NCP set to reshape central leadership

FROM PAGE 3

The restructuring aims to strengthen its grassroots activities ahead of local government polls and its first national council next February, they added.

The revised central committee and political council lists were initially expected yesterday but are now likely to be announced today or tomorrow, after Nahid returns from visits to Shariatpur and Madaripur.

Two senior leaders, speaking anonymously, said Samantha and Niva were left out because they resigned from the party council before the national election in protest against the NCP joining the Jamaat-e-Islami-led 11-party alliance.

Both remain party members and members of its advisory committee but have largely been inactive in organisational activities.

Under the proposed structure, at least 10 of the 16 Political Council members will serve as joint conveners, overseeing specialised subcommittees and policy work. They include Abdullah Al Amin, Ariful Islam Adeeb, Atiq Mujahid, Abdul Hannan Masud, Ali Ahsan Junaid, Sarwar Tushar, Akram Hossain, Saleh Uddin Sifat, Mahmuda Alam Mitu and Nusrat Tabassum.

The party also plans to distribute around 30 specialised cell portfolios covering areas including international relations, administration, finance, human rights and law.

Another 10-11 joint conveners and seven to eight joint member secretaries are expected to be appointed to expand the central committee beyond the Political Council.

A 23-member Organisational Subcommittee, led by Sarjis Alam, has been formed to strengthen grassroots activities.

The party is also considering changes to the top leadership of its women's wing, Jatiya Nari Shakti. Five leaders -- Mahmuda Alam Mitu, Monira Sharmeen, Nusrat Tabassum, Humaira Noor and Manjila Jhuma -- are being considered for the posts of convener, member secretary and organising secretary.

A senior party leader said Monira Sharmeen, Manjila Jhuma and Humaira Noor had been recommended for positions among the party's top five leaders. The proposal remains under consideration.

Sarwar Tusher, an NCP Political Council member, told The Daily Star that the changes were being made ahead of local government elections expected within a year and the party's first national council next year.

"The final list will be officially released very soon," he said.

Intensify dengue prevention efforts

FROM PAGE 3

corporations would establish fever clinics at different locations across the capital to facilitate prompt dengue testing.

He advised people with fever to seek medical attention at hospitals or the clinics rather than rely on pharmacies or unqualified practitioners.

Around 2,000 doctors, including physicians at medical college and district hospitals, received refresher training on dengue management last month, he said.

Muhit also said the government had begun recruiting 5,000 doctors, planned to recruit 2,500 nurses soon and initiated discussions on recruiting medical technologists to address staff shortages in public hospitals.

Tabligh Jamat demands

FROM PAGE 3

2018, while Belal Hossain and Mizanur Rahman were killed on December 18, 2024. The organisation also called for investigations into the deaths of Abdur Rahim Rajon in Kishoreganj in 2019 and Shamsul Haque in Dhaka's New Market area in 2023.

The organisation said a written decision was made at a joint meeting at the Gazipur Metropolitan Police commissioner's office on December 14, 2024, regarding the vacation of the Ijtema grounds.

It called for the decision to be implemented and urged the authorities to verify the authenticity and context of an audio recording allegedly attributed to Dr Asgar, circulated on the night of December 17, followed by appropriate legal action.

The organisation's demands also include fair access to the Ijtema grounds for the parties concerned and resolution of disputes over "Markaz mosques" in different districts and police station areas through legal procedures.

It called for administrative and security measures to prevent anyone, acting in the name of "Tawhidi Janata" or any other group, from unlawfully obstructing its activities.

The organisation urged the government to ensure the fair rights of all parties, consider its demands and take necessary steps.

The press release was sent by Md Sayem, media coordinator of Tabligh Jamat Bangladesh (followers of Maulana Saad).

'Religion being exploited to fuel unrest'

FROM PAGE 3

purdah in that manner and could leave her face, hands and feet uncovered.

She and two other students subsequently left the classroom. She later submitted a written complaint to the university administration under the banner of a student organisation, demanding action against the teacher.

In a Facebook post, Tasneem denied asking the student to change her clothing, remove her niqab or leave the classroom.

She said she had expressed discomfort because she could not see the student's eyes, making identification and communication difficult.

Tasneem said her nearly 34 years of teaching reflected her respect for students' religious beliefs and values, and that she had no intention of insulting anyone's faith or attire.

According to the statement, Tasneem had asked the student to meet her after class so she could apologise if her remarks had caused hurt.

The signatories alleged that the incident was being used for political purposes, saying freedom of dress is part of personal liberty and misunderstandings should be resolved through discussion rather than politicisation.

