Govt focused

FROM PAGE 3

at an emergency press conference at the party's central office in Dhaka's Moghbazar.

Claiming that public frustration has mounted within five months of the new administration taking office, Porwar said people are increasingly disillusioned by rising living costs, extortion, corruption and deteriorating law and order.

Referring to the July uprising, he said those who benefitted politically from the movement had failed to fulfil people's expectations.

Highlighting the country's gas crisis, the Jamaat leader said people in many parts of the country are unable to cook, industrial production is being disrupted, and power plants are failing to operate at full capacity.

Porwar urged the government to increase production at major gas fields, including Titas, Bibiyana, Habiganj, and Rashidpur.

Criticising recent electricity price hikes, Porwar said retail electricity tariffs increased by an average of 16.68 percent in June this year, putting additional pressure on middle and lower-income consumers.

He also alleged widespread irregularities in billing, claiming that many consumers were receiving "ghost bills" that were two to three times higher than their actual consumption.

"The government promised to solve the problem, but those responsible have failed to take effective action."

Porwar also expressed concern over the rising prices of essential commodities, including rice, lentils, sugar, potatoes, onions, garlic and green chillies.

July failed to transform our political culture

FROM PAGE 3

and the Left was sidelined. The country reverted to majoritarian politics, failing to build a centrist alternative," he said.

He added, "Instead of reform, factions splintered under the influence of establishment figures and senior advisers, who treated the movement's collective power as spoils to be divided, undermining the prospects for a sustainable political alternative."

Delivering the keynote, BIGD Adviser Mirza M Hassan said Bangladesh now has the weakest opposition in its history.

"The Awami League is absent from politics, Jamaat lacks confidence, and the NCP remains a very small party."

He argued that even if Bangladesh resembled Sri Lanka or India in democratic practice, democracy would remain fragile because elites and oligarchs would still control power.

He proposed moving towards "direct democracy", with constitutional provisions allowing citizens to participate directly in governance.

Politician Tasnim Jara said women continue to face organised digital violence and character assassination within a "rigged" political system.

She warned that elite-driven transitions often fail to reflect public sentiment, leaving women vulnerable to coordinated attacks.

Jara emphasised the need to challenge structures that continue to exclude women from decision-making.

Dr Tajnuva Jabeen, an organiser of Alternatives, stressed the need for a "minimum common ground" across ideological divides to ensure peaceful political transitions.

She also emphasised that the "July effect" will make it harder for political parties to exclude women from decision-making roles in future elections.

Network for People's Action founder member Anik Roy said a clear ideological foundation is essential for solving problems, warning that without it, political actions become inconsistent.

Democracy remains a "luxury item" for many people without economic security, he also said.

"Until we implement economic reforms and build sustainable industries, constitutional changes alone will not establish democracy. We need a system that ensures accountability, transparency, and dignity for every citizen."

Arif Sohel of the People's Revolutionary Initiative said democracy is rooted in people's direct participation rather than elections alone.

"We already witnessed its highest form in July-August 2024. It is much bigger than the ballot box," he said.

Sohela Nazneen, researcher at Institute of Development Studies at the University of Sussex, questioned whether Bangladesh's democratic transition could deliver inclusive representation while political parties remained unchanged.

She said women played an unprecedented role during the 2024 uprising but faced growing backlash afterwards. The 2026 elections, she added, largely replicated the old system, with very few women nominated for general seats and continued dependence on reserved seats.

Nazneen warned that women often lose out in the post-transition "political market" to better-organised groups unless they are backed by a cohesive, intersectional coalition and an inclusive ideology.

Yasin Shafi, researcher at Pennsylvania State University, said political activism continues to expose people to state repression, legal harassment and violence.

He warned that partisan violence has become normalised because repression remains "cheap" for those in power, adding that only regular competitive elections and protection of opposition activists can ensure a genuine democratic transition.

BIGD Executive Director Imran Matin, IFPRI-Bangladesh Acting Country Director Moogdho Mahzab, The Asia Foundation Bangladesh Country Representative Kazi Faisal Bin Seraj and Netra News Executive Director Nazmul Ahasan, among others, also spoke.

