

## Ctg to have 2.2km cycling track on the Airport Road

ARUN BIKASH DEY, Ctg

In a first for the port city, Chattogram City Corporation (CCC) has initiated construction of a dedicated cycling track along the scenic Airport Road.

The 2.2 kilometre track will stretch from the West Point turning to the Butterfly Park near Patenga beach.

The project is part of a broader Tk 24 crore infrastructure and beautification scheme in the port city, which began in October last year.

CCC Executive Engineer Ashikul Islam said that, alongside the cycling lane, the project involves development of the entire road, including a median with kerbstones, aesthetic footpaths on both sides and a landscaped walkway.

"The cycling track will be separated from the main road by kerbstone dividers," he added.

CCC Mayor Shahadat Hossain said the project aligns with a long-term vision of developing Chattogram into a commercial capital with international standard infrastructure for domestic and foreign investors.

"The airport area is a critical gateway used by numerous international and domestic passengers daily. It is essential to build aesthetic, well-planned and sustainable infrastructure here," he said.

Shahadat said a safe cycling lane would allow visitors to explore the Patenga coastline comfortably, while reducing traffic congestion, curbing pollution and encouraging a health-conscious lifestyle.

The city's younger residents and fitness enthusiasts welcomed the initiative.

Suchana Chowdhury, a university student living in Patenga, said the track would provide a safe space for her afternoon cycling.

Minhaj Uddin Mahmud, a resident of Lalkhan Bazar, said such infrastructure would encourage young people to visit tourist areas more frequently while reducing reliance on motorised vehicles.



Barun Mali, a 43-year-old trader, walks through the weekly rural market selling cattle bells. He earns a profit of Tk 700 on sales worth Tk 2,000. The photo was taken in the Charmonai area of Barishal Sadar upazila yesterday.

PHOTO: TITU DAS

## Man recounts son, niece's deaths at ICT

SHARIFUL ISLAM

A father yesterday broke down before the International Crimes Tribunal-2 as he recounted how he lost both his son and niece during the July 2024 uprising, tragedies that shattered his family beyond repair.

Testifying in a crimes against humanity case against Awami League General Secretary Obaidul Quader and six other party leaders and affiliates, Mohammad Faruk Khan described the final moments of his 28-year-old son, Akram Khan Rabbi, and his 22-year-old niece, Meherun Nesa Tanha, a college student.

"My son joined the student-led protest in Mirpur-10 area after Jumah prayers on July 19 in 2024. By afternoon, I received a call saying he had been shot," Faruk told the three-member tribunal. He said

he rushed from one hospital to another, only to find Rabbi dead at Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

Still in shock, Faruk said police clearance was required to release the body. With no other option, the family paid Tk 5,000 to keep the body in a deep freezer. But the next day, they could not find it there. "Later, we discovered his body stacked with several others in the morgue," he said.

Rabbi was laid to rest on July 21 at the East Baishakti graveyard in Mirpur, Faruk said.

On August 5, the day former prime minister Sheikh Hasina fled the country amid a mass uprising, Tanha joined a victory procession to the Gono Bhaban, the witness said. She returned home in Mirpur-13 in the evening, carrying flowers. Moments later, sporadic gunfire erupted in

SEE PAGE 9 COL 6

## BSS MD MAHBUB Committee to probe graft allegations

UNB, Dhaka

The information ministry formed a four-member committee to investigate corruption allegations against Mahbub Morshed, managing director and chief editor of Bangladesh Sangbad Sangstha (BSS), said an order issued by the ministry yesterday.

An additional secretary (Grade-1) of the ministry will lead the committee.

The other members are the chief information officer of the Department of Information, the director general of the Mass Communication Department, and a senior assistant secretary (Press-1) of the ministry.

The committee has been asked to submit a full report by February 25.

## Shafiqur calls for political culture that welcomes dissent

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Shafiqur Rahman, leader of the opposition in parliament and ameer of Bangladesh Jamaat-e-Islami, has said the July mass uprising took place to ensure freedom of expression and called for building a new political culture that welcomes dissenting views.

