

BRAHMANBARIA-2 JP withdraws from race, backs Rumeen

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Brahmanbaria

The Jatiya Party (JP) has extended its support to independent candidate Rumeen Farhana in the Brahmanbaria-2 constituency for the 13th national parliamentary election. JP central vice-chairman Abdul Hamid Bhasani made the announcement at a joint press conference in Shahbazpur village under Sarail upazila yesterday.

Rumeen and central JP leaders were present at the event.

Hamid said the party's nominated candidate, Ziaul Haque Mridha, had earlier withdrawn from the race due to false cases and threats. Following instructions from JP secretary general Shamim Haider Patwary, party leaders and activists have been asked to work in favour of Rumeen, he added.

Rumeen said the JP had decided to support her electoral symbol, "duck". Asked whether she would join the



party, she said any decision in this regard would be taken only after the election and a victory.

She also alleged that her supporters were facing intimidation and that muscle power and black money were being used in the polls by the candidate of the BNP-led alliance. She urged the administration to take the matter into consideration.

Rumeen Farhana, an expelled BNP leader, is contesting the election as an independent candidate with the "duck" symbol. Her main opponent is BNP-alliance-backed candidate Maulana Junaid Al Habib, who is contesting with the "date palm tree" symbol.



A farmer tends to strawberry plants in a garden in the Hariar area of Rajshahi's Paba upazila. Despite good harvests, farmers report an overall lower yield than last year. Strawberries are being sold directly from Hariar at Tk 400-500 per kg, while retail prices range between Tk 800 and Tk 900 per kg. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: AZAHAR UDDIN

MOULVIBAZAR-2 (KULaura)

Empowering women, Sadia's key pledge

MINTU DESHWARA

In the verdant landscape of Moulvibazar-2 (Kulaura), the campaign of Sadia Noshin Tasnim Chowdhury, candidate of the Socialist Party of Bangladesh (Marxist) in the upcoming 13th national parliamentary election, stands apart from the established norm.

Sadia travels through tea gardens and busy local markets on a scooter or a CNG-run auto-rickshaw, seeking votes for her electoral symbol, "scissors".

She is the only female candidate among the four constituencies in Moulvibazar and one of only two young female aspirants across the 19 seats in Sylhet division.

Her campaign is funded by her own earnings from private tuition and small contributions from ordinary citizens,



including donations collected at street gatherings.

Empowering local women is a central theme of her manifesto. "Women make

up half of the country's population. Development is impossible if they are left behind," she said.

Her campaign speeches reflect the daily struggles of Kulaura, including generations-long deprivation of land rights for tea garden workers and indigenous Khasi and Garo communities, weak health infrastructure, poor connectivity, and mismanagement of rail communication.

Sadia's political consciousness took shape during her student years at Murarichand College in Sylhet, where she joined the Socialist Student Front in 2011 and later rose to become a key organiser.

Born and raised in Kulaura, Sadia is the daughter of the late Saad Lutfur Razzak Chowdhury, a primary school teacher.

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Security beefed up in Cox's Bazar, Rohingya camps

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Cox's Bazar

Security has been strengthened in and around Rohingya camps as well as across the wider Cox's Bazar region ahead of the upcoming 13th national election, said Lieutenant Colonel Tanveer Ahmed of the Army's Ramu 10 Infantry Division.

Speaking at a briefing at Cox's Bazar yesterday, he said additional security measures have been taken inside and around the camps to ensure a peaceful election.

Tanveer said the army, along with the Armed Police Battalion (APBN) and other law enforcement agencies, is maintaining close surveillance in the Rohingya camps. He added that strict vigilance would be ensured so that Rohingyas cannot disrupt the election process in any way.

In a written statement, Lieutenant Colonel Sutapa Jaman said based on intelligence, a joint search operation was carried out on February 8 in the Balukhali area of Ukhya upazila. The operation was conducted by a special army task force in coordination with police and the upazila administration.

5,067 inmates cast votes in historic first

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A total of 5,067 inmates exercised their voting rights in the 13th national parliamentary election through postal ballots, marking the first time in Bangladesh's history that prisoners were allowed to vote while in custody.

The voting process formally concluded on Monday, prison officials said.

Of nearly 86,000 inmates in 75 prisons nationwide, 5,990 registered to vote by post. Some 380 applications were rejected due to errors, leaving 5,610 eligible voters. Eventually, 5,067 cast their ballots, while 543 did not vote.

