DHAKA FRIDAY OCTOBER 9, 2026

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THE DAILY Star ON FRIDAY

SECOND EDITION



I want to make it clear to everybody that ...we will not be attacking Iran at any time prior to the Midterm Elections.

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SECONDARY SCHOOLS

Vacant posts hurting children, taxing teachers

80,000 posts remain unfilled in 20,631 institutions

ARAFAT RAHAMAN

Persistent shortages of teachers have been disrupting classroom learning at secondary schools across the country, forcing many institutions to overburden teachers of key subjects including mathematics, English and ICT, and reduce the frequency of practical classes.

This is contributing to weaker learning outcomes and educational inequality, as deficiencies in classroom teaching push more and more students towards private coaching, according to experts.

At least 2,842 teaching posts were vacant in government secondary schools, while 77,227 posts were vacant in non-government secondary education institutions listed under the government's Monthly Pay Order (MPO) programme, Education Minister ANM Ehsanul Hoque Milon told parliament on April 23.

MPO-listed schools are privately managed institutions where the government covers the salaries and allowances of teachers and other staff appointed against approved posts. Though these schools are run by managing committees, key areas such as teacher recruitment, fee structures, and academic activities are regulated by the government.

Nearly 90 lakh students study at the secondary level in 20,631 secondary schools and secondary sections of colleges across the country, show government data.

Of these schools, 3,861 remain without any ICT teachers; 2,744 without mathematics teachers and 2,625 without English teachers, according to documents from the Education Management Information System.

Educationists and officials said the shortages stem from recruitment delays, problems in teacher deployment and difficulties in retaining teachers.

2,842 teaching posts vacant in **702** govt secondary schools	**77,227** posts remain unfilled in MPO-listed institutions	No ICT teachers in **3,861** institutions	**2,744** institutions have no mathematics teacher
In many schools, teachers take up to **27** classes a week	Students turning to coaching and YouTube lessons	**2,625** institutions are without English teachers	DSHE says **2-3** more rounds of recruitment may be needed

The lack of teachers, especially trained ones, has been a "common and persistent issue" for key subjects, particularly English, mathematics, science and ICT, said Manzoor Ahmed, professor emeritus at BRAC University.

"Proper teaching in these subjects is critical to improving learning outcomes, preventing dropout and raising pass rates, but a coherent plan for addressing the situation is lacking," said Prof Manzoor, who led a 10-member Improvement of Secondary Education Committee formed during the interim government's tenure in October 2025.

The committee submitted its draft report to the then education adviser Prof CR Abrar on February 10 with 120 recommendations, including a long-term proposal to overhaul the mechanism for recruitment and deployment of secondary school teachers.

It proposed establishing a National Teaching Service Corps, modelled broadly on a professional civil service, under which graduates would be recruited into the teaching service with competitive salaries, allowances, and professional status.

They would have to serve for at least five years in government-assigned institutions, with particular emphasis on addressing teacher shortages in rural areas.

The committee also recommended barring teacher transfers, arguing that frequent transfers disrupt continuity between teachers and students.

Prof Manzoor said that upon assuming office, the new government did not "take forward the recommendations comprehensively". Instead, it pursued a series of "fragmented, separate and partial" initiatives.

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Police jostle with members of left-leaning political and labour organisations during a protest in the capital's Agargaon yesterday afternoon against the government's decision to let UAE-based DP World run the New Mooring Container Terminal at Chattogram port for 15 years. PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

Ganges treaty by Dec, work on Padma Barrage to start by Mar

Hopes Anee

UNB, *Dhaka*



Water Resources Minister Shahiduddin Chowdhury Anee yesterday expressed hope that a new Ganges water-sharing treaty with India would be signed before December 12 this year.

"Restoring the guarantee clause, as in the 1977 agreement, is one of Bangladesh's top priorities in the new treaty," Anee told reporters after a seminar titled "Rethinking the Future of Water: Youth Leadership, Justice, and Cooperation," organised by the Bangladesh Institute of International and Strategic Studies (BIISS).

The minister said the existing 30-year agreement would expire on December 12. "A five-year agreement signed in 1977 during the tenure of then president Ziaur Rahman contained a guarantee clause, but the provision was dropped when the new

SEE PAGE 5 COL 1

Govt bets on DP World

Signs 15-year deal for NCT operations amid protests in Dhaka, Ctg; PM meets DP World delegation

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government yesterday signed a 15-year deal with DP World to operate the New Mooring Container Terminal (NCT), banking on the Dubai-based logistics solutions provider's pledged $150 million of investment to improve efficiency at the Chattogram port.

The agreement signing ceremony took place amid protests outside the venue demanding the cancellation of the move to hand over the operation of the high-revenue-generating terminal to a foreign operator.

DP World becomes the fourth foreign operator at Chattogram Port after RSGT International, AP Møller-Maersk and Medlog.

"Our wider policy is to engage multiple international operators across terminals to improve service quality and reliability and strengthen supply chain resilience," said Shipping Minister Sheikh Rabiul Alam at the agreement signing ceremony.

The government will receive Tk 600 crore as signing money from DP World, with 25 percent paid at signing and the remaining 75 percent before the terminal is handed over to DP World.

Bangladesh will receive 67 percent of the handling revenue per 20-foot container (TEU), while a minimum handling volume has also been set, Rabiul said.

"The national interest will remain protected," said Md Razib Ahsan, the state minister for shipping, adding that higher container volumes would increase government revenue from customs and other sources.



Leaders of protesting workers' organisations at Chattogram have issued the government a three-day ultimatum to open talks over the deal with DP World.

Based on current handling charges, the government's share could average around $90-$100 per TEU, although the amount would vary.

NCT, which began operations in 2007, currently handles around 1.23 million TEUs a year. The government expects the volume to rise to 1.6-1.8 million TEUs as efficiency improves.

DP World will invest to modernise NCT, including upgrading equipment and introducing greater automation to reduce container and ship stay time, which at 9.4 days and 2.53 days are well above those of India's Jawaharlal Nehru Port and Vietnam's Cai Mep.

SEE PAGE 2 COL 4



STANDING ON THE EDGE... Golam Rasul and his wife anxiously look on as the erosion of the Padma riverbank threatens their home at Nimtali village in Rajshahi's Godagari upazila. Over the last five years, relentless erosion has washed away hundreds of homes in the area. The photo was taken yesterday. PHOTO: AZAHAR UDDIN

IN FOCUS

StanChart confirms retail banking exit

Transition expected to take up to 2 years

AHSAN HABIB

Standard Chartered Bank, the top profit-making lender in Bangladesh, yesterday formally announced its plans to sell its wealth and retail banking business in the country as it sharpens its focus on corporate and investment banking.

Talks about the plan had already been circulating in the banking sector in recent weeks, against a backdrop of the bank's retail loan portfolio growing at a much slower pace than its corporate lending.

Its consumer, SME, and other retail loans, including Shariah-based financing, rose 14 percent to around Tk 9,682 crore between 2022 and 2025, according to its financial statements.

Over the same period, corporate loans, including Shariah-based financing, increased around 30 percent to Tk 22,431 crore.

The bank said the plan would have no immediate impact on retail clients or employees, and operations would continue as usual until any sale is completed.

The transition of the Wealth & Retail Banking business is expected to take 18 to 24 months, subject to the deal process and regulatory approvals, said Enamul Huque, chief executive officer of Standard Chartered Bangladesh.

"We are sharpening our strategic

SEE PAGE 2 COL 4

US wants a 'strong Europe': Rubio

AFP, *Athens*

US Secretary of State Marco Rubio yesterday said Washington wanted strong allies in Europe as he headed to Portugal for the last leg of a four-day European trip.

"We want our allies to be strong. The stronger they are, the stronger we are collectively...We want a strong Europe. We want strong partners in Europe," Rubio told reporters at Athens airport.

"The stronger the individual members of (NATO) are, both societally, economically, and militarily, the stronger NATO is," he said.

Rubio was in Greece for talks Wednesday on energy, defence and cultural matters, and also announced a joint agreement on information-sharing on drug trafficking and terrorism.

In a fiery speech beneath the Acropolis after talks with Greek officials, the US secretary of state flexed American power and called on Europe to shake off its "long slumber".

He warned that Western civilisation now finds itself "at a crossroads" between "national power" and decline.



Visitors take photos in a field of pink muhly grass during the peak blooming period at a scenic area in Fuyang, in China's eastern Anhui province yesterday. PHOTO: AFP

Authorities approve Rooppur Unit-1 to begin fission

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Pabna*

The Rooppur Nuclear Power Plant yesterday received permission to begin its first controlled nuclear reaction, a key step towards generating electricity.

Bangladesh Atomic Energy Regulatory Authority (BAERA) approved taking Unit-1 to the criticality stage after resolving recent safety valve issues.

According to BAERA high officials, two more licences will be needed for the unit before it can proceed to grid synchronisation.

Earlier, two valves failed to perform during the commissioning stage, delaying the process.

Later, a Russian technical team went to Rooppur in Pabna's Ishwardi and spent the last month resolving the problem.

All tests for the unit's automatic pressure relief valves (PORV/POSV) have now been successfully completed. Following initial adjustments and technical support from Russian experts to resolve minor and high pressure-testing issues, the main control room (MCR) and emergency control room (ECR) verified all required parameters, valve response speeds, and safety mechanisms, said project officials.

"As PORV tests have been successfully completed, we have allowed them to reach the next stage of commissioning," Md Mahmudul Hasan, chairman of BAERA, told The Daily Star.

"We approved the B-2 licence on Thursday to start the

SEE PAGE 5 COL 1

Army camps planned in Cox's Bazar: home boss

Govt to build police academy at Jungle Salimpur

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government has decided to set up two army camps at Rangikhali and Noakhali Pahar in Cox's Bazar to curb kidnappings and other crimes.

It will also build a police academy at Jungle Salimpur in Chattogram. The government has also acquired 72 acres of land in the area to relocate the Chattogram Central Jail.

Home Minister Salahuddin Ahmed announced the decisions while briefing reporters at his ministry yesterday following two meetings.

The first was the second meeting of the National Committee on Coordination, Management, and Law and Order Related to Forcibly Displaced Myanmar Nationals. The other focused on improving the overall law-and-order situation in Jungle Salimpur.

Salahuddin said, "Following earlier discussions, we have decided to set up two army camps at Rangikhali and Noakhali Pahar, where kidnappings take place regularly. The camps will be built under the leadership of the 10 Infantry Division based in Ramu."

He said the decision was made, considering that the camps would help curb abductions and other criminal activities in the areas.

Speaking about security in the Rohingya camps, the minister said, "There are drug-related activities inside



the camps, and different armed groups enter the camps. We have to monitor these activities. We also have to carry out operations against drugs, weapons, and human trafficking inside and outside the Rohingya camps."

He added that barbed-wire fences surrounding the Rohingya camps were frequently damaged or destroyed, while CCTV cameras and streetlights also needed regular repairs.

The minister said the damaged facilities would be repaired and security around the camps strengthened. "Closed-circuit cameras and watchtowers will be installed at some distance outside the camps."

Salahuddin said different security forces regularly conduct operations against drug trafficking, arms-related crimes, and human trafficking inside and outside the Rohingya camps.

He added that arrangements were already in place to deal with any war-like situation or emergency under the leadership of an army brigadier general.

Regarding Jungle Salimpur, the minister said road construction was underway in the area.

The police academy to be built there would be similar to the one in Rajshahi's Sardah, he said, adding that the government would also decide how to rehabilitate the residents of the area.

"We will run the educational institutions and other institutions located there. We will bring everything under proper management and free the area from being a safe haven for criminals."

The minister said land had also been allocated to ensure the presence of police, BGB, and SRB, formerly RAB, in the area.

Responding to a reporter's question about Rohingya repatriation, Salahuddin said, "Rohingya repatriation is possible with the support of the United Nations and the international community.

"A lot of time has passed, and the problem has become much bigger. I hope we will be able to overcome this problem soon."

Responding to another query, the minister said maintaining public trust remained a major task, as pointed out by the inspector general of police.

"We have earned public trust. The people will judge how much."

Govt bets on DP World

FROM PAGE 1

Modern equipment, digital systems, international operating standards and global logistics connections will make NCT more competitive, Rabiul said.

Initial modernisation work is expected to be completed within six months, while the terminal is expected to operate at full capacity within about two years.

Truck waiting time, currently around 24 hours, could fall to two hours in the first year and eventually to one hour, while vessel turnaround time is also expected to decline from about 2.5 days to between one and 1.5 days.

The container dwell time at the port could fall to around three to four days after modernisation, he said.

That could have a significant impact on trade.

According to World Bank data cited at the event, cutting dwell time by one day could increase Bangladesh's exports by about 7.4 percent.

Faster cargo handling would shorten lead times for exporters and help make the garment and other export industries more competitive, Ahsan said.

The government has also sought to allay concerns over job losses.

The existing port employees would not lose their jobs under the agreement and their current gross salaries would remain unchanged, Rabiul said. "Modernisation could instead create demand for more skilled workers."

Rabiul acknowledged public concerns over the deal, saying some opposition was linked to fears over job security and loss of influence.

"We respect their views," he said, adding that the government would engage with stakeholders if they had specific concerns.

DP World Executive Chairman Essa Kazim said the company would connect NCT with its global network of ports, logistics infrastructure and supply chain services.

"Bangladesh is an increasingly important trading and manufacturing economy, and we are committed to supporting its continued development," he said.

After the signing ceremony, a DP World delegation led by Kazim met with Prime Minister Tarique Rahman at his office in the secretariat and discussed various issues of mutual interest, including trade and investment between Bangladesh and the UAE, port management and development of the logistics sector.

Tarique sought DP World's investment in free trade zones and rail-based inland container depots in Bangladesh, reports UNB.

The DP World representatives expressed interest in cooperation and investment in the areas.

Over in the port city, leaders of protesting workers' organisations at Chattogram have given the government a three-day ultimatum to open talks over the deal with DP World.

They also announced a token hunger strike for Monday and warned that the movement would be intensified if the government failed to hold talks with protesting port workers and employees by October 11.

The announcement came at a rally organised by Chattogram Bandar Rokkha Sangram Parishad, a platform of pro-BNP workers' organisations active at the port, in front of the main gate of the port's administrative building.

Leaders and activists of several political and labour organisations, including Sramik Karmachari Oikkya Parishad, the Communist Party of Bangladesh, Bangladesher Samajtantrik Dal (Basad) and Basad (Marxist), also joined the programme under the banner of Chattogram Bandar Rokkha Committee.

After the rally, participants brought out a procession through roads adjacent to the port area.

Addressing the gathering, Parishad Coordinator Humayun Kabir said the protesters are still willing to engage in dialogue.

They still believe the government is ready to discuss the issue and listen to the arguments of the port's workers and employees.

He criticised the government for signing the agreement without making its details public.



DP World Chairman Essa Kazim and CPA Chairman Rear Admiral SM Moniruzzaman pose for a photo after signing the deal for operating the New Mooring Container Terminal at a ceremony at the Invest Bangladesh auditorium in Dhaka yesterday. PHOTO: COLLECTED

Sheikh Nurullah Bahar, general secretary of the Chattogram divisional unit of Jatiyatabadi Sramik Dal, accused the government of ignoring public opinion and the concerns of port workers and employees.

He questioned what safeguards, if any, had been included in the agreement for workers.

Bahar also accused Invest Bangladesh Chairman Ashik Chowdhury and the CPA chairman of influencing the government to hand over the NCT to DP World.

No agreement would be accepted unless port workers and employees agree to it, said Parishad Co-Coordinator Ibrahim Khokan, who is also general secretary of Bandar Jatiyatabadi Sramik Dal.

Vacant posts hurting children, taxing teachers

FROM PAGE 1

SHORTAGES HIT CLASSROOMS

During visits to secondary schools in several districts, many teachers complained of heavy workloads, while students said gaps in classroom learning were pushing them towards coaching centres and lessons on YouTube.

At Shariatpur Government Girls' High School, half of the 53 sanctioned teaching posts remained vacant, leaving 27 teachers to serve around 1,200 students.

This means one teacher was available for every 44 students whereas the National Education Policy 2010 set a target of one teacher for every 30 secondary school students.

The school has five English teachers against eight posts, four mathematics teachers against six and three Bangla teachers against eight. It has no sanctioned ICT teaching posts, forcing teachers from other disciplines to conduct ICT classes.

Many teachers who would usually take 15 to 17 classes a week were taking 25 to 27 classes.

Moreover, science practical classes were not being held regularly. "As these classes have become irregular, we have no choice but to rely on YouTube videos to understand many topics," said Nishat Tabassum, a Class-X science student at the school.

The situation is similar at Palong Tulasar Gurudas Government High School in the district, where 32 teachers are working against 53 sanctioned posts for 1,050 students.

Teacher shortages also persist in many schools in southern districts of Noakhali, Cox's Bazar and Rangamati.

At least 251 of the 452 sanctioned teaching posts remain vacant at 16 government high schools in Noakhali, while nine schools in Cox's Bazar have 109 vacancies against 226 sanctioned posts.

In Rangamati, 657 of 1,700 teaching posts were vacant across 117 secondary schools, said sources at the district's Secondary Education Office.

CONCERNS OVER LEARNING EQUITY

A national evaluation of student learning has exposed deep gaps in educational outcomes, raising concerns about the quality of classroom instruction at secondary schools.

The National Assessment of Secondary Students 2023 found that the average score among 26,601 Class VIII students assessed in science was just 32 percent.

Of the students surveyed, 48 percent were in the two lowest achievement bands and 22 percent in the top two.

Performance in Bangla, English and mathematics also fell in Classes VIII and X compared with 2019, with the steepest declines in Bangla and mathematics. The assessment did not examine teacher shortages as a cause.

Prof Manzoor said poor classroom teaching pushes students towards private coaching and tutoring. This puts low-income families at a particular disadvantage, as access to better teachers and smaller coaching groups increasingly depends on families' ability to pay.

"This situation turns school education into a commodity. Children's right to education is violated and the state's obligation is not fulfilled when a child gets only as much education as the family can pay for."

He called for coordinated short- and long-term measures, backed by funding and political commitment, to address the problem.

RECRUITMENT YET TO CATCH UP

Speaking at the Jatiya Sangsad on April 8, Milon said the Public Service Commission (PSC) was asked to recruit 2,330 teachers for government secondary schools.

He further said 728 BCS candidates were provisionally picked as non-cadre assistant teachers and steps were underway to create 782 ICT teaching posts.

While teacher recruitment in government secondary schools is carried out through PSC, MPO-listed institutions follow a separate recruitment process overseen by the Non-Government Teachers' Registration and Certification Authority (NTRCA) set up under a 2005 law.

NTRCA, which operates under the Directorate of Secondary and Higher Education (DSHE), recommends candidates for entry-level vacancies. It was recently given the responsibility for recommending headteachers and assistant headteachers for MPO-listed institutions.

In March, NTRCA moved to recruit 2,881 headteachers and 3,296 assistant headteachers at MPO-listed institutions. Vivas for successful candidates were due to begin on October 1 but were deferred to October 15.

Despite repeated attempts, this correspondent could not contact NTRCA Chairperson Alif Rudaba and Secretary Rony Rahman on their mobile phones and via WhatsApp.

When contacted, DSHE Director General Prof Khan Moinuddin Al Mahmud Sohel said the directorate had repeatedly pressed the ministry and the PSC to speed up recruitment of teachers in secondary schools.

He said several hundred non-cadre candidates for teaching posts were still awaiting appointment or posting because police verification had not been completed.

Referring to ICT courses, he said efforts were underway to create ICT teaching posts, as the subject is compulsory.

He pointed out that filling the vacant posts will ease the shortage but will not solve the problem entirely. "We may need another two or three rounds of recruitment."

