

## Former MP Moslem Uddin dies at 88

UNB, Dhaka

Former five-time lawmaker from Mymensingh-6 (Fulbaria) and Awami League leader Advocate Moslem Uddin died yesterday while undergoing treatment at Japan-Bangladesh Friendship Hospital in Dhaka. He was 88.

Family members said he had been admitted with age-related complications and passed away around 11:30am.

Moslem Uddin was president of Fulbaria upazila Awami League, a former member of the Constituent Assembly, and a former president of the Mymensingh District Lawyers' Association.

He was elected MP from Mymensingh-6 as an Awami League candidate in 1986, 1996, 2008, 2014 and 2018.

He is survived by three sons, two daughters, and numerous relatives.

His son, Imdadul Haque Selim, said the first namaz-e-jaanaz will be held at Taqwa Mosque in Dhanmondi after Zohr prayers today.

Other janazas will be held at 10:00am at Mymensingh District Bar Association, 3:00pm at Fulbaria Government High School ground, and 5:00pm at Alhaji Md Moslem Uddin Orphanage ground.

He will be laid to rest at his family graveyard in his ancestral home in Newgi Kushmail.

## Shanti Rani Sarkar passes away

CITY DESK

Shanti Rani Sarkar, elder sister of Anil Chandra Nath FCA, senior partner of Basu Banerjee Nath & Co Chartered Accountants, passed away at her home in Netrakona on Thursday afternoon. She was 92.

Shanti Rani was a teacher at a government primary school, said a press release. She is survived by four sons, four daughters, grandchildren, and a host of relatives and well-wishers.

জমি বিক্রয়  
আবুলফায়জ বাউজারী করা ৫১৮ শতাংশ চু  
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## The BNP govt

FROM PAGE 3

Anu Muhammad, also a leader of the Democratic Rights Committee, made the remarks at a discussion titled "Two and a Half Months of the BNP Government: Review, Concerns and Demands" at the Dhaka Reporters Unity.

During the event, which he chaired, the committee placed a 13-point demand.

"Tarique Rahman says 'Bangladesh First', but the agreements signed with the US show that the government is operating on an 'America First' policy," he said.

He alleged that deals contrary to national interests – such as importing LNG, purchasing aircraft, and granting port access – were made with the US, bypassing state entities like Petrobangla and Biman.

"Instead of punishing those involved, like Khalilur Rahman, the current elected government has rewarded them with greater responsibilities," Anu Muhammad observed.

Criticising the government's energy policies, the economist said that rather than boosting national capacity, the government is amending Production Sharing Contracts (PSCs) to "favour" foreign companies under the influence of corporate lobbyists.

Recalling the historic 2006 Phulbari agreement, he noted that despite a pact to ban open pit mining, the government is again leaning towards coal extraction. He demanded 100 percent state ownership of oil and gas exploration.

To radically change the education and healthcare sectors, Anu Muhammad proposed a simple, cost-free solution.

"If it is made mandatory for the children of the president, prime minister, ministers, MPs, and government officials to study in public educational institutions and receive treatment at government hospitals, these two sectors will see massive positive changes overnight. We don't need foreign loans for this," he added.

Speaking at the event, writer and researcher Altaf Parvez expressed disappointment over the government's handling of international relations, particularly with India. He said despite improved bilateral ties, key issues like border killings and the renewal of the Ganges Water Treaty remain unresolved.

He alleged that although the BNP pledged to implement the July Charter in its manifesto, it later declined to join the constitutional reform council, effectively stalling

the process. Raising concerns over recent economic decisions, Altaf criticised an ordinance allowing banks to return to their original shareholders, including individuals accused of corruption and money laundering.

Dhaka University Professor Samina Luthfa said campuses have increasingly become centres of political control rather than academic excellence.

"Even when one student organisation's influence declined, another quickly replaced it, perpetuating the cycle of political occupation," she observed. This environment fostered organised violence that later became popularly known as "mob rule", she added.

Despite repeated calls over the past 21 months, no education reform commission has been formed, Samina also said.

Lawyers Jyotirmoy Barua and Manjur Al Matin and DU Assistant Professor Moshahida Sultana Ritu also addressed the event.

During the event, the committee placed a 13-point demand.

Committee member Sajib Tanvir and Democratic Students Council president Sayedul Haque Nishan read out a concept paper outlining the demands.

