

## Two children drown in Ctg

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Two children drowned in a water-filled pit created by soil extraction for brick kilns in Chatogram's Fatikchhari yesterday.

The deceased are Farzana Akter, 9, a third-grader at a local madrasa, and Sanjida Akter, 7, a pre-primary-level student, both from the same village.

According to police and locals, the incident occurred in West Harualchhari village under Harualchhari union around noon, when the children were playing beside the pit. At a point, the duo slipped into the water and drowned.

A third child, who was with them, ran to inform family members. Relatives recovered both children and took them to a upazila health complex, where doctors declared them dead, they said.

Bhujpur Police Officer-in-Charge Bipul Dey confirmed the incident, saying the bodies were handed to the families without an autopsy since no complaint was filed.

Salauddin Ziku, a Fatikchhari journalist, said over 50 brick kilns - mostly illegal - have been set up in the upazila.

## Elephant calf stoned to death in Bandarban

Says postmortem report

SIFAYET ULLAH, Ctg

A three-month-old elephant calf found dead in a reserve forest in Naikhyangchhari upazila was killed by stone blows, according to a post-mortem report.

The calf's body was recovered on the afternoon of April 2 from an illegal fish enclosure and later buried under the Rajarkul Range of the Cox's Bazar South Forest Division.

The postmortem, conducted by a veterinary surgeon at Dulahazara Safari Park, found multiple injury marks and said the animal suffered a brain haemorrhage from repeated stone blows. It added that infections from the wounds could have led to septicaemia,

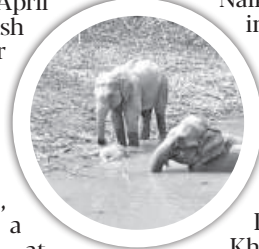
contributing to its death.

Forest officials said preliminary findings suggest miscreants threw stones at the calf, and three suspects have been identified.

However, no case has been filed yet due to a jurisdictional dispute between the Naikhyangchhari Range in Lama and the Rajarkul Range.

Rajarkul Ranger Abiuz Zaman said a case would be filed once the boundary issue is resolved, while Naikhyangchhari Range Officer Tanvir Khalil Chowdhury said the site is unlikely to fall under his jurisdiction.

The calf's death triggered a heartbreaking scene, as an adult elephant pair stayed beside the body for three days, apparently mourning.



## Country

FROM PAGE 4

international tenders and 1 lakh tonnes through G-to-G imports.

Also, 5.35 lakh tonnes of wheat have been exported from the United States against a contract of 7.10 lakh tonnes, with the remaining 1.75 lakh tonnes expected within the stipulated period, he said.

Abdul Bari further said the Food Planning and Monitoring Committee (FPMC) under the Ministry of Food oversees domestic procurement policies and plans to purchase 5 lakh tonnes of paddy and 12.13 lakh tonnes of rice in the upcoming Boro season from May to August this year.

He added that rice and wheat will also be procured domestically and internationally as needed in the coming fiscal year 2026-27.

## They killed my son, destroyed

FROM PAGE 3

In anguish, Matin responded, "I don't regret losing my job. There is little left for me to live for."

Matin said after Shahriar was shot on July 18, 2024, in Mirpur-10, he was taken to two local hospitals before being transferred to Dhaka Medical College Hospital, where doctors said a bullet had entered through his forehead above the eye and could not be operated on.

"I found my son in the ICU, fighting for his life," he said. Despite desperate pleas to move him elsewhere for better treatment, Shahriar had to remain at DMCH and was declared dead at 2:06pm on July 20.

Matin further described the ordeal that followed. Mirpur police refused to file a general diary, citing

jurisdictional doubts. He eventually filed one at Shahbagh Police Station, completed the post-mortem and inquest procedures, and received his son's body at 8:00pm on July 21.

He alleged that local Awami League leaders and administrative figures pressured him not to take the body home. "When I refused, I was told to bury him under the cover of darkness," he said. The burial took place the next morning in their village in Mymensingh after a journey marked by repeated obstructions.

The tribunal also recorded testimony from Sumi Akter, 38, whose husband Akteruzzaman Naim, a small clothing trader, left home on July 28 to join protests but never returned.

"In the evening, I received a call from an unknown number telling me to go to DMCH as my husband had met with an accident," she said. She, along with family members, reached there, and hospital staff brought out his body on a trolley.

"They told me he had been shot in the head," she said, her voice breaking. He was later buried in their village home in Patuakhali.

Both witnesses alleged the killings were part of a broader, coordinated crackdown, and claimed former prime minister Sheikh Hasina, her adviser Salman F Rahman, and then law minister Anisul Huq were linked to decisions that led to the lethal suppression of protesters under curfew.

Both of them demanded justice.