Noting the hurdles in retaining teachers in key subjects including English and mathematics, he said, "Teaching is not attractive enough at present in terms of salary and other facilities."

"Teaching should be made more attractive, keeping in mind the socio-economic situation," he added.

[Our correspondents in Shariatpur, Noakhali, Cox's Bazar and Rangamati contributed to this report]

StanChart confirms retail banking exit

FROM PAGE 1

focus in Bangladesh to concentrate on areas where our global footprint creates the greatest impact -- particularly international trade, cross-border capital flows and infrastructure financing. Bangladesh remains a vital pillar of our global network and our commitment to driving its long-term economic growth is as strong as ever," he said.

The bank said the move is in line with the group's broader strategic focus on cross-border and affluent clients, reaffirmed in its 2025 full-year results and at its May 2026 investor event.

Despite the planned exit from retail banking, Standard Chartered remains Bangladesh's top profit-making bank.

Its profit fell slightly to Tk 3,219 crore last year from the previous year, but remained higher than that of any other bank in the country. BRAC Bank ranked second with Tk 2,250 crore.

The London-based multinational bank has been operating in Bangladesh for 120 years.

Standard Chartered said client service remains its highest priority throughout the transition period. "Operations will continue business as usual and we will work closely with our clients to ensure a seamless transition with minimal disruption," the bank said.

It also said it remained committed to supporting employees affected by the deal process in a fair, transparent and professional manner, adding that their wellbeing was a key consideration.

Several Standard Chartered Bangladesh officials, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the bank has around 1,500 employees in its front and back offices.

In recent weeks, senior executives of private banks, including Pubali Bank, Mutual Trust Bank, BRAC Bank and City Bank, confirmed that they had begun preliminary talks with Standard Chartered Bangladesh about taking over its retail business.

A mid-level official of the bank, preferring anonymity, said retail banking is highly competitive and involves considerable operational challenges in Bangladesh, while Standard Chartered has stronger prospects in corporate banking.

The bank therefore wants to concentrate on its strengths in trade and corporate business, the official said.

Standard Chartered had already been scaling back its physical network in Bangladesh, saying it was promoting cashless transactions.

Five years ago, it had 24 branches and around 90 ATM booths. It now has 18 branches and 70 self-service terminals, including ATMs and cash recycling machines, according to its website.

The bank recently suspended its fund-transfer facility to mobile financial services amid security concerns, after users on social media reported alleged fraud involving the service.

Standard Chartered's move follows HSBC Bangladesh's decision last year to wind down its retail banking operations in the country.

HSBC said the decision followed a review of its retail business and was part of a broader reassessment of its global portfolio. Although its retail operation in Bangladesh had remained profitable and was growing, the closure affected around 257 to 300 employees.

Bangladesh has seen other foreign banks leave the retail market. American Express Bank withdrew from the country in 2006, while Citibank, NA operates strictly as a corporate and institutional bank and has never established a retail banking operation here.

Standard Chartered's planned exit is also part of a broader global restructuring by the bank.

It has started selling its retail banking portfolio in Bahrain to focus on institutional and corporate growth. In Sri Lanka, it sold its wealth management and retail banking operations while retaining its institutional business.

As part of the restructuring, the bank has also withdrawn local banking operations from Angola, Cameroon, The Gambia, Lebanon, Jordan, Sierra Leone and Zimbabwe. In Tanzania and Côte d'Ivoire, it exited consumer, private and business banking while retaining corporate and institutional operations.



Waste pickers search for recyclable materials, including plastic, metal and paper, amid towering heaps of rubbish at the Aminbazar landfill in Dhaka yesterday. Without protective gear, they work in hazardous conditions, exposing themselves to pollution and potential health risks as they sift through the waste. PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

Dhaka to get two franchise bus routes in 7 days

Full rollout in 6 months



FILE PHOTO

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government has decided to introduce franchise-based bus services on two routes in Dhaka within seven working days and make the system fully operational within six months.

It will also finalise franchises for 32 routes within two months.

The decisions were taken at a meeting chaired by Prime Minister Tarique Rahman at the Secretariat yesterday.

The Dhaka Transport Coordination Authority, Dhaka Metropolitan Police and bus owners' association have been tasked with implementing the route rationalisation plan.

Under the system, one designated company will operate on each route, taking responsibility for vehicle fitness, discipline and legal compliance. Counter-based services, e-ticketing and GPS tracking are also planned.

DTCA Executive Director (Secretary) Mohammad Mashiur Rahman said only 98 of Dhaka's 418 approved bus routes were operational, served by around 7,500 buses belonging to 66 companies.

The DTCA proposes reorganising them into 32 routes, around 70 percent of which correspond to existing routes.

The plan is based on surveys of boarding and alighting by more than 10,000 passengers and the origins and destinations of over 35,000. Vehicles were counted over 72 hours at 52 key locations, while drones filmed around 400 km of the bus network.

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VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN, CHILDREN

Law promises speedy trials, oversight remains absent

Despite 2016 HC directive, SC yet to form monitoring cell for tribunals

ASHUTOSH SARKAR

A decade after the High Court ordered the formation of a monitoring cell to ensure speedy disposal of cases under the Women and Children Repression Prevention Act, 2000, the Supreme Court administration has yet to implement the directive, even as thousands of cases remain pending.

The law requires tribunals to complete trials within 180 days of framing charges, but the deadline is frequently missed.

As of June 30 this year, 1,16,392 cases were pending before 101 Women and Children Repression Prevention Tribunals across the country, including 26,249 that had remained unresolved for more than five years, according to SC sources.

On September 30 last year, the backlog stood at 1,42,575 cases, including 30,623 pending for over five years.

In a judgment delivered on December 5, 2016, the HC directed the SC registrar general to establish a monitoring cell to oversee compliance with the 180-day deadline.

The cell was to be headed by the SC registrar general or HC registrar, with representatives from the home and law ministries. It was also required to submit periodic reports to the SC and government to facilitate action against those responsible for unexplained delays.



Law requires trials to finish within 180 days

1,16,392 cases pending across 101 tribunals

26,249 cases pending for over five years

No mechanism to monitor compliance with deadline

HC recently summoned judge over prolonged trial

Under the law, if a trial cannot be completed within the deadline, the tribunal judge, public prosecutor and investigating officer must submit separate reports explaining the delay to the SC and government.

The bench led by Justice M Enayetur Rahim issued the directive after finding that the provision was virtually being ignored.

However, SC sources said no initiative had been taken to form the cell, and officials familiar with the matter could not explain why. Consequently, updated nationwide information on tribunals' compliance with the deadline remains unavailable.

Contacted recently, Mazharul Haque, special officer of the High Court, confirmed that no such monitoring cell existed under the SC registrar general.

He said he needed to enquire about the judgement and whether any system existed for judges or public prosecutors to report trial delays.

Mazharul said all current senior officials at the SC Registrar General's Office, including Registrar General Mohammad Habibur Rahman Siddiquee, joined long after the verdict.

An official at the office claimed that the 180-day provision was directory, not mandatory.

The issue resurfaced in June when the HC summoned a tribunal judge over delays in a child rape and murder trial in Habiganj.

On June 9, an HC bench of Justice KM Emrul Kayesh and Justice Md Sagir Hossain summoned Tribunal Judge Syeda Minhaj Um Munira after observing that the trial had remained pending for more than four years.

The order came during a bail hearing for accused Golam Hossain.

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IN BRIEF

EC to announce UP poll dates Monday

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Election Commission yesterday said it would announce the dates and phases of the upcoming Union Parishad elections on Monday following a commission meeting.

Election Commissioner Abul Fazal Md Sanaullah told reporters at the EC headquarters in Dhaka's Agargaon that the commission would hold dialogues with political parties after finalising the poll dates.

On September 17, Sanaullah said the commission aimed to complete the local government elections, particularly the UP polls, before June 6 next year.

Asked yesterday when the elections would be completed, he said, "We hope to complete all election phases within the timeframe we had originally outlined."

Playground to be built on cleared Faridabad site

Says DSCC administrator

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A playground will be constructed within a month on a site cleared of an illegal settlement in Faridabad's IG Gate area under Dhaka South City Corporation's Ward 47, DSCC Administrator Md Abdus Salam said yesterday.

Inspecting development activities in the adjacent Bangladesh Bank Colony area, he said the government-owned land had been occupied for nearly five decades and the area was known as a drug den. A new road will also be built nearby, while a community centre may be constructed if space permits, he said.

Five more die of dengue, 1,935 get hospitalised

Death toll now 294

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

At least five dengue patients died and 1,935 others were hospitalised in the 24 hours till 8:00am yesterday, according to the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS).

Of the latest deaths, three were reported in DSCC and two in Khulna division.



With the new deaths and cases, the dengue death toll this year has risen to 294, while the total number of cases has reached 94,151.

Medicine specialist Dr ABM Abdullah said repeated infections, delayed diagnosis and changes in the clinical presentation of dengue were contributing to severe cases and deaths.

"Dengue has four serotypes. When people are infected for the first time, they often do not realise that they have dengue. They may mistake the symptoms for influenza or another common illness and recover without serious complications," he said.

PM pledges support for Abrar case

UNB, *Dhaka*

Prime Minister Tarique Rahman yesterday assured the family of Abrar Fahad of all necessary government support in the ongoing murder case, while pledging to consider their various demands, including a bridge over the Gorai river in Kushtia to be named after the slain Buet student.

Abrar's father Barkat Ullah, mother Rokeya Khatun, and younger brother Abrar Faiyaz, among others, met the prime minister at his office at the Secretariat, said a release issued by the PM's Press Wing.

Barkat sought the premier's cooperation in expediting the judicial process in his son's murder case and executing the verdict.

In response, the PM said the case is currently pending with the Supreme Court, and the judiciary will independently complete the trial process. He assured the family that the government will provide all necessary support in the matter.

Abrar's father also sought the construction of a bridge over the Gorai river in Kushtia, saying around 40,000 to 50,000 people in the area currently cross the river using a makeshift bamboo bridge.

SEE PAGE 5 COL 1



A pedestrian covers his nose and mouth to protect himself from thick dust stirred up by ongoing construction work in the capital's Lalbagh area yesterday. Students, office-goers and pedestrians face heavy dust pollution while traveling through the area during the dry season. PHOTO: FIROZ AHMED

'REMARKS ON VEIL'

DU teacher relieved of duties

DU CORRESPONDENT

An associate professor at Dhaka University's Department of English has been relieved of teaching duties following a complaint that she made inappropriate remarks to a female student about her clothing.

The decision was taken at an emergency academic meeting of the department yesterday and forwarded to the university's higher authorities for review, said department Chairperson Tazin Aziz Chaudhury.

She said the decision was based on a complaint from students, adding that the department did not have the authority to conduct a formal inquiry or suspend a teacher. The professor's courses have since been reassigned to other faculty members, Tazin said.

The department also adopted a resolution describing the complaint as unfortunate and saying the alleged remarks did not reflect its values or practices.

"The remarks reflect the teacher's personal views, not those of the department," Tazin said. She declined to disclose details of the complaint.

Dr Abul Kalam Sarker, dean of the Faculty of Arts, said, "The department took the decision unanimously because the allegation was found to be true."

A video obtained by The Daily Star, containing statements from the student and

SEE PAGE 4 COL 6



A worker cuts and separates discarded tyres at a recycling yard in Dewanhat, Chattogram. Thousands of used tyres collected from across the city are processed here for reuse, providing livelihoods for many workers. The photo was taken recently. PHOTO: RAJIB RAIHAN

Most flood-hit farmers left without govt aid

Only 29.55% of affected farmers in Ctg, Cox's Bazar get assistance

SIFAYET ULLAH, *Chattogram*

Farmers in Chattogram and Cox's Bazar received government assistance amounting to just 0.52 percent of their losses in the July floods, leaving most affected farmers without support.

According to the Chattogram regional office of the Department of Agricultural Extension (DAE), 1,50,380 farmers in the two districts suffered losses worth Tk 309.16 crore, including Tk 222.55 crore in Chattogram and Tk 86.61 crore in Cox's Bazar.

Against these losses, the government allocated Tk 1.61 crore in assistance. Just 44,467 farmers, or 29.55 percent of those affected, received 5kg of paddy seeds each, including 33,696 in Chattogram and 10,771 in Cox's Bazar.

Abdul Malek, a farmer from Purba Puichhari in Chattogram's Banshkhali, spent Tk 10,000 preparing a seedbed and his 1.6-acre land for Aman cultivation before the floods destroyed the seedbed.

"I prepared the seedbed with 20kg of seeds. The flood washed everything away. The agriculture department gave me only 5kg of seeds. I had to buy the rest myself. The government support was very little compared with my losses," Malek said.

Ansar Ullah, a farmer from Bholiapara in Satkania, received only 5kg of seeds after losing a seedbed prepared with 15kg. He later had to take out a loan to buy seeds for his 1.2-acre land.

In Banshkhali alone, around 26,000 farmers suffered losses, but only 6,800 received assistance, according to the upazila agriculture office. "We distributed the available assistance among the farmers identified as the worst affected," said Shyamal Chandra Sarker, Banshkhali upazila agriculture officer.

The floods during the first 15 days of July damaged Aus and Aman fields and seedbeds, ginger, turmeric and vegetable plantations, and betel-leaf gardens in several areas, including Banshkhali and Satkania in Chattogram and Pekua and Matamuhuri in Cox's Bazar.

DAE data show that 21,935 farmers lost 1,899 hectares of Aman seedbeds, causing damage worth Tk 6.46 crore. Many had to prepare fresh seedbeds to continue cultivation.



Vast stretches of paddy fields and seedbeds were damaged by floods in July 2026 across Chattogram and Cox's Bazar upazilas. PHOTO: RAJIB RAIHAN

Muhammad Ali Jinnah, DAE additional director in Chattogram region, said they had submitted a list of affected farmers and details of their losses to the agriculture ministry, seeking assistance. "We distributed whatever allocation the ministry provided," he said.

He added that affected upazilas would receive priority under the ministry's regular support programmes. "So, farmers in these upazilas will receive priority when further assistance is provided," he said.

ASI among four detained in Barishal drug raid

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Barishal*

Four people, including an assistant sub-inspector, were detained during a raid on a suspected drug den at a house in Raipasha-Karapur area of Barishal Sadar upazila early yesterday.

The raid was conducted by officials of the Department of Narcotics Control (DNC) based on a tip-off, said Tanvir Hossain Khan, deputy director of the DNC's Barishal office.

Jahidul Islam, a DNC inspector who led the operation, said they detained four people and recovered drug-use paraphernalia from the house.

"Among those detained was ASI Delwar Hossain of Barishal Airport Police Station. He was handed over to OC Suman Kumar Aich of the police station," he said.

The other detainees were identified as house owner Mirajul Islam, a woman and Nahid Hossain.

Mirajul and the woman tested positive in drug tests and were sentenced to 20 days in jail each by a summary trial court under the Chief Judicial Magistrate's Court, the DNC inspector said.

Nahid tested negative and was released by the court, he added.

Locals alleged that ASI Delwar had a close relationship with Mirajul and frequently stayed at his house.

The OC said preparations were under way to conduct a drug test on Delwar. "Necessary legal action against him is also being processed," the OC added.

Four more die with measles symptoms

UNB, *Dhaka*

Four children died with measles-like symptoms in the 24 hours until 8:00am yesterday, bringing the country's combined tally of confirmed and suspected measles-related deaths to 1,144 this year, according to the DGHS.

With this, the total number of suspected measles deaths has reached 1,040, while confirmed deaths from measles have remained the same at 104.

A total of 1,332 new suspected measles cases were reported during the 24-hour period, taking the cumulative number of suspected cases nationwide to 2,01,625.

2 RMG workers die as pick-up hits bike

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Two ready-made garment workers were killed yesterday when a pick-up van hit their motorcycle in the EPZ area of Chattogram city, police said.

The accident occurred around 9:00am on Road-5.

The deceased were identified as Tamanna, from Bagerhat, and Md Khalil, a resident of the Free Port Newmoring area.

Police said Tamanna lived at Kalsir Dighir Par.

They were declared dead on arrival at Chattogram Medical College Hospital, said Inspector Nurul Alam, in-charge of the CMCH police outpost.

The bodies were kept at the CMCH morgue for autopsies, he added.

DU teacher relieved of duties

FROM PAGE 3

one of her friends, alleges that the teacher asked the student to change seats because "she was wearing a veil".

The student also alleged that the teacher called her a "fundamentalist" and a "terrorist". Her friend made similar claims in the video.

The Daily Star could not independently verify the allegations.

Repeated attempts to contact the teacher for comment were unsuccessful.

Bangladesh Shipping Corporation
"BSC Bhaban", Saltgola road, Chittagong

REF: 18.16.0000.373.03.208.26-27 Date: 08-10-2026

Invitation of Tender

S.L No.	Tender ID	Name of the Tender	Opening & closing date, time & place
1.	COMC-03102026 Dated: 08.10.2026 Ref: 18.16.0000.373.03.208.26-27	BCIC-208: INTERNATIONAL LIMITED TENDER FOR TRANSPORTATION OF 40,000 MT (+/- 10%) BULK PRILLED UREA IN SINGLE SHIPMENT FROM ST. PETERSBURGH, RUSSIA AND DELIVERY IN 50 KG NET BAG TO DIFFERENT BUFFER GODOWNS/FACTORIES LOCATED AT VARIOUS PLACES IN BANGLADESH VIA OUTER ANCHORAGE OF CHITTAGONG PORT (A/B/C ANCHORAGE) AND/ OR HARBARIA, MONGLA AND/OR PAYRA SEA PORT, BANGLADESH (LAYCAN: 01-05 NOVEMBER, 2026). A/C OF BCIC. N.B: IMCC ENLISTED BROKERS ARE ELIGIBLE FOR PARTICIPATING IN THE TENDER.	17-10-2026 12:00 PM LT & 17-10-2026 12:05 PM LT At BSC Tower (22nd Floor), Dhaka

(Capt. Md Mozibur Rahaman)
General Manager (Chartering)
Phone: 031-728269
E-mail: gm-cht@bsc.gov.bd

GD-2455

জগন্নাথ বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়, ঢাকা

২য় সমাবর্তন-২০২৭

(বিজ্ঞপ্তি)

জবি/প্রশা/আইন/৩৮(১১৫)সমাবর্তন/২০২৬/৩৪৯ তারিখ: ০৮ অক্টোবর, ২০২৬

সংশ্লিষ্ট সকলের অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশের মহামান্য রাষ্ট্রপতি ও জগন্নাথ বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের মাননীয় চ্যান্সেলর-এর সম্মতিক্রমে আগামী ৩০ জানুয়ারি, ২০২৭ জগন্নাথ বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের ২য় সমাবর্তন-২০২৭ অনুষ্ঠিত হতে যাচ্ছে। সে প্রেক্ষিতে ২য় সমাবর্তন-২০২৭ এ অংশগ্রহনের জন্য গ্র্যাজুয়েটদের নিকট থেকে অনলাইন আবেদন আহ্বান করা যাচ্ছে।

জগন্নাথ বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের ২০১৪-২০১৫ শিক্ষাবর্ষ থেকে ২০২০-২০২১ শিক্ষাবর্ষ পর্যন্ত স্নাতক (সম্মান)/বিবিএ/সমমান ও ২০১৬-২০১৭ শিক্ষাবর্ষ হতে ২০২২-২০২৩ শিক্ষাবর্ষ পর্যন্ত স্নাতকোত্তর/এমবিএ/সমমান এবং এমফিল, পিএইচডি প্রফেশনাল/সান্ধ্যকালীন প্রোগ্রামের যে সকল শিক্ষার্থী/গবেষক অন্তত: একটি ডিগ্রি জগন্নাথ বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় থেকে অর্জন করেছেন তারাই সমাবর্তনে অংশগ্রহন করতে পারবেন।

সমাবর্তনে অংশগ্রহণের জন্য যোগ্য ডিগ্রিধারীগণকে আগামী ১৫/১০/২০২৬ তারিখ, বৃহস্পতিবার, দুপুর ১২:০০ থেকে ২০/১১/২০২৬ তারিখ, শুক্রবার, রাত ১১:৫৯ টার মধ্যে https://convocation.jnu.ac.bd এর মাধ্যমে অনলাইনে আবেদন করতে হবে। আবেদন ও ফিসহ সংশ্লিষ্ট সকল তথ্য বর্ণিত ওয়েবসাইটে জানা যাবে।

উপাচার্য মহোদয়ের অনুমোদনক্রমে,
08/10/2026
অধ্যাপক ড. মোঃ শেখ গিয়াস উদ্দিন
রেজিস্ট্রার (ভারপ্রাপ্ত)

GD-2451

AUSIS **Australian International School, Dhaka**
(A sister Concern of International Holdings Limited)
480, Purbachal Expressway (300 Feet Road), Khilkhet, Dhaka-1229
+8801713486819, +8801713486839, +8801713486813

Career Opportunity

Australian International School, Dhaka (a concern of International Holdings Limited), is seeking an experienced professional for the position of IBDP Coordinator. No. of Posts: 01 Educational Qualifications: Master's degree in any discipline Training Requirement: IB Leadership training is a mandatory Other Requirements: At least 3 years of work experience as an IB Coordinator in an IB-authorized school and a minimum of 5 years of experience as an IB practitioner. Expatriate candidates are welcome to apply, acknowledging the specialized nature of the role. Remuneration: * BDT 120,000.00 (Basic Tk. 60,000.00, House Rent Tk. 42,000.00, Medical Allowance Tk. 9,000.00, Transport Allowance Tk. 9,000.00) Other Benefits: * Provident Fund and festival bonus upon completion of 1 year of service, applicable to Bangladeshi nationals. Instructions to Apply: Please send a detailed CV with a photograph, along with academic and professional certificates. Applications should be sent by 24 October 2026 to career@ausisdhaka.edu.bd or in hard copy to the HR Department, Australian International School, 300 Feet Road, Purbachal Road, Khilkhet, Dhaka 1229.

