Following legal process

FROM PAGE 12

legal procedures.

"While legal procedures must be respected, political intent is equally crucial. We hope the government of India will focus on expediting the ongoing extradition process to bring the accused back," she told reporters at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs when her attention was drawn to Indian High Commissioner Dinesh Trivedi's comments.

Both countries must have political will, Shama said, noting that the government of Bangladesh certainly has the political will and that the Indian government needs to have it as well.

The state minister said it is entirely possible to extradite the accused under the framework of the extradition treaty and that the legal process is actively being pursued.

Speaking on this issue at an event on Saturday, Trivedi said, "...the process involves legality, and it is well structured. So, as far as that is concerned, the process is on."

The courts are involved in the matter and, therefore, "nobody can give you a timeframe," he said at a discussion titled "Power and Prudence: Managing Great-Power Competition without Conflict" as part of the ongoing Bay of Bengal Conversation in Dhaka.

The Indian high commissioner highlighted the need for continuous dialogue, mutual respect and trust between the two countries to address bilateral issues, saying every issue between the two neighbours has a solution.

No significant media reform

FROM PAGE 2

"Despite this commitment by BNP as a political party and as the government, no significant steps have yet been taken to reform the newspaper and broader media sector," he said.

Recalling the Awami League era, Matiur said journalists were jailed and Prothom Alo faced sustained pressure.

Following government orders, advertisements from 50 major companies were halted to choke the daily's business. Nearly 80 cases were filed against him, including one under the Digital Security Act in 2023.

He recalled how Hasina openly labelled Prothom Alo an "enemy" of the AL and the country in parliament. Before the 2024 uprising, military intelligence placed "tremendous pressure" on the company to oust him and relinquish ownership.

"Had that government lasted a few more months, Prothom Alo's management could have been taken away," he said.

The subsequent interim government also fell short of people's expectations, he observed.

"The media industry became increasingly unstable, as pressure from various groups forced management changes across media houses, leaving many journalists jobless. An atmosphere of uncertainty and fear led outlets, including Prothom Alo, to self-censor," he added.

He said the interim administration "took virtually no initiative" to implement the Media Reform Commission's proposals, despite journalists, editors, and media owners reaching a positive consensus on its short- and long-term recommendations.

"Hateful propaganda" and protests by extremists ultimately culminated in arson attacks on and vandalism of the Prothom Alo and The Daily Star offices on December 18, 2025.

"Only after everything had been burned down and destroyed did the law enforcement agencies clear the way for the fire service," Matiur said, alleging that the government gave no effective instructions to prevent the destruction.

In contrast, Matiur said he enjoyed "considerable freedom" as editor of Bhorer Kagoj and Prothom Alo under Khaleda Zia's governments in 1991-1996 and 2001-2006.

Though his paper strongly criticised the 2001-2006 government, it faced no major legal harassment. He recalled having heated arguments with Khaleda and her son Tarique Rahman, now the prime minister, without facing retribution.

Recalling his participation in a student protest against the Ayub Khan regime for press freedom on February 1, 1962, the veteran journalist said, "After 64 years, we still have to speak about those demands. We still have to ask for them. We still have to remind those in power that the right to speak and freedom of the press are not privileges. They are fundamental rights.

"At the end of my 56 years of journalism, I find myself standing in the same place once again," he concluded.

Akhtaruzzaman sent to jail

FROM PAGE 3

judge then left the bench.

The scuffle continued for several minutes before Dhaka Public Prosecutor Omar Faruq Faruqi and defence lawyer Abdul Razzaq urged the lawyers to calm down.

When the judge returned around 2:45pm, Akhtaruzzaman said, "I want 10 lawyers to conduct the hearing on my behalf."

After the court rejected his bail petition, Akhtaruzzaman chanted "Allahu Akbar" inside the courtroom. Lawyers present then asked him to stop.

The altercation and verbal exchanges later continued downstairs.



PHOTO: VIDEO GRAB

Pro-BNP and Jamaat-backed lawyers got into a scuffle outside the courtroom during the hearing yesterday.

After the hearing, BNP- and Jamaat-aligned lawyers again got into heated exchanges and jostling while state lawyers, including Faruqi, were preparing to brief the media.

Law enforcement personnel later brought the situation under control.

Contacted, Faruqi said, "Pro-Jamaat lawyers, along with their supporters from outside, created an awkward situation inside the courtroom. When other lawyers asked them to make space, a scuffle broke out. Later, the scuffle continued outside the courtroom as they were chanting various objectionable slogans."

However, Abdul Razzaq, a Jamaat-backed lawyer present during the incidents, denied the allegation.

"We did not bring any outsiders into the court," he told The Daily Star.

