No security threat to Ekushey observances

Says DMP chief

STAR REPORT

Dhaka Metropolitan Police (DMP) Commissioner Sheikh Mohammad Sazzat Ali yesterday said there is no security threat to today's observance of Language Martyrs' Day and International Mother Language Day, with extensive security arrangements in place across the capital.

"Comprehensive preparations are in place to safeguard the Amar Ekushey observances," he told reporters at the Central Shaheed Minar premises.

Referring to the peaceful 13th parliamentary election, he said security measures and public cooperation had ensured a calm environment, adding that no specific threat had been identified regarding Ekushey.

Despite this, specialised units, including SWAT, dog squad, bomb disposal and crime scene investigators, will remain on standby alongside regular forces. Intelligence surveillance and cyber monitoring have also been intensified under a layered security framework. Around 15,000 police members will be deployed across Dhaka city, he added.

Prevent corruption within your

FROM PAGE 3

mutual understanding, how will similar logic be prevented from spreading to other sectors like health, education, social protection, law enforcement, customs, and beyond? The question naturally arises."

"If the government's anti-corruption pledges are not mere rhetoric or populist slogans, the prime minister must immediately reject the minister's remarks and ensure accountability through due process," he said.

The statement said after the fall of authoritarian rule, control over extortion, partisan dominance and illegal occupation shifted across the country. It added that the minister's stance cannot be seen in isolation.

TIB recalled that in February 2012, the road transport minister of the then authoritarian regime had similarly tried to justify road extortion, which the organisation strongly opposed at the time.

It expressed concern that the new government may be following the same path.

The watchdog said the minister's comments directly contradict the strong anti-corruption position declared by him and other cabinet members when taking office.

Just 48 hours after the prime minister reaffirmed the government's anti-corruption pledge, the remarks defending extortion were "deeply disappointing", said the organisation.

"Through such comments, the transport minister has undermined the anti-corruption commitments in his party's election manifesto and the government's declared position," the statement read.

Dr Iftekharuzzaman said that by defending extortion in the transport sector, the minister is attempting to legitimise a corrupt practice. The direct victims are transport stakeholders and ordinary citizens, who bear the burden of such practices.

Using owners' and workers' welfare to justify extortion is misleading and reflects an effort to protect and prolong disorder in the sector, he added.

The TIB chief called on the prime minister to prioritise internal rectification and reform within his party to reinforce public confidence and prevent party leaders and activists from pursuing a self-destructive path.

Otherwise, he warned, public trust may erode, and groups whose ideology contradicts the spirit of Bangladesh -- shaped by the sacrifices of 1952, 1971 and 2024 -- may gain ground.

Meanwhile, Jamaat-e-Islami Ameer Shafiqur Rahman questioned whether the minister's remarks amounted to a declaration to "nationalise extortion."

The leader of the opposition in the parliament raised the question in a post on his verified Facebook page yesterday.

At a press conference on Thursday, Road Transport and Bridges Minister Sheikh Rabiul Alam responded to a question about extortion in the transport sector by saying he does not view what is called "toll" or "extortion" in that way.

He said owners' and workers' associations collect money at fixed rates for welfare purposes, and that it would only be extortion if someone were forced to pay.

He described the practice as based on "mutual understanding", while acknowledging that there may be debate over how the funds are used.

Unread

FROM PAGE 3

them. The total number of textbooks distributed this year is 577."

He said they discussed with the ministry the details of how to teach these books and also informed the NCTB.

Educationists and rights advocates say the problem is not simply logistical. It is structural and risks undermining the very goal it set out to achieve.

AFM Zakaria, professor of anthropology at Shahjalal University of Science and Technology, said, "If the government really wants development of the indigenous communities, it must protect their languages and ensure education in their mother tongue."

Zakaria, a member of the ethnic language steering committee under the education ministry, recommended a special government census on sociocultural and education status of the indigenous people, a separate academic calendar and special teacher recruitment for specific communities to continue indigenous children's education.

Gourango Patro, president of Kapaeeng Foundation, said, "Books have been published in only five languages, and even then, not all children are receiving them. There are not enough trained teachers to teach in those mother tongues. The programme appears to be running without adequate preparation, planning, or monitoring. As a result, it is failing to deliver meaningful outcomes."

'Revolutionary' shift

FROM PAGE 3

Khosru emphasised that Chattogram, widely regarded as Bangladesh's commercial hub, would be developed further as a trade centre through increased investment and modernisation of port operations.

"The development of Chattogram means the development of the country," he said, adding that employment and investment growth would guide policy direction.

He said steps would be taken to upgrade port infrastructure and create an investment-friendly environment, with the aim of positioning Chattogram as a regional and international trade centre. Port modernisation, infrastructure development, and investment facilitation would receive particular focus.

