



PHOTO: SHEIKH NASIR

A woman from a tea garden workers' family carries water pitchers after collecting water from a hill stream near Kewachhara tea estate yesterday. With tube-well water unsafe for consumption due to high iron content, locals rely on the stream.

## Three incidents of rape reported

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 Police Station, said Barhatta Police Station OC Nazmul Hasan.  
 According to the police, the rape took place about two months back. He later threatened the victim not to disclose the incident to anyone.  
 Days later, the child fell ill and was initially treated locally. However, as her condition worsened, she was taken to Dhaka.  
 OC Nazmul Hasan said that a rape case has been registered based on the complaint. The victim has been sent to the hospital

for a medical examination, and her statement will be recorded in court. Efforts are underway to arrest the accused.  
 In Noakhali, a 30-year-old woman was reportedly gang-raped on Tuesday night after being lured there under the false promise of marriage.  
 On Wednesday night, the victim filed a case, naming three individuals, said Hatya Police Station OC Md Kabir Hossain.  
 Police and locals said the victim met the main accused while looking for a groom through an acquaintance.

On Tuesday evening, the individual took her to a watermelon field at Kalapara. There, he and two others gang-raped her. The victim has identified two of the accused: Shamir Uddin and Faisal. She was unable to identify the third individual.  
 OC Md Kabir Hossain said the woman filed a written complaint against Shamir Uddin, Faisal, and one unidentified person on Wednesday night.

## Historic WWII airbase

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 "I have seen this airbase since I was a child. It now lies in a dilapidated state. It's shocking that a place with such history has been left to rot," said Hafiz Mohammed Shafique, a local.  
 Nurul Haque, 60, who has been living in a semi-pucca house beside the observation tower for the past 25 years, said, "We have heard since childhood that aeroplanes used to land here during the war. The then administration had rented the land from locals for the airfield but did not purchase it. So after the war ended, everyone reclaimed their own land."  
 Contacted, Mohammad Abdullah Al Mumin, UNO of Hathazari, said, "We have learned that this is a World War II site, but no action has been taken by the upazila administration so far."  
 He, however, said the administration plans to visit the site soon,

and, if it is found worth preserving, the relevant government departments will be informed to take the necessary steps.  
 Bangla Academy fellow and history researcher Md Shamsul Haque said the airbase is a rare reminder of Chattogram's role during World War II, but neglect is slowly erasing that history.  
 "Preserving the site is of utmost importance to keep the memory of our wartime heritage alive," he said.  
 Dr Nahid Sultana, regional director of the Department of Archaeology in Chattogram, said they were unaware of the presence of the airbase.  
 "We have already identified and drafted a list of archaeological sites in Hathazari. During our next visit, we will inspect this airbase and, if it meets the criteria, we will take necessary steps for its preservation," she told The Daily Star.

## NCP leaders join protest outside

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 Tusher; National Workers' Force Convener Mazhar Fakir; as well as several leaders, activists and victims injured in the uprising.  
 Addressing the gathering, Asif said demands for the removal of Sheikh Hasina as prime minister and the abolition of what he described as a fascist system had arisen during the July uprising.  
 However, he noted, that President Shahabuddin had not been removed earlier due to fears of instability cited under

constitutional provisions.  
 "There is no longer a constitutional crisis. Parliament is in session and it can legally remove the president," he said, adding that many lawmakers had played significant roles in the uprising.  
 "You are able to sit in parliament today because of the mass uprising and the sacrifices of the martyrs. You must honour that sacrifice and impeach the president, who is the last symbol of fascism," Asif said.  
 Naima Sultana's mother,

Ainun Nahar, said their children had given their lives for a new Bangladesh, but those hopes remained unfulfilled.  
 "There has been a delay in implementing the July Charter. We will not accept any further delay. We do not want to see a fascist president in this parliament," she said. The programme continued until 12:15pm, with protesters holding placards calling for enforcement of the July National Charter and justice for the Hadi murder.

## Postal ballots swing in Jamaat

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 They said party leaders had held regular online meetings and in-person discussions with Bangladeshi expatriates in at least 40 countries before the election to encourage them to participate in the voting process.  
 Consultation meetings were also held with local community leaders, they added.  
 The party's strong

expatriate organisational networks in several Middle Eastern and European countries also supported its campaign.  
 Jamaat Assistant Secretary General and head of its central publicity department Ahsanul Mahboob Zubair said the party had long advocated voting rights for expatriates.  
 "One of the main reasons for receiving a higher number of expatriate votes is that we were the most vocal about ensuring their voting rights," he told The Daily Star.  
 "When we presented

proposals for state reforms in October 2024, we clearly stated that expatriates must be given the opportunity to vote."  
 "We travelled to various countries to advocate for expatriates' voting rights. Our ameer, naib e-ameers, the secretary general, and I myself visited several countries," he added.  
 EC Senior Secretary Akhtar Ahmed said the commission's responsibility was to count the ballots, not to analyse which party received more votes in postal ballots or regular polling stations.