On Friday, Airport security officer Mohammad Shahriar Alam Sajib filed the case against Akhtaruzzaman with Airport Police Station. Later that day, detectives arrested him from his residence in the Dhaka Cantonment area.

On Saturday, he was placed on one-day remand after police produced him before the court with a five-day remand prayer.

Zero-cost Malaysia jobs for 10,000 Workers

FROM PAGE 3

recruiting agency owners, Malaysian employers have begun issuing demand letters and enrolling workers in the Foreign Workers Centralised Management System (FWCMS) through levy payments.

The Bangladesh High Commission in Kuala Lumpur has also begun attesting to demand letters from Malaysian employers.

Last week, the high commission attested a demand for 28 Bangladeshi workers from the Malaysian supermarket chain NSK Trade City under Goodness Services Limited.

Officials said priority would be given to sending the 10,000 workers through BOESL at zero migration cost.

Mohammad Rashedul Haque, managing director of BOESL, told The Daily Star yesterday that workers with the required expertise, experience and fitness would be selected from among the 10,000.

"We want to leave the selection criteria entirely to the recruiter -- who they want, what kind of workers they need and what qualifications they are looking for," he said.

Rashedul said a Malaysian delegation is expected to visit Bangladesh next week to discuss recruitment criteria.

He said a clearer timeframe would emerge after the delegation's visit and once employers' demand becomes known.

Before sending new workers, however, BOESL plans to complete the migration of workers who could not travel to Malaysia before the market was closed for Bangladesh on May 31, 2024.

That process is expected to be completed by October 16.

A BOESL official said around 120 to 150 of the previously stranded workers were still waiting to travel to Malaysia. The agency would write to their employers to complete the process.

Recruiting agencies, meanwhile, said they had yet to receive specific guidelines on when and how worker selection, medical examinations, training and other procedures would begin after receiving demand letters.

Ariful said the medical examination process had not yet been approved and the government would provide details once arrangements were finalised.

There are currently 17 approved medical centres for Bangladeshi workers.

On October 1, the authorities sealed Human Diagnostic and Medical Centre on Box Culvert Road in Paltan after finding that it had been conducting medical tests and issuing reports for Malaysia-bound workers without approval.

At yesterday's briefing, Prime Minister's Adviser and PMO spokesperson Mahdi Amin said the government was working to reopen the Malaysian labour market while giving Bangladesh's interests the highest priority.

Without giving further details, he said the process was subject to certain conditions and that some complications remained because of the existing memorandum of understanding and the structure put in place under the previous government.

Mahdi said the expatriates' welfare ministry was working on the issues and would brief the media once an effective decision was reached.

PRAYER TIMING

OCTOBER 5

	Fazr	Zohr	Asr	Maghrib	Esha
AZAN	4-45	12-45	4-15	5-53	7-30
JAMAAT	5-20	1-15	4-30	5-56	8-00

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

Surplus liquidity

FROM PAGE 12

as the lender of last resort.

Among individual recipients, Islami Bank received the highest assistance at Tk 17,000 crore, followed by First Security Islami Bank (Tk 15,810.32 crore), Social Islami Bank (Tk 10,843 crore), EXIM Bank (Tk 10,568 crore), National Bank (Tk 10,508 crore), Union Bank (Tk 5,421 crore), Premier Bank (Tk 4,900 crore), AB Bank (Tk 4,270 crore), and Global Islami Bank (Tk 3,003 crore).

Three other banks received between Tk 200 crore and more than Tk 600 crore each.

Meanwhile, following a cut in the policy rate from 10 percent to 9.50 percent, the interbank call money rate has trended lower.

On September 27, the call money rate stood at 8.72 percent, down from 9.94 percent on the same day last year.

Despite substantial surplus liquidity, capital shortfalls and historic defaulted loans are preventing banks from expanding fresh credit to the broader economy.

As of March, 15 out of 63 banks were operating with negative capital. The banking sector's overall Capital to Risk-Weighted Assets Ratio (CRAR) plummeted to negative 3.17 percent.

Shariah-based banks fared worst, with their capital adequacy ratio sliding to an alarming negative 44.77 percent.

Eroded capital structures are severely undermining banks' ability to absorb losses, safeguard depositors' interests, and extend new credit, the report said.

The surge in bad loans remains a key concern.

By the end of June, defaulted loans rose to Tk 5,81,247 crore, accounting for 31.41 percent of total disbursed loans. Total classified loans climbed to Tk 6,06,555 crore, or 32.78 percent of the total credit portfolio.

On the earnings front, despite generating an operating profit of Tk 789 crore in the first quarter of the year, the banking sector posted a net loss of Tk 8,417 crore after adjusting for high provisioning and potential loan losses.

Currently, 22 banks hold cumulative losses totalling Tk 2,53,938 crore.

To restore equilibrium and rein in defaulted assets, the BB has outlined short-, medium- and long-term reform plans.

