

Eid rush

FROM PAGE 3 Of these, 387 patients were injured in accidents involving three-wheelers, while 178 were linked to motorcycle accidents, and the rest of the patients were injured in bus or other crashes, he also said.

Of the patients, 419 were admitted, and the hospital performed 413 major and minor surgeries during the period, the NITOR director added.

The number is much higher than the annual average daily patient influx in the hospital's emergency department.

A total of 85,558 patients visited NITOR's emergency department in 2024, meaning an average of 234 patients per day.

Earlier, visiting NITOR on the Eid day, this correspondent found the emergency department busier than usual with patients coming from different districts.

One of them, Jubayer, 18, a HSC student, was brought to the hospital from Narayanganj Sadar by ambulance.

"I had an accident while riding my elder brother's motorbike. My right leg is broken," he said.

Prof Kenan said reckless driving, joy rides on motorcycles, and movement of slow vehicles on highways alongside high-speed ones are among the key causes of road accidents.

He also said if the trauma centres along the highways were functional, there would have been less pressure on NITOR, adding that there should be at least one trauma centre in every division so that road crash victims can be rushed there immediately.

Besides, many local hospitals lack the necessary manpower and equipment to perform the surgeries required promptly after accidents. As such, delays in reaching Dhaka from remote areas often worsen patients' conditions, and in many cases, limbs have to be amputated, he added.

Third Terminal deal on horizon

FROM PAGE 3 infrastructure projects into operation, marking the end of years of delay and the beginning of a new phase in the country's aviation expansion, according to CAAB officials.

A high official of CAAB told The Daily Star that the Japanese consortium has addressed Dhaka's concerns by recalibrating its financial offer, particularly on service charges, operational control and revenue-sharing issues that had stalled earlier discussions.

Previously, on March 13, Japan and Bangladesh resumed the stalled talks.

The latest progress follows a series of segment-wise technical meetings, where both sides reviewed pricing and operational components in detail.

With revised pricing now on the table and high-level political engagement intensifying, officials say the process has entered its final stretch.

CAAB Chairman Air Vice Marshal Md Mostafa

Mahmood Siddiq yesterday briefed the outcomes of the technical meetings to Civil Aviation and Tourism Minister Afroza Khanom Rita and State Minister M Rashiduzzaman Millat at the secretariat. "A final agreement is expected to be reached next week following the April 3 meeting," a high official of CAAB said.

The third terminal has remained non-operational for years due to unresolved management and operational arrangements.

Industry insiders have widely criticised the delay, attributing it to policy indecision and rigid positions under the previous interim administration, which left a major national asset idle.

Prime Minister Tarique Rahman, after assuming office, directed authorities to resume negotiations with Japan immediately.

That directive led to the March 13 breakthrough meeting chaired by the foreign minister with attendance of civil aviation

and tourism minister and state minister, where Bangladesh formally requested a revised proposal from the Japanese side.

The Japanese consortium — comprising Japan Airport Terminal Company, Sumitomo Corporation, Sojitz Corporation and Narita International Airport Corporation — has since submitted a revised offer with reduced pricing, significantly narrowing differences.

Officials said the new proposal created a pathway towards a "win-win" agreement.

Aviation experts say operationalising the facility is crucial for easing congestion at Dhaka airport and advancing Bangladesh's ambition to emerge as a regional aviation hub in South and Southeast Asia.

Discussion on

FROM PAGE 3 Announcing the acceptance, the Speaker said, "This marks a rare precedent in Bangladesh's parliamentary history. In 53 years, this is the first time an adjournment motion brought by a member from the treasury bench has been accepted for discussion."

On March 29, Opposition Leader Shafiqur Rahman submitted an adjournment motion regarding the convening of the Constitutional Reform Council. That motion was debated in parliament on Tuesday, but no resolution was reached. In protest at not receiving redress and alleging that another adjournment motion was introduced to overshadow theirs, the opposition staged a walkout yesterday.