## Police issue

FROM PAGE 3  
 Launch owners were instructed to ensure their vessels are operated by qualified masters and to suspend operations during bad weather. Vessels should also carry functional fire pumps and buoys with ropes measuring 100 to 150 feet to help identify accident-hit vessels.  
 Train passengers were similarly cautioned against travelling on roofs, buffers, or engines. Police also warned of possible stone-throwing incidents and urged passengers to safeguard their belongings.  
 In case of emergencies, the public can contact the Police Headquarters control room at 01320001300 or 01320001299. Other emergency contacts include the Highway Police (01320182598), Railway Police (01320177598), and Naval Police (01320169598).  
 Meanwhile, Acting DMP Commissioner Md Sarwar instructed police members to remain alert to ensure safe and smooth travel during the Eid holidays.  
 Speaking at the monthly crime review meeting for February 2026 at the DMP headquarters yesterday, he said most people would leave Dhaka during Eid and urged officers to stay vigilant so crimes such as robbery and mugging do not occur.  
 He said additional police forces will be deployed to ensure safe and orderly travel and urged officers to perform their duties with honesty to enhance the force's image.  
 Additional Police Commissioner (Crime and Operations) SN Md Nazrul Islam stressed the need for visible improvements in law and order.  
 He directed officials to maintain special supervision at major terminals, including Gabtoli Bus Terminal, Mohakhali Bus Terminal, Sayedabad Bus Terminal, Kamalapur Railway Station, and Sadarghat Launch Terminal.  
 Nazrul also ordered increased patrolling across the city's beat areas and regular monitoring of CCTV cameras at shopping malls. "A zero-tolerance policy will be followed in maintaining law and order," he said.

## Raise tobacco taxes

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 Presenting the proposal, Prof Shafiq Nahin Shimul, director of the institute, said tobacco use prevalence in the country is the highest in South Asia at 35.3 percent, according to the Global Adult Tobacco Survey 2017.  
 He said the existing multi-tiered tax system is complex and makes cigarettes more affordable and accessible, especially for youths and low-income users.  
 The proposal recommends merging the low and medium tiers and setting the maximum retail price at Tk 100 – currently Tk 60 and Tk 80 respectively – while increasing tax by Tk 10 for the high tier and Tk 15 for the premium tier.  
 Contrary to concerns, raising tobacco taxes would not reduce government revenue, he said. Instead, the reform could generate about Tk 44,000 crore in additional tax revenue

compared to the previous fiscal year.  
 It is also projected to encourage nearly five lakh adults to quit smoking and prevent more than 3.72 lakh youths from initiating tobacco use, reducing overall prevalence by 0.5 percent, he also said.  
 Hossain Zillur Rahman, executive chairman of PPRC, said tobacco control is fundamentally a democratic policy exercise.  
 "It is not about banning individuals or punishing smokers but about using policy instruments – such as taxation, sales regulation, and advertising restrictions – to advance public welfare," he said.  
 He described the issue as a contest between narrow commercial interests and the broader public good, stressing that society must stand with the latter.  
 Several journalists and anti-tobacco campaigners also spoke at the programme.

## Chinese vice foreign

FROM PAGE 3  
 The meeting, according to a foreign ministry statement.  
 The diplomatic consultations between the two countries are expected to review the entire spectrum of bilateral relations between Bangladesh and China and explore new avenues for enhanced cooperation in areas of mutual interest.  
 Chinese Vice Foreign Minister Weidong is also expected to meet high-level dignitaries during the visit.  
 Acknowledging China's longstanding support and contribution to Bangladesh's development journey, Foreign Minister Dr Khalilur Rahman expressed hope that the visit would inject new momentum into Bangladesh-China bilateral relations following the formation of the new government.  
 In the last such diplomatic consultation held on June 3, 2024, in Beijing, the two sides agreed to implement the important common understandings reached between the two countries.  
 They had also agreed to uphold the five principles of peaceful coexistence,

deepen political mutual trust, strengthen the synergy of development strategies, carry forward the traditional friendship, carry out high-quality Belt and Road cooperation, speed up the implementation of the three major global initiatives, and continuously elevate C h i n a - B a n g l a d e s h relations to new heights.  
 Meanwhile, Chairman Zhao Leji of Standing Committee of the National People's Congress of China yesterday sent a congratulatory message to Hafiz Uddin Ahmed, who assumed the post of Speaker of Bangladesh's Jatiya Sangsad.  
 In his message, he said China and Bangladesh enjoy a long-standing friendship, while reaffirmed that China is ready to work with Bangladesh to advance the friendly exchanges and cooperation between the National People's Congress of China and the Jatiya Sangsad of Bangladesh.  
 Zhao Leji also said China wants to promote the Comprehensive Strategic Cooperative Partnership between the two countries to a higher level.

