

## MA Samad's 21st death anniv today

CITY DESK

Today is the 21st death anniversary of MA Samad, founder of Bangladesh General Insurance Company PLC (BGIC), said a press release.

After his retirement as managing director of Jiban Bima Corporation, he established BGIC, the first non-life insurance company in private sector after the country's liberation.

Moreover, he was the founder director of Bangladesh Insurance Academy and former chairman of Bangladesh Insurance Association.

MA Samad wrote two books in Bangla -- one on life insurance and another on general insurance. He also wrote two text books in English on life insurance.

He was an enlisted international expert in the Technical Assistance Program on Trade and Development of the UN. MA Samad visited most of the insurance training institutions in UK and USA under UNDP fellowship programme. MA Samad was born at Kulaura of Moulvibazar on January 1, 1923.

**PRAYER TIMING**

**OCTOBER 17**

| | Fazr | Zohr | Asr | Maghrib | Esha |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| AZAN | 4-50 | 12-45 | 4-00 | 5-38 | 7-15 |
| JAMAAT | 5-25 | 1-15 | 4-15 | 5-41 | 7-45 |

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION



PHOTO: AZAHAR UDDIN

**Amid fertiliser shortages, high pesticide prices and water scarcity, farmer Alatun Tudu irrigates his Aman paddy field with groundwater in Tema village of Mohanpur upazila, Rajshahi, as the crop nears harvest. The photo was taken yesterday.**

## Jubo Dal leader hacked to death

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Cumilla*

Miscreants hacked a local Jubo Dal leader to death near Chhatarkhil police outpost in Cumilla Sadar upazila yesterday.

Md Abu Kawsar, 40, was a leader of Ward 4 of Cumilla city Jubo Dal, said Khalilur Rahman Biplob, senior joint convener of Cumilla Metropolitan Jubo Dal, said police.

He was from Cumilla city's Kaptanbazar, he added.

Touhidul Anwar, officer-in-charge of Kotwali Model Police Station, said Kawsar was attacked and seriously injured by a group of assailants in the Chhatarkhil area around 11:00am. He was taken to Cumilla Trauma Centre for treatment and died in the ICU around 2:00pm.

Witnesses said Kawsar was travelling in an auto-rickshaw through the Chhatarkhil area when assailants lying in wait launched a sudden attack on him. They repeatedly hacked him with sharp weapons, including on his neck, leaving him critically injured. The attackers fled on motorcycles after the assault.

Local sources said a dispute had been ongoing between some of Kawsar's friends and two local men over a piece of land.

Police were working to arrest those involved in the killing, said the OC.

## Crowd detains RU student after car crash kills rickshaw-puller

RU CORRESPONDENT

A rickshaw-puller was killed and two others were seriously injured after a car, allegedly driven by a Rajshahi University student, hit them in the city's Talaimari area yesterday.

Dr Shamim Hasan, spokesperson for Rajshahi Medical College Hospital, identified the deceased as Md Shahjalali, 50.

"Three people were brought to our hospital for treatment. One of them died, while the other two are receiving treatment," he said.

Police and Rajshahi University campus sources identified the driver as SM Rizon, a student of the university's Department of International Relations and proprietor of Bengal Signature, a seal-making firm.

According to locals, the incident occurred around 2:00pm. Rizon was driving the car when it struck a female pedestrian, throwing her to the roadside. He then allegedly lost control of the vehicle and ran over two rickshaw-pullers, one of whom died at the scene.

People at the scene later detained Rizon and the car until police arrived.

Boalia Police Station Officer-in-Charge Masuma Mustari confirmed that an RU student named SM Rizon was in the driver's seat.

Gaziur Rahman, additional deputy commissioner (media) of Rajshahi Metropolitan Police, said Rizon was taken to the police station along with the vehicle to maintain order as a crowd gathered at the scene.

"Further legal action will be taken if the allegations against him are substantiated during questioning," he added.

