EXTORTION THREAT

Bus services halted on Bandarban-Thanchi road

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Bandarban*

Bus services on the Bandarban-Thanchi road have remained suspended for two days amid allegations of extortion demands by an armed group.

Mohammad Nurul Alam, general secretary of the Bandarban-Thanchi Bus Owners' Association, alleged that an armed outfit threatened to abduct drivers if buses run on the route.

"In view of the security risks, bus services on the route have been suspended," he said.

Meanwhile, passengers faced difficulties to commute. They were forced to hire local jeeps, known as "Chander Gari", or motorcycles at inflated fares to reach their destinations.

Bandarban Superintendent of Police Md Wahabul Islam Khandaker said they were investigating the matter to identify those involved.

NCT deal sparks fresh protest at Ctg port

Over 100 activists go on hunger strike

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, *Ctg*

Activists of Chattogram Bandar Jatiyatabadi Sramik Dal and Bandar Rokkha Sangram Parishad began a daylong hunger strike yesterday, demanding cancellation of the 15-year deal with UAE-based DP World to operate the New Mooring Container Terminal (NCT).

More than 100 leaders and activists began the strike in front of the port's One Stop Service Building around 11:30am.

Activists from different political and workers' organisations under the Chattogram Bandar Rokkha Committee also joined the programme.

On Thursday, the Chittagong Port Authority signed a 15-year agreement with DP World for the operation and maintenance of the terminal. The agreement was signed at the Invest Bangladesh auditorium in Dhaka.

Port workers and their supporters have long opposed the proposed deal, holding rallies, human chains, torch processions and other programmes demanding its cancellation.



PHOTO: COLLECTED

More than 100 leaders and activists began the strike in front of the port's One Stop Service Building around 11:30am yesterday.

Humayun Kabir, a coordinator of the Bandar Rokkha Sangram Parishad, claimed that no invitation for talks had come from the government yet.

The women behind Durga idols

Women artisans in Habiganj's Paulpara carry on century-old tradition of idol-making

MINTU DESHWARA, *from Habiganj*

Women artisans in Paulpara village of Habiganj's Lakhai upazila have been making clay idols of Goddess Durga for generations, carrying on a tradition dating back more than a century.

While idol-making has traditionally been dominated by men, women in this haor village play a central role in the craft.

Men generally build the bamboo-and-straw skeletons, while women apply clay, sculpt, paint and decorate the idols, locals said.

Niyati Rani Paul, who is currently making six Durga idols in her courtyard, said she had received orders from seven areas this year and began work several months ago.

"I learnt the craft from my husband after marriage, around 22 years ago, and have since gradually developed my skills by working for years to make clay idols ahead of Durga and Kali pujas," she said.

As her reputation grew, she began receiving orders from different areas.

Niyati said completing an idol takes five to seven days of continuous work.

Other women involved in idol-making include Mira, Nepal, Pratima Paul, Pramila Paul, Kajol Paul and Sita Paul.

Pramila Paul, 65, said families in the village had practised the craft for generations but received no institutional, financial or government support.



Women artisans like Niyati Rani Paul in Paulpara village have been pursuing the craft of clay idol making for generations, in a tradition that dates back more than a century. PHOTO: STAR

She also called for better road connectivity, saying poor transport facilities make it difficult to bring in raw materials and deliver finished idols.

Gobinda Paul, who inherited the craft from his forefathers, said his family makes clay pots and household utensils throughout the year, while idol-making provides additional income during Durga Puja.

"It is impossible to do all the work alone, so the women in our family have stepped in to help," he said.

Pranesh Bhattacharya, president of the Lakhai Puja Udjapan Parishad, said idol-making was a tradition in almost every household in Paulpara.

He said the artisans' craftsmanship and relatively low prices attract orders from neighbouring areas, including Brahmanbaria, Narsingdi, Bahubal, Madhabpur and parts of Sunamganj.

Contacted, Habiganj Deputy Commissioner Dr AKM Sharfaraz said the administration would look into the matter and take necessary initiatives to support the artisans.

Cox's Bazar int'l airport launch pushed to November

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government plans to inaugurate Cox's Bazar International Airport in November, revising its earlier October target, Civil Aviation and Tourism Minister M Rashiduzzaman Millat said yesterday.

