecessary tests and medicines and ensure timely promotion of health workers, he added.

However, the manifestos of both parties lack details on the programmes they would implement to fulfil their promises, he noted.

He said BNP's promise to raise health expenditure to five percent of GDP is "unrealistic".

In the current fiscal year, Tk 41,908 crore has been allocated to the health ministry, which is 5.3 percent of the total budget and only 0.67 percent of GDP.

"If the health budget were to increase to five percent of GDP, it would have to account for more than 30 percent of the total budget, which is not

feasible," he said.

He said health authorities even struggle to fully utilise the existing allocation, he added. So, any increase should be gradual to ensure the allocation can be properly spent, and the health budget should ideally be 12 to 15 percent of the total budget, he said.

Prof Hamid termed Jamaat's promise to provide free treatment for people under five and those over 60 as unrealistic.

"A major overhaul of the system and significant investment would be required to implement such a programme, which is not feasible given the current health structure and funding," he added.

Prof Be-Nazir also said that the promises of these two parties regarding health sector financing are not realistic.

"Besides, their promises regarding services are not target-oriented, but rather based on populist rhetoric," he told this correspondent.

For example, they have promised quality services, which involve several elements such as quality medical education, accurate testing, and adequate health workers, but their manifestos lack clarity on these points, he added.

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"There are also problems with theft and drugs. Roads exist, but most need renovation. I hope things will improve after the election."

Ten candidates are contesting the Dhaka-3 seat. Since the campaign began, candidates and their supporters have been visiting neighbourhoods door to door, seeking votes and promising regional development.

Talking to The Daily Star, Jamaat-e-Islami candidate Md Shahinur Islam said he is receiving a strong voter response.

"I will ensure that the meritorious people get jobs without bribes. If qualified people get opportunities, students' trust in meritocracy will increase. Also, technical and business training will be arranged. To make trained youth self-reliant, government-sponsored interest-free loans will be provided," he said.

"If elected, I will make the area livable by addressing dust, waste and environmental

degradation," he said. "Illegal gas lines will be removed, syndicates dismantled, and roads and drainage improved."

Addressing voters, he said, "Vote for whoever you consider qualified to protect people's rights. Ignore fear and intimidation so that an equitable society can be built."

BNP candidate Gayeshwar Chandra Roy, also a Standing Committee member of the party, said he is confident of victory.

"There is a wave for the sheaf of paddy," he said, alleging Jamaat's campaign is being conducted secretly, primarily through female members.

"If there is no election engineering, I am optimistic." Gayeshwar said he plans to formulate a "Master Plan" for the overall development of Keraniganj, envisioning wider roads, playgrounds, improved schools, and a medical college and hospital.

He mentioned that he is already monitoring the connectivity roads and

infrastructure of the new Jagannath University campus to ensure they are far-reaching.

He also pledged to work on mitigating the gas crisis and waterlogging in the area. "Recovering natural canals is more important than the drainage system," he said.

Addressing voters, Gayeshwar said, "You must establish your voting rights at the polling centres. Vote for the one whose election will lead to a better future for yourself and the area."

Other candidates include Md Sultan Ahmed Khan (Islami Andolan Bangladesh), Md Sajjad (Gono Odhikar Parishad), Mohammad Jafar (Bangladesh Congress), Md Bachchu Bhuiyan (Ganosamhati Andolon), Mujibur Hawlader (BSD), Muhammad Raushan Yazdani (Gonoforum), Md Faruk (Jatiya Party), and independent candidate Md Monir Hossain.

The constituency has 3,62,159 voters – 1,84,971 men, 1,77,184 women and four hijra voters.