DENV-3 now dominant

FROM PAGE 3

dengue serotype as more severe on its own. Disease severity depends on factors including the viral strain, the patient's immune response, and underlying illnesses," he said.

Zaki said the distribution of serotypes also varies across the country.

"Samples from Dhaka and other urban healthcare facilities are different from those collected in the hill tracts and other rural areas," he said.

"The overall picture is mixed. Urban areas may show a higher concentration of one serotype, but you cannot generalise the findings for the entire country," he said.

The IEDCR director said previous dengue infection remains one of the strongest risk factors for severe disease.

"People who have had dengue before face a higher risk of severe complications, including dengue shock syndrome, if they are infected again," he said.

Patients with kidney disease, liver disease, cancer, or other active infections are also at greater risk of severe illness, regardless of the infecting serotype or whether it is their first dengue infection, he added.

He urged public awareness campaigns to focus on repeat infections and underlying health conditions rather than portraying one serotype as universally more dangerous.

According to the Directorate General of Health Services, 59 people had died from dengue and 16,684 had been hospitalised this year as of August 3.

Meanwhile, physicians say dengue admissions have increased sharply over the past two weeks.

HM Nazmul Ahsan, associate professor at Shaheed Suhrawardy Medical College Hospital, said the hospital has opened two dedicated dengue wards -- one for male and the other for female patients -- after admissions rose to 15-20 patients in each admission cycle.

Referring to the latest survey, he said both DENV-2 and DENV-3 are circulating this season, although DENV-3 appears to be more common.

Among the four serotypes, DENV-2 and DENV-3 are more severe, Nazmul said.

However, the risk of death is higher if a person who previously had dengue is infected with a different serotype, he added.

He said many patients are going into shock rapidly, but clinicians have become more experienced in managing severe dengue.

"We are seeing patients who deteriorate quite quickly. However, management has improved, and most patients are receiving timely treatment," he said.

Doctors are also reporting a rise in dengue patients with hepatitis this year.

"We are seeing considerably more dengue patients with hepatitis than in previous years. Some patients are also dealing with cardiac complications," he said.

He explained that dengue-associated hepatitis requires more than routine fluid management.

"When dengue causes hepatitis and liver enzyme levels become markedly elevated, treatment has to be adjusted. These patients require closer monitoring and additional medications beyond standard dengue management," he said.

Ahsan urged people with persistent fever or warning signs to seek medical care promptly, saying early diagnosis and timely treatment remain the best way to prevent severe complications and deaths.

China partnership

FROM PAGE 3

partners in advancing sustainable infrastructure, aviation, tourism and innovation for the benefit of our peoples," he also said.

Describing China as one of the world's most successful development stories, Kabir noted that Bangladesh had much to learn from China's experience while adapting lessons to its own realities.

He also said Bangladesh-China relations over the next 50 years could unlock new opportunities in trade, technology, infrastructure and connectivity.

Discussions on zero-tariff access, manufacturing cooperation, supply chain relocation and partnerships in advanced technology-based industries could generate employment and diversify Bangladesh's exports, he added.

Chinese Ambassador to Bangladesh Yao Wen said Bangladesh's governance journey would need to address challenges including maintaining "political unity and social stability" under complex circumstances, overcoming dependence on a single industrial sector and creating a more favourable external environment.

He praised Prime Minister Tarique Rahman's "people-centred, pragmatic and efficient" governing style, saying it had brought "a fresh look to national governance".

Terming PM Tarique's visit to China in June a complete success and marking a milestone in bilateral relations, Yao said both countries had agreed to deepen exchanges on governance, advance Belt and Road cooperation and strengthen collaboration on the comprehensive management of the Teesta river, the modernisation and expansion of Mongla Port, and the China-Myanmar-Bangladesh Economic Corridor.

It's time to form national security

FROM PAGE 3

naval defence, and should allocate a larger share of the national budget to strengthening defence.

Bangladesh should not be intimidated by major powers and needs a national consensus on its identity to become a unified force capable of defending the country, he added.

