

Country must avoid choosing between global partners

Says information minister

UNB, Dhaka

Information and Broadcasting Minister Zahir Uddin Swapon yesterday said any approach forcing Bangladesh to choose between key international partners would be detrimental to national interests.

“Any policy that compels us to choose one side over another would be harmful to the country’s long-term interests,” the minister said.

Bangladesh must pursue a foreign policy that integrates all major internal and external dimensions, he said while presiding over a discussion and a newspaper exhibition organised at the PIB auditorium marking the 45th death anniversary of former president Ziaur Rahman.

Swapon said Bangladesh’s economic and strategic interests are deeply interconnected with multiple global partners and regions.

He said the country relies significantly on China and India for imports, while the US and European countries remain the primary destinations for Bangladesh’s RMG exports.

Remittances largely originate from the Middle East while Bangladesh depends on foreign energy sources and international cooperation to ensure energy security, he added.



People push an ambulance to safety after it got stuck on the tracks at Kadamtali rail crossing in Chattogram city. Its engine suddenly stopped after the gate was closed for an incoming train. The photo was taken yesterday afternoon.

PHOTO: RAJIB RATHAN

Road crashes claim 10 lives in five districts

STAR REPORT

At least 10 people were killed and seven injured in road accidents in five districts yesterday.

In Meherpur, three people, including two children, were killed and two others injured when a truck collided head on with an easy-bike in Gangni upazila yesterday afternoon.

The deceased are as easy-bike driver Arif Hossain, 45, of Meherpur Sadar, and Abrar Hossain, 9, and Afrin, 7, of Jashore.

The easy-bike was heading towards Meherpur district headquarters from Bamandi when it collided with the truck at Alinagar, said Gangni Police Station OC Uttam Kumar.

In Gazipur, two people were killed and two others injured when a battery-run autorickshaw was crushed between two buses on the Dhaka-Mymensingh highway.

The accident occurred around 1:00pm near the Bhogra Bypass flyover, causing temporary traffic disruption on the highway.

One of the deceased was identified as Sujon, 38, of Jamalpur’s Madarganj upazila. The identity of the other victim could not be confirmed, said Asaduzzaman, an official of Shaheed Tajuddin Ahmed Medical College Hospital in Gazipur.

Fire service and police personnel had to cut through the mangled vehicle to recover the bodies, said OC Harun Or Rashid of Bason Police Station.



PHOTO: STAR

Two young siblings were killed and three other members of a family injured after a truck collided with a microbus in Natore’s Baraigram upazila yesterday afternoon.

In Natore, two children were killed and three members of a family injured when a truck crashed into a microbus on the Bonpara-Hatikumrul highway in Boraigram upazila.

The victims were identified as two-month-old Ezad and four-year-old Ehan, sons of Akib Adnan of Rajshahi.

Police said Akib and his family were returning to Dhaka from Rajshahi when the truck rammed into their vehicle at Royna, killing one child on the spot and injuring four others, said Boraigram Highway Police Station OC Monirul Islam.

Another child died on the way to the hospital, said Jahidul Islam, station officer of Bonpara fire station.

In Feni, two friends were killed after a dump truck ran over their motorcycle on the Dhaka-Chattogram highway in Chhagalnaiya upazila.

The deceased are Jihanul Islam Shaon, 20, of Feni Sadar, and Iqbal Hossain Jisan, 23, of Sonagazi upazila.

According to family members, the two were returning home after visiting Guliakhali Beach in Sitakunda.

In Kishoreganj, a man was killed after being run over by a pickup van in Pakundia upazila. The deceased was Ferdous Sidker, 45, of Charpakundia village.

Witnesses said Ferdous was crossing the Pakundia Bypass Road around 9:00am when a speeding pickup van hit him.

2,844 arrested in DMP TIB warns against black money

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Mosleh said no major acts of sabotage or serious crimes occurred in the capital during the holiday period.

He described the overall law-and-order situation as stable.

On traffic management, Mosleh said DMP’s traffic division filed 38,284 cases in May for violations of the Road Transport Act, including 672 cases through an AI-based enforcement system.

A total of Tk 8.71 crore in fines was realised through these cases, he added.

Mosleh also provided updates on several high-profile cases.

In the Ramisa rape and murder case in Pallabi, police arrested the accused within seven hours of the incident and submitted the charge sheet on the sixth day after the case was filed. The verdict is scheduled to be delivered on Sunday.

Responding to concerns over rising mugging incidents in Mohammadpur, Uttara and Jatrabari, the commissioner said police were actively working in those areas.

Asked whether a list of extortionists would be made public, Mosleh said it would be released and further details would be provided by DMP’s media wing.

He also said two people

were arrested over the theft of cables connected to the Prime Minister’s “red telephone” at the Secretariat.

One of the arrestees is Ranjan Chandra, an outsourced employee at the Secretariat. Based on his information, police recovered around eight kilogrammes of stolen cable from a scrap shop, he said.

Regarding allegations that people are harassed or asked for money while filing general diaries or complaints at police stations, Mosleh said strict action would be taken against anyone found responsible after investigation.

On measures against battery-run rickshaws, Mosleh said drives against such vehicles are continuing regularly.

