Mahbub Ali Khan's death anniv today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



Today marks the 42nd death anniversary of Rear Admiral Mahbub Ali Khan, former chief of naval staff and minister for communications and agriculture.

Different programmes have been arranged by Bangladesh Navy to observe the anniversary, including placing wreaths at his grave beside the Naval Headquarters, recitation from the Holy Quran, Quran Khawani, special prayers and distribution of food among underprivileged people, says a press release.

Additional Quran Khatam and doa mahfils will be held at Mahbub Bhaban, Surovi -- the philanthropic organisation founded by Begum Mahbub Ali Khan in 1979 -- as well as at mosques, madrasas and orphanages in Dhaka, Sylhet, Bogura and Jamalpur.

Programmes featuring Quran recitations, special prayers, remembrance meetings and charitable activities will also be held in Saudi Arabia, the UK, the US, Malaysia, China, South Korea, Singapore and the Maldives.

M Aminul Islam no more

CITY DESK



M Aminul Islam (Dulu), former high commissioner of Bangladesh to Canada, passed away on August 2.

Born in Jhutigram village in Gopalganj, Aminul studied and briefly taught Economics at Dhaka University before joining the PFS batch in 1967.

Later, he went on to serve at Bangladesh Missions in Malaysia, Germany, Japan, Bhutan, India, Canada and Libya, before retiring in 2001 as the Bangladesh high commissioner to Canada.

He left behind his wife Nasreen, daughters Nitalie, Bitalie and Kajalie, grandchildren Amaala and Marzuq, and a host of family, friends and well-wishers to mourn his demise.

A doa mahfil will be held after Asr prayers on Friday at the family residence.



PHOTO: MEHEDI HASAN

A boy roller-skates through heavy rain in the Dhaka University area yesterday as a midday downpour brings relief from a prolonged spell of exhausting weather. The fun, however, could end in an accident, as he is wearing no helmet, knee pads or other protective gear.

A bridge still beyond reach

25,000 residents face hardship as project drags on in Ctg's Fatikchhari

SIFAYET ULLAH, *Ctg*

The long-awaited Panchpukuria-Siddhashram bridge over the Halda river in Chattogram's Fatikchhari upazila remains incomplete even though the stipulated deadline expired last month.

As a result, around 25,000 residents of Suabil union and parts of Nazirhat Municipality continue to endure prolonged travel difficulties.

During the dry season, locals cross the river using a makeshift bamboo footbridge. In the monsoon, when the structure becomes submerged, boats are the only means of crossing.

With the bridge still under construction, there is currently no vehicular crossing over the river at the point, forcing motorists to use an alternative route.

Residents must instead travel at least 10 kilometres more using an alternative route, making the journey time-consuming and costly.

"We thought the bridge would finally end our suffering. Now it seems the wait has no end," said Mohammad Selim, a grocery shop owner.

During a recent visit, this correspondent found that although the bridge's piers had been built, major work, including girder installation, deck slab construction, approach roads, and river protection, remained incomplete.

Tarekul Islam, a student from Suabil union, said crossing the river by boat to attend classes becomes highly risky during the monsoon, particularly due to flash floods and hilly runoff. Travelling by vehicle using the alternative route is also costly, he added.

"A good chunk of our profit is spent on transport costs. Traders who come to purchase directly from us also offer lower prices, as they have to travel the longer route. We have been suffering for years because there is no bridge," said Ratan Das, a local farmer.

The 240-metre bridge is being built by the Local Government Engineering Department under the Important Bridges on Rural Roads Project (Phase-I) at a cost of Tk 46.30 crore. Contractor firm Taher Brothers is implementing the project.

The work order was issued on January 21, 2024, with a deadline of July 20, 2026. However, only 55 percent of the work has been completed so far, according to the upazila engineer's office.

Project manager Md Shahin blamed delays in land acquisition, flash floods, and monsoon runoff for the slow progress.

"We have applied for a one-year extension and hope to complete the bridge in 2027," he said.

Contacted, Junaed Absar Chowdhury, upazila engineer of LGED in Fatikchhari, said completing the construction within the scheduled time had been difficult due to natural causes.





Consultancy Opportunities

International Labour Organization (ILO) Dhaka is inviting applications from interested consultants for Preparation of Evidence-Based Research Study on below topics with Priority to Supporting Policy and Practice in Bangladesh, ILO CO Dhaka/LAWC/ADWIB.

