July charter

FROM PAGE 12

have promised to implement the July National Charter to the letter."

"Would it be implemented if it went to the reform council? Would it not be implemented if it went to the constitutional amendment committee?" he asked.

Salahuddin said constitutional amendments were the prescribed legal mechanism for carrying out reforms.

"The constitutional procedure is to adopt an amendment. Every amendment is a reform," he said.

He added that terms such as reform commission, reform council and constitutional reform council were merely different labels.

"But what must come in practice is an amendment, and it must be adopted by parliament.

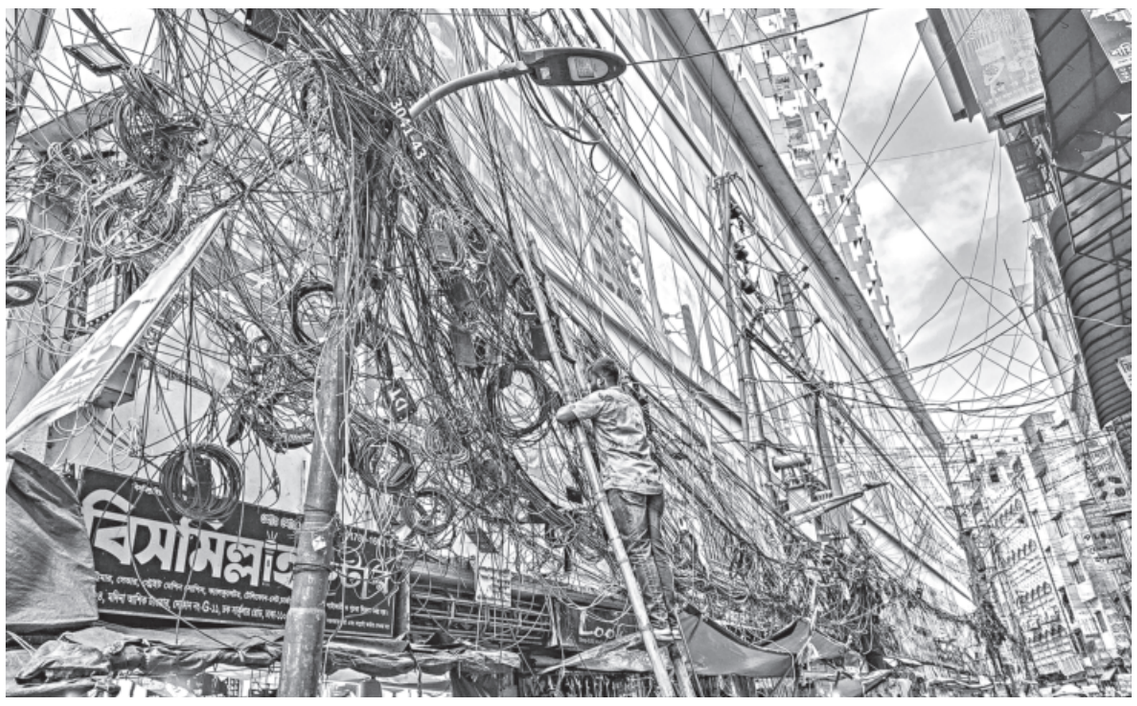
"It would be the 18th amendment to the constitution."

On July 13, parliament approved a proposal to form the 17-member special committee on constitutional amendments. The committee was initially constituted with 12 members, with five seats left vacant for the opposition.

Opposition MPs walked out of parliament in protest, rejecting the committee in principle and arguing that the reforms should instead be considered by the Constitution Reform Council envisaged in the July Charter Implementation Order.

The committee held its first meeting at the Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban on Tuesday, deciding to review the entire constitution with the July Charter at the centre of the process. Members also said the panel would consider relevant proposals from the BNP's election manifesto.

Salahuddin said the committee would consult different sections of society, including July fighters, journalists and lawyers, to understand their expectations. It would also seek opinions from constitutional experts and editors.



A technician carries out maintenance work on a tangle of internet and utility cables while standing on a bamboo ladder in Chawkbazar, Old Dhaka. Such dense overhead wiring, common across the capital, often causes short circuits and fires.

PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON

Sand extraction continues despite lease suspension

Locals accuse BNP leader of backing operation as erosion threatens homes, schools, cropland

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Patuakhali*

Sand extraction continues unabated along an erosion-prone stretch of the Tetulia river in Patuakhali's Bauphal allegedly with the backing of a local BNP leader, despite the government's suspension of quarry leases, locals say.

Residents said the operation, which runs from late at night through most of the day, was accelerating riverbank erosion and threatening croplands, educational institutions and settlements.

During a recent visit, this correspondent found four dredgers extracting sand near the confluence of the Tetulia and Kalaiya rivers, south of the Chandradwip ferry terminal. The sand was being stockpiled on floating bulk carriers before being transported elsewhere for sale.

Md Siddiq, operator of the bulk carrier Messrs Nawroz Shipping Lines, said they were extracting sand under an arrangement with Md Humayun Kabir, president of Bauphal Municipality BNP.

Tofazzal Hossain, who was supervising one of the dredgers, also said they were working on Humayun's instructions.

According to Tofazzal, they pay Tk 0.40 to Tk 0.50 per cubic foot of sand. Each bulk carrier carries around 2,500 cubic feet, and two to three carriers are filled daily.

Sources at the upazila land office said the District Sand Quarry Management Committee decided on May 21 to invite tenders for leasing the submerged quarry near Nimdi Launch Ghat, and a notice was issued on June 4.



However, the lease process for the Bauphal stretch of the river was later suspended on the directives of higher authorities after the area was identified as highly vulnerable to erosion.

Md Yunus Chowdhury, a resident, said several homes, a mosque and more than 200 acres of cropland had already been lost to the river.

Repeated attempts to contact Humayun Kabir were unsuccessful, and he did not respond to text messages.

His son, Md Imam Hossain, student affairs secretary of Bauphal Municipality BNP, claimed the family had legally extracted sand under a lease valid until June 30.

However, officials said the lease expired on April 13.

Bauphal BNP Convener Taslim Talukdar said he was unaware that the administration had banned sand extraction from that stretch of the river.

"If that is the case, then it is wrong. Such activities tarnish the party's image. We will look into the matter seriously," he said.

Acknowledging the sand extraction, Md Rakib, executive engineer of the Patuakhali Water Development Board, said most of the Tetulia river in Bauphal was highly erosion-prone and that sand extraction would worsen bank erosion.

Bauphal UNO Saleh Ahmed said no sand quarry lease had been issued for the Bauphal section of the Tetulia river.

"We are aware of the illegal extraction activities and will take stern action as soon as the weather improves," he said, adding that enforcement drives had been delayed by inclement weather.

A mother's gift

FROM PAGE 12

difficult and freezer space ran out, she found another recipient through MilkShare. Today, she donates to two babies.

Launched earlier this year, MilkShare was founded after Jannatul Ferdousi, herself a first time mother, realised that while some women were discarding surplus breast milk, others were desperately searching for donors through Facebook and word of mouth.

The problem, she concluded, was not a shortage of willing donors but the lack of a trusted way to connect them.

MilkShare can be downloaded from the Google Play Store on any Android device. The app also offers guidance on breast milk pumping, storage, transport, hygiene and other essentials to help parents who are new to milk sharing.

The platform, however, is not a milk bank. It verifies users, connects donor mothers with recipient families and keeps records of those relationships. It prioritises nearby matches to reduce transport time, while families decide how the milk will be collected and transported and whether additional medical screening is needed.

Unlike a regulated human milk bank, it does not collect, pasteurise, laboratory-test or store breast milk.

Ferdousi said MilkShare is meant to bridge the gap between donor families and those in need, not to claim safeguards it cannot yet provide.

"Donors can upload health reports for recipient families to review with doctors," she said.

While Dr Raunak said donor milk can be invaluable for vulnerable newborns if donors are screened for infections such as HIV, hepatitis and herpes, and proper hygiene, storage and cold-chain transport are maintained, much of that responsibility currently falls on families.

