

'Textbooks to be revised; no scope for auto-pass'

Says education minister

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Education Minister ANM Ehsanul Hoque Milon yesterday said textbooks will be revised, while physical, mental health and arts education will be made mandatory from Class IV.

He also said there will be no scope for "auto-pass" in examinations.

Milon made the remarks at separate meetings with officials of the National Curriculum and Textbook Board (NCTB), and chairmen of all education boards and senior ministry officials.

At the NCTB meeting, Milon said Prime Minister Tarique Rahman is giving the highest priority to education, according to press release sent by the ministry.

"Textbooks must be revised," he said, adding that, "Curriculum formulation and textbook revision will be carried out by high quality experts. No party consideration will be made in this regard."

The minister also said physical education, mental health and arts education will be made mandatory for all students from Class IV, with evaluation examinations to be introduced for these subjects.

Addressing another meeting at the education ministry, Milon reviewed preparations for the SSC and equivalent examinations for 2026.

"To build a merit based nation, the examination system must change. There will be no more opportunity for auto-pass," he said.

The minister also directed authorities to re-investigate vulnerable centres and prepare an updated list, said a press release of the ministry.

Reiterating a strict stance against irregularities, Milon said proper body searches of examinees while entering examination centres must be ensured and that teachers should actively prevent cheating.

"If any question paper or question-related content is uploaded on social media or any online platform during the examination, legal action will be taken," he said, adding that if cheating materials are found in the toils of examination centres, the respective centre authorities will be held responsible.

Milon also stressed for ensuring proper evaluation of all examinations including practical exams.

He outlined plans to establish schools in areas of districts where there are none. These schools will provide education from Class I to Class XII in the form of higher secondary schools.

State Minister for Education Bobby Hajaj was present at the meeting.

Only four staffers in five districts for wildlife protection

MINTU DESHWARA, Moulvibazar

Tasked with protecting wildlife and managing vast forest areas across Habiganj, Kishoreganj, Brahmanbaria, Cumilla and Netrakona districts, the Habiganj office of the Bangladesh Forest Department's Wildlife Management and Nature Conservation Division has been functioning amid severely strained manpower and resources.

At present, it is operating with only four staff members – a wildlife and nature conservation officer, a deputy ranger, a gardener and a night guard – raising concerns over the effectiveness of wildlife conservation and rescue operations.

Officials say the manpower shortage, coupled with an irregular budget and lack of transports for rescue operations, has made it increasingly difficult to respond promptly to wildlife emergencies across the unit's vast operational area that includes several ecologically critical sites such as Satchari National Park, Rema-Kalenga Wildlife Sanctuary, Haor region, numerous wetlands and forest patches.

While the Moulvibazar office reportedly has comparatively adequate manpower, the Habiganj office has long been grappling with staff shortages.

There are also allegations that the office's name and information are not listed on the district's national information portal, limiting public access to official contact details.



Sony Ahmed, a resident of Madhabpur upazila of Habiganj, said the unit often cannot respond quickly to rescue operations due to staff shortages and lack of logistics stemming from administrative negligence.

"As such, ordinary people – tea workers, farmers, and villagers including me – are left to deal with snakes, pythons or other wild animals on their own. This causes panic, raises injury risks, and even leads to retaliatory killing of animals," he added.

Biswajit Paul, joint convener of volunteer group Pakhipremik Society, and Tofazzal Sohel, general secretary (Habiganj unit) of Bangladesh Paribesh Andolon

(BAPA), called upon authorities concerned to recruit adequate manpower and ensure necessary logistics to equip the unit for functioning effectively.

"We do not receive regular government funds for wildlife rescue operations. Yet we are responsible for carrying out all related activities across five districts amid acute manpower shortage," said Mahmud Hossain, in charge deputy ranger of Habiganj unit.

Abul Kalam Azad, divisional forest officer for Habiganj and Moulvibazar under the Wildlife Management and Nature Conservation Division, said they are making every effort to ensure service standards despite limited manpower.

"Steps will be taken through the department to address the manpower crisis at the Habiganj office," he said.

'I asked for Ziaul to be restrained'

FROM PAGE 3

said he was removed after reporting the misconduct.

Recalling the 2009 BDR mutiny, he said he was the commandant of the Staff College at the time. After the killings, resentment grew among many senior officers towards India and the Awami League, with divisions widening between senior and junior officers. Six to seven junior officers who addressed the then prime minister and army chief over the mutiny were later forced into retirement.

Iqbal denied involvement in any procurement syndicate. He acknowledged corruption in procurement during his tenure but said it was beyond his jurisdiction.

On Ziaul, Iqbal said he had verbally instructed then Col Mujib to stop "crossfire" incidents and restrain Ziaul, then a lieutenant colonel.

He admitted he did not issue a written show cause notice when the incidents continued. He also denied that his testimony was intended to malign the Bangladesh Army.

