

Govt plans int'l-standard airport in Bogura

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government plans to launch an international-standard airport in Bogura, alongside establishing a flying academy and a full fledged modern airbase to produce skilled pilots.

The existing Bogura airport is currently being used by the Bangladesh Air Force as a training school.

Members of a delegation led by Civil Aviation Minister Afroza Khanam Rita disclosed the plans after visiting the Bogura airport area yesterday.

Civil Aviation State Minister M Rashiduzzaman Millat, LGRD State Minister Mir Shahe Alam, and Chief of Air Staff Air Chief Marshal Hasan Mahmood Khan also visited the airport by a special helicopter.

The plans are part of a government initiative to gradually reactivate closed domestic airports in the northern districts to boost regional economic activity through improved connectivity.

Bogura airport tops the government's priority list, followed by Ishwardi, Thakurgaon and Lalmonirhat, as part of a broader plan

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Farmers in the haor areas of the Sylhet region are struggling to feed their precious animals as cattle feed prices soar due to floods. Prices of fodder, hay, granular cattle feed and mustard oil cakes have all gone up, leaving farmers concerned about how they will feed the animals that are their primary source of income.

PHOTO: STAR

Floods trigger cattle feed crisis in Sylhet haors

STAR REPORT

People living in the haor areas of Sylhet are struggling to maintain their cattle after floods destroyed crops and washed away fodder sources, causing a sharp rise in cattle feed prices.

Locals said cattle rearing is the main source of livelihood for many families in the region. However, the recent floods submerged vast stretches of boro paddy fields, leaving farmers struggling to collect fodder for their livestock.

According to market sources, the price of hay, the primary feed for cattle, has more than doubled in three months. Hay that was previously sold at Tk 300 to Tk 350 per maund is now being sold at Tk 800 to Tk 850.

Prices of other cattle feed items have also surged. Granular cattle feed, which used to cost Tk 1,150 per sack, is now selling for Tk 1,500, while the price of mustard oil cake and other feed has increased from Tk 40 per kilogramme to Tk 60.

Fajr Ali, a hay trader in Ikram Haor in Baniachong upazila of

Habiganj, said the shortage was caused by severe damage to seeds due to flooding in the haor region.

"Earlier, we could easily collect hay from local farmers, but now we have to bring it from distant districts at higher costs," he said.

He added that rising transportation costs were also contributing to the price hike.

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Nazrul Islam, a farmer from Baniachong upazila who owns 10 cows, said he was struggling to continue cattle farming due to soaring feed prices.

"The amount of hay that used to cost Tk 400 before now costs Tk 1,000. Besides hay, prices of granular feed, oil cake, and other cattle feed have also increased significantly," he said.

He feared that inadequate feeding would reduce milk production and affect the health of the cattle.

Another farmer, Abdus Shahid from Hakaluki Haor in Kulaura upazila of Moulvibazar, said he recently purchased 30 maunds of hay at Tk 1,000 per maund to keep his cattle alive.

"The cost of maintaining the farm has increased several times, while profits have declined sharply. I am already running the farm with borrowed money," he said.

"If feed prices continue to rise, I may have no option but to leave this profession," he added.

Habiganj District Livestock Officer Dr Md Nurul Islam said the authorities were encouraging farmers to cultivate grass and supplying them with grass seeds.

Dr Abu Zafar Md Ferdous, director of the Divisional Livestock Office in Sylhet, said around three million cattle are in Sylhet division.

He said a monitoring cell had been formed to assess the damage, and the issue had been given top priority.

SHAPLA CHATTAR CRACKDOWN

Dipu Moni, 2 journos on May 14: ICT

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The International Crimes Tribunal-1 yesterday ordered authorities to produce former foreign minister Dipu Moni, Ekattor TV's former editor in chief Mozammel Haque Babu, and principal correspondent Farzana Rupa on May 14 in a crimes against humanity case.

The three-member tribunal passed the order following a prosecution plea linked to the 2013 Hefazat-e-Islam rally at Shapla Chattar in Dhaka.

Chief Prosecutor Md Aminul Islam told reporters that investigators had found "primary involvement" of the trio in events surrounding the crackdown.

"On the next date, they may be shown arrested in this case. They will then be taken to a safe home for necessary interrogation in the interest of the investigation," he said.

The tribunal also set June 7 for submission of the investigation report.

The former minister and the two journalists are already in jail in separate cases.

The prosecution told the tribunal that Dipu Moni, then foreign minister, campaigned internationally to frame the dispersal of Hefazat activists as action against "unruly people".

Mozammel Babu and Farzana Rupa allegedly attempted to portray the Hefazat rally as "hate speech" and spread "false information" after the operation.

Aminul said Ekattor TV aired a programme, "Shomikaron", immediately after the crackdown to divert public attention by denying casualties and featuring statements from "controversial individuals", including local ruling party activists and former officials.

He claimed these reports and interviews were part of a "systematic and pre-planned" effort to conceal the actual events.