"Preparations are underway to inaugurate the international airport in November," he said at a meeting with domestic and foreign airline representatives at the ministry in Dhaka, according to a press release.

Speaking to reporters at the Secretariat earlier, he said the ministry hoped to secure Prime Minister Tarique Rahman's schedule for the first week of November. The inauguration date would be announced once the schedule was confirmed, reports BSS.

Bangladesh Satellite Company Limited
'Connecting Worlds for Enriching Lives'
116 Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Dhaka-1000
www.bscl.gov.bd

e-Tender Notice

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

S/N	Tender ID	Tender Name	Package No:	Tender Publication Date and time	Tender Document last selling Date and time	Tender Closing & Opening Date and time
01.	1322166	Supply of Battery for Online UPS, Generator and Substation	14.39.0000.000.012.07.0003.26.212(T)	13-Oct-2026 Time: 10:00(A.M)	28-Oct-2026 Time: 16:00(P.M)	29-Oct-2026 Time: 16:00(P.M)
02.	1322326	Procurement of Refreshment Items for BSCL (Framework Contract)	14.39.0000.000.012.07.0010.26.211(T)	13-Oct-2026 Time: 10:00(A.M)	28-Oct-2026 Time: 16:00(P.M)	29-Oct-2026 Time: 16:00(P.M)
03.	1331960	Procurement of AMC for Air Conditioner (AC) Repair and Maintenance	14.39.0000.000.012.07.0005.26.215(T)	13-Oct-2026 Time: 10:00(A.M)	28-Oct-2026 Time: 16:00(P.M)	29-Oct-2026 Time: 16:00(P.M)

This is an Online Tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender registration in the National e-GP system Portal (http://www.eprocure.gov.bd) is required. The fees for downloading the e-Tender Documents from National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through any registered Bank's branches. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP system Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

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

GD- 2483

INDEPENDENT UNIVERSITY, BANGLADESH
Purchase & Procurement Department
Plot 16, Block B, Aftabuddin Ahmed Road, Bashundhara Residential Area, Dhaka 1245
Hotline: 09612 939393, Extention: 1652 and 1654

TENDER FOR BRAND NEW COASTER & HIGH-ROOF MICROBUS

Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB) invites sealed quotations from the authorized distributors/dealers for the supply of the following brand new vehicles:

1. One brand new AC coaster: Any brand, Model Year 2025/2026, engine capacity 4,150-4,350 CC, seating capacity 30 persons (including the driver), with an efficient air-conditioning system.

2. One brand new AC high-roof microbus: Any brand, Model Year 2025/2026, engine capacity 2,450-2,750 CC, seating capacity 16 persons (including the driver), with an efficient air-conditioning system.

Detailed specifications and other terms and conditions are provided in the tender schedule. Interested bidders may purchase the tender schedule from the Purchase & Procurement Department, Admin Building, Level 1, Room No. 2031, upon cash payment of Tk. 1,000/- (non-refundable) to the Finance & Accounts Department during office hours (9:30 AM to 4:00 PM, Sunday through Thursday) **until October 19, 2026.**

Bidders shall submit their technical and financial bids in two separate sealed envelopes to the Purchase & Procurement Department **at any time before the deadline, but not later than 2:00 PM on October 25, 2026**. The financial bid must accompany an earnest money equivalent to 2.5% of the quoted value in the form of a Pay Order or Bank Draft issued by any scheduled bank in favor of Independent University, Bangladesh. The University Authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids without assigning any reason whatsoever.

BIRDEM GENERAL HOSPITAL
(An Enterprise of Diabetic Association of Bangladesh)
122, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Shahbag, Dhaka-1000, Bangladesh.
☎: 41060501-24, Fax: 41060476
E-mail: birdemprocurements@gmail.com

Invitation for Enlistment of Suppliers for 1250KVA Dry Type Transformer & Renewal / New Suppliers Enlistment for MSR, Electric, Civil & Others

Reference No : BIRDEM/Purchase/ Supplier Enlistment /Transformer /2026/09, Dated: 12th October 2026
Organization: BIRDEM
Address: 122, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Shahbag, Dhaka-1000.
A) Enlistment of Suppliers / Contractors for Supply & Installation of New Dry Type 1250 KVA Transformer with total 1500 KW (Old 1000 and new 500) Load Sanction at 11 KV/ 440 Volt Indoor Sub-Station, BIRDEM .