Samia's family has travelled up to seven hours carrying insulated cooler bags packed with ice to collect frozen milk, usually returning with enough to last about two weeks.

In Bangladesh, however, the challenge extends beyond medical risks.

For Muslim families, breastfeeding another woman's child creates rada'ah, or milk kinship. Under Islamic jurisprudence, the donor becomes the child's "milk mother", while her biological children become the recipient's "milk siblings", permanently prohibiting marriage between them.

Ferdousi said this was not a complication to work around. Rather than allowing anonymous donations, MilkShare records the identities of donors, recipients and children connected through milk sharing.

"Where possible, we prioritise matching baby boys with boys and girls with girls, although this is not mandatory. We also encourage families to remain in contact."

MilkShare plans annual updates on the number of children in donor and recipient families to keep its records current. It also hopes to organise periodic gatherings for matched families to strengthen those lifelong bonds, Ferdousi said.

Mufti (research division) Maulana Muhammad Abdullah of the Islamic Foundation said such records are essential.

"Breast milk sharing cannot be allowed on a widespread or informal basis... The identities of both the donor and recipient, along with the milk-kinship relationship, must be preserved in a permanent and precise manner so that there is no confusion in the future."

He said such a system could be facilitated by a specialised institution if it were strongly regulated by the state and supervised by a Shariah committee. Verbal assurances alone, he warned, are inadequate because families may forget such relationships over time.

MilkShare has embedded scholarly opinions in the app and is collecting written fatwas as it refines its approach. Privacy is central to the platform: donors' phone numbers are not publicly displayed, personal and medical information is accessible only to authorised administrators, and users can request data deletion.

MilkShare currently has 276 registered users, including 63 donor mothers, 148 recipient families and 12 active matches.

But for families like Nahid's, the platform offers something greater than numbers: certainty.

His mother's milk is gone, but every few weeks another mother's gift arrives, nourishing his growth and creating bonds that may outlast the milk itself.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Bangladesh Police
Rapid Action Battalion-7
Patenga, Chattogram
www.rab.gov.bd

Memo no-7750/Acct/RAB-7/ Dt: 04 Aug 2026

Invitation For e-Tender

For financial year **2026-2027**, e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP system portal **(www.eprocure.gov.bd)** for the procurement of:

SL	Tender ID No & Reference No	Description of Goods	Last selling Date & Time	Closing/ Opening Date & Time
1.	1310809/ RAB-7/Acct Br/1	Hygine Products	16-Aug-2026 10:00	16-Aug-2026 12:00
2.	1310818/ RAB-7/Acct Br/2	Medicine	16-Aug-2026 10:00	16-Aug-2026 12:00
3.	1310811/ RAB-7/Acct Br/3	Computers Items	16-Aug-2026 10:00	16-Aug-2026 12:00
4.	1310812/ RAB-7/Acct Br/4	Other Stationary items	16-Aug-2026 10:00	16-Aug-2026 12:00
5.	1310820/ RAB-7/Acct Br/5	Computer reapir	16-Aug-2026 10:00	16-Aug-2026 12:00
6.	1310822/ RAB-7/Acct Br/6	Other machinaries and equipment	16-Aug-2026 10:00	16-Aug-2026 12:00
7.	1310813/ RAB-7/Acct Br/7	Computer and related accessories	16-Aug-2026 10:00	16-Aug-2026 12:00
8.	1310814/ RAB-7/Acct Br/8	Furniture Purchase	16-Aug-2026 10:00	16-Aug-2026 12:00
9.	1310817/ RAB-7/Acct Br/9	Constractual Transportation cost	16-Aug-2026 10:00	16-Aug-2026 12:00
10.	1310815/ RAB-7/Acct Br/10	Cleaning Materials	16-Aug-2026 10:00	16-Aug-2026 12:00
11.	1310816/ RAB-7/Acct Br/11	Product freight and Transportation cost	16-Aug-2026 10:00	16-Aug-2026 12:00
12.	1310821/ RAB-7/Acct Br/13	Water Vehicle	16-Aug-2026 10:00	16-Aug-2026 12:00

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 **(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 and guidelines are available in the national e-GP system portal and from e-GP helpdesk **(helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd)**

Tenderer having clarity requirements are requested to contact at 01777-710782 (Account Branch).

