

# NCP steps up expansion drive

45 join NCP; some discontent emerges within ranks

SHAMIMA RITA

The National Citizen Party (NCP) is going through a fresh phase of internal strain while seeking to showcase organisational expansion.

The party is working to bring in dozens of new members from other political platforms. However, insiders say this has sparked a renewed rift within the party and its affiliated bodies.

Earlier, joining the Jamaat-led alliance became a major source of internal discord for NCP, with more than 20 leaders opting to resign, while several others have since become inactive in party activities.

Amid this backdrop, 45 leaders from Amar Bangladesh Party (AB Party), United Peoples Bangladesh (UP Bangladesh), and Students Against Discrimination (SAD) joined the NCP yesterday.

Notable figures include former SAD president Rifat Rashid, former AB Party general secretary Sunny Abdul Haque, UP Bangladesh president Ali Hasan Junayed and its spokesperson Shehrin Sultana Itra.

Welcoming them with flowers, NCP Convener Nahid Islam stressed for a "broader alliance" among pro-July uprising youth.

He alleged that the BNP government was undermining the prospects created by the July uprising through the politicisation of institutions, alongside rising extortion and corruption.

"We need to build an alternative force to complete the struggle for a discrimination-free, democratic, and inclusive Bangladesh," he said.

Nahid also said previous political identities or affiliations would not be a barrier to joining the NCP.

"Whether one belongs to Chhatra Dal, Chhatra Shibir, Chhatra Odhikar Parishad, or even Chhatra League - their past affiliation is not our primary concern," he said.

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A farmer props up his crops after rain and a mild storm hit Rajshahi last Saturday evening. Later that night, heavy rain and strong winds damaged paddy fields across the region. The photo was taken at Darusha Beel in Paba upazila yesterday.

PHOTO: AZAHAR UDDIN

# Govt's tobacco tax policy flawed

Speakers tell conference

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speakers at an event yesterday opined that the government's tobacco tax policy is flawed and remains constrained by misconceptions, which need to be removed in order to impose a pragmatic tax on tobacco products for protecting public health.

They also said that while prices of other essential goods rose significantly in recent years, tobacco product prices have not risen to the same extent in Bangladesh.

They were speaking at a pre-budget press conference on "Tobacco Tax Policy for Protecting Health and Rising Revenue" at Jatiya Press Club in Dhaka. Power and Participation Research Centre (PPRC) organised the conference to present their tax proposal.

PPRC Executive Chairman Hossain Zillur Rahman said while taxation and legislative processes are the primary tools for tobacco

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# Formulation process They threatened

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petitions related to the implementation of the 9th Wage Board are ongoing.

He made these remarks in response to a question from opposition MP Sheikh Manjurul Haque Rahad during the parliamentary session chaired by Deputy Speaker Kaiser Kamal.

Answering another question from ruling party MP Mohammad Ali Asgar, the minister said, "To ensure media freedom, the Press Council Act of 1974 is being updated to make the Press Council stronger, more effective, and media-friendly."

He added that the Journalist Welfare Trust is providing assistance to journalists who are unable to work, suffering from physical or mental illness, or unable to afford medical treatment while also recognising special contributions to journalism.

Up to March of FY 2025-2026, financial grants have been given to 1,110 unwell, insolvent, and injured

journalists and to families of deceased journalists. In addition, scholarships worth Tk 73.26 lakh have been awarded to meritorious children of 402 journalists. During Ramadan 2026, iftar and Eid gifts worth Tk 1.12 crore were distributed among 2,000 journalist families.

In response to a question from Chandpur-2 MP Jalal Uddin, the minister said currently there are four state-owned TV channels in Bangladesh. Out of 55 approved private TV channels, 37 are in full operation. No new TV channel approvals are pending. Future applications will be processed according to regulations.

**PRAYER TIMING**  
APRIL 20

Fazr	Zohr	Asr	Maghrib	Esha
4:25	12:45	4:45	6:27	8:00

JAMAAT 5:00 1:15 5:00 6:31 8:30  
SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

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While in Rab-11 custody, he met three to four detainees who said they had been held for one to three years and that many others had been killed.