He made the call in a post on his verified Facebook page yesterday.

"During the 17 years of fascism, both the current ruling party and we were subjected to repression in terms of freedom of expression. We do not want to return to that dark period," he wrote.

Saying "media freedom is the first condition of a healthy democracy", the Jamaat ameer wrote, "Instead of suppressing dissent, welcoming it should define the new political culture."

On the same day, ahead of International Mother Language Day, the Jamaat ameer said in a statement sent to the media, "February 21 is now recognised as International Mother Language Day. It symbolises global respect and recognition for the language martyrs."

He said to establish Bangla in its rightful status, its use must be ensured at all levels of state and social life.

## CJ sets up HC bench to settle polls irregularities

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Chief Justice Zubayer Rahman Chowdhury has constituted a High Court bench to dispose of the election petitions challenging electoral irregularities.

Justice Md Zakir Hossain has been assigned to oversee the process.

The chief justice issued a directive to this effect on February 17 saying that the HC bench will settle the election petitions filed under the Representation of the People Order, 1972, as amended by the Representation of the People (Amendment) Order, 2001; and other relevant matters.

On February 12, voting was held in 299 out of 300 constituencies in the 13th national election.

On February 13, the Election Commission issued a gazette notification declaring 297 candidates elected to the parliament in the election, alongside the official results of the referendum held on the same day.

## Chawkbazar: where tradition

FROM PAGE 3  
of delicacies made from meat, vegetables, sweets, milk, and spices, some recipes dating back to the Mughal era.

The most sought after item remains Boro Baper Polay Khay, a rich mixture of chickpeas, minced meat, potatoes, brain, flattened rice, eggs, chicken, spices, ghee, and other ingredients.

Amir Hossain Juwell, a trader at the market, said his family has been running this business at Chawkbazar since his grandfather's time.

"My grandfather used to sell Boro Baper Polay Khay, which is the most attractive item in this iftar market. People from different areas, even outside the capital, come here every year for it," he said.

"We usually run other businesses during the rest of the year. However, during Ramadan we sell this traditional item along with beef, chicken, quail and duck roasts, and goat leg pieces," Amir added.

Other favourites at the market include beef and chicken roasts, mutton and chicken cutlets, keema

rolls, keema parathas, Dudh Nun, Badami Nun, borhani, and kebabs such as Suti, Jali, Irani, and Tikka. Sweet treats include malai cupts, firni, namak para, doi bora, falooda, beef pickle, chicken pickle, Mohabbati sherbet, Pestabadam sherbet, different types of fruits, and bakery items.

This correspondent also saw two siblings from Khilgaon, Makbul Hossain and Rani Akhtar, who came to the market around 2:00pm.

"We have purchased quail roast, but if we find anything suitable, we will buy more," said Rani.

"This market is a tradition for the people of Old Dhaka. We purchase iftar items from here every day to maintain the tradition," said Md Ruhul Amin, a resident of Lalbagh.

## 43 MPs currently

FROM PAGE 3  
Of the 297 constituencies, 79 candidates were from religious and ethnic minority communities, and four were elected.

Business remains the dominant profession among MPs. Of the 297 members of parliament, 182 are involved in business, down from 66.89 percent in the previous polls.

Thirty-six MPs are lawyers, 22 teachers, 13 agriculturists and eight identified politics as their profession. Five are service holders and 27 come from other professions.

In terms of income, 33 MPs earn less than Tk 5 lakh annually. A total of 138 earn from Tk 5-25 lakh, 45 from Tk 25-50 lakh, and 29 from Tk 50 lakh to Tk 1 crore. Forty-

six members earn over Tk 1 crore annually -- 43 from BNP, one from Jamaat and two independents.

