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YOUR RIGHT TO KNOW

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Japan to invest $6.35b, create 2 lakh jobs in 5yrs

Tarique, Takaichi agree to upgrade bilateral ties

- Japan to provide $300m for economic resilience, energy security
- Dhaka, Tokyo to upgrade BIG-B, Matarbari-Maheshkhali hub
- Dhaka requests for accession to Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement
- Dhaka, Tokyo agree to early operationalisation of third Terminal of HSIA, Dhaka Metro Rail lines

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Japan projects up to one trillion yen ($6.35 billion) in private investment in Bangladesh over the next five years, with the investment expected to create 2 lakh jobs.

The projection was welcomed by Prime Minister Tarique Rahman and his Japanese counterpart Sanae Takaichi at their bilateral summit in Tokyo yesterday, according to a joint statement issued after the meeting. Dhaka and Tokyo agreed to deepen economic cooperation, strengthen supply chains, and expand strategic ties.

The two leaders also agreed to upgrade their flagship bilateral initiative, the Bay of Bengal Industrial Growth Belt (BIG-B), to "BIG-B for Shared Prosperity", with the aim of developing the Matarbari-Maheshkhali area into a major hub for logistics, energy, and industry centred on the Matarbari Deep Sea Port.

The two countries also shared a vision of developing resilient supply chains in manufacturing, food and agriculture, information and communication technology, and pharmaceuticals.

According to Japan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs website, the two countries signed

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Japanese Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi welcomes her Bangladesh counterpart Tarique Rahman at the Prime Minister's Office (Kantei) in Tokyo yesterday.

PHOTO: PMO

Good start, but delivery will make the difference

TANIM AHMED

Prime Minister Tarique Rahman's visit to a G7 country within eight months of his taking power should in itself be seen as a positive and major step. Continuation of the traditional bilateral relations with the Asian giant is both desirable and beneficial for Bangladesh, especially in these challenging times.

While the joint statement of the two prime ministers highlights cooperation in infrastructure, energy, human resource, trade, and investment under a 'strategic partnership', it dampens hope for a visible elevation of bilateral relations with new terminology or for more robust budgetary support.

There are a few promises of loans, along with the commitments for three substantial projects: Dhaka airport's third terminal, another MRT line in Dhaka, and the Matarbari port, which is part of an old initiative.

Envisioned as the centrepiece of Japan and Bangladesh's cooperation, the Bay of Bengal Industrial Growth Belt, BIG-B for Shared Prosperity as it will now be called, is an 'update' of an older project that had begun in 2014.

In its new form, this initiative includes the Moheshkhali-Matarbari Integrated Infrastructure Development Initiative (MIDI) that will lead towards a bustling regional hub, a node of international maritime traffic connecting South Asia and countries further west with South East Asia and the far east.

Although mentioned as an exclusive project, the Japan-Bangladesh project, observers say that the BIG-B is meant to be a 'logistical hub' for the region, which may include other countries of the region too.

ANALYSIS

The country representative of Japan External Trade Organization Kazuiki Kataoka, who is also the president of the Japan Bangladesh Chamber of Commerce and Industries, also thought Matarbari was envisioned as a crucial regional node. "It can become a logistical hub between South Asia and East Asia, connecting not just the seven sisters [eastern provinces of India] but also Nepal and Bhutan."

Taken together with the Free and Open Indo-Pacific, the joint statement suggests that

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Another round of LPG price hike likely

Industry charges being reviewed despite failure to enforce rates

ASIFUR RAHMAN

LPG consumers can brace for another round of price hike as the Bangladesh Energy Regulatory Commission (BERC) kickstarts a process for revising the rates and charges tomorrow.



The commission will hold a public hearing, its first since introducing the monthly LPG price-fixing mechanism in April 2021.

The hearing, which comes after industry players asked for increasing their charges, is taking place at a time

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Govt distances itself from IGP's comments

PHQ, police association defend him; Zahed says PM to decide IGP's fate

"The government is firmly opposed to extrajudicial killings, enforced disappearances and custodial deaths."

Home Minister **Salahuddin Ahmed**

TASNEEM TAYEB

Home Minister Salahuddin Ahmed has said Inspector General of Police (IGP) Ali Hossain Fakir's remarks do not reflect the government's position.

"The government is firmly opposed to extrajudicial killings, enforced disappearances and custodial deaths," he told The Daily Star yesterday.

Noting that the July uprising, which led to the fall of the Awami League regime, was aimed at establishing the rule of law, the minister said upholding that principle remained one of the government's key commitments to the people.

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JCD LEADER KILLING

Natore-4 MP's son on 3-day remand

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Pabna*

Nooruzzaman, son of Natore-4 BNP lawmaker Abdul Aziz, has been placed on a three-day remand in a case filed over the killing of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) leader Shakil Islam.

District Senior Judicial Magistrate's Court passed the order yesterday afternoon after police sought 10 days to interrogate Nooruzzaman, showing him arrested in the case.

Nooruzzaman was taken into police custody late Monday and first brought to Gurudaspur Police Station before being transferred to the Detective Branch (DB) office in Natore town. DB officials questioned him until yesterday afternoon before producing him before the court.

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Police map teen gangs; legal action remains tricky

SHARIFUL ISLAM *and* **TOUSIF KAIUM**



Police are preparing coordinated drives against teen gangs and their patrons but face a tougher task beyond identifying and detaining suspects: taking action without specific allegations.

Amid growing concerns over juvenile involvement in organised violence, extortion, drug dealing, and other crimes, Police Headquarters (PHQ) has directed all police units to identify active gangs, their members, and influential people who allegedly organise, finance or protect them.

"We issued a directive to all police units across the country eight to 10 days ago and expect to receive the lists shortly," Md Sayedur Rahman, additional inspector general (Crimes and Operations) at the PHQ, told The Daily Star on October 17.

Police will hold meetings after receiving the lists and draw up a detailed plan for coordinated drives in areas where juvenile delinquency is prevalent, he said.

Asked yesterday what action would be taken against those with no criminal records, Sayedur said they would not be included in the list.

"The action will target those who threaten public safety and violate the laws of the state," he added.

The directive covers all units, including the Special Branch, Dhaka Metropolitan Police (DMP), Special Response Battalion (SRB), formerly the Rapid Action Battalion, and district police.

An SRB official said the force had completed preliminary mapping of 1,333 juvenile groups, 213 organisers or leaders, and 27 alleged patrons.

The lists were undergoing final departmental verification before submission to the PHQ.

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اَلَّذِیْ خَلَقَ الْمَوْتَ وَالْحَیٰوةَ لِیَبْلُوَكُمْ اَیُّكُمْ اَحْسَنُ عَمَلًا ؕ وَهُوَ الْعَزِیْزُ الْغَفُوْرُ

He is the One who created life and death in order to test which of you is best in deeds.
And He is the Almighty, All-Forgiving. (Surah Mulk, Verse 2)



Mir Mustafizur Rahman
(Jan 7, 1935 - Oct 28, 2021)

Five years ago, today, on Thursday, October 28, 2021, M. Mustafizur Rahman, a renowned CSP, passed away at his residence in Gulshan, Dhaka. He was 86 years old.

He was born in a respectable Muslim family in 1935 at Fakirbari, Barisal. He completed his B. A. and M. A. in Economics from the University of Dhaka, Bangladesh and another M. A. in Development Economics from Williams College, Massachusetts, USA.

Mr. Rahman qualified in the Civil Service examination in 1959, and served the Government as Finance Secretary; President's Principal Secretary; Alternate Executive Director of World Bank, and the first Executive Chairman, Board of Investment, Government of Bangladesh. He was the Chairman of the Revenue Reform Commission (2003) and Chairman of the 7th Pay Commission (2009) appointed by the Government. He was also Chairman, Water Development Board; Secretary, Civil Aviation and Tourism; Information and Broadcasting; and Education.

On retirement from Government service, Mr. Rahman involved himself in the development of life insurance, leasing, credit rating agency and private university in this country.

Seeking prayers for the departed soul, are:

Prof Salma Rahman, *(Retired Professor of English, former Director, Secondary Education and Project Director, Female Secondary Education Stipend Project)*

Nahid, Runa, Saadia, Mahfuz, Kamran, Murad, Shaheen and Grandchildren & Brothers, Sisters.

3 Hindu homes vandalised, looted over FB post

OUR CORRESPONDENT,
Lalmonirhat

Three homes belonging to Hindu families were vandalised and looted in Rangpur's Pirganj upazila on Monday night over a Facebook post that allegedly hurt the religious sentiments of Muslims, police said.

The owner of the affected houses are Bishu Chandra Mohanta, 50; his elder brother Jagadish Chandra Mohanta, 60; and their younger brother Dinesh Chandra Mohanta, 46 -- all residents of Chak Karimpur village.

According to police, Bishu's son, Saurav Chandra Mohanta, 22, who works at a garment factory in Gazipur, shared a video on Facebook several months ago that allegedly hurt the religious sentiments of local Muslims.

Although Saurav later deleted the post, its screenshots resurfaced on Sunday, triggering tension in the area and leading to the attack, said Nazmul Haque, officer-in-charge of Pirganj Police Station.

Law enforcers detained Saurav early yesterday in Kichak Bela village of

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Garment workers block the Dhaka-Tangail highway demanding a minimum monthly wage of Tk 30,000. The protest caused disruption to traffic on the highway yesterday.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

CPB demands justice after alleging attack on party office

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Communist Party of Bangladesh (CPB) and several left-leaning political organisations yesterday condemned what they described as an attack on the party's central office, Mukti Bhaban, in the capital's Purana Paltan, though police said no such incident had taken place.

In a statement, CPB President Kazi Sajjad Zahir Chandan and General Secretary Abdullah Kafi Ratan said attacks carried out on the basis of false accusations against people holding different political views undermine democracy, political coexistence and the right to engage in political activities freely.

They also demanded that those responsible for the attack be identified and brought to justice.

According to the statement, a group of people carrying sticks gathered in front of Mukti Bhaban on Monday night and attempted to force their way into the building by breaking its main gate.

The group identified itself as activists of the ruling party and alleged that members of a banned political organisation were staying inside the CPB office, the statement said.

When CPB leaders and activists tried to prevent them from entering, the group turned violent, leaving several people injured, it added.

The statement further alleged that the group continued to surround the building even after police arrived and took charge of its security. They also demanded that the alleged members

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Japan to invest $6.35b, create 2 lakh jobs in 5yrs

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six instruments: four memorandums of cooperation (MoCs), a letter of intent (LoI), and a letter concerning grant aid.

The MoCs cover economic relations and improvement of the business environment; cooperation in agriculture; and cooperation in fisheries and livestock. The two agriculture-related areas are intended to strengthen business ties and attract investment. The LoI concerns climate change cooperation, while the grant-aid letter provides for up to 2.12 billion yen ($13 million) for a maritime security capacity-building project.

Tarique reached Tokyo on Monday on a four-day official visit at the invitation of his Japanese counterpart. The two leaders yesterday held a summit meeting, followed by a joint press appearance and lunch.

At the start of the meeting, Takaichi said Japan strongly supported Bangladesh's ability to make its own decisions and strengthen its resilience under Japan's updated Free and Open Indo-Pacific (FOIP) vision. She said Japan wanted to further develop bilateral relations under the Strategic Partnership and contribute to regional peace and prosperity.

Tarique said the two leaders had held fruitful discussions on a broad range of bilateral, regional, and international issues.

"Reaffirming our long-standing friendship, we expressed our shared commitment to further strengthening our partnership through enhanced cooperation in energy, ICT, rail, and infrastructure, deep-sea ports, and foreign direct investment," he said.

"Our ambition is clear: to turn this friendship between our two nations into a powerful engine of economic opportunity and shared prosperity."

INVESTMENT, TRADE

Takaichi commended the efforts of Tarique's administration to promote foreign direct investment and stressed the need to improve Bangladesh's investment environment.

She expressed the expectation that Tarique's leadership would help create conditions conducive to Japanese business activities and promote public-private cooperation. Tarique said Bangladesh would work towards that goal transparently.

The two leaders welcomed a memorandum of cooperation between Japan's Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry and Bangladesh's Economic Relations Division on economic relations and improving the business environment. They also welcomed two separate MoCs covering agriculture and fisheries and livestock.

The joint statement said the two countries would promote resilient supply chains and explore further cooperation in digital transformation, the development of skilled ICT professionals, and secure digital connectivity.

Takaichi also said Japan looked forward to further discussions on Bangladesh's request to accede to the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) Agreement.

The two prime ministers welcomed the signing of the Bangladesh-Japan Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) and reaffirmed their commitment to its early entry into force. They said the agreement would help expand trade and investment, promote industrial diversification, and support Bangladesh's smooth and sustainable graduation from least developed country status.

ENERGY SECURITY

Japan will provide a 50-billion-yen loan, equivalent to around $317 million, under the "Emergency Support Loan for Enhancing Economic Resilience and Stable Energy Supply".

The loan is the first yen-loan project under Japan's Partnership on Wide Energy and Resources Resilience Asia (POWERR Asia) initiative.

Recognising volatility in global energy markets and rising energy prices, the two leaders stressed the importance of international cooperation to strengthen oil stockpiles and improve coordination between energy-producing and consuming countries.

Takaichi promised Japan's continued support for Bangladesh's energy infrastructure to help bridge the gap between energy supply and demand.

The two countries also agreed to deepen cooperation on climate change, energy efficiency, and renewable energy.

CONNECTIVITY, SECURITY

Under the upgraded BIG-B framework, the two countries will work to strengthen regional connectivity, improve resilience against natural disasters and geopolitical uncertainties, promote public-private partnerships, and step up cooperation for peace and stability.

They agreed to advance preparatory work for the early operationalisation of the third terminal of the Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport in Dhaka.

They also expressed their aspiration to move forward with the early construction of Dhaka metro rail lines and discuss future cooperation on the operation and management of Matarbari Deep Seaport.

According to the statement, the two leaders reaffirmed their commitment to work towards upholding international order, which is free, open, and based on the rule of law. To this end, Tarique noted the importance of Takaichi's initiative of the "Free and Open Indo-Pacific (FOIP)".

The statement further welcomed a pledge for a yen-loan programme for the second phase of the Upazila Governance and Development Project, aimed at strengthening the administrative and fiscal capacities of local governments.

The two leaders also reaffirmed their commitment to cooperation in education, skills development, public health, disaster management, and sustainable local governance.

Following the bilateral meeting, Tarique visited the onshore liquefied natural gas (LNG) terminal and power plant of JERA, a major Japanese energy company, in Futtsu city in Japan's Chiba Prefecture. He also visited the Nittsu logistics hub.

Besides, Tarique will today call on the governor of the Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC), visit UNIQLO's Ariake office, and meet the president of the Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO).

He is also scheduled to meet representatives of Mitsui & Co, Sumitomo Corp and JERA, and attend the Bangladesh-Japan Economic Forum, where MoUs on education and human resource development are expected to be inked.