Over several days, he was repeatedly questioned about alleged links to the Holey Artisan attack, other militant incidents, his political views, and his construction work on mosques and madrasas in Rohingya camps. He denied all allegations.

"Five to six days into my detention, a guard told me I was safe and asked me to offer Namaz," he said.

After nearly a week, Masrur said he and three others were handed over to Fatullah Police in Narayanganj and presented to the media as militants. He spent around 10 months in jail before securing bail and was unable to contact his family during that time.

He demanded punishment for those involved in his detention and torture.

Meanwhile, the prosecution urged the tribunal to frame charges

against former Awami League lawmaker AKM Shamim Osman and 11 others over the alleged killing of 10 people and injuring dozens during the July uprising in Narayanganj.

Prosecutor Abdus Sattar cited an audio transcript in which Shamim allegedly told then bridges minister Obaidul Quader that he had taken up firearms after police sought his help.

The tribunal fixed April 23 for defence arguments.

Separately, ICT-2 showed Maj Gen (ret'd) Ziaul Ahsan and former lawmaker ABM Fazle Karim Chowdhury arrested in a case over the enforced disappearance of Syed Md Abu Zafar, former chairman of Bagoan union in Raozan.

According to the prosecution, Zafar was abducted on March 27, 2010, from Khulshi in Chattogram. Witnesses said armed men, reportedly led by Ziaul Ahsan, forced him into a microbus. Investigators say there is initial evidence linking the accused to crimes against humanity, and further investigation is ongoing.

# If no fuel crisis

FROM PAGE 3

fuel prices had to be raised and why office hours and programme schedules had to change.

"We're seeing long queues stretching for kilometres. Drivers waiting (in queues) until midnight, unable to get fuel. Yet, the government shows no concern," Rumeen said.

She added that ministers often claim in the parliament that there is no fuel shortage in Bangladesh, but when people go to buy fuel, they face 3km lines.

Addressing the speaker, she said, "Through you, I want to ask this parliament: when energy ministers speak to the media, they make it seem as though there is no crisis in Bangladesh. Why don't they clearly say how many days' worth of octane and diesel reserves the country has, how long those stocks will last, and why fuel stations are not receiving adequate supplies?"

Rumeen, a former BNP MP and now an

independent lawmaker, faced objections from ruling party MPs during her speech.

Some ruling party MPs were seen waving their hands, and after her remarks, they created an uproar. The speaker then urged MPs to maintain discipline in the House.

Opposition Leader and Jamaat-e-Islami Ameer Shafiqur Rahman criticised "certain gestures" made by some treasury bench members while Rumeen was speaking.

Shafiqur said, "This parliament is the highest place of honour in the country. Those elected here have come with the support, votes, love, and respect of the people. We must respect all members. When a member speaks, only the speaker has the authority to allow or control it."

"Today I noticed that when an independent MP was speaking, unfortunately some treasury bench members made gestures that hurt my conscience. I did not expect this," he added.

**LEGAL NOTICE**  
IN THE SUPREME COURT OF BANGLADESH  
HIGH COURT DIVISION  
(STATUTORY ORIGINAL JURISDICTION)  
Company Matter No. 268 of 2026

IN THE MATTER OF:  
An application under section 81(2) of the Companies Act, 1994.  
AND  
IN THE MATTER OF:  
Nazmus Sadat Al Mahmood, Shareholder and Managing Director of Food Euphoria Ltd. of Kha: 66/8, Lakeside Road, Shahjapur, Gulshan, Dhaka-1212. Petitioner

-VERSUS-  
Food Euphoria Ltd. of Kha: 66/8, Lakeside Road, Shahjapur, Gulshan, Dhaka-1212.  
and The Registrar, Joint Stock Companies & Firms, TCB Bhaban (6th Floor), 1, Kawran Bazar, Dhaka.

-----Respondents  
Take notice that an application under section 81(2) of the Companies Act, 1994 was filed before the Hon'ble High Court Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh on behalf of the above named Petitioner for condonation of the delay in holding the Annual General Meeting for the calendar year 2024 and to give necessary direction for holding the said meeting within a reasonable time. Upon hearing of the application on 07.04.2026 the Hon'ble Company Judge Mr. Justice Sikder Mahmudur Razi has been pleased to admit the said application.

