10 directives

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As a result, traffic pressure on highways was significantly reduced in the days leading up to Eid, he said, adding that the familiar scenes of massive traffic jams and prolonged suffering were comparatively under control this year.

To ensure payment of outstanding wages and bonuses for workers of different sectors including garment before Eid, the government engaged banks, factory owners, workers and various associations.

Unlike previous years, there were no major highway blockades or unrest over unpaid wages, Mahdi said, adding that nearly all factories paid wages and benefits on time.

Strict instructions were issued to prevent illegal cattle smuggling across the border to protect the interest of the local farmers, he said, adding that there was a round-the-clock monitoring system in the cattle markets.

Against the demand of about 1.1 crore animals, there were 1.23 crore homegrown animals available for sacrifice.

Specific plans were adopted and additional manpower was deployed from noon of the Eid day in Dhaka's two city corporations and other major municipalities for removal of sacrificial wastes.

"Prime Minister Tarique Rahman personally inspected waste removal operations by driving through different areas of the capital the following day, which is an unprecedented instance."

During the inspection, several regional executive officers of Dhaka North and South City Corporations were immediately suspended on Tarique's instructions for their negligence in removing sacrificial animals' waste.

There was no incident of any additional fare collection during this Eid journey due to strict monitoring, he said, adding that the fare list has been kept visible through digital boards and stickers at all transport stations including buses and launches.

For the first time, reserved coaches for women were introduced on railways.

Police and law enforcement agencies have played an effective and strong role in preventing extortion in livestock trucks.

Subsequently, an artificial crisis was not created in the market, prices was not increased abnormally on the instigation of middlemen, and ordinary buyers were able to purchase animals at relatively stable prices.

The government ensured salt supplies and set a minimum price for rawhide in advance to break the syndicate of tannery owners, Mahdi said.

"The culture that had developed in the past where seasonal traders threw hides on the streets when they did not get a price for them, has now been greatly reduced due to field-level monitoring."

The Power Division was instructed to ensure uninterrupted power supply by taking advantage of the closure of factories during the Eid holidays and coordinating energy management.

There was no significant social conflict or law and order situation during the Eid-ul-Azha day or this holiday.

Special task forces regularly monitored markets to control the prices of rice, lentils, spices, oil, sugar and other essential commodities before the Eid, Mahdi said.

Shops, malls

FROM PAGE 12

and cultural programmes across the country will have to end by the same time.

The Power Division said the 7:00pm deadline had earlier been introduced through an April 5 order under the prime minister's instructions.

The government later allowed shopping malls, markets and shops to remain open until 10:00pm temporarily on the occasion of Eid-ul-Azha from May 12.

An anti-Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) protester is detained during a curfew outside Delaney Hall in Newark, New Jersey, US, on Sunday evening.

PHOTO: REUTERS

Philippine senator arrested in flood control scandal

AFP, *Manila*

Philippine police yesterday arrested a lawmaker yesterday over a multi-billion dollar graft scandal, making him the highest-ranking government official held in the case that caused mass protests in the country.

Senator Jose "Jinggoy" Estrada's detention came nearly a year after revelations over massive corruption in flood control projects -- a matter with serious consequences in a country pummelled every year by major typhoons.

Several construction firm owners, government officials and politicians have been accused of pocketing funds from the projects, but this is the first time a sitting lawmaker was arrested over the scandal.

Estrada rejected the charges against him as "nonsense" and a ploy to get him to switch sides in a bitterly divided Senate.

No need to go to US

FROM PAGE 12

States to learn or observe mosquito eradication. One can develop many innovative methods of mosquito control simply by spending two or three hours beside any stagnant water body in the country after sunset."

Contacted, Prime Minister's Additional Press Secretary Atikur Rahman Rumon said Tarique had rejected the visit.

"The previous government used to send officials abroad on various project-related visits, including mosquito control programmes, which often resulted in the wastage of state funds," he said.