On the final day of his tour, the PM will visit a Toyota factory before departing for Dhaka.

Govt distances itself from IGP's comments

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Speaking at a programme on Monday, IGP Fakir said, "Wherever crossfire is necessary, if the government allows it, we will do that."

The Police Headquarters later issued a clarification, saying the IGP had not intended to endorse extrajudicial killings. It said he had used the term "crossfire" in its "literal sense" while stressing firm action against drug traffickers, terrorists, extortionists and other criminals threatening public safety.

BNP acting Secretary General Ruhul Kabir Rizvi said the IGP's remarks were "embarrassing" for the government and expressed concern that such comments were made at a time when the BNP, which had long opposed enforced disappearances and extrajudicial killings, was in power.

Rizvi, who also serves as the prime minister's political adviser, made the comments while inaugurating a free medical camp outside the BNP's central office in Nayapaltan, marking the 48th founding anniversary of Jubo Dal.

Asked why no action had been taken against the IGP, Prime Minister's Adviser on Information and Cultural Affairs Zahed Ur Rahman said Tarique Rahman, who is currently abroad, would decide the matter upon his return from Japan.

The Bangladesh Police Service Association has defended the IGP, saying an unfortunate choice of words can occur in public remarks but should not be construed as support for extrajudicial killings.

"The prime minister is not in the country. He will consider the matter himself. The government's final position on this issue will be determined by the prime minister, perhaps after he completes his visit," Zahed told reporters at the weekly press briefing at the Secretariat.

Meanwhile, the Bangladesh Police Service Association (BPSA) has defended the IGP, saying an unfortunate choice of words can occur in public remarks but should not be construed as support for extrajudicial killings.

In a statement, the BPSA said Bangladesh Police conducts its activities in accordance with the constitution and the law, and that performing duties with firmness, impartiality and professionalism, without exceeding legal limits, is essential for maintaining public confidence.

It added that the IGP's remarks could be seen as a call for the strict and uncompromising enforcement of existing laws, the proper exercise of police authority and a stronger role in combating crime and protecting public safety.

Speaking on the association's defence, BPSA General Secretary Shamima Pervin, superintendent of police, Dhaka, said a poor choice of words can occur while speaking and should not be interpreted as support for extrajudicial killings.

"Our position is that police must act within the law to protect people's lives and property," she said. "Neither our statement nor the association endorses any action outside the law."

Cops map teen gangs; legal action remains tricky

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The official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the SRB had detained 174 suspected gang members since February 12.

However, police acknowledge that identifying and detaining suspected gang members is easier than taking further legal action when no specific offence can be established against them.

Additional IGP Sayedur Rahman and SRB Director General Md Ahsan Habib said the difficulty often lay in proceeding against suspected gang members and alleged patrons without specific criminal allegations.

Sayedur said the police had to act within the law while addressing the problem.

"If we arrest juveniles under the Special Powers Act, it will not be a good practice. We can be strict but cannot be cruel," he said.

He added that investigators would also examine whether politically influential people were patronising juvenile gangs.

According to police officials, adult criminals often use teenagers to commit offences for personal gain, exploiting their vulnerability and the comparatively lenient treatment juveniles may receive under the law.

Teenagers can also be easier to influence and recruit into criminal activities, they said.

OUTDATED LISTS

The planned nationwide initiative also highlights the absence of a comprehensive, up-to-date database of juvenile gangs. Different police units maintain their own lists, many of which are outdated and may not reflect the situation on the ground.

Existing PHQ data list 307 teen gangs nationwide, including 93 under Chattogram Metropolitan Police, 78 under Dhaka Range and 54 under Chattogram Range.

The DMP list contains 41 gangs, while Khulna Metropolitan Police has 13, Rajshahi Metropolitan Police 12, Sylhet Metropolitan Police five, Barishal Metropolitan Police three and Khulna Range four.

No gangs are listed under Gazipur Metropolitan Police, Rangpur Metropolitan Police, Rajshahi Range or Barishal Range.

PHQ data further show that 270 members of 48 gangs faced 69 criminal cases during the first nine months of this year. Of those cases, 21, or 30.4 percent, were linked to gang clashes.

The 48 gangs had 577 listed members, according to the data.

CUMILLA DRIVES

The nationwide plan comes amid intensified police action in Cumilla following the September 18 killing of Ishayat Shahriar Oprotim, a Class VII student and son of Nahida Begum, an associate professor of Bangla at Comilla University.

Police launched coordinated anti-gang drives on September 23, involving all 18 police stations in the district and the Detective Branch.

The alleged involvement of teen gang members in the killing fuelled demands for stronger action against juvenile crime.

By October 15, police had detained 2,811 suspected teen gang members in Cumilla alone. Many were subsequently released on bonds furnished by their families.

The scale of the detentions raises questions about how police distinguish between those suspected of specific crimes and teenagers identified through gang mapping.

Separately, a young man was stabbed in the abdomen and his father was shot in the leg when six masked assailants attacked them in Mohammadpur on October 15. Police suspect the attack stemmed from a longstanding rivalry between two criminal gangs, identified as the Patali and Sazzad groups.

Police and local residents described the groups as juvenile gangs allegedly involved in drug dealing, snatching, and extortion, with older youths directing their activities. Their operations reportedly extend across several parts of Mohammadpur, where gang-related crime remains a persistent concern.

ARRESTS ALONE WON'T DO

Md Omar Faruk, a professor of criminology and police science at Mawlana Bhashani Science and Technology University, said arresting or detaining juveniles alone would not solve the problem.

He said teen gangs often operate under the patronage of politically backed individuals who use them to commit crimes. Law enforcers should target these patrons, he added.

"Bringing their political patrons to justice would significantly reduce teen gang culture and related crimes," he said.

Many gang members, he said, are rootless, beyond parental control and addicted to drugs. Those already involved in gangs need close monitoring, care, and counselling.

"Every part of society must be involved in tackling this problem. The police alone cannot do it," he said.

Another round of LPG price hike likely

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when consumers are paying more than the commission-fixed price for more than a month now, according to market participants and consumers interviewed by The Daily Star.

When the BERC rate was Tk 1,585, consumers paid Tk 2,500 for the 12kg cylinder amid a supply crunch. Then on October 4, the BERC raised the price to Tk 1,837, but the retail prices remained above Tk 2,200.

Subsequently, more than one crore LPG users continue to pay between Tk 2,200 and Tk 2,400 for a cylinder, The Daily Star learnt from discussions with at least 10 consumers, six retailers, two distributors and two importers.

Under the announced pricing structure, distributors are supposed to receive a 12kg cylinder from importers and bottlers at Tk 1,752. With a distribution charge of Tk 50 per cylinder, distributors are supposed to sell it to retailers at Tk 1,802.

The prescribed retail charge is Tk 45 per 12kg cylinder, which brings the final price to Tk 1,847.

In contrast, The Daily Star found that distributors are paying more than Tk 1,850 per cylinder and charging retailers substantially more than the prescribed distribution charge, resulting in retailers paying at least Tk 2,100 per cylinder.

Against the fixed retail charge of Tk 45 per cylinder, retailers are charging an additional Tk 200-300, pushing the price further above the official rate.

Amid this backdrop, four distributors from Dhaka, Cumilla, Chattogram and Gazipur on October 13 applied to the BERC for an increase in distribution and retail charges as fuel costs, licence fees and other expenses increased.

All four sought an increase in the distribution charge from Tk 50 to Tk 150 per cylinder and the retail charge from Tk 45 to Tk 70.

The applications, which had similar wording, said that importers and bottling companies were adjusting their prices more than once a month bypassing the rates fixed by BERC.

The distribution charge fixed by the BERC is insufficient to cover operating costs, said an LPG distributor in the Tejgaon area.

Companies did not deliver cylinders to distributors' warehouses as per the BERC rules, forcing distributors to arrange their own transport.

"Some companies supply LPG cylinders at Tk 1,742 each, but we have to spend another Tk 40-50 per cylinder to bring them to our warehouses. We often have to wait two to three days to collect the cylinders."

Loading, unloading, labour, transport and other operating expenses further increased costs, leaving distributors unable to operate profitably within the prescribed charges, he said.

According to the distributor, companies including Omera, BM, Total and Aygaz are supplying cylinders at the fixed rate, while the others are charging between Tk 2,000 and Tk 2,080.

The wider market is influenced by the rates charged by some major suppliers, he said, while acknowledging that distributors were charging high prices.

Distributors have stopped providing receipts for months, said a retailer in the Moghbazar area.

"If we ask for a receipt, they tell us they will stop our supply. We have to collect a cylinder from them at Tk 2,100 or Tk 2,200. How can we sell it at the official rate?" he said.

LPG importers have also sought an increase in storage and bottling charges to Tk 25 per kilogram from Tk 16.74, citing higher financing costs for working capital and project loans, as well as expenses related to compliance with safety standards.

In its proposal, the LPG Operators Association of Bangladesh said that operators, distributors and retailers respected the BERC-announced prices but cannot always comply because the rates are not adjusted quickly enough to reflect changing market conditions.

Several LPG companies have created an artificial shortage by stockpiling cylinders, said M Shamsul Alam, energy adviser to the Consumers Association of Bangladesh.

"Consumers are being held hostage in a market dominated by profiteering, while BERC remains inactive. Now another public hearing is being held to increase prices."

He called for a judicial investigation to identify and punish those involved in stockpiling. The licences of companies found responsible should be cancelled, he said.

The private sector accounts for around 99 percent of the country's LPG market.

Good start, but delivery will make the difference

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Bangladesh, wedged between India and South East Asia on top of the Bay of Bengal, is key to Sanae Takaichi's vision of a peaceful and prosperous Indo-Pacific.

The statement reads, "Prime Minister Rahman noted the importance of Prime Minister Takaichi's initiative of the 'Free and Open Indo-Pacific (FOIP)' in ensuring peace, stability and prosperity for all."

Other than a commitment of about 50 billion yen, worth almost $317 million for fuel purchase, the joint statement projects a private investment of about $6.33 billion over five years, creating two lakh jobs. While there is naturally no guarantee, Kataoka says with conviction that "it is very realistic". There is also mention of a Japanese business delegation visiting Bangladesh soon, perhaps to further explore possibilities. A loan for a project to improve the investment environment as mentioned in the statement, without any specific figures also appears to be a rational decision.

The two prime ministers agreed on reform of the UN Security Council, including expansion of both permanent and non-permanent categories of membership. But there was nothing significant or forthcoming from Japan as regards the Rohingyas are concerned as joint statement expressed concern over the worsening crisis in Myanmar. The statement called for immediate cessation of violence, release of those detained, conducive environment for humanitarian assistance; "and dialogue between all parties and affected groups, including the Rohingyas".

Although there had been reports of both countries working on the language to signify an elevation of relations from "strategic partnership" to "comprehensive strategic partnership", it did not materialise. There was also an expectation, based on reports, that this visit would result in loans and financial support worth around $2 billion dollars. That does not seem to have materialised either. However, a full assessment of the complete package of assistance can only be done once the details of the deals signed during the visit become clearer.

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ইসলামী ব্যাংকিং সেবা প্রদানে 'ইসলামী ব্যাংকিং কর্ণার' পূবালী ব্যাংকের প্রায় সকল শাখা এবং উপশাখায়



Vehicles remain stuck in a traffic jam in the capital's Farmgate area yesterday, as a gathering of Jatiyatabadi Jubo Dal leaders and activists at Zia Udyan to mark the BNP youth wing's 48th founding anniversary disrupts traffic on several major roads. PHOTO: **PRABIR DAS**

Urban slum children face rising climate risks: speakers

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Children in urban slums face growing health risks from climate change, including heatwaves, waterlogging, and mosquito-borne diseases, compounded by poor housing, unsafe water, and inadequate sanitation, speakers said at a seminar yesterday.

The seminar, titled "Urban Child Health at Risk from Climate Change: Challenges and Solutions", was organised by Children Watch Foundation at The Daily Star Centre in the capital.

Poor housing, unsafe drinking water, and inadequate sanitation further increase children's vulnerability.

SHAH ISRAT AZMERY
Chairman of Children Watch Foundation

Delivering the keynote, Shah Israt Azmery, chairman of Children Watch Foundation, highlighted findings from a 2025 survey conducted in selected slums in Dhaka, Rajshahi and Satkhira.

The survey found that 54.5 percent of households considered children the family members most affected by climate-related risks.

Heatwaves were identified as a major stressor by 51.87 percent of respondents, while 30.48 percent reported waterlogging. Dengue and chikungunya were the leading health concerns, cited by 69 percent.

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Proposed cyber law focuses on gagging online voices

Speakers warn of restrictions on free expression

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Prominent citizens, lawyers, and politicians yesterday criticised the proposed Cyber Protection (Amendment) Act, terming it a "government protection law" designed to gag citizens.

Rather than curbing cybercrimes such as hacking and cyberterrorism, the amendment aims to restrict free expression online and make it easier to arrest government critics, they said at a citizens' dialogue at BDBL Bhaban in Karwan Bazar yesterday.

The event, titled "Cyber Protection, or Gagging? In Whose Interest Are New Limits on Free Expression and Law Amendments Being Set?", was jointly organised by Voice for Reform, Nagorik Coalition, Human Rights Support Society (HRSS), ZRF, DSA Victims Network and Bangladesh America Alliance.

Presenting data related to the act, rights activist Nabila Idris said 63 percent of those arrested over Facebook

63 % of those arrested over Facebook posts since the election had been detained for making "so-called derogatory remarks" or harshly criticising the PM, ministers, or their associates.

NABILA IDRIS, Rights activist



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JULY KILLING

Judgment in case against Hanif tomorrow

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The International Crimes Tribunal-2 will deliver its verdict tomorrow in a crimes against humanity case against Awami League Joint General Secretary Mahbubul Alam Hanif and three other party leaders over the killing of six people in Kushtia during the 2024 July uprising.

The three-member tribunal, headed by Justice Nozrul Islam Chowdhury, announced the date yesterday.

The other accused are Kushtia district AL president Sadruddin Khan, general secretary Azgar Ali, and Kushtia city AL general secretary Ataur Rahman Ata.

All four accused are absconding.

Earlier on October 5, the prosecution concluded its arguments and sought the maximum punishment for all four accused, while defence argued that their clients are innocent.

ICT-2 framed three charges against them on November 2, 2025.

IN BRIEF

174 Bangladeshis return from Libya

41 ill, 36 previously detained

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Forty-one of the 174 Bangladeshis repatriated from Libya early yesterday were physically ill, while 36 had been held at a detention centre in Tripoli after being intercepted at sea, said Bangladesh embassy in Libya.

The returnees arrived in Dhaka at 5:40am via Buraq Air flight UZ-222, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs said in a statement.

Of the 174 returnees, 36 had been detained at the Tajoura detention centre in Tripoli after being intercepted at sea. The remaining 138 returned home voluntarily amid dangerous conditions in the Libyan capital, according to the embassy.

