

DHAKA-BARISHAL HIGHWAY Two killed in bus- microbus collision

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barishal

Two people, including the driver of a microbus, were killed after the vehicle collided head-on with a bus on the Dhaka-Barishal highway in Barishal's Gournadi upazila yesterday.

The accident occurred in the Kasba area in the afternoon, said Gournadi Highway Police Station OC Shamim Sheikh. One of the deceased was identified as Ilias Hossain, the microbus driver. A male passenger of the microbus also died, but his identity could not be immediately confirmed.

There were six people in the microbus, including the driver. Four others were injured in the crash.

The OC said the bus was heading towards Tekerhat from Barishal. When the bus reached the Kasba area, it collided head-on with a microbus, leaving the latter badly mangled. The microbus driver and a passenger died on the spot, he added.

Locals and members of the fire service rescued the injured and took them to Gournadi Upazila Health Complex for treatment.

CID sues Hadi murder accused over money laundering

STAR REPORT

The Criminal Investigation Department (CID) has filed a case against Jubo League leader and former ward councillor Mohammad Tajul Islam Chowdhury, an accused in the Sharif Osman Hadi murder case, on charges of laundering around Tk 2.5 crore.

The case was lodged with Pallabi Police Station on March 5 under the Money Laundering Prevention Act, 2012, said a press release issued by CID's media wing.

Tajul, also known as Bappi, along with six to seven unnamed accused, amassed a large amount of money through extortion and fraud in various sectors, including transport, temporary roadside markets, garment waste (jhut) trading, and cable and broadband internet businesses, in the capital's Pallabi area.

"During its inquiry, CID found discrepancies between Tajul's declared income and the assets he accumulated," the press release said.

In total, CID found evidence of illegal acquisition, SEE PAGE 9 COL 4

Paving road inside forest draws flak

Forest dept objects to RHD plan, warns of environmental harm

MINTU DESHWARA, Moulvibazar

The Roads and Highways Department has taken an initiative to pave an old brick road running through the Harargaj Reserved Forest on the border of Kulaura and Juri upazilas in Moulvibazar. The Forest Department, however, has objected to the move, citing concerns over potential damage to the environment and wildlife.

According to sources at the RHD and the Forest Department, the road stretches for about 11 kilometres from the Gazipur area of Kulaura to Sagarnal Tea Garden in neighbouring Juri. A section of around three kilometres runs through the Harargaj Reserved Forest, which lies on the boundary of the two upazilas.

The Gazipur end of the road connects to the Moulvibazar-Barlekha regional highway, while the Sagarnal Tea Garden end links with the Juri-Botuli Customs Station regional highway. The stretch inside the forest is currently brick-paved.

To address this, the RHD recently undertook a project to renovate a 5.1-kilometre stretch from Rehena Tea Garden to Sagarnal Tea Garden in Kulaura, at an estimated cost of about Tk 11 crore. The work was awarded to Kulaura-based contractor Muhibur Rahman.

When workers from the contracting company went to begin work inside the reserved forest area in mid-November, Forest Department officials informed them that no work could be carried out there without prior permission. Construction activities in that section were subsequently halted.

Assistant Conservator of Forests

Nazmul Alam said the Harargaj forest covers 12,194 acres and is home to various species of trees and wild animals.

Sources from both departments said following the Forest Department's objection, Kaiser Hamid, executive engineer of the RHD Moulvibazar office, wrote to the Sylhet divisional forest officer on November 25.

In a reply dated December 4, DFO Abdur Rahman wrote to the RHD executive engineer that Harargaj forest is a natural forest

after removing old bricks, while bushes on both sides were cut and cleared.

The brick-paved road inside the forest was found to be largely deserted and quiet, flanked by dense bamboo groves and natural trees on both sides.

Asked about the current status of the renovation work, Kaiser Hamid said some portions of the Kulaura-Sagarnal road fall within forest land and that it is an old road in poor condition.