A determined smaller nation could resist a stronger power, he said, citing Vietnam's war against the United States.

He said alliances with friendly countries could strengthen Bangladesh's ability to defend itself in a conflict. He also called for a national security council to formulate patriotic, meaningful and cost-effective policies.

Maj Gen (retd) Fazle Elahi Akbar, chairman of Foundation for Strategic and Development Studies, said a national security council alone would not be enough.

He proposed establishing a national security agency headed by a national security adviser, with the council serving as its central decision-making body under the prime minister.

The agency, he said, should gather information, assess issues with national security implications and place major decisions before the council.

Bangladesh's airspace remains vulnerable, he also said, warning that buying advanced military platforms without integrated command, surveillance and operational systems would have little value.

Akbar also argued that Bangladesh could not remain neutral indefinitely and should evaluate possible alliances under a "Bangladesh first" approach.

Lt Gen (retd) Mohammad Mahfuzur Rahman, chairman of Osmani Centre for Peace and Security Studies, said Bangladesh needed "smart defence" rather than an arms race.

He said only 3.4-4 percent of the defence budget is available for development and capital purchases, while the remainder is spent on personnel and maintenance.

Bangladesh lacks an overarching national security policy and continues to depend on the 2018 defence policy, he said, adding that the armed forces face capability and coordination gaps.

Mahfuzur said alongside a security council, the country needs a higher defence organisation, including a chief of defence headquarters, at the operational level.

Citing Singapore's experience, he said credible deterrence was necessary for a country to pursue economic development without external pressure.

Referring to the 2017 Rohingya crisis, he said Myanmar did not "leave Bangladesh alone" because the country lacked credible deterrence.

He also said Myanmar has violated Bangladesh's airspace 19 times and mines are still being laid along the border.

Maj Gen (retd) Ibne Fazal Shayekhuzzaman, former commandant of Defence Services Command and Staff College, said Bangladesh is digitally connected but not digitally sovereign because its hardware, software, data storage and networks depended on foreign systems.

Maj Gen (retd) Md Wahid-Uz-Zaman, former commandant of Military Institute of Science and Technology, said artificial intelligence had transformed cyber warfare by becoming a tool, a target and a threat in itself.

Commodore (retd) Syed Misbah Uddin Ahmad, director general of Bangladesh Institute of Maritime Research and Development, said Bangladesh must treat maritime security as the protection of trade, energy, undersea cables, resources and strategic interests extending beyond its territorial waters.

Rear Admiral (retd) M Anwar Hossain, academic adviser at National Defence College, called for an apex maritime security body, an integrated maritime information architecture and AI-enabled maritime domain awareness.

Chairing the session, Prof Abdul Hannan Chowdhury, vice-chancellor of NSU, said Bangladesh must identify its strategic friends and adversaries and prepare for future warfare shaped by cyber capabilities, drones, robotics and maritime power.

CPS Director Prof M Jashim Uddin moderated the discussion.

PRAYER TIMING
AUGUST 4

	Fazr	Zohr	Asr	Maghrib	Esha
AZAN	4-20	12-45	5-00	6-47	8-15
JAMAAT	4-55	1-15	5-15	6-50	8-45

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Local Government Engineering Department
Office of the Upazila Engineer
Upazila: Patiya, District: Chattogram.
www.lged.gov.bd

Memo No. 46.02.1561.000.000.99.0002.25-448 Dated: 03/08/2026.

e-Tender Notice-01/2026-2027

E-Tender is Invited in the national EGP system portal (www.eprocure.gov.bd) for the procurement of the following works:

SL. No	Tender ID	Last Selling Date & Time	Closing and Opening Date & Time	Tender Method
1	1313110, 1313458	16/08/2026 16.00 PM	17/08/2026 14.00 PM	Works, NCT, LTM

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. For submission of 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 from the normal e-GP system portal have to be deposited online through any registered banks up to above mentioned date & time. Further information & guidelines are available in the National e-GP system portal & also from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

(Tanmoy Nath)
Upazila Engineer
Local Government Engineering Department
Upazila: Patiya, District: Chattogram.
e-mail: ue.patiya@lged.gov.bd