Most of the returnees had reportedly entered Libya with the help of human traffickers, intending to reach Europe across the Mediterranean Sea, the foreign ministry said. Some alleged that they had been abducted and tortured during their stay in Libya.

HSC results deferred to Oct 31

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The results of this year's HSC and equivalent examinations will be published on October 31, two days later than previously announced. The results were initially scheduled for October 29.

The Bangladesh Inter-Education Board Coordination Committee announced the revised date in a notice issued yesterday.





Ports asked to hoist cautionary signal No 3

UNB, *Chattogram*

The maritime ports of Chattogram, Cox's Bazar, Mongla and Payra have been advised to keep local cautionary signal No 3 hoisted as the very severe cyclonic storm "Arnab" moved west-northwestward over Westcentral Bay and adjoining areas.

It was over the same area at 6:00am yesterday, about 1,040km southwest of Chattogram, 995km southwest of Cox's Bazar, 895km southwest of Mongla and 905km southwest of Payra.

It is likely to move west-northwestwards further and cross Andhra Pradesh coasts by noon today.

Truck driver stabbed to death

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, *Ctg*

A truck driver was stabbed to death, allegedly by another driver, inside a cement factory in Chattogram city's Patenga area on Monday night.

The deceased, Ezhar Mia Shuvo, 35, was a driver at NGS Cement Factory in Patenga.

Security personnel caught the alleged killer, Shahedul Islam Rony, 36, and handed him over to the police later, said police.

"Shuvo and Rony were colleagues. They had an altercation around 11:00pm inside the cement factory. At a point, Rony stabbed Shuvo multiple times, leaving him critically injured," said Parvez Ali, officer-in-charge of Patenga Police Station.

"He was rushed to Chattogram Medical College Hospital (CMCH), where he succumbed to his injuries at around 12:30am," the OC said.

Man gets life term for murder

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, *Ctg*

A court in Chattogram yesterday sentenced an expatriate, Md Jahangir Alam, to life-term imprisonment on the charge of killing a boy in Sandwip upazila.

The court of Chattogram District and Sessions Judge Kazi Abdul Hannan handed down the verdict after the court found the accused guilty beyond a doubt, examining all the records and witnesses. District and Sessions Judge Court's Administrative Officer Gias Uddin Chowdhury confirmed the matter.

After the verdict, the court sent him to jail.

According to the case statement, five-year-old Ali Hossen had died on the way to the CMCH after Jahangir, a neighbour of the deceased, slammed him to the ground over a family dispute. Following the incident, locals had caught Jahangir and handed him over to the police.

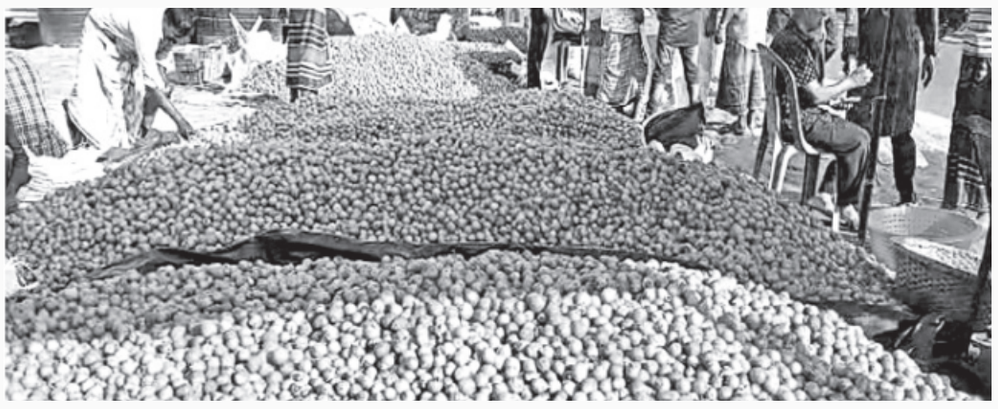


PHOTO: **STAR**

Lakshmipur is one of the leading betel nut-producing regions in Bangladesh. Bumper yield this season has turned wholesale markets across the district vibrant with activities.

Lakshmipur betel nut sales likely to hit Tk 700 crore

ANWARUL HAIDAR, *Noakhali*

Favourable weather and suitable soil have helped produce a bumper betel nut crop in Lakshmipur this season, with sales expected to reach around Tk 700 crore.

One of the country's leading betel nut-producing districts, Lakshmipur has seen bustling activity at more than 50 wholesale markets across its five upazilas as harvesting and marketing gather pace.

According to the Department of Agricultural Extension (DAE), around 42,000 tonnes of betel nuts were produced on 7,250 hectares of land in Ramganj, Raipur, Lakshmipur Sadar, Kamalnagar and Ramgati this season.

Last year, the district produced 42,270 tonnes on 7,245 hectares. Despite a slight decline in output, farmers are satisfied with prevailing prices and strong demand.

Raipur accounts for the largest share of production, followed by Lakshmipur Sadar, agriculture officials said.

Harvesting peaks during the Bengali months of Kartik and Agrahayan, bringing major markets in Raipur, Ramganj and Lakshmipur town to life. Uttar Tehmani Bazar in Lakshmipur town holds its betel nut market twice a week, attracting wholesalers from different areas.

Growers and traders said betel nuts are sold in three forms: ripe, water-cured and dried. Ripe betel nuts currently sell for Tk 160-170 per pon (80 pieces), while a kaon (1,280 pieces) costs Tk 2,400-2,700. Dried nuts with husks are sold by the maund, equivalent to 63kg.

Around 60 percent of the district's betel nuts are water-cured, while the rest are sold ripe or sun-dried. Demand and prices for water-cured nuts typically rise sharply between January and March.

Several thousand workers and more than 200 major traders are involved in harvesting, sorting, transporting, soaking and drying the nuts.

Zakir Hossain, a worker from Keroa in Raipur, said he earns Tk 2,500-3,000 a day by climbing 250-300 trees to harvest the nuts.

Mokhlesur Rahman, a trader in Raipur, said he deals in betel nuts worth Tk 20-25 crore annually.

Growers and officials said the district's soil and climate favour cultivation. A mature tree can remain productive for around 30 years under suitable conditions, providing farmers with a long-term source of income.

Known for their quality and distinctive taste, Lakshmipur's betel nuts enjoy strong demand at home and abroad.

DAE Deputy Director Zahir Ahmed said the bumper harvest had boosted the rural economy, benefiting growers, traders and labourers.

"More than half of the betel nuts produced in Lakshmipur come from Raipur upazila, followed by Lakshmipur Sadar. According to our calculations, this season's yield is worth approximately Tk 700 crore," he added.

TUPTUP RESORT FIRE

Skeletal remains of 'missing teacher' found after 10 days

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, *Cox's Bazar*

Another set of burnt skeletal remains was recovered from the debris of TupTup Resort in Ukhiya, Cox's Bazar yesterday, 10 days after a fire broke out there.

The remains are believed to be those of missing schoolteacher Nasrin Akter Mukta, 27, but DNA testing is needed to confirm the identity, officials said.

Fire service personnel recovered the remains around 2:30pm from a spot identified by Mukta's relatives, said Ukhiya Upazila Nirbahi Officer Panna Akter. Her husband, Faisal Dewan, said he recognised a gold chain and locket found around the remains.

Ten bodies were recovered after the October 17 fire. The Criminal Investigation Department confirmed the identities of all 10 victims through DNA tests on Monday. Mukta, a teacher at Swapnabilash Niribili School in Ashulia, had remained unaccounted for.

Police filed a case against 23 people over alleged negligence. Resort owner Mohammad Tanvir Sultan Mia remains absconding, while assistant manager Mohammad Zahid Hossain has been arrested.

TENDER NOTICE

1. **Name of Institution:** Bangladesh Infantry Regimental Centre, Rajshahi Cantonment, Rajshahi.
2. **Job Description:** For the Training Year 2026-2027 Bangladesh Infantry Regimental Centre will spend from Annual Training Grant (Technical) expenditure.

3.	Date of Tender Schedule selling	:	Up to 14 days from the date of publication of the notice (Total 14 days)
4.	Last date of Tender schedule selling	:	Up to 12 hours on the 14th day of publication of the notice (Total 14 days)
5.	Last date and time for submission of tender schedule	:	Within 1200 hours on the 14th day of publication of the notice.
6.	Date of Tender opening	:	The deadline for submitted Tenders is 12:30 PM.

আইএসপিআর/সেনা/৮৮৮

COMMANDANT
BIRC
Rajshahi Cantonment

GD-2595



PHOTO: **COURTESY**

Participants at the Breast Cancer Awareness Session for the female employees of Bank Asia PLC. The bank organised the programme at Bank Asia Tower in the capital's Karwan Bazar on Monday, marking Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

Bank Asia holds breast cancer awareness session

CITY DESK

Bank Asia PLC organised a Breast Cancer Awareness Session for its female employees on Monday, marking Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

The session, held at Bank Asia Tower in Dhaka's Karwan Bazar, was conducted by Dr Shifat Tanjila of Asgar Ali Hospital.

Dr Shifat shared insights on breast cancer awareness, importance of early detection, preventive measures and the need for timely medical consultation.

Bank Asia AMD and COO Md Sabbir Hossain was present among others.

The initiative reflects the organisation's commitment to promoting employee well-being, raising health awareness and fostering a supportive and inclusive workplace as integral parts of its organisational culture.

Expelled leader of Swechchhasebak Dal, 12 others sent to jail

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, *Ctg*

Wakil Hossain Boga, also known as Bihari Boga, an alleged criminal and expelled leader of Chattogram city's Swechchhasebak Dal, and 12 of his followers were sent to jail yesterday after surrendering before a court in two cases filed with Khulshi Police Station.

AGM Monirul Hasan Sarkar, chief metropolitan magistrate, rejected their bail petitions, said Assistant Public Prosecutor Raihanul Wazed Chowdhury.

Boga and his followers surrendered seeking bail in the cases, which involve allegations of attacking police, vandalism and obstructing police from performing their duties, among other charges, he said.

Boga was brought to court under tight security.

He had earlier surrendered before another court on October 18 and was sent to jail.

Boga was expelled from the party on June 8, 2025, following a shooting incident over the occupation of government land. He faces more than 23 cases involving allegations of extortion, drug-related offences, assault, attacks on police, vandalism and explosives-related offences.

GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH
Improvement of Urban Public Health Preventive Services Project (IUPHPSP)
DPHE Bhaban (level 8)
14 Shaheed Captain Mansur Ali Sarani, Kakrail, Dhaka- 1000.

Memo. No. 46.00.0000.303.003.07.024.25-598 Date: 26.10.2026

Corrigendum

Tender ID	Package No. & Name	Original Nos. and Time	Revised Nos. and Time
1329128	IUPHPSP-GD-33 "Plantation in the open places with making walkway in CCC & Tarabo Pourashava and Plantation on both the banks of canals of CCC & Savar Pourashava"		
	Total Quantities under Price schedule **Time Changes as mentioned bellow:**	4,500 trees	4,50,000 trees
	Document last selling date & time	28/10/2026 09:48	03/11/2026 09:48
	Opening Date & Time	28/10/2026 15:30	03/11/2026 15:30
	Last date & time for Tender/Proposal Security Submission	28/10/2026 10:48	03/11/2026 10:48
	Closing Date & Time	28/10/2026 15:30	03/11/2026 15:30

This is an online Tender. Tender(s) through e-GP portal will be accepted. Interested/prospective tenderer(s) may visit www.eprocure.gov.bd for detailed information.

S/d
(Md. Robiul Islam)
Joint Secretary, LGD and
Project Director, IUPHPSP.

GD-2598

ঢাকা বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়

বিজ্ঞপ্তি

ঢাকা বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় সিনেটে ২৫জন রেজিস্টার্ড গ্র্যাজুয়েট প্রতিনিধি নির্বাচনের জন্য রেজিস্টার্ড গ্র্যাজুয়েট হিসেবে তালিকাভুক্তির মেয়াদ বর্ধিতকরণ প্রসঙ্গে

এতদ্বারা সংশ্লিষ্ট সকলের অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, ঢাকা বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় আদেশ, ১৯৭৩ এর আর্টিক্যাল ১২(৩) এবং ১২(৮) অনুযায়ী ঢাকা বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় রেজিস্টার্ড গ্র্যাজুয়েট হিসেবে তালিকাভুক্তির মেয়াদ আগামী ৩০ নভেম্বর, ২০২৬ তারিখ বিকাল ৩টা পর্যন্ত বর্ধিত করা হয়েছে।

এতদসংক্রান্ত বিষয়ে ইতোপূর্বে প্রচারিত বিজ্ঞপ্তির অন্যান্য সকল শর্ত অপরিবর্তিত থাকবে।

প্রশাসনিক ভবন
ঢাকা বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়
ঢাকা-১০০০।

২৭/১০/২০২৬
মুনসী শামস উদ্দিন আহম্মদ
রেজিস্ট্রার (ভারপ্রাপ্ত)
ঢাকা বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়

তারিখ: ২৮ অক্টোবর, ২০২৬

GD-2596

BANGLADESH UNIVERSITY OF ENGINEERING & TECHNOLOGY
DHAKA-1000
Office of the Chief Engineer

e-Tender Notice

CE/Tender Notice-No-08/26-27(028-033)/E-306 Date:-27/10/2026

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

Tender/Re-Tender ID	Tender Name	Tender Document Last selling/downloading date and Time	Closing & Opening Date & Time
1348835	Supply and Installation of CPVC Pipes for Water Supply at ECE Building Toilet Block, BUET.	11-Nov-2026 16:00	12-Nov-2026 15:00
1348856	Provision of Fire Exit in the Basement East Side ECE Building, BUET.	11-Nov-2026 16:00	12-Nov-2026 15:00
1351932	Re-Placement of Existing Damaged R.C.C Pipe Soil Line by uPVC Pipe at Dhakeswari R/A.	11-Nov-2026 16:00	12-Nov-2026 15:00
1353452	Supplying and Fitting PVC Water Tank at Shahid Smrity Hall Teacher Block Roof.	11-Nov-2026 16:00	12-Nov-2026 15:00
1351932	Re-Placement of Existing Damaged R.C.C Pipe Soil Line by uPVC Pipe at Dhakeswari R/A.	11-Nov-2026 16:00	12-Nov-2026 15:00
1354494 Re-Tender	Replacing of Damaged GI Water Line of Building No. 47 With CPVC Line at Dhakeswari R/A.	11-Nov-2026 16:00	12-Nov-2026 15:00

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 (http://www.eprocure.gov.bd) is required.
The fees for downloading the e-Tender Documents from the National e-GP portal have to be deposited online through any 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).

(Dr. A.K.M. Jahangir Alam, PEng)
Chief Engineer

GD-2591

French edn measures to quell protests fall short

Says teachers' union as nation braces for Saturday protest

REUTERS, *Paris*

French teachers said yesterday that education reforms aimed at ending weeks of protests were insufficient and would not be enough to quell students' anger.