## Beef feast at JnU to protest slaughter ban

FROM PAGE 3

Azam Khan told The Daily Star the administration had verbally withdrawn the restriction and permitted the programme on condition that the slaughter be conducted hygienically under university supervision.

He said university officials and police monitored the event, and no untoward incident occurred.

Abdul Alim Arif, general secretary of JnUCSU and president of the JnU unit of Islami Chhatra Shibir, the pro-Jamaat-e-Islami student organisation, said the feast was held in protest against "an unreasonable administrative decision".

He claimed almost all student organisations on campus had participated.

Organisers said they considered the restriction an unreasonable curb on students' food choices and cultural practices.

The controversy began on Monday night, when students of the 2021-22 academic session of the Islamic history and culture department arranged to cook beef khichuri near the university's open-air stage to celebrate completing their undergraduate studies.

Several Hindu students objected, saying the site was too close to the central temple. It was also alleged that bricks from the temple had been used to build the cooking stove.

Joy Saha, member secretary of the temple management committee, and several students went to the site to raise objections. The cooking arrangements were then moved away from the temple after the proctor intervened.

Organisers later said they had initially planned to cook at the university cafeteria but opted for a wood-fired stove because of low gas pressure. They said they set aside the bricks after learning they belonged to the temple, brought an iron stove from the cafeteria, and expressed regret over what they called an unintended mistake.

Joy said the objection was not limited to the bricks, adding that cooking beef so close to the temple was also a concern.

On Wednesday, the proctor's office issued a notice asking students to refrain from slaughtering animals on campus. It also warned of action under a public notice issued by Dhaka South City Corporation.

The directive drew criticism from a section of students. On Wednesday night, JnUCSU leaders and students staged a procession and rally, placing four demands: withdrawal of the notice, a public apology from the administration, an investigation into the incident, availability of beef and mutton at the cafeteria, and measures to ensure religious harmony. During the procession, they announced plans to slaughter a cow and hold a feast yesterday.

On Thursday, the university registrar called a meeting with JnUCSU leaders, journalists, and other stakeholders to discuss the overall campus situation, according to a statement from the registrar's office.

The statement said the administration regretted what it called a "misunderstanding", and that students could organise events involving animal slaughter as long as these did not disrupt other activities.

Speaking to The Daily Star, Joy Saha thanked the administration for ensuring that no cattle were slaughtered and no beef was cooked near the central temple.

"Our main demand was to protect the sanctity of the temple and prevent any actions that could hurt our religious sentiments. We believe in communal harmony, mutual respect and peaceful coexistence among people of all faiths," he said.

Meanwhile, the JnU unit of Khelafat Chhatra Majlis, a pro-Khelafat Majlis student group, has announced a similar feast and Qawwali programme today and bought a cow for it.

Prof Azam told The Daily Star yesterday afternoon that the administration had yet to give permission for the programme.

He said Vice-Chancellor Prof Md Rais Uddin had urged all students to refrain from slaughtering cows on campus during the ongoing Durga Puja.

## They said it was a minor accident. My son was dead

FROM PAGE 3

driver might have realised that someone was near the bus. Call it negligence, carelessness or mismanagement -- there was a failure," he said.

Lt Col (retd) Ferdous Hasan, principal of the institution, said the helper was outside the campus gate at the time.

Meanwhile, a written undertaking submitted by Sazu to the school surfaced on Facebook on Wednesday. It stated that he would not pursue legal action over his son's death and did not personally hold anyone responsible.

However, the final line requested the school authorities to investigate the incident, identify those responsible and take action.

Sazu said he declined an autopsy to avoid a lengthy legal process and further distress to his family. His wife is expecting, he added.

"My child has died, and we could not bear the stress of a lengthy legal process on top of that," he said.

"I was told that I needed to submit a written undertaking. When the school prepared the document, it mentioned only a 'bus accident'. I asked them to change it to 'school bus accident'."