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার  
মহাপরিচালকের কার্যালয়  
বাংলাদেশ রেলওয়ে  
রেলভবন, ঢাকা

**বিজ্ঞপ্তি**

বাংলাদেশ রেলওয়ের "ট্রেড এ্যাপ্রেন্টিস" পদে মৌখিক পরীক্ষা গ্রহণের সময়সূচী প্রকাশিত হয়েছে। প্রকাশিত মৌখিক পরীক্ষার সময়সূচী বাংলাদেশ রেলওয়ের ওয়েবসাইট ([www.railway.gov.bd](http://www.railway.gov.bd)) থেকে সজ্ঞাহ করা যাবে।

*(Signature)*  
এ এম সালাহ উদ্দীন  
মুগ্ধ-পরিচালক (উন্নয়ন-ট্রাফিক)  
বাংলাদেশ রেলওয়ে, রেলভবন, ঢাকা  
ও  
আস্থায়ক  
বিভাগীয় নির্বাচন কমিটি

জিডি-২৮৪

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh  
Office Of The Principle  
Sher-E-Bangla Regional Cooperative Institute  
Kashipur, Barishal.

Reference No: 4761.0000.491.000.07.0004.20. 88 Date: 05 February 2026

**e-Tender Notice 01/2025-2026 (OTM)**

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

Sl No.	Tender ID	Package No.	Description of Goods	Last Selling Date and Time	Closing and Opening Date and Time
1	1222302	2025-26_GRI	Computer and Display Monitor	22/02/2026 15:00	22/02/2026 17:00

This is online tender, where only e-Tenders will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copy will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP 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 registered Banks Branches. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP Held Desk ([helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd](mailto:helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd)).

*(Signature)*  
Mohammad Khorshed Alam  
Principle  
Sher-E-Bangla Regional Cooperative Institute  
Kashipur, Barishal.

GD-283

বাংলাদেশ কৃষি গবেষণা ইনস্টিটিউট  
Bangladesh Agricultural Research Institute  
সংগ্রহ ও ভান্ডার শাখা  
গাজীপুর-১৭০১

কৃষিই সমৃদ্ধি

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Memo No. 12.21.0000.000.007.01.2093.25.2824 Date: 01 February, 2026

**e-GP Tender Notice No. 20 (2025-2026)**

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

Sl No.	Package No.	Tender ID & Ref No.	Description of goods	Tender documents last selling (date & time)	Tender closing date & time	Tender opening date & time
01.	PN-GD-08	1222846 & IRN: 0293	Laboratory Equipment 05 (Five) Items.	16.02.2026 11:00	16.02.2026 12:00	16.02.2026 12:00

The interested persons/firm may visit the website [www.eprocure.gov.bd](http://www.eprocure.gov.bd) to get the details of the tender. This is an online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copy will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP System Portal is required. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and e-GP help desk ([helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd](mailto:helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd)).

**Budget Type: Research Development and Extension of Cashew Nut & Coffee Project.**

*(Signature)*  
Md. Younus Ali  
(BARI-0663)  
Deputy Director (In-Charge)  
On behalf of Director General

GD-277

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh  
Department of Fire Service & Civil Defence  
38-46, Kazi Alauddin Road, Dhaka.

Memo No. 58.03.0000.017.07.040.25.1612 Date:- 05/02/2026

**Invitation For e-Tender Notice No: FS&CD (Foreign Procurement Section): 06/2025-2026**

e-Tender is invited in the National e-Gp-system Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of goods as mentioned in the following table:

SL. No.	e-Tender ID No.	Name of the Equipment's & Quantity	e-Tender Publishing Date & Time	Last Selling Date & Time	Closing & Opening Date & Time
1	1207801	Fire Rescue Tender (Full Intensive)-12 Nos.	08.02.2026 at 09.00 AM	08.03.2026 at 12.00 PM	08.03.2026 at 15.00 PM

This is an online Tender where only e-Tenders will be accepted in the national e-Gp portal & 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. For more details please contact help desk ([helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd](mailto:helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd)).

The fees for downloading the e-tender documents from the national e-Gp System Portal have to be deposited online through any registered bank branches.

**Note:**  
(I) Quantity of equipment may be increased or decreased due to budget reductions and increases without showing any reason.  
(II) The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject any or all e-Tenders without showing any reason at any time of the procuring process.  
(III) Tender notice will also be published in FS&CD website: [www.fireservice.gov.bd](http://www.fireservice.gov.bd)

*(Signature)*  
05.02.2026  
Md. Shahid Atahar Hossain  
Director (Admin & Finance)

GD-278