Rumon also said such visits, whether funded by the state or foreign agencies, had not produced effective results.

Scarred, they return to debt and isolation

FROM PAGE 12

They stormed the camp, kidnapped the migrants, and demanded ransom from their families in Bangladesh. Khabir's captors demanded Tk 10 lakh from his family members, who had to borrow the money at high interest rates.

But freedom did not come even after his family paid the ransom.

Libyan police later raided the camp and detained the migrants, including Khabir. He had to spend more than four months at overcrowded detention centres in Benghazi.

At one of the centres, migrants were crammed so tightly that they could barely move their arms. On most days, they were served one meal, sometimes two.

Eventually, Khabir was transferred to a deportation centre where the International Organization for Migration (IOM) facilitated the voluntary return of migrants.

Khabir finally returned to Bangladesh in January 2025 but he had to pay a steep price.

He now carries the burden of a Tk 18 lakh debt -- part of which he owes to NGOs and the rest to local lenders who charge steep monthly interests.

He runs a tea stall and a small laundry shop to support his family and clear the debt.

"My main focus now is to take care of my children and pay off the loans," he said.

In neighbouring Dakkhin Bhashanchar village, 27-year-old Mohammad Arif Bepari too has a harrowing tale to tell.

Arif had initially planned to migrate legally to Hungary in 2020. As he failed to get a Hungary visa, he was persuaded by brokers to try to find a better life in Italy. They promised that he would be taken to the European country via Libya in 10 days, and it would cost him Tk 13 lakh.

His family used all the savings and borrowed from relatives to facilitate his journey. Arif left Dhaka for Dubai on March 18, 2024, and then flew to Libya via Egypt.

In Tripoli, he spent nearly three months inside a "game house", where migrants lived under constant fear.

"If someone's family made any delay in making payments, traffickers would take him to a separate room and then torture him," Arif said.

On the night of Eid-ul-Azha in June 2024, traffickers took the group to a coastal area. Fifty migrants, mostly Bangladeshis, were forced onto a boat meant for 30 people.

The boat capsized in the Mediterranean within around 90 minutes of departure.

Arif first grabbed an oil drum to stay afloat. Later, another Bangladeshi migrant handed him an inflatable pillow. He floated for nearly seven hours before swimming back to the Libyan shore.

"Many were swallowed by the sea," he said.

The survivors were later detained by Libyan police and sent to jail. "Police personnel there would often beat us," he recalled.

For more than two months, Arif lived through torture and hunger. He was finally repatriated to Bangladesh in August 2024 with the IOM's assistance.

Following his return, Arif suffered severe psychological trauma and required counselling. Now he works at a pharmacy, hoping to rebuild his life.

"I tell everyone not to take this route... But people still go," he said.

According to the IOM, more than 31,000 migrants, including Bangladeshis, have died or gone missing in the Mediterranean since 2014 -- many along the Libya-Italy corridor.

Despite repeated reports of torture and deaths, Bangladeshis continue to take the Libya route in large numbers. Many young men in villages across Shariatpur and Madaripur appear willing to take the risk. When evening falls, they gather at tea stalls and talk about crossing the sea to reach Italy.

Iran halts indirect

FROM PAGE 12

Earlier in the day, Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesperson Esmaeil Baghaei accused Washington of constantly shifting its negotiating stance and condemned what he called US aggressive action, reports Reuters.

"We insist that a ceasefire in Lebanon is an essential condition for any deal aimed at ending the war," Baghaei said.

Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araqchi also raised Lebanon, where another ceasefire is in place, as a stumbling block. "Violation on one front is a violation of the ceasefire on all fronts. The US and Israel are responsible for the consequences of any violation," he said on X.

The US military said it had at the weekend struck Iranian air defences, a ground control station and two drones that were threatening ships after "aggressive Iranian actions", including shooting down a US drone over international waters.

Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps said yesterday it had targeted an air base used by the US in response to an attack on southern Iran.

It did not identify the base, but Kuwait activated air defences yesterday and denounced Iranian missile and drone attacks, which it said were undermining efforts to reduce tensions in the region.

US forces intercepted two Iranian ballistic missiles targeting American forces based in Kuwait late on Sunday, the US military said, adding that no American personnel were harmed.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said on Sunday he had ordered troops to move further into Lebanon in the battle against Hezbollah.

Netanyahu yesterday ordered the military to attack targets in Beirut's southern suburbs, a Hezbollah stronghold.

'Ad-din has no valid fire safety licence'

FROM PAGE 12

the post-operative room for possibly contributing to the deaths.

A health ministry probe committee is currently investigating the incident, while Ramna police are conducting a separate investigation following a case filed by the father of one of the deceased newborns.

The Directorate General of Health Services yesterday formed another probe committee to investigate the incident.

Shahjahan Sikder, senior staff officer attached to the media cell of the Fire Service and Civil Defence, told The Daily Star yesterday, "Ad-din hospital has not renewed its fire licence since 2023. We have issued several warning letters to the hospital, but received no response."

In a notice issued on January 12 this year, the fire service said under the Fire Prevention and Extinguishing Act, 2003, and the Bangladesh National Building Code 2020, the hospital was required to obtain approval for a fire safety plan and implement all prescribed fire protection measures before occupying and operating the building.

The notice said although the hospital had been in operation, it had neither obtained approval for a fire safety plan nor implemented the required fire safety measures, creating a risk of fire and potential loss of life and property.

The fire service instructed the hospital to prepare and obtain approval for a fire safety plan within three months and implement all safety measures specified in the plan.

It also warned that failure to comply could result in the building being declared unfit for use due to inadequate fire safety arrangements and could lead to legal action under the Fire Prevention and Extinguishing Act, 2003.

Shahjahan said the hospital authorities received the letter but have yet to respond to it.

Contacted, Tariqul Islam Mukul, director of HR and company affairs at Ad-din Foundation, which runs the hospital, said, "As far as I know, all our documents were updated."

The hospital submitted all its regulatory documents to the health ministry yesterday, he told The Daily Star last night.

Tk 300 SIM tax may be scrapped

FROM PAGE 2

According to the association, the SIM tax discourages connectivity, especially among low-income users.

At several events, Rehan Asad, adviser to the prime minister on ICT and telecom, said that the country's telecom sector remains one of the most heavily taxed industries.

He said the government is working to reduce the burden, which ultimately affects customers and service quality.

The adviser to the prime minister also mentioned that telecom taxation would be rationalised gradually to support greater investment, wider connectivity and digital transformation.

Earlier, the GSMA, a global association of mobile operators, urged the revenue board to abolish SIM-related taxes in the upcoming budget.

The organisation said its recommendations align with the Bangladesh government's Vision 2030, which identifies ICT as a priority sector and aims to establish it as the country's leading foreign exchange earner.

GSMA also noted that taxing SIM replacements is unfair because customers must pay again when replacing lost or damaged SIMs or when upgrading technology. It further opposed applying the same tax to Internet of Things (IoT) connections.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Chief Signal & Telecommunication Engineer (Telecom)
Bangladesh Railway, Railbhaban, Dhaka.

NO: - 54.01.0000.501.11.026.24 Date: 01.06.2026

e-Tender Notice (NCT)

e-Tender is invited on the e-GP System portal (https://www.eprocure.gov.bd) for the procurement is given below.