If you are interested to oppose the said application you may appear before the Hon'ble Court either in person or through an advocate on or before the date fixed for hearing. Copy of the said application may be obtained from the undersigned on payment of necessary cost.

Dr. Md. Mahub Hasan  
Barrister-at-Law  
Advocate, Supreme Court of Bangladesh  
73 Kakrail, Eastern Commercial Complex, Suit No. 10/6 (10th floor), Ramna, Dhaka-1000.  
Phone no. 01861586600

**STATUTORY NOTICE**  
IN THE SUPREME COURT OF BANGLADESH  
HIGH COURT DIVISION  
(STATUTORY ORIGINAL JURISDICTION)  
Company Matter No. 267/2026  
An Application under section 81(2), 85(3) read section 396 of the Companies Act 1994

AND  
IN THE MATTER OF:  
Mr. Shamima Sultana share holder and Managing Director, Tojo Plastic Limited of Flat-1, House-7/C, Road-8/3, Block- D, Bonosree, Rampura, Dhaka-1219. Petitioner

VERSUS  
Tojo Plastic Limited of having its address at Plot-5852, Satakul Road, STR, Kazi Barir Moor, Satakul Road, North Badda, Dhaka-1212 and another.

-----Respondents  
Take notice that an application under section 81(2), 85(3) read section 396 of the Companies Act 1994 was filed before the Hon'ble High Court Division of Supreme Court of Bangladesh on behalf of the above named petitioner for condonation of delay in holding Annual General Meeting of Tojo Plastic Limited for the calendar year 2023, 2024, 2025 and 2026 and to give necessary direction for holding the said Annual General Meeting, upon hearing of the application on 12.03.2026 the Hon'ble Company Judge Madam Justice Kazi Zinat Hoque was pleased to admit the application. Interested person may appear before the Hon'ble Court on or before the date fixed for hearing of the matter. Copy of the application may be obtained on payment of necessary cost.

Ripan Barai  
Advocate, Supreme court of Bangladesh  
Kabbokas Super Market, 3/D, Plot-(8th floor), Room-8/11, 8/12, Karwan Bazar, Dhaka-121. Cell- 01705-074227

**BIRDEM GENERAL HOSPITAL**  
(An Enterprise of Diabetic Association of Bangladesh)  
12, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Dhaka-1000, Bangladesh.  
☎: 41060501-24, Fax: 41060476  
Website: www.birdembd.org, www.dab-bd.org  
E-mail: birdemprocurements@gmail.com