Legal overhaul is also underway through amendments to the Bank Company Act 2026, the Money Loan Court Act 2026, and the upcoming Insolvency and Bankruptcy Act 2026.

The regulator is also evaluating legal provisions to publicly disclose lists of loan defaulters and wilful default borrowers, the report added.

According to a press statement from the parliamentary committee, lawmakers discussed the ministry's presentation on the current financial sector outlook, stressing the need for enhanced transparency, accountability, and macro-financial stability.

The committee directed the ministry to present comprehensive data at the next meeting.

Road crashes killed 14 a day

FROM PAGE 12

An analysis of the crashes showed that 168 (38 percent) occurred after vehicles lost control. Another 109 involved vehicles hitting or running over pedestrians, while 98 were head-on collisions.

Dhaka division recorded the highest number of deaths, with 134 people killed in 132 crashes. Sylhet recorded the lowest, with 21 deaths in 20 crashes. In Dhaka city, 21 people were killed and 47 injured in 52 road crashes during September.

Road Safety Foundation said the report was prepared based on information collected from nine national dailies, 17 national and regional online news portals, various electronic media outlets and its own sources.

'We are bad at building democratic institutions'

FROM PAGE 2

your lifeblood, how can you openly side with a political party and still expect that you will enjoy credibility?" Anam questioned.

"Police are always used as a partisan extension of one's party muscle. Intelligence agencies are used for political purposes. Institutions like the Anti-Corruption Commission, which are supposed to be constitutional bodies and run independently, are all politicised," he added.

Anam said a party's election through a democratic process is an expression of public will, but that does not necessarily translate into loyalty towards the public.

"Obviously, globally, every political party -- the Labour Party in England, the Democrats in the US -- will have some partisanship [within the government], but turning your whole governance system into an extension of your own party is where the collapse begins. And one of the first results of this is corruption and cronyism," he said.

He underscored the importance of technology in reducing partisanship in governance.

"Technology can now give us a very efficient bureaucracy and a very efficient police force, and at the same time a just police force," Anam remarked.

The three-day conference is being held at the Pan Pacific Sonargaon Hotel in Dhaka.

Hormuz won't reopen

FROM PAGE 12

on the Islamabad Memorandum of Understanding, are met," Ghalibaf, who is Iran's top negotiator, was quoted as saying.

He said Washington "must understand that the period of dragging out the (diplomatic) process and dictating one-sided demands is over".

A Foreign Ministry spokesperson yesterday said that Tehran had clarified its broad positions via mediators to the US response but that additional points remained to be communicated to Washington.

"The Americans' propositions are more or less in line with their previous positions, specifically on the nuclear issue. We told them our focus in this stage is the issue of the Strait of Hormuz and the return to security in this waterway requires clear steps from the US," spokesperson Esmaeil Baghaei said.

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পুনঃনিলাম বিজ্ঞপ্তি

১.	শিরোনাম	বিচার প্রশাসন প্রশিক্ষণ ইনস্টিটিউটের অকেজো ও ব্যবহার অনুপযোগী আসবাবপত্র ও অন্যান্য মালামাল "যেখানে যে অবস্থায় আছে সে অবস্থার ভিত্তিতে" নিলামে বিক্রয়।
২.	নিলাম দরপত্র প্রাপ্তির স্থান	কক্ষ নং ২১৪, হিসাব শাখা, বিচার প্রশাসন প্রশিক্ষণ ইনস্টিটিউট
৩.	নিলাম দরপত্র বিক্রয়ের তারিখ ও সময়	০৫/১০/২০২৬ খ্রিস্টাব্দ হতে ১৮/১০/২০২৬ খ্রিস্টাব্দ অফিস চলাকালীন পর্যন্ত।
৪.	নিলাম দরপত্র জমা দেওয়ার স্থান, তারিখ ও সময়	পরিচালক (প্রশাসন), বিচার প্রশাসন প্রশিক্ষণ ইনস্টিটিউট-এর দপ্তর (কক্ষ নং ৩০৩) তারিখ: ১৯/১০/২০২৬ খ্রিস্টাব্দ বেলা ১২.০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত।
৫.	নিলাম দরপত্র উন্মুক্তকরণের স্থান ও সময়	সেমিনার হল (২য় তলা), বিচার প্রশাসন প্রশিক্ষণ ইনস্টিটিউট তারিখ: ১৯/১০/২০২৬ খ্রিস্টাব্দ বেলা ১২.৩০ ঘটিকা।
৬.	নিলাম দরপত্রের মূল্য	নগদ ১০০০/- (এক হাজার) টাকা (অফেরতযোগ্য)।
৭.	দরপত্র জামানত	যেকোনো তফসিলী ব্যাংকের ইস্যুকৃত ব্যাংক ড্রাফট/পে-অর্ডার এর মাধ্যমে পরিচালক (প্রশাসন), বিচার প্রশাসন প্রশিক্ষণ ইনস্টিটিউট-এর অনুকূলে প্রস্তাবিত দরের ২৫% টাকা জামানত হিসেবে দরপত্রের সাথে দাখিল করতে হবে।
৮.	মালামাল পরিদর্শনের সময়	আগামী ০৫/১০/২০২৬ খ্রিস্টাব্দ হতে ১৮/১০/২০২৬ খ্রিস্টাব্দ পর্যন্ত প্রতি কর্মদিবসে সকাল ১০:০০ ঘটিকা হতে ১২:০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত।
৯.	কর্তৃপক্ষ কোন প্রকার কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতিরেকে যে কোনো দরপত্র/সকল দরপত্র বিধি মোতাবেক বাতিল করার ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করেন।	