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Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Local Government Engineering Department
Office of the Executive Engineer
LGED, Madaripur
www.lged.gov.bd

Memo No: 46.02.5400.000.07.078.26-2274 Date: **07/10/2026**

e-Tender Notice (OTM)
e-Tender Notice: 09/2026-27

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (**http://www.eprocure.gov.bd**) for the procurement of the following works:

Sl No.	Tender ID	Package No.	Name of the Work	Document Price (BDT)	Tender Closing/ Opening Date
1.	1347994	MSRDP/M/25-26/SR/539	Construction of 28.00m Long RCC Girder Bridge on Kulpoddy R&H-New Poura Graveyeard (Kulpoddy-R3/17) Road Ch: 00m under Madaripur Sadar Upazila, District: Madaripur (Road ID: 354545093).	4000	**27-Oct-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 e-GP registered banks Branches.

Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System portal and from e-GP help desk (**helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd**) and also from e-mail: **xen.madaripur@lged.gov.bd** or call to **0661-62445**.

Interested persons can communicate with the undersigned during office hours.

7/10/26
(Mohammad Ali Haider Khan)
Executive Engineer
LGED, Madaripur
Tel: **0661-62445**(Off)
e-mail: **xen.madaripur@lged.gov.bd**

GD-2447

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার
কর কমিশনারের কার্যালয়, কর অঞ্চল-৩, চট্টগ্রাম
সরকারি কার্যভবন-২ (৩য় তলা), আগ্রাবাদ, চট্টগ্রাম

নথি নম্বর-বি:নি:-২০২৩/ক:অ:-৩(চট্ট)/২০২৬-২০২৭/৭৬৭ তারিখ: ২৩ আশ্বিন, ১৪৩৩ বঙ্গাব্দ / ০৮ অক্টোবর, ২০২৬ খ্রিষ্টাব্দ

নিয়োগ বিজ্ঞপ্তি

কর অঞ্চল-৩, চট্টগ্রাম-এর অধিক্ষেত্রাধীন চট্টগ্রাম ও রাঙামাটি জেলার স্থায়ী বাসিন্দাগণের নিকট হতে নিম্নবর্ণিত পদসমূহে মোট ৩৩ জন জনবল নিয়োগের লক্ষ্যে টেলিটক বাংলাদেশ লিমিটেড এর https://tz3ctg.teletalk.com.bd ওয়েবসাইটের মাধ্যমে অনলাইনে আবেদনপত্র আহ্বান করা যাচ্ছে। নিয়োগ সংক্রান্ত পূর্ণাঙ্গ বিজ্ঞপ্তিটি দেখার জন্য কর অঞ্চল-৩, চট্টগ্রাম এর ওয়েবসাইট www.taxeszone3ctg.gov.bd ভিজিট করুন অথবা নিম্নোক্ত QR কোডটি স্ক্যান করুন।

পূর্ণাঙ্গ বিজ্ঞপ্তিটি দেখার জন্য QR কোডটি স্ক্যান করুন।

কর অঞ্চল-৩, চট্টগ্রাম এর টেলিটক পোর্টালে প্রবেশের জন্য QR কোডটি স্ক্যান করুন।

ক্রঃ নং	পদের নাম	পদ সংখ্যা
(১)	উচ্চমান সহকারী	০৫টি
(২)	সাঁটমুদ্রাক্ষরিক-কাম-কম্পিউটার অপারেটর	০৮টি
(৩)	অফিস সহকারী-কাম-কম্পিউটার মুদ্রাক্ষরিক	১১টি
(৪)	গাড়ি চালক	০২টি
(৫)	অফিস সহায়ক	০৭টি

৪/১০/২৬
(আওরঙ্গজেব খান)
উপকর কমিশনার, সদর দপ্তর (প্রশাসন)
ও
সদস্য সচিব, বিভাগীয় নির্বাচন কমিটি
কর অঞ্চল-৩, চট্টগ্রাম

GD-2448

Authorities approve Rooppur Unit-1 to begin fission

FROM PAGE 2

reaction at Unit-1," he said, adding, "Unit-1 is now eligible to reach the first criticality stage for the reaction in the unit."

BAERA handed over the approval to the Bangladesh Atomic Energy Commission, an official confirmed.

Officials noted that before beginning power generation, two more licensing approvals from BAERA will be required.

"After the successful completion of the B-2 stage, we will approve C and D licences one after another. Only then will it be possible to supply power to the grid," said the BAERA chairman.

"If all stages are successfully done, we are hopeful about starting power supply to the national grid by the end of this year."

Earlier, fuel loading began on April 28 and was completed on May 12, followed by testing.

Technical faults had delayed the commissioning progress by over two months.

The power plant, built using Russian technology on the banks of the Padma, costs approximately $13 billion and features two VVER-1200 reactors designed to produce 2,400MW of electricity.



Farmers dry freshly harvested jute in the sun after separating the fibre in Bagmara area of Rajshahi. Jute farmers in several districts of the Rajshahi division have reported a bumper yield this season and good prices for their produce. The photo was taken recently.

PHOTO: **AZAHAR UDDIN**

Indian opposition protests cop action against lawmakers

Push for poll chief's resignation

REUTERS, *Bengaluru*

Indian opposition groups demonstrated for a third day yesterday, protesting police action against Congress party leaders and demanding the resignation of the chief election commissioner over a controversial revision of voter lists.

Opposition parties, their student units, and the "Cockroach" youth movement have been holding almost daily demonstrations seeking Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar's resignation. They have accused Prime Minister Narendra Modi's ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) of using a revision of voter lists to fix them in its favour, in collusion with its appointees, including Kumar.

Kumar has not commented but the Election Commission and the BJP have denied the allegations.

The protests present a new political challenge to Modi midway into his third term, just months after similar demonstrations led by the self-named Cockroach Janta Party (CJP) forced the resignation of his education minister over exam paper leaks.

Visuals from news agency ANI showed dozens of Congress supporters staging a protest march on Thursday in the southern state of Telangana, while the opposition Rashtriya Janata Dal organised a similar demonstration in the eastern state of Bihar.

Hundreds of supporters of the CJP youth movement also protested in tech hub Bengaluru, many of them holding posters that said, "Every name counts, Every vote matters" and "Stop the Murder of Democracy".

Veteran actor Nana Patekar passes away

FROM PAGE 12

doing theatre in Marathi, the language spoken in his home state of Maharashtra, which is also home to Bollywood.

He made his screen debut with "Gaman" in 1978 and gradually established himself as one of the most recognisable performers in Indian cinema. His breakthrough came with "Parinda", for which he won the National Film Award for Best Supporting Actor, reports our Kolkata correspondent.

He later won the National Film Award for Best Actor for "Krantiveer" and another Best Supporting Actor award for "Agni Sakshi".

For many viewers, however, Patekar's appeal went beyond awards. His performances often carried a raw intensity that became his signature. From the crime drama "Ab Tak Chhappan" and political thriller "Raajneeti" to the Marathi classic "Natsamrat", he repeatedly moved between morally complex, emotionally charged, and deeply human characters.

He also demonstrated a different side of his range through Uday Shetty in Welcome, turning the character into one of his most widely remembered popular performances. The actor continued to work in recent years and appeared in Vishal Bhardwaj's "O'Romeo" in 2026.

Patekar's contribution was recognised with the Padma Shri in 2013. He was also associated with social initiatives supporting farmers affected by drought in Maharashtra, adding another dimension to a public persona that often remained distinct from the glamour of mainstream Bollywood.

His death comes at a time when Indian cinema is increasingly looking back at performers who shaped the industry through character-driven acting rather than celebrity image alone. Patekar belonged firmly to that tradition.

"He was one of those rare actors who never needed to do too much to make you sit up and watch. That voice, that intensity, that honesty in every performance...he was completely his own," said actor Akshay Kumar, who acted with Patekar in several movies.

Patekar is survived by his wife, from whom he was separated, and a son.

High school pupils turn out for new protests across France

AFP, *Paris*

High school pupils across France launched a fresh day of protests yesterday, despite government attempts to ease a crisis that has rocked the country for days.

Children have blocked entrances to hundreds of high schools across the country for more than a week, with squads of riot police deployed to control the situation -- occasionally sparking violent clashes.

Associations of high school children have urged mobilisation on Thursday as the protests have widened, with university student unions joining in, a rally planned in Paris and national education unions calling a general strike.

While the rallies have been largely peaceful, some demonstrators have started fires and vandalised bus shelters, and police have used tear gas, batons and blast balls -- rights groups and the children accusing officers of using disproportionate force.

IO in Ziaul Ahsan case testifies

FROM PAGE 12

"Whenever extrajudicial killings came to public attention, investigations were conducted merely for show to legitimise them," he told the tribunal.

He said officials were forced to prepare false or inaccurate inquest, post-mortem and police reports during such inquiries, his investigation found.

"The authorities forced officials to prepare false or inaccurate inquest, post-mortem and police reports, concealing the actual cause of death to shield the real perpetrators," Rafiqul said.

He testified that some victims of enforced disappearance were later shown as killed in "crossfire", while others were killed in staged operations supposedly targeting forest bandits.

Some victims were detained for prolonged periods before being shown as arrested in fabricated cases and produced before courts, while others were allegedly shot dead, he said.

In some cases, victims were shot, their abdomens slit open and their bodies dumped into rivers, he testified.

The fate of many victims of enforced disappearance remains unknown, he added.

Rafiqul said his findings were based on evidence gathered while investigating the allegations against Ziaul.

Ziaul is on trial for allegedly orchestrating the enforced disappearance and murder of 104 people between 2010 and 2013. He has pleaded not guilty.

Rafiqul's testimony concluded yesterday. The defence will cross-examine him later.

So far, 15 prosecution witnesses, including the investigation officer, have testified in the case.

Who governs Bashundhara

FROM PAGE 12

yet to establish full control there.

A press release issued by the Parliament Secretariat said the meeting recommended ensuring, as soon as possible, the allocation of plots to people affected by land acquisition for the Purbachal New Town Project.

It also called for investigations into irregularities in previous plot allocations and the activities of middlemen, with necessary action to be taken against those responsible.

The committee further recommended expanding housing opportunities through the construction of high-rise apartment buildings instead of launching new land-based housing projects.

It recommended strict measures to prevent the construction of buildings in the capital in violation of approved plans, as well as unauthorised commercial activities in residential areas.

Rajuk was also instructed to strengthen oversight and conduct regular mobile court drives to prevent customer harassment by housing developers.

Emphasising planned and sustainable urbanisation, the committee stressed the need for integrated utility services and underground cable networks, fire safety measures in new commercial buildings, adequate restroom facilities and prayer spaces, and the conservation of Dhaka's lakes. It also recommended assessing the feasibility of expanding solar power use across the capital.

The committee expressed concern over delays in audit processes and urged the adoption of modern digital systems to expedite audits and resolve audit objections.

Among the committee members who attended the meeting were Whip Mia Nuruddin Ahmed Apu, Whip Md Akhtaruzzaman Mia, Tahsina Rushdir, Khondaker Abu Ashfaq, Mohammad Kaysar Ahmed, Biswas Jahangir Alam, Mustafizur Rahman Bhuiyan and Mohammad Kamal Hossain.

Ganges treaty by Dec, work on Padma Barrage

FROM PAGE 1

treaty was signed in 1996."

"We must conclude a new Ganges water treaty before December 12," Anee said, adding that Bangladesh and India are working regularly through the Joint Rivers Commission (JRC).

"Based on meetings between the two countries, Bangladesh is optimistic that the new treaty will be finalised ahead of the deadline," said the minister.

The minister also said work on the Padma Barrage would become visible between January and March next year.

The government is also moving ahead with a plan to complete the feasibility study of the Teesta multipurpose project and begin main construction work in 2027, he added.

Describing the Padma Barrage and the Teesta Master Plan as mega projects of great importance, Anee said about one-third of the country's population would benefit once they are implemented.

The Padma Barrage project has already been approved by the Executive Committee of the National Economic Council (ECNEC), he added.

On the Teesta Master Plan, the minister said, "The Teesta is a swift-flowing river, and people in the downstream areas have long been suffering because of water coming from upstream," he said, stressing the need for technical support from local and foreign experts.

He said discussions have been held with experts of Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET), who have been given responsibility in this regard, while many other local and international experts have also been consulted.

"The feasibility study of the Teesta project will begin very soon, and main work will start based on that study," he said, expressing hope that the necessary work, including the feasibility study, would be completed in 2027 and the main work launched in the same year.

Asked whether there was any foreign pressure or obstacle regarding the Padma Barrage and Teesta projects, the minister said people living along the Padma and the Teesta are citizens of Bangladesh.

"The interests and expectations of the people of the country are the biggest concern for me," he said, adding that the government's main goal was to work for their welfare.

Canadian poet

FROM PAGE 12

The Academy singled out her 2010 poem "Nox", printed on one continuous sheet of paper in homage to her brother who died in 2000, as "an unforgettable work".

"Palpable here is a deep sense of loss that works its way up from below. The result is a creation as sculptural as it is literary, an epitaph in the form of a box containing an accordion-fold-out of pictures, letters and other written texts dedicated to her dead brother."

It also highlighted her translations from Classical Greek, which "may be regarded as independent works in their own right".

Academy member Steve Sem-Samberg told the Nobel Foundation Carson was "an author for our time", connecting the contemporary with antiquity.

"She uses the myths, the characters, the stories, the fables from that time to put them into a modern context. And the mixture between those two gives an enormous energy to her writing," he said.

"When you're inside her work, you immediately recognise her voice and her themes. Nobody writes like her," he told AFP.

In her own interview with the Nobel Foundation, Carson described her writing as "inadvertant", coming about while "always trying to do something else."

Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney called the win "an extraordinary achievement and a proud moment for Canada."

In the London Review of Books in 2024, Carson said Parkinson's had "disintegrated" her handwriting, a "particularly mortifying" symptom.

"I used to take pleasure in writing in notebooks, shelves of them, day after day, year after year. Now the upright strokes bend or break or go in all directions, vowels shrink to blobs, slant loses its smooth smart angle, it all looks embarrassing."

Carson had been mentioned as a possible Nobel laureate for years, though some experts said the Academy was unlikely to honour another Canadian so soon after the 2013 prize to short story author Alice Munro.

Many literary critics had expected the award to go to a woman this year, given the frequent criticism directed at the Academy over the overrepresentation of Western white men among its picks.

There have been just 19 women laureates out of 122 since the Nobel literature prize was first awarded in 1901.

A 2018 sex assault scandal left the Academy in tatters and more than half of its 18 members were replaced.

Since then, every other literature laureate has been a woman.

Last year, the award went to Hungary's Laszlo Krasznahorkai, whose works explore themes of postmodern dystopia.

The Nobel Prize comes with a diploma, a gold medal and $1.2 million.

PM pledges support for Abrar case

FROM PAGE 3

Tarique assured him of taking steps to construct the bridge and pledged to name it after Abrar Fahad.

Abrar Fahad, a student of Electrical and Electronic Engineering at Buet, was beaten to death by leaders and activists of Chhatra League at Sher-e-Bangla Hall on the night of October 6, 2019.

His killing triggered widespread protests at Buet and other universities across the country, with students demanding punishment of those responsible.



Prime Minister Tarique Rahman at a meeting with the family members of slain Abrar Fahad at his office at the Secretariat yesterday.

PHOTO: **COURTESY**

Dhaka to get two franchise bus routes in 7 days

FROM PAGE 3

Road Transport and Bridges Minister Shaikh Rabiul Alam said bus owners agreed at a September 28 meeting to company-based operations and responsibility for vehicle fitness and legal compliance.

Owners have been instructed to repair, carry out bodywork and repaint all buses within two months. Dilapidated buses missing the deadline may be taken off the road until the work is completed.

The meeting also decided to assess the feasibility of circular bus routes proposed by DMP and take steps to introduce them.

Meanwhile, BRTC is purchasing electric buses, with eight routes proposed for initial operation. DTCA will select the routes in coordination with BRTC and the bus owners' association.

The meeting also discussed disposing of around 36,000 vehicles seized in various cases. With inadequate storage space and abandoned vehicles losing value, the authorities will amend relevant laws to expedite disposal.

Law promises speedy trials, oversight remains absent

FROM PAGE 3

Appearing before the HC on June 23, the judge said she had joined the tribunal only in September last year and had since recorded testimony from six witnesses. Repeated attempts to secure other witnesses' attendance had failed, she said.

She assured the court that the trial was continuing and would conclude as early as possible.

Satisfied with her explanation, the HC exempted her from further personal appearance and directed her to complete the trial expeditiously, Deputy Attorney General Md Mohsin Kabir told The Daily Star.

He said the case concerned the alleged rape and murder of a 17-year-old girl in Nabiganj, Habiganj, between December 26 and 27, 2021.

The victim's father filed the case on December 28 against Khalil Uddin and Md Golam Hossain, both of whom remain in custody.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS)
Economic Census 2023 Project
Parishankhyan Bhaban
E-27/A, Agargaon, Dhaka-1207

e-Tender Notice

Memo No: 52.01.0000.635.07.061.25.8303 Date: 08/10/2026

e- Tender is invited in the National e- GP Portal (https://www.eprocure.gov.bd) for the Procurement of below Package for Economic Census 2023 Project.

Sl. No.	Tender ID	Procurement Nature, Type and Title	Tender Publication Date &Time	Last Selling Date &Time	Closing Date & Time	Opening Date & Time
1.	1344713	Goods OTM, NCT Purchase of STATA software for data processing and analysis	08 October-2026, 16:00	19 October-2026, 12:00	19 October-2026, 15:00	19 October-2026, 15:00

This is an online Tender, where e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit Tender registration in the e-GP system Portal (https://www.eprocure.gov.bd) is required. The PE reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders in accordance with applicable Procurement rules.

