

Dhaka, Islamabad sign MoU to fight drug trafficking

BSS, Dhaka
Bangladesh and Pakistan yesterday signed a memorandum of understanding to strengthen bilateral cooperation in preventing drug trafficking, narcotics abuse, and related money-laundering activities.

Home Minister Salahuddin Ahmed and his Pakistani counterpart Syed Mohsin Raza Naqvi inked the instrument on behalf of their respective sides at a ceremony held at Hotel InterContinental Dhaka, according to a home ministry press release.

Under the MoU, both countries agreed to enhance cooperation through intelligence sharing, technical assistance, and coordinated anti-narcotics operations to combat the trafficking and abuse of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances, and their precursors.

According to the agreement, Bangladesh and Pakistan will regularly exchange information on drug traffickers, drug trafficking organisations (DTOs), emerging smuggling routes, and the new concealment techniques used in narcotics trafficking.

The MoU also provides for joint intelligence-led operations, including "controlled delivery operations", to disrupt transnational drug networks. Intelligence agencies of the two countries will conduct activities based on mutual requests and coordinated cooperation.

As part of capacity-building efforts, the two sides agreed to arrange training and retraining programmes for drug control officials and exchange scientific research and expertise related to narcotics control.

The agreement further includes technical cooperation in the use of modern equipment and sniffer dogs for detecting concealed drugs.

Under the framework of the MoU, Bangladesh's Department of Narcotics Control and Pakistan's Anti-Narcotics Force will serve as focal points for operational coordination and regular information exchange.

No room to walk on Ctg footpaths

Shops, parked vehicles occupy walkways in key commercial areas

ARUN BIKASH DEY, Ctg

Footpaths across key commercial areas in Chattogram have become increasingly inaccessible, forcing pedestrians onto busy roads and raising serious safety concerns.

Yesterday morning, Jubilee Road, one of the port city's major commercial hubs, presented a chaotic scene. Shops selling tyres, tubes, and sanitary goods had extended their operations onto public walkways, leaving little to no space for pedestrians.

Stacks of ceramic tiles and rubber tyres occupied stretches meant for foot traffic, forcing people onto roads used by moving vehicles.

"We cannot walk through the footpaths because the shops have occupied every inch," said Mainul Islam, a resident of Enayet Bazar. "We have to walk on the main road, literally putting our lives at risk with every step."

The situation is not confined to one road. A visit to several key roads, including Nawab Sirajuddaula Road, Momin Road, Telipot Road, and Jamal Khan Road, found widespread encroachment and poor enforcement. In many areas, pedestrians were unable to walk more than 200 yards without facing obstructions.

On KB Fazlul Quader Road, footpaths have effectively turned into parking spaces for motorbikes, while near Chawkbazar Post Office, pavement space is being used for spray-painting steel furniture, exposing passersby to chemical fumes.

"The paint particles spreading in the air are a double blow," said local resident Tapati Barman. "We have to avoid the footpath not just to walk,

but just to breathe safely."

The situation has also exposed gaps in coordination between the Chattogram City Corporation, responsible for infrastructure, and the Chattogram Metropolitan Police, tasked with traffic and parking enforcement.

CCC Mayor Shahadat Hossain said eviction drives are conducted regularly but acknowledged limitations.

"The CCC's mobile courts conduct eviction drives regularly, but it is not possible to conduct them every day," he said, adding that CMP should play a more proactive role in keeping footpaths clear.



Despite such assurances, encroachments persist, from flower shops at Cheragi Pahar to privately parked vehicles along Momin Road, leaving pedestrians with little choice but to risk walking on busy streets.

Residents and students expressed frustration over the lack of sustained action.

"The authorities must take immediate steps to free these spaces," said Shanta Islam, a student of Chittagong College. "A city cannot function if its citizens are forced to risk their lives just to walk to the market or school."

Attempts to reach CMP Commissioner Hasan Md Showkat Ali in this regard went unanswered.

DSCC observes first 'Cleaning Day' today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka South City Corporation (DSCC) is going to observe its first cleaning day today as part of its efforts to prevent the spread of Aedes mosquito-borne diseases, including dengue and chikungunya, and to ensure a cleaner city environment.

Last week, DSCC Administrator Md Abdus Salam announced that the first Saturday of every month will be observed as "Cleaning Day" across its areas.