MD HAFIZUR RAHMAN, PSC
Lt Col
Commanding Officer
Rapid Action Battalion-7
Tel: 023-33300400

GD-1903

Youth drowns while fleeing cops

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 is 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, said a 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.

Partisan narratives

FROM PAGE 3

earlier in the day, he said, "Unfortunately, some embarrassing incidents occurred today, even in the presence of the honourable president. We are all embarrassed by what happened."

He said the July uprising belongs to the people, and its credit should be returned to them.

Nahid said Bangladesh's post-uprising political culture must change. Political differences and criticism would remain, but everyone should stay united while observing national occasions and discussing national history, especially in the president's presence.

He said the country could repay part of its debt to the martyrs by implementing the aspirations reflected in the July Charter and referendum, establishing an accountable democracy, carrying out reforms, and completing the trials of those responsible for enforced disappearances and mass killings.

Later in the day, speaking at a programme organised by the Monsoon Cultural Alliance, Nahid expressed hope that Bangladesh would become a country free from discrimination and paid tribute to the martyrs and injured fighters of the uprising.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Bangladesh Police
Office of the Superintendent of Police, Lakshmipur
https://police.lakshmipur.gov.bd

Memo No:-OTM-4/LAK/2026-2027/2857/1st Part, Dated: 04, August, 2026

Re-e-Tender Notice No-02/2026-2027 {NCT, OTM, Goods (Framework Agreement)}

An Re-e- Tender has been invited for the following works through e-GP Portal and that will be visible from 06 August, 2026, 12.00 AM only the Person/Organization registered by e-GP portal can visit (https://www.eprocure.gov.bd) for clear observation.

SL	Tender ID No	Description of works	Last Selling Date & Time	Closing/Opening Date & Time
1.	1315508	Procurement of Medicines and Antidotes for Lakshmipur District Police Hospital (MI Center) (Financial Budget Code-3252109)	16-August-2026 16:00	17-August-2026 12:00
2.	1315509	Repair of Computer Related Accessories for Lakshmipur District Police (Financial Budget Code-3258103)	16-August-2026 16:00	17-August-2026 12:00

This is an online Tender only where Re-e-Tenders will be accepted in the national e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted.

The fees for last downloading Re-e-Tender document from the national e-GP system portal have to be deposited onilne thorugh any registered bank branches up to date & time.

To submit Re-e-Tender, registration in the national e-GP system portal (https://www.eprocure.gov.bd) is required. Further information and guideline are available in the national e-GP system portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

04.08.26
Md. Abu Tareq
BP-7908121563
Superintendent of Police, Lakshmipur
Phone-02334441033, Fax-02334441479
Email-splakshmipur@police.gov.bd

GD-1908

Bangladesh Satellite Company Limited
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BSCL

e-Tender Notice

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP system portal (https://www.eprocure.gov.bd/) for the procurement of the following services:

S/N	Tender ID	Tender Name	Package No:	Tender Publication Date and time	Tender Document last selling Date and time	Tender Closing & Opening Date and time
01.	1299125	Procurement of Miscellaneous Works (Tiles and Glass fixation and water leakage treatment, Painting and Galvanization of all SS material, Boundary Barbed Wire repair & maintenance for both GS)	14.39.0000.000.012.07.00 02.25.178(T)	06-Aug-2026 Time: 10:00(AM)	19-Aug-2026 Time: 16:00(PM)	20-Aug-2026 Time: 12:20(PM)
02.	1307315	Procurement of Miscellaneous Electrical and Electronic Items for BSCL	14.39.0000.000.012.07.00 05.22.198(T)	06-Aug-2026 Time: 10:00(AM)	19-Aug-2026 Time: 16:00(PM)	20-Aug-2026 Time: 12:20(PM)

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 from 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).

(Signed)
Md. Golam Sarowar
General Manager (Admin & Procurement)
Bangladesh Satellite Company Limited.

GD-1902