Referring to Clause 67 of

the National July Charter 2025, Iftekharuzzaman said that BNP and other political parties had pledged to eliminate opportunities for enjoying unearned income. He also cited BNP’s commitment to making “no compromise with corruption”, including through reforms to the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC).

However, media reports suggest the proposed budget may include a provision allowing black money to be legalised with complete immunity from inquiry by the ACC, National Board of Revenue or other authorities. He said Recommendation 3 of the ACC Reform Commission report also called for the permanent abolition of the facility.

On reports that the government is considering

a general amnesty to facilitate the repatriation of laundered assets, TIB said such a measure could be considered only if individuals involved in laundering illegally obtained funds are excluded. Those already facing money laundering cases must remain subject to legal accountability, it added.

Iftekharuzzaman said a similar approach under the previous regime had failed to produce significant results and was not extended further. He urged the present government to demonstrate its stated commitment against corruption by refraining from introducing what TIB described as an unconstitutional, discriminatory and corruption-facilitating provision.

He said the interim government formed after the July Uprising had gradually abolished the facility. The present government’s reported move to reinstate it would amount to a step backwards and grant institutional legitimacy to corruption, placing the government in a controversial position despite its stated commitment to tackling graft.

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Govt to resume teacher benefit

FROM PAGE 3

taka had been embezzled from the trust in the past, creating complications in paying retirement benefits. The new allocation will be used to clear the dues of affected teachers, he added.

The minister also said the education budget for the next fiscal year stands at Tk 1.23 lakh crore, the highest ever. The allocation is equivalent to 2 percent of GDP.

He said the prime minister has assured that education spending will gradually be increased to 5 percent of GDP.

At another programme yesterday, Milon said sports are being included in the curriculum to encourage children to develop an interest in games from an early age.

He was speaking as chief guest at the inauguration of the national round of the Primary School Gold Cup Football Tournament (Boys-Girls) 2026 at National Bangla High School in Mirpur.

State Minister for Primary and Mass Education Bobby Hajaj,

PM’s Education Adviser Mahdi Amin and Shahina Ferdousi, director general of the Directorate of Primary Education, also spoke.

The tournament began at union and municipality levels on April 6, with students from 65,569 government primary schools participating.

In the boys’ category, 11,10,814 players from 65,342 teams are competing, while 11,03,291 players from 65,321 teams are taking part in the girls’ category.

PRAYER
TIMING
JUNE 5

Fazr Juma Asr Maghrib Esha

AZAN 4-05 12-30 5-00 6-45 8-15

JAMAAT 4-40 1-15 5-15 6-50 8-45

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

Government of The People's Republic of Bangladesh
Bangladesh Meteorological Department
E-24, Agargaon, Dhaka-1207
www.bmd.gov.bd

No-23.09.0000.127.11.001.24.3633

Date: 21 Jyaistho 1433
04 June 2026

e-Tender Notice

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 e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP system portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required.

The fees for downloading the e-Tender Documents of following package from the National e-GP system portal have to be deposited online through any registered Bank branches up to 28 June 2026, 16:30 on the tender notice.

Sl. No	Package Description	Tender/Proposal ID	Package No	Tender/Proposal Document last selling date & time	Last Date & Time for Tender/Proposal Security Submission	Tender/Proposal Closing & Opening date & time
1	Supply of different categories manpower for various posts in Bangladesh Meteorological Department.	1283546	BMD/HQ/ Manpower	28 June 2026, 16:30	29 June 2026, 13:30	29 June 2026, 14:30

Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP system portal (<http://www.helpdesk.eprocure.gov.bd>).

04.06.26
(Md. Momenul Islam)
Director (Current Charge)
Phone: 02-41025705

GD-1272

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Bangladesh Police
Office of the Superintendent of Police
Shariatpur

Memo No: 1915 /E

Date: 04 /06/2026.

E-GP Tender Notice-01/2026-2027 (OTM)

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the Procurement of Following Words Detail are given below.

SL NO:	Package no	Tender ID No	Tender Last Selling (Date& Time)	Tender Closing & Opening (Date & Time)
1	Grain Lentils/2026-27/01/01	1285263	17-Jun-2026 17:00	18-Jun-2026 12:00
2	Soybean Oil/2026-27/01/02	1285264	17-Jun-2026 17:00	18-Jun-2026 12:00
3	Wheat Grinding/2026-27/01/03	1285265	17-Jun-2026 17:00	18-Jun-2026 12:00
4	Labour Costs/2026-27/01/04	1285266	17-Jun-2026 17:00	18-Jun-2026 12:00
5	Firewood/2026-27/01/05	1285267	17-Jun-2026 17:00	18-Jun-2026 12:00
6	Transportation Costs/2026-27/01/06	1285268	17-Jun-2026 17:00	18-Jun-2026 12:00

This is an Online Tender Where only e-tender will be accepted in National e-GP Portal no offline/hard Copise will be accepted to submit e-Tender, registration National e-GP System (<http://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,s Branches Further information & guidelines are a available in the National e-GP System Portal from e-Gp help desk (help desk@eprocure.gov.bd)

04/06/26
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GD-1276