"We have not taken on any



rich in biodiversity, and paving a road inside it would damage the environment and biodiversity.

The letter also noted that the National Forest Policy of 1994 does not allow forest land to be used for non-forestry purposes without approval from the head of government.

During a recent visit, renovation work was seen underway at several points near Sagarnal Tea Garden. Workers were digging up the road

new project, nor are we widening the road. We have only taken the initiative to repair it due to its poor condition. However, the Forest Department has objected to work inside the forest," he said.

He said the intervention of the Moulvibazar deputy commissioner has been sought to resolve the issue, and that the matter may be discussed at the district administration's monthly coordination meeting.

Prime accused held in Rangpur woman killing

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Lalmonirhat

Rab has arrested the prime accused in the murder of a woman whose throat was slit after she protested the stalking of her younger sister in Nageshwari upazila of Kurigram.

The accused is Abul Kalam, 42, a resident of Char Harikesh area under Kurigram's Sadar upazila.

Acting on a tip-off, a Rab team arrested him during a raid at a house on Station Road in Badarganj upazila of Rangpur on Thursday night, according to a press release issued by Rab-13 yesterday.

Biplab Kumar Goswami, senior assistant director (media) of Rab-13, confirmed that Kalam has been handed over to the concerned police station for legal action.

He added that operations are ongoing to arrest the other accused in the case. SEE PAGE 9 COL 4

Expatriate found dead at home

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

A man was found dead at his home in Juri upazila of Moulvibazar on Thursday night.

The deceased was identified as Nazrul Islam, 33, a resident of the South Sagarnal area. He had returned from Qatar recently.

According to police and family members, Nazrul worked in Qatar for the past four to five years.

Around 11:30pm on Thursday, he returned home from the nearby Fultala market and went into his room. When family members later called him for sehri, he didn't respond.

They looked through a gap in the bamboo fence and found his body hanging from the grille on the wall of the house with a rope around his neck.

Sub-Inspector Kabir Uddin of Juri Police Station said, "Except for the ligature mark around his neck, no other injury marks were found on the body."

Firewood market

FROM PAGE 3

"We relied more on wood when gas became expensive. Now the wood price has remained high, so we are reducing usage," he said, adding that the business has cut portion sizes rather than raise menu prices.

Veteran trader Abdul Quddus said the firewood market had been gradually shrinking as LPG adoption increased, but the recent shock temporarily reversed that trend.

"Demand surged

during the gas crisis. Once prices go up, they rarely come down," he said, citing higher wholesale costs from sawmills.

Street vendor Bilkis Begum, who sells traditional rice cakes in Karwan Bazar, continues to rely entirely on sawmill scraps priced at around Tk 15 per kilogramme.

"For small vendors, gas cylinders are not viable. Firewood is still cheaper, but the higher price means tighter margins," she said.

Market participants say the situation illustrates how fuel price shocks spill into parallel energy markets, disproportionately affecting those with the least ability to absorb rising costs.

Decay threatens

FROM PAGE 3

The boundary wall is now at risk of collapse, while a tin-shed veranda built beside the mosque is being supported with bamboo poles.

Due to limited space inside the mosque, many worshippers offer prayers on the veranda, which becomes unusable even during light rain, they said.

Hossain Ali, general secretary of the mosque committee, said the mosque cannot undertake any renovation work independently, as it is a protected monument.

"Since the mosque is under the Department of Archaeology, we cannot carry out development work on our own. We are communicating with the authorities concerned," he said.

Imam Fazlul Karim

said the mosque is architecturally significant, with thick walls and high domes giving it a distinctive character.

"Visitors from different parts of the country come here every day. Many of them offer prayers," he said, adding that the committee has been urged repeatedly to improve facilities.

Abidur Rahman, a college teacher from Sirajganj who recently visited the site, said, "I have offered prayers in the historic mosque. The veranda and boundary wall require urgent renovation to ensure safety for worshippers."

Contacted, Abu Sayeed Inam Tanvirul, field officer of the Rangpur divisional office of the Department of Archaeology, said any development work must follow the department's guidelines to protect the monument's original features.