The French government on Monday announced a raft of proposals, including capping some class sizes at 28, billions of euros in loans for building renovation and a revamp of the university admissions system, to try to ease popular anger.

But Sophie Venetitay, the secretary general for teachers' union SNES-FSU, told reporters that the measures did not go far enough, saying the size of more classes should be capped and more people should be hired to improve



learning conditions for students.

"Today, what the ministry has said is only the beginning of a response," she said. "It will not be enough to extinguish the anger."

High school students initially blockaded their schools to protest against inadequate staffing and resources, in a movement that has since broadened to encompass general trade unions and the so-called "Yellow Vests" to express anger about weakening public services and cost-of-living increases.

Student leaders also said the government's concessions were a good first step, but vowed to continue demonstrations, on Saturday and on November 5.



Palestinians run for cover from a crowd-control grenade fired by Israeli troops during a protest against the displacement of Palestinian residents from a neighbourhood amid ongoing Israeli military operations in Hebron, in the Israeli-occupied West Bank, yesterday. PHOTO: **REUTERS**

US-brokered truce starts in Ukrainian town facing starvation

Truce excludes other areas; Russian missile strikes on Kyiv kill one person

REUTERS

A ceasefire began around the Ukrainian town of Oleshky yesterday after more than four years of Russian occupation which have left trapped and starving residents desperate for food, water and medicine.

The local ceasefire, brokered by US first lady Melania Trump with the involvement of Pope Leo, is intended to allow aid into Oleshky and enable those who want to leave to do so. Some residents say they have survived on a cup of rice or buckwheat a day, sometimes with a tomato, cucumber or wild weed added.

Russia and Ukraine both said they were abiding by the local ceasefire around the frontline city, which went into force at 3:00 am Ukrainian time as part of stuttering US efforts to end Russia's war in Ukraine and is due to last until November 1.

The ceasefire does not apply elsewhere, and Russian forces again pounded the Ukrainian capital Kyiv with ballistic missiles overnight,



killing at least one person, local officials said.

Oleshky lies on the eastern bank of the Dnipro River in Ukraine's southern Kherson region, opposite Kherson city, which is held by Ukrainian forces. Russian troops seized Oleshky during the first days of their full-scale invasion of Ukraine in February 2022 and have controlled it ever since.

Kyiv residents said they hoped the Oleshky ceasefire would finally bring some relief to locals, but optimism was tinged with concerns that Russia would not abide by the terms of the agreement.

"I want to hope that things will indeed work out this way, that the agreement will actually be implemented, and that the Russian side will keep its word," Olha Haiduk, 59, told Reuters.

The head of President Volodymyr Zelensky's ruling faction in parliament, David Arakhamia, called it the "biggest de-escalation since 2022."

Oleshky has suffered extensive war damage and was hit hard by flooding after the destruction of the nearby Kakhovka dam in 2023.

The US has said only a few thousand people remain in the town from a prewar population of 24,000. Residents and officials have reported severe shortages of food, medicine and other basic supplies, and Oleshky has been largely cut off from running water, electricity, gas and central heating. Residents have offered harrowing accounts of risking their lives travelling along mine-strewn roads just to access food and water.

India orders evacuations as Arnab looms

AFP, *Kakinada*

Indian authorities ordered nearly 100,000 people to evacuate homes in Andhra Pradesh and Odisha, ahead of a severe cyclone the national weather office expects to make landfall today.

Neighbouring Nepal and Sri Lanka have also issued weather warnings.

Cyclone Arnab is forecast to hit India's southwestern Andhra Pradesh coast as a "very severe cyclonic storm", with gusts of up to 150 kilometres (93 miles) per hour on Wednesday morning at 6:00am GMT (11:30am Indian Standard Time), the India Meteorological Department (IMD) said in a bulletin.

Torrential rain lashed the coast in the port city of Kakinda as heavy waves crashed on shore.

"I've never seen anything like this before," Kotesh Kumar, 35, told AFP, adding the government warned people to stock up on groceries.

"There was a cyclone here three years ago, but the water didn't rise this much."

Cyclones, called hurricanes in the North Atlantic and typhoons in the Pacific, are a regular menace in the Bay of Bengal and northern Indian Ocean.

The storm season, however, has been turbocharged by the El Nino weather phenomenon that has caused unprecedented warming.

Neighbouring Sri Lanka, meanwhile, closed schools with warnings of torrential rain, with the island's Department of Meteorology warning storms could trigger flash floods and mudslides.



A scooterist rides along the Bay of Bengal coast during rainfall in Andhra Pradesh's Kakinada yesterday ahead of cyclone Arnab's expected landfall. PHOTO: **AFP**

The military has been placed on alert, Colombo's Disaster Management Centre said.

Indian media reported that as many as 50,000 people have been told to move to safe areas in Andhra Pradesh, and 48,000 in Odisha.

Nepal's disaster authority issued a warning yesterday, saying that as the storm travels inland towards the Himalayas -- likely overnight Thursday -- it will bring heavy rainfall as well as "a high risk of heavy snowfall, snowstorms and avalanches".

It called on tourists to avoid travelling to high mountain areas and advised those already there to remain in safe locations.

Nepal is still recovering from a catastrophic August 26 flood sparked by a glacial mountain collapse, which swept away more than 1,400 people and left over 5,000 missing.



Flames and thick smoke rise from a fire at Guryong Village in Seoul, South Korea, yesterday. The fire affected 77 households and 107 people, with no injuries or deaths reported. PHOTO: **REUTERS**

IN BRIEF

Trump offers $1m reward for info about voter fraud

AFP, *Washington*

US President Donald Trump on Monday announced a $1 million reward for information about voter fraud, in a fresh bid to sow doubt ahead of the US midterms and push his false claim about winning the 2020 election.

"Anybody reporting Voter Fraud in the past Elections, or the upcoming 2026 Midterm Election, will be paid $1,000,000 upon the arrest and conviction of those that created the Fraud!" Trump wrote on his Truth Social network.

The president gave no details of how the reward would be funded.

With the November 3 elections just eight days away, polls show Democrats pulling ahead as Republicans fight to retain control of both chambers of Congress. A Democratic victory would threaten to expose his administration to congressional investigations.

Indian media groups decry Modi's privacy law in court

REUTERS, *New Delhi*

The Indian government's privacy law, which would require journalists to seek consent from people they write about, amounted to pre-censorship and could lead to newsrooms shutting down, media groups told the Supreme Court yesterday, starting the most high-profile challenge against the legislation.

The lawsuit comes amid accusations of declining press freedom in India since Prime Minister Narendra Modi took office in 2014.

Critics say many mainstream media outlets have not done enough to scrutinise Modi's government, which has denied such allegations and says it respects press freedom.

A group of 21 news publishers, including companies owned by billionaires Mukesh Ambani and Gautam Adani, has challenged the privacy law, arguing it would trample upon investigative work and allow New Delhi to identify journalists' sources.

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার
কর কমিশনারের কার্যালয়, কর অঞ্চল-গাজীপুর
জি-১৫৯ (৩য় তলা), রাজদীঘির পশ্চিম পাড়, গাজীপুর
www.taxeszonegazipur.gov.bd

নথি নংঃ ০৮.০১.৩৩০০.৫৪৯.০০১.১১.০০৪৭.২৬/ ২৫৩

তারিখঃ ১১ কার্তিক ১৪৩৩ বঙ্গাব্দ
২৭ অক্টোবর ২০২৬ খ্রিস্টাব্দ

নিয়োগ বিজ্ঞপ্তি

অর্থ মন্ত্রণালয়, অভ্যন্তরীণ সম্পদ বিভাগ, কর-১ শাখা এর স্মারক নম্বরঃ ০৮.০০.০০০০.০০০.০৩৭.১১.০০০১.২৪.৩৮৫; তারিখঃ ০৭/১০/২০২৬ খ্রি. অনুযায়ী প্রাপ্ত ছাড়পত্রের ভিত্তিতে কর কমিশনারের কার্যালয়, কর অঞ্চল-গাজীপুর এর অধীনে গ্রেড-১৩ হতে গ্রেড-২০ পর্যন্ত বিভিন্ন শূন্য পদে মোট ৩৪ (চৌত্রিশ) জন জনবল অস্থায়ী ভিত্তিতে সরাসরি নিয়োগের লক্ষ্যে গাজীপুর এবং টাঙ্গাইল জেলার প্রকৃত স্থায়ী বাসিন্দাদের নিকট হতে অনলাইনে https://tzg.teletalk.com.bd ওয়েবসাইটে আবেদনপত্র আহ্বান করা যাচ্ছে।

ক্রমিক	পদের নাম ও গ্রেড	পদের সংখ্যা
১.	প্রধান সহকারী (গ্রেড-১৩)	০৮ (আট) টি
২.	উচ্চমান সহকারী (গ্রেড-১৪)	০২ (দুই) টি
৩.	সাঁটমুদ্রাক্ষরিক কাম-কম্পিউটার অপারেটর (গ্রেড-১৪)	১২ (বারো) টি
৪.	অফিস সহকারী কাম-কম্পিউটার মুদ্রাক্ষরিক (গ্রেড-১৬)	০৩ (তিন) টি
৫.	গাড়ি চালক (গ্রেড-১৬)	০১ (এক) টি
৬.	অফিস সহায়ক (গ্রেড-২০)	০৮ (আট) টি

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নিয়োগ সংক্রান্ত পূর্ণাঙ্গ বিজ্ঞপ্তিটি দেখার জন্য কর কমিশনারের কার্যালয়, কর অঞ্চল-গাজীপুর এর ওয়েবসাইট https://taxeszonegazipur.gov.bd ভিজিট করুন অথবা নিম্নোক্ত কিউআর কোড স্ক্যান করুন। অনলাইন (Online) ব্যতীত কোনো আবেদনপত্র গ্রহণ করা হবে না।

কর অঞ্চল-গাজীপুর এর ওয়েবসাইটে প্রবেশ এর QR code

কর অঞ্চল- গাজীপুর এর টেলিটক পোর্টালে প্রবেশ এর QR code

29.10.2026
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ই-মেইলঃ ctgazipur@gmail.com

GD-2590

French edn measures to quell protests fall short

Says teachers' union as nation braces for Saturday protest

REUTERS, *Paris*

French teachers said yesterday that education reforms aimed at ending weeks of protests were insufficient and would not be enough to quell students' anger.

The French government on Monday announced a raft of proposals, including capping some class sizes at 28, billions of euros in loans for building renovation and a revamp of the university admissions system, to try to ease popular anger.

But Sophie Venetitay, the secretary general for teachers' union SNES-FSU, told reporters that the measures did not go far enough, saying the size of more classes should be capped and more people should be hired to improve



learning conditions for students.

"Today, what the ministry has said is only the beginning of a response," she said. "It will not be enough to extinguish the anger."

High school students initially blockaded their schools to protest against inadequate staffing and resources, in a movement that has since broadened to encompass general trade unions and the so-called "Yellow Vests" to express anger about weakening public services and cost-of-living increases.

Student leaders also said the government's concessions were a good first step, but vowed to continue demonstrations, on Saturday and on November 5.



Palestinians run for cover from a crowd-control grenade fired by Israeli troops during a protest against the displacement of Palestinian residents from a neighbourhood amid ongoing Israeli military operations in Hebron, in the Israeli-occupied West Bank, yesterday. PHOTO: **REUTERS**

US-brokered truce starts in Ukrainian town facing starvation

Truce excludes other areas; Russian missile strikes on Kyiv kill one person

REUTERS

A ceasefire began around the Ukrainian town of Oleshky yesterday after more than four years of Russian occupation which have left trapped and starving residents desperate for food, water and medicine.

The local ceasefire, brokered by US first lady Melania Trump with the involvement of Pope Leo, is intended to allow aid into Oleshky and enable those who want to leave to do so. Some residents say they have survived on a cup of rice or buckwheat a day, sometimes with a tomato, cucumber or wild weed added.

Russia and Ukraine both said they were abiding by the local ceasefire around the frontline city, which went into force at 3:00 am Ukrainian time as part of stuttering US efforts to end Russia's war in Ukraine and is due to last until November 1.

The ceasefire does not apply elsewhere, and Russian forces again pounded the Ukrainian capital Kyiv with ballistic missiles overnight,



killing at least one person, local officials said.

Oleshky lies on the eastern bank of the Dnipro River in Ukraine's southern Kherson region, opposite Kherson city, which is held by Ukrainian forces. Russian troops seized Oleshky during the first days of their full-scale invasion of Ukraine in February 2022 and have controlled it ever since.

Kyiv residents said they hoped the Oleshky ceasefire would finally bring some relief to locals, but optimism was tinged with concerns that Russia would not abide by the terms of the agreement.

"I want to hope that things will indeed work out this way, that the agreement will actually be implemented, and that the Russian side will keep its word," Olha Haiduk, 59, told Reuters.

The head of President Volodymyr Zelensky's ruling faction in parliament, David Arakhamia, called it the "biggest de-escalation since 2022."

Oleshky has suffered extensive war damage and was hit hard by flooding after the destruction of the nearby Kakhovka dam in 2023.

The US has said only a few thousand people remain in the town from a prewar population of 24,000. Residents and officials have reported severe shortages of food, medicine and other basic supplies, and Oleshky has been largely cut off from running water, electricity, gas and central heating. Residents have offered harrowing accounts of risking their lives travelling along mine-strewn roads just to access food and water.

ISRAELI PARLIAMENTARY POLLS

High turnout as Netanyahu faces tough test

REUTERS, *Jerusalem*

Israelis surged to the polls at the fastest rate in nearly half a century yesterday to pass wartime judgment on Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, in what voters described as the most consequential election in the nation's history.

Long lines formed outside polling stations for the first election since the October 7, 2023, with voters passionately engaged over the trauma of the country's deadliest day and the ensuing wars in Gaza, Lebanon and Iran.

Policies of Netanyahu's right-wing coalition have been divisive at home and have deepened Israel's international isolation, while he has defended his record, calling himself the only leader with the mettle to face down Israel's foes.

His main rival Gadi Eisenkot, a military ex-chief of staff and security hawk, aims to unseat him with the support of parties on the right and centre, as well as the rump of an increasingly marginalised left. Opinion polls show a close race, with neither leader facing an easy path to power.

Voters began casting ballots after polling stations opened at 7:00 am. The polls close at 10:00 pm. Final results could





- **Main opponent is ex-military chief Eisenkot, who leads centrist party**
- **Right-wing leader Ben-Gvir confident of Netanyahu victory**

take days to trickle in and it is highly unlikely that any single party will come close to the 61 seats needed for a majority in the 120-member parliament.

The Central Elections Committee reported that 31.5 percent of eligible voters had cast their ballots within the first five hours. It was the fastest turnout since a legendary 1977 election that came to be known as "the upheaval", which brought the right to power for the first time in Israeli history.

If neither Netanyahu nor Eisenkot can form a governing coalition in the 120-seat parliament, Netanyahu could stay on as caretaker until another election is held.