The demands include speedy trials for those responsible for the July killings, mob violence, murders, vandalism, and arson; implementing necessary democratic reforms across all sectors as pledged; taking immediate measures to stop attacks on religious worship places, shrines, archaeological sites, institutions, and homes; bringing the perpetrators to justice; taking necessary steps to check the price hike of daily essentials; announcing a national minimum wage; forming commissions to ensure a farmer-friendly agricultural system; establishing a uniform education system; initiating reforms to establish healthcare as a constitutional right; ensuring completely free medical services at public hospitals; and announcing a roadmap for the withdrawal of military rule in the Chittagong Hill Tracts to foster a democratic environment; ensuring equal rights for women regarding inherited property and equal pay for equal work; forming a specialised cell to prevent human trafficking and the oppression of expatriates; publishing all international agreements signed with foreign nations and blocs; and taking effective steps to cancel treaties that go against public interests.

## Reserved sea

FROM PAGE 3

Akter Ranu, Newaz Halima Arly, Mosammat Farida Yasmin, Bilkis Islam, Shakila Farzana, Helen Jerin Khan, Nilufar Chowdhury Moni, Nipun Roy Chowdhury, Zeeba Amina Khan, Mahmuda Habiba, Sabira Sultana, Sunmila Jabrin, Sanjida Islam Tulee, Sultana Ahmed, Fahmida Haque, Anna Minj, Subarna Shikdar, Shamim Ara Begum Swapna, Shammi Akter, Ferdousi Ahmed, Bithika Binte Hossain, Suraiya Jerin, Mansura Akter, Jahrat Adib Chowdhury, Momtaz Alam, Fahima Nasrin, Arifa Sultana, Sanjida Yasmin, Shawkat Ara Akter, Madhabi Marma, Selina Sultana, Nadia Pathan Papon, and Rezeka Sultana. Jamaat-e-Islami's MPs are Nurunnisa Siddika, Marzia Begum, Sabikun Nahar Munni, Mardia Momtaz, Nazmun Nahar Nilu, Mahfuza Hannan, Sajeda Samad, Shamsunnahar Begum, and Rokeya Begum, mother of July martyr Jabir Ibrahim.

The other MPs from the II-party alliance partners are Mahmuda Alam Mitu of NCP, Tasmia Pradhan of Japga, and Mahbuba Hakim of Bangladesh Khelafat Majlis. The independent MP is Sultana Jasmin.

A total of 53 aspirants submitted nomination papers, but four were rejected during scrutiny.

On April 8, the EC announced the election schedule for the reserved women's seats. The deadline for submitting nomination papers for the 50 reserved women's seats was April 21.

## Free police

FROM PAGE 3

for coming to the police station.

He later inspected the duty officers' room, lock-up and other activities; reviewed the overall environment; spoke with the OC and other on-duty police personnel; enquired about their working conditions; and listened to their concerns.

"If anyone takes advantage of the police station using the name of BNP or any party, the responsibility will be yours," he told the OC.

S a l a h u d d i n stressed integrity and professionalism and instructed police members to provide services to the public with honesty, fairness, and sincerity.

He warned of strict action if any police official or member is found guilty of negligence or corruption.

## Improved, real-time fact-checking

FROM PAGE 3

political reality, often provoking anger and feeding hate-driven politics.

Dr Zahed Ur Rahman, the prime minister's adviser on information and broadcasting, said the crisis had become more difficult with AI and Bangladesh's low media and digital literacy.

"Fake news is a crime," Zahed said, adding that the government wanted to act against specific offences to convince the media and public.

UNESCO representative to Bangladesh Susan Vize said misinformation, disinformation and malinformation could not simply be regulated away, adding that fact-checking must improve, be available to journalists, and work in real time.

She stressed capacity building for journalists on biases, fact-checking, AI, algorithms and information integrity.

PIB Director General

Faruk Wasif said online behaviour is shaped by algorithms owned by big corporate platforms.

"The main victim is not only the people but also the media industry, as they are losing credibility and people are leaving them in attraction of social media hype," he said.

Faruk also said that while people are thrown into "an ocean of information", many have a limited capacity to distinguish truth from falsehood.

Mamunur Rashid, associate professor at Jahangirnagar University and consultant at Bangladesh Computer Council, said mainstream and social media operate in a blended environment, where users are both consumers and producers of content.

He said Rumor Scanner's national category from January 2023 to March 2024 showed 925 cases, with AI-generated content being the largest category

and political figures being the main targets in the dataset, followed by government institutions.