"If the mosque committee wants to renovate the walls or veranda, they should contact us formally. We will provide the necessary guidance and assistance," he said, adding that preservation of the heritage structure must remain the priority.

Taqi murder

FROM PAGE 3

On March 5, 2014, then Rab Additional Director General Ziaul Hasan stated that 11 people, led by Azmeri Osman, nephew of former Awami League lawmaker Shamim Osman, were involved in Taqi's killing.

According to the investigation, Taqi's father Rabbi had angered Shamim Osman and his associates by supporting then mayoral candidate Selina Hayat Ivy in the 2011 city corporation election and by mobilising opposition to alleged extortion and land grabbing by the lawmaker. Rabbi's son was reportedly killed in retaliation. Following the death of Shamim Osman's brother, lawmaker Nasim Osman, on April 30, 2014, then Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina expressed support for the Osman family in parliament. According to Taqi's family members, the judicial process in the murder case had effectively stalled since then.

**AHQ, QMG'S BRANCH
DW & CE (ARMY) DHAKA CANTONMENT**

INVITATION FOR TENDER

Dated : 25 February 2026

Notice No. 13 of 2025-2026/E-3

1.	Ministry/Division	: Ministry of Defence			
2.	Agency	: Military Engineer Services			
3.	Procuring Entity Name	: DW & CE (Army) Dhaka Cantt			
4.	Procuring Entity District	: Dhaka			
5.	Invitation for Tender No	: 13 of 2025-2026/E-3 Dated 25 February 2026			
6.	Procurement Method	: Open Tendering Method (OTM)			
7.	Budget and source of funds	: GOB			
8.	Development Partners (if applicable)	: None			
9.	Title of Project Plan (if applicable)	: Manufacture & Supply of furniture & Cement			
10.	Tender Publication Date	: 08 March 2026			
11.	Selling of tender will commence from	: 09 March 2026 (During Office hour)			
12.	Selling of tender will Closed on	: 05 April 2026 (During Office hour)			
13.	Last date & time of Submission Tender	: 06 April 2026 at 1200 hours			
14.	Date & time of Opening of tender	: 06 April 2026 at 1230 hours			
15.	Name & Address of the offices	: -			
	Selling Tender Documents	: a) AHQ, QMG's Branch, DW & CE (Army), Dhaka Cantt. b) Tender Selling & Information Centre of DW & CE (Army) at GE (Army) Central, Dhaka Cantt.			
	Receiving (Dropping) Tender Document	: Tender Selling & Information Centre of DW & CE (Army) at GE (Army) Central, Dhaka Cantt.			
	Opening Tender Document	: Tender Selling & Information Centre of DW & CE (Army) at GE (Army) Central, Dhaka Cantt.			
16.	Eligibility of Tenderer	: FOR CEMENT a) Only MES approved cement manufacturer's organization/company subject to receipt of security clearance may apply for tender. b) Having experience of similar works as mentioned in a single tender during last 05 (Five) years. FOR FURNITURE a) Contractor Enlisted in MES Class 'C' For SI No. 17 (j) & 'C' or 'D' For SI No. 17 (j & k). Having experience of similar works as mentioned in a single tender during last 05 (Five) years. b) Other Govt/Semi-Govt/Autonomous organization enlisted contractor in similar capacity having necessary security clearance from DGFI.			
17.	Brief Description of works				
Lot No	Identification of lot	Location	Tender Price (Non-Refundable)	Tender Security in the form of Bank Draft, Pay Order, or B/G in favour of AHQ, QMG's Br, DW & CE (Army), Dhaka Cantt (in Taka)	Completion Time (in Months)