According to a public notice on Thursday, the initiative has been launched in line with the weekly cleanliness campaign declared by the prime minister.

DSCC urged all residents to clean their homes, rooftops, and surrounding areas regularly and remove stagnant water from flower pots, tyres, coconut shells, and other containers.

The city corporation also instructed all government and private offices, residential quarters, schools, colleges, madrasas, areas under Rajuk and REHAB, and privately-owned plots within DSCC limits to conduct cleanliness drives on their own initiative.

Through the campaign, DSCC aims to build a cleaner and dengue-free Dhaka with active participation from citizens and institutions alike.

According to the Directorate General of Health Services, at least four dengue patients died while 2,560 others were hospitalised this year as of May 5.

UP member missing for over three days

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Patuakhali

A union parishad member in Patuakhali Sadar upazila has been missing for over three days.

Md Shahidul Islam Jomaddar, 37, is a member of Ward 3 of Lohalia Union Parishad.

According to family sources, Shahidul left home around 7:30pm on Tuesday and headed towards the Patuakhali-Lohalia road. Since then, his whereabouts have remained unknown.

After searching different locations without success, the family sought assistance from police.

Family members said Shahidul was recently married and had been actively carrying out his public duties since being elected as a UP member by a large margin in the local government election.

His maternal uncle, Md Sohrab Hossain, filed a GD with police the day after his disappearance. Patuakhali Sadar Police Station Officer-in-Charge Md Moniruzzaman said police are investigating the matter.



Songs, recitations mark

FROM PAGE 3
Rabindra Sangeet through solo and ensemble performances exploring themes of devotion, love, humanity, and nature.

Songs such as "Tumi Robe Nirobe", "Borisho Dhora majhe Shantiro Bari", "Aji Bijon Ghore", and "Amar Hiyar Majhe" drew emotional responses from the packed audience, many of whom quietly sang along.

Artists including Jayanto Chattopadhyay, Mohuya Manjari Sunanda, Azizur Rahman Tuhin, Satyam Debnath, Senjuti Barua, Ria Chakraborty, Jllat Ara Dewan, and Priyanka Bhattacharjee took part in the programme alongside group performances by Chhayanaut members.

The understated instrumental accompaniment allowed Tagore's timeless lyrics and melodies to remain at the forefront, while the evening gradually took on a warm, intimate atmosphere.

As the first day concluded with a collective performance by Chhayanaut artists, the audience responded with prolonged

applause, bringing an end to an evening rooted in remembrance, music and shared cultural belonging.

Meanwhile, on the occasion, a three-day programme was inaugurated yesterday at the Rabindra Kachharibari in Shahjadpur, Sirajganj — a place deeply intertwined with the memories of Rabindranath Tagore.

Various local social and cultural organisations also arranged programmes to celebrate "Rabindra Jayanti".

Around 11:00am, the festival at Shahjadpur was officially inaugurated by State Minister for Health and Sirajganj 6 MP MA Muhiit.

In Barishal, Charukala Barishal organised a series of cultural programmes at the Ashwini Kumar Hall yesterday to mark the occasion.

The organisation also observed its 39th founding anniversary alongside the celebration.

The event began in the morning with a dance performance by students of Prantik Sangit Bidyalay. A day-long art exhibition was also held.

Rooppur plant gets

FROM PAGE 3
APCS in nuclear power plants are sophisticated, safety-critical digital networks that monitor thousands of sensors — tracking temperature, pressure, and flow rates — to automatically manage reactor operations and ensure safety, he added.

The system will monitor equipment performance, electricity generation, and technological processes during both commissioning and operational phases of the power unit.

"Currently, all the automated process control equipment for the first power unit of the Rooppur NPP has been delivered and commissioned at the construction site," said Gleb Murashov, managing director of Automated

Process Control System Division at RASU.

"We have implemented several improvements as part of the project. For example, the automated radiation monitoring systems have been implemented in a compact, bench-type design, a first for this type," he added.

The Rooppur Nuclear Power Plant is being constructed with Russian technology and will consist of two VVER-1200 reactors with a combined capacity of 2,400 megawatts.

The Generation III+ reactor design complies with international safety standards.

Fuel loading began at the unit-1 on April 28, taking the project into operational stage.

CID files

FROM PAGE 3
Banani, but allegedly violated the terms by constructing a 28-storey building without approval. Later, the Sheraton Dhaka five-star hotel was established there.