Asset declarations show that 271 MPs have assets exceeding Tk 1 crore, and 187 have assets above Tk 5 crore. Of BNP's 209 MPs, 201 have assets over Tk 1 crore, while 52 of Jamaat's 68 MPs cross that threshold.

Although 55.63 percent of candidates were millionaires, the proportion is higher among elected MPs.

Loan data shows that 147 MPs are borrowers, including 36 with loans exceeding Tk 5 crore. Of the borrowers, 126 are affiliated with BNP. The share of loan borrowers has risen from 44.81 percent in the 12th election.

## Dhaka to pursue 'Bangladesh

FROM PAGE 3  
countries, Shama said the ministry is aware of the challenges and is actively working to resolve them through diplomatic channels.

Responding to a query about ousted prime minister Sheikh Hasina's stay in India and related diplomatic correspondence, she said the matter remains

under process and will be reviewed by the ministry.

"It is only the second day of our responsibilities. The process is ongoing and will continue," she added.

Asked about the interim government's reported policy position regarding deployment of Bangladeshi troops to Gaza, she said the issue has not yet been discussed at the political

level. "Such political decisions will be discussed and taken in due course," she said.

On relations with India, China and the United States, Shama said Bangladesh has issues and challenges with all countries and would address them through both bilateral and multilateral engagements.

**Apartment Rent Gulshan**  
European Standard, Fully Furnished Service Apartment, 2300/2900 Sft. at Gulshan-2.  
Please Contact: 01711531664

**USED APARTMENT FOR SALE @ NORTH GULSHAN**  
Elegantly designed 2,770 sft Semi-Furnished apartment available for sale. Price: 4.70 Cr.  
● 3 Bed, 4 Bath  
● Titas Gas Connection & 1 Parking  
● Very Close to United Hospital  
01958-026050, 01958-026055

**Bangladesh Retired Government Employees Welfare Association**  
House: 75/A, Road: 5/A, Dhanmondi R/A, Dhaka-1209.  
Phone: 48122987, 222240189  
E-mail: brgewa@gmail.com  
www.brgewa.com

**INVITATION FOR TENDER (IFT)**  
IFT No.: MED123/2025.120 Date: 19/02/2026

Sealed Tenders are invited from eligible authorised local representatives/genuine suppliers/importers for the **Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of Microwave Diathermy (MWD) Machine with Standard Accessories for the Physiotherapy Department of the Medical Centre of Bangladesh Retired Government Employees Welfare Association (BRGEWA).**

- Source of Fund: Ministry of Public Administration.
- Last Date and Time for Sale of Tender Document: 05 March 2026, before 3:00 pm
- Last Date and Time for Submission of Tender: 08 March 2026, before 12:00 pm
- Date and Time of Opening of Tenders: 08 March 2026, at 12:15 pm
- Price of Tender Document: BDT 1,500/- (One thousand & five hundred)

The detailed Tender Notice is available on the website of the Bangladesh Retired Government Employees Welfare Association (BRGEWA).  
Website: www.brgewa.com

D-12 Administrator BRGEWA

**Request for Quotation: High-Performance NVMe Storage**

BRAC Bank PLC. delivers a full array of banking services to individuals and businesses through a network of 194 Branches, 116 Sub-branches, 330 ATMs, 446 SME Unit Offices and 1,120 Agent Banking Outlets across the country. The bank is currently seeking potential vendor(s) to provide High Performance NVMe Storage.

A Technical Request for Quotation (RFQ) is hereby issued for this purpose. The RFQ, along with details of the bidding process, can be found on the bank's website: <https://www.bracbank.com/en/page/e-tender>

Interested eligible bidders are requested to submit their technical offers as per Instruction to Bidder (ITB) outlined in the bidding process.

**BRAC BANK**  
আমরা আনন্দিত

## Ozil visits

FROM PAGE 3  
Sajedur Rahman received them at the airport.

The delegation later visited the office of the Refugee Relief and Repatriation Commissioner (RRRC) in Cox's Bazar and held meetings with relevant government officials and representatives of Turkish organisations working in the camps.