Sazu said he added the final line himself to make clear that, although he would not file a criminal case, he wanted the school to investigate and hold anyone found responsible accountable.

"I told them to form an inquiry committee, examine CCTV footages, identify anyone at fault and take disciplinary action. They must also improve school bus management so that no other child suffers such a tragic death," he said.

He also submitted a written statement to police seeking to receive the body without an autopsy.

"My child's head was completely crushed. His face was in no condition to be seen. I could not let his mother or anyone else see his face. We took him home only to bury him," Sazu said.

Principal Ferdous said the school buses were hired on contract and the incident was being investigated.

"This is an extremely tragic incident for us as well. We are investigating the matter seriously. The inquiry will examine what went wrong and why the incident occurred, and we will take further action based on the findings," he said.

He said the driver or anyone else found negligent would be dismissed, with further legal action possible if recommended.

AHM Salauddin, officer-in-charge of Rupganj Police Station, said no case had been filed.

"The family did not want a post-mortem and said they would not pursue legal action. If they seek police assistance, we will provide it," he said.

## A fresh bid to streamline Dhaka's bus network

FROM PAGE 3

The interim government attempted a limited Gabtoli-Chashara rollout in 2025.

SM Salehuddin, former member of the DTCA Bus Route Rationalisation Coordination Committee, said owners and workers feared the system would reduce their income and control over bus operations and fares.

DTCA inspections in 2024 found that 165 of 400 designated stops across eight routes had not been built, while only 80 had fully functioning ticket facilities.

Under the latest decision, the DTCA and police must send improvement lists to city corporations within seven working days. Construction and repairs are due within three months, while owners have two months to repair and repaint rundown buses.

It remains unclear how existing valid permit holders will be excluded under the new system.

Bangladesh Passenger Welfare Association Secretary General Mozammel Haque Chowdhury demanded oversight by an experienced public authority and urged authorities to resolve problems on one or two routes before expansion.

Prof Shamsul Hoque of Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology called for long-term funding, permanent supervision and coordination with BRTC, human hauliers, and smaller public transport services to prevent unequal competition.

"Maintaining discipline after the buses are launched will be the real challenge," he said. "Political will alone cannot guarantee success."

## Why Tk 250cr July fund still unreleased?

FROM PAGE 3

Samsi Ara Zaman, mother of July martyr and journalist Tahir Zaman Priyo, said many of the injured were struggling financially.

"We must work to rehabilitate them and help the martyrs' families overcome their trauma. The government must make arrangements to disburse the fund," she said.

She urged people to support the July Shaheed Smriti Foundation.

Photographer and rights activist Shahidul Alam said people's sacrifice deserved recognition and must not be overlooked in documenting the uprising's history.

He called for an archive that would preserve the history without being politically influenced.

Dilara Chowdhury, political scientist and former professor at Jahangirnagar University, said more initiatives were needed to preserve the uprising's memory rehabilitate the martyrs' families and those injured.

Jaber bin Noor, an injured in the uprising, called for clarification of the death toll. "We need to find out why the figure of 843 people recorded during the interim government's tenure has not increased since then," he added.

## SM Ali's 33rd anniversary

FROM PAGE 3

1928. He was the eldest son of the late Syed Mustafa Ali, an official of the Assam Civil Service, and nephew of famous litterateur Syed Mujtaba Ali.

Ali started off as a reporter with the Pakistan Observer while he was a student at Dhaka University. He went on to hold important positions in various publications in Pakistan, Hong Kong, Thailand and Singapore. He was the managing director of The Hong Kong Standard and The Bangkok Post.

He joined the Press Foundation of Asia as its executive director in the 1970s. In the mid-1980s, he became Unesco's regional communications adviser for Asia and the Pacific based in the Malaysian capital of Kuala Lumpur.

Ali returned home in 1989 and had a brief stint with the Bangladesh Observer as editor. He launched The Daily Star in 1991 and worked tirelessly to establish it as a leading national daily. He injected a new life in the English language journalism of the period. He died in 1993 at a Bangkok hospital at the age of 65.