In a message to supporters more than five hours after polls opened, Netanyahu urged them to vote, saying turnout was high among his opponents on the left and among Israelis of Arab heritage, around a fifth of the country.

"We need it to be high too. You all need to stream to the polls," he said. "This is a fateful moment."



Flames and thick smoke rise from a fire at Guryong Village in Seoul, South Korea, yesterday. The fire affected 77 households and 107 people, with no injuries or deaths reported. PHOTO: **REUTERS**

IN BRIEF

Trump offers $1m reward for info about voter fraud

AFP, *Washington*

US President Donald Trump on Monday announced a $1 million reward for information about voter fraud, in a fresh bid to sow doubt ahead of the US midterms and push his false claim about winning the 2020 election.

"Anybody reporting Voter Fraud in the past Elections, or the upcoming 2026 Midterm Election, will be paid $1,000,000 upon the arrest and conviction of those that created the Fraud!" Trump wrote on his Truth Social network.

The president gave no details of how the reward would be funded.

With the November 3 elections just eight days away, polls show Democrats pulling ahead as Republicans fight to retain control of both chambers of Congress. A Democratic victory would threaten to expose his administration to congressional investigations.

Indian media groups decry Modi's privacy law in court

REUTERS, *New Delhi*

The Indian government's privacy law, which would require journalists to seek consent from people they write about, amounted to pre-censorship and could lead to newsrooms shutting down, media groups told the Supreme Court yesterday, starting the most high-profile challenge against the legislation.

The lawsuit comes amid accusations of declining press freedom in India since Prime Minister Narendra Modi took office in 2014.

Critics say many mainstream media outlets have not done enough to scrutinise Modi's government, which has denied such allegations and says it respects press freedom.

A group of 21 news publishers, including companies owned by billionaires Mukesh Ambani and Gautam Adani, has challenged the privacy law, arguing it would trample upon investigative work and allow New Delhi to identify journalists' sources.

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার
কর কমিশনারের কার্যালয়, কর অঞ্চল-গাজীপুর
জি-১৫৯ (৩য় তলা), রাজদীঘির পশ্চিম পাড়, গাজীপুর
www.taxeszonegazipur.gov.bd

নথি নংঃ ০৮.০১.৩৩০০.৫৪৯.০০১.১১.০০৪৭.২৬/ ২৫৩

তারিখঃ ১১ কার্তিক ১৪৩৩ বঙ্গাব্দ
২৭ অক্টোবর ২০২৬ খ্রিস্টাব্দ

নিয়োগ বিজ্ঞপ্তি

অর্থ মন্ত্রণালয়, অভ্যন্তরীণ সম্পদ বিভাগ, কর-১ শাখা এর স্মারক নম্বরঃ ০৮.০০.০০০০.০০০.০৩৭.১১.০০০১.২৪.৩৮৫; তারিখঃ ০৭/১০/২০২৬ খ্রি. অনুযায়ী প্রাপ্ত ছাড়পত্রের ভিত্তিতে কর কমিশনারের কার্যালয়, কর অঞ্চল-গাজীপুর এর অধীনে গ্রেড-১৩ হতে গ্রেড-২০ পর্যন্ত বিভিন্ন শূন্য পদে মোট ৩৪ (চৌত্রিশ) জন জনবল অস্থায়ী ভিত্তিতে সরাসরি নিয়োগের লক্ষ্যে গাজীপুর এবং টাঙ্গাইল জেলার প্রকৃত স্থায়ী বাসিন্দাদের নিকট হতে অনলাইনে https://tzg.teletalk.com.bd ওয়েবসাইটে আবেদনপত্র আহ্বান করা যাচ্ছে।

ক্রমিক	পদের নাম ও গ্রেড	পদের সংখ্যা
১.	প্রধান সহকারী (গ্রেড-১৩)	০৮ (আট) টি
২.	উচ্চমান সহকারী (গ্রেড-১৪)	০২ (দুই) টি
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৫.	গাড়ি চালক (গ্রেড-১৬)	০১ (এক) টি
৬.	অফিস সহায়ক (গ্রেড-২০)	০৮ (আট) টি

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কর অঞ্চল-গাজীপুর এর ওয়েবসাইটে প্রবেশ এর QR code

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কর অঞ্চল-গাজীপুর,
ই-মেইলঃ ctgazipur@gmail.com

GD-2590

NGOs helped change Bangladesh. Can they keep pace with its changing needs?



Dr Ahmed Mushtaque Raza Chowdhury is convener of Bangladesh Health Watch and founding dean of the James P Grant School of Public Health at BRAC University.

■ **AHMED MUSHTAQUE RAZA CHOWDHURY**

Bangladesh would not be the country it is today without its NGOs. From the difficult years following independence, non-governmental organisations became an important part of our development story. They reached villages where public services were weak, experimented with new ways of tackling poverty, brought women into development programmes, expanded primary education, promoted family planning and immunisation, popularised oral rehydration therapy, extended microfinance, and responded to floods and cyclones.

Some of these initiatives eventually reached millions. Others demonstrated approaches that government subsequently adopted, expanded or incorporated into national programmes. Brac's early community-based tuberculosis (TB) programme, for example, helped demonstrate an approach that later became part of the country's nationwide government-NGO partnership for TB control.

But that era is changing rapidly. The question is no longer whether NGOs contributed to Bangladesh. They unquestionably did. The question is whether the NGO model that served us so well over the past five decades can still work in the future.

Two years ago, with my colleagues Ray Offenheiser and Emmanuel Gyasi, I examined this question in a study on the future of NGOs in the Global South. We concluded that Southern NGOs were approaching a crossroads. The traditional model of foreign donors raising money in wealthy countries and financing NGOs to implement projects in poorer ones was becoming increasingly difficult to sustain. But this is not simply a funding crisis. Something more fundamental is happening.

Bangladesh itself has changed. The country in which NGOs emerged in the 1970s was desperately poor, overwhelmingly rural, and institutionally fragile. Government services had limited reach and markets were underdeveloped. NGOs frequently filled gaps because few others could. Today's Bangladesh is different. Government's capacity to reach rural population has increased, the private sector is vastly larger, digital technology has transformed communications, and a more educated population has different expectations. If NGOs respond merely by searching harder for the next donor-funded project, they may survive for a while, but not necessarily remain relevant.

Perhaps the old NGO business model is dying. That does not mean NGOs themselves should disappear. It means they must reinvent themselves. First, NGOs need to rediscover their role as innovators. Many important contributions of Bangladeshi NGOs began as experiments. Their strength was that they could try what the government could not easily try, learn from failure, and demonstrate what worked. Once the government or private sector can effectively deliver a service, an NGO does not necessarily need to continue providing it. It should move on to the next unsolved problem.

Second, NGOs should increasingly become bridges between citizens and the state, rather than substitutes for the state. They can organise communities, amplify otherwise unheard voices, and help make public institutions more responsive. But ultimate responsibility for essential public services must remain with government. Third, NGOs must rediscover their wider civil-society and watchdog role. One important future function may be independently monitoring how government and other development actors are performing. Bangladesh already has useful examples. Education Watch has periodically examined the state of education from outside government. At the same time, Bangladesh Health Watch has brought independent evidence and public scrutiny to health equity, the health workforce, and universal health coverage. Such initiatives help society ask whether programmes are working, who is being left behind, and what needs to change. NGOs may sometimes contribute more by generating evidence and holding institutions accountable than by delivering yet another service themselves.



VISUAL: **ALIZA RAHMAN**

Then comes perhaps the most immediate challenge: how will NGOs pay for all this? Foreign grants cannot remain the only answer. One route is generating their own resources. Brac experimented with this early. Aarong created markets for rural artisans; other enterprises grew around agriculture and livelihoods; microfinance generated income as well as services; and institutions such as Brac Bank demonstrated that commercial ventures could coexist with a wider social purpose.

But this model has limits. Most NGOs do not have the capital, scale or managerial capacity to create successful businesses. More importantly, commercial success can pull an organisation away from its social mission. An NGO should not become a business with a development programme attached. The lesson, therefore, is not that every NGO should establish a bank or an Aarong. It is that financial independence matters. Future NGOs will need a diversified mix of international grants, domestic philanthropy, responsible social enterprise, individual giving, corporate contributions and, where appropriate, government contracts.

There is another, less discussed problem with donor dependence. Increasingly, funding from the Global North is awarded through competitive bids around priorities defined by donors themselves. So, NGOs from the Global South compete to implement programmes conceived elsewhere. This may produce well-managed projects, but it can also turn NGOs into contractors rather than independent development institutions. An organisation rooted in a community should have the freedom to identify what it considers the most pressing problems and experiment with solutions, rather than simply following the priorities set by donors in their latest funding proposals.

This is why the international discussion about "localisation" matters. Localisation cannot mean transferring implementation responsibility while retaining the power to set priorities in Washington, London, Geneva, or New York. Southern organisations need not only a larger share of the money but also greater freedom to decide how to use it. Diversifying their income, including generating some resources themselves, can therefore provide something even more valuable than financial sustainability: intellectual and programmatic independence.

But greater autonomy brings greater responsibility. NGOs must also look inwards. Some have become bureaucratic. Leadership succession remains difficult and often controversial. Accountability sometimes flows upwards to donors rather than downwards to communities. Local legitimacy must be earned through transparency, good governance, evidence, and ethical leadership.

So, do NGOs have a future? Some probably do not. Organisations that exist primarily because donor projects exist will struggle when those projects disappear. Institutional survival cannot itself be the objective. But the need for independent, innovative, and socially rooted institutions has hardly disappeared. Climate change, rapid urbanisation, inequality, unemployment, pandemics, ageing, and the continuing exclusion of marginalised populations are creating new challenges. Government cannot solve all of them alone, nor can markets. The NGOs that flourish may therefore look quite different. They may receive less foreign aid, implement fewer programmes themselves and spend more time innovating, convening, generating evidence, strengthening citizen voice, and holding institutions accountable.

Fifty years ago, Bangladesh's NGOs succeeded because they were willing to challenge conventional wisdom, experiment, make mistakes, and remain close to ordinary people. That spirit, not any particular organisational model, is their most valuable inheritance. Perhaps, then, we are asking the wrong question. Bangladesh should not ask whether NGOs still have a future. We should ask what kind of NGOs Bangladesh will need for its future. Those that rediscover their roots in communities, innovation, independence, accountability, and social justice may be more necessary than ever.

Why labour unions are rising against the IMF and WB

Sawit Kaewvarn is the president of the Thai Labour Solidarity Confederation (TLSC) and also serves as head of the State Railway Union of Thailand and a leader in the State Enterprises Workers' Relations Confederation (SERC).

Kate Lappin is the regional secretary for Asia and the Pacific of Public Services International (PSI), the global union federation of public service workers.

■ **SAWIT KAEWVARN** *and* **KATE LAPPIN**

When demonstrators filled the streets of Bangkok on October 16, media coverage focused on clashes with police barricades or echoed official narratives from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and World Bank (WB) meetings, which offered no real solutions to rising debt, geopolitical conflict, or the macroeconomic risks of AI, prescribing instead more spending cuts and deregulation. The narrative overlooked a vital pillar of the protests: organised labour. Over a thousand members of the Thai Labour Solidarity Confederation (TLSC), State Enterprises Workers' Relations Confederation (SERC), and their global allies marched in Bangkok as part of rallies in over 150 cities across 38 countries, marking Global Day of Action vs the IMF and WB.

Multilateral lending frameworks and policy prescriptions strike at the very heart of workers' economic survival. To understand this, one must examine the global debt architecture choking public budgets across the Global South. Developing nations now spend a median of 9.5 percent of their government revenue strictly on sovereign debt interest payments—a 25-year-high that represents more than triple the burden borne by high-income economies. According to the UN Trade and Development (UNCTAD), a record 61 developing countries are forced to allocate at least 10 percent of their revenues to interest alone, severely constraining budgets.

In 2024 alone, developing nations paid $384 billion in external debt interest. This is part of the total net interest developing nations paid across all public debt (domestic and external combined) that reached $921 billion, marking a 10 percent increase from the prior year. Consequently, roughly 32 low-income countries are currently in debt distress or at high risk of it, trapping between 340 and 370 crore people in nations that spend far more on foreign interest payouts than on essential public services like healthcare and education.

When governments are forced to prioritise interest payouts to foreign creditors over social spending, domestic fiscal space collapses. To avoid default or secure emergency assistance, governments adopt strict fiscal discipline dictated by loan conditionalities—passing the financial burden directly onto working families through reduced public spending, regressive taxation, and structural austerity.

The severe consequences for public sector workers and essential services are well documented, with IMF-imposed restrictions on public sector wage bills systematically undermining national workforces. By capping government wage bills, these conditionalities force hiring freezes and real-wage cuts. In practice, this starves schools, clinics, and social programmes of staff, shifting the unpaid care work onto women and driving essential workers into poverty. When public services are gutted to satisfy foreign interest payments, workers pay twice: first through lower pay and lost jobs, and second through diminished access to the services they rely on to survive.

Both the IMF and WB have historically seen labour unions as obstacles to their structural reforms. The World Bank was forced to abandon its annual "Doing Business" report in 2021 following widespread criticism, including for encouraging labour market deregulation and lower labour standards. Yet its replacement, the "B Ready" report, continues to promote a race to the bottom in labour standards, rewarding countries that cut workers' entitlements, pay a minimum wage that is not "burdensome" (read: unlivable) and relieve corporations of obligations to contribute to social protection.

Nowhere are these impacts clearer than in the push for privatisation. Both institutions continue to promote privatisation of public services as a way to escape debt. Yet privatisation actively deepens financial crises. Governments sell off public assets for discounted prices and lock in guaranteed payments to the private sector for the delivery of those services, creating "off-book", long-term debts in US dollars.

Energy unions from Indonesia, Pakistan, Bangladesh, and Thailand joined protests specifically to expose these risks. In Pakistan, where the IMF demands the total sell-off of remaining public energy systems, privatisation has been an unmitigated disaster. Over the past two years, "capacity payments"—fees paid to private companies for unused power generation—accounted for over 60 percent of payments to energy suppliers. Today, more than half of consumer tariffs are swallowed up paying companies for electricity they never produced. To enforce these IMF directives and make further sales attractive, the Pakistani government has repeatedly cracked down on energy unions, attempting to ban trade union activities, which are protected by the constitution and international law.

In Bangladesh, between 2020-21 and 2024-25, electricity delivered to the grid increased by just 1 percent, while payments to independent power producers surged by 134 percent. Driven by currency devaluation and rigid dollar-denominated contracts, capacity payments nearly tripled to $2.9 billion, accounting for nearly half of all independent power producers (IPP) payments. To satisfy IMF conditions requiring the slashing of energy subsidies, the government has repeatedly hiked consumer tariffs, transferring the cost of corporate guarantees directly onto working households while pushing ahead with distribution privatisation.

