Jubo Dal activist hacked to death in Barishal

UNB, *Barishal*

A local Jubo Dal activist was hacked to death by unidentified criminals in Satla area of Wazirpur upazila in Barishal on Friday night.

The deceased was identified as Kawsar Hawlader, 37.

A group of armed criminals attacked Kawsar when he along with Rashed Amin and several other Jubo Dal activists were standing on a bridge around 9:30pm, said Wazirpur Model Police Station Officer-in-Charge Rakibul Islam.

Kawsar and Rashed jumped into the water beneath the bridge and sheltered in a nearby house.

The attackers then entered the house by breaking open the door and hacked Kawsar, said the OC.

He was taken to Kotalipara Upazila Health Complex where doctors declared him dead. Rashed was also injured in the attack, he added.

CWASA plans 90,000 smart meters by 2030

SIFAYET ULLAH, *Ctg*

Chattogram WASA plans to install 90,000 automatic meter reading (AMR) meters by December 2030 to curb water losses, prevent billing irregularities and improve revenue collection.

The initiative, part of the World Bank-funded Chattogram Water Supply Improvement Project, aims to reduce non-revenue water (NRW) to 10 percent.

Around Tk 100 crore of the Tk 3,921 crore project has been allocated for installing the meters.

Under the existing system, inspectors manually collect readings from individual connections and enter them into software. With AMR meters, sensors will automatically record readings and transfer the data to the software when inspectors visit connection areas once a month.

"The system would prevent consumers and meter inspectors from manipulating readings, and help prevent water theft and reduce the NRW rate," said Rezaul Ahsan Chowdhury, project director and executive engineer of CWASA.

He said the automated system would prevent inspectors from entering arbitrary readings.

NRW refers to water that generates no revenue because of pipeline leaks, unauthorised consumption, metering and billing problems, theft and other operational irregularities.

According to CWASA data, the average NRW rate stood at 22.33 percent in the first six months of 2026, down from 30 percent in the 2023-24 fiscal year, when estimated revenue losses exceeded Tk 100 crore.

Abdur Rahim, a building owner in Khulshi-1, said water meters remained manual, unlike modernised gas and electricity meters.

"Automatic meters would benefit both consumers and CWASA. For instance, a meter inspector might issue an average bill without visiting, or record a higher reading than the actual consumption. That would be a form of harassment for me. An automated system would eliminate such problems," he said.

As of June 2026, CWASA had 1,06,339 registered water connections across a 965-kilometre pipeline network and produced an average of 479 million litres of water daily.

Project officials said CWASA would initially bear the cost of the meters, but a final decision had yet to be made on whether customers would eventually be charged.

Salim Md Jane Alam, managing director of CWASA, said construction work under the project would begin soon.

Several international companies have participated in the tender, and their bids are being evaluated before contractors are appointed, he added.



- Tk 100cr allocated for meter installation
- Water losses targeted to fall to 10%
- Automated readings to curb billing irregularities
- Decision on customer charges still pending

Half-day blockade in Rangamati, Khagrachhari

STAR REPORT

A half-day blockade of roads and waterways in Rangamati and Khagrachhari yesterday disrupted transport services as protesters demonstrated against alleged attacks, baton charges and vandalism during Thursday's blockade at Ujo Bazar in Sajek, Rangamati.

Called by the Chhatra Janata Sangram Parishad, the blockade began in the morning and ended at noon.

In Rangamati, protesters blocked the Rangamati-Khagrachhari road with logs and set fires at Sapchhari Khamar Para and Kutukchhari Dharmaghar. They also brought out a procession from Kutukchhari Half Bazar to Dharmaghar.

Vehicular movement on the Rangamati-Khagrachhari road remained suspended throughout the morning, while traffic continued on the Rangamati-Chattogram road despite the blockade in Betbunia.

Md Yusuf, joint general secretary of the Rangamati-Chattogram Bus-Minibus Workers Union, said bus services on the Rangamati-Khagrachhari route resumed after noon, although passenger numbers were low.

In Khagrachhari, no long-distance buses departed, although some auto-rickshaws operated in the town.

Protesters burnt tyres at Chengi Bridge, Swonirbhar and Jorabridge in Guimara, while felled trees blocked the Chattogram-Khagrachhari road at Sapmara.

Khagrachhari Sadar Police Station OC Md Kay Kislu said police escorted overnight buses from Dhaka into town. Some vehicles stranded in Ramgarh were instructed to enter Khagrachhari after noon.

[Our correspondents from Rangamati and Khagrachhari contributed to this report]



FILE PHOTO

CUET stalemate drags on over VC row

ARUN BIKASH DEY

As universities reopen after the Durga Puja holidays today, Chittagong University of Engineering and Technology (CUET) remains mired in a month-long deadlock, with no indication of when academic activities will resume.

Classes, examinations and practical sessions have remained suspended for over a month as students, teachers and staff demand the reinstatement of former vice-chancellor Prof Abu Sadat Mohammad Sayem and removal of newly appointed VC Prof Sheikh Shariful Alam.

Protesting students have announced that their all-out shutdown will resume after the holidays.

Although the University Grants Commission has formed a six-member advisory committee to resolve the crisis, teachers and students have questioned its effectiveness, pointing out that it includes no CUET representative.

Samiun Basir, joint general secretary of the CUET Teachers' Association, said, "There is no one from CUET in the committee formed to solve the stalemate."

Protesting student Ahnaf Shahriar Arnob said demonstrations would continue until their demands were met.

The UGC formed the committee on Monday following directives from the education ministry.

The committee held its first virtual meeting on Thursday, said Prof Dr Yousuf Elahi Chowdhury, vice-chancellor of Chittagong Veterinary and Animal Sciences University and a committee member.