During the hearing, Ziaul repeatedly stood up to assist his lawyer. The tribunal chair asked him to maintain decorum and speak through counsel.

Despite the warning, he again stood, saying, "A former army chief is speaking against me, and I am accused in this case. If something is being contradicted, let me speak."

The cross examination of the former army chief ended yesterday.

At the end of the proceedings, a lawyer for Zunaid Ahmed Palak sought privileged

communication with his client, which the tribunal allowed.

Meanwhile, the prosecution, led by newly appointed Chief Prosecutor Aminul Islam, will move ICT-1 today, seeking a postponement of the verdict in a case over the killing of two people and the shooting of two others in Rampura during the July uprising.

The three-member tribunal had earlier set today to deliver the verdict in the case against five former police officers, including the then DMP commissioner Habibur Rahman.

VICTIM TESTIFIES AGAINST SALMAN, ANISUL

Adham Bin Amin, 17, a victim of the July uprising, yesterday told ICT-1 that former prime minister's adviser Salman F Rahman and then law minister Anisul Huq had ordered protesters to be "finished" by imposing curfew.

Testifying as the third prosecution witness, Adham alleged that the Sheikh Hasina, Asaduzzaman and Obaidul Quader were also involved in ordering the crackdown.

A ninth grader at a Mirpur school at the time, Adham said he joined protests at Mirpur-10 from July 16 to 19. Though protesters were unarmed, they were fired upon from the ground and from a helicopter. He was shot in both knees and is still undergoing treatment.

Adham also alleged that local Awami League activists assaulted him on February 26, 2026. A complaint was filed with Mirpur Model Police Station.

ANTI-MOSQUITO DRIVE

DNCC forms quick response team

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Dhaka North City Corporation (DNCC) yesterday formed a quick response team to strengthen its anti-mosquito drive and decided to apply insecticides three times a day.

The new schedule was issued through an office order yesterday signed by Chief Health Officer Brig Gen Imru-al-Quais, said a press release.

According to the order, larvicides will be applied

in the morning and adulticides in the afternoon and evening based on peak mosquito flight and activity times in different zones.

DNCC has also decided to continue anti-mosquito drives during weekends and asked all officials concerned to monitor the anti-mosquito activities.

The press release added that DNCC Administrator Md Saifuddin Islam Khan, since taking charge, has given the highest priority to the drive.

A DNCC official said the corporation has already taken initiatives to conduct special drives in mosquito hotspots to destroy breeding sources of Culex mosquitoes.

He added that DNCC is also giving priority to curbing Aedes mosquitoes to protect residents from mosquito-borne diseases such as dengue.

DNCC also requested residents to actively cooperate in destroying mosquito breeding sites.

BNP sets March 6-7 orientation for MPs, ministers

FROM PAGE 3

"Ministers may share their thoughts on the work they have done in their areas and how they will place local problems in parliament.

They may also receive guidance on the role of a lawmaker in parliament and how to carry out their responsibilities effectively," said a minister, seeking anonymity.

The party will soon invite the lawmakers to join the programme and confirm their participation. Party insiders said lawmakers may be advised to prioritise local area development, policy follow-up and oversight of ministries to ensure that pledges made during the campaign are fulfilled.

Sources said the prime minister is also likely to

remind MPs to maintain transparency in public dealings and strengthen communication with local communities.

Lawmakers may be instructed to hold regular meetings with constituents, maintain open complaint channels and ensure that public grievances are addressed through appropriate administrative mechanisms.

The sessions will cover parliamentary conduct, including how to raise points of order, submit notices, participate in debates and engage in question-answer sessions. The role of standing committees in monitoring ministries and reviewing draft legislation will also be discussed, sources said.

Participants are

expected to receive guidance on drafting and evaluating bills, understanding budget documents and reviewing policy proposals before parliamentary approval.

Governance issues will form a central part of the discussions, including budget allocation, fiscal discipline, inflation management and investment promotion.

Economic reform will also be addressed, including strategies to support small businesses, expand employment opportunities and attract foreign investment. Discussions may include measures to strengthen revenue collection without burdening low-income groups.

Technology and youth

policy are expected to feature prominently. The party leadership may discuss expanding digital governance systems, reducing bureaucratic delays and promoting innovation in public service delivery. Creating jobs for young people and linking education with market demand may also be addressed.

The programme will also discuss internal coordination between the government and the party organisation.

On the first day, the morning session from 10:30am to 12:30pm will be attended by ministers, state ministers and advisers. The afternoon session from 2:30pm to 4:30pm will include MPs from Rangpur, Rajshahi, Dhaka

and Faridpur.

On the second day, the morning session will involve MPs from parts of Dhaka, Mymensingh, Dhaka Division and Faridpur district. The afternoon session will include MPs from Sylhet, Cumilla and Chattogram.