The statement also condemned an alleged attempt on October 9 by several young men and a young woman, under the banner of the Rashtra Sanglap Forum, to deface Tagore's portrait on a wall of the Shilpakala Academy in protest against what they called "Indian aggression".

Police at the scene intervened to stop them, it said.

Earlier, on October 5, Dhaka South City Corporation cleared encroachments from a footpath in Segunbagicha. Portraits of prominent cultural figures, including Shilpacharya Zainul Abedin, Satyajit Ray, Rabindranath Tagore, Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar and Kazi Nazrul Islam, were subsequently painted on nearby walls.

The statement said a Facebook page named July Revolutionary Alliance questioned the inclusion of the figures in the murals on October 9, particularly Satyajit Ray and Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar, describing them as cultural figures from West Bengal.

The signatories said the two incidents, though seemingly unrelated, reflected attempts to exploit religious sentiments to encourage extremism and create social and communal tensions.

They recalled that Pakistani rulers had portrayed Tagore as anti-Muslim in the 1960s for political purposes, drawing parallels with the recent attempt to deface his portrait.

"Language, literature, art and culture are indivisible common heritage of humanity," the statement said, adding that cultural traditions should not be divided along religious, geographical or ideological lines.

The signatories expressed confidence that rights-conscious citizens, culturally aware people and younger students would not be misled.

They include former Jahangirnagar University professor Anu Muhammad, rights activist Sultana Kamal, Nijera Kori coordinator Khushi Kabir, Transparency International Bangladesh Executive Director Dr Iftekharuzzaman, photographer Shahidul Alam, Manusher Jonno Foundation Executive Director Shaheen Anam, Naripokkho member Shireen Parveen Huq, writer and journalist Abu Saeed Khan, and Supreme Court lawyer ZI Khan Panna.

Other signatories include Dhaka University professors Samina Luthfa, Geeti Ara Nasreen, Tanjimuddin Khan, Zobaida Nasreen and Robaet Ferdous; London School of Economics and Political Science visiting professor Swapan Adnan; North South University professor Nova Ahmed; and BRAC University professor Firdous Azim.

The statement was issued by Shamsul Huda, executive director of the Association for Land Reform and Development.

ঐশী জ্যোতিই আমাদের পথ প্রদর্শক

রাজশাহী প্রকৌশল ও প্রযুক্তি বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়

রাজশাহী-৬২০৪, বাংলাদেশ।

(টেলিফোনঃ +৮৮-০২৫৮৮৮-৬৬৭৯৮, ফ্যাক্সঃ +৮৮-০২৫৮৮৮-৬৭১০৫)

E-mail: registrar@ruet.ac.bd website: www.ruet.ac.bd

স্মারক নং-১৯৮১

তারিখঃ ২৭ আশ্বিন, ১৪৩৩। / ১২ অক্টোবর, ২০২৬।

-ঃ পিএইচ.ডি/এম.এসসি ইঞ্জিঃ/ এম.ইঞ্জিঃ/ পিজিডি ভর্তি বিজ্ঞপ্তি ঃ-

রাজশাহী প্রকৌশল ও প্রযুক্তি বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ে ২০২৬-এর Fall Semester-এ ইনস্টিটিউট অব ইনফরমেশন এন্ড কমিউনিকেশন টেকনোলজি (IICT) ও ইনস্টিটিউট অব এনার্জি এন্ড ইনভায়রনমেন্ট স্টাডিজ (IEES)-তে পিএইচ.ডি/এম.এসসি ইঞ্জিনিয়ারিং/এম.ইঞ্জিনিয়ারিং/পিজিডি (Post Graduate Diploma) প্রোগ্রামে ভর্তির জন্য নিম্নলিখিত শর্ত সাপেক্ষে আগ্রহী প্রার্থীদের নিকট হতে নির্ধারিত ফরমে Online Portal- এর মাধ্যমে দরখাস্ত আহ্বান করা যাচ্ছে।

০১. IICT ও IEES-এ এম.এসসি ইঞ্জিনিয়ারিং/ এম.ইঞ্জিনিয়ারিং-এ ভর্তির জন্য প্রার্থীদেরকে মাধ্যমিক ও উচ্চমাধ্যমিক পর্যায়ে জিপিএ ৫.০০ এর মধ্যে কমপক্ষে ৩.৫০ পেয়ে পাশ করতে হবে (ইঞ্জিনিয়ারিং ডিপ্লোমাতে জিপিএ ৪.০০ এর মধ্যে ২.৭৫ পেয়ে পাশ করতে হবে) ও কোন স্বীকৃত শিক্ষা প্রতিষ্ঠান/বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় হতে সংশ্লিষ্ট ডিসিপ্লিনে চার বছর মেয়াদী বিএসসি (ইঞ্জিনিয়ারিং/সায়েন্স) বা সমতুল্য ডিগ্রীতে সিজিপিএ ৪.০০-এর মধ্যে ২.৭৫ পেতে হবে এবং পিএইচ.ডি কোর্সে ভর্তির জন্য সংশ্লিষ্ট ডিসিপ্লিনে সিজিপিএ ৪.০০-এর মধ্যে ৩.০০ পেয়ে এমএসসি ইঞ্জিনিয়ারিং বা সমতুল্য ডিগ্রী থাকতে হবে।