Mamunur also said while misinformation production has a correlation with monetisation, political agenda may remain even if monetisation is excluded.

Citing the Reuters Institute's 2025 report, Nazia Afrin Monami, adjunct faculty at ULAB, said 58 percent of people think it is harder to separate truth from falsehood online, while platforms reward anger, fear and excitement, making truth compete with provocative falsehoods.

A book titled "Shikari Sangbadikota" (Predatory Journalism), written by Prof A Al Mamun and Kazi Mamun, both teachers at RU's Department of Mass Communication and Journalism, was also unveiled at the programme, moderated by PIB instructor Sahanowar Sayd Shahin.

## 15 districts see zero convictions

FROM PAGE 3

Key barriers include the absence of complainants and witnesses, frequent adjournments, delays in investigation, weak evidentiary systems, and a lack of witness protection.

Meanwhile, the Women and Children Repression Prevention (Amendment) Ordinance 2025 has reduced the statutory timeframe for case disposal to 90 days, without addressing the persistent challenges and underlying procedural constraints.

The study recommended stricter enforcement of timelines, limiting unnecessary adjournments, ensuring accountability, timely provision of forensic and medical reports, strengthening investigative capacity, introducing performance evaluation for prosecutors, ensuring in-camera and survivor-sensitive trials, expanding support services such as legal aid, counselling and shelters, and increasing the number of tribunals in high-caseload districts.

Speaking as chief guest, Law Minister Md Asaduzzaman said, "There are over 40 lakh cases pending in the country. A judge informed us that around three lakh cases fall under the Women and Children Repression Prevention Act, yet there are only 101 judges."

"It is extremely difficult to manage so many cases with so few judges. We must address this," he also said, adding that making

the recently passed Legal Aid Act more modern and effective remains a key challenge.

Referring to preventive measures, he said, "We have adopted two approaches. One is preventive – Legal Aid Centres have been tasked with initiating mediation before cases are filed. If disputes can be resolved through mediation, the flow of cases will reduce."

"Another initiative concerns II(C) [physical assault or injury to a wife over dowry demands] magistrates. We are observing whether this reduces or increases the tendency to file false cases. If II(C) cases can be concluded through summary trials and the backlog is reduced, we may consider expanding such alternatives. If necessary, the law can be amended."

The minister also described the judiciary as the country's most "neglected sector", noting that its total budget allocation is Tk 2,200 crore – lower than that of state-run Bangladesh Television (BTV).

He cited bureaucratic inefficiencies, noting that judges often lack authority to make even minor administrative purchases.

He also noted that, in some cases, legal practitioners contribute to delays, stressing that improving the justice system requires changes in mindset, structure and capacity.

BRAC Executive Director Asif Saleh, who

chaired the session, said the state's public perception is shaped by experiences in key sectors such as education, healthcare, law enforcement and justice.

"When services in these sectors are ineffective, public trust declines," he said, adding that increasing the budget alone would not suffice without accountability, good governance and responsibility at both individual and institutional levels.

He stressed a results-driven, women- and children-friendly justice system and a "whole-of-government" approach involving police, medical professionals and legal authorities.

Saleh warned that if women, in particular, lose confidence in receiving justice, trust in the system will erode further. Restoring that trust requires reducing delays, ensuring victim-centred processes, penalising false cases, and building a safe and effective justice system, he said.

Md Monjurul Hossain, director general of the Directorate of Bangladesh Legal Aid, and Shashwatee Biplob, associate director of BRAC's SELP and Gender Justice and Diversity Programme, also spoke.

ATM Morshed Alam, legal aid and policy advocacy lead at SELP, moderated the session, while Ummeey Kulsum, consultant and former district and sessions judge, presented the research overview.

## DHAKA BAR ASSOC BNP-backed lawyers' panel sweeps polls

COURT CORRESPONDENT

The BNP-backed lawyers' panel has secured a landslide victory in the Dhaka Bar Association elections, winning all 23 posts of the executive committee for the 2026–2027 term.

According to the bar association, Anwar Zahid Bhuiyan of the Bangladesh Jatiyatabadi Ainjibi Oikya's "Blue Panel" was elected president, while Mohammad Abul Kalam Khan became general secretary.