1. Strategic OSH Monitoring for SME Value Chains
2. Impact of Wage Compensation and Inequality on Exposure to OSH Hazards: Evidence from the Labour Force Survey
3. Ergonomic Risks in Selected Workplace Sectors and Basic Remedial Measures.
4. Impact of Heat Stress Across Different Sectors in Bangladesh
5. Chemical Safety and Waste Management in the Tannery Sector: Implications for Occupational Disease.
6. OSH Policy and Implementation: A Gap Analysis

The Terms of Reference (ToR) can be reviewed from the ***United Nations Global Market Place (UNGM)*** at

1. https://www.ungm.org/Public/Notice/309638 Jagger ref: RfX_9047
2. https://www.ungm.org/Public/Notice/309639 Jagger ref: RfX_9049
3. https://www.ungm.org/Public/Notice/309640 Jagger ref: RfX_9052
4. https://www.ungm.org/Public/Notice/309641 Jagger ref: RfX_9051
5. https://www.ungm.org/Public/Notice/309643 Jagger ref: RfX_9048
6. https://www.ungm.org/Public/Notice/309644 Jagger ref: RfX_9050

The deadline for submission of proposal is **Wednesday, August 12, 2026**, by 04:30 PM (BST time).

PRAYER TIMING
AUGUST 6

	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

গাজীপুর উন্নয়ন কর্তৃপক্ষ
গাজীপুর
https://gda.gov.bd

নম্বর: ২৫.১২.৩৩০০.০০০.০০১.০০.০০০১.২৪-৩৪৩

তারিখঃ ২০ শ্রাবণ ১৪৩৩ / ০৪ আগস্ট ২০২৬

গণবিজ্ঞপ্তি

এতদ্বারা গাজীপুর উন্নয়ন কর্তৃপক্ষ (জিডিএ) এর আওতাভুক্ত এলাকার সংশ্লিষ্ট সকলের অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, ইমারত নির্মাণ বিধিমালা এবং বাংলাদেশ ন্যাশনাল বিল্ডিং কোড (BNBC)-২০২০ অনুযায়ী ইমারত নির্মাণ আবেদনের সঙ্গে স্থাপত্য নকশার (Architectural Design) পাশাপাশি নির্ধারিত স্কেলে এবং কোড অনুসরণপূর্বক কাঠামোগত (Structural Design), ইলেকট্রিক্যাল (Electrical Design), মেকানিক্যাল (Mechanical Design) এবং প্লাম্বিং (Plumbing Design) নকশা জমা প্রদান বাধ্যতামূলক।

এমতাবস্থায়, ভবন নির্মাণের পূর্বে সংশ্লিষ্ট সকলকে ইমারত নির্মাণ আবেদনের সঙ্গে স্থাপত্য নকশার পাশাপাশি নির্ধারিত স্কেলে এবং কোড অনুসরণপূর্বক যথাযথ নিয়মে বিশেষজ্ঞ কারিগরি ব্যক্তির স্বাক্ষরসমেত কাঠামোগত, ইলেকট্রিক্যাল, মেকানিক্যাল, এবং প্লাম্বিং নকশা জমা প্রদান করার জন্য অনুরোধ করা যাচ্ছে।

০৪/০৮/২০২৬
(মোঃ মেহেদী হাসান)
সচিব
গাজীপুর উন্নয়ন কর্তৃপক্ষ, গাজীপুর।
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GD-1904

The spirit of July lives

FROM PAGE 3

Rizvi also alleged that the former AL government was marked by authoritarian rule, corruption, bank fraud, stock market irregularities and the looting of state property, and that it remained in power through force and electoral manipulation.

At a rally organised by the Bangladesh Federal Union of Journalists (BFUJ) and the Dhaka Union of Journalists (DUJ) at Jatiya Press Club, journalist leaders demanded speedy justice for those responsible for the killings during the July uprising, rehabilitation of the injured and exemplary punishment for the perpetrators to prevent any future misuse of state power.

The Bangladesh Jatiya Sangsad Secretariat organised a children's drawing competition, while Dhaka University laid the foundation stone of the July Memorial on its campus.

The Ziaur Rahman Foundation also paid tribute to the martyrs, describing their sacrifices as a lasting symbol of the nation's struggle for democracy, justice and human rights.

Educational, cultural, public and religious institutions observed the day through various programmes, including special prayers for the martyrs and the decoration of government buildings and public spaces with national flags and banners.

Museums and children's recreational facilities offered free entry, while hospitals, prisons and welfare institutions served special meals to mark the occasion.

Similar commemorative events were held across the country.

Political leaders, lawmakers, local administrations, freedom fighters, representatives of July fighters and families of the martyrs joined the programmes, stressing the importance of safeguarding democracy, justice and national unity.

We must never

FROM PAGE 3

"From the very beginning, the biggest aspect of our government's foreign policy has been 'Bangladesh First'. We will never go back to that client state, never again," Khalilur said.

He said the foreign ministry has a frontline role in ensuring that Bangladesh never returns to such a position.