Thai unions marched against this same long shadow of IMF-World Bank policy influence. In the wake of the IMF-fuelled 1997 Asian Financial Crisis, the government targeted major public sectors, including petroleum, postal services, airports, and telecommunications, for structural reform. Energy unions successfully halted the complete privatisation of the Electricity Generating Authority of Thailand (EGAT). Yet, decades later, Thai workers still bear the burden of higher Value Added Tax (VAT) rates imposed under those historical loan agreements. Entities like Airports of Thailand and state telecoms were partially privatised. Thai labour unions continue to struggle against ongoing corporatisation.

Today, workers recognise that these institutions remain unyielding advocates for big business —a bias expected to continue as International Financial Institutions (IFIs) navigate AI and privilege corporate tech monopolies over workforce displacement. Rather than enforcing austerity, IFIs should be pushed to answer fundamental questions: why not address inflation by reining in corporate profit margins, or champion global wealth taxes to stop resource hoarding by billionaires? The strong union turnout on October 16 showed the workers' stance on austerity as an immediate threat to labour rights and collective survival. Until international lenders eliminate predatory debt structures and abandon destructive conditionalities, the voices of organised labour on the streets will only grow louder.

একই আদেশ ও তারিখে স্থলাভিষিক্ত



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বৃক্ষরোপণে জাতীয় পুরস্কার ২০২৬ প্রদানের জন্য আবেদনপত্র আহবান।

সর্বসাধারণের অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, বিভিন্ন ব্যক্তি ও প্রতিষ্ঠান কর্তৃক বাস্তবায়িত বৃক্ষরোপণ কর্মকান্ডকে নিম্নে বর্ণিত ০৭(সাত) টি শ্রেণীভূক্ত করে প্রত্যেক শ্রেণীতে ৩(তিন)টি করে পুরস্কার প্রদানের জন্য সরকার সিদ্ধান্ত গ্রহণ করেছেন।

(ক) প্রাথমিক বিদ্যালয়/ উচচ বিদ্যালয়/এবতেদায়ী মাদ্রাসা/ সিনিয়র মাদ্রাসা /কলেজ/বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়
(খ) ইউনিয়ন পরিষদ/উপজেলা পরিষদ/জেলা পরিষদ/পৌরসভা/সিটি কর্পোরেশন/ অধিদপ্তর/পরিদপ্তর/সেক্টর/কর্পোরেশন/প্রতিষ্ঠান / এন জি ও/ক্লাব/স্বেচছাসেবী সংস্থা
(গ) ব্যক্তিগত পর্যায়ে বৃক্ষরোপণ
(ঘ) ব্যক্তি মালিকানাধীন নার্সারী
(ঙ) ব্যক্তিগত/প্রাতিষ্ঠানিক পর্যায়ে সৃজিত ছাদ বাগান
(চ বন বিভাগ কর্তৃক সৃজিত বাগান
(ছ) বৃক্ষ সম্পর্কিত গবেষণা/সংরক্ষণ/উদ্ভাবন

আবেদনপত্রের ফরম প্রাপ্তি ও দাখিলের স্থান

(১) বিভাগীয় বন কর্মকর্তা, চট্টগ্রাম উত্তর বন বিভাগ, চট্টগ্রাম এর কার্যালয়, বন পাহাড়, নন্দনকানন, চট্টগ্রাম।
(২) উপজেলা নির্বাহী কর্মকর্তার কার্যালয় (সকল), চট্টগ্রাম জেলা।
(৩) রেঞ্জ কর্মকর্তার কার্যালয়- মীরসরাই রেঞ্জ, মীরসরাই উপজেলা/ বাঁরৈয়াঢালা রেঞ্জ,সীতাকুন্ড উপজেলা/ নারায়নহাট রেঞ্জ,ফটিকছড়ি উপজেলা/ হাটহাজারী রেঞ্জ, হাটহাজারী উপজেলা/ ইছামতি রেঞ্জ, রাউজান উপজেলা/ রাংগুনিয়া রেঞ্জ, রাংগুনিয়া উপজেলা/ পটিয়া রেঞ্জ, পটিয়া ও বোয়ালখালী উপজেলা/ পটিয়া এস.এফ.এন.টি.সি, কর্ণফুলী ও আনোয়ারা উপজেলা/ দোহাজারী রেঞ্জ,চন্দনাইশ উপজেলা / পদুয়া রেঞ্জ, লোহাগাড়া উপজেলা/ কালীপুর রেঞ্জ, বাঁশখালী উপজেলা/ মাদার্সা রেঞ্জ, সাতকানিয়া উপজেলা/ সন্দ্বীপ রেঞ্জ, সন্দ্বীপ উপজেলা/ শহর রেঞ্জ, মহানগর এলাকা, চট্টগ্রাম জেলা।

এতদসংক্রান্ত অন্যান্য জ্ঞাতব্য বিষয় (প্রয়োজন হলে) বর্ণিত কার্যালয় হতে অফিস চলাকালীন সময়ে জানা যাবে।

আবেদনপত্র দাখিলের শেষ সময় ঃ ২৫/১১/২০২৬ খ্রিঃ পর্যন্ত।

(ড. আবু নাসের মোহসিন হোসেন)
বিভাগীয় বন কর্মকর্তা
চট্টগ্রাম উত্তর বন বিভাগ
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সদস্য-সচিব
বৃক্ষরোপণে জাতীয় পুরস্কার প্রদান সংক্রান্ত জেলা কমিটি, চট্টগ্রাম
ই-মেইল ঃ dfoctgnorth@gmail.com
ফোনঃ ০২৩৩৩৩৬৪৩৯।

GD-2592

Ex-FBI chief, Trump critic Comey hit with fresh charges

AFP, *Washington*

Former FBI director James Comey has been charged with allegedly disclosing national defense information, the third criminal case brought against the outspoken critic of US President Donald Trump.

In a criminal complaint unsealed on Monday, Comey is accused of communicating the information in October 2016, when he was head of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, to a "person not entitled to receive it."

Comey was charged in September 2025 with making false statements to Congress and obstructing a congressional proceeding in what was widely seen as retribution by the Republican president against a political opponent.

A federal judge threw out the case on the grounds that the US attorney handpicked by Trump who brought the charges had been unlawfully appointed.



An Indian Pond Heron (Ardeola grayii), locally known as Deshi Kani Bok, leaps towards its prey in a waterbody beside Northern University on Khulna City Bypass Road yesterday. They are commonly found in wetlands, canals, beels and rivers, where they feed on fish, insects, and other small aquatic animals. PHOTO: **HABIBUR RAHMAN**

CPB demands justice

FROM PAGE 2

of the banned organisation be handed over to them.

However, Shafiqul Islam, investigation inspector of Paltan Police Station, denied that any such attack had occurred.

Speaking to The Daily Star around 6:00pm yesterday, he said, "They [CPB] did not file any written complaint. There was no attack or vandalism."

Dhaka South BNP Member Secretary Tanvir Ahmed Robin also questioned the allegations.

"It should first be verified whether the incident actually took place. If it did, we need to determine who was involved. But allegations against the BNP should not be made hastily. I do not even know whether such an incident occurred," he said.

"They have not made any specific allegation either, which makes the matter confusing."

In their statement, the CPB leaders noted that the party had participated in every democratic movement in Bangladesh and that many of its leaders and activists had sacrificed their lives in those struggles. They also said Mukti Bhaban had served as an important centre during the 2024 mass uprising.

Regardless of the political identity of those involved, such actions constitute an attack on democracy, democratic rights and freedom of political activity, they said.

The CPB leaders added that threats and attacks would not deter people's aspirations for democracy. They said the public would assess the government's commitment to democratic values based on whether those responsible were identified and brought to justice.

The Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal (JaSod) also condemned the alleged attack and the assault on CPB leaders and activists.

In a statement, JaSod described mob violence as a "national curse" and called for a united national resistance against such acts.

Urban slum children face rising climate risks

FROM PAGE 3

Poor housing, unsafe drinking water, and inadequate sanitation further increase children's vulnerability, she said.

The survey found that 43.5 percent of households live in tin-shed houses and 64.5 percent use shared toilets.

The study recommended strengthening climate-resilient healthcare, improving drainage and sanitation, expanding early-warning systems, and raising community awareness.

At the event, Dr MA Muhit, state minister for Health and Family Welfare, said the government had pledged free primary healthcare for all citizens and planned to recruit 1,00,000 additional health workers.

Young volunteers had been mobilised for dengue prevention, while 2,000 doctors had received refresher training in dengue patient management, he said. "These efforts had helped reduce the mortality rate by around 40 percent."

The government also planned to equip health workers with modern tools, he added.

Muhit said more than 300 children with severe disabilities had been identified in Korail slum within a month, but bureaucratic complications had delayed initiatives to support them.

He urged the media and civil society to ensure transparency in healthcare spending, saying not a single taka of the Tk 16,000 crore expected to be spent on healthcare tenders should be lost to corruption or waste.

Sanaul Islam, professor of Soil, Water and Environment at Khulna University, said the loss of rivers, canals, wetlands and ponds, alongside expanding concrete structures, is worsening urban heat.

He called for restoring water bodies, preserving forests and rethinking urban development to build a sustainable, climate-resilient environment.

MP Anisur Rahman Khokon said the government is committed to environmental protection and safeguarding people's fundamental rights.

Prof Md Nurunnabi, director of Center for Sustainability and Climate; Anowar Hossain, deputy programme manager of Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Resilience; Syed Mahbubul Alam, secretary of the Center for Law and Policy Affairs; and Md Ferdous, director of the Cell for Adaptation, Resilience, Security and Disaster Resilience at Islamic Relief Bangladesh, were present, among others.

Proposed cyber law

FROM PAGE 3

posts since the national election had been detained for making "so-called derogatory remarks" or harshly criticising the prime minister, ministers, or their associates.

"Currently, half of these cases are filed under the existing Cyber Protection Act, while the remaining 50 percent have to rely on other laws. They are introducing the new amendment to solve this very problem so that arresting critics gets easier," she added.

Joining virtually, Kamal Ahmed, former chief of Media Reform Commission, said the draft conflates political criticism and free expression with offences such as online gambling, fraud, and sexual harassment.

He cited a case in Mymensingh in which a woman was arrested and jailed for saying on Facebook Live that she had made a mistake by voting for the BNP in the election.

He also criticised the proposed National Cybersecurity Council to be formed under the act, saying the draft law would grant it powers similar to those of an executive body.

He also questioned the inclusion of a retired judge nominated by the chief justice, arguing that it would draw the chief justice into the council's work.

"If a citizen is harmed by any decision of this council, where will they seek justice? Will they go to the very court whose chief justice is a part of this process?" he asked.

Kamal, also the consulting editor at The Daily Star, recommended making prior court approval mandatory for arrests and searches and treating defamation as a civil rather than criminal offence, punishable through hefty fines.

Barrister Priya Ahsan Chowdhury of Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust (BLAST) said the power to block content is being extended beyond the Cyber Protection Agency to the information and broadcasting ministry and any government-authorised agency.

She also criticised the removal of certain safeguards from the current act, including the requirement for Cyber Tribunal approval within three days of blocking content, failing which the content must be unblocked. The draft also removes the requirement to publish a transparent list of blocked content, she said.

Chairing the discussion, photographer and rights activist Shahidul Alam said the proposed amendment made no changes to provisions concerning hacking, malware or attacks on critical information infrastructure, focusing instead on controlling what people say and share online.

"This is not a cyber protection law; it is a law to gag voices," he said.

National Citizen Party lawmaker Akhter Hossen, Daily Waadaa Editor Shafiqul Alam, and Alternatives organiser Dr Tajnuva Jabeen also spoke at the event, among others.

The discussion was moderated by Voice for Reform co-convenor Fahim Mashroor.

Gambia students protest over study conditions

AFP, *Banjul*

Hundreds of Gambian students demonstrated on Monday to protest deteriorating studying conditions as well as issues with food and internet access, AFP journalists reported, echoing demands by students across Europe.

The protests at the University of The Gambia (UTG) in the capital Banjul, the country's leading higher education institution, come weeks after demonstrations sparked by persistent power cuts in the West African country whose President Adama Barrow is seeking a third term in an election scheduled for 5 December.

"We're fed up," the protesters chanted, a day after their student union had stated that "students continue to endure inadequate transport, limited access to drinking water, the closure of a canteen, unreliable internet and disruptions to academic activities."

The Ministry of Higher Education stated it had "taken note of the concerns raised by the students".

PRAYER TIMING
OCTOBER 28

	Fazr	Zohr	Asr	Maghrib	Esha
AZAN	4-50	12-45	4-00	5-32	7-15
JAMAAT	5-25	1-15	4-15	5-35	7-45

SOURCE: **ISLAMIC FOUNDATION**

Migrants

FROM PAGE 12

On October 14, the Special Response Battalion said 20 of 30 Bangladeshis sent to Russia with promises of construction jobs had been killed. The workers had paid an average of Tk 10 lakh each and undergone 21 days of training, it said.

The probe examined recruitment involving 48 countries, drawing on 245 testimonies, travel records and Russian military contracts. It found close coordination between recruiters and Russian authorities. Men from at least 29 of those countries were identified as trafficking victims.

Russian officials have publicly denied illegal recruitment, the report noted.

According to the report, recruiters offered jobs as drivers, security guards, electricians and construction workers, arranged travel and then handed recruits over to the Russian military. Their passports and phones were often confiscated, while military training ranged from 20 minutes to a month.

Shariful Islam Hasan, associate director of BRAC's Migration Programme, said BRAC had warned about the practice last year.

"Many Bangladeshis were lured to Russia with promises of jobs but were later recruited into the war. Some travelled on work visas, while others went on tourist visas."

He urged the government to trace around 8,500 Bangladeshis who had travelled legally to Russia over the past two years and determine how many were working, fighting, missing or dead.

He also called for figures on visas issued by the Russian embassy.

The commission urged Russia to release trafficking victims and investigate recruiters. It said captured recruits were entitled to prisoner-of-war protections and urged their home countries not to prosecute the victims.

3 Hindu homes

FROM PAGE 2

Bogura's Shibganj upazila. He was later formally arrested in a case filed by local resident Aminul Islam on allegations of hurting religious sentiments, the OC said.

Separately, Bishu filed a case with Pirganj Police Station the same day over the vandalism and looting.

Eight people were named in the case, while 60 to 70 unidentified individuals were also accused. Police arrested one of the named accused, Shafiqul Islam Arif, 30, in connection with the case, the OC said.

According to eyewitnesses and the victim families, 50 to 60 people armed with sticks, iron rods and locally made weapons attacked the houses around 7:00pm on Monday.

The assault lasted about an hour, during which the homes and furniture of the three families were vandalised. Some attackers also looted livestock and other belongings.

Bishu told The Daily Star that his son had married about a year and a half ago and had not maintained contact with the family since.

"I don't even have his mobile phone number. If he has committed an offence, why should we be punished?" he said.

He said the attackers damaged a television, furniture, walls and doors of his house and took away two goats.

"We are poor people. Everything we had has been damaged. We cannot afford to repair the house or buy new furniture," said Saurav's mother, Taru Rani Mohanta, 45.