## NCP slams

FROM PAGE 3

challenged in court, such laws may not stand," he said.

He claimed that institutions like the judiciary and the Anti-Corruption Commission are again becoming vulnerable to political influence, despite earlier criticism over their politicisation.

He also questioned the government's commitment to constitutional principles, citing the appointment of administrators instead of elected representatives in local government bodies. According to him, existing provisions allow the executive to remove elected officials at will, posing a threat to democratic processes.

Asif further criticised the repeal of privacy protections under the Right to Information framework, warning that multiple agencies could regain the power to intercept phone calls and private communications without proper judicial oversight.

"Dictatorships are born this way. We are seeing the signs again," he said.

He also warned that if the government does not accept the outcome of the recent referendum and enact reform-related ordinances into law, the NCP may declare the process illegitimate and intensify its movement.

Asif said the party had initially planned to focus on organisational work and local government elections but was forced to take to the streets due to government inaction.

He also urged former advisers involved in drafting the ordinances to speak up in defence of constitutional rights.

He demanded that reform-related ordinances be enacted into law and previous provisions introduced under special circumstances be repealed to demonstrate genuine commitment.

## 44 held, Tk 10 lakh

FROM PAGE 3

Yesterday, on the fifth and last day, joint teams of traffic police and mobile courts carried out drives in areas including New Market, Science Lab, Motijheel, Agargaon, and Mirpur-1, removing makeshift shops, roadside stalls, and illegal business extensions from footpaths and roads, confiscating goods, and dismantling temporary structures in several locations.

In Agargaon, police were seen removing vendors' belongings from the footpath as they did not vacate occupied spaces despite repeated warnings, according to witnesses. Many sidewalks were seen remaining comparatively clear amid ongoing enforcement.

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

According to the notice, many businesses continue to encroach on walkways illegally, using grills, ovens, chairs, and makeshift platforms, forcing pedestrians onto roads, causing public inconvenience and worsening traffic congestion.

Meanwhile, many hawkers say the sudden crackdown has left them struggling to survive.

Sumaiya, a footpath vendor at Mirpur-10, demanded rehabilitation before eviction.

"My daughter is a college student, and my husband is ill and unable to earn. I support my family through this business, but the eviction drive destroyed my

livelihood," she said.

"For the past five days since my stall was removed, I have been selling goods by hand," she said, expressing worries about paying rent and her daughter's education expenses.

"If we are evicted without rehabilitation, where will we go? Don't we have the right to live?" she lamented.

On Thursday, Dhaka North City Corporation Administrator Mohammad Shafiqul Islam told a programme that business activities will no longer be allowed on footpaths or roads to keep those free from encroachment.

He, however, assured that alternative arrangements would be made for small and floating traders.

A five-member representative will be formed for detailed consultations, while the city corporation plans to introduce a token system for vendors to prevent extortion, he also said.

"If anyone demands money after you receive a token, inform us—we are with you," he added.

Dhaka South City Corporation Administrator Abdus Salam said the government is planning for designated evening markets at around eight locations across the capital to accommodate vendors without disrupting traffic.

**PRAYER TIMING**  
APRIL 6

Fazr	Zohr	Asr	Maghrib	Esha
AZAN 4:40	12:45	4:45	6:21	7:45
JAMAAT 5:15	1:15	5:00	6:24	8:15

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

## No return

FROM PAGE 4

have recently contracted, including Oman, the United Arab Emirates and Bahrain.

He said the government is pursuing new agreements and expanding existing markets. Bangladesh currently sends workers to countries such as Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, Romania and Portugal and has signed labour agreements with 18 nations.

The minister also highlighted growing cooperation with Japan, where workers are being sent as technical interns under a bilateral arrangement.

The minister further told parliament that around 1.5 crore Bangladeshis are currently working in 176 countries worldwide.

Responding to a question from MP Amir Hamza, the minister said the government is committed to ensuring the dignity, rights, and welfare of all expatriate Bangladeshis.

Replying to another question from MP Shafiqur Rahman (Kiron), the minister said ongoing tensions involving Israel and Iran have disrupted the recruitment of workers to several Middle Eastern labour markets, including the United Arab Emirates.

The minister said the government's election manifesto includes multiple initiatives focused on migrant welfare and employment.

He added that the ministry is working to implement these plans, and a 180-day action plan has already been formulated.

According to the minister, a total of 1,132,519 Bangladeshi workers went abroad for employment in 2025.

Of them, 62,352 were women.

**Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh**  
**Department of Environment**  
Implementing Ecosystem-based Management in Ecologically Critical Areas in Bangladesh Project  
9th Floor, Room: 903, Poribesh Bhaban New Building  
E/16 Agargaon Administrative Area, Sher-E-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207  
www.doc.gov.bd

**Request for Expression of Interest (EoI) for Selection of Consultant Firm/Organization (National)**

1. Ministry/Division	: Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
2. Agency	: Department of Environment (DoE)
3. Procuring Entity Name	: Project Director
4. Procuring Entity District	: Dhaka
5. Expression of Interest for	: Consultant Firm (National)
6. Title of Service	: Development of Biodiversity Register for Halda Biodiversity Heritage and Morjat Baor Ecologically Critical Area (ECA)
7. EoI Ref No	: 22.02.0000.045.14.015.25-521
8. Date	: 05 April 2026
<b>Key Information</b>	
9. Procuring Method	: Quality and Cost Based Selection (QCBS)
<b>Funding Information</b>	
10. Budget and Source of Funds	: Global Environment Facility (GEF)
11. Development Partners	: GEF-UNDP
<b>Particular Information</b>	
12. Project Code	: 223053500
13. Project Name	: Implementing Ecosystem-based Management in Ecologically Critical Areas in Bangladesh Project
14. EoI Closing Date and Time	: 26 April 2026, 02:00 pm
<b>Information for Applicants:</b>	
15. Eligibility of the Consulting firm/organization:	
a) The consulting firm must have minimum 10 years of experience in biodiversity conservation, natural resource management, ecosystem assessment, or related areas.	
b) Experience in conducting biodiversity assessments, biodiversity registers, or ecological studies.	
c) Successful completion of at least two similar assignments in the last 10 years.	
d) Submission of latest audit reports showing financial capacity.	
e) Submission of bank solvency certificate and financial statements.	
f) Submission of VAT registration, Tax identification certificate and updated tax payment documents.	
g) Valid trade license and registration documents.	
16. Other Details (if applicable): The Terms of References (ToR) for the services including the scope of works, deliverables, team composition with educational qualifications, and experiences are available on the DoE's official website (www.doc.gov.bd). Applicants are advised to provide all the necessary information and proven documents with a cover letter. One original and two copies of the EoI must be submitted in a sealed envelope and be clearly marked the title of service for the EoI.	
<b>Procuring Entity Details</b>	
17. Name of Official Inviting EoI	: Farhana Mustari
18. Designation of Official Inviting EoI	: Project Director, Implementing Ecosystem-based Management in Ecologically Critical Areas in Bangladesh Project
19. Address of Official Inviting EoI	: Department of Environment 8th Floor, Room: 903, Poribesh Bhaban New Building E/16 Agargaon Administrative Area Sher-E-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207
20. Contact details of Official Inviting EoI	: Phone: +880-22222218305, Email: fimmunni@yahoo.com
21. Place of submission of EoI	: Office of the Project Director, Implementing Ecosystem-based Management in Ecologically Critical Areas in Bangladesh 8th Floor, Room: 903, Poribesh Bhaban E/16 Agargaon Administrative Area Sher-E-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207
22. The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all EoIs.	

The Department of Environment (DoE) is implementing a project titled "Implementing Ecosystem-based Management in Ecologically Critical Areas in Bangladesh". The project aims to apply an ecosystem-based framework for managing Morjat Baor Ecologically Critical Areas (ECAs) in Jhenaidah and proposed Biodiversity Heritage Halda river in Chittagong in Bangladesh to enhance the conservation of globally significant biodiversity and support local livelihoods. The Project period is July 2024 to June 2029.

*F. Mustari* 5.4.26  
**Farhana Mustari**  
Project Director  
Telephone: No. 2222218460  
Email: fimmunni@yahoo.com

GD-726

## Charges against

FROM PAGE 4

from Fazle Karim's family in exchange for arranging him bail in the crimes against humanity case.

According to the prosecution, the accused face three charges.

The first charge relates to the killing of Wasim Akram, Faysal Ahmed Shanto and Faruq Ahmed during the uprising. The second charge concerns the killing of Tanvir Siddiquee, Saimon alias Mahin and Hridoy Chandra on August 4. The third charge involves the injuring of Jahid Hasan, Abdullah Kader, Achiya Khatun, Sanjida Sultana and Abdullah Lubab, along with more than a hundred others.

Other accused in the case include Awami League leader and former mayor of Chattogram City Corporation AJM Nasir Uddin; Awami League leader Rezaul Karim Chowdhury; Md Mohiuddin Bacchu; Helal Akbar Chowdhury Babar; former Chattogram city unit BCL general secretary Nurul Azim Rony; former ward 21 councillor Shaibal Das Sumon; Md Firoz; Abu Salek; Esrarul Haque; HM Mithu; Nur Mostafa Tinu;

Debashish Paul Debu; Zamir Uddin; Azizur Rahman; Imran Ahmed Imu; Zakaria Dastagir; Mohiuddin Farhad; Sumon Dey and Tauhidul Islam.