1. Scope of Work Requirements :
- Item: New Dry Type 1250 KVA Transformer with total 1500 KW (Old 1000 and new 500) Load Sanction.
- Associated Work: Installation and Commissioning Work.
- Quality & Compliance: As per Schedule.

2. Eligibility Criteria for Suppliers :
- Business Status: DPDC Enlistment Electric Contractor / Supplier.
- Experience: Minimum 5 (five) years in Sub-Station Work.
- Mandatory Documents:
  a) Two copies of recently taken passport-sized photo.
  b) Attested copy of the National Identity Card, Trade License, Income TAX Certificate, and Bank Solvency Certificate & Statement.
  c) Updated TIN, BIN, TAX and ABC License from Electric License Board.

3. Clarification of Contractor Enlistment Fee (Per Application):

Type	Qualification	Enlistment Fee (Tk)	VAT (15%) Tk	Total Fee (Tk)
Supplier for 1250 KVA Dry Type Transformer	DPDC Enlisted, Electric Supplier/ Contractor	5000/-	750/-	5750/-

B) Renewal / New Suppliers Enlistment for MSR, Electric, Civil & Others:
- Clarification of Contractor Renewal Fee / New Suppliers Application Form Fee (Per Application):

Sl. No.	Type	Renewal Fee	VAT 15% (Tk)	Total Fee (Tk)	Price of New Application Form (Tk)
1.	MSR	5000/-	750/-	5750/-	500/-
2.	Electric	5000/-	750/-	5750/-	500/-
3.	Civil	5000/-	750/-	5750/-	500/-
4.	Others	5000/-	750/-	5750/-	500/-

4. Submission Details:
- Date of selling of application form documents: Tender /Enlistment Documents Collection will be available from 15th October 2026 to 11th November 2026 on all working days (9:00 am to 01:00 pm).
- Address: Procurement Section (Room No: 230, 1st floor of OPD Building, BIRDEM)
- Submission Deadline : 12th November 2026 (Office Hour 8:00am to 2:00pm)
- Supplier are requested to submit separate sealed envelopes (For A & B)

5. The Procuring Entity reserves the right to accept or reject any or all enlisted suppliers.

6. For Details Please See the following website address:
www.birdembd.org,
www.dab-bd.org

Farzana Ibrahim
Dr. Farzana B Ibrahim
Joint Director (Hospital Administration)
BIRDEM General Hospital

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Bangladesh Road Transport Authority (BRTA)
BRTA Bhaban, New Airport Road, Banani, Dhaka-1212.
www.brta.gov.bd

e-Tender Notice: OTM

Ref No: 35.03.0000.000.001.07.0032.26-2106 **Date: 12 October 2026**

An e-Tender has been invited in e-GP system national portal (https://www.eprocure.gov.bd) for the procurement of the following goods and related services by Director (Administration), Bangladesh Road Transport Authority (BRTA), BRTA HQ, Chairmanbari, Banani, Dhaka-1212.

SL No	Tender ID	Description	Tender Publication date & Time	Tender Document Last Selling date & time	Tender Closing/ Opening date & time
01	1347257	Supply, Installation, Commissioning and Maintenance of a Modern Central Control Room, Including Necessary Equipment and Accessories, at BRTA Head Office, Banani, Dhaka	12-Oct-2026 17:00 Hours (BST)	01-Nov-2026 16:00 Hours (BST)	02-Nov-2026 14:00 Hours (BST)

This is an online tender where only e-Tenders will be accepted in national e-GP portal system (http://www.eprocure.gov.bd). No offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-tender please register on e-GP Portal. Information's and guidelines are available in the national e-GP system portal and from e-GP helpdesk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

For further information, visit: https://www.eprocure.gov.bd

12.10.2026
Md. Jakir Hossan
Director (Administration)
Phone: 02-41082986
E-mail: da@brta.gov.bd

GD-2491