Jagadish and Dinesh said their houses, doors, fences and furniture were vandalised, while televisions and other valuables were looted.

Jagadish's wife, Arati Rani, said she fled her home to save herself.

"When the attackers stormed our house, we pleaded with them to stop. But they threatened to kill me," she said.

After the attack, fear has gripped the village, where about 65 Hindu families live, residents said.

Members of the community also said they identified some of the attackers as residents of adjacent villages.

"Police have been deployed in the area to prevent further untoward incidents. Operations are underway to arrest the remaining accused," the OC said.

Pirganj Upazila Nirbahi Officer Abdullah Al Bakiul Bari said the affected families would receive financial assistance.

'Oh, my son! Where have you gone?'

FROM PAGE 12

Two of the injured, including Rakib, later died while undergoing treatment at CMCH.

The other deceased were identified as Fatema Akter, 38, daughter of Md Abdul Hai, from Mohammad Nagar in Chattogram; Absa, 44, daughter of Abdul Hashim; and Swapna Akter, 30, daughter of Nizam Uddin, both from Kishoreganj. The fifth victim was an unidentified man, aged around 49.

Speaking to The Daily Star hours after the crash, Azharul, a farmer, said he had travelled to Chattogram city to bring his wife and Rakib, the younger of their two sons, back to their village home in Madan upazila of Netrokona.

His wife Fatema works at a readymade garment factory in the Karnaphuli Export Processing Zone and had been living in a rented house in the Narikeltola area under Patenga Police Station.

Azharul's brother, Anwar Hossain, said the family boarded a Netrokona-bound Shapla Paribahan bus from Narikeltola around 12:30am.

Around 1:00am, the bus broke down in Sitakunda. As the driver and his assistant tried to repair it, the heat inside became unbearable, prompting some passengers, including Azharul and his family, to get off.

"We were standing beside the bus with around 20 other passengers. I could hear the driver talking to the bus owner over the phone.

"My son was just two yards away from me. Suddenly, a tank lorry trying to overtake another vehicle ploughed into the passengers standing beside the bus."

Azharul said he saw his son lying in a pool of blood.

"Both my legs were injured, but I didn't feel any pain. All I could see was my son. I shouted for help to save him. Locals rushed to our rescue and took us to CMCH, but my son could not be saved," he said, breaking down in tears.

The accident took place near Royal Cement Gate in the Chhota Kumira area of Sitakunda upazila in Chattogram, said Sitakunda Police Station OC Mohinul Islam.

Inspector Shamim Ahmed, officer-in-charge of Baro Awlia Highway Police Station, said at least five people, including three women and a child, were killed in the collision. Six injured passengers were receiving treatment at CMCH.

"While the Dhaka-bound bus was being repaired, the passengers got off and stood by the roadside. Suddenly, a speeding Dhaka-bound lorry ploughed into them," he said.

Police seized the lorry, but its driver fled the scene, he added.

The injured were admitted to different hospital wards, with several in critical condition, said Nurul Alam, in-charge of the CMCH Police Camp.

Dengue death toll now 400

FROM PAGE 12

ill patients.

He has also observed severe complications, including liver failure, kidney failure, respiratory failure, heart failure and myocarditis, or inflammation of the heart muscle, among dengue patients this year.

Such complications appeared to be more common than in previous years, although further studies are needed to establish the reasons behind the increase in severe cases and deaths.

The circulation of dengue virus serotype 3 (DENV-3) could be another contributing factor, Ahsan said, adding that variations within a serotype might influence disease severity.

Repeat dengue infections and delays in diagnosis and treatment are among the key factors contributing to the rising number of deaths, said ABM Abdullah, medicine specialist at Central Hospital.

Many patients who died might have been infected with dengue previously, potentially increasing their vulnerability to complications from subsequent infections.

He urged people to seek medical advice and get tested for dengue if they develop symptoms such as fever, body aches or other signs of illness, rather than waiting for their conditions to worsen.

He also advised patients with suspected dengue to drink sufficient fluids, including water and oral rehydration solution (ORS), to prevent dehydration.

Paracetamol may help control fever under appropriate medical guidance, but patients should avoid other painkillers unless prescribed by a doctor.

"If a patient cannot take fluids orally, staying at home is not advisable. They need to be taken to hospital for proper assessment and treatment," he said.

Public health expert Mushtuq Hussain suggested piloting free dengue testing at existing primary healthcare facilities and referring vulnerable patients to hospitals when necessary.

Reducing dengue deaths required a comprehensive approach involving community-level prevention, affordable early testing, timely referrals and proper hospital management, rather than relying solely on tertiary hospitals.

Ballon d'Or glory for Kane, Putellas

FROM PAGE 12

showing determination and hard work can really achieve."

The competition for this year's award was fierce. Kylian Mbappe broke World Cup scoring records. Lamine Yamal helped Spain to World Cup glory. Yet Voters ultimately chose 33-year-old Kane, however, with Mbappe second, followed by Lamine, Rodri and Lionel Messi.

Spain midfielder Alexia Putellas won the Ballon d'Or Feminin for the third time.

Putellas was presented with the women's award after winning the treble with Barcelona in the 2025-26 campaign, in addition to the Spanish Super Cup. She moved to Women's Super League side London City Lionesses in July after 14 years at Barca.

Putellas paid tribute to her friends, family and team, who helped her get back to her best after knee problems stemming from a cruciate ligament injury in July 2022.

"I know that if I was able to enjoy myself again last season, it was thanks to all of you," she said.

Spain and Barcelona players won the young talent awards, Lamine picking up his third trophy and Vicky Lopez taking home the women's award for the second successive year.

Spain coach Luis de la Fuente was named men's coach of the year, while Barcelona's Pere Romeu won the women's coaching award.

The men's goalkeeper award went to Unai Simon of Spain and Athletic Bilbao, while Cata Coll of Spain and Barcelona took the women's award.

Natore-4 MP's son

FROM PAGE 1

Asked why the lawmaker's son was being interrogated, Natore DB Officer-in-Charge Nazrul Islam said Nooruzzaman's name had surfaced during the investigation into the murder. He declined to provide further details, citing the interests of the investigation.

Shakil Islam, 30, joint general secretary of JCD's Gurudaspur upazila unit, died at a hospital on Monday night, 12 days after he was attacked by a group of assailants.

Police said a group of helmeted attackers hacked Shakil with sharp weapons in the Chachkoir Bazarpara area on October 14.

He was initially taken to Gurudaspur Upazila Health Complex and later shifted to Rajshahi Medical College Hospital before being referred to Dhaka for advanced treatment.

On October 19, the victim's father filed a case with Gurudaspur Police Station against eight to 10 unidentified people.

Locals alleged that Aziz's two sons, Nooruzzaman, also known as Mintu, and his younger brother, Mahamuduzzaman, had long been engaged in a rivalry for political influence in the area and that the killing might have been linked to the dispute.

Denying the allegation, Aziz said the disagreement between his sons was a "family matter" and had no connection to Shakil's death.

"The loss of Shakil feels like losing my own child. I want those responsible for his killing punished, even if it is my own son," Aziz said, adding that he had fully cooperated with police when they came to take Nooruzzaman into custody.

"I will not seek bail for my son unless his innocence is proven," he added, calling for a thorough investigation to identify those responsible.

Shakil's death triggered protests among local BNP and JCD activists in Gurudaspur. Chhatra Dal leaders and activists brought out a procession demanding exemplary punishment for those involved in the attack.

Md Kamruzzaman Bepari, general secretary of the Natore district unit of JCD, told The Daily Star that the perpetrators must face exemplary punishment.

"Shakil was a dedicated Chhatra Dal leader. He was always vocal against drugs and irregularities. He was brutally killed by criminals. We want a proper investigation to identify the real culprits and bring them to justice," he said.

Netanyahu faces

FROM PAGE 12

coalition have been divisive at home and have deepened Israel's international isolation. But he has portrayed himself as the only leader with the mettle to face down Israel's foes.

Netanyahu, Israel's longest-serving leader with 19 years in office, is an unmatched political survivor, and his nationalist politics are increasingly entrenched. Israel's fragmented system makes it difficult for an array of opponents to force out his coalition of right-wing, far-right and ultra-Orthodox parties.

His main rival Gadi Eisenkot, a military ex-chief of staff and security hawk, aims to unseat him with the support of parties on the right and centre, as well as the rump of an increasingly marginalised left. Opinion polls show a close race, giving neither man an easy path to power.

Forecasters were hesitant to guess what impact the strong turnout might have on the result. A surge in votes from Israelis of Palestinian heritage could limit gains for Netanyahu's right-wing coalition and make it more likely that any government formed to oust him would require Arab parties' support, a contentious prospect among Jewish party leaders.

Netanyahu urged supporters to come out to vote to balance high turnout among his opponents on the left and Arab Israelis. "You all need to stream to the polls," he said. "This is a fateful moment."

"I think these elections are the most important of all the ones I've known," said Ruth Epstein, an 81-year-old longtime left-wing voter in Ramat Gan near Tel Aviv, who voted for the opposition Democrats.

Netanyahu has campaigned on an endorsement from US President Donald Trump, his ally in the war against Iran, who has said they should "finish the job".

If neither Netanyahu nor Eisenkot can form a governing coalition in the 120-seat parliament, Netanyahu could stay on as caretaker until another election is held.

ঢাকা বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়

৫৪তম সমাবর্তন-২০২৭

আদিষ্ট হয়ে এতদ্বারা জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, ঢাকা বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের ৫৪তম সমাবর্তন আগামী ২৬ জানুয়ারি ২০২৭ তারিখ মঙ্গলবার সকাল ১১:০০টায় অনুষ্ঠিত হবে। সমাবর্তনে গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশের মহামান্য রাষ্ট্রপতি ও ঢাকা বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের মাননীয় চ্যান্সেলর মির্জা ফখরুল ইসলাম আলমগীর সভাপতিত্ব করবেন। গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকারের মাননীয় প্রধানমন্ত্রী জনাব তারেক রহমান, এমপি সমাবর্তনে সম্মানিত অতিথি হিসেবে উপস্থিত থাকতে সদয় সম্মতি জ্ঞাপন করেছেন।

২০ নভেম্বর ২০২২ তারিখ হতে ৩০ নভেম্বর ২০২৬ তারিখ পর্যন্ত যে সকল পরীক্ষার ফলাফল প্রকাশিত হয়েছে/হবে সেই সকল গ্র্যাজুয়েট ও পদকপ্রাপ্তগণ ৫৪তম সমাবর্তন-২০২৭ এ অংশগ্রহণ করতে পারবেন। আবেদন ০১ নভেম্বর ২০২৬ তারিখ থেকে শুরু হয়ে ৩০ নভেম্বর ২০২৬ তারিখে শেষ হবে। এছাড়া ১৪ অক্টোবর ২০২২ তারিখ থেকে ১৮ নভেম্বর ২০২২ তারিখের মধ্যে প্রকাশিত যেসব ফলাফল ৫৩তম সমাবর্তন ২০২২-এ অন্তর্ভুক্ত করা সম্ভব হয়নি, সেগুলো ৫৪তম সমাবর্তন ২০২৭-এ অন্তর্ভুক্ত করা হবে এবং সংশ্লিষ্ট গ্র্যাজুয়েটগণ সমাবর্তনে অংশ নিতে পারবেন।

নং	ডিগ্রি	পরীক্ষা সন
১.	পিএইচডি	২০২৩,২০২৪,২০২৫,২০২৬
২.	এমফিল	২০২৩,২০২৪,২০২৫,২০২৬
৩.	ডিবিএ	২০২৩,২০২৪,২০২৫,২০২৬
৪.	বিএ (সম্মান)	২০২১,২০২২,২০২৩,২০২৪, ২০২৫
৫.	বিএসএস, বিডিএম (সম্মান)	২০২১,২০২২,২০২৩,২০২৪, ২০২৫
৬.	বিফার্ম, বিএস/বিএসসি (সম্মান)	২০২১,২০২২,২০২৩,২০২৪, ২০২৫
৭.	বিবিএ	২০২১,২০২২,২০২৩,২০২৪
৮.	বিএফএ (সম্মান)	২০২১,২০২২,২০২৩,২০২৪, ২০২৫
৯.	বিএড (সম্মান)	২০২১,২০২২,২০২৩,২০২৪
১০.	এলএলবি (সম্মান)	২০২১,২০২২,২০২৩,২০২৪
১১.	এমএ	২০২১,২০২২,২০২৩,২০২৪
১২.	এমএস,এমএসসি	২০২১,২০২২,২০২৩,২০২৪
১৩.	এমএসএস, এমডিএম	২০২১,২০২২,২০২৩,২০২৪
১৪.	এমবিএ	২০২১,২০২২,২০২৩,২০২৪
১৫.	এলএলএম	২০২১,২০২২,২০২৩,২০২৪
১৬.	এমএড	২০২১,২০২২,২০২৩,২০২৪
১৭.	এমএফএ	২০২২,২০২৩,২০২৪,২০২৫
১৮.	এমএইএলটি (আইএমএল)	২০২০, ২০২১, ২০২২, ২০২৩, ২০২৪
১৯.	এমএ (ইভিনিং/ প্রফেশনাল)	২০২১,২০২২,২০২৩,২০২৪, ২০২৫
২০.	এমএড (ইভিনিং/ প্রফেশনাল)	২০২০,২০২১,২০২২,২০২৩, ২০২৪
২১.	প্রফেশনাল/ইভিনিং পিজিডিআইটি, পিএমআইসিএস, এমফার্ম প্রফেশনাল, প্রফেশনাল সয়েল ওয়াটার, এক্সিকিউটিভএমআইটি, পিএমইপিএম এসডি, প্রফেশনাল ডিজাস্টার সায়েন্স, এমএস ইন সাইকোলজি, এমএসডিএম	২০২৩,২০২৪,২০২৫,২০২৬
২২.	এমবিএ (ইভিনিং/ এক্সিকিউটিভ/ প্রফেশনাল) এমপিএ, এমপিবি, এমপিএইচআরএম, এমপিএফ, এমআইটিবি, এমপিএম, এমটিএম, এমএটি, এমপিএমআইএস, এমএএফসিএম, এমআইআরএম	২০২২,২০২৩,২০২৪,২০২৫
২৩.	এমএসএস (ইভিনিং/ প্রফেশনাল) এমপিএ, এমজেএস/পিএমজেএস, এমজিএস/পিএমজিএস, এমএসএসপি, এমডিএস/পিএমডিএস, এমডিএম/পিএমডিএম, পিএমআইআর/পিএমআইআরডি, এমপিএস, ইএমএইচই, জিজিডব্লিও, সিএসডব্লিও, ভিআরজে, আইআরএলএস, পিএমএসএলপি, পিএমপিসিএইচআর, পিএমসিসিজে	২০২০(এমজেএস), ২০২২, ২০২৩, ২০২৪, ২০২৫