অথবা

সংশ্লিষ্ট ডিসিপ্লিনে PGD ডিগ্রীধারী প্রার্থীদের ক্ষেত্রে কোন স্বীকৃত বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় হতে B.Sc. Engg./B.Sc. Ag./B.Sc.Econ. or B.Sc./ B.S.S. degree/M.A. or M.Sc. or M.S.S degree/BURP/ B.Arch. degree বা সমতুল্য ডিগ্রীতে সিজিপিএ ৪.০০ এর মধ্যে ২.৭৫ পেতে হবে।

০২. IICT ও IEES-এ PGD (Post Graduate Diploma) কোর্সে ভর্তির জন্য প্রার্থীদেরকে মাধ্যমিক ও উচ্চমাধ্যমিক বা সমতুল্য পর্যায়ে যে কোন একটিতে জিপিএ ৫.০০-এর মধ্যে কমপক্ষে ৩.৫০ পেয়ে পাশ করতে হবে, তবে কোন পরীক্ষাতে জিপিএ ৫.০০ এর মধ্যে ৩.০০ এর নীচে/৩য় বিভাগ গ্রহণযোগ্য নয় এবং কোন স্বীকৃত শিক্ষা প্রতিষ্ঠান/ বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় হতে সংশ্লিষ্ট ডিসিপ্লিনে B.Sc. Eng./B.Sc.Ag/B.Sc. Econ. অথবা B.Sc./BSS Degree/M.A অথবা M.Sc. অথবা MSS Degree/ BURP/B. Arch. ডিগ্রী বা সমতুল্য ডিগ্রীতে ৪.০০ এর মধ্যে ২.৫০ পেতে হবে।

০৩. দরখাস্তের সাথে SSL সার্ভিসের মাধ্যমে ১,০০০/= (এক হাজার) টাকা পরিশোধ করতে হবে।

০৪. বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের ওয়েবসাইট (www.pg.ruet.ac.bd) হতে Online-এর মাধ্যমে ভর্তি ফরম পূরণপূর্বক ১৫.১০.২০২৬ খ্রি. হতে ০২.১১.২০২৬ খ্রি. মধ্যে আবেদন করতে হবে। সকল পরীক্ষার সনদপত্র ও ট্রান্সক্রিপ্ট/মার্কসীট-এর সত্যায়িত ফটোকপি এবং সিলেবাস/কারিকুলাম-এর সত্যায়িত ফটোকপি ওয়েবসাইট লিংকে জমা দিতে হবে। তবে পাবলিক প্রকৌশল বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় হতে পাশকৃত শিক্ষার্থীদের সিলেবাস/কারিকুলাম-এর ফটোকপি জমা দিতে হবে না।

০৫. যোগ্য প্রার্থীদের তালিকা প্রকাশ: ০৮.১১.২০২৬ খ্রি. ।

০৬. ভর্তি পরীক্ষা গ্রহণ: ১৪.১১.২০২৬ খ্রি. ।

০৭. ফলাফল প্রকাশ: ১৪.১১.২০২৬-১৬.১১.২০২৬খ্রি. ।

০৮. সকল নির্বাচিত প্রার্থীকে (স্বাস্থ্য পরীক্ষায় উপযুক্ত বলে গণ্য হলে) PGD- এর নির্ধারিত ভর্তি ফি= ১২,০০০/- (বার হাজার) টাকা এবং পিএইচ.ডি/এম.এসসি ইঞ্জিনিয়ারিং/এম.ইঞ্জিনিয়ারিং-এর নির্ধারিত ফি =২০,৫০০/-(বিশ হাজার পাঁচশত) টাকা প্রদানপূর্বক ২৩.১১.২০২৬ খ্রি. মধ্যে বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ে ভর্তি হতে হবে এবং শিক্ষা শাখায় কাগজ-পত্রাদি জমা দিতে হবে।