GD-1895

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার
নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলীর কার্যালয়
গণপূর্ত জরিপ বিভাগ
২য় ১২তলা সঃ অঃ ভবন, সেগুনবাগিচা, ঢাকা
ফোন ০২-৮৩৯১৫৯৯

স্মারক নং- ২৫.৩৬.২৩০০.০২৬/২৮০ তারিখ: ১২/০৪/১৪৩২ বাংলা ২৭/০৭/২০২৬ খ্রিঃ

বিষয়ঃ মূল্যিকা পরীক্ষা সম্পাদনকারী প্রতিষ্ঠানের তালিকাভুক্তি বিজ্ঞাপন।

গণপূর্ত অধিদপ্তরের আওতাধীন বিভিন্ন উন্নয়ন প্রকল্পের অনুকাঠামো নির্মাণের লক্ষ্যে পিপিআর-২০০৮ অনুসরণপূর্বক মৃত্তিকা পরীক্ষার জন্য অভিজ্ঞ ও যোগ্য প্রতিষ্ঠান তালিকাভুক্তির (Enlistment) আবেদন আহবান করা যাচ্ছে।

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	৩	পূর্বে সরকারি/আধা-সরকারি প্রতিষ্ঠানে কাজের অভিজ্ঞতা অগ্রাধিকারযোগ্য।
	৪	তারিখোত্তীর্ণ সক্ষমতা থাকতে হবে।
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আবেদন পদ্ধতিঃ	১	নির্ধারিত ফরমে আবেদন করতে হবে। আবেদন ফরম অতিরিক্ত প্রধান প্রকৌশলী, চট্টগ্রাম/রাজশাহী/সিলেট/রংপুর/ময়মনসিংহ/খুলনা/বরিশাল/সোনাপলপক্ষ এবং নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলী, গণপূর্ত জরিপ বিভাগ, ঢাকা হতে সংগ্রহ করে আবেদনপত্র সিলগালা খামে নিম্নস্বাক্ষরকারীর দপ্তরে দাখিল করতে হবে।
	২	প্রতিষ্ঠানের প্রোফাইল আবেদন ফরম এর নির্ধারিত ছক মোতাবেক পূরণ পূর্বক কাজের অভিজ্ঞতার বিবরণ ও সংশ্লিষ্ট ডকুমেন্ট সংযুক্ত করতে হবে।
মূল্যায়ন পদ্ধতিঃ	১	দাখিলকৃত কাগজপত্র যাচাইবাছাই বিধি বিধান অনুসরণপূর্বক মূল্যায়ন করা হবে। মৃত্তিকা পরীক্ষার Laboratory Facility ও সংশ্লিষ্ট যন্ত্রপাতি সরেজমিনে পরিদর্শন করা হবে এবং প্রয়োজনে সাক্ষাৎকার/প্রেজেন্টেশন গ্রহণ করা হতে পারে।
	২	আবেদন পত্র জমা দানের শেষ তারিখ ও সময়ঃ আগামী ১৫ই সেপ্টেম্বর ২০২৬খ্রিঃ বিকাল ৩.০০ মিনিট।

কর্তৃপক্ষ যে কোন কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতিরেকে বিজ্ঞপ্তি পরিবর্তন/বাতিল করার ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করে।

২৭.০৭.২০২৬
(মোঃ মফিজুর রহমান, পিইঞ্জ)
নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলী
গণপূর্ত জরিপ বিভাগ, ঢাকা।
ee_survey@pwd.gov.bd

GD-1892

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার
শিল্প মন্ত্রণালয়
বাংলাদেশ ক্ষুদ্র ও কুটির শিল্প করপোরেশন(বিসিক)
পুরকৌশল বিভাগ
বিসিক ভবন (৪র্থ তলা), ৩৯৮, তেজগাঁও শিল্প এলাকা, ঢাকা-১২০৮
E-mail: chiefengn@bscic.gov.bd, Web-site: www.bscic.gov.bd