### Request for Quotation for Consultancy Services for Retail and SME Transformation

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) for **Consultancy Services for Retail and SME Transformation**.

A Technical Request for Quotation (RFQ) is hereby issued for this purpose. A pre-bid meeting for discussion and clarification shall be held on **16 March 2026**. The RFQ, along with details of the pre-bid meeting and 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.

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#### Apartment for Sale

Apartment for sale at Lalmatia. Approx 1800sq.ft. Block-B, 1st floor. Facing football field.  
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Own 4450 sft south-facing luxury apartment in Gulshan North With infinity pool, movie room, BBQ, Gym facilities and marble floors.  
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**Whatsapp Number: 01709-992070, 01891-966413 D-16**

### পাওয়ার গ্রিড বাংলাদেশ পিএলসি POWER GRID BANGLADESH PLC

(An Enterprise of Bangladesh Power Development Board)

Grid Bhaban, Avenue-3, Jahurul Islam City, Aftabnagar, Badda, Dhaka-1212 Web: [www.powergrid.gov.bd](http://www.powergrid.gov.bd)  
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### Company Car For Sale

Name: Mitsubishi Pajero Sports 2012, Color: Silver, CC: 2477, Registration: Aug 2012, Fuel Type: Diesel, Company Used Condition, All Papers are up to date  
 We only sale car to company not any individual. All the papers including Trade license, Tax certificate must be updated for the company. Asking for your reasonable bid for the above car for purchase. You can directly call to Cell: 01713022601 or e-mail to [ezamel@mitsui.com](mailto:ezamel@mitsui.com) for further details. Bid submission deadline is Mar/31, 2026.  
 Name Transfer fee will be borne by the buyer. We will only contact with the highest bidder and no further clarification/explanation will be given to any bidder.

### ঢাকা বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়

**UNIVERSITY OF DHAKA:** Applications in prescribed form, obtainable from the office of the Registrar, are invited from the Bangladeshi nationals for filling up 3 (Three) permanent posts of Lecturer in the Institute of Nutrition and Food Science, University of Dhaka. In the pay scales of Tk. 22,000-53,060/- (National Pay scale-2015).  
**Qualifications:** Candidates must have a first class/a minimum CGPA 3.50 out of 4.00 both in Bachelor and Master degrees in Nutrition and Food Science with a first division/a minimum GPA 4.25 out of 5.00 in both SSC & HSC examinations. Requirements for either the SSC or HSC examinations may be relaxed for the candidates who have obtained the first position/the highest CGPA in both Bachelor and Master degrees. Candidates having a Ph.D. in the relevant field and research publication(s) in a quality journal may get preference. Articles published in predatory journals will not be accepted. Relevant notes and conditions apply. (For details, see the Dhaka University Website).  
 Eight copies of application together with attested copies of certificates, testimonials and mark-sheets/grade sheets and proof of experience along with a Pay Order/Bank Draft of the value Tk. 750/- (Seven hundred fifty) only payable to the Registrar, should reach Director, Institute of Nutrition and Food Science, University of Dhaka on or before 16.04.2026. Candidates already in service must apply through proper channel.