He further said that the accused could face liability under the doctrine of "joint enterprise" if evidence shows they aided or abetted crimes committed during the operation.

Measles outbreak grips Mro villages in Bandarban

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bandarban

A measles outbreak has gripped remote Mro villages in Kurukpata union of Alikadam upazila in Bandarban. According to local health authorities, the infection has spiralled "virtually out of control".

As of 4:30pm on Wednesday, hospital sources reported 77 measles cases.

Since April 25, a total of 166 measles cases have been identified, with 138 patients receiving hospital care. Of them, 58 have recovered and been discharged, while 77 remain under treatment.

During this period, 28 patients received outpatient or emergency care.

Dr Mohammad Hanif, upazila health and family planning officer, said, "Our health complex has only 30 beds, but we are currently providing care to 120-130 patients daily. Doctors, nurses, and health workers are working under severe hardship, yet we are providing round-the-clock services."

Most of the affected are children from remote Mro communities.



A local Mro youth organisation alleged that vaccination teams never reached remote hill villages, leaving children vulnerable. Many families mistook measles for common fever or relied on traditional beliefs, delaying treatment and worsening the spread.

The organisation demanded mobile medical teams, intensified vaccination, safe drinking water, and nutrition support.

Meanwhile, at a press conference yesterday, District Civil Surgeon Dr Md Shahin Hossain Chowdhury claimed that the district had achieved 97.99 percent vaccination coverage.

He also claimed that in Alikadam and remote Kurukpata Union, 8,043 children out of a target of 7,932 had already been vaccinated, achieving 101.04 percent of the vaccination target.

When pressed about unvaccinated children in remote villages, he admitted that extreme remoteness and communication breakdowns might have prevented coverage in some areas.

Teacher on 3-day remand over rape of child

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Netrokona

A local court yesterday placed madrasa teacher Amanullah Mahmudi Sagar on three-day remand in a case filed for raping and impregnating an 11-year-old girl in Netrokona's Madan upazila.

Police produced Sagar before the Netrokona Senior Judicial Magistrate Court with a seven-day remand plea. After hearing arguments, the court granted three days, said Officer-in-charge Mohammad Tariqul Islam of Madan Police Station.

Sagar was arrested on Wednesday by Rab-14 from Gouripur in Mymensingh and handed over to the Madan police.

On April 23, the victim's mother filed a rape case against him and another person.

According to the complaint, on October 2 last year, Sagar lured the girl into his room after classes ended, raped her, and threatened to expel her if she spoke out.

On April 18, the girl's mother noticed sudden physical changes and took her to a diagnostic centre, where doctors confirmed pregnancy. Police later conducted another medical examination and verified the matter.

Sub Inspector Akhtaruzzaman of the police station, also the investigation officer, said the case was filed after medical confirmation.

Stop diverting education

FROM PAGE 3

Barhmanbaria-2 MP Rumeen Farhana suggested making local schooling and healthcare mandatory for MPs and their families to improve standards. "There can be no compromise on education and healthcare for MPs. Their children must study in local schools. At the very least, they should study in district schools," she said.

She also called for reviewing the salary structure of primary school teachers to attract talented individuals to the profession. Other speakers included MPs Nilofar Chowdhury Moni, Shahidul Islam Masud, Mahmuda Mitu, and Mardia Momtaz, along with CPD Fellow Professor Dr Mustafizur Rahman and Bengal Foundation Director General Luva Nahid Chowdhury.

Bangladesh Shipping Corporation
"BSC Bhaban", Saltgola road, Chittagong

REF: 18.16.0000.373.01.058(13).25-26 Date: 06.05.2026

Invitation of Tender

S.L No.	Tender ID	Name of the Tender	Tender closing & Opening date, time & Place
1.	COMC-02052026 Dated: 06.05.2026 Ref: 18.16.0000.373.01.058(13).25-26	BPC-058(13)/INTERNATIONAL LIMITED TENDER FOR TRANSPORTATION OF 100,000.00 MT (± 10% SUPPLIER'S OPTION) ARABIAN LIGHT CRUDE OIL (ALC) FROM YANBU/RASTANURA TERMINAL, SAUDI ARABIA TO CHITTAGONG, BANGLADESH BASIS LAY-CAN 05 JUNE, 2026 ON ACCOUNT OF BANGLADESH PETROLEUM CORPORATION (BPC). N.B: IMCC ENLISTED BROKERS ARE ELIGIBLE FOR PARTICIPATING IN THE TENDER.	12-05-2026 12:00 PM LT & 12-05-2026 12:05 PM LT AT BSC BHABON, CTG
2.			