স্মারক নং-৩৬.০২.০০০০.০৩৯.০৭.৮৯৫.২০২৩/৭৫৯ তারিখঃ ১৮ শ্রাবণ ১৪৩৩ / ০২ আগস্ট ২০২৬

সীমিত দরপত্র পদ্ধতির আওতায় ৫ (পাঁচ) কোটি টাকা পর্যন্ত ক্রয়কার্য সম্পাদনের লক্ষ্যে ২০২৬-২৭ অর্থবছরে ঠিকাদার তালিকাভুক্তির বিজ্ঞপ্তি

এতদ্বারা সকলের অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, ওয়ান স্টপ সার্ভিসের মাধ্যমে সীমিত দরপত্র পদ্ধতিতে ৫ (পাঁচ) কোটি টাকা পর্যন্ত কার্যক্রয়ের লক্ষ্যে ২০২৬-২৭ অর্থবছরের ঠিকাদার তালিকাভুক্তির জন্য আবেদন আহবান করা যাচ্ছে। তালিকাভুক্তিকরণে ইচ্ছুক ঠিকাদারগণকে নির্ধারিত সময়ের মধ্যে নিম্নোক্ত নির্দেশনা অনুসরণপূর্বক অনলাইনে আবেদন করার জন্য অনুরোধ করা হলো।

০১।	মন্ত্রণালয়/বিভাগ	:	শিল্প মন্ত্রণালয়
০২।	সংস্থা	:	বাংলাদেশ ক্ষুদ্র ও কুটির শিল্প কর্পোরেশন (বিসিক)
০৩।	ক্রয়কারীর বিবরণ	:	প্রধান প্রকৌশলী, পুরকৌশল বিভাগ, বিসিক, ঢাকা
০৪।	আবেদনকারীর যোগ্যতা	:	অনলাইন আবেদন ফরমে বিস্তারিত উল্লেখ রয়েছে
০৫।	আবেদন ফি	:	তালিকাভুক্তি ফি ৫০০০/- টাকা, একক মালিকানাধীন প্রতিষ্ঠানের স্বত্বাধিকারী নারী হইলে তালিকাভুক্তি ফি ৩০০০/- টাকা এবং ভ্যাট ও OSS ফি
০৬।	আবেদনপত্র প্রাপ্তির ওয়েবসাইট	:	ossbscic.gov.bd
০৭।	আবেদন জমা দেয়ার শেষ তারিখ ও সময়	:	২৩/০৮/২০২৬ খ্রি:

উল্লেখ্য, নির্ধারিত সময়ের পর কোন আবেদন গ্রহণ করা হবে না। কর্তৃপক্ষ যে কোন আবেদনকারীর আবেদন কোন কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতিরেকে বাতিল করার ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করেন।

০২.০৮.২৬.
(প্রকৌ. এ.কে.এম. বজলুর রশীদ)
প্রধান প্রকৌশলী (ভারপ্রাপ্ত)
পুরকৌশল বিভাগ, বিসিক, ঢাকা

GD-1890

ISLAMIC FOUNDATION
Ministry of Religious Affairs
Agargaon Sher-E-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka -1207
www.islamic foundation.gov.bd

Invitation for e-tender
(Open tender Method)

Memo No : 16.01.0000.006.20.078.26/103 Date: 03/08/2026

e-tender is invited in the National e-GP system portal (www.eprocure.gov.bd) for the procurement of following works.

Tender ID	Name of works	Tender publication date & time	Tender last selling date & time	Tender Closing & Opening date & time
1314826	Construction of book stalls for the month-long Islamic book fair on the occasion of the Holy Milad-un-Nabi [saw], 1448 Hijri.	04/08/2026 at 10.00 am	16/08/2026 at 10.00	16/08/2026 at 14.00

This is an online Tender where only e-tender will be accepted in e-GP portal and no offline/hardcopy is accepted. To submit e-tender please register in the national e-GP portal (http://www.epocure.gov.bd). The fees for downloading the e-tender document from the National e-GP portal have to be deposited online through any registered bank branches up to **16/08/2026 at 12.00 am**. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP system and from e-GP helpdesk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd). The Procuring Entity reserves the right to reject all Applications.

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GD-1893