Party sources said the division-based participation is designed to ensure focused discussions and allow lawmakers to raise region-specific issues, including infrastructure gaps, social services and local administrative challenges.

Party insiders said the leadership wants the parliamentary team to function as a cohesive unit capable of responding effectively to policy debates and public scrutiny.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Bangladesh Police
Office of the Superintendent of Police
Munshiganj District
www.munshigonjpolice.gov.bd

Memo No-1445/E Date: 02 Mar 2026

e-Tender Notice

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP portal (www.eprocure.gov.bd) for the procurement of following goods:

| SL No. | Package Name | Tender ID No | Tender publication Date and Time | Tender/Proposal Closing/ Opening Date & Time |
|--------|---|--------------|----------------------------------|--|
| 1. | Procurement of High Quality Edible oil (Soyabean Oil) | 1237173 | 03 Mar 2026 15:00 | 15 Mar 2026 15:00 |
| 2. | Procurement of High Quality Lentils (600 grains per 10 grams) | 1237706 | | |
| 3. | Procurement of Wheat Grinding | 1237223 | | |
| 4. | Procurement of High Quality Polao Rice | 1237784 | | |
| 5. | Procurement of High Quality Fuel Wood | 1237690 | | |
| 6. | Rice and Wheat Transportation (Including loading and unloading) | 1237786 | | |
| 7. | Sugar Transportation (From other Districts) | 1237742 | | |

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 (www.eprocure.gov.bd) is required.

The fees for downloading the e-Tender document from the national e-GP portal have to be deposited online through 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).


02.3.2026
Md. Menhajul Alam PPM
BP-7406119781
Superintendent of Police
Munshiganj District
Tel:02997731116, Fax:02997731297
Mail:spmshigonj@police.gov.bd

GD-481

No congratulatory

FROM PAGE 3

The prime minister praised the patriotism and professionalism of the Coast Guard and their continued efforts in carrying out duties.

He urged the force to keep serving people in coastal and riverbank areas, maintain peace and security, and assist communities during disasters, the press aide said.

He also asked the force to remain fully prepared to protect the country's sovereignty.

Meanwhile, citing a report submitted to the prime minister, Ruman said vehicle speeds in the capital have increased as traffic signals are being followed and VIP protocol movements are reduced.

According to the report, the average vehicle speed in Dhaka previously stood at 4.5 kmph. Data from the past 14 days show that the average speed has risen to 5.3 kmph as traffic is no longer halted for VIP movements.

The report attributed the improvement to the prime minister reducing VIP protocol and complying with traffic signals.

The additional press secretary also said the prime minister directed authorities to take immediate steps after reports of rising prices of coarse rice, a staple for lower-income groups.

Ruman said once the matter came to the premier's attention, he instructed the relevant ministries to act promptly.

"There was an immediate positive impact on the market," the additional press secretary said.

The prime minister is set to formally launch the "Family Card" distribution programme from the Korail slum in the capital on March 10.

Social Welfare and Women and Children Affairs Minister Dr AZM Zahid Hossain confirmed the development to reporters yesterday following a high-level meeting with the prime minister at the Secretariat.

Under the earlier plan, the programme was to be inaugurated in Bogura on the same day. However, the visit was postponed due to the upcoming by-election in the Bogura-6 (Sadar) constituency.

Officials said the decision was taken in line with the election code of conduct.

বাংলাদেশ বিদ্যুৎ উন্নয়ন বোর্ড
Bangladesh Power Development Board
www.bpdb.gov.bd

Office of the Executive Engineer
P.C. Pole Mfg. Plant,
BPDB, Rampur, Halishahar,
Chattogram-4224
Telephone: 01730119978
E-mail: senepc@bdmail.com

Memo No. 27.11.1500.509.01.006.26-540 Date: 02-03-2026

Invitation for e-Tender

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

| Tender ID | Name of Work, Ref. No. & date | Tender publication date and time | Tender document last selling date and time | Tender closing/ opening date and time |
|-----------|--|----------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| 1229116 | Supplying of Spiral Wire (Phase-1) at PC Pole Mfg. Plant, BPDB, Halishahar, Chattogram. 27.11.1500.509.01.006.2 6-539 D1. 02/03/2026 | 03-Mar-2026 10:00 | 15-Mar-2026 15:30 | 16-Mar-2026 10:00 |

This is online tender, where only e-Tenders will be accepted in e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copy will be accepted. To submit e-Tender please register on e-GP System (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>).

Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd) contact number (01762625528-31).

বিদ্যুৎ/জন-৮১৪(২)/০৩/০৩/২৬


02.03.26
Pratiti Chakma
ID No. 1-02005
Executive Engineer
P.C. Pole Mfg. Plant
BPDB, Halishahar, Chattogram

GD-477