Among those registered were 60 high-profile detainees – 39 political leaders, 11 former secretaries, five police officers, and one university teacher. Of them, 56 voted, officials confirmed.

Assistant Inspector General (Development and Media) of the Prison Directorate, Md Jannat-ul-Farhad, told The Daily Star that ballot envelopes from different prisons had been sent to the returning officers of the respective districts.

With Tarique in race, all eyes on Dhaka-17 14 years of delays and despair

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Confident about victory, he said, "I am contesting against a giant candidate, but voters now judge individuals by their work and qualities. The new generation does not want the 'son of a king to become a king'."

Abdus Salam, adviser to Tarique Rahman and chief coordinator of the BNP's election management committee for Dhaka-17, said voters see Tarique as the solution to their problems and the future prime minister.

He said Tarique has certain plans for the

development of the slum dwellers and low-income people of Dhaka-17.

"Improved housing, schools, playgrounds, and free medical treatment for the elderly and children will be arranged for the slum residents."

He added that promises have been made to implement modern waste management, keep Gulshan Lake clean, eradicate mosquitoes, and restore law and order by eliminating extortion and terrorism.

"To maintain the democratic process of the

country and recover the destroyed economy and education system, we believe voters will choose the 'Sheaf of Paddy'," said Salam.

Returning to the political reality after years in exile, the Dhaka-17 seat has become a key test of public acceptance for Tarique.

At the same time, Jamaat views the contest as a crucial opportunity to re-establish its standing in elite areas such as Gulshan and Banani.

Dhaka-17 has a total of 333,777 voters – 174,709 male, 159,060 female and

eight hijra.

Others in the Dhaka-17 race include Kamrul Hasan Nasim (Bangladesh Jatiya Party), Manjur Humayun (Insaniyat Biplob Bangladesh), Tapu Raihan (Jatiya Party-JP), Atiq Ahmed (Jatiya Party), Mohammad Ullah (Islami Andolan Bangladesh), Shamim Ahmed (Bangladesh Congress), Muhammad Rashidul Haque (Bangladesh Labour Party), SM Abul Kalam Azad (Bangladesh Nationalist Front), and independent candidates Anisuzzaman Khokon and Kazi Enayet Ullah.

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Saleha is now suffering from multiple health complications, and the prolonged wait for justice has taken a severe mental toll on her.

"The PBI officials came at the beginning. From the way they spoke, it felt like the case might not move in a positive direction. Since then, there has been no follow-up, no news at all," she said.

Runi's brother, Nowsher Alam Roman, who filed the double-murder case with Sher-e-Bangla Nagar Police Station on February 12, 2012, said, "We had already given up hope long ago. But after August 5 [2024], we began to hold

on to a little hope in this government. At the very least, we believed we might finally learn the truth about what really happened. But nothing happened, not even the bare minimum."

Sagar was a news editor at Maasranga TV, while Runi was a senior reporter at ATN Bangla. Both were killed in the early hours of February 11, 2012, at their rented flat in the capital's West Rajabazar. Their only child, Mahir Sarowar Megh, who was five at the time, was inside the apartment.

After the killings, eight suspects – Kamrul Islam alias Arun, Abu Sayeed, Rafiqul Islam, Bakul Miah, Masum Mintu, Palash

Rudra Paul, Anamul Haque alias Humayun Kabir, and Tanveer Rahman Khan – were arrested.

Of them, Tanveer and Mintu are now on bail, while Palash went into hiding after being released on bail. The remaining five are behind bars.

After the case was filed, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar Police Station was initially assigned to investigate it. The probe was handed over to the Detective Branch of police on February 16, 2012, which investigated the case until April 18 that year.

The case was later transferred to the Rapid Action Battalion, which conducted the investigation

until November 3, 2024.

On November 4, 2024, the Police Bureau of Investigation (PBI) took over the probe following a High Court order.

Contacted for comment, Investigation Officer Azizul Haque, an additional superintendent of police at the PBI, declined to speak about the progress of the probe.

However, a PBI official said, "We have spoken to more than 80 people regarding the case. Nothing new has been found."

February 9 was the deadline for submitting the probe report. As it was not submitted on that date, the court set April 1 as the new deadline.