Later, Zaimul Abedin Farooq formally introduced his new adjournment motion in the House. He said, "After 17 years of sacrifice and struggle, under the leadership of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party, the July-August revolution produced the 'July National Charter.' This is our roadmap for the future."

6 die in road

FROM PAGE 4 42, and Mostafa, 40 — both residents of Sarkarpur village in the upazila. The injured were taken to various hospitals, said the OC.

In Chandina, a ninth grader named Ibne Taim sustained critical injuries when a Chattogram-bound lorry ran him over while he was crossing the road on his way home after coaching class around 9:30am.

He was taken to Eastern Medical College Hospital, where doctors declared him dead, said OC Md Abdul Momin of Mainamati Highway Police Station.

Taim was the son of Babul Mia from the Radirchar area of Chandina municipality and a student of Bara Gobindapur Ali Mia Bhuiyan High School, he added.

In Burichang upazila, a truck rammed into a covered van from behind at Nimsar Bazar on the highway around 3:45am, leaving drivers from both vehicles dead on the spot and injuring another.

OC Md Abdul Momin of Mainamati Highway Police Station confirmed the deaths.

The deceased were identified as Mohammad Zahirul Islam Moin from Begumganj upazila of Noakhali and Md Sohel Rana, 35, from Keshabpur village in Meherpur district.

In Chaudhagram upazila, an elderly woman was killed after being hit by an unidentified vehicle while crossing the highway in the Chaudhagram Bazar area around 12:15pm, said Md Shahabuddin, in charge of Miyabazar Highway Police Outpost.

The deceased was identified as Hazera Begum, 70, wife of Moider Ali from Ramchandrapur in Chaudhagram.

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FROM PAGE 3 fundamental right to be treated with dignity and in accordance with the law.

Responding to another query from Md Kamrul Hasan (Mymensingh-6), he said many teachers have been victims of cases in the past. Even those who died 20 years ago were also victimised through cases.

"We have even seen cases filed against persons with disabilities and political leaders," he said.

"We are continuing the process of withdrawing cases wherever possible. I would request the concerned individuals to submit applications to the respective ministries or departments," he added.

The relevant departments will verify the cases that have been withdrawn and take necessary steps accordingly, the minister noted.

However, this matter does not directly fall under the law ministry, he added.

PM conveys solidarity, support

FROM PAGE 3 Albusaidi and handed over a personal letter from the PM, addressed to the Sultan of Oman.

The PM also conveyed Bangladesh's readiness to extend any necessary support, should it be considered useful by the Omani government.

The foreign affairs adviser is currently undertaking a visit to several Gulf countries as the special envoy of the prime minister to convey his messages to the leadership

and further reinforce Bangladesh's engagement with the region.

The prime minister expressed his deep concerns regarding the attacks on Oman and loss of lives and property, according to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

He expressed deep appreciation for the continued support extended by the Omani government in hosting a large number of Bangladeshi expatriates and for the measures taken to ensure their safety and

well-being. During the meeting, Kabir appreciated the constructive role played by Oman to negotiate the dispute between Iran and the US while promoting peace, dialogue and diplomacy in the region.

The discussion also covered the excellent state of bilateral relations between Bangladesh and Oman, with a shared commitment to further strengthening cooperation across sectors of mutual interest.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Wage Earners' Welfare Board Ministry of Expatriates' Welfare & Overseas Employment... e-Tender Notice (OTM) No-49.04.0000.004.07.091.18.149 Date: 30.03.2026

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Roads & Highways Department Office of the Executive Engineer Road Division, Manikganj... Memo No. 35.01.5600.444.07.010.26-845 Dated: 01/04/2026

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার জনপ্রশাসন মন্ত্রণালয় সরকারি যানবাহন মেরামত কারখানা ১৬, আব্দুল গানি রোড, ঢাকা। উন্মুক্ত দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি দরপত্র নং-০১/২০২৫-২০২৬

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Ministry of Public Administration Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka www.mopa.gov.bd No: 05.00.0000.113.07.032.19-397 Date : 01-04-2026 e-Tender Notice No. 7/2025-26