

## Elephant pair seen standing by dead calf for three days

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bandarban

A pair of elephants was seen standing beside the body of their dead calf for three consecutive days in Naikhongchhari upazila of Bandarban.

Around noon yesterday, the calf's body was retrieved from Bottola Muslimpara under Sonaichhari union, near the Myanmar border, and a post-mortem was conducted under the Rajarkul Range of Cox's Bazar South Forest Division before burial.

Locals reported that the calf's mother remained in a shallow ditch with the body, while a male elephant stood nearby. While both left to forage at some point, they returned eventually.

Md Tanvir Chowdhury, range officer of Naikhongchhari, said they rushed to the spot after receiving information three days ago. However, they could not immediately recover the body due to the presence of the calf's mother.

The cause of death will be confirmed after the report, he added. Forest officials confirmed the calf was buried after recovery.

Md Mostafizur Rahman, divisional forest officer of Lama, noted that the area lies along an elephant corridor, and it is suspected the calf may have slipped from a hill and fallen into the ditch.



Lakshmi Rani Pal busy making clay toys at Badla village in Barishal ahead of Pehela Baishakh, as demand for such items rises at fairs marking the first day of the Bangla calendar. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: TITU DAS

## Defamation case against Amir Hamza

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pubna

A defamation case was filed in Sirajganj yesterday against MP Mufti Amir Hamza over alleged derogatory remarks about Power, Energy and Mineral Resources Minister Iqbal Hasan Mahmud Tuku.

The cognisance court of Judge Suman Bhuiyan accepted the complaint and issued a summons against the lawmaker. Advocate Humayun Kabir, general secretary of the district bar, filed the case, marking the second legal action within a week over the same remark.

According to the complaint, Hamza, during a pre-Juma discussion at a mosque in Kushtia Sadar on March 27, allegedly described the minister as an "atheist and anti-Islamic." A video of the remark later went viral.

"The minister strictly adheres to Islamic practices. By calling him an 'atheist' and 'anti-Islamic,' Mufti Amir Hamza has caused significant damage to his reputation," the complainant said.

## He said he'd return

FROM PAGE 3 She told the court that on the afternoon of July 4, 2011, Sajal returned home from work and asked for food.

Shortly after, his elder brother Azad also returned, and the two sat watching television. She told them the rice was ready but the curry was not.

"At that moment, Sajal received a phone call. While speaking, he started to leave the house. His brother told him to eat first," she said.

She called out from the window, asking him to finish his meal before leaving.

"He replied, 'I'll just go talk and come back. Get the food ready -- we'll eat together.'"

That was the last time she saw him alive.

According to her testimony, at the time, the family lived in a rented house in Begumganj of Gendaria. Azad worked as a bus helper, while Sajal worked at a sand and brick shop.

Ziaul Ahsan has been charged with three counts of crimes against humanity, filed on January 14, over alleged enforced disappearances and the killings of 104

people between 2010 and 2013.

According to the first charge, acting on Ziaul's plan and with his direct involvement, Sajal and three unidentified individuals were shot dead along the Bypass Road in Pubail, Gazipur, on July 11, 2011.

The second charge alleges that between 2010 and 2013, at least 50 people, including former BDR member Nazrul Islam Mallik and Alkas Mallik, were shot dead at the confluence of the Baleshwar River in Barguna, and their bodies were dumped into the river on Ziaul's instructions.

The third charge states that during the same period, Ziaul was involved in the killing of another 50 people in Barguna and the Sundarbans in Bagerhat, among other places, under the guise of anti-forest bandit operations.

Ziaul's defence counsel sought his discharge, claiming he was innocent.

After the testimony, his lawyer, Aminul Ghani Titto, cross examined the witness. The tribunal set April 8 for the next hearing.

## PM expresses solidarity

FROM PAGE 3 Bangladesh's readiness to extend humanitarian support to Kuwait, as it deems it useful, as the US-Israel war on Iran and the latter's retaliation continue.

She also stressed the exchange of high-level visits and holding regular meetings of existing bilateral platforms to identify opportunities and advance cooperation for mutual benefit.

Shama Obaed thanked the government of Kuwait for ensuring the safety and security of the around 3,00,000 Bangladeshi expatriates in Kuwait.