Besides, the defence lawyer of Shahriar Kabir, former president of the Ekattorer Ghatak Dalal Nirmul Committee, sought divisional facilities for him in jail before International Crimes Tribunal-1.

The tribunal said it would consider the request in accordance with the rules. Shahriar is currently in jail in a case over the 2013 Shapla Chattar crackdown killings.

In the same case, the prosecution sought permission to interrogate former deputy inspector general Abdul Jalil Mondal. The tribunal granted the request.

Additionally, the tribunal allowed a defence prayer permitting accused army officer Lt Col Moshir Rahman Jewel to meet his wife, who is expecting a baby. As per the order of the tribunal, he will be allowed to meet her at the Combined Military Hospital during his wife's tough time.

## Fuel shortage halts

FROM PAGE 4

According to Mohammad Anisuzzaman, senior assistant director of the Department of Fisheries in Barishal, fish supply at 108 landing stations across the division has declined by more than 30 percent, leading to increase in price by 20-100 percent.

He also noted that a seasonal ban on sea fishing is scheduled to begin on March 15, but fishermen have already been unable to go to sea due to the fuel crisis.

"They have requested fuel support so they can at least make one trip before the ban," he added.

Meanwhile, some 2,30,389 of the around 3,00,000 registered fishermen in the division are currently receiving government food assistance, officials said.

Contacted, Anisur Rahman, a senior sales officer of Meghna Petroleum Company, denied any overall fuel supply shortage. He claimed that the company is meeting around 90 percent of demand, supplying up to 2,50,000 litres of fuel daily to 29 petrol pumps and 68 dealers in the region.

He, however, admitted that fishing trawlers have not been receiving fuel since Eid. "Following a request from the Kalapara upazila nirbahi officer, we have supplied around 27,000 litres of fuel to two local dealers for distribution," he added.

Confirming the development, Kalapara UNO Kawsar Hameed said 27,000 litres of fuel, allocated to two dealers in Kalapara, are being distributed among fishers.

**Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh**  
Office of the Executive Engineer  
PWD Maintenance Division,  
Chattogram  
Phone: 02-334453126

Memo no: 25.36.1500.242.18.002.26/798 Date: 05/04/2026

**e-Tender Notice (OTM)**

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP system portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of following work. Details are given below:

e-GP Tender ID	Last Selling Date and time	Closing Date and time
1253271	20-April-2026 10:00	20-April-2026 11:00
1253075	26-April-2026 9:30	26-April-2026 10:30

This is an online tender, where only e-tender will be accepted in the National e-GP portal.

*(Signature)*  
(Moniruzzaman Jitu)  
Executive Engineer  
PWD Maintenance Division  
Chattogram.

GD-729

**বাংলাদেশ বিদ্যুৎ উন্নয়ন বোর্ড**  
**BANGLADESH POWER DEVELOPMENT BOARD**  
ব্যবস্থাপক (পরিচালন) এর দপ্তর  
৪র্থ ইউনিট রি-পাওয়ার্ড সিসিপিপি, যোড়শাল বিদ্যুৎ কেন্দ্র, বিউবো, পলাশ, নরসিংদী।  
E-mail: manager.opn.ccpp4.gps@bpd.gov.bd  
ফোনঃ ০১৭৭৭-৭৬০০৫৩

Memo No: 27.11.6863.456.68.338.26-197 Date: 04/04/2026

**Invitation for e-Tenders**

e-Tenders are invited in the National e-GP System portal (<https://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of following goods:

Sl No.	Tender ID	Name of Goods	Publishing Date & Time	Closing/Opening Date & Time
1	1251878	Procurement of reagent grade chemicals and safety equipment (Hand gloves, Eye safety, gas mask, gum boot etc.) for Laboratory testing of 4th Unit re-powered CCPP, BPDB.	02-Apr-2026 17:00	28-Apr-2026 11:00

These are online tenders, where only e-Tenders will be accepted in the e-GP System portal and no offline hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tenders, registration required in the National e-GP System portal. (<https://www.eprocure.gov.bd>).  
The fees for downloading the e-Tender documents from national e-GP System portal have to be deposited online through any registered bank. Further information and guidelines are available National e-GP System portal and from e-GP help desk ([helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd](mailto:helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd)) contract no. (01762625528-31).

বিদ্যুৎ/জন - ৯৬৬ (২)/০৫/০৪/২৬

*(Signature)*  
(Jenifer Shahanaz)  
ID No. 7-0037  
Chief Chemist  
4th Unit Re-powered CCPP  
Ghorashal Power Station  
BPDB, Palash, Narsingdi.

GD-730