General Manager (Chartering)
Phone: 031-728269
E-mail: gm-cht@bsc.gov.bd

GD-1060

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার
অধ্যক্ষের কার্যালয়
ঢাকা মহিলা পলিটেকনিক ইন্সটিটিউট
email: dhakampi1985@gmail.com
www.dmpi.polytech.gov.bd

ফরম নং-০১.০৩.০০০০.০১৫.০০১.৯৯.০০০১.২৬-২১৮ তারিখ ০৭.০৫.২০২৬

নিলাম বিজ্ঞপ্তি

ঢাকা মহিলা পলিটেকনিক ইন্সটিটিউট পুরাতন ৪টি টিনশেড ভবন ও একটি ০৩ তলা বিশিষ্ট ভবন ভেঙ্গে উদ্ধারযোগ্য মালামাল অপসারণ এবং ৪৯টি বিবিধ প্রজাতির ছোট-বড় পাখ কাটা ও অপসারণের নিমিত্ত নিলামের আহ্বান করা হয়েছে। প্রকৃত দরদাতাদের অত্র প্রতিষ্ঠানের ঠোঁট শাখা থেকে দরপত্র গ্রহণ/ক্রয় পূর্বক নির্ধারিত সময়ে প্রতিষ্ঠানে সংরক্ষিত টেন্ডার বাসে জমা (ভবন ভাঙ্গার ক্ষেত্রে) প্রধান অর্থদায় নিলামে অংশগ্রহণকারী হিসাবে (পাখ কাটার ক্ষেত্রে) নাম তালিকাভুক্ত করতে হবে।

ক্রমিক	স্মারক নং	বর্ণনা	দরপত্র শোনার সময় ও স্থান
০১	০১.০৩.০০০০.০১৫.০০১.৯৯.০০০১.২৬-২১৮, তারিখ: ০৬.০৫.২০২৬	Dismantling of old dilapidated building at Dhaka Mohila Polytechnic Institute.	১৭ মে ২০২৬ দুপুর ১২:০০ টা
০২	০১.০৩.০০০০.০১৫.০০১.৯৯.০০০১.২৬-২১৭, তারিখ: ০৭.০৫.২০২৬	ক্যাংগাসের অভ্যন্তরে বিবিধ প্রজাতির ছোট-বড় মিলিয়ে ৪৯ (উনপঞ্চাশ) টি পাখ কাটা ও অপসারণসহ (চিকিৎসকৃত)	১৭ মে ২০২৬ সকাল ৯:০০ টা থেকে বেলা ১১:০০ টা পর্যন্ত

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০১.০৫.২৬
মোঃ খোরশেদ আলম
অধ্যক্ষ
ঢাকা মহিলা পলিটেকনিক ইন্সটিটিউট

GD-1056

Public interest must

FROM PAGE 3

rights for women and affirmative action on women's rights and that the same principle applied to other fundamental rights.

"If rights are being taken away, we will write against that," he said.

On reporting militancy and extremism, Zaffar said mistakes could happen in journalism, but newspapers must acknowledge them, correct them and move forward.

Journalists should continue reporting on violence, terrorism and militancy but should avoid glorifying terrorism or militant groups, he said. "What we have tried to tell our colleagues is: continue reporting on acts of violence, terrorism and militancy, but make sure we do not glorify terrorism or militant groups. We must also avoid dehumanising those accused of extremism," he said.

Speaking about how Pakistan's history of military rule had affected free speech and press freedom, Zaffar said "military rule and free speech don't go together".

"When there is military rule, how can you even talk about free speech?"

He said there had been "complete censorship" during periods of military rule and that fundamental rights had been taken away. According to him, the military had remained part of Pakistan's political system, directly or indirectly.

Zaffar said the struggle for freedom

had continued over the years, with journalists and media organisations securing gains, including the abolition of the Press and Publication Order, which he described as a "draconian law" introduced by Ayub Khan in the 1960s.

On editorial independence, Zaffar, who has served as editor of Dawn since 2010, said editors usually faced "zero involvement" from management in editorial matters.

Management might discuss or disagree with editorial decisions after publication, but not beforehand, he said.

Asked about pressures on Dawn, he said such pressure had existed over the past few decades and had continued largely because the newspaper had developed a policy centred on public-interest journalism.

At the outset of the programme, Mahfuz Anam, editor and publisher of The Daily Star, welcomed Zaffar and described Dawn as "a beacon of light".

He said establishing independent journalism in Pakistan, "whose most prominent feature is not democracy", was "really fantastic", adding that he knew "for a fact" how much pressure the Pakistani military and other vested groups exerted on Zaffar and Dawn.

Kamal Ahmed, consulting editor of The Daily Star, conducted the event. Teachers and students from journalism departments of different universities attended the programme.

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মোবাইলঃ ০১৭১১৯০৮০৩৭

GD-1053

সোনালী ব্যাংক পিএলসি
বিশ্বস্ত ও স্মার্ট

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তারিখঃ ২০.০৫.২০২৬; রোজ বুধবার সময়ঃ বেলা ১১:০০ ঘটিকা

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মোঃ মাহতাব হোসেন
কোম্পানি সেক্রেটারি

GD-1049