She emphasised the importance of enhancing trade and investment, especially in energy, infrastructure, ICT and halal food sectors.

She also invited the Kuwaiti investors to explore opportunities in Special Economic Zones and Hi-Tech Parks.

The meeting reaffirmed the longstanding friendship and growing strategic partnership between Bangladesh and Kuwait.

Kuwaiti envoy Ali Thunayun Abdulwahab Hamadah conveyed Kuwait's appreciation for initiating the phone call between the two foreign

ministers of the countries and expressing solidarity with Kuwait at the early stage of the war.

He acknowledged the support of Bangladesh for Kuwait in multilateral fora, including the UN and OIC, while assuring all sorts of cooperation for Bangladesh and its expatriates in Kuwait and foster Bangladesh-Kuwait brotherly relations.

Shama Obaed appreciated Kuwait's support for the Rohingya humanitarian response.

She commended the restraint demonstrated by the UAE leadership and highlighted the importance of resolving conflicts through dialogue and diplomacy.

Both sides reaffirmed their commitment to deepen cooperation across sectors of mutual interest.

Humayun Kabir is currently visiting several Gulf countries as the prime minister's special envoy to convey messages and reinforce Bangladesh's engagement in the region. Earlier, he visited Qatar and Oman.

Meanwhile, Bangladesh has expressed its stance of non-interference and peaceful diplomatic solution of the conflict in the Middle East.

State Minister for Foreign Affairs Shama Obaed conveyed this to Kuwaiti Ambassador to Bangladesh Ali Thunayun Abdulwahab Hamadah during a courtesy call at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs yesterday.

She conveyed

## DMP continues drive

FROM PAGE 3 Field observations showed that many footpaths remained comparatively clear, as vendors began vacating occupied spaces. However, hawkers demanded compensation and rehabilitation before such drives.

"We are conducting the second day of the drive from Jatrabari to Faruk Sarani, Golapbagh, Kazla, Saidabad and other areas. The drive will continue," said Azad Rahman, deputy commissioner of the Wari Traffic Division, speaking to The Daily Star.

Police also conducted a drive to evict illegal shops and structures on Ring Road in Shyamoli. Similar drives are planned for Tajmahal Road and Salimullah Road in Mohammadpur.

Several private cars and motorcycles parked illegally along roadsides were fined. Some shopkeepers were also fined for placing goods on roads and footpaths.

Many individuals were penalised for obstructing pedestrian movement, while others were warned.

Special Metropolitan Magistrate Md Al-Faisal of the DMP led the operation.

He said instructions had been issued to keep footpaths clear, but many failed to comply. "As a result, some were warned while others were fined," he said.

Responding to a question about the return of illegal structures, he said regular monitoring would be arranged in consultation with higher authorities.

Around 50 police personnel, including Assistant Police Commissioner Md Aslam Sagar of the Mohammadpur Traffic Zone, took part in the drive.

Earlier, on March 23, the DMP announced a coordinated citywide drive starting April 1, asking traders to remove their belongings in advance. The public notice warned that violators could face fines, imprisonment and confiscation of goods placed on footpaths and roads.

Meanwhile, Dhaka North City Corporation (DNCC) Administrator Md Shafiqul Islam Khan reiterated that footpaths and roads must remain free from encroachment and that no business activities will be allowed there. However, he said alternative arrangements would be made for small and floating traders.

He made the remarks

at a meeting with hawkers and small traders at Mukul Fouz Field in Mirpur, held to discuss clearing footpaths from Mirpur-10 to Mirpur-1.

"We will arrange alternative places for your businesses. You must keep in mind that no business will be allowed on footpaths or roads," he said.

He added that those who previously facilitated such businesses would no longer be able to do so. Acknowledging the traders' concerns, he said the city corporation would take a humane approach.

At the meeting, representatives of hawkers demanded designated relocation spaces, sufficient time for relocation, and suitable locations for business.

They said many had been operating for years, and sudden eviction would cause hardship. They called for proper arrangements before relocation.

In response, the administrator said a workable solution would be developed through discussions, and detailed talks would be held with a five-member team.