Speaking to the journalists after the meeting at RRRC office, Bilal Erdogan said, "Repatriation is obviously very crucial. We want people to be able to go back to their homes, which is their humanitarian right -- very basic right, and

international law mandates refugees to be able to go back to their homes."

Bilal thanked Ozil for joining him, noting that the footballer star chose to spend his first iftar of Ramadan with the Rohingya refugees.

The delegation also visited the Turkish Field Hospital and the education and cultural centre operated by IKA at Balukhali Camp-9 in Ukhiya.

Ozil later took part in an exhibition football match with Rohingya refugees later, before the delegation members joined the iftar.

The delegation returned to Dhaka later in the evening.

## Tribunal to run

FROM PAGE 3  
law minister has also stated that the tribunal's activities will continue in the normal course. We therefore expect that justice will proceed properly," he said.

Meanwhile, National Citizen Party (NCP) Member Secretary Akhter Hossen yesterday urged the newly elected government to ensure speedy trials, execute verdicts, and bring back fugitive convicts, including former prime minister Sheikh Hasina, to face justice for crimes against humanity.

Speaking to journalists after visiting the tribunal to

seek updates on two cases in which he is a prosecution witness, Akhter warned against any slowdown in the judicial process.

According to updates Akhter received at the tribunal, formal charges have so far been submitted in 24 cases, trials are ongoing in 21, and verdicts have been delivered in three. However, none of the verdicts has yet been executed.

He said 457 people are accused in the ongoing ICT cases, of whom 161 are in custody, while 293 remain absconding.

**Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh**  
Office of the Works Manager (Construction)  
Bangladesh Railway, Pahartali, Chattogram-4202  
E-mail: [wmcph@railway.gov.bd](mailto:wmcph@railway.gov.bd)

No. WM/C/e-GP Notice/2025 Date: 18/02/2026

**e-Tender Notice**  
**Notice No. 2025-26/08**

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) by Works Manger (Construction), Bangladesh Railway, Pahartali, Chattogram for the Procurement of Goods as stated below:

| Sl No. | Tender/Proposal ID | Tender/Proposal Package No. and Description  | Procurement nature type & method | Tender/proposal closing date & time |
|--------|--------------------|--|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1      | 1195036            | 54.01.1500.552.05.057.25-26-GR-92-WF<br>1. Purchase of M.S Pin Size 65x25 mm (as per sample) 2. Purchase of M.S Pin Size 85x25 mm (as per sample) 3. Purchase of M.S Pin Size 75x25 mm (as per sample) etc.                        | Goods<br>NCT<br>OTM              | 05-March-2026<br>12:10:00           |
| 2      | 1216975            | 54.01.1500.552.05.057.25-26-GR-144-WELD<br>Purchase of Electrodes Class H stainless steel No. 12 swg Size: 2.5 mm  | Goods<br>NCT<br>OTM              | 05-March-2026<br>12:15:00           |
| 3      | 1217841            | 54.01.1500.552.05.057.25-26-GR-82-MW<br>Purchase of Miro Lube Grease Oil for CNC Machine   | Goods<br>NCT<br>OTM              | 05-March-2026<br>12:20:00           |
| 4      | 1222455            | 54.01.1500.552.05.057.25-26-GR-124-WH<br>1) Purchase of Sealing Strip (Felfa), Size- 12 x 10 x 265 mm<br>2) Purchase of Sealing Strip (Felfa), Size-13 x 10 x 265mm<br>3) Purchase of Sealing Strip Felfa, Size 13x 12x 560mm etc. | Goods<br>NCT<br>OTM              | 05-March-2026<br>12:25:00           |

This is an online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and 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. The fees for downloading the e-Tender documents for the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online branches of any registered bank branches.

Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk ([helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd](mailto:helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd)).

এস (২৬/২৬) ১৯/০২/২৬  
Rajib Kumar Debnath  
Works Manager (Construction)

GD-353