Request for Proposal (RFP)

International Labour Organization (ILO) Dhaka is inviting proposals from interested and Bonafide firms to conduct independent midterm evaluation of Labour Administration and Working conditions (LAWC) cluster.

The Terms of Reference (TOR) and RFP documents can be downloaded from the United Nations Global Market Place (UNGM) at <https://www.ungm.org/Public/Notice/290641>

The deadline for submission of proposal is Monday, February 23, 2026, at 04:30 PM (BST time).

NOTICE

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF BANGLADESH
HIGH COURT DIVISION
(STATUTORY ORIGINAL JURISDICTION)
COMPANY MATTER NO.2296 OF 2025

IN THE MATTER OF: Montex Fabrics Limited
and another

..... the Petitioners

-Versus-

The Registrar of Joint Stock Companies and others

..... Respondents

Notice is hereby given that an application under section 228 read with 229 of the Companies Act, 1994 ("the Act") for confirmation of the amalgamation of Montex Fabrics Limited with Mondol Fabrics Limited. That a Bench of Hon'ble High Court Division of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of Bangladesh comprising of Her Lordship Ms. Justice Kazi Zinat Hoque was pleased to admit the application upon hearing of the petitioner on 02.02.2026. Any person interested in the said application may appear on the date fixed for hearing either himself or through his Advocate. A copy of the said application may be obtained from the undernamed.

Thanking You,
Mohammad Whaiduzzaman
Advocate, Supreme Court of Bangladesh

Trial of Anisul and Salman begins at ICT



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crimes against humanity against Salman and Anisul, accusing them of ordering, abetting, and conspiring in lethal crackdowns on protesters during the uprising.

The prosecution said the alleged acts amount to murder, complicity, and conspiracy, punishable under the International Crimes (Tribunals) Act, 1973.

Meanwhile, lawyer Palash Chandra Roy, representing both Salman

and Anisul, yesterday dismissed claims circulating on social media that his clients had voted in the upcoming national election while in jail custody.

"There are clear procedures for voting from jail, including advance registration. My clients were not registered. So, there is no question of them voting from jail," Palash told reporters at the ICT premises, adding that the viral claims had created unnecessary confusion.

FACULTY SEARCH: SUMMER 2026



NORTH SOUTH UNIVERSITY
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FACULTY POSITION

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- Finance (PhD only)
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- Business Intelligence (PhD only)
- Management Information System (PhD only)
- Supply Chain Management (PhD only)
- Business Statistics (PhD only)
- Operations Management (PhD only)
- Engineering Management (PhD only)
- Business Math (PhD only)
- International Business (PhD only)

SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES & SOCIAL SCIENCES (SHSS)

- Law (PhD only)
- English (Master's/PhD)
- History (Bangladesh History and World Civilization) (PhD only)
- Philosophy (PhD only)

SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING & PHYSICAL SCIENCES (SEPS)

- Civil Engineering/Civil and Environmental Engineering (Structure/Transportation)
- Computer Science and Engineering (Theoretical Computer Science, Software and Systems)
- Electrical and Electronic Engineering (PhD only)
- Biomedical Engineering (PhD only)
- Mathematics/Computational Mathematics/Computational Science
- Statistics/Applied Statistics/Computational Statistics (PhD only)
- Financial Mathematics/Applied Mathematics
- Actuarial Mathematics
- Mathematics for Data Science and Machine Learning
- HPC for Applied Mathematics with Data Science

SCHOOL OF HEALTH & LIFE SCIENCES (SHLS)

- Epidemiology (PhD)
- Biostatistics (PhD)
- Microbiology (PhD only)

Required Qualifications: Candidates will be considered eligible if they have obtained their degrees from globally reputed universities. A Master's degree is required for Lecturer and Senior Lecturer positions, while a Ph.D. or higher qualification is required for Assistant Professor and above positions. Please note that only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

Benefits: NSU offers a comprehensive benefits package that includes 50% house rent allowance based on the basic salary, medical allowance, festival bonuses, leave encashment, transport allowance, gratuity, provident fund, and insurance coverage. Salary packages are negotiable for outstanding candidates.

Application Process: Interested applicants are requested to visit the NSU website and submit their applications by the deadline of March 01, 2026, through the following link for faculty positions in the relevant academic field or area. Link: <https://jobs.northsouth.edu/>

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