The fees for downloading the e-Tender documents form the National e-GP system Portal have to be deposited online through any e-GP registered banks branches up to date & time mentioned in respective Tender. Further information and guideline are available in the National e-GP Portal and from e-GP (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd)

08.10.2026
Dr Dipankar Roy
Project Director
(Joint Secretary)
Economic Census 2023 Project
Mob: 01732363039
Email:ec24.bbs@gmail.com

GD-2449

MALAYSIA'S Myanmar U-turn

AFP, *Kuala Lumpur*

Malaysia's Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim once urged his Muslim-majority nation to show solidarity with the persecuted Rohingya who fled Myanmar en masse, but this week rolled out the red carpet for the man accused of orchestrating their genocide.

Min Aung Hlaing touched down on Wednesday, invited for a two-day visit to discuss thousands of Myanmar migrants being sent back under a repatriation scheme touted by Anwar.

The nation hosts 190,000 Myanmar refugees or asylum seekers according to the United Nations (UN), two-thirds of them from the Rohingya ethnic group.

Myanmar says it has repatriated around 8,000 citizens by air and 1,500 by sea so far this year, while Malaysia announced it is preparing 3,500 more to go back.

But experts say Malaysian attitudes towards migrants, particularly the Rohingyas, soured during the Covid-19



pandemic when they became targets of misinformation about the disease.

"That hostility did not simply disappear afterwards," Khoo Ying Hooi, an associate professor at Universiti Malaya, told AFP.

Newer resentments include claims that Malaysians are losing jobs to migrants, as well as the narrative that they are straining public resources or involved in crime.

James Chin, a Malaysia expert at the University of Tasmania in Australia, said, after initial sympathies, the nation was now dealing with popular backlash against "allowing too many Rohingya to come".

Anwar's about-face comes as his Pakatan Harapan coalition has suffered setbacks in recent state elections in the run-up to regional and national polls, which must be held by February 2028.

Yap Lay Sheng, a senior human rights specialist with NGO Fortify Rights, said Anwar's repatriation push was an "election ploy" to court the vote of ethnic Malays.

Targeting immigrants allows him "to be seen as a defender of the collective interest against outsiders", said Yap, a powerful message for political campaigning.

Israel cuts UK diplomatic presence over sanctions

AFP, *Jerusalem*

Israel yesterday said the British consulate in Jerusalem ended its functions but that seven diplomats would be allowed to remain in a limited capacity, with the UK saying it would continue to offer "vital services".

The move comes after Israel ordered the closure of the consulate in September as retaliation after London led Western sanctions over violence by Israeli settlers against Palestinians in the occupied West Bank.

Israeli Foreign Minister Gideon Saar said Thursday's move to downsize the UK presence had followed a dialogue with the British government in order to avoid an escalation of tensions between the two countries.

"As I announced, the British consulate in Jerusalem ended its role today," Saar said in a statement, adding that 20 diplomats including the consul general were ending their missions and leaving the country.

The retaliation came after 12 countries including Britain, Canada and France announced they would sanction trade with Israeli settlements in the West Bank, following a surge in settler attacks against Palestinians in the occupied territory.

The British consulate in Jerusalem was founded nearly 200 years ago.

It lies in east Jerusalem, part of the historically Palestinian area that Israel captured in 1967. Israel later annexed east Jerusalem and considers the holy city its undivided capital.



Bodies lying on the road after two passenger buses were struck by projectiles in Kramatorsk, near the frontline in eastern Ukraine, yesterday. PHOTO: AFP

War in 'dangerous' stage

Warns Rubio as strikes kill dozens in Ukraine; largest oil refinery, data hub hit in Russia

AGENCIES

US Secretary of State Marco Rubio yesterday warned that the Russia-Ukraine war was at a very dangerous stalemate as Kyiv accused Moscow of deliberately targeting civilians after 30 people were killed when two buses were blown up in the frontline city of Kramatorsk.

Any escalation between Moscow and Kyiv, which have been at war since Russia invaded Ukraine in 2022, "could quickly turn what is a war between two countries into a much broader and far more dangerous regional conflict", Rubio said during a stopover in Portugal at the end of a tour of Europe.

"And stalemates are very dangerous," he said, because either side could be tempted to escalate. Rubio said there have been attempts to reach a negotiated settlement, and "we will keep trying".

Earlier, Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelensky vowed that the attack "will not go unanswered" after photos posted by local authorities showed the burnt-out metal shells of the vehicles, with bodies and debris strewn across the road.

Police said the buses were hit with a glide bomb. Three more people were killed in a nearby village as a result of shelling, the emergency services said.

Hours after the Russian strikes, the Ukrainian military said it had struck a Russian oil refinery in Omsk, some 2,500 kilometres from Ukraine. Russia's largest refinery was hit in July as well. It did not provide details about the impact of the attack.

Earlier, drones hit a data centre owned by Russia's Yandex YDEX.MM, the country's leading AI and technology company, in the first major attack on a Russian data hub since the start of the war with Ukraine.

Hours after the Russian strikes, the Ukrainian military said it had struck a Russian oil refinery in Omsk, some 2,500 kilometres from Ukraine.

Yandex said the attack on its Sasovo hub, one of its five large data centres, caused a fire and forced it to suspend operations at the site, which hosts tens of thousands of servers.

There has been mounting concern about the increase in civilian deaths and injuries in the nearly five-year conflict, as both sides step up long-range attacks beyond their borders.

Turkey says will not send troops to fight Houthis

Blasts heard, flights disrupted in Riyadh

AFP, *Ankara*

Turkey's foreign minister yesterday ruled out sending troops to confront Yemen's Houthi forces, despite a defence pact with Saudi Arabia.

The Iran-backed fighters have launched a wave of attacks on Saudi Arabia since they began a major offensive in Yemen against the internationally recognised, Saudi-backed government there.

Turkey signed the Makkah Joint Defence Agreement with Pakistan and Saudi Arabia in August, committing the three countries to come to each other's aid in the event one were attacked.

"This is a defence agreement," said Hakan Fidan, adding: "If one of the countries is attacked, you support its defence. This is not an offensive agreement."

Foreign Minister Hakan Fidan said, " Turkey will not send its troops to another country's territory to launch an attack".

Turkey "will not send its troops to another country's territory to launch an attack", he stressed. Fidan said Turkish and Saudi military delegations would work together to assess what defensive measures might be needed, without giving details.

Meanwhile, Houthis escalated their campaign of strikes against Saudi Arabia yesterday, trying to shut down the kingdom's airspace and oil facilities.

The group said it had struck Riyadh airport and warned workers to stay away from energy plants.

Yesterday, an attack left a commercial plane belonging to Saudi state carrier Saudia Airlines heavily damaged after catching fire.

Lufthansa and Air India said they were suspending flights to Riyadh after Houthi attacks. Separately, Saudi officials said debris from an intercepted missile had hit a kindergarten and medical complex in Riyadh.

El Nino to peak in Dec: UN

AFP, *Geneva*

El Nino will intensify even more before peaking in December, the United Nations said yesterday, warning it could be among the strongest witnessed since at least 1950.

The naturally occurring weather phenomenon is set to bring higher temperatures to much of the planet, the UN's weather and climate agency said, with its impact compounding the effects of man-made climate change.



"El Nino will continue to intensify ahead of its forecast peak in December," the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) said in its monthly Global Seasonal Climate Update.

"It is likely to bring above-average temperatures to much of the globe and shift rainfall patterns, increasing the risk of drought and floods in different regions."

El Nino warms surface temperatures in the central and eastern equatorial Pacific Ocean, bringing worldwide changes in winds, pressure and rainfall patterns. It typically takes place every two to seven years and lasts around nine to 12 months.

"El Nino is firmly established and strengthening rapidly," said WMO chief Celeste Saulo. "WMO forecasts indicate a near-100 percent likelihood that it will persist through February 2027, potentially being one of the strongest since at least 1950."

Saulo explained that El Nino does not add new heat to the planet, but releases heat being stored in the ocean.

Hormuz transits at lowest in 2 months

REUTERS, *Singapore*

The number of vessels transiting the Strait of Hormuz fell to the lowest in more than two months after attacks on tankers in the key waterway reached their highest last week since the start of the US-Israeli war with Iran, shipping data showed.

Seven commodity vessels passed through the strait on Tuesday, for the lowest figure since July 23, data from analytics firm Kpler showed.

"Crude crossing the strait fell 27% from a wartime high the week before, to at least 10.1 million barrels a day," Kpler analysts Emmanuel Belostrino and Yui Torikata wrote in a note on October 6.

"That is back to its September average, but 74% of its pre-war level."

পাওয়ার গ্রিড বাংলাদেশ পিএলসি
POWER GRID BANGLADESH PLC
(An Enterprise of Bangladesh Power Development Board)
Grid Bhaban, Avenue-3, Jahurul Islam City, Aftabnagar, Badda, Dhaka-1212 Web: www.powergrid.gov.bd
স্মারক নং- ২৭.২১.০০০০.৬৫০.১৬.০০৪.২৬.৪১৭ তারিখঃ ০৭/১০/২০২৬খ্রিঃ

e-Tender বিজ্ঞপ্তি

পাওয়ার গ্রিডের জিএমডি, ঢাকা (উত্তর) দপ্তরের আওতাধীন নিম্নলিখিত দরপত্র e-GP পোর্টালে প্রকাশিত হয়েছে।

ID	Reference	Title of Works
1344393	27.21.0000.625.07.001.26.396; Date: 04/10/2026	Supply, Instalation, testing and Commissioning of 07 Nos. 10 kW On-grid Solar System for Sreepur, Bhaluka, Rajendrapur, Kodda, Joydebpur, Pubail & New Tongi Grid Sub-station under GMD, Dhaka-North, Power Grid.
1346484	27.21.0000.625.07.001.26.399; Date:04 /10/2026	Yearly Maintenance of All Air Conditioner of 08 Nos. Grid Sub-station and GMD Office under GMD, Dhaka-North, Power Grid.
1346450	27.21.0000.625.07.001.26.398; Date: 04/10/2026	Civil Maintenance Works at Tongi 230/132/33 kV Grid Substation under GMD, Dhaka (North), Power Grid.

আগ্রহী ঠিকাদারী প্রতিষ্ঠানকে www.eprocure.gov.bd সাইটের মাধ্যমে দরপত্রে অংশগ্রহণের জন্য অনুরোধ করা যাচ্ছে।

দেলোয়ার হোসেন
নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলী, জিএমডি, ঢাকা (উত্তর)

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Executive Engineer, RHD
Pabna Road Division, Pabna
Phone: 02588845853
E-mail: rhdpabna@gmail.com / eepab@rhd.gov.bd

Memo No:35.01.7600.459.07.001.26 -1882 Date: 07/10/2026

e-GP Tender (OTM) Notice

e-Tenders are invited in e-GP System Portal (http://www.eprocure.gov.bd) by Executive Engineer, RHD, Road Division, Pabna for the procurement of following works. e-Tender details can be downloaded from e-GP System Portal "http://www.eprocure.gov.bd" for purchase. This is online Tenders, where only e-Tenders will be accepted in e-GP Portal and no offline / hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, please register on e-GP System Portal (http://www.eprocure.gov.bd).

Tender ID, Ref. No.	Name of work / Supply	Tender Document last selling / downloading Date and Time	Last Date and Time for Tender Security Submission	Tender Closing Date and Time
1348100, 05/e-Gp/ PRD/2026-2027	Construction of Rigid Pavement at Ch.124+900 to 124+948 km of Dhaka (Mirpur)-Uthuli-Paturia-Notakhola-Kashinathpur-Bogura-Rangpur-Beldanga-Banglabandha N-5 Road under Pabna Road Division during the year 2026-2027.	18-Oct-2026 12:00	18-Oct-2026 14:00	18-Oct-2026 16:00

Accepted tenders will be opened online immediately after closing time.

07-10-2026

(Sanjida Afrin Jhinuk)
Executive Engineer, RHD
Road Division, Pabna

GD-2445

"গ্যাস জাতীয় সম্পদ। এর অপচয় রোধ করে জাতীয় দায়িত্ব পালন করুন।"

"বিদ্যুৎ ও জ্বালানি নিরাপত্তা সর্বোচ্চ অগ্রাধিকার"

বাংলাদেশ গ্যাস ফিল্ডস্ কোম্পানী লিমিটেড
(পেট্রোবাংলার একটি কোম্পানি)
Bangladesh Gas Fields Company Ltd.
(A Company of Petrobangla)

Ref. No.: 28.10.1213.817.007.26.15 Date: 07-10-2026

e-Tender Notice

e-Tenders are invited in the National e-GP system portal (http://www.eprocure.gov.bd) for procurement of following materials. Details are given below:

Tender ID	Description of Materials	Tender Publication Date	Tender Document Last Selling Date	Tender Opening Date
1346467	Spare Parts for MAN Gas Engine Generator for Habiganj Field	06-Oct-26 15:00	28-Oct-26 16:00	29-Oct-26 11:00
1346468	Different Types of Lead Acid Battery	06-Oct-26 15:05	28-Oct-26 16:00	29-Oct-26 11:05
1346469	Computer with Accessories, Printer, Scanner and Photocopier	06-Oct-26 15:10	28-Oct-26 16:00	29-Oct-26 11:10
1346470	Hiring 01 Microbus for Narsingdi Field for 03 Years	06-Oct-26 15:15	28-Oct-26 16:00	29-Oct-26 11:15
1346471	2400 Kg Tea Leaves in 04 (Four) installment under 01(One) year Framework Agreement	06-Oct-26 15:20	28-Oct-26 16:00	29-Oct-26 11:20
1346472	Digital No-Flow Timer (DNFT) & Vibration Transmitter for Bakhrabad Field	06-Oct-26 15:25	28-Oct-26 16:00	29-Oct-26 11:25
1346473	Different Types of Light, Fan and Electric Cable	06-Oct-26 15:30	28-Oct-26 16:00	29-Oct-26 11:30
1346474	Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of Air Conditioner and Supply of Refrigerator	06-Oct-26 15:35	28-Oct-26 16:00	29-Oct-26 11:35
1346475	Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of Flash Point Tester (Closed Cup) for Condensate Processing	06-Oct-26 15:40	28-Oct-26 16:00	29-Oct-26 11:40
1346476	Multistage Submersible Water Pump with Motor and Control Box	07-Oct-26 15:00	28-Oct-26 16:00	29-Oct-26 11:45
1346477	Pneumatics Actuators and their Spares for Compressor Maintenance-Titas	07-Oct-26 15:05	28-Oct-26 16:00	29-Oct-26 11:50
1346478	Supply of Various Materials for Drinking Water Treatment Plant for BKB	07-Oct-26 15:10	28-Oct-26 16:00	29-Oct-26 11:55
1346479	Smart Thermocouple Unit (STU) for Compressor Maintenance-Titas	07-Oct-26 15:15	28-Oct-26 16:00	29-Oct-26 12:00
1346480	Paints & Thinner for Habiganj Field and Titas Field Maintenance	07-Oct-26 15:20	28-Oct-26 16:00	29-Oct-26 12:05
1346481	Sanitary Items and Various types of Pipe for BKB & Electric Pipe Threading Machine for Titas Field (Maintenance)	07-Oct-26 15:25	28-Oct-26 16:00	29-Oct-26 12:10
1346482	Hiring Internet Service Provider for Head Office and all other Locations of Titas Field in Brahmanbaria for 03 Years	07-Oct-26 15:30	28-Oct-26 16:00	29-Oct-26 12:15
1346483	Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of Electronic Speed Controller and Electronic Ignition System for Meghna Field	07-Oct-26 15:35	28-Oct-26 16:00	29-Oct-26 12:20

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 the National e-GP system portal have to be deposited online through any scheduled Bank of Bangladesh. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP Portal and e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd). The procuring Entity reserves the right to reject all the tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.

28.10.1213.000876.03.0085.26(LP)
(3x10")

07/10/2026

(Md. Javed Iqbal)
Dy. General Manager (Local Procurement)

GD-2454



অনলাইনে আবেদন শুরু ১৩ অক্টোবর ২০২৬ এবং শেষ ৩০ অক্টোবর ২০২৬

বাংলাদেশ পুলিশে ট্রেইনি রিক্রুট কনস্টেবল (টিআরসি) পদে নিয়োগের লক্ষ্যে আগ্রহী পুরুষ ও নারী প্রার্থীদের অনলাইনে আবেদন করার জন্য আহ্বান করা যাচ্ছে। ট্রেইনি রিক্রুট কনস্টেবল (টিআরসি) পদে প্রার্থীদের আবেদনের জন্য বিস্তারিত তথ্যাবলি নিম্নরূপ:

১. জেলাভিত্তিক শূন্য পদের বিবরণ:

ট্রেইনি রিক্রুট কনস্টেবল (টিআরসি) পদে নিয়োগের লক্ষ্যে জেলাভিত্তিক শূন্য পদের বিবরণ বাংলাদেশ পুলিশের ওয়েবসাইটে আপলোড করা হবে।

২. প্রার্থীর যোগ্যতা:

২.১ বয়স:

বয়সসীমা	বয়সসীমা নির্ধারণের তারিখ
১৮ হতে ২০ বছর	যে সকল প্রার্থীর বয়স ৩০ অক্টোবর ২০২৬ তারিখে বর্ণিত বয়সসীমার মধ্যে থাকবে তারা আবেদনের যোগ্য মর্মে বিবেচিত হবে। এ ক্ষেত্রে মুক্তিযোদ্ধা, শহিদ মুক্তিযোদ্ধা ও বীরাঙ্গনার সন্তানদের জন্য বিদ্যমান কোটা পদ্ধতি অনুসৃত হবে।

২.২ শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতা: এসএসসি অথবা সমমানের (ভোকেশনালসহ) পরীক্ষায় উত্তীর্ণ (কমপক্ষে জিপিএ ২.৫/সমমান);

২.৩ জাতীয়তা: বাংলাদেশের স্থায়ী নাগরিক;

২.৪ বৈবাহিক অবস্থা: অবিবাহিত (তালাকপ্রাপ্ত/তালাকপ্রাপ্তা নয়);

২.৫ শারীরিক মাপ:

বিষয়	পুরুষ প্রার্থী	নারী প্রার্থী
উচ্চতা	মেধা কোটার প্রার্থীর ক্ষেত্রে ৫ ফুট ৬ ইঞ্চি; মুক্তিযোদ্ধা, শহিদ মুক্তিযোদ্ধা ও বীরাঙ্গনার সন্তানদের এবং ক্ষুদ্র নৃ-গোষ্ঠী কোটার প্রার্থীর ক্ষেত্রে ৫ ফুট ৪ ইঞ্চি; শারীরিক প্রতিবন্ধী ও তৃতীয় লিঙ্গের কোটার প্রার্থীর ক্ষেত্রে বিধি অনুসৃত হবে	মেধা কোটার প্রার্থীর ক্ষেত্রে ৫ ফুট ৪ ইঞ্চি; মুক্তিযোদ্ধা, শহিদ মুক্তিযোদ্ধা ও বীরাঙ্গনার সন্তানদের এবং ক্ষুদ্র নৃ-গোষ্ঠী কোটার প্রার্থীর ক্ষেত্রে ৫ ফুট ২ ইঞ্চি; শারীরিক প্রতিবন্ধী ও তৃতীয় লিঙ্গের কোটার প্রার্থীর ক্ষেত্রে বিধি অনুসৃত হবে
বুকের মাপ	মেধা ও ক্ষুদ্র নৃ-গোষ্ঠী কোটার প্রার্থীর ক্ষেত্রে স্বাভাবিক অবস্থায় ৩১ ইঞ্চি এবং সম্প্রসারিত অবস্থায় ৩৩ ইঞ্চি; মুক্তিযোদ্ধা, শহিদ মুক্তিযোদ্ধা ও বীরাঙ্গনার সন্তানদের কোটার প্রার্থীর ক্ষেত্রে স্বাভাবিক অবস্থায় ৩০ ইঞ্চি এবং সম্প্রসারিত অবস্থায় ৩১ ইঞ্চি	-
ওজন	বয়স ও উচ্চতা অনুযায়ী ওজন অনুমোদিত পরিমাপের হতে হবে	বয়স ও উচ্চতা অনুযায়ী ওজন অনুমোদিত পরিমাপের হতে হবে
দৃষ্টিশক্তি	৬/৬	৬/৬