Tender ID	Package No	Name of Tender	Publication Date & Time	Closing date & Time	Procurement Method
1196016	CSTE/TC/ WR-1	Supply, Installation, Testing & Commissioning of 48 core OFC from Joydebpur to Jamtoil Railway Station (Excepted IBBD-SYBD section)	02-June-2026 14:30	30-June-2026 11:00	OTM

- This is an Online Tender where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted.
- To submit an e-Tender, registration on the national e-GP System portal (http://www.eprocure.gov.bd) is required.
- Details about the tender have been shown in e-Tender notice and e-Tender document. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP help Desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

01.06.2026
(Syed Md. Shaeeduzzaman)
Chief Signal & Telecommunication Engineer (Telecom)
Bangladesh Railway, Rail Bhaban, Dhaka

GD-1256

OFFICE OF THE SPM
ATF HEAT PROJECT (WINDOW 3Ai) PIN 13615
DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY AND ENVIRONMENT
JAHANGIRNAGAR UNIVERSITY

HEAT Higher Education Acceleration and Transformation
বাংলাদেশ বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় মঞ্জুরী কমিশন THE WORLD BANK

Reference No.: HEAT13615JU/Procurement/G-2 Date: 02 June 2026

Re-Tender Notice

Tender is invited in the e-GP System Portal (http://www.eprocure.gov.bd) for procurement of the following package:

Tender ID	Package No.	Description of Goods	Last Selling Date and Time	Closing Date and Time
1275245	JU/PIN13615/G-2	Supply of ICT Equipment for SPMT and Geospatial Research Cell in the Department of Geography and Environment, Jahangirnagar University.	15-June-2026 13:00 pm	15-June-2026 17:00 pm

This is an OTM online Tender. Only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP portal. To submit e-Tender, Registration in the National e-GP System Portal (www.eprocure.gov.bd) is required. The fees for downloading the e-Tender documents from the National e-GP system portal have to be deposited online through any registered Bank branches. Further information are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk.eprocure.gov.bd).

Professor Dr Md Mizanur Rahman
Sub-Project Manager, HEAT 13615
Department of Geography and Environment
Jahangirnagar University

GD-1250

ইংরেজি বিভাগ
রাজশাহী বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়, রাজশাহী
সন্ধ্যাকালীন মাস্টার্স প্রোগ্রামে ১৩তম ব্যাচে ভর্তি বিজ্ঞপ্তি

২০২৬-২০২৭ শিক্ষাবর্ষের প্রোগ্রামসমূহ:
১) ১ বছর মেয়াদি MA in English
২) ১ বছর মেয়াদি MA in ELT

ভর্তি পরীক্ষার তারিখ: ০৩ জুলাই ২০২৬; **আবেদনপত্র জমা দেয়ার শেষ তারিখ:** ৩০ জুন, ২০২৬; **ভর্তি পরীক্ষার ফলপ্রকাশ:** ০৪ জুলাই ২০২৬; **ভর্তি:** ০৫ জুলাই ২০২৬ থেকে ১৫ জুলাই ২০২৬ পর্যন্ত; **ক্লাস শুরু:** ১৭ জুলাই ২০২৬

ভর্তি পরীক্ষার সময়: সকাল ১১.০০ টা থেকে ১২.০০ টা, **স্থান:** শহীদুল্লাহ কলা ভবন, রা.বি.
ভর্তি পরীক্ষার পূর্ণমান: ৫০ (Composition: ২৫, Comprehension: ২৫), **পাশ নম্বর:** ২০
প্রয়োজনে যোগাযোগ করুন: মোবাইল: ০১৭১২৯৮২৫৪৭, ০১৭১৭৪৯৬২২৮, ০১৭১৫৮৪৪৮৯১

অনলাইন ঠিকানাসমূহ:
বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের ওয়েবসাইট: https://www.ru.ac.bd/english (ভর্তি বিজ্ঞপ্তি এবং আবেদন ফরম এর জন্য) **অথবা**
সন্ধ্যাকালীন এম.এ. প্রোগ্রামের ফেইসবুক পেইজ www.facebook.com/evengru/
অনলাইনে আবেদনপত্র পাঠানোর ই-মেইল আইডি: englishru2016@gmail.com

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