a.	Supply of 341.75 M/Ton Cement (220.85 M/Ton CEM-I & 120.90 M/Ton CEM-II-AM) in bag to use in Project works including loading, carrying, unloading & stacking at SDO F/S Store yard of GE (Army) Cumilla at Cumilla Cantt.	Cumilla Cantt	1,000.00	1,03,500.00	12 (Twelve) Months
b.	Supply of 273.00 M/Ton Cement CEM-I in bag to use in Project works including loading, carrying, unloading & stacking at SDO F/S Store yard of GE (Army) Bogura at Bogura Cantt (GP-I).	Bogura Cantt	1,000.00	84,000.00	12 (Twelve) Months
c.	Supply of 273.00 M/Ton Cement CEM-I in bag to use in Project works including loading, carrying, unloading & stacking at SDO F/S Store yard of GE (Army) Bogura at Bogura Cantt (GP-II).	Bogura Cantt	1,000.00	84,000.00	12 (Twelve) Months
d.	Supply of 273.00 M/Ton Cement CEM-I in bag to use in Project works including loading, carrying, unloading & stacking at SDO F/S Store yard of GE (Army) Bogura at Bogura Cantt (GP-III).	Bogura Cantt	1,000.00	84,000.00	12 (Twelve) Months
e.	Supply of 273.00 M/Ton Cement CEM-I in bag to use in Project works including loading, carrying, unloading & stacking at SDO F/S Store yard of GE (Army) Bogura at Bogura Cantt (GP-IV).	Bogura Cantt	1,000.00	84,000.00	12 (Twelve) Months
f.	Supply of 133.00 M/Ton Cement CEM-II-AM in bag to use in Project works including loading, carrying, unloading & stacking at SDO F/S Store yard of GE (Army) Bogura at Bogura Cantt (GP-V).	Bogura Cantt	750.00	40,000.00	12 (Twelve) Months
g.	Supply of 130.60 M/Ton Cement (70.30 M/Ton CEM-I & 60.30 M/Ton CEM-II-AM) in bag to use in Project works including loading, carrying, unloading & stacking at SDO F/S Store yard of AGE (Army) Qadirabad at Qadirabad Cantt.	Qadirabad Cantt	750.00	40,000.00	12 (Twelve) Months
h.	Supply of 138.00 M/Ton Cement (72.00 M/Ton CEM-I & 66.00 M/Ton CEM-II-AM) in bag to use in Project works including loading, carrying, unloading & stacking at SDO F/S Store yard of GE (Army) Barishal at Barishal Cantt.	Barishal Cantt	750.00	41,500.00	12 (Twelve) Months
i.	Manufacture & Supply of Furniture for Construction of 1 x Academic Complex (06 Storey with 10 Storied foundation) with internal/external works for ECSME at Qadirabad Cantt (Last Phase).	Qadirabad Cantt	4,000.00	5,46,000.00	06 (Six) Months
j.	Manufacture & Supply of Furniture for Construction of 1 x SM BK (06 Storey with 6 Storied Fdn, Store in Ground floor) and Recreation room (2 Storey with 2 Storied Fdn) including ancillary works for 10 NCO's & 200 Nos Troops of artillery Regiment at Jahangirabad Cantt (Last Phase).	Jahangirabad Cantt	2,000.00	1,90,000.00	06 (Six) Months
k.	Manufacture & Supply of Furniture for Construction of 1 x SM BK (06 Storey with 6 Storied Fdn, Store in Ground floor) for 10 NCO's & 200 Men Saimik with CH/DH and Recreation room (2 Storey with 2 Storied Fdn) including ancillary works for 40 FD Regt Army at Jahangirabad Cantt (Last Phase).	Jahangirabad Cantt	2,000.00	1,90,000.00	06 (Six) Months
18.	Name of Official Inviting Tender	DW & CE (Army), Dhaka Cantt			
19.	Designation of Official Inviting Tender	DW & CE (Army), Dhaka Cantt			
20.	Address of Official Inviting Tender	AHQ, QMG's Branch, DW & CE (Army), Dhaka Cantt			
21.	Contact for detail	Tel No.	SO-III (F/S) 9832690.		
22.	The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject any one or all tenders				

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GD-507