৩. অনলাইনে আবেদন করার নিয়মাবলি:

৩.১ প্রথম ধাপ:

ক. http://police.teletalk.com.bd-এ লগ-ইন করে আবেদন ফরম পূরণ করতে হবে। আবেদন ফরম সঠিকভাবে পূরণের লক্ষ্যে উক্ত লিংকে সহায়ক হিসেবে ভিডিও টিউটোরিয়াল এবং ফরম পূরণের নির্দেশিকা দেওয়া থাকবে। এছাড়া উক্ত লিংকের Help অপশন ব্যবহার করে ফরম পূরণের প্রয়োজনীয় সহায়তা নেওয়া যাবে;

খ. আবেদনের সময় ১৩ অক্টোবর ২০২৬ সকাল ১০.০০ ঘটিকা হতে ৩০ অক্টোবর ২০২৬ রাত ১১.৫৯ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত;

গ. আবেদন ফরম পূরণ করার অব্যবহিত পরে যোগ্য প্রার্থী একটি User ID পাবেন। উক্ত User ID-তে আবেদন ফরম পূরণের ৪৮ ঘণ্টার মধ্যে যে কোনো টেলিটক প্রিপেইড মোবাইল নম্বরে (অফেরতযোগ্য) ৬০/- (ষাট টাকা) সার্ভিস চার্জ এবং শিক্ষা বোর্ড কর্তৃক নির্ধারিত ডেটা ভেরিফিকেশন চার্জ (ভ্যাট-আইটি সহ) ৫/- (পাঁচ টাকা) সহ সর্বমোট ৬৫/- (পঁয়ষট্টি টাকা) জমা রাখতে হবে;

ঘ. Online আবেদনপত্রে প্রার্থীর স্বাক্ষর (দৈর্ঘ্য ৩০০ × প্রস্থ ৮০ Pixel) ও রঙিন ছবি (দৈর্ঘ্য ৩০০ × প্রস্থ ৩০০ Pixel) স্ক্যান করে নির্ধারিত স্থানে Upload করতে হবে;

ঙ. Online আবেদনপত্রে পূরণকৃত তথ্য পরবর্তী সকল কার্যক্রমে ব্যবহৃত হবে বিধায় Online-এ আবেদনপত্র Submit করার পূর্বে পূরণকৃত সকল তথ্যের সঠিকতা সম্পর্কে প্রার্থীকে শতভাগ নিশ্চিত হতে হবে;

চ. প্রার্থীকে Online-এ পূরণকৃত আবেদনপত্রের একটি রঙিন প্রিন্ট কপি পরীক্ষা সংক্রান্ত যে কোনো প্রয়োজনে সহায়ক হিসেবে সংরক্ষণ করতে হবে।

৩.২ দ্বিতীয় ধাপ:

প্রত্যেক প্রার্থীকে তার User ID ব্যবহার করে কমপক্ষে ৬৫/- (পঁয়ষট্টি টাকা) ব্যালেন্স রয়েছে এমন টেলিটক প্রি-পেইড মোবাইল নম্বর হতে ২টি SMS Send করতে হবে;

প্রথম SMS: TRC<space>User ID লিখে ১৬২২২ নম্বরে Send করতে হবে;

Example: TRC ABCDEF

Reply: Applicant's Name, sixty-five taka (65/-) will be charged for the application of TRC Recruitment Exam October 2026. Your PIN is.....(10 digit). To pay service charge type TRC<space>Yes<space>PIN and send to 16222.

দ্বিতীয় SMS: TRC<space>Yes<space>PIN Number লিখে ১৬২২২ নম্বরে Send করতে হবে;

Example: TRC YES 1234567890

Reply: Congrats! Applicant's Name, your payment has been successfully completed for the application of TRC Recruitment Exam October 2026. User ID is (xxxxxxxxxx) and Password is (xxxxxxx).

৩.৩ হেল্পলাইন:

শুধু টেলিটক প্রি-পেইড মোবাইল নম্বর থেকে নিম্নবর্ণিত SMS পদ্ধতি অনুসরণ করে নিজ নিজ User ID এবং Password পুনরুদ্ধার করা যাবে;

User ID জানা থাকলে TRC<space>Help<space>User<space>User ID & Send to 16222

Example: TRC Help User ABCDEF & Send to 16222

PIN Number জানা থাকলে TRC<space>Help<space>PIN<space>PIN No. & Send to 16222

Example: TRC Help PIN 1234567890 & Send to 16222

আবেদন ফরম পূরনের ক্ষেত্রে যে কোন টেলিটক মোবাইল নম্বর হতে ১২১-এ কল করে প্রথমে ৮, অতঃপর ১-এ প্রেস করে এজেন্টের সহযোগিতা নেওয়া যাবে।

৪. নির্বাচন পদ্ধতি:

৪.১ প্রিলিমিনারি স্ক্রিনিং: অনলাইনে আবেদনকারী প্রার্থীদের মধ্য হতে নির্ধারিত নিয়োগবিধি মোতাবেক প্রিলিমিনারি স্ক্রিনিং-এর মাধ্যমে নির্দিষ্ট সংখ্যক যোগ্য প্রার্থীদের শারীরিক মাপ ও কাগজপত্র যাচাইকরণসহ শারীরিক সক্ষমতা যাচাই বা Physical Endurance Test (PET)-এর জন্য বাছাই করা হবে। বাছাইকৃত প্রার্থীদের আবেদনপত্রে উল্লিখিত মোবাইল নম্বরে নির্বাচন সংক্রান্ত তথ্য SMS-এর মাধ্যমে প্রেরণ করা হবে। এ ক্ষেত্রে আবেদনপত্রে প্রার্থীর প্রদত্ত মোবাইল নম্বরটি সার্বক্ষণিক সচল রাখা ও SMS পড়াসহ প্রাপ্ত নির্দেশনা তাৎক্ষণিকভাবে অনুসরণ করতে হবে। বাছাইকৃত প্রার্থীদের SMS-এ প্রেরিত User ID এবং Password ব্যবহার করে http://police.teletalk.com.bd ওয়েবসাইটে প্রবেশকরত সিরিয়াল নম্বর, পদের নাম, ছবি, পরীক্ষার তারিখ, সময় ও স্থান/কেন্দ্রের নাম ইত্যাদি তথ্য সংবলিত Admit Card for Physical Endurance Test ডাউনলোড করে ২ কপি প্রিন্ট করতে হবে;

৪.২ শারীরিক মাপ, কাগজপত্র যাচাই ও Physical Endurance Test: প্রিলিমিনারি স্ক্রিনিং-এ বাছাইকৃত প্রার্থীদের বিজ্ঞপ্তিতে উল্লিখিত তারিখ, সময় ও স্থানে শারীরিক মাপ, কাগজপত্র যাচাই ও Physical Endurance Test (দৌড়, পুশ-আপ, লং-জাম্প, হাই-জাম্প, ড্র্যাগিং, রোপ ক্লাইম্বিং)-এ অংশগ্রহণ করতে হবে। YouTube-এ Bangladesh Police-এর Official Channel, Bangladesh Police-এর Verified Facebook Page এবং Bangladesh Police Website www.police.gov.bd-এ নমুনা Physical Endurance Test (PET) এর একটি ভিডিও আপলোড করা হয়েছে। আগ্রহী প্রার্থীগণ ভিডিও দেখে প্রস্তুতি গ্রহণ করতে পারবে;

৪.৩ লিখিত পরীক্ষা: শারীরিক মাপ, কাগজপত্র যাচাই ও Physical Endurance Test-এ উত্তীর্ণ প্রার্থীদের বিজ্ঞপ্তিতে উল্লিখিত তারিখে বাংলা, ইংরেজি, সাধারণ গণিত ও সাধারণ বিজ্ঞানের উপর মোট ৪৫ নম্বরের লিখিত পরীক্ষায় অংশগ্রহণ করতে হবে। এ ক্ষেত্রে উত্তীর্ণ প্রার্থীদের শারীরিক মাপ, কাগজপত্র যাচাই ও Physical Endurance Test-এর ফলাফল প্রকাশের ৪৮ ঘণ্টার মধ্যে যে কোনো টেলিটক প্রি-পেইড মোবাইল নম্বর হতে নিম্নবর্ণিত ধাপ অনুসরণকরতঃ লিখিত পরীক্ষার ফি বাবদ ৫৬/- (ছাপ্পান্ন টাকা) জমা করে লিখিত পরীক্ষার প্রবেশপত্র সংগ্রহ করতে হবে। শারীরিক মাপ, কাগজপত্র যাচাই ও Physical Endurance Test-এ উত্তীর্ণ হওয়ার পর কমপক্ষে ৫৬/- (ছাপ্পান্ন টাকা) ব্যালেন্স রয়েছে এমন টেলিটক প্রি-পেইড মোবাইল নম্বর হতে ২টি SMS Send করতে হবে;

প্রথম SMS: TRC<space>User ID লিখে ১৬২২২ নম্বরে Send করতে হবে;

Example: TRC ABCDEF

Reply: Applicant's Name, fifty-six taka (56/-) will be charged as examination fee for Written Test of TRC Recruitment Exam October 2026. Your PIN is.....(10 digit). To pay fee type TRC<space>Yes<space>PIN and send to 16222;

দ্বিতীয় SMS: TRC<space>Yes<space>PIN Number লিখে ১৬২২২ নম্বরে Send করতে হবে;

Example: TRC YES 1234567890

Reply: Congrats! Applicant's Name, Your payment has been successfully completed for Written Test of TRC Recruitment Exam October 2026. User ID is (xxxxxxxxxx) and Password is (xxxxxxx).

SMS-এ প্রেরিত User ID এবং Password ব্যবহার করে http://police.teletalk.com.bd ওয়েবসাইটে প্রবেশ করে লিখিত পরীক্ষার রোল নম্বর, পদের নাম, ছবি, পরীক্ষার তারিখ, সময় ও স্থান/কেন্দ্রের নাম ইত্যাদি তথ্য সংবলিত লিখিত পরীক্ষার প্রবেশপত্র ডাউনলোড করে ১ কপি প্রিন্ট করতে হবে;

৪.৪ মনস্তাত্ত্বিক ও মৌখিক পরীক্ষা: লিখিত পরীক্ষায় উত্তীর্ণ প্রার্থীদের বিজ্ঞপ্তিতে উল্লিখিত তারিখে ১৫ নম্বরের মনস্তাত্ত্বিক ও মৌখিক পরীক্ষায় অংশগ্রহণ করতে হবে;

৪.৫ চূড়ান্ত নির্বাচন: প্রতি জেলায় নিয়োগযোগ্য প্রকৃত শূন্য পদে কোটার অনুকূলে সরকার কর্তৃক জারিকৃত বিদ্যমান কোটা পদ্ধতি (মেধা; মুক্তিযোদ্ধা, শহিদ মুক্তিযোদ্ধা ও বীরাঙ্গনার সন্তান; ক্ষুদ্র নৃ-গোষ্ঠী এবং শারীরিক প্রতিবন্ধী ও তৃতীয় লিঙ্গের জন্য) অনুসরণ করে লিখিত এবং মনস্তাত্ত্বিক ও মৌখিক পরীক্ষায় প্রাপ্ত নম্বরের ভিত্তিতে মেধাক্রম অনুযায়ী প্রার্থীদের প্রাথমিকভাবে নির্বাচন করা হবে;

৪.৬ স্বাস্থ্য পরীক্ষা ও পুলিশ ভেরিফিকেশন: প্রাথমিকভাবে নির্বাচিত প্রার্থীদের স্বাস্থ্য পরীক্ষায় অংশগ্রহণ করতে হবে। এ ক্ষেত্রে নির্বাচিত প্রার্থীদের কেন্দ্রীয় পুলিশ হাসপাতাল, রাজারবাগ, ঢাকায় নির্ধারিত তারিখ ও সময়ে পূরণকৃত চিকিৎসার ইতিবৃত্ত এবং মেডিকেল অফিসার কর্তৃক পরীক্ষিত শারীরিক পরীক্ষা সংক্রান্ত তথ্যাদিসহ Pathological Investigation-এ অংশগ্রহণ করতে হবে। কেন্দ্রীয় পুলিশ হাসপাতাল, রাজারবাগ ব্যতীত অন্য কোনো প্রতিষ্ঠানের স্বাস্থ্য পরীক্ষার রিপোর্ট মেডিকেল বোর্ডে গ্রহণযোগ্য হবে না। স্বাস্থ্য পরীক্ষায় সংশ্লিষ্ট মেডিকেল বোর্ড কর্তৃক গৃহীত সিদ্ধান্তই চূড়ান্ত বলে গণ্য হবে। স্বাস্থ্য পরীক্ষায় ০১ (এক) বার অযোগ্য ঘোষিত হলে পুনরায় স্বাস্থ্য পরীক্ষার কোনো আবেদন বিবেচিত হবে না। স্বাস্থ্য পরীক্ষায় যোগ্য প্রার্থীরা পুলিশ ভেরিফিকেশন ফরম পূরণ করবে। পুলিশ ভেরিফিকেশনে সন্তোষজনক মর্মে বিবেচিত হলে প্রশিক্ষণের জন্য প্রাথমিকভাবে মনোনীত করা হবে। উল্লেখ্য, পুলিশ ভেরিফিকেশন ফরমে কোনো তথ্য গোপন অথবা মিথ্যা তথ্য প্রদান করা হলে চূড়ান্ত প্রশিক্ষণের জন্য মনোনয়ন প্রদান করা হবে না; এবং

৪.৭ চূড়ান্তভাবে প্রশিক্ষণে অন্তর্ভুক্তকরণ: প্রশিক্ষণের জন্য প্রাথমিকভাবে নির্বাচিত প্রার্থীদের প্রশিক্ষণ কেন্দ্রে যোগদানের পর পুলিশ হেডকোয়ার্টার্সের প্রতিনিধির সমন্বয়ে গঠিত চূড়ান্ত বাছাই কমিটি কর্তৃক শারীরিক যোগ্যতাসহ অন্যান্য তথ্যাদি যাচাইয়ের পর চূড়ান্তভাবে প্রশিক্ষণে অন্তর্ভুক্ত করা হবে।

৫. প্রয়োজনীয় সনদ সমূহের বিবরণ:

প্রিলিমিনারি স্ক্রিনিং-এর মাধ্যমে বাছাইকৃত যোগ্য প্রার্থীদের শারীরিক মাপ, কাগজপত্র যাচাই ও Physical Endurance Test (PET)-এ অংশগ্রহণের জন্য বিজ্ঞপ্তিতে উল্লিখিত তারিখ ও সময়ে নিজ জেলাস্থ পুলিশ লাইন্স (যে জেলার স্থায়ী বাসিন্দা)-এ নিম্নবর্ণিত কাগজপত্রসহ উপস্থিত থাকতে হবে:

৫.১ Admit Card for Physical Endurance Test: Admit Card for Physical Endurance Test-এর ডাউনলোডকৃত প্রিন্টেড কপি (২ কপি);

৫.২ শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতার সনদপত্র: শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতার সনদপত্র/সাময়িক সনদপত্রের মূল কপি;

৫.৩ চারিত্রিক সনদপত্র: সর্বশেষ শিক্ষা প্রতিষ্ঠানের প্রধান কর্তৃক প্রদত্ত চারিত্রিক সনদপত্রের মূল কপি;

৫.৪ নাগরিকত্ব সনদপত্র: জেলার স্থায়ী বাসিন্দা/জাতীয়তার প্রমাণস্বরূপ ইউনিয়ন পরিষদের চেয়ারম্যান/সিটি কর্পোরেশনের মেয়র/পৌরসভার মেয়র/ওয়ার্ড কাউন্সিলর (যা প্রযোজ্য)-এর নিকট হতে স্থায়ী নাগরিকত্ব সনদপত্রের মূল কপি;

৫.৫ অভিভাবকের সম্মতিপত্র: আইনানুগ অভিভাবক কর্তৃক প্রদত্ত সম্মতিপত্র (পুলিশ ওয়েবসাইট www.police.gov.bd-এ প্রদত্ত নমুনা অনুযায়ী);

৫.৬ জাতীয় পরিচয়পত্র: প্রার্থীর জাতীয় পরিচয়পত্রের মূল কপি (যদি প্রার্থীর জাতীয় পরিচয়পত্র না থাকে তাহলে প্রার্থীর পিতা/মাতার জাতীয় পরিচয়পত্রের মূল কপি);

৫.৭ ছবি: সরকারি গেজেটেড কর্মকর্তা কর্তৃক সত্যায়িত ৩ (তিন) কপি সদ্য তোলা পাসপোর্ট সাইজের রঙিন ছবি;

৫.৮ মুক্তিযোদ্ধা, শহিদ মুক্তিযোদ্ধা ও বীরাঙ্গনার সন্তানদের ক্ষেত্রে প্রমাণক: মুক্তিযোদ্ধার নাম লাল মুক্তিবার্তায় থাকলে লাল মুক্তিবার্তার সত্যায়িত অনুলিপি/মুক্তিযোদ্ধার নাম ভারতীয় তালিকায় থাকলে ভারতীয় তালিকার সত্যায়িত অনুলিপি/মুক্তিযোদ্ধার নামে জারিকৃত গেজেটের মূল কপি;

৫.৯ ক্ষুদ্র নৃ-গোষ্ঠী কোটা: ক্ষুদ্র নৃ-গোষ্ঠী কোটার প্রার্থীদের ক্ষেত্রে প্রমাণস্বরূপ তাদের রাজা/ক্ষুদ্র নৃ-গোষ্ঠী প্রধান অথবা জেলা প্রশাসক/উপজেলা নির্বাহী অফিসার কর্তৃক প্রদত্ত সনদপত্রের মূল কপি;

৫.১০ শারীরিক প্রতিবন্ধীর ক্ষেত্রে: সুবর্ণ নাগরিক কার্ড (মূলকপি);

৫.১১ তৃতীয় লিঙ্গের প্রার্থীর ক্ষেত্রে: জেলা সিভিল সার্জন কর্তৃক প্রদত্ত প্রত্যয়নপত্র এবং

৫.১২ চাকরিরত প্রার্থীদের অনুমতিপত্র: সরকারি/আধা-সরকারি/স্বায়ত্তশাসিত সংস্থায় চাকরিরত প্রার্থীদের ক্ষেত্রে আবশ্যিকভাবে যথাযথ কর্তৃপক্ষের অনুমতিপত্র।

৬. প্রশিক্ষণ:

পুলিশ হেডকোয়ার্টার্সের প্রতিনিধির সমন্বয়ে গঠিত চূড়ান্ত বাছাই কমিটি কর্তৃক চূড়ান্ত বাছাইকালে যোগ্য বিবেচিত প্রার্থীদের নির্ধারিত প্রশিক্ষণ কেন্দ্রে ট্রেইনি রিক্রুট কনস্টেবল (টিআরসি) হিসেবে ৬ মাস মেয়াদি মৌলিক প্রশিক্ষণে অংশগ্রহণ করতে হবে।

৭. প্রশিক্ষণকালীন সুযোগ-সুবিধা:

৭.১ ট্রেইনি রিক্রুট কনস্টেবল (টিআরসি) হিসেবে প্রশিক্ষণকালীন বিনা মূল্যে পোশাক সামগ্রীসহ থাকা-খাওয়া ও চিকিৎসা সুবিধা প্রাপ্য হবে এবং

৭.২ প্রশিক্ষণকালীন সরকারি বিধি মোতাবেক প্রতি মাসে প্রশিক্ষণ ভাতা প্রাপ্য হবে।

৮. নিয়োগ ও চাকরির সুবিধাদি:

৮.১ সফলতার সাথে প্রশিক্ষণ সম্পন্নকারী প্রশিক্ষণার্থীদের ২০২৬ সালের জাতীয় বেতন স্কেলের ১৭তম গ্রেডে ২১,৪০০-৫১,৯০০/- টাকা এবং বিধি মোতাবেক প্রাপ্য অন্যান্য বেতন-ভাতাদিসহ বাংলাদেশ পুলিশের কনস্টেবল পদে নিয়োগ প্রদান করা হবে;

৮.২ নিয়োগ প্রাপ্তদের যে কোনো জেলা/ইউনিটের শূন্য পদের বিপরীতে বদলি করা হলে তারা উক্ত জেলা/ইউনিটের কনস্টেবলের শূন্য পদে যোগদান করতে বাধ্য থাকবে;

৮.৩ ট্রেইনি রিক্রুট কনস্টেবল (টিআরসি) পদে নির্বাচিত প্রার্থীর মৌলিক প্রশিক্ষণ সফলভাবে সমাপনান্তে জেলা/ইউনিটে যোগদানের তারিখ হতে সংশ্লিষ্ট জেলা/ইউনিট প্রধান কর্তৃক তার শিক্ষানবিশকাল ঘোষণা করা হবে। শিক্ষানবিশ ঘোষণার তারিখ হতে দুই বছর সন্তোষজনক চাকরি পূর্ণ হলে সংশ্লিষ্ট জেলা/ইউনিট প্রধান বা ক্ষমতাপ্রাপ্ত কর্মকর্তা কর্তৃক তাকে কনস্টেবল পদে স্থায়ী করা হবে;

৮.৪ নিয়োগপ্রাপ্ত প্রার্থীদের শিক্ষানবিশকাল সমাপ্ত না হওয়া পর্যন্ত অবিবাহিত থাকতে হবে;

৮.৫ নিয়োগপ্রাপ্ত প্রার্থীরা বিনা মূল্যে পোশাক সামগ্রী, ঝুঁকি ভাতা, চিকিৎসা সুবিধা এবং নিজ ও পরিবারের নির্ধারিত সংখ্যক সদস্যদের জন্য প্রাপ্যতা অনুযায়ী পারিবারিক রেশন সামগ্রী স্বল্প মূল্যে প্রাপ্য হবে এবং

৮.৬ নিয়োগপ্রাপ্তদের জন্য প্রচলিত নিয়মানুযায়ী উচ্চতর পদে পদোন্নতি এবং জাতিসংঘ শান্তিরক্ষা মিশনে যাওয়ার সুযোগ রয়েছে।

৯. সাধারণ নির্দেশনাবলি:

৯.১ কর্তৃপক্ষ সার্বিক অবস্থা বিবেচনায় নিয়োগযোগ্য পদের সংখ্যা হ্রাস/বৃদ্ধি করার অধিকার সংরক্ষণ করেন;

৯.২ শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতা ও অন্যান্য বিষয়ে প্রার্থী কর্তৃক প্রদত্ত তথ্যাদি সম্পর্কে তদন্তে কিংবা তদন্ত পরবর্তীকালে কোন বিরূপ প্রতিবেদন পাওয়া গেলে উক্ত প্রার্থীকে প্রশিক্ষণ হতে অব্যাহতি/চাকরিচ্যুতি/চাকরি হতে বরখাস্তকরণসহ তার বিরুদ্ধে প্রয়োজনীয় আইনানুগ ব্যবস্থা গ্রহণ করা হবে;

৯.৩ মুক্তিযোদ্ধা, শহিদ মুক্তিযোদ্ধা ও বীরাঙ্গনার সন্তানদের ক্ষেত্রে পিতা/মাতার অনুকূলে ইস্যুকৃত প্রমাণকসমূহ যাচাইঅন্তে সঠিক পাওয়া না গেলে প্রশিক্ষণ হতে অব্যাহতি/চাকরিচ্যুতি/চাকরি হতে বরখাস্তকরণসহ তার বিরুদ্ধে প্রয়োজনীয় আইনানুগ ব্যবস্থা গ্রহণ করা হবে। উল্লেখ্য, মুক্তিযোদ্ধা, শহিদ মুক্তিযোদ্ধা ও বীরাঙ্গনার সন্তানদের জন্য নির্ধারিত কোটার প্রার্থী কর্তৃক দাখিলকৃত মুক্তিযোদ্ধা সনদ মুক্তিযুদ্ধ বিষয়ক মন্ত্রণালয় হতে একবার জাল প্রমাণিত হলে তা পুনরায় যাচাইয়ের কোনো সুযোগ থাকবে না;

৯.৪ চাকরিতে প্রবেশকালীন চাহিত কাগজপত্রাদি (সনদপত্র/প্রত্যয়নপত্র ইত্যাদি) ব্যতীত শারীরিক মাপ, কাগজপত্র যাচাই ও Physical Endurance Test (PET)-এ অংশগ্রহণের কোনো সুযোগ নেই;

৯.৫ ত্রুটিপূর্ণ/অসম্পূর্ণ/ভুল তথ্য কিংবা মিথ্যা তথ্য সংবলিত আবেদনপত্র বাতিল বলে গণ্য হবে। এ ক্ষেত্রে প্রশিক্ষণের জন্য চূড়ান্তভাবে নির্বাচিত/নিয়োগকৃত/প্রশিক্ষণরত/চাকরিরত অর্থাৎ যে কোনো পর্যায়ে দাখিলকৃত তথ্য মিথ্যা/ভুল অথবা প্রার্থীর কোনো প্রতারণা প্রমাণিত হলে তাকে নিয়োগের অযোগ্য/বহিষ্কার/চাকরিচ্যুতি/বরখাস্তকরণসহ তার বিরুদ্ধে আইনানুগ ব্যবস্থা গ্রহণ করা হবে;

৯.৬ কোনো প্রার্থী পুলিশ বাহিনী/অন্য কোনো নিয়মিত বাহিনী/যে কোনো সরকারি চাকরি হতে বহিষ্কৃত/চাকরিচ্যুত/বরখাস্ত হয়ে থাকলে তাকে আবেদনের অযোগ্য মর্মে বিবেচনা করা হবে;

৯.৭ কোনো কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতিরেকে কর্তৃপক্ষ যে কোনো প্রার্থীর নিয়োগ/আবেদনপত্র বাতিলের অধিকার সংরক্ষণ করেন। নিয়োগ সংক্রান্ত সকল বিষয়ে কর্তৃপক্ষের সিদ্ধান্তই চূড়ান্ত বলে গণ্য হবে এবং

৯.৮ নিয়োগ পরীক্ষায় অংশগ্রহণের জন্য প্রার্থীদের কোনো প্রকার ভাতা প্রদান করা হবে না।

১০. শারীরিক মাপ, কাগজপত্র যাচাই ও Physical Endurance Test; লিখিত পরীক্ষা এবং মনস্তাত্ত্বিক ও মৌখিক পরীক্ষার সময়সূচি:

প্রার্থীদের নিম্নবর্ণিত তারিখ ও সময়ে স্ব-স্ব জেলার পুলিশ লাইন্স মাঠে উপস্থিত থাকতে হবে:

জেলার নাম	শারীরিক মাপ, কাগজপত্র যাচাই ও Physical Endurance Test	লিখিত পরীক্ষা	মনস্তাত্ত্বিক ও মৌখিক পরীক্ষা
মাদারীপুর, কিশোরগঞ্জ, রাঙ্গামাটি, ব্রাহ্মণবাড়িয়া, ঝিনাইদহ, নড়াইল, সিরাজগঞ্জ, চাঁপাইনবাবগঞ্জ, কুড়িগ্রাম, সুনামগঞ্জ, জামালপুর, ফরিদপুর, টাঙ্গাইল, কুমিল্লা, খাগড়াছড়ি, খুলনা	১৩, ১৪ ও ১৫ নভেম্বর, ২০২৬ ০৮.০০ ঘটিকা	২৫ নভেম্বর, ২০২৬ ১০.০০ ঘটিকা	০৫ ডিসেম্বর, ২০২৬ ১০.০০ ঘটিকা
সাতক্ষীরা, নওগাঁ, জয়পুরহাট, পঞ্চগড়, হবিগঞ্জ, নেত্রকোণা, ঢাকা, রাজবাড়ী, ফেনী, লক্ষ্মীপুর, চুয়াডাঙ্গা, বগুড়া, দিনাজপুর, সিলেট, ঝালকাঠি, পটুয়াখালী	১৬, ১৭ ও ১৮ নভেম্বর, ২০২৬ ০৮.০০ ঘটিকা	০২ ডিসেম্বর, ২০২৬ ১০.০০ ঘটিকা	১২ ডিসেম্বর, ২০২৬ ১০.০০ ঘটিকা
নারায়ণগঞ্জ, মুন্সীগঞ্জ, কক্সবাজার, মেহেরপুর, নাটোর, লালমনিরহাট, গাইবান্ধা, শেরপুর, ভোলা, বরগুনা, ময়মনসিংহ, গাজীপুর, শরীয়তপুর, মানিকগঞ্জ, গোপালগঞ্জ, বান্দরবান	১৯, ২০ ও ২১ নভেম্বর, ২০২৬ ০৮.০০ ঘটিকা	০৮ ডিসেম্বর, ২০২৬ ১০.০০ ঘটিকা	১৯ ডিসেম্বর, ২০২৬ ১০.০০ ঘটিকা
নোয়াখালী, বাগেরহাট, যশোর, রাজশাহী, ঠাকুরগাঁও, নীলফামারী, মৌলভীবাজার, নরসিংদী, চাঁদপুর, চট্টগ্রাম, কুষ্টিয়া, মাগুরা, পাবনা, রংপুর, পিরোজপুর, বরিশাল	২২, ২৩ ও ২৪ নভেম্বর, ২০২৬ ০৮.০০ ঘটিকা	১৫ ডিসেম্বর, ২০২৬ ১০.০০ ঘটিকা	২৬ ডিসেম্বর, ২০২৬ ১০.০০ ঘটিকা

(মোঃ কুতুব উদ্দিন)
বিপি-৭৮০৫১১৬৪৪৩
অ্যাডিশনাল ডিআইজি (রিক্রুটমেন্ট অ্যান্ড ক্যারিয়ার প্ল্যানিং-১)
বাংলাদেশ পুলিশ, পুলিশ হেডকোয়ার্টার্স, ঢাকা

ট্রেইনি রিক্রুট কনস্টেবল (টিআরসি) পদে নিয়োগের ক্ষেত্রে কোনো প্রকার আর্থিক লেনদেনে কোন প্রার্থী জড়িত থাকলে নিয়োগ বাতিলসহ সংশ্লিষ্টদের বিরুদ্ধে কঠোর আইনানুগ ব্যবস্থা গ্রহণ করা হবে। আবেদনপত্রে কোনো মিথ্যা বা ভুল তথ্য প্রদান করলে নিয়োগের অযোগ্য বলে বিবেচিত হবে।

The Daily Star
FOUNDER EDITOR: **LATE S. M. ALI**

Reset priorities to help the vulnerable

WB report on poverty risk should push govt to act now

The World Bank's recent warning that 6.2 crore people in Bangladesh are just one shock away from poverty should wake our policymakers up. The multilateral lender's latest Bangladesh Development Update paints a grim economic picture for the current fiscal year, marked by rising poverty and inequality, weak economic growth, and high inflation. According to the report, national poverty is expected to rise to 22.5 percent in 2026 from 21.4 percent in 2025, and 21 lakh people are estimated to fall into poverty. Meanwhile, the Gini coefficient that measures inequality is estimated to rise to 34.9 from 34. In other words, not only will more people become poor, but the gap between the rich and poor will also increase.

What's more concerning is that the design of the national programmes intended to help the poor is contributing to the rising inequality. The World Bank report highlights inadequate coverage, low support relative to living costs, disjointed eligibility rules, overlapping beneficiary lists, and convoluted delivery in our patchwork of social safety net programmes.

The report should push the government to focus on the real vulnerable and marginal groups, who do not enjoy the security of public sector jobs. It should also delay costly deals, fix the social safety net programmes, and pursue reforms to boost domestic investment and create jobs.

While the Family Card initiative aims to bring the numerous programmes under one umbrella, the World Bank warns it will do little to reduce poverty if the administrative inefficiencies persist. Similarly, design failure in both fertiliser and energy subsidies, which benefits the wealthy more than the poor, must also be addressed.

While these structural issues have existed for years, the current and last fiscal years have been particularly difficult for middle- and low-income groups because of the fertiliser and energy crises, caused mostly by external shocks. To ease the fiscal strain, the government raised electricity, fuel and LPG prices—some more than once. But the hikes cannot be attributed entirely to the shocks; syndicates and artificial shortages within the country also played a role, while the government failed to control the market. It has also failed to boost investor confidence, while sluggish private sector growth, aggravated by the energy crisis, has limited job creation. In fact, production slowdowns and cuts sometimes resulted in lay-offs. The spillover effects may already be visible in the deteriorating law and order situation.

Under such circumstances, the government's decision to roll out ambitious revenue targets and overstretch the budget to accommodate large non-development expenditures was not prudent. Even if it somehow failed to see the warning signs on the economic horizon after taking office in February, the World Bank's latest report should at least make it tighten their purse strings now. More importantly, the report should push the government to focus on the real vulnerable and marginal groups, who do not enjoy the security of public sector jobs. It should also delay costly deals, fix the social safety net programmes, and pursue reforms to boost domestic investment and create jobs. It should not wait until the next disaster hits us and create the 6.2 crore newly poor.

Alarming rise in cancer cases, deaths

Govt must urgently expand treatment capacity

The growing number of cancer patients and deaths in the country is very concerning. According to estimates by the International Agency for Research on Cancer, the number of new cases increased by about 12 percent between 2022 and 2024, from 167,256 to 187,263. The number of cancer deaths rose even higher by about 19 percent, from 116,598 to 138,906. While these figures are estimates, they are nonetheless alarming. The severe shortage of treatment facilities and high cost of care are putting an enormous strain on our already inadequate cancer-care system.

At the National Institute of Cancer Research and Hospital (NICRH), the country's only public specialised cancer hospital, more than 100 people routinely crowd outside the radiotherapy rooms, while up to 8,000 patients are currently waiting for treatment. This reflects the severe gap between the number of radiotherapy machines needed and those available. According to WHO recommendations, the country needs at least 170 radiotherapy machines, but there are only 30, including 23 under the health ministry. Of these, only seven are currently functional. There is also a severe shortage of radiation oncologists, radiotherapy technologists, medical physicists, and oncology nurses.

In such a situation, the cost of cancer treatment is placing an unbearable burden on many families. Costs for treatment can force families into selling land, exhausting savings, and taking on debt, with travel and living costs adding to the burden. For instance, a mason from Kishoreganj had to sell his only piece of land for Tk 5 lakh to pay for his treatment. Another patient from Patuakhali spent about Tk 4 lakh on treatment before learning that his cancer had already spread to several parts of his body.

The government's plan to install 17 new radiotherapy machines at public hospitals by June next year is, therefore, welcome. Authorities must ensure that the new machines are installed where they are most needed. The severe workforce crisis must be addressed. There is also an urgent need to strengthen cancer screening and early diagnosis, as delays in diagnosis and referrals can cost precious time. Most importantly, we need a comprehensive national cancer control strategy based on reliable data, prevention, early detection, equitable access to treatment, and palliative care. The government must also establish a population-based cancer registry without further delay. We have been calling for such measures for years. With cancer cases and deaths rising and thousands of patients waiting for treatment, there is no more time left to lose.

Ruling party-opposition relations key to institutionalising democracy

Are we open to learning from our past mistakes?

THE THIRD VIEW



Mahfuz Anam is the editor and publisher of The Daily Star.

MAHFUZ ANAM

The result of the election held in February 1991 surprised both BNP—for winning—and Awami League—for losing—because the latter thought they were all set to come to power. The joke was that AL leaders were ironing their clothes for the oath-taking ceremony.

Bangladesh started with the parliamentary system in 1972, which was changed to a presidential one as part of the BAKSAL model in 1975, and reverted to the former in September 1991, thanks to Khaleda Zia, the first prime minister in the post-autocracy period. She accepted what was the demand of AL and other opposition parties, even though BNP's party manifesto still adhered to the presidential system.

This, in my view, was a singular opportunity to begin a collaborative working relationship between the ruling party and the opposition. It should have come naturally because the ruling party accepted the opposition's view and changed the form of government. Khaleda Zia, as the leader of the House, could have opted to be president following her illustrious husband—the father of the current prime minister—but chose a new direction. This should have set us on a constructive journey with collaboration between the ruling party and the opposition at its heart.

Unfortunately, it did not. Like in some other South Asian countries, the opposition here has never received its due recognition, space and rights. We never tried to understand why the opposition is called "the government in waiting" or expected to form what is called a "shadow cabinet" in the Westminster system. All this means that in the parliamentary system, the ruling party and the opposition together form the overall governance process, in which the opposition plays a crucial part through a structured, principled and accountable functioning of parliament.

In 1991, we got off to a wrong (better still, opposite) start as Sheikh Hasina called the election an instance of "shukkho karchupi" (subtle rigging). Since the election was not seen as a "people's verdict", the opposition's moral obligation to accept it was ignored. AL as the opposition did not see BNP's acceptance of the parliamentary system as a "compromise" or "a gesture of cooperation" but as a defeat. Thus, instead of a constructive attitude from the opposition, we saw a far more aggressive and obstructionist attitude, leading to an approach of "disabling the government" and making it look not only unsuccessful but also incompetent and undeserving to rule, thus implying that forcing it to relinquish power was justified.

In those early days of The Daily Star, I used to literally go everywhere—press conferences, seminars, discussions and parliamentary sessions (for my column "From the Gallery"). On one such occasion, probably in '92 or '93, I ventured into the room of the leader of the opposition, Sheikh Hasina, during a recess. As we talked about the issues at hand, the bell rang, signalling the resumption of the session. Suddenly, she shouted, "Walk out, walk out," asking some in the room to tell the others. A little later, two MPs, Matia Chowdhury and Tofail Ahmed, walked in and asked why, since nothing had happened to justify such an action. After a little while, she retorted, "Ja khushi koren" ("Do as you feel"), clearly indicating that she was not happy.

This was my first direct exposure to how trivial the opposition leader's attitude was towards the functioning of the "people's house". Later, we saw the start of the demand for a caretaker government to conduct the next election due in 1996, which was years away. This demand led to frequent walkouts, later to boycotts, and finally to resignations, totally making parliament one-sided and, as such, dysfunctional. While this was the scene within, outside the House there were street violence, relentless clashes with police, and chaos on the roads. There were frequent calls for hartals that started with one, two or three days and then went so far as the whole week. To ordinary citizens, this brought in an attitude of disrespect for parliament. Because of such long breaks, we unknowingly became casual about tasks at hand, work schedules and timelines—all of which had an impact on our work ethic, something from which we have yet to recover.

For any success in strengthening our democratic institution-building, we have to learn from our past failures and start with making parliament truly functional. The July uprising has given us a clean slate; we have to make the most of this opportunity to restart our democratic journey.