Other elected office-bearers include Rezaul Karim Chowdhury as senior vice-president, Abul Kalam Azad as vice-president, Mohammad Anisuzzaman Anis as treasurer, Eltut Mish Saudagar Anee as senior assistant general secretary, Mahadi Hasan Jewel as assistant general secretary, Khandakar Maksudul Hasan Sabuj as library secretary, Marjia Hera as cultural secretary, Afzal Hossain Mridha as office secretary, Sohel Khan as sports secretary, ASM Feroz as social welfare secretary, and Safikul Islam as information and

## Nusrat

FROM PAGE 3

Commission tomorrow [today]. The commission will examine the legal aspects and decide the next course of action," he added.

Earlier on April 8, the EC declared the election schedule for the 50 reserved women's seats, with April 21 as the submission deadline for nomination papers.

On April 21, Nusrat submitted her papers to the EC's dispatch branch at 4:19pm – 19 minutes past the deadline.

Consequently, the returning officer refused to accept her submission.

Nusrat later moved the High Court. On April 27, the HC directed the EC to accept her nomination paper.

On April 29, the EC issued a circular saying that Nusrat's nomination paper was accepted and the scrutiny process was scheduled for yesterday.

PRAYER TIMING MAY 3				
Fajr	Zohr	Asr	Maghrib	Esha
AZAN 4-15	12-45	4-45	6-31	8-00
JAMAAT 4-50	1-15	5-00	6-35	8-30
SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION				



# EAST WEST UNIVERSITY

Progoti Foundation for Education and Development

Permanent Sanad Holder

## INVITATION FOR TENDER

East West University (EWU) invites tenders from bona fide and interested suppliers or firms for the procurement of the following items:

- Three (3) sets computers with monitor & UPS and one (1) multimedia projector set up (including screen) and printer for the Physics Lab, Department of Mathematical and Physical Sciences (MPS).
- Nine (09) multimedia projector setups for Farashuddin Bhaban (FUB).
- Thirteen (13) types of laboratory instruments for the Department of Civil Engineering (Survey, Geotechnical, and Environmental Engineering Labs).
- Thirty-four (34) types of laboratory instruments for the Physics Lab, Department of MPS.
- Twenty-one (21) types of laboratory instruments for the Molecular Biology and Pharmacology Laboratory, Department of Pharmacy.
- Fourteen (14) types of laboratory instruments for existing laboratories, the Department of Pharmacy.

Detailed tender schedules, including terms and conditions, may be collected from the Finance & Accounts Department (1st Floor) until 20 May 2026, during office hours (until 3:00 PM) on working days. Tender schedules for Items 01 and 02 are also available through the e-tendering portal: <http://etender.ewubd.edu>

The non-refundable tender fee is Tk. 500.00 (Taka Five Hundred only).


Interested bidders are requested to submit their tenders by 21 May 2026 at 11:00 AM, either through the e-tendering system (as specified in the schedule) or by dropping hard copies in the tender box located at the Office of the Treasurer (Room 316, 2nd Floor).

Tenders will be opened on the same day at 11:30 AM in the Conference Room (4th Floor) in the presence of bidders' representatives.

All submissions must clearly mention the item name on the envelope. Failure to comply may result in disqualification.

EWU reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders, either in whole or in part, without assigning any reason. The University's decision shall be final.

**Chief of HR & Logistics**



## Bangladesh Medical Research Council (BMRC)

BMRC Bhaban, Mohakhali, Dhaka-1212

# RESEARCH GRANTS

### FY: 2026-2027

Bangladesh Medical Research Council (BMRC) invites Research Projects on the following research areas: 1. Basic Medical Science 2. Epidemiology 3. Clinical and interventional studies 4. Infection prevention & Control (Including healthcare workers' protection) 5. Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) 6. Women's Health 7. Child Health 8. Social & Behavioural Science 9. Primary Health Care 10. Health Education 11. Health System & Informatics 12. Environment & Climate Change (related to human health) 13. IT & Digital Health 14. Genetics & Molecular Biology (Those selected are instructed to conduct their activities in NCMRC under terms & conditions).

Duration of the Project will be six months. The guidelines and prescribed Project Proforma-01 (Master copy & Reviewer's copy) are available at BMRC website. One (01) master copy & Three (03) Reviewer's copies of the completed Project Protocol along with a soft copy (Word document) & data bank folder are to be submitted to the undersigned from 03 May to 11 June, 12:00 Noon, 2026 (except holidays).

N.B:

- Grants will be possible to disburse only after getting funds from the government.
- If selected, Ethical approval for these projects must be obtained from National Research Ethics Committee (NREC) of BMRC by following existing rules & procedures.

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