Later, in the day, addressing a meeting of port users at his residence in Mehedibag, the minister said he had instructed relevant authorities to ensure that activities centred around Chittagong Port Authority do not contribute to higher commodity prices, especially during Ramadan.

Following the meeting, Khosru told journalists that certain port-related factors were contributing to price increases ultimately borne by consumers.

He said the government would identify the causes of rising prices and take corrective measures through inter-ministerial coordination.

Participants at the meeting called for port tariffs to be set at a rational level.

Culex surge worsens

FROM PAGE 3

"When there is no rainfall for a long time, water in drains and sewers becomes stagnant. Organic pollutants increase and serve as food for larvae. As the water remains still, Culex mosquitoes lay eggs there, and the eggs are not destroyed," he said.

He added that rising temperatures after winter create favourable conditions for the eggs to hatch simultaneously.

"It is a common phenomenon in our country that in late February and March, mosquito populations rise sharply," he said.

Bashar also noted that mosquito control activities slowed before and after the February 12 national election, contributing to the rise in density.

"As a result, mosquito density has increased significantly and is likely to continue rising until around mid-March," he said.

As an immediate step, he suggested ensuring the free flow of water in drains, ditches and sewers through proper cleaning, followed by the application of larvicide.

He also noted that many stagnant water bodies in Dhaka -- including drains, canals, wetlands and lakes -- currently have high Culex density.

Entomologist GM Saifur Rahman said this year's winter was very short, with only one or two weeks of cooler weather that slowed mosquito growth. In previous years, colder temperatures lasted three to four months and helped suppress populations.

"By mid-February, we were already overwhelmed, even up to the 10th floor of buildings. What usually happens at the end of March has arrived earlier this year," he said, warning that the population will grow further without effective control.

"The new government needs to realise the gravity of the problem. If initiatives are taken now, there may be results. Otherwise, the situation may become chaotic," he warned.

He said breeding sites are widespread and must be modified or removed. If no action is taken, the population will continue to grow rapidly. Control efforts should continue until the end of April, with a possible natural decline in May.

Regarding Aedes mosquitoes, he said that as temperatures did not drop significantly this winter, the Aedes population remains largely intact. While outdoor breeding sites have decreased somewhat, indoor breeding sources like water storage containers remain.

He warned that the dengue season may begin earlier and be more severe.

Saifur urged authorities to intensify control measures now to identify and target hotspots effectively.

Nishat Parveen, health officer of Dhaka South City Corporation, said fogging operations targeting Culex mosquitoes have been increased. "All our activities are ongoing. The decrease in Aedes does not mean we have reduced our work," she said.

She added that the corporation is preparing to conduct its own field surveys in every area and will take targeted action based on the findings. Public awareness and cleanliness campaigns will also continue, particularly during the rainy season.

An official of Dhaka North City Corporation said regular drives are ongoing. "We have also launched an extensive drive. Operations were carried out in parts of Mirpur last week and will continue in other areas in the coming days," he said.

Ex-Kuet VC accused of fund

FROM PAGE 3

partners, who later decided not to offer future projects to the university.

Masud denied diverting funds, saying, "This is absurd. I have no personal business or land anywhere in the world, let alone in Khulna."

He also denied handling any cash or forcibly taking over the project.

"They explicitly asked me to take over as 'Professor Masud', not as vice-chancellor, to save the project from cancellation. It was a rescue effort requested by the donors," he told The Daily Star.

The report said Masud was removed as VC in April 2025 but withdrew salary and allowances for June and July 2025 after returning from the USA, despite not holding the VC or project lead post at the time.

Defending the withdrawal, Masud said he was paid as project lead and that teachers are allowed to head research projects regardless of administrative position.

Beyond the project, the report alleged that four employees, known on campus as the "Four Caliphs", exercised undue influence under Masud's protection. At the centre was Md Moniruzzaman, a former data processor.

The committee cited an earlier audit by the Directorate of Inspection and Audit, which termed Moniruzzaman's appointment and promotion illegal and said it caused a loss of Tk 55.54 lakh to the public exchequer.

Despite a recommendation to cancel the appointment, Masud later promoted him to deputy registrar.

The report also named Jalal Munshi and Emdadul Haque, saying they were promoted to section officer positions without the required qualifications.

Masud said the audit objection dated back to a previous VC's tenure. "Besides, the appointment followed a standard recruitment process approved by the selection board and syndicate," he said.

The probe further alleged that within five months of taking office, Masud appointed 42 temporary employees in violation of a 2018 government directive banning such recruitment. The appointments were not advertised or made through competitive selection.

Masud said the staff were hired to address a crisis and questioned why subsequent VCs had not removed them if the appointments were illegal.