Ironically, however destructive the opposition's practices were, they won the subsequent elections—AL in 1996, BNP in 2001, and AL again in 2008. Under the caretaker government system, the pattern appeared to be that the ruling party always loses. Thus, a negative message became entrenched in the opposition's mind that regardless of how destructive their politics was, it worked to dislodge the sitting government. The opposition had no responsibility to work for stability and societal peace.



VISUAL: **BIPLOB CHAKROBORTY**

AL predicted that, if that pattern continued, it would lose the next election, so after assuming power in 2009, it abolished the caretaker government system in 2011. It legalised elections under the ruling party, which led to what we saw in 2014, 2018 and 2024—all totally manipulated elections.

The process of election manipulation triggered the politicisation of almost all our institutions—the police, bureaucracy, intelligence agencies, lower judiciary, public universities, etc. There was also tremendous pressure on the private sector to fall in line.

Coming to the present, for any success in strengthening our democratic institution-building, we have to learn from our past failures and start with making parliament truly functional. The July uprising has given us a clean slate; we have to make the most of this opportunity to restart our democratic journey.

However, our start in the new parliament has not been the best, to put it mildly. The divide between BNP and Jamaat-e-Islami has begun with the former's refusal to take a separate oath to form a constitutional reform council as stipulated by the referendum held on February 12. The order by the interim government envisaged lawmakers serving simultaneously as MPs and members of the reform council.

The second issue was when BNP allowed 16 important ordinances out of 133 to lapse without taking the opposition's views into consideration, especially when these ordinances dealt with crucial issues like the independence of judiciary, enforced disappearances, strengthening the Anti-Corruption Commission and National Human Rights Commission, etc.

The gap between the ruling party and the opposition further widened during the third parliamentary session, which passed six bills that the opposition party objected to, especially criticising those dealing with the very issues covered by the ordinances allowed to lapse: enforced disappearances, the NHRC, etc.

Then came the shocker: out of the chairmanships of 50 parliamentary standing committees, only one was given to the opposition—the Public Accounts Committee—whereas the demand was for 26 percent of the posts.

BNP's initiative to form a 17-member parliamentary committee on constitutional amendments, proposing five seats for the opposition, was not accepted by the latter, as it claimed that this was a deviation from the July charter. So far, the committee has invited all parties that signed the July charter to present their views, but the opposition-led alliance has abstained.

It is clear that the ruling BNP could have been more circumspect in handling some of the issues raised by the opposition. I think there are reasonable grounds to see the opposition's logic, and some of the early signs have been concerning. It is also natural that differences will exist between the two sides. It is also entirely justified that critical anti-government views will be expressed by the opposition.

But, as we said before, the opposition's threats to take to the streets are highly premature. The government's inadequacies should be pointed out, its partisan appointments revealed, and any instance of corruption exposed. But any threats to destabilise the government or create an atmosphere of uncertainty—and any fear in the public mind that we are going to face political uncertainty even after a globally accepted election—is neither justified nor acceptable.

We request the ruling party to be more receptive to the opposition's demands, and the opposition to be more restrained and mature in its actions and declarations, if we really want Bangladesh to move forward. This is also essential for our parliamentary democracy to serve its intended purpose.

Cyber policing needs expertise, safeguards



Md. Nazmul Hossain Sefat is a researcher and former lecturer of law.

NAZMUL HOSSAIN SEFAT

The government's recent initiative—an independent Cyber Police Unit with more than 4000 officers—is undoubtedly a notable institutional development. Bringing cybercrime functions under a single structure could help address a problem that has become hard to overlook.

However, the key question is not how many officers have been appointed to tackle cybercrimes, but whether those officers will have specialised knowledge, logistical support, legal safeguards, and institutional independence.

Fortunately, the proposed structure allows specialists to be appointed on a contract basis and provides for advanced training. But with the rapid growth of Artificial Intelligence, cybercrime is no longer simply about hacking. Offenders can now use AI tools to craft manipulative phishing texts, images, and audio, and automate parts of malicious activity. Interpol has warned that deepfake impersonation and AI-enhanced fraud are becoming significant challenges for law enforcement.

This creates a difficult legal problem. Suppose a victim receives a threatening video, or an audio recording sounds like an official authorising a financial transaction, or a photograph shows an accused person at a particular location.

In the past, the question might have been whether the digital file was genuine. In the age of generative AI, investigators must also ask whether something was artificially created. Proving the authenticity of digital evidence in court is just as crucial as collecting it at the police station. While Bangladesh's Evidence (Amendment) Act, 2022 legally recognises electronic records, relying on digital proof raises complex challenges around manipulation, integrity, and chain of custody. Merely being able to extract digital files does not mean an investigator is equipped to defend their reliability before a judge.

Thus, the new unit needs a strong forensic architecture. The whole process from seizure to presentation of the digital evidence before the court should be handled with caution. Investigators should have sufficient knowledge about metadata, logs, device imaging, cloud storage, and the limitations of AI detection tools.

While AI tools can help detect manipulated data, they can also make manipulated materials harder to differentiate from original evidence. Interpol has pointed out that AI tools could create false evidence or make original evidence appear fake.

Effective cyber policing requires a careful balance—greater enforcement power must be matched with stronger legal safeguards. While the Cyber Security Act, 2026 explicitly incorporates AI tools and AI-generated data into its definition of cyberspace, it also grants police specific authority to address hacking, unauthorised access, and threats to digital evidence.

These powers may be necessary for effective investigation. But cyber investigations can also expose enormous amounts of private information, including messages, photographs, financial records, location data, and personal communications. Therefore, the new unit should operate under clear rules concerning search, seizure, data retention, access to personal information and the handling of irrelevant private material.

Cyber policing can easily affect journalists, researchers, whistleblowers and ordinary citizens whose online activities may be misunderstood or taken out of context. The government's current effort to further modernise cyber-security legislation should therefore prioritise precise definitions, judicial oversight and meaningful procedural safeguards. Moreover, our country needs a multidisciplinary institution that can bring together investigators, prosecutors, digital forensic experts, computer scientists, financial investigators, legal professionals and cyber security specialists.

Technological advancement can boost functions, while legal provisions can give authority, but nothing will change without strong accountability, real expertise, and full respect for the process.

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Why Bangladesh needs a civil legal framework for adoption

MIND THE GAP



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NOSHIN NAWAL

Recent reports about children being sought or sold for money, both online and offline, should force Bangladesh to confront a long-standing gap in its legal framework: the absence of a comprehensive civil law governing adoption. A recent Prothom Alo investigation found Facebook groups in which children were being offered, sought and, in some instances, negotiated over for substantial sums of money. Of the 288 posts examined by reporters, 63 offered children and 34 sought them. Some involved newborns or pregnant women, while discussions included payments running into lakhs of taka. Separately, another investigation in Kishoreganj reported allegations that five children from a single village had been sold by their parents over the last six years. Poverty and parental drug addiction featured in accounts surrounding some of these cases.

These reports do not establish that every informal transfer of a child is criminally motivated, nor should we assume that every missing child has been sold or trafficked. What they demonstrate is that children are moving between families outside a clear, uniform, and accountable legal structure. As already noted, there is currently no comprehensive adoption law applicable to all citizens. Adoption is largely governed by personal and religious laws, while guardianship is regulated primarily by the Guardians and Wards Act, 1890. The Children Act, 2013 also provides mechanisms for alternative care for children in need of care and protection. These protections are important, but guardianship and adoption are not legally interchangeable.

Guardianship concerns responsibility for and authority over a child. Adoption, where legally recognised, creates a permanent parent-child relationship and consequently raises wider questions of parentage, identity, birth records, inheritance, consent and long-term legal status. The shortcomings of the present system become obvious in the absence of clear answers to basic questions: who may lawfully arrange the permanent placement of a child with another family? How is the free and informed consent of biological parents established? What safeguards apply where poverty, addiction, coercion or financial inducement may influence that consent? Who assesses prospective parents? Who preserves the child's original records? And who determines that the arrangement is genuinely in the child's best interests?

A modern child protection system should have clear answers. Where formal pathways are uncertain or inaccessible, informal mechanisms fill the gap. Social media groups, private intermediaries, personal connections, and informal agreements begin performing functions that belong within a regulated child protection system. At its most dangerous, the distinction between finding a family for a child and finding a child for a family becomes blurred. This is why the absence of a civil adoption framework is not just an inconvenience for prospective parents but it fundamentally affects a child's safety and well-being.

Any reform must nevertheless begin with an important qualification: poverty should never become a mechanism for permanently separating children from their families. A parent unable to feed or educate a child should, wherever reasonably possible, receive support rather than be placed in circumstances where surrendering that child to another family appears to be the only solution. Family preservation, kinship care, and properly regulated foster care must remain part of the same conversation. There will, however, be children who cannot safely remain with their biological parents, cannot appropriately be placed with relatives, or have been abandoned or orphaned. Bangladesh needs a credible legal answer for them too. Institutional care should not become the automatic destination for a child simply because the legal system has failed to develop sufficient family-based alternatives.



A child is not property to be transferred by contract. PHOTO: MAGNIFIC

A modern child protection system should have clear answers. Where formal pathways are uncertain or inaccessible, informal mechanisms fill the gap. Social media groups, private intermediaries, personal connections, and informal agreements begin performing functions that belong within a regulated child protection system. At its most dangerous, the distinction between finding a family for a child and finding a child for a family becomes blurred.

In this regard, a question may arise as to whether a civil legal framework for adoption can coexist with Bangladesh's religious and personal laws. It can, provided we stop treating religious freedom and access to a civil arrangement as mutually exclusive.

We confronted a similar argument in discussions over the recently passed Property Transfer (Amendment) Act, 2026—particularly its provision for a distinct form of property transfer (beyond heba and other recognised methods) that allows donors, including potentially vulnerable elderly parents, to retain lifetime usufruct rights. In response to criticism that this violates sharia provisions on property transfer and inheritance, proponents of the amendment have argued that people should remain free to follow religious rules while also having the option of choosing a lawful civil arrangement outside those rules. "There is no reason to turn these two rights into enemies," as a columnist of this daily wrote.

This same principle has even greater force where vulnerable children are concerned. A civil adoption framework need not compel anyone to adopt in a manner contrary to their religious beliefs. Nor must it abolish guardianship or arrangements recognised under personal law. Those wishing to follow the rules applicable to their faith should remain free to do so, but those who prefer a regulated civil arrangement should also have that option. Such a framework could establish a central authority responsible for adoption and permanent placement, require judicial or independent approval, prescribe assessments of prospective parents, establish procedures for informed parental consent, prohibit the sale or purchase of children as well as unlicensed intermediaries, preserve accurate birth and identity records, and provide appropriate post-placement supervision.

It should also determine the legal consequences for parentage, maintenance, nationality, and inheritance, protect a child's ability to access information about their biological origins where appropriate, and ensure that the child's views are considered according to age and maturity. Most importantly, every placement would leave an accountable legal and administrative trail.

That said, a child is not property to be transferred by contract. No private agreement, affidavit or payment can substitute for an independent determination of that child's best interests. This principle must sit at the centre of reform. An adoption law should not be constructed around an adult's supposed right to obtain a child; it should be constructed around a child's right to protection, stability, and family life. The primary objective should be to find suitable families for children who need them, not children for adults who want them.

Bangladesh already has laws addressing trafficking, child protection, and guardianship, but these separate mechanisms do not amount to a coherent system regulating permanent family placement. That gap creates vulnerability on every side, as the recent reports amply suggest. Prospective parents face uncertainty over how to proceed lawfully. Biological parents in desperate circumstances may be vulnerable to exploitation. Authorities lack a single transparent process through which placements can be scrutinised. Children, who exercise the least control over these decisions, naturally carry the greatest risk.

A civil framework on its own will not eliminate trafficking, poverty, addiction or abandonment. But a good law can establish who may make decisions concerning a child, create safeguards against abuse, impose accountability when those safeguards are breached, and provide a legitimate route for families acting in good faith. The recent reports should, therefore, provoke a discussion larger than whether individual Facebook groups should be closed or particular intermediaries prosecuted. These measures only address symptoms. It is the underlying legal vacuum that must be addressed.

If our civil law can evolve to provide greater security to elderly parents or grandparents, it should certainly be able to provide it to children who have little power to protect themselves. For them, legal certainty is not an abstract jurisprudential concern. It determines who they call family, what identity they carry, what rights they possess, how they grow up, and even whether the state knows where they are at all.

Better healthcare needs clearer communication with patients



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AKM IQBAL BAHAR

Imagine leaving a hospital with a prescription but still wondering: which medicine should I take first? The information is on the prescription, but communication failed. At the heart of healthcare is a goal: better health and wellbeing. Information, concerns, instructions, and decisions exchanged between patients and healthcare professionals must therefore be "translated" into understanding and appropriate action.

There is evidence from Bangladesh that medical language can create real difficulties for patients. In a 2019 exploratory study published in BJGP Open, Badrul Alam Bhuiyan and colleagues surveyed 50 Bangladeshi adults online. Of the respondents, 44 percent identified English as the language used in prescriptions, while 26 percent reported a mixture of Bangla and English. Around 30 percent could not understand the medical language used by doctors. More broadly, many participants felt that medical language was affecting the treatment process, with 48 percent identifying it as a barrier to effective healthcare. The small, non-representative sample means these figures cannot be treated as a national estimate, but the study raises an important question: what is the value of medical instructions if the patient cannot understand them?

But the problem can begin even before a prescription. Gastroenterology, neonatology, or internal medicine—a specialist's title can be medically precise yet meaningless to someone unfamiliar with it. Moreover, patients need to know not only the possible side effects of medicines, but what they mean and what action they require. Without adequate counselling, someone may be worried about an expected reaction, stop a medicine without consulting a professional, or fail to recognise an urgent symptom.

The need for clear communication becomes even more evident in the process of informed consent. A 2019 study of 190 mothers at two tertiary hospitals in Dhaka, published in the European Journal of Midwifery by Md Abdul Karim and colleagues, found that although consent was obtained from 95 percent of mothers before vaginal delivery, the process did not ensure informed consent, with mothers given no opportunity to express their preferences or choose alternatives. The study was limited to two hospitals and involved data collected in 2015, but it illustrates a crucial distinction: obtaining a signature is not the same as achieving informed participation.

Similarly, a 2021 mixed-method study published in Reproductive Health examined physician-patient communication around Caesarean-section decisions in eight district public hospitals in Bangladesh. Sathyanarayanan Doraiswamy and colleagues observed 306 labour situations and found that 92.5 percent of encounters received low overall scores for shared decision-making, which included presenting options, discussing advantages and disadvantages, eliciting patient preferences, and incorporating them into decisions. The researchers also identified several other factors influencing Caesarean-section decisions, including patient perceptions, physician attitudes, and health-system constraints. The findings nevertheless reinforce the importance of meaningful dialogue and patient participation.

This is closely connected to "health literacy". The World Health Organization defines health literacy in terms of accessing, understanding, appraising, and using health information and services to promote and maintain health and wellbeing. Health education, therefore, should not stop at delivering information; it should help people understand and use it. Health promotion similarly seeks to enable people to exercise greater control over their health.

The same principle extends beyond the bedside. Public health constantly requires translation: research evidence into policy, policy into programmes, health messages into community understanding, and community concerns back into health-system decisions. What begins as information must eventually be translated into something people and institutions can understand and act upon.

There are practical ways to support this. Specialist designations on doctors' nameplates, for example, could use familiar, organ- or disease-based terms alongside clinical jargon, helping patients understand whom they are consulting. Where possible, a bilingual approach can be adopted. In diagnostic test reports, findings and their interpretation can be presented in the standard local language. Along with the results, appropriate reference ranges or clinical decision limits can be provided, with their sources identified where relevant, followed by a note such as, "Talk to your doctor to understand what these results mean for your health." This type of written report can prompt meaningful discussion between patients and doctors. Patient instructions and discharge information can likewise use clearer, more accessible language. After providing a prescription or specific verbal instructions, healthcare professionals can use teach-back by asking patients to explain in their own words how they will follow the advice, allowing any misunderstandings to be clarified. Health literacy skills can receive greater attention in professional education and training. Informed-consent processes can likewise place greater emphasis on explanation, questions, and participation in language that patients can comfortably understand.



VISUAL: MAGNIFIC

This is particularly relevant to nursing, where professionals often explain medicines, provide discharge instructions, answer questions, and notice when patients are uncertain. Such communication is not secondary to care; it is part of enabling safe and meaningful care.

The larger lesson is that translation is not merely changing the language of information. It is about carrying meaning across the boundaries between information and understanding, understanding and action, and action and better health. The UN resolution speaks of clarity, dialogue, understanding, and cooperation; healthcare can apply these principles at the bedside, in health education, and across public-health systems.

The question should therefore not stop at whether information has been delivered. We should ask whether the patient has understood it, had an opportunity to question it, and knows what to do with it. A prescription that cannot be understood is incomplete communication. Healthcare professionals need not only clinical knowledge, but the ability to translate that knowledge into language, explanations, and actions that patients, families, and communities can understand. Because in healthcare, communication is not separate from care—it is part of care.


Zahid Hasan


Mosharraf Karim


Jaya Ahsan


Afran Nisho


Rafiath Rashid Mithila


Nasir Uddin Khan


Mehazabien Chowdhury


Pritom Hasan


Jahid Nirob


Tanjin Tisha


Mostafizur Noor Imran


Tanzika Amin

BLENDER'S CHOICE- THE DAILY STAR OTT & DIGITAL CONTENT AWARDS 2025

The fifth iteration of the industry's biggest digital awards lands today

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

The spotlight is set, the stars are ready, and Bangladesh's OTT industry is gearing up for a night of celebration. The fifth edition of the Blender's Choice–The Daily Star OTT & Digital Content Awards takes place today, bringing together some of the biggest names and brightest talents in the industry.

Since its inception, the awards have recognised the creativity and achievements shaping Bangladesh's rapidly evolving digital entertainment landscape. This year's edition continues that tradition, with honours across 28 categories and two special awards, spanning Popular and Critics' segments, music, content creators and a People's Choice Award decided entirely through public voting.

Adding to the excitement, fan-favourite hosts Rafsan Shabab and Afsan Ara Bindu will return to the stage to entertain audiences throughout the evening. Rising stars Priyontee Urbee and Prantar Dastadir will take charge of the red carpet.

The evening also promises an exciting line-up of performances, including a dance performance by Alifia Squad and Sarika Sabah, alongside a special dance act featuring Sunerah Binte Kamal and Irfan Sajjad. For the first time, Mehazabien Chowdhury will take the stage as a performer at the Blender's Choice–The Daily Star OTT & Digital Content Awards. The programme will also feature a musical performance by Emon Chowdhury's band, Bengal Symphony.

With some of the best OTT productions of 2025 competing for recognition, the Popular categories feature several of the industry's most familiar faces.

Competition is particularly strong in the Best Actor (Popular) category, where Afran Nisho, Mosharraf Karim, Nasir Uddin Khan, Mostafizur Noor Imran and Pritom Hasan are vying for the top honour. Several of these names also feature in the Best Actor (Critics) category, with Afran Nisho, Mosharraf Karim, Nasir Uddin Khan and Mostafizur Noor Imran joined by veteran actor Zahid Hasan.

The Best Actress categories are equally star-studded. Jaya Ahsan, Mehazabien Chowdhury, Tama Mirza, Tanjin Tisha and Rafiath Rashid Mithila are competing in the Best Actress (Popular) category. Meanwhile, the Critics' segment features Jaya Ahsan, Mehazabien Chowdhury, Tama Mirza and Tanjin Tisha alongside Tanzika Amin.

Last year saw a diverse range of web series, from light-hearted stories that made audiences laugh to productions exploring mystery, suspense and horror. The Best Drama/Series (Popular) category reflects this variety, with Amitabh Reza Chowdhury's ***Bohemian Ghora***, Nuhash Humayun's ***Dui Shaw***, Syed Ahmed Shawki's ***Gulmohor***, Ashfaque Nipun's ***Jimmi*** and Shihab Shaheen's ***Myself Allen Swapan 2*** competing for the award.