এ. ই. এম. ইসমাইল হোসেন
পরিচালক (প্রশাসন)
(সিনিয়র জেলা জজ)
ফোন: ৪১০৫৩৪৭৭ (অফিস)

GD-2401

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GD-2400

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Coal Power Generation Company Bangladesh Limited (CPGCBL)
(An Enterprise of Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh)
'আলোকিত দেশ, যত্নে পরিবেশ'

Memo No: 27.32.0000.000.005.07.0003.25.0864; Date: 04-10-2026

INVITATION FOR BIDS

	Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh	
1	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Energy, Power and Mineral Resources/ Power Division
2	Agency	Coal Power Generation Company Bangladesh Limited (CPGCBL)
3	Purchaser Name	Kazi Md. Miraj Hossain FCS
4	Purchaser Address	Company Secretary, CPGCBL, CPGCBL Corporate Office, Dhaka
5	Invitation For	Procurement & Delivery of Imported Coal at Plant Jetty (CDP)
6	Invitation Reference No.	27.32.0000.000.005.07.0003.25.0863; Date: 04-10-2026
	Key Information	
7	Procurement Method	One Stage Two Envelope Tendering Method (ICB)
	Funding Information	
8	Budget and Source of Funds	CPGCBL Own Fund
	Particular Information	
9	Bid Package No.	2026-2027/CO/SE.PRO/GR-05
10	Bid Package Name	Procurement and Delivery of Imported Coal at Plant Jetty (CDP) for Matarbari 2x600 MW Ultra Super Critical Coal Fired Power Plant
11	Bid Publication Date	04 October 2026
12	Bid Document Last Selling Date	18 November 2026 16:00 BST
13	Bid Closing Date & Time	19 November 2026 12:00 BST
14	Bid Opening Date & Time	19 November 2026 12:30 BST
	Name & Address of the Office(s)	
15	Selling of Bid Document	Office of the Company Secretary, CPGCBL Corporate Office, Unique Heights (level-17), 117, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Eskaton, Dhaka-1217 & CPGCBL Website [http://www.cpgcbl.gov.bd/Tender & Contract Related/Current Tender/] (*Bid Document price to be provided during bid submission if collected from online)*
16	Submission of Bids	Office of the Company Secretary, CPGCBL Corporate Office, Unique Heights (level-17), 117, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Eskaton, Dhaka-1217
17	Place of Opening of Bids	Board Room, CPGCBL Corporate Office, Dhaka
18	Place & Time of Pre-Bid Meeting	Place: Board Room, CPGCBL Corporate Office Time: 27 October 2026 14:30 BST (Both Offline & Online Platform)
	Information for Bidders	
19	Eligibility of Bidders	As per Bid Document
20	Brief Description of Goods	Imported Coal
21	Brief Description of Related Service	As per Bid Document
22	Bid Document Price	BDT 1,20,000/= only or USD 1,000/= only (Non-refundable)

Bid Lot Information

SL No.	Description of Supply	Location	Bid Security	Completion Time
01	Procurement and Delivery of Imported Coal at Plant Jetty (CDP) for Matarbari 2x600 MW USCCFPP	Matarbari Jetty, Matarbari, Moheshkhali Cox's Bazar	USD 04 (Four) Million only	24 (Twenty-Four) Months

	Purchaser Details	
24	Name, Designation, Address and Contact Details	Kazi Md. Miraj Hossain FCS, Company Secretary, CPGCBL CPGCBL Corporate Office, Unique Heights (level-17) 117, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Eskaton, Dhaka-1217 Phone: +88-01332-544800, +88-02-222221509; Fax: +8802-222228306, email: cs@cpgcbl.gov.bd

*The Purchaser reserves the right to reject all Bids or annul the Bid proceedings without any prior notice.

04.10.2026
Kazi Md. Miraj Hossain FCS
Company Secretary, CPGCBL, Dhaka