The foreign minister, however, cautioned that Bangladesh must navigate an increasingly uncertain international environment marked by challenges to multilateralism and the erosion of the post-World War II rules-based order.

"We are in a complex international and regional situation. We see multilateralism increasingly facing big challenges... We have to navigate through this complex regional and global reality," he added.

Salahuddin Tanvir sent to jail over posts on PM

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Bogura*

A Bogura court yesterday sent Gazi Salahuddin Tanvir, the recently suspended joint member secretary of the National Citizen Party, to jail in a case filed over making derogatory remarks about the prime minister on social media.

Senior Judicial Magistrate Mehedi Hasan of the Bogura Sadar Cognisance Court passed the order after police produced him before the court showing him arrested in the case.

Earlier around 5:30am, police arrested Tanvir in Dhaka's Manipur, said OC Ibrahim Ali of Bogura Sadar Police Station.

On August 2, Maftun Ahmed Khan Rubel, president of Bogura Sadar upazila BNP unit, filed the case against Tanvir under the Cyber Security Act 2026 with Bogura Sadar Police Station.

According to the case statement, on July 29, Tanvir, then an NCP central leader, made a Facebook post about the recent attacks in Sylhet that allegedly defamed the PM. Tanvir made another provocative Facebook post shortly afterwards, it added.

On July 31, the NCP relieved Tanvir of his party post and issued him a show-cause notice over the posts.

Youth drowns in canal while fleeing police

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Netrokona*

A youth allegedly died by drowning after falling into a canal while trying to flee during an anti-drug drive by police in Netrokona on Tuesday afternoon.

The deceased was identified as Sabbir Shekh, 19, a student of Abu Abbas Degree College and a resident of the Mechhuabazar area in Netrokona town.

Hafizul Islam, additional superintendent of police and the district police's media spokesperson, said a nine-member Detective Branch team was conducting an anti-drug drive on the Netrokona-Amtala road when Sabbir and several other youths saw the police and attempted to flee.

They jumped into the nearby Harikhali canal. While the others swam ashore, Sabbir drowned, he said.

After locals rescued him, DB personnel took Sabbir to Netrokona 250-bed District Hospital. Resident Medical Officer Mazharul Amin said Sabbir was brought to the hospital around 4:30pm and was declared dead after an ECG examination.

"The exact cause of death will be known after the autopsy report," he added.

Sabbir's sister, Purnima Akter, claimed Sabbir did not know how to swim and was neither accused in any criminal case nor involved in criminal activities.

She demanded an impartial investigation.

DB Inspector Debanshu Kumar Deb said based on the information available to him, he did not believe there had been any negligence by the police.

Former Jamaat leader held over Tk 400cr fraud

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Jamalpur*

Rab-14 has arrested Abdul Wahed, 55, former ameer of Jamaat-e-Islami's Madarganj upazila unit in Jamalpur, in connection with multiple cases over the alleged embezzlement of nearly Tk 400 crore from customers of Al Aqaba Multipurpose Cooperative Society.

Wahed, a director of the cooperative, is a warrant-listed accused in a case filed with Madarganj Model Police Station on May 4, 2025. He faces a total of eight cases over allegations of fraud and embezzlement involving the cooperative's customers, Rab said.

Acting on a tip-off, a Rab team from CPC-1 raided the bypass area of Jamalpur Sadar on Tuesday and arrested him, according to a press release issued by the elite force yesterday.

Wahed was later handed over to Madarganj Model Police Station, and the Jamalpur Chief Judicial Magistrate's Court ordered him sent to jail, confirmed the police station's OC Snehashish Roy.

According to police, the cooperative has deposits worth Tk 391.58 crore from 12,661 customers.

Jamalpur Jamaat Secretary Abdul Awal confirmed that Wahed had previously served as ameer of the party's Madarganj upazila unit. He was later expelled for violating party discipline.

A chorus for July

FROM PAGE 3

most significant moments in the country's recent history.

Minister for Cultural Affairs Nitai Roy Chowdhury attended the programme as chief guest.

State Minister for Cultural Affairs Ali Newaz Mahmud Khayam was present as special guest, alongside Zahed Ur Rahman, prime minister's adviser on Information and Broadcasting and Cultural Affairs.

Rohingya child killed

FROM PAGE 3

after the landslide and joined locals in the rescue operation. Families living in high-risk areas have been advised to remain alert and relocate to safer places if necessary."

Meanwhile, two landslides struck Marine Drive in the Darianagar area around 10:00am and noon, halting traffic.

A team of army personnel reached the site and cleared the debris.

The Cox's Bazar Meteorological Office recorded 121mm of rainfall in the 24 hours till yesterday and forecast that rain was likely to continue for another three to four days.