In another instance linked to the German project, Masud removed project secretary Ankon Singha and appointed his personal secretary, allowing him to draw an additional 500 euros per month from the grant alongside his university salary.

The committee also cited irregularities in demolishing two condemned buildings. Although engineering estimates valued the work at Tk 35 lakh, the tender was awarded for Tk 24 lakh, allegedly causing a loss of Tk 11 lakh.

Masud defended the decision, saying it was the highest bid received and allowed under Public Procurement Rules.

"I asked the committee if we were allowed to accept the bid since it was below the government estimate, and they cited the specific PPR clause allowing it," he claimed.

The committee recommended legal action and recovery of losses, including Tk 55.54 lakh linked to Moniruzzaman's appointment and the Tk 13 lakh withdrawal.

It also suggested an external audit of development projects during Masud's tenure and filing criminal cases where evidence supports the allegations.

Masud said he had provided documents in hard copy, email, and WhatsApp to prove his innocence.

"The committee presented false information despite having the documents," he told this newspaper.

No more running

FROM PAGE 3

at the doorsteps of citizens."

He said the government bears equal responsibility towards all citizens, regardless of whether they voted for the ruling party.

Responding to the long-standing demand for establishing a medical college in Narsingdi, he said, "We will work to establish a medical college in Narsingdi as soon as possible. Similar initiatives will be taken wherever necessary across the country."

He also said steps would be taken to make the 250-bed Narsingdi District Hospital fully functional at the earliest and to introduce two intensive care units (ICUs) in the district.

Among others, Narsingdi Deputy Commissioner Mohammad Anwar Hossain, Additional Superintendent of Police (Administration) Md Kalimullah, Superintendent Dr ANM Mizanur Rahman of Narsingdi District Hospital and leaders and activists of BNP and its associate organisations were present.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Executive Engineer, RHD
Netrokona Road Division, Netrokona
Phone: 02-996651285, Fax: 02-996651479
e-mail:cenet@rhd.gov.bd

Memo No.: 35.01.7200.455.00.000.22- 234 Dated : 19/02/26

e-Tender Notice

This is to notify all concern that the following tender have published through e-GP portal.

Sl. No.	Tender ID, Package No. & Date of Publishing	Name of Work	Date & Time.
01	Tender ID 1221662 Tender Package No.: e-GP/NRD/PMP-Bridges/04/2025-2026 & APP ID. 214446 ; Scheduled Tender/Proposal Publication Date and Time: 18-Feb-2026 16:30	Periodic Maintenance Programme (Major-Bridge) for Construction of 33.54m Long P.C GIRDER PAHARPUR BRIDGE at 4th km (Ch. 3+000m) on Avoypasha-Atpara Road (Z-3713) under Netrakona Road Division During the Year 2025-2026.	Tender/Proposal Document last selling/downloading Date and Time: 15-Mar-2026 16:00 Last Date and Time for Tender/ Proposal Security: 16-Mar-2026 12:00 Tender/Proposal Closing & Opening Date and Time: 16-Mar-2026 12:30

The interested persons/firms may visit the web site 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 copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP Portal (http://www.eprocure.gov.bd) is required.

Futher information and guidelined are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

(Mahmud Al-Nur Salehin)
ID: 602300
Executive Engineer, RHD
Netrokona Road Division, Netrokona.

GD-355

খুলনা কৃষি বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়
অস্থায়ী অফিস: ৩২৭,যশোর রোড,উত্তর মুজগুন্নি,খালিশপুর, খুলনা-৯০০০

Memo No.: 37.01.4703.057.32.024.25.224/225/226 Date: 18/02/2026

E-Tender Notice

E-Tender has been invited in the National e-Gp System Portal (http://www.eprocure.gov.bd) for procurement of.

Sl. No.	Tender ID No.	Ref./Package No.	Description	Online Tender Notice Publication date	Online Tender Closing date
01	1230879	37.01.4703.057.32.02 4.25.193; Date: 16/02/2026	Supply and Installation of Stationary and Fire Extinguisher	22-Feb-2026	04-Mar-2026
02	1231583	37.01.4703.057.40.01 9.25.192; Date: 16/02/2026	Supply and Installation of Electrical and Office equipment	22-Feb-2026	05-Mar-2026
03	1231554	37.01.4703.057.34.02 7.26.194; Date: 16/02/2026	procurement and Installation of Laboratory equipment	22-Feb-2026	08-Mar-2026

This is an online Tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-Gp Portal and no online/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-Gp system portal (http://www.eprocure.gov.bd) is required.

Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-Gp system portal and from e-Gp help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

Engr. S. M. Moniruzzaman
Chief Engineer
Khulna Agricultural University

GD-354

LEGAL NOTICE
IN THE SUPREME COURT OF BANGLADESH
HIGH COURT DIVISION
(STATUTORY ORIGINAL JURISDICTION)
COMPANY MATTER NO. 2305 OF 2025

Mohammad Wasiul Hoque Chowdary .....PETITIONER
-VERSUS-
The Registrar of Joint Stock Companies & Firms and others ....RESPONDENTS

Notice is hereby given to all concerned that an application for directing to call, hold and conduct AGM under section 81 read with section 85(3) of the Companies Act, 1994 and Rules 8 & 263 of the Companies Rule, 2009 and exoneration of person/persons in default, if applicable, under section 396 of Companies Act, 1994 was filed by the above-named petitioner before the Hon'ble High Court Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh praying, inter alia, for condonation of delay in holding Annual General Meetings of Harmony Builders Limited for the calendar years 2022, 2023, 2024 and 2025 and also for subsequent calendar year(s), if fallen due. The Hon'ble High Court Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh, presided over by Hon'ble Madam Justice Kazi Zinat Hoque, vide order dated 01.02.2025, was pleased to admit the above application. The Hon'ble High Court Division was also pleased to direct the petitioner to file an affidavit in compliance on or before 26.02.2026.Any person interested in the said application may appear before the Hon'ble High Court Division either personally or through his duly authorized Advocate. Copy of the said application may be obtained from the undersigned.
(Nur-E-Alam Chowdhury)Advocate Supreme Court of Bangladesh For the PetitionerChoudhury & Law Firm House No. 09, Suite No. 1A2, Road No. 113, Gulshan-2, Dhaka-1212, **Mobile No. 01911315351**

NOTICE
IN THE SUPREME COURT OF BANGLADESH
HIGH COURT DIVISION
(STATUTORY ORIGINAL JURISDICTION)
COMPANY MATTER NO 116 OF 2026
IN THE MATTER OF :
Md. Monzur Hossain, Managing Director of TSPL International (Pvt.) Ltd. .....Petitioner
-VERSUS-
The Registrar, Joint Stock Companies and Firms and another, ...Respondents

Notice is hereby given to all concerned that an application under section 81 (2) read with section 85 (3) of the Companies Act, 1994 bas been filed before the High Court Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh for condonation of delay in holding Annual General Meeting of Md. Monzur Hossain, Managing Director of **TSPL International (Pvt.) Ltd.** for the year of first AGM 2021 and the AGM for year 2022, 2023, 2024 and 2025 Upon preliminary hearing, **Justice Kazi Zinnat Haque** was pleased to admit the application by an order dated 01.02.2026 and also directed to submit the affidavit in compliance. Anyone interested may appear before the Hon'ble Court. Copy of the application may be obtained from the undersigned on payment of charges.

(Shariful Hasan)
Advocate, Supreme Court of Bangladesh

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Local Government Engineering Department
Office of the Executive Engineer
District: Pabna
www.lged.gov.bd

Memo No. 46.02.7600.000.07.309 (Part-2).21-959 Date: 18/02/2026

Invitation for Tender (Works)
Tender Notice: 35/2025-26 (OTM & LTM)

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (http://www.eprocure.gov.bd) for the procurement of under mentioned work:

SI No	Name of Work	Tender ID No	Tender Security (Tk.)	Closing. Opening Date & Time
1	2	3	4	5
1	Package No. RDIRWSP/PAB/SUJA/CUL-22 Construction of Single vent (1-VX4.00m x 4.50m) RCC Box Culvert on Shamgonj GC - Kagirhat GC road (Sujanagar part) at Ch. 0+030 km Under Upazila - Sujanagar, Dist - Pabna (Road ID no -176832006) (Salvage Cost BDT:82,713.00)	1222552 OTM	1,00,000.00	09.03.2026 14.00 PM
2	Package No. RDRIDP/Pab/Santhia-31/25-26 Improvement of Sharisha Bissho road - Ichamoti River Dyke road at Ch. 730.00m-1500.00m by HBB (Road ID: 176724087) Upazila -Santhia, Dist-Pabna	1224477 LTM	2,00,000.00	09.03.2026 14.00 PM
3	Package No. PAB/TULO-2/WD-3/971 Construction of Bharara Union Land Office under Pabna Sadar Upazila District Pabna.	1222252 LTM	2,50,000.00	

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 from the National e-GP System portal have to be deposited online through any registered bank branches and purchase e-tender documents up to dated: 08/03/2026 (OTM) Time: 17:00 PM. & 08/03/2026 (LTM) Time: 17:00 PM. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd)

(Md. Monirul Islam)
Executive Engineer
LGED, Pabna
e-mail: xen.pabna@lged.gov.bd

GD-356