বাংলাদেশ পেট্রোলিয়াম এক্সপ্লোরেশন এন্ড প্রোডাকশন কোম্পানী লিমিটেড (বাপেক্স)
BANGLADESH PETROLEUM EXPLORATION & PRODUCTION CO. LTD (BAPEX)
Administration Division, Foreign Purchase Department
BAPEX Bhaban (Level-4), 4, Kawran Bazar C/A, Dhaka-1215, Bangladesh

**Invitation for International Competitive Tender (ICT)**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | Ministry/Division | Ministry of Power, Energy & Mineral Resources/ Energy & Mineral Resources Division |
| 2 | Agency | Bangladesh Oil, Gas and Mineral Corporation (Petrobangla) |
| 3 | Company | Bangladesh Petroleum Exploration & Production Company Limited (BAPEX) |
| 4 | Procuring Entity Name | General Manager, Administration Division, BAPEX. |
| 5 | Procuring Entity District | Dhaka. |
| 6 | Invitation for | Procurement of 3D Seismic Data Interpretation System (LOT-01: G&G Interpretation, Modeling & Log Interpretation Systems with related Services and LOT-02: Seismic Reservoir Characterization System with related Services) |
| 7 | Invitation Ref No & Date | BAPEX/Admin/Int/Ten-1358/2026 |
| 8 | Date | Date: 14-10-2026 |
| KEY INFORMATION | | |
| 9 | Procurement Method | One Stage Two Envelopes Tendering Method (OSTETM) |
| FUNDING INFORMATION | | |
| 10 | Budget and Source of Funds | BAPEX Own Fund |
| PARTICULAR INFORMATION | | |
| 11 | Project / Program Name | 3D Seismic Survey at Habiganj, Bakhrabad & Meghna Fields |
| 12 | Tender Package No. | GD-12 |
| 13 | Tender Package Name | Procurement of 3D Seismic Data Interpretation System (LOT-01: G&G Interpretation, Modeling & Log Interpretation Systems with related Services and LOT-02: Seismic Reservoir Characterization System with related Services) |
| | | **Date** |
| 14 | Tender Publication Date | 18-10-2026 |
| 15 | Tender Last Selling Date | 30-11-2026 at 15.00 hrs. |
| | | **Date** / **Time** |
| 16 | Tender Closing Date and Time | 01-12-2026 / 11.30 (BST) |
| 17 | Tender Opening Date and Time | 01-12-2026 / 12.00 (BST) |
| 18 | Name & Address of the office(s) | **Address** |
| | - Selling Tender Document (Principal) | Accounts & Finance Division, BAPEX Bhaban (Level-3), 4 Kawran Bazar C/A, Dhaka-1215. |
| | - Selling Tender Document (Others) | i. Petrobangla; Accounts Division, Petrocenter, 3, Kawran Bazar C/A, Dhaka<br>ii. Titas Gas Transmission and Distribution Company Ltd (TGTDCL); Accounts Division, 105 Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Kawran Bazar C/A, Dhaka-1215. |
| | NO CONDITIONS APPLY FOR SALE, PURCHASE OR DISTRIBUTION OF TENDER DOCUMENTS | |
| 19 | - Receiving Tender Document | Room No-401, Foreign Purchase Department, Level-4, BAPEX Bhaban, 4, Kawran Bazar, Dhaka-1215. |
| | - Opening Tender Document | Room No-401, Foreign Purchase Department, Level-4, BAPEX Bhaban, 4, Kawran Bazar, Dhaka-1215. |
| | Place / Date / Time of Pre-Tender Meeting | Meeting Room, Level-6, BAPEX Bhaban, 4 Kawran Bazar, Dhaka-1215. / **Date**: 04-11-2026 / **Time**: 11:00 hrs. BST |