The CID alleged that the project was not completed within the stipulated time and that DNCC did not receive its due share. It also alleged that the agreement was revised several times through influence.

The investigation also found that the required no-objection certificates from Rajuk and the Civil Aviation Authority of Bangladesh were not obtained during construction, the CID said.

According to the press release, the building exceeded the approved height limit, creating risks and obstacles for aircraft take-off and landing.

The CID said the accused later transferred, converted and moved the illegally earned money through various means, constituting money laundering.

It added that the amount of laundered money could increase after determining the actual value of the allegedly occupied assets.

The CID's Financial Crime Division is currently investigating the case and operations are ongoing to uncover further information and arrest the accused, the press release said. The Daily Star tried to contact Noor Ali for comments, but his phone was found switched off.

Man beaten

FROM PAGE 3
Police said Selim was accused in nine cases, including theft and robbery.

Purnima Saha, daughter-in-law of Gopal Chandra, said two thieves entered their house by digging a tunnel.

She alleged that the intruders held her and her child hostage at knifepoint after entering the house. She said they took Tk 3.5 lakh in cash, eight bhoi of gold ornaments, and the jewellery she was wearing at the time.

"When they were trying to escape, we screamed for help, and my brother-in-law tried to catch one of them. Later, the villagers arrived and managed to catch one person," Purnima said.

Industrial Land with Factory Shed for Sale
273 decimal industrial land with factory shed located in Kachpur, Sonargaon, Narayanganj area will be sold. The land is directly connected to Dhaka - Chittagong highway.
Contact : 01958-069455, 01408-71721

ব্র্যাক ইউনিভার্সিটি
প্রকিউরমেন্ট ডিপার্টমেন্ট
খ-২২৪ প্রগতি সরণি, মেরুল বাজা, ঢাকা-১২১২।
ওয়েব সাইটঃ www.bracu.ac.bd
ফোনঃ +৮৮-০৯৬৩৮৪৬৪৬৪৬, এক্সট্রেনশনঃ ১২৮৩, ১২৮৬।
তালিকাভুক্তির বিজ্ঞপ্তি
ব্র্যাক ইউনিভার্সিটি-তে সরবরাহকারী তালিকাভুক্তির জন্য নিম্নোক্ত গ্রুপে আবেদনপত্র আহ্বান করা হচ্ছে।