Another member, Chittagong University Vice-Chancellor Professor Al Forkan, said the committee would soon meet all parties to facilitate the resumption of academic activities.

The crisis began after Prof Sayem was removed as CUET VC on September 21 and Prof Shariful of Khulna University of Engineering and Technology was appointed in his place.

Students launched a shutdown on September 22, while teachers, officers and employees joined through work abstentions and non-cooperation programmes.

Following a ministry directive on October 18, the UGC formed the advisory committee on October 19, naming UGC member Professor Dr Abdullah-Al-Mamun convener and Additional Director Dr Md Mohibul Ahsan member secretary.

Prof Mamun said, "We will start working to resolve the CUET deadlock very swiftly. It will not take much time."

Police file GD over Rumeen-Sarail OC confrontation

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *B'baria*

Police have filed a GD over an altercation between lawmaker Rumeen Farhana and Sarail Police Station OC Manzur Kader Bhuiya.

The GD was filed on Thursday night, but the matter came to light on Friday evening, the OC said.

Police were preparing a list of those who accompanied the lawmaker to the police station. Further action would be taken following instructions from senior police officials, he added.

Rumeen, who represents Brahmanbaria-2, comprising Sarail, Ashuganj and part of Bijoynagar, went to the OC's office with her supporters around 7:30pm on Thursday.

They argued over alleged security lapses and police misconduct. Videos of the heated exchange later circulated on Facebook.

Her supporters alleged that tensions had been building for days, as the OC had not responded to calls from Rumeen and her personal assistant.

They also claimed that the lawmaker had sought security but did not receive it. Rumeen later said she had gone to the police station to discuss allegations against the OC.

IN BRIEF

8 more die of measles-like symptoms

BSS, *Dhaka*

Eight more patients died with measles-like symptoms across the country in the 24 hours till 8:00am yesterday.

During the same period, 1,014 people were identified with measles-like symptoms, alongside 51 confirmed measles cases, according to the Directorate General of Health Services.

The cumulative death toll rose to 1,222 since March 15, including 1,118 suspected and 104 confirmed measles deaths.

Community clinics to be renamed

Says health minister

UNB, *Dhaka*

Health Minister Sardar Md Sakhawat Husain has announced plans to rename all community clinics across the country as Family Welfare Centres to expand healthcare services at the union level.

He made surprise visits to several health facilities in Mymensingh yesterday, and outlined plans to upgrade healthcare infrastructure and improve service delivery.



PHOTO: **AZAHAR UDDIN**

Workers extract golden jute fibre from retted stalks in the Monakosha area of Shibganj upazila, Chapainawabganj, yesterday. With water receding from low-lying fields, the jute harvest in the region is nearing completion.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Ministry of Home Affairs
Office of the Commandant
BCG Base Agrajatra, Patuakhali Sadar, Patuakhali-8600

INVITATION FOR TENDER

BCG Base Agrajatra e-GP Invitation no. 44.08.7895.453.22.256.26.16 Date: 19 OCTOBER 2026

E-TENDER NOTICE

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

Ser	Tender ID	Package Name	Method	Date & Time: Publication	Last Selling	Closing and Opening
1.	1358358	Repair and maintenance of existing vehicles in the MT pool of Bangladesh Coast Guard Base Agrajatra specifically: Dhaka Metro Gha 13-7430, Patuakhali Sa 11-0006, Bhola Gha 11-0044, Patuakhali A 11-0007, Patuakhali Cha 11-0051, Dhaka Metro Chha 71-0874, Dhaka Metro Cha 56-2065, Dhaka Metro Cha 56-6338, Dhaka Metro 10-4016, Dhaka Metro A 11-4835, Dhaka Metro Ga 26-9161, and Dhaka Metro Tha 13-4894.	OTM	22/10/2026 10:00 AM	01/11/2026 15:00 AM	02/11/2026 10:00 AM

This is an online tender, 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 (https://www.eprocure.gov.bd). For more details, please contact support desk contact numbers.
Documents can be downloaded till deadline of Tender/Application/Proposal submission.

KANIZ AZAD
Lt Commander BN
For Commandant

GD 2571

5 more die of dengue

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

At least five dengue patients died and 1,898 others were hospitalised in the 24 hours till 8:00am yesterday, according to the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS).

Of the deaths, two were reported in Chattogram division, and one each in Dhaka South City Corporation (DSCC), Khulna and Rajshahi divisions.

With the latest deaths and cases, the death toll this year has risen to 376, while the total number of cases has reached 1,21,699.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Department of Architecture
Ministry of Housing & Public Works
Sthapatya Bhaban, Segunbagicha, Dhaka-1000
www.architecture.gov.bd
Phone No- 02-223350954.

Memo No-General- 1506 /Arch Date:19-10-2026

e-Tender Notice

This is to notify for all concern that the following tender have Published through e-GP Portal.

Sl. No.	Tender ID	Package No	Name of Works	Publishing Date & Time	Last selling Date &Time	Closing Date &Time
01	1357898	DOA/egp/26-27/04	Procurement Of Software from Software and Database Maintenance Department of Architecture	25-Oct-2026 08:00	12-Nov-2026 09:00	12-Nov-2026 12:10
02	1358366	DOA/egp/26-27/05	Computer & Computer Accessories Department of Architecture	25-Oct-2026 08:50	12-Nov-2026 09:50	12-Nov-2026 11:50

The interested persons/firms/suppliers may visit the website www.eprocure.gov.bd to get details of the tender.

This is an online Tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and offline/hard copies will not be accepted. To submit e-Tender registaration in the National e-GP portal (https://www.eprocure.gov.bd/) *is required.* Further information and guideline are available at the National e-GP system portal and from e-GP helpdesk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

19.10.26
(S.M. Anisul Haque)
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GD-2572