INFORMATION FOR TENDERER

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 20 | **Brief Eligibility and Qualification of Tenderer** | • The minimum of years of general experience of the Tenderer in the supply of Goods and related services as Supplier shall be 7 (Seven) years.<br>• For LoT-1 The minimum specific experience as Supplier in supply of similar Goods of at least 1 (one) contract(s) successfully completed within the last 5 (Five) years, each with a value of at least 0.7 million USD or 8,61,00,000.00 BDT and For LoT-2 The minimum specific experience as Supplier in supply of similar Goods of at least 1 (One) contract(s) successfully completed within the last 5 (Five) years, each with a value of at least 0.22 million USD or 2,70,60,000.00 BDT.<br>• Lot-01: The minimum supply experience for Lot-01 is 2 licenses of G&G Interpretation, Modeling & Log Interpretation software per year and for Lot-02: The minimum supply experience for Lot-02 is 2 licenses of Seismic Reservoir Characterization software per year.<br>• The minimum amount of financial resources as liquid asset or working capital or credit line(s) or specific credit commitment or in any combination of them, of the Tenderers shall be is 0.80 million USD or 9,84,00,000.00 BDT for LOT-1 and 0.25 million USD or 3,07,50,000.00 BDT for LOT-2.<br>• The Tenderer or Supplier from the Countries which do not have diplomatic relationship with Bangladesh are not eligible. |
| 21 | Brief Description of Goods | LOT-01: G&G Interpretation, Modeling & Log Interpretation Systems with Necessary Hardware; and<br>LOT-02: Seismic Reservoir Characterization System with Necessary Hardware. |
| 22 | Brief Description of Related Services | • **Commissioning & Installation:** The bidder should provide service on Commissioning & Installation of the Software & Hardware at BAPEX Dhaka Office.<br>• **Work association:** 142 days for LOT-01 and 58 Days for LOT-02 |
| 23 | Language of Tender | Tenders shall be written in the English language. |
| 24 | Price of Tender Document (the currency (ies)) | BDT 13,800.00 or USD 112.00 (Non-refundable) Including VAT |

| 25 | Lot No | Identification of Lot | Location | Tender Security Amount (the currency(ies)) Proposal to be made as per Tender Document ITT Clause-32 | Completion Time/Delivery Time in Days |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1 | Procurement of 3D Seismic Data Interpretation System (LOT-01: G&G Interpretation, Modeling & Log Interpretation Systems with related Services and LOT-02: Seismic Reservoir Characterization System with related Services) | The Goods are to be delivered at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport, Dhaka and related services are to be delivered as per Section 6: Schedule of Requirements of tender document. | BDT 33,00,000.00 (Thirty-Three Lac) or USD 26,830.00 (Twenty-Six Thousand Eight Hundred Thirty) for Lot-01 and BDT 85,000.00 (Eighty Five Thousand) or USD 690.00 (Six Hundred Ninety) for Lot-02 | 13 (Thirteen) weeks following the date of receipt of the L/C |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 26 | Name of Official Inviting Tender | Md. Asad Ullah |
| 27 | Designation of Official Inviting Tender | General Manager (Admin) |
| 28 | Address of Official Inviting Tender | Room No-501, Administration Division, Level-5, BAPEX Bhaban, 4 Kawran Bazar, Dhaka-1215. |
| 29 | Contact details of Official Inviting Tender | +8802-55011774 gmadmin@bapex.com.bd/purchase.bapex@gmail.com/purchase@bapex.com.bd |
| 30 | The Tender will be conducted as per the PPA-2006 & PPR-2025. This Tender Notice will also be available at website of Petrobangla (www.petrobangla.org.bd), BAPEX (www.BAPEX.com.bd), DG Market (www.dgmarket.com) and BPPA (www.bppa.gov.bd). | |
| 31 | The Procuring Entity reserves the right to reject all the Tenders or annul the Tender proceedings. | |

GD-2521

General Manager (Admin.)