০৯. ক্লাস শুরু: ২৮.১১.২০২৬ খ্রি. ।

১০. চাকুরীরত প্রার্থীকে নিয়োগকারী কর্তৃপক্ষের মাধ্যমে আবেদন করতে হবে।

১১. প্রার্থী ইতোপূর্বে কোন শিক্ষা প্রতিষ্ঠানে ভর্তি হয়ে থাকলে ভর্তির সময় ভর্তি বাতিলের সনদ পত্র জমা দিতে হবে।

১২. চাকুরীরত প্রার্থী নিয়োগকারী কর্তৃপক্ষের সম্মতিক্রমে খন্ডকালীন ছাত্র হিসাবেও ভর্তির জন্য আবেদন করতে পারবে।

১৩. চাকুরীরত পিএইচ.ডি প্রার্থীকে নিয়োগকারী কর্তৃপক্ষের নিকট হতে ০১ (এক) বছরের ছুটি নিতে হবে।

১৪. বেসরকারী বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় হতে পাশকৃত ভর্তিচ্ছু প্রার্থীদের ক্ষেত্রে নিম্নের বিষয়গুলো প্রযোজ্য হবে।

(ক) বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়টি ইউজিসি কর্তৃক অনুমোদিত হতে হবে।

(খ) রুয়েটের সাথে উক্ত বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের সিলেবাস এবং ক্রেডিট সামঞ্জস্যপূর্ণ হতে হবে।

২২.১০.২০২৬

(আরিফ আহম্মদ চৌধুরী)
রেজিস্ট্রার (ভারপ্রাপ্ত)
রাজশাহী প্রকৌশল ও প্রযুক্তি বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়।

GD-2493

A night of flames

FROM PAGE 3

losses as their premises remained shut for safety reasons.

The fire broke out shortly after 5:00pm on Monday and was brought under control at 5:20am yesterday. However, the extent of the damage remained unclear as thick smoke, intense heat and the removal of burnt goods prevented traders from entering the building.

Mohammad Robin, who owns a warehouse on the sixth floor, said he had been waiting outside since learning of the fire.

"Our warehouse is on the right side of the sixth floor, where the fire broke out. We still cannot enter.

The fire broke out shortly after 5:00pm on Monday and was brought under control at 5:20am yesterday.

There were bags worth around Tk 40 lakh inside. If everything has been burnt, I will be ruined," he said.

Robin said the fifth, sixth and seventh floors of the seven-storey building housed more than 50 warehouses stocking bags and cosmetics, with goods worth an estimated Tk 20 lakh to Tk 40 lakh in each. The lower floors housed shops selling similar products.

Mohammad Imtiaz, who owns a bag shop on the ground floor, said, "The fire broke out at 5:00pm on Monday, and smoke was still coming out of the building at 10:00am on Tuesday. Our question is why it took so long to control the fire."

Fire service officials, however, said narrow roads, traffic congestion, intense heat, thick smoke and locked warehouse shutters had hampered firefighting efforts.

Kazi Nazmuzzaman, assistant director of the Fire Service and Civil Defence, said the sixth floor suffered the most damage, with seven to eight of its 12 to 14 large warehouses catching fire.

The warehouses contained umbrellas, cosmetics, perfume bottles and other goods. Damage to the seventh floor was comparatively limited, he said.

Nazmuzzaman said firefighters had to cut through multiple locks on warehouse shutters and internal gates. They also had to find alternative water sources after nearby reserves ran low.

The cause of the fire remained unclear. Officials said an electrical short circuit was among the possibilities, but an inquiry would be needed to determine the cause.

Security barriers were erected around the building, with police guarding the entrance cordoned off with crime-scene tape. Workers were seen removing goods from shops on other floors amid fears of the fire spreading.

Shah Alam, an employee at a bag shop, said business had been running normally the previous day before the blaze changed everything.

Building caretaker Md Mojibullah said firefighters had continued pouring water into the building since Monday afternoon, but smoke was still billowing from inside.

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Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Project Director (ACE, RHD)
Bangladesh Road Safety Project
Roads and Highways Department
Level-2, Block-A, Sarak Bhaban, Tejgaon, Dhaka-1208
E-mail: pd.brsp@gmail.com

Memo No: 35.01.2690.078.07.057.25-2885 Date: 13 October 2026

Request for Expressions of Interest (REOI) for Consulting Service (Individual Consultant Selection)

BANGLADESH
Bangladesh Road Safety Project
Credit No. 7059-BD
Project ID No. P173019

Assignment Title: **Consulting Service for Individual Procurement Specialist (National) Under Bangladesh Road Safety Project**

Reference No.: **Package SP(RHD)-05(A)**

1. The Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh has received financing from the World Bank towards the implementation of Bangladesh Road Safety Project (BRSP) and intends to apply part of the proceeds for Consulting Service for Individual Procurement Specialist (National) to assist the Project Implementation Unit (PIU) in implementing the project. As a multi-sectoral approach, the project is being jointly implemented by the Roads and Highways Department (RHD), Bangladesh Road Transport Authority (BRTA), Bangladesh Police (BP) and Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS). RHD is playing the role of the lead implementing agency.