**INVITATION FOR TENDER**

1. Division /Entity	Diabetic Association of Bangladesh				
2. Procuring Entity	Director General, BIRDEM General Hospital				
3. Source Of Fund	Public Private Fund.				
4. Reference No	BIRDEM/Purchase/10-Group (Medicine & MSR Items)/2026/ 03, Dated: 19 <sup>th</sup> April 2026				
5. Details of Work	Group-01: Medicine and Related Items.	Group-06: Stationery, Furniture (Hospital and Office)/ Related Items And Computer, Computer Accessories & Printer Toner Cartridge/ Related Items.			
	Group-02: Surgical and Related Items.	Group-07: Crockery's, Cutleries, Miscellaneous & Related Items.			
	Group-03: Linen / Laundry, Apparel & Related Items.	Group-08: Hardware, Sanitary & Related Items.			
	Group-04: Gauge-Bandage, Cotton, Dressing and Related Items.	Group-09: Electric, Mechanical, Civil, Electro medical Items with all Spares and AC, VRF, Chiller, HVAC, HEPA items			
	Group-05: Chemical, Reagents and Related Items	Group-10: Cleaning Materials and House Keeping Items.			
6. Procurement Method	Open Tender Method (OTM)				
7. Source of fund	Revenue, Donation, Govt. Grant				
8. Name, designation & address of official inviting tender	Director, Hospital Administration and Procuring Entity (PE), BIRDEM General Hospital, Shahbag, Dhaka-1000, On behalf of Director General, BIRDEM General Hospital				
9. Name & address of the office selling tender documents	Procurement Section, Room: 230, 1 <sup>st</sup> floor of OPD Building, BIRDEM General Hospital, Shahbag, Dhaka-1000.				
10. Date of selling of tender documents	Tender documents will be available from 21 <sup>st</sup> April 2026 to 21 <sup>st</sup> May 2026 on all working days (09.00 am to 12.00 pm) and may be dropped within the stipulated period.				
11. Tender opening date	21 <sup>st</sup> May 2026 at 12.30 Noon (In presence of the tenderers or their authorized agent, if anybody available).				
12. Price of tender document (For each group)	Group: 1, 2 & 5 = 6,000/ (Six Thousand) Taka Only. <b>Each Group</b>				
	Group: 3, 4, 8 & 9 = 3,000/ (Three Thousand) Taka Only. <b>Each Group</b>				
	Group: 6, 7 & 10 = 2,000/ (Two Thousand) Taka Only. <b>Each Group</b>				
13. Tender Security	Name of Group	Tender Security Amount (BDT)	Name of Group	Tender Security Amount (BDT)	Comments
	Group-01	3,000,000	Group-06	50,000.00	Said amount for each group have to be deposited in the form of Demand Draft or Pay-order from any local commercial bank in favor of Director General, BIRDEM General Hospital.
	Group-02	1,000,000	Group-07	50,000.00	
	Group-03	50,000.00	Group-08	50,000.00	
	Group-04	50,000.00	Group-09	50,000.00	
	Group-05	1,000,000	Group-10	50,000.00	
14. Eligibility of tenderers					
a. The tenderers should be manufacturer or their authorized supplier/distributor/dealer or seller of the items with proof.					
b. Each group's item shall be evaluated separately.					
c. The tenderers should have valid & updated trade license, TIN, BIN, VAT & Income Tax Certificates and their proof.					
d. Bank Guaranty of liquid asset.					
e. Similar work completion certificate for last 5 (five) years.					
f. Audit report of last 2 (two) years.					
g. Membership of local business authority.					
h. Credit limit facility certificate.					
i. Authorized letter from principal.					
Detail Specifications, Terms & Conditions, Warranty & After sales services are enumerated in the tender schedule.					
BIRDEM authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason thereof.					
Note: In case of holiday or any unavoidable circumstances last date of dropping & opening will be the next working day.					

Brig Gen Dr. Md. Nasir Uddin Ahamed (Rtd)  
Director, Hospital Administration  
BIRDEM General Hospital, Shahbag, Dhaka-1000.

**EAST WEST UNIVERSITY**  
Progoti Foundation for Education and Development  
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**Vacancy Announcement**

**Position: Treasurer**

East West University, a leading private university and an equal opportunity employer, invites applications for a top management position of Treasurer on a contractual basis.

**Duties and responsibilities:** To provide leadership in initiating, formulating, and overseeing business and financial strategies, monitoring of preparation of the Annual Budget, and reporting on the implementation of the strategic policy plan thereof, and ensuring compliance with accounting standards as well as other reporting requirements. The Treasurer of East West University works under the direct supervision of the Vice Chancellor. Also, will be responsible for proper financial management, discipline, and maintaining accounts properly.

**Qualifications:** Post-graduation in Accounting, Finance, Management or Economics. MBAs with a concentration in Finance are also eligible (No Third Division / Class). Candidates should preferably be a Chartered Accountant, sufficiently experienced in company affairs and corporate sector, and in a Public/Private university or in a similar organization. Those who have served as a Treasurer in a university will carry an added advantage.

**Experience:** At least 20 (twenty) years of experience as a Professor, or in Administration or in Financial Management.

**Age limit:** From 50 to 60 years. Age limit may be relaxed for exceptionally qualified/experienced candidates.

**Compensation:** The position carries an attractive compensation package based on qualifications and experience, and the salary will be fixed through negotiation.

Please send your complete CV to the Vice Chancellor, East West University, A/2, Jahurul Islam Avenue, Jahurul Islam City, Aftabnagar, Dhaka-1212 with 02 (two) copies of recent passport-size photographs, copies of all academic and experience certificates, or apply through the university website link ([jobs.ewubd.edu](http://jobs.ewubd.edu)).

**Application Deadline: 10 May 2026**