GD-576

### নবীনগর-খামরাই বিদ্যুৎ সঞ্চালন লাইন চালুর সতর্কীকরণ বিজ্ঞপ্তি

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার, পাওয়ার গ্রিড বাংলাদেশ পিএলসি (পাওয়ার গ্রিড) এবং কেএফডব্লিউ, জার্মানি-এর যৌথ অর্থায়নে বিদ্যুৎ, জ্বালানি ও খনিজ সম্পদ মন্ত্রণালয়ের বিদ্যুৎ বিভাগের অধীন পাওয়ার গ্রিড কর্তৃক "গ্রীড ভিত্তিক বিদ্যুৎ সরবরাহে দক্ষতা উন্নয়ন প্রকল্প" শীর্ষক প্রকল্পের আওতায় নবীনগর-খামরাই ১৩২ কেভি ডাবল সার্কিট সঞ্চালন লাইন (প্রায় ১৫.৯৮৫ কি.মি.) নির্মিত হয়েছে। সঞ্চালন লাইনটি ঢাকা জেলার সাভার উপজেলার পাঁচ ঘুড়িয়া ও ঘুড়িয়া মৌজা ও তৎসংলগ্ন এলাকা এবং খামরাই উপজেলার পূর্ব বাড়িগাঁও, সাছনা, সীতি, পল্লি, বারিল্যা, পশ্চিম গোপালপুর, রঘুনাথপুর, ভাদালিয়া, জয়তেজুলিয়া, বাজাসন, নামান, বর্তাবিল ও শ্রীরামপুর মৌজা ও তৎসংলগ্ন এলাকার উপর দিয়ে গমন করেছে। নবনির্মিত লাইনটি আগামী ১৪ মার্চ ২০২৬ তারিখ, শনিবার, সকাল ১১.০০ টায় ১৩২ কেভি অর্থাৎ ১,৩২,০০০ (এক লক্ষ ত্রিশ হাজার) ভোল্টেজে চালু করা হবে।  
 সঞ্চালন লাইনটি চালুর সময় হতে ১৩২ কেভি হাই ভোল্টেজের বিদ্যুৎ দিয়ে চালু থাকবে বিধায় সম্মানিত এলাকাবাসীকে উক্ত সঞ্চালন লাইনের টাওয়ারে আরোহণ, টাওয়ারে গরু, ছাগল ইত্যাদি গবাদি পশু রাখা, টাওয়ারে রশি বেঁধে কাপড় শুকানো প্রভৃতি ঝুঁকিপূর্ণ কাজ হতে বিরত থাকার জন্য অনুরোধ করা যাচ্ছে। এছাড়া ১৩২ কেভি নবনির্মিত সঞ্চালন লাইনটির সকল স্থাপনা হতে লাইন বা টাওয়ার হতে নিরাপদ দূরত্বে (লাইনের উভয় পাশে ১৪ মিটার) থাকার জন্য সম্মানিত এলাকাবাসীকে বিশেষভাবে অনুরোধ করা যাচ্ছে। এ বিজ্ঞপ্তি প্রকাশের পর কেউ সঞ্চালন লাইনের সংস্পর্শে এসে দুর্ঘটনার শিকার হলে তার জন্য "পাওয়ার গ্রিড বাংলাদেশ পিএলসি" কোনোভাবেই দায়ী থাকবে না।  
 শহীদ উল্লাহ  
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 গ্রীড ভিত্তিক বিদ্যুৎ সরবরাহে দক্ষতা উন্নয়ন প্রকল্প

### ICT Cell University of Dhaka Dhaka-1000, Bangladesh e-Tender Notice

ICT-No. EGP-26-02 Dated: 12/03/2026  
 e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<https://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) under the Revenue Budget of University of Dhaka.

Tender ID	Description of works	Tender scheduled publication date & time	Tender document last selling date & time	Tender closing & opening date & time
1244324	Package No.: ICT-20260309-DISP	12-Mar-2026 15:00	22-Apr-2026 12:00	22-Apr-2026 16:00
1243559	Supply, Installation, Testing, and Commissioning of Interactive display			

This is an online tender where only e-Tenders will be accepted through the National e-GP System Portal and no offline or hard copies will be accepted. To submit an e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP System Portal (<https://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required. The fees for downloading the e-Tender documents from the National e-GP System Portal must be deposited online through the branches of any registered bank. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from the e-GP help desk ([helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd](mailto:helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd)).

Professor Dr. Mosaddik Hossain Kamal  
 Director  
 ICT Cell  
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 GD-582

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh  
 Office of the Project Director  
**Accelerating and Strengthening Skills for Economic Transformation (ASSET) Project**  
 Directorate of Technical Education  
 Plot -F-4/B, Agargaon, Sher-E-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207  
[www.asset-dte.gov.bd](http://www.asset-dte.gov.bd)

Memo No: 57.03.0000.051.07.956.25-877 Date: 12 March, 2026

### e-Tender Notice No: 11/2025-26

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

Tender ID No.	Package No.	Package Description	Tender Document last selling Date and Time	Tender Closing/Opening Date and Time
1244324	CP-GD-40	Supply and Operation of Desktop Computers	05-Apr-2026 17:00	06-Apr-2026 15:00
1244349	CP-GD-43	Supply, Installation & Operation of Smart Boards	06-Apr-2026 17:00	07-Apr-2026 15:00

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 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))

12.03.2026  
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GD-586