যে আইটেম/সেবার জন্য তালিকাভুক্ত করা হবে তার নাম	গ্রুপ-এ : ব্র্যাক (Brand) ডেস্কটপ কম্পিউটার, ল্যাপটপ কম্পিউটার, সার্ভার, প্রিন্টার, স্ক্যানার। গ্রুপ-বি : ক্লোন (Clone) ডেস্কটপ কম্পিউটার। গ্রুপ-সি : নেটওয়ার্কিং ইকুইপমেন্ট-এক্সেসরিজ এন্ড ল্যান (LAN) ইকুইপমেন্ট। গ্রুপ-ডি : ফটোকপিয়ার মেশিন, ফ্যাক্স মেশিন, পেপার প্রেসার মেশিন। গ্রুপ-ই : ইউপিএস, আইপিএস, ভোল্টেজ স্ট্যাбиলাইজার। গ্রুপ-এফ : মাল্টিমিডিয়া প্রজেক্টর, মাল্টিমিডিয়া স্ক্রীন ও সাউন্ড সিস্টেম। গ্রুপ-জি : এয়ার কন্ডিশনার এবং রেফ্রিজারেটর, মাইক্রোওয়েভ ওভেন। গ্রুপ-ইচ : অফিস ও ক্লাসরুম চেসনারী। গ্রুপ-আই : স্কুল অব ইঞ্জিনিয়ারিং এন্ড কম্পিউটার সায়েন্স-এর ল্যাব কম্পোনেন্ট ও ইকুইপমেন্ট: EEE/CSE. গ্রুপ-জে : ম্যাথমেটিক্স এন্ড ন্যাচারাল সায়েন্স (এমএনএস), মাইক্রোবায়োলজী, বায়োটেকনোলজি, এ্যাপ্লাইড ফিজিক্স এন্ড ইন্টেলিজেন্স, ফিজিক্স, ফার্মেসী ডিপার্টমেন্ট-এর ল্যাব রাসায়নিক দ্রব্য/পদার্থ, গ্যাসওয়ার ও ইকুইপমেন্ট।
তালিকাভুক্তির সময়সীমা	০২ (দুই) বছর (জুলাই-২০২৬ হতে জুন-২০২৮)।
সিডিউল সম্বন্ধে স্বান সময়সীমা এবং মূল্য	উপরোক্ত সংশ্লিষ্ট গ্রুপে যে সকল প্রতিষ্ঠানের উল্লেখিত কাজে কমপক্ষে ০৩ (তিন) বছরের সংশ্লিষ্ট গ্রুপে ব্যবসার অভিজ্ঞতা আছে শুধুমাত্র সে সকল প্রতিষ্ঠান আগামী মে ১০, ২০২৬ থেকে মে ২১, ২০২৬ তারিখ পর্যন্ত অফিস চলাকালে সকাল ৯:৩০ থেকে বিকেল ৩:০০ টা পর্যন্ত প্রতি সপ্তে সিডিউল ১,০০০/- (এক হাজার) টাকা মাত্র (অফিসেরযোগ্য) নগদে জমা দিয়ে হিসাব বিভাগ, ব্র্যাক ইউনিভার্সিটি, ঠিকানাঃ খ-২২৪ প্রগতি সরণি, মেরুল বাজা, ঢাকা-১২১২ থেকে সংগ্রহ করতে পারবে। একটি প্রতিষ্ঠান সর্বোচ্চ ০৪ (চার) টি গ্রুপের জন্য তালিকাভুক্ত হতে পারবে।
নিরাপত্তা জামানত	তালিকাভুক্তির জন্য চূড়ান্তভাবে নির্বাচিত প্রতিষ্ঠানকে সিডিউলে উল্লেখিত গ্রুপ ভিত্তিক নিরাপত্তা জামানত পে-অর্ডারের মাধ্যমে ব্র্যাক ইউনিভার্সিটি-র অনুকূলে জমা দিতে হবে যা তালিকাভুক্তির মেয়াদ শেষ হলে আবেদনের প্রেক্ষিতে ফেরত প্রদান করা হবে।
আবেদনপত্র দাখিলের স্থান ও তারিখ	ধামের উপর "একপের নাম" লিখে নিম্নোক্ত ঠিকানায় রক্ষিত বগ্নে জমা দিতে হবে: প্রকিউরমেন্ট ডিপার্টমেন্ট, ব্র্যাক ইউনিভার্সিটি, লেভেল-০৪, খ-২২৪ প্রগতি সরণি, মেরুল বাজা, ঢাকা-১২১২। জুন ০৪, ২০২৬ হতে জুন ০৮, ২০২৬। সকাল ১০:০০ টা হতে বিকাল ৪:০০ টার মধ্যে।

Office of the Chairman
Department of Computer Science & Engineering
University of Barisal, Barisal, Bangladesh.
Phone: +880244821020-29 (Ext: 2050, 2099)
Fax: +880244821030
Mobile: +8801733977761; +8801876004476
web: www.bu.ac.bd, e-mail: rhfaisal@bu.ac.bd

কম্পিউটার সায়েন্স এন্ড ইঞ্জিনিয়ারিং বিভাগ
বরিশাল বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়, বরিশাল, বাংলাদেশ।
ফোন: +৮৮০২৪৪৮২১০২০-২৯ (২০৫০, ২০৯৯)
ফ্যাক্স: +৮৮০২৪৪৮২১০৩০
মোবাইল: +৮৮০১৭৩৩৯৭৭৭৬১; +৮৮০১৮৭৬০০৪৪৭৬
ওয়েব: www.bu.ac.bd, e-mail: rhfaisal@gmail.com

Memo No: BU/CSE/Robotics/04/26/02 Date: 10/05/2026

Invitation for e-Tender (OTM)
e-Tenders is invited in the National e-GP System portal (http://www.eprocure.gov.bd) for the procurement of the following goods under the Revenue Budget of University of Barisal.

SL No.	Tender/ Proposal ID No.	Invitation Reference No	Name of Works	Tendering Method	Tender/ Proposal Publication & Opening Date and Time	Tender/ Proposal Document last selling & Security Submission Date and Time
1	1272557	BU/CSE/Robotics/04/26/01	Robotics and Computing equipment purchase for CSE Robotics lab.	OTM	10-May-2026 10:00 & 24-May-2026 10:00	24-May-2026 09:00 & 24-May-2026 09:30

This is an online Tender, where only e-Tenders 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 System portal (http://www.eprocure.gov.bd) is required. The fees for downloading the e-Tender Document from the National e-GP System portal have to be deposited online through any registered Bank's branches.

Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

(Dr. Rahat Hossain Faisal)
Chairman
Department of Computer Science and Engineering
University of Barisal.

GD-1064

WFP World Food Programme
Expression of Interest (EOI)
Prequalification of Food Retailers and Wholesalers for WFP Cox's Bazar and Bhasan Char Island
Ref. WFP/BDCO/EOI/26/001

The United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) is transforming food assistance for Rohingya communities in Cox's Bazar and Bhasan Char, through its innovative Value Vouchers (E-voucher) system. Using WFP Food Assistance Cards, beneficiaries enjoy the freedom to select from a wide range of perishable and non-perishable food, as well as some non-food items, from the E-voucher shops.

WFP is calling on experienced and reputable local food retailers and wholesalers to partners in delivering essential/impactful food assistance via the Electronic Voucher Programme in Cox's Bazar and Bhasan Char.

Scope of Services:
Selected partners will be responsible for:

- Procurement of essential food commodities (e.g., rice, lentils, vegetable oil) and limited non-food items, where applicable. WFP-contracted retailers will be encouraged to source food items from local producers in Cox's Bazar or Chittagong district to support the local economy also other areas in Bangladesh.
- Implementation of a comprehensive logistics plan covering transportation, adequate storage/warehouse facilities, quality control, and staff availability for distributing commodities within the camps in Cox's Bazar district (Ukhya & Teknaf) and Bhasan Char.
- Running the distribution points (Electronic voucher shops) in line with the humanitarian principles/code of conduct, ensuring strict adherence to food quality and safety standards across all stages of the supply chain.

Payments will be reimbursed by WFP on a monthly or fortnightly basis (15 days), subject to compliance with operational and reporting requirements.

Minimum Requirements

- Valid legal registration, Trade License, TIN, VAT Registration, Incorporation Certificate, client list with contact number and all required legal documents to run the company in Bangladesh.
- Minimum 3 (three) years of experience as an established business, preferably in food retail/wholesale, with a strong understanding of the food commodity supply chain in Bangladesh.
- Demonstrated required experience in similar assignments, supported by contracts/work orders, experience certificate or appropriate documentation.
- Minimum available financial capacity of BDT 3.5 crore for Cox's Bazar and BDT 2.0 crore for Bhasan Char, dedicated to the WFP E-Voucher Programme, supported by relevant audit reports or asset documentation.
- Bank Statement of company/business for the last 2 (two) years.
- The supplier must not be included in the United Nations Security Council Consolidated Sanctions List and must not be debarred by CPTU, Government of Bangladesh or blacklisted by other UN agencies or NGOs.

Operational Readiness and Service Delivery Requirements

- Readiness to deploy adequate experience staff to outlet locations based on operational requirements.
- Ability to provide staff training in retail operations, in-store services, and store maintenance by the certified company.
- Ability to develop, maintain and implement store operations manuals (including back-office, logistics procedures and visibility items) in the required language.
- Ability to establish and maintain well-equipped warehouse/storage facilities for proper handling and quality assurance.
- Capacity to maintain at least one (1) month of buffer stock at warehouse level.
- Ability and willingness to procure locally produced fresh food items (e.g., vegetables, eggs, chicken, live fish) from local farmers.
- Willingness to enhance service quality through data-driven approaches, ensuring uninterrupted supply, high service standards, and proper hygiene and cleanliness.
- Ability to comply with Bangladesh regulations and WFP food quality and safety standards.
- Commitment to WFP's humanitarian principles and standards, including non-discrimination and data protection requirements.

Submission Process
Interested and reputable organizations working in the food retail/wholesale business sector or relevant sector, who have the supply chain expertise and capacity to provide the services mentioned above, are kindly requested to submit their Expression of Interest (EOI) to the Email: ban.nfprocurement@wfp.org.

All required documents must be submitted via the mentioned submission email. WFP reserves the right to disqualify from the expression of interest (EOI) process if any company found to have conflict of interest. This EOI does not constitute a contract award. Only shortlisted applicants will be contacted.

Deadline for submission: Friday, 04 June 2026 at 16:00 hrs Dhaka Time