2. The broad scope of the consulting service include to carry out following tasks under the project:
   i. Prepare drafts of Request for Expressions of Interest (REOI), Invitation for Bids (IFB), Invitation for Prequalification (IFP), Bidding Documents (RFB, RFP), Pre-Bid Meeting Minutes etc. as per World Bank Procurement Regulations;
   ii. Guide the PIU and Conduct Procurement in accordance with World Bank Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers (November 2020). The Bank's Systematic Tracking and Exchanges in Procurement (STEP) system will be used to prepare, clear and update Procurement Plans and to conduct all procurement transactions for the Project;
   iii. Take part, as a member of Bid/Proposal Evaluation Committees;
   iv. Ensure that all Procurement management activities are conducted in accordance with World Bank (IDA) guidelines and GOB rules and procedures for the intended purposes.

3. The service is expected to commence in December 2026 and the tentative duration of the entire assignment is about 17 (Seventeen) months. The Terms of Reference (TOR) can be found at the link below:
   https://drive.google.com/file/d/1wQwC39GV36vvkAZ7z67ZYuYSZZDD9KEJ/view?usp=sharing
   TOR can also be obtained from the office of the undersigned at office hours.

4. The Roads and Highways Department (RHD) under Road Transport and Highways Division, Ministry of Road Transport and Bridges, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh now invites eligible Individuals to submit their interest in providing the Service. Interested Individuals should provide information demonstrating that they have the following required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the service:

   Education
   a) Bachelor's degree in Engineering, Procurement, Law, Commerce, Finance, Business Administration, Management, or a related discipline from a recognized university.
   b) A Master's degree in Procurement or relevant professional certifications e.g. CIPS, PMP etc. will be considered an advantage.

   Experience
   a) 10 (ten) years of general experience out of which 07 (seven) years of experience in public procurement, with substantial responsibilities in procurement planning, contract management, and implementation of procurement processes for works, goods, and services.
   b) Demonstrated experience in managing procurement activities for large-scale infrastructure projects, advanced contract management, in particular experience in FIDIC contracts.
   c) Proven track record in preparing procurement plans, bidding documents, Requests for Proposals (RFPs), and evaluation reports in accordance with national regulations and international donor agency guidelines, particularly World Bank Procurement Regulations.
   d) Experience with e-Government Procurement (e-GP) systems and familiarity with the technical, commercial, and legal aspects of procurement in government and donor-financed projects is highly desirable.
   e) Prior involvement in projects requiring coordination among multiple government agencies and stakeholders is preferred.

   Skills and Competencies
   a) In-depth knowledge of the national legal and institutional framework governing public procurement in Bangladesh.
   b) Strong analytical and problem-solving skills, with the ability to identify and resolve procurement-related issues efficiently.
   c) Excellent communication and interpersonal skills, including the ability to present, discuss, and resolve complex procurement matters with diverse stakeholders.
   d) Proficiency in English (written and spoken) is required; fluency in Bengali is essential.
   e) Advanced computer skills, including proficiency in Microsoft Office Suite and familiarity with procurement-related software and e-GP platforms.
   f) Ability to work effectively in multidisciplinary teams and under tight deadlines.
   g) High standards of integrity, professionalism, and attention to detail.

5. An Individual will be selected in accordance with the following method as set out in the World Bank Procurement Regulations:

Selection Method	:	Individual Consultant Selection
Market Approach	:	Open - National

6. Attention of the interested Consultants is drawn to Section III, Para 3.14, 3.16 and 3.17 of the World Bank's Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers (November 2020) setting forth the World Bank's policy on conflict of interest.

7. Expression of Interest (EOI) must be delivered in written form to the address below (in person, or by mail) by **02:00 PM (BST), 10 November 2026:**

Attn.	:	The Project Director
Address	:	Office of the Project Director, Bangladesh Road Safety Project, Room No. 201, Block-A, Sarak Bhaban, Tejgaon, Dhaka 1208.

Further information can be obtained from the address above during office hours (9:00 AM to 4:00 PM BST).

13-10-2026
(Mohammad Shabbir Hasan Khan)
Project Director (ACE, RHD)
Bangladesh Road Safety Project

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