He also said tokens would be issued by the city corporation to prevent extortion. "Once you receive the token, do not pay anyone asking for money - inform us, and we will stand by you," he said.

## Crackdown

FROM PAGE 3 In Kurigram, fishing boats were seen sitting idle along the Brahmaputra riverbanks as fishermen struggled to secure diesel.

"It takes six to seven litres of diesel daily to go fishing in the river. Earlier, we could get diesel near the riverbank at a slightly higher price. Now we have to travel 10-12 kilometres to a pump and stand in queue for hours to get only two litres," said Jhontu Chandra Das, a fisherman from Jorgachh Jelepara village in Chilmari upazila.

[Our correspondents from Patuakhali, Jamalpur and Lalmonirhat contributed to this report.]

**PRAYER TIMING**  
APRIL 3

Fajr	Juma	Asr	Maghrib	Esha
AZAN 4:40	12:30	4:45	6:21	7:45
JAMAAT 5:15	1:15	5:00	6:24	8:15

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

**Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh**  
Bangladesh Police  
Office of the Superintendent of Police, Industrial Police-6 Khulna.  
E-mail: spip6@police.gov.bd. Date: 02/04/2026

Memo No-416

**e-Tender Notice**

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

Tender ID No	Package name	Online Tender Notice Publication Date & Time	Online Tender Closing Date & Time	Method of Tender
1251439	Masur Dal(Lentil)	02-April-2026 13:10	16-April-2026 13:00	OTM
1251742	Edible Oil(Soybean Oil)	02-April-2026 12:45	16-April-2026 13:00	OTM
1251743	Polao Rice	02-April-2026 12:35	16-April-2026 13:00	OTM
1251744	Fire Wood	02-April-2026 12:20	16-April-2026 13:00	OTM
1251745	Coolie	02-April-2026 12:10	16-April-2026 13:00	OTM
1251746	Wheat Milling	02-April-2026 11:50	16-April-2026 13:00	OTM

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.

The fees for last downloading e-Tender document from the National e-GP system portal have to be deposited online through any registered bank branches up to date & time. 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)).

**Md. Ansar Uddin**  
BP No: 7608121650  
Superintendent of Police  
Industrial Police-6 Khulna  
Phone-02477702541, Fax-041-762561  
E-mail: spip6@police.gov.bd

GD-706

**Dhaka North City Corporation**  
Office of the Executive Engineer  
Zone-3 (Mohakhali)  
45, Mohakhali, Dhaka. Date: 02-04-2026

Memo No: 46.10.0000.091.07.008.2026

**e-Tender Notice (NCT-OTM)**

e-Tender is invited to the National e-GP portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of the following works

SL No	Tender ID	Name of work	Tender Closing & Opening Date & time
1	1213019	Emergency repair and maintenance works of damaged roads, drains, cross drains, manhole covers, footpaths, medians, grills and other infrastructures under framework contract of the engineering department, Zone-03, DNCC for the fiscal year 2025-2026 (Group-Ka)	15-Apr-2026 15:00
2	1213020	Emergency repair and maintenance works of damaged roads, drains, cross drains, manhole covers, footpaths, medians, grills and other infrastructures under framework contract of the engineering department, Zone-03, DNCC for the fiscal year 2025-2026 (Group-Kha)	15-Apr-2026 15:00
3	1213021	Emergency repair and maintenance work for the Banani Officers' Quarter and related infrastructure under the Engineering Department, Zone 03 according to the framework contract for the fiscal year 2025-2026.	15-Apr-2026 15:00
4	1213339	Supply of materials (bricks, sand, stone, bitumen, firewood, etc.) for emergency repairs of damaged roads under Zone-3 for the fiscal year 2025-26 by departmental labours.	15-Apr-2026 15:00
5	1242608	Construction work of extended office of Nagar Bhaban in the northern area of Nagar Bhaban Level-8 for facilitating the operation of office activities and made easier providing the citizen services of Dhaka North City Corporation.	29-Apr-2026 15:00

This is an online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP System portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit an 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 e-GP help desk ([helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd](mailto:helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd))

**(Nurul Alam)**  
Executive Engineer  
Zone-3 (Mohakhali)  
Dhaka North City Corporation,

GD-710