The Best Film (Popular) category features Raihan Rafi's ***Amalnama***, Saraf Ahmed Zibon's ***Dimlight***, Jahid Preetom's ***Ghumpori***, Vicky Zahed's ***Neel Shukh*** and Anonno Proteek Chowdhuri's ***Noya Note***.

Meanwhile, the Best Film, Drama, Series (Critics) category brings together ***Dui Shaw***, ***Gulmohor***, ***Jimmi*** and ***Noya Note***, alongside Sukorno Sahed Dhiman's ***Feu***, making it another closely contested category.

Behind these productions are directors whose creative visions have shaped some of the year's most talked-about OTT projects.

In the Best Director Film (Popular) category, Anonno Proteek Chowdhuri is nominated for ***Noya Note***, Jahid Preetom for ***Ghumpori***, Raihan Rafi for ***Amalnama***, Shihab Shaheen for ***Tomar Jonno Mon*** and Vicky Zahed for ***Neel Shukh***.

The Best Director Drama/Series (Popular) category features Amitabh Reza Chowdhury for ***Bohemian Ghora***, Ashfaque Nipun for ***Jimmi***, Nuhash Humayun for ***Dui Shaw***, Shihab Shaheen for ***Myself Allen Swapan 2*** and Vicky Zahed for ***AKA***.

The Critics' category brings together another group of prominent filmmakers. In the Best Director Film, Drama, Series (Critics) category, Ashfaque Nipun is nominated for ***Jimmi***, Nuhash Humayun for ***Dui Shaw***, Raihan Rafi for ***Amalnama***, Sukorno Sahed Dhiman for ***Feu*** and Syed Ahmed Shawki for ***Gulmohor***.

What's digital platform without music? The fourth edition of the Blender's Choice–The Daily Star OTT & Digital Content Awards introduced the Best Music in Digital Platforms category, recognising the growing significance of music in the digital space. Continuing that recognition this year, Angel Noor is nominated for ***Teel***, Ishaan Mozumder for ***Gulbahar***, while Elita Karim and Pritom Hasan are recognised for ***Bagan Bilash***.

Whether it is romance, action or a thriller, music often plays an important role in shaping an OTT production and its popularity. Interestingly, this year's nominations also highlight the versatility of filmmakers, with some directors taking on the role of lyricists for their own projects.

In the Best Lyricist category, Jahid Preetom is nominated for ***Premeri Jokhom*** from ***Ghumpori***, while Anonno Proteek Chowdhuri is recognised for ***Amio Manush*** from ***Noya Note***. They are competing against Jahid Nirob, nominated for ***Ghuri Ami*** from ***Dimlight***.

The Best Singer category also features a diverse line-up of artistes. Ankan Kumar Roy is nominated for ***Ghuri Ami*** from ***Dimlight***, while Emon Chowdhury and Xefer Rahman are recognised for ***Shundori Konnya*** from ***Tomar Jonno Mon***. Tanzir Tuhin is in the running for Shurer Hahakar from ***Gulmohor***, while Mahtim Shakib and Shithi Saha have been nominated for ***Premeri Jokhom*** from ***Ghumpori***. Tasfia Fatima Tashfee completes the category with ***Khuji*** from ***Little Miss Chaos***.

The Best Music Composer category further highlights the musicians behind these OTT tracks. Emon Chowdhury is nominated for ***Shundori Konnya*** from ***Tomar Jonno Mon***, Jahid Nirob for P***remeri Jokhom*** from ***Ghumpori*** and Khayam Sanu Sandhi for ***Shurer Hahakar*** from ***Gulmohor***. Naive Band is in the running for ***Amio Manush*** from ***Noya Note***, while Pritom Hasan has been nominated for ***Amra Koshai*** from ***Dui Shaw***.

By the end of the evening, there will be winners, applause and perhaps a few surprises along the way. But beyond the trophies, tonight belongs to the stories that stayed with audiences long after the screens went dark, and to the creators who continue to demonstrate that Bangladesh's OTT industry has many more stories to tell.


Tama Mirza



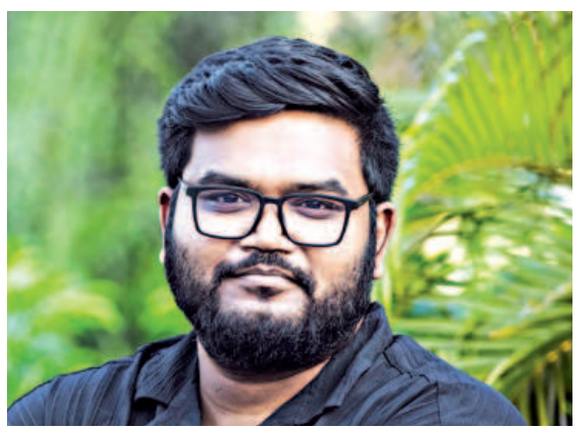
Amitabh Reza Chowdhury


Shihab Shaheen


Ashfaque Nipun


Vicky Zahed


Jahid Preetom


Anonno Proteek Chowdhuri


Syed Ahmed Shawki

PHOTOS: STAR AND COLLECTED

DHAKA FRIDAY OCTOBER 9, 2026 | ASHWIN 24, 1433 BS

SPORT



The only shame is that the Argentines gave us nothing. No photo with Messi, no shirt. They didn't even let us into the tunnel or the dressing room.

Benin head coach **GERNOT ROHR** hits out at the treatment of his players during Lionel Messi's farewell game.

Tigresses' historic Australia series begins today



PHOTO: **BCB**

SPORTS REPORTER

There are a gulf of differences in terms of rankings, form and history between Bangladesh and Australia, but Nigar Sultana Joty remains confident that the Tigresses can spring a surprise in the historic three-match ODI series against the mighty Australians, beginning at Allan Border Field in Brisbane on Friday.

The match is scheduled to start at 9:50am Bangladesh time.

"When we play as a team and perform as a whole unit, we can surprise any team," said a confident Joty ahead of the series on Thursday, which will mark Bangladesh's return to the one-day format after nearly five months.



The series is historic for Bangladesh as it marks their first bilateral tour of Australia. However, the Tigresses face a formidable challenge against the seven-time world champions, who are ranked № 1 in the world, while Bangladesh are seventh. Australia also hold a 5-0 head-to-head advantage over Bangladesh in ODIs.

Bangladesh head into the series after suffering a 72-run defeat to Queensland in their lone warm-up match. Despite the gulf between the two sides, skipper Joty is confident that her team can cause an upset if they perform as a unit.

"So I think it's pretty important to be in the present. And we were really hoping that we can play as a whole unit, because what we believe is that we're kind of a team where, when we play as a team and perform as a whole unit, we can surprise any team," Joty said on the eve of the match.

Bangladesh have endured a difficult period both on and off the field in recent months. They had disappointing campaigns in the Asia Cup T20 and Asian Games, while Joty stepped down as T20 captain and David Hemp replaced Sarwar Imran as head coach.

Australia, who are also returning to the ODI format after five months, will be without regular captain Sophie Molineux, who will miss all three matches as she continues her recovery from a hip injury.

All-rounder Tahlia McGrath will lead Australia in the series, and she expects Bangladesh's bowling attack to provide a stern challenge.

"They've got a really talented line-up and an attack that's different to a lot of other international attacks," McGrath said.

"Marufa is all class at the top, her ability to swing the ball and then their spinners are really tricky. Bowl a little bit slower to what we're used to and get a fair bit of turn.

"We've been prepping for that and we expect a really good contest and hopefully we can combat that and produce some really big scores as a batting unit," she added.

Tigers face new challenge in first-ever neutral Test

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh are gearing up for a different set of challenges as they take on Afghanistan in the one-off Test at Zayed Cricket Stadium in Abu Dhabi today. It will be Bangladesh's first Test at the venue and, more significantly, their first-ever Test at a neutral venue.

Warm conditions welcomed the Tigers, with a contingent of players having travelled from cooler weather in Japan from the Asian Games. Fast bowlers Ebadot Hossain and Khaled Ahmed were involved in the two-day practice game against UAE in Dubai, which should help with conditioning.

The Tigers are on the back of a historic result on their Australia tour, but skipper Najmul Hossain Shanto feels the players will adjust to the new challenges in Abu Dhabi.

"We had a good series against Australia. But I believe that is past, so this is new conditions, new opponent, so we have to plan accordingly," Shanto said at the press conference yesterday.

"And the condition, yes, obviously here it's different. Some of the players came a bit earlier and played one of the practice matches, so that will help to adjust these conditions. So I believe players are ready and they will adjust the condition and the opponent as well."

Bangladesh have lately been able to bank on their pace attack both home and away to produce results. Pacers grabbed the limelight in the Pakistan Test series at home before the Tigers drew the series in Australia courtesy of a historic win in the Mackay Test. But the UAE conditions might prove more conducive for spinners.

"I had the opportunity to see the wickets a little bit yesterday and will see it again today. From what I could see, it could be a bit slow," Shanto echoed head coach Phil Simmons's assessment from a day earlier.



PHOTO: **ACB**

"I feel that the wicket will be good for batting and hopefully it will be a really good Test match," Shanto assessed.

If spin rules the roost, the visitors are expected to use lanky off-spinner Nayeem Hasan in a three-pronged attack. Given the nature of the wicket, which is expected to break later in the Test, a good first-innings total could set up the game for either side.

Afghanistan have options in the spin department despite the absence of heavyweights like Rashid Khan. New Test skipper Rahmat Shah may opt to seek advantage from wrist-spinners Qais Ahmad or Khalil Gurbaz given the Tigers' known vulnerabilities against wrist-spin.

The Tigers have played just two Tests against Afghanistan, both at home, losing one by 224 runs and winning the other by 546 runs. This time, the UAE conditions add a different challenge.

The match will begin at 12pm Bangladesh time.

Past lingers as Proteas host Australia

Eight years after the infamous 'Sandpapergate' series, South Africa are set to host Australia for the first time since the ball-tampering scandal of 2017-18. The three-Test series begins in Durban on Friday, with memories of a bitter and controversial tour adding intrigue to a contest between reigning World Test Champions (WTC) South Africa and current WTC leaders Australia. Both camps have played down the events of 2018, with Australia captain Pat Cummins saying there is little more to add, while South Africa coach Shukri Conrad insists his side are focused on beating Australia through their skills. Yet, with the past never far from the surface, history is sure to add an extra edge to an already highly anticipated contest.



PHOTO: **CRICKET SOUTH AFRICA**

- The three Tests, scheduled to be held in Durban, Gqeberha and Cape Town, will follow the same order as the 2018 series.
- Steve Smith, one of the three Australians -- alongside David Warner and Cameron Bancroft -- who received lengthy bans following the 2018 series, also returns. Having captained Australia ten times since his leadership ban ended, he would stand in for Cummins should injury strike.
- South Africa have five survivors in their squad from that series: captain Temba Bavuma, Aiden Markram, Keshav Maharaj, Wiaan Mulder and Kagiso Rabada.
- However, South Africa's spearhead Rabada will miss the first Test as he continues his recovery from a hamstring injury sustained in June.

WHAT TO WATCH

T SPORTS
One-off Test, Day 1
Afghanistan vs Bangladesh
Live from 12:00 pm

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP OF LEGENDS
Australia vs South Africa
Live from 6:00 pm
Bangladesh Vs West Indies
Live from 9:30 pm

LA LIGA
Malaga VS Espanyol 1:00 am (Saturday)

EUROSPORT
1st Test, Day 1
South Africa vs Australia
Live from 1:30 pm

STAR SPORTS SELECT 1 HD
2nd T20I
India vs West Indies
Live from 7:30 pm

TEN CRICKET
1st T20I
Pakistan vs Sri Lanka
Live from 7:00 pm







Who governs Bashundhara Residential Area?

JS panel asks Rajuk

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Members of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Undertakings yesterday sought explanations from the Rajdhani Unnayan Kartripakkha (Rajuk) about which authority oversees the Bashundhara Residential Area and the process through which land is bought and sold there.

The questions arose during the committee's fourth meeting held in the Cabinet Room of the National Parliament Complex, chaired by its Chairman and Chief Whip Nurul Islam Moni.

According to sources present at the meeting, several committee members discussed the Bashundhara area issue during a review of Rajuk's overall activities, including its housing and infrastructure development projects, financial management and audit reports.

One member said that traffic management in the area is handled by personnel employed by the Bashundhara Group, while land transactions require payment of commissions to the company.

Even obtaining a cable television connection reportedly requires going through the group, the member said, describing the situation as "a state within a state".

Another source said a committee member sought clarification on who exercises control over the Bashundhara area and how permission is granted for buying or selling land there.

In response, Rajuk officials said that, on paper, the area falls under the jurisdiction of the city corporation. However, discussions at the meeting noted that the city corporation has

SEE PAGE 5 COL 4



PHOTO: AFP

People take part in a demonstration as part of a nationwide day of actions called by high school students' unions who for days have been demanding better learning conditions in protests punctuated by violent confrontations in Marseille yesterday. Since late September, pupils have barred the entrances to hundreds of schools, complaining of teacher absences, overloaded timetables, dilapidated classrooms and buildings ill-adapted to rising temperatures, among other grievances.

IN FOCUS

Oil surges, stocks sink as US reportedly eyes fresh Iran strikes

AFP, *London*

Oil prices soared more than five percent yesterday following reports that the United States could launch fresh attacks on Iran before next month's midterm elections, risking further supply disruptions.

International benchmark Brent North Sea crude rallied to $105.46 per barrel and the main US contract, West Texas Intermediate, was up to $92.82 per barrel.

The Atlantic reported that the White House had asked the Pentagon to draw up options to hit sites in Iran ahead of the November 3 vote.

With Donald Trump's Republicans in danger of losing both houses of Congress, an escalation in the US-Iran conflict risks even more pressure on the president, with Americans already battling record high diesel prices.

But the suggestion is that fresh US attacks could strengthen Trump's position in seeking to bring Tehran to the negotiating table in a bid to end the war.

"The planning (for possible fresh strikes) should be seen in the context of efforts to pressure Iran, bring energy prices down, and demonstrate progress in the conflict ahead of the election," noted Arne Lohmann Rasmussen, chief analyst at energy analysts Global Risk Management.

The surge in oil prices weighed heavily on stock markets, with Europe's main indices all falling in early afternoon deals, led by a 1.1-percent drop for Frankfurt.

At the same time, share prices of energy majors rallied. London-listed BP was up 3.5 percent, and British rival Shell gained 2.3 percent.

TotalEnergies won 2.4 percent in Paris.

Asia's leading stock markets tracked losses Wednesday on Wall Street, where technology firms pulled back from recent gains.

Shares in Samsung's slid as the South Korean titan forecast a huge increase in quarterly profit but below market expectations.

On currency markets, the euro remains wedged at lows last seen in June 2025 on worries about France's high debt levels, which have spooked bond markets.

Ahead of the Wall Street reopening, the Financial Times reported that Elon Musk's SpaceX is aiming to raise $40 billion in bank loans and debt to further its purchases of AI chips from Nvidia.



Veteran actor Nana Patekar passes away

STAR REPORT

Veteran Indian actor Nana Patekar, known for his intense performances, distinctive dialogue delivery, and memorable portrayals across Hindi and Marathi cinema, died in Goa yesterday. He was 75.

Patekar was found unconscious at his home in the coastal state of Goa early in the morning, and doctors were unable to revive him, news agency ANI and other media reported.

Born Vishawanath Patekar, but popularly known as Nana, he started his career

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Canadian poet Anne Carson wins Nobel in literature

AFP, *Stockholm*

The Nobel Prize in Literature was yesterday awarded to Canadian poet Anne Carson for her modern twists on Greek mythology and antiquity that have inspired new forms of writing.

The 76-year-old -- who announced in 2024 that she has Parkinson's disease -- was honoured "for her bold and inventive oeuvre that, in playful dialogue with the classical tradition, has created new forms for contemporary literature," the Swedish Academy said.

"They're all crazy," Carson said of Academy members' decision to honour her, in an interview with public broadcaster RUV in Iceland where she has lived part of the year since 2008 and has become a citizen.

The permanent secretary of the Academy, Ingrid Carlberg, earlier told reporters that she had spoken briefly with Carson to inform her of the prize.

"All she had time to tell me was that she is for the moment in Iceland, where she's listening to the wind."

Asked by RUV on a blustery roadside if she thought the Nobel



would change her readership, Carson, holding tightly to her cap so it wouldn't blow away, replied: "I'll get a sticker on the front of my books."

Carson had at first ignored the Academy's repeated phone calls.

"There were all these phone calls which I kept turning off because... I just always turn off the phone when it rings," she said.

Her husband convinced her to call back, she told the Nobel Foundation.

A professor of classics with a background in dead languages, literature, anthropology and history, she was described by The New York Times in 2001 as "one of the great pasticheurs."

Her unique contemporary poetry earned her several key literary prizes in the 1990s, including the 1996 Lannan Award and the 1997 Pushcart Prize.

A year later, "Autobiography of Red: A Novel in Verse" -- loosely based on the Greek myth of the monster Geryon and Herakles but transformed into a modern tale of a gay love triangle -- received widespread praise.

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আউটসোর্সিং সংক্রান্ত বিজ্ঞপ্তি

বাংলাদেশ শ্রম আইন, ২০০৬ (সংশোধিত-২০২৬) এর ধারা ৩ক (১) অনুসারে অন্য কোন আইনে ভিন্নতর যাহাই কিছু থাকুক না কেন, কোন ঠিকাদার সংস্থা, যে নামেই অভিহিত হউক না কেন, যাহা বিভিন্ন সংস্থায় চুক্তিতে বিভিন্ন পদে কর্মী সরবরাহ করিয়া থাকে সরকারের নিকট হইতে রেজিস্ট্রেশন ব্যতীত এইরূপ কার্যক্রম পরিচালনা করিতে পারিবে না।

এমতাবস্থায়, যেসকল ঠিকাদার সংস্থার কলকারখানা ও প্রতিষ্ঠান পরিদর্শন অধিদপ্তরের হালনাগাদকৃত লাইসেন্স নেই তাদেরকে অনতিবিলম্বে লাইসেন্স গ্রহণ/নবায়ন করার জন্য অনুরোধ করা হলো। লাইসেন্সবিহীন বা হালনাগাদকৃত লাইসেন্স ছাড়া আউটসোর্সিং এর মাধ্যমে কর্মী সরবরাহ ব্যবসা পরিচালনা করা যাবে না।

এ অধিদপ্তর কর্তৃক ইস্যুকৃত হালনাগাদ লাইসেন্স বিহীন কোন ঠিকাদার প্রতিষ্ঠানের কাছ থেকে আউটসোর্সিং এর মাধ্যমে জনবল/সেবা গ্রহণ না করার জন্য সংশ্লিষ্ট সকল বেসরকারী শিল্প ও প্রতিষ্ঠান এবং সরকারী অধিদপ্তর/পরিদপ্তর/দপ্তর/সংস্থা/প্রতিষ্ঠান/ বাণিজ্যিক ব্যাংক/বীমা প্রতিষ্ঠান ও স্বায়ত্তশাসিত প্রতিষ্ঠানকে অনুরোধ করা হলো।

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IO in Ziaul Ahsan case testifies at ICT-1

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Administrative inquiries were conducted for show to legitimise extrajudicial killings and shield those responsible whenever such incidents drew public attention, an investigation officer told the International Crimes Tribunal-1 yesterday.

Testifying for the third day as the final prosecution witness in the crimes against humanity case against Maj Gen (relieved) Ziaul Ahsan, investigation officer Md Rafiqul Islam said the inquiries also served to conceal the perpetrators' identities.

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