নং	ডিগ্রি	পরীক্ষা সন
২৪.	বিএসসি সম্মান গার্হস্থ্য অর্থনীতি	২০২১,২০২২,২০২৩,২০২৪
২৫.	এমএস গার্হস্থ্য অর্থনীতি	২০২০, ২০২১, ২০২২, ২০২৩, ২০২৪
২৬.	এমবিবিএস	২০২২,২০২৩,২০২৪, ২০২৫, ২০২৬
২৭.	বিডিএস	২০২২,২০২৩,২০২৪, ২০২৫, ২০২৬
২৮.	বিএসসি নার্সিং (পোস্ট বেসিক)	২০২১,২০২২,২০২৩, ২০২৪, ২০২৫
২৯.	বিএসসি নার্সিং (বেসিক)	২০২২,২০২৩, ২০২৪, ২০২৫
৩০.	এমএসএন (নার্সিং)	২০২৪,২০২৫,২০২৬
৩১.	বিএসসি ইন হেলথ টেকনোলজি (ল্যাবরেটরি/ডেন্টাল/রেডিওলজি এন্ড ইমাজিং/ ফুড সেইফটি/প্রস্থেটিক্স এন্ড অর্থোটিক্স)	২০২১, ২০২২, ২০২৩, ২০২৪,২০২৫
৩২.	বিএসসি (ফিজিওথেরাপি, রিহেবিলিটেশন সায়েন্স, অকুপেশনাল থেরাপি, স্পিচ ল্যাঙ্গুয়েজ থেরাপি)	২০২১(ফিজিওথেরাপি), ২০২২, ২০২৩,২০২৪
৩৩.	এমএসসি (ফিজিওথেরাপি, রিহেবিলিটেশন)	২০২২, ২০২৩,২০২৪
৩৪.	বিইউএমএস, বিএইচএমএস ও বিএএমএস (সকল কলেজ)	২০২০ (বিএইচএমএস), ২০২২,২০২৩,২০২৪
৩৫.	এমএসসি এ্যাপ্লাইড ইপিডিমোলজি	২০২০,২০২১,২০২২,২০২৩, ২০২৪, ২০২৫,২০২৬
৩৬.	এমএস (স্নাতকোত্তর চিকিৎসা বিজ্ঞান ও গবেষণা)	২০২৩,২০২৪,২০২৫, ২০২৬
৩৭.	এমডি (স্নাতকোত্তর চিকিৎসা বিজ্ঞান ও গবেষণা)	২০২৩,২০২৪,২০২৫,২০২৬
৩৮.	বিএসসি ইন ইঞ্জিনিয়ারিং সকল কলেজ	২০২০(ইইই, সিভিল-ময়মনসিংহ ইঞ্জিঃ কলেজ) ২০২১,২০২২,২০২৩,২০২৪
৩৯.	এমএসসি/এমবিএ ইন টেক্সটাইল ইঞ্জিনিয়ারিং	২০২১(এমবিএ), ২০২২, ২০২৩, ২০২৪
৪০.	ব্যাচেলর অব এনভায়রনমেন্টাল এ্যান্ড রিসোর্স ইকোনমিক্স (ঢাকা স্কুল অব ইকোনমিক্স)	২০২১,২০২২,২০২৩, ২০২৪
৪১.	মাস্টার অব ইকোনমিক্স (ঢাকা স্কুল অব ইকোনমিক্স)	২০২২,২০২৩,২০২৪
৪২.	মাস্টার অব ডেভেলপমেন্ট ইকোনমিক্স (বিআইডিএস)	২০২২,২০২৩,২০২৪,২০২৫
৪৩.	এমপিএ (বিআইজিএম)	২০২১,২০২২,২০২৩,২০২৪
৪৪.	পিজিডি ইন ব্রডকাস্ট জার্নালিজম	২০২১
৪৫.	মাস্টার অব হিউম্যান সিকিউরিটি (আনসার একাডেমি)	২০২১,২০২২,২০২৩, ২০২৪, ২০২৫
৪৬.	পিজিডি ইন ফিল্ম এন্ড টেলিভিশন (পাঠশালা সাউথ এশিয়ান মিডিয়া ইনস্টিটিউট)	২০২০,২০২২, ২০২৩, ২০২৪, ২০২৫
৪৭.	পিজিডি ইন এন্টারপ্রাইজ ডেভেলপমেন্ট (ঢাকা স্কুল অব ইকোনমিক্স)	২০২২
৪৮.	বিএসসি ইন টেকনিক্যাল এডুকেশন	২০২০,২০২১
৪৯.	এমবিএম (ডিএসবিএম), এমএএফসিএম (বিআইসিএস)	২০২১,২০২২, ২০২৩,২০২৪
৫০.	বিএ/ বিএসসি/ বিবিএ/ বিএসএস (সম্মান) ৭ কলেজ	২০২১,২০২২, ২০২৩,২০২৪
৫১.	এমএ/এমএসসি/এমবিএ/এমএসএস (৭ কলেজ)	২০২০,২০২১,২০২২, ২০২৩, ২০২৪

উপরে উল্লিখিত পরীক্ষাসমূহে উত্তীর্ণ গ্র্যাজুয়েট ও পদকপ্রাপ্তদের ৫৪তম সমাবর্তন-২০২৭-এ অংশগ্রহণের জন্য আগামী ০১ নভেম্বর ২০২৬ তারিখ, রবিবার, সকাল ৮:০০টা থেকে ৩০ নভেম্বর ২০২৬ তারিখ, সোমবার, রাত ১১:৫৯টার মধ্যে https://convocation.du.ac.bd ওয়েবসাইটের মাধ্যমে অনলাইনে আবেদন করতে হবে।

অনলাইনে আবেদন প্রক্রিয়াটি মোট ৪টি ধাপে সম্পন্ন করতে হবে। আবেদনকারীদের আগামী ৩০ নভেম্বর ২০২৬ তারিখ, সোমবার, রাত ১১:৫৯টার মধ্যে অবশ্যই প্রথম ধাপ সম্পন্ন করতে হবে। পরবর্তীতে, ০২ ডিসেম্বর ২০২৬ তারিখ, বুধবার, রাত ১১:৫৯টার মধ্যে অনলাইনে পেমেন্ট সম্পন্ন করতে হবে।

নিবন্ধন, মূল সনদ উত্তোলন ও ট্রানজেকশন ফি:

স্নাতক (পাস ও অনার্স/সমমান/ফিজিওথেরাপি/হেলথ টেকনোলজি ও বিএসসি ইন নার্সিং সহ অন্যান্য) গ্র্যাজুয়েট ও পদকপ্রাপ্ত	নিবন্ধন ফি ৩,৫০০/- টাকা	সমাবর্তনের নিবন্ধন ফি এর সাথে মূল সনদ ফি ৩০০/- টাকা ও অন্যান্য বকেয়া (যদি থাকে) জমা দিতে হবে। ফি পরিশোধের ক্ষেত্রে অনলাইন ট্রানজেকশন চার্জ প্রযোজ্য হবে।
স্নাতকোত্তর (মাস্টার্স/সমমান)	নিবন্ধন ফি ৫,০০০/- টাকা	
এমবিবিএস, বিডিএস, এমফিল, পিএইচডি, ডিবিএ, এমএস/এমডি/এমফিল (মেডিকেল), পোস্ট গ্র্যাজুয়েট ডিপ্লোমা ইন মেডিকেল সায়েন্সসহ অন্যান্য	নিবন্ধন ফি ৬,০০০/- টাকা	
স্নাতকোত্তর (ইভিনিং/এক্সিকিউটিভ) ডিগ্রীধারী	নিবন্ধন ফি ৮,০০০/- টাকা	

গ্র্যাজুয়েটদের যদি কেউ ডিগ্রীর মূল সনদ পূর্বে সংগ্রহ করে থাকেন তিনি পরীক্ষা নিয়ন্ত্রকের অফিসে (কক্ষ নং-৩০৯) মূল সনদ জমা দিয়ে সমাবর্তনে অংশগ্রহণ করতে পারবেন। সেক্ষেত্রে অনলাইনে সমাবর্তনের নিবন্ধনের ০২(দুই)টি কপিসহ মূল সনদ জমা দিবেন। এক্ষেত্রে নতুন করে মূল সনদ উত্তোলন বাবদ ৩০০/- টাকা জমা দেয়ার প্রয়োজন হবে না।

সমাবর্তনের আমন্ত্রণপত্র, একাডেমিক কস্টিউম ও গিফট্ সংগ্রহ :

আগামী ২৩ ও ২৪ জানুয়ারি ২০২৭ তারিখ, শনিবার ও রবিবার সকাল ১০:০০টা থেকে বিকাল ৪:০০টা পর্যন্ত নিম্নে উল্লেখিত স্থানসমূহ হতে অংশগ্রহণকারী গ্র্যাজুয়েটদের আমন্ত্রণপত্র, একাডেমিক কস্টিউম ও গিফট্ সংগ্রহ করতে হবেঃ

১.	**কলা অনুষদ ভবনঃ**	কলা এবং আইন অনুষদভুক্ত বিভাগসমূহ, শিক্ষা ও গবেষণা এবং আধুনিক ভাষা ইনস্টিটিউটের গ্র্যাজুয়েটবৃন্দ।
২.	**কার্জন হল কেন্দ্রঃ**	বিজ্ঞান, জীববিজ্ঞান, ফার্মেসী, আর্থ এন্ড এনভারয়নমেন্টাল সায়েন্সেস, ইঞ্জিনিয়ারিং এন্ড টেকনোলজি অনুষদভুক্ত বিভাগসমূহ এবং পুষ্টি ও খাদ্য বিজ্ঞান, অ্যাপ্লাইড স্ট্যাটিস্টিক্স অ্যান্ড ডাটা সায়েন্স, তথ্য প্রযুক্তি, শক্তি, লেদার ইঞ্জিনিয়ারিং এন্ড টেকনোলজি ইনস্টিটিউট, হোমিওপ্যাথি, ইউনানী, আয়ুর্বেদিক ও ইঞ্জিনিয়ারিং কলেজসমূহ এবং জাতীয় বস্ত্র প্রকৌশল ও গবেষণা ইনস্টিটিউট-এর গ্র্যাজুয়েটবৃন্দ।
৩.	**বিজনেস স্টাডিজ অনুষদ ভবনঃ**	বিজনেস স্টাডিজ অনুষদভুক্ত বিভাগসমূহ, ব্যবসায় প্রশাসন ইনস্টিটিউট, ঢাকা স্কুল অব ব্যাংক ম্যানেজমেন্ট এবং বাংলাদেশ ইনস্টিটিউট অব ক্যাপিটাল মার্কেট এর গ্র্যাজুয়েটবৃন্দ।
৪.	**সামাজিক বিজ্ঞান অনুষদ ভবনঃ**	সামাজিক বিজ্ঞান এবং চারুকলা অনুষদভুক্ত বিভাগসমূহ, সমাজকল্যাণ ও গবেষণা, স্বাস্থ্য অর্থনীতি এবং ডিজাস্টার ম্যানেজমেন্ট এন্ড ভালনারেবিলিটি স্টাডিজ ইনস্টিটিউট, বাংলাদেশ আনসার ও ভিডিপি একাডেমি, ঢাকা স্কুল অব ব্রডকাস্ট জার্নালিজম, বিআইডিএস গ্র্যাজুয়েট স্কুল অব ইকনোমিক্স, বাংলাদেশ ইনস্টিটিউট অব গভর্ন্যান্স এন্ড ম্যানেজমেন্ট, ঢাকা স্কুল অব ইকনোমিক্স এবং পাঠশালা সাউথ এশিয়ান মিডিয়া ইনস্টিটিউট-এর গ্র্যাজুয়েটবৃন্দ।
৫.	**ছাত্র-শিক্ষক কেন্দ্রঃ**	শিক্ষা অনুষদ, চিকিৎসা অনুষদ, স্নাতকোত্তর চিকিৎসা বিজ্ঞান ও গবেষণা অনুষদ, গার্হস্থ্য অর্থনীতি কলেজসমূহের গ্র্যাজুয়েটবৃন্দ এবং এমফিল, পিএইচডি, ডিবিএ ও পদকপ্রাপ্তগণ।
৬.	সরকারি ৭ কলেজ (ঢাকা কলেজ, ইডেন মহিলা কলেজ, বেগম বদরুন্নেছা সরকারি মহিলা কলেজ, সরকারি তিতুমীর কলেজ, কবি নজরুল সরকারি কলেজ, সরকারি বাংলা কলেজ এবং সরকারি শহীদ সোহরাওয়ার্দী কলেজ) এর স্ব স্ব ক্যাম্পাস	স্ব-স্ব কলেজ-এর গ্র্যাজুয়েটবৃন্দ (ঢাকা বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের অধীনে শিক্ষা কার্যক্রম সম্পন্নকারী শিক্ষার্থী)।

উক্ত তারিখ ও সময় ছাড়া আমন্ত্রণপত্র, একাডেমিক কস্টিউম ও গিফট্ প্রদান করা হবে না। একাডেমিক কস্টিউম ও গিফট্ গ্রহণের রসিদ জমা দিয়ে নির্ধারিত কাউন্টার হতে আমন্ত্রণপত্র, একাডেমিক কস্টিউম ও গিফট্ সংগ্রহ করতে হবে এবং সমাবর্তন অনুষ্ঠান শেষে উক্ত কাউন্টারে একাডেমিক কস্টিউম ফেরত প্রদান করতে হবে।

২৬ জানুয়ারি ২০২৭ তারিখ, মঙ্গলবার নির্ধারিত সময়ের মধ্যে (সময় পরবর্তীতে জানানো হবে) সমাবর্তন অনুষ্ঠানস্থলে প্রবেশ করে নির্ধারিত আসন গ্রহণ করতে হবে। আমন্ত্রণপত্র ছাড়া অনুষ্ঠানস্থলে প্রবেশ করা যাবে না। গ্র্যাজুয়েট ও পদকপ্রাপ্তদের বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় কর্তৃক সরবরাহকৃত নির্দিষ্ট একাডেমিক কস্টিউম (পোশাক) পরিধান ছাড়া ২৫ জানুয়ারি ২০২৭ তারিখ, সোমবার সমাবর্তন রিহার্সেলে এবং ২৬ জানুয়ারি ২০২৭ তারিখ, মঙ্গলবার অনুষ্টেয় সমাবর্তনে অংশগ্রহণ করা যাবে না।

মাননীয় চ্যান্সেলর সমাবর্তন প্যান্ডেলে প্রবেশ করে মঞ্চে আসন গ্রহণ না করা পর্যন্ত সমাবর্তনে অংশগ্রহণকারীদের নিজ নিজ আসনের সামনে দাঁড়িয়ে থাকতে হবে এবং সমাবর্তন শেষে সমাবর্তনস্থল ত্যাগ না করা পর্যন্ত নিজ নিজ আসনে থাকতে হবে।

বিশেষ দ্রষ্টব্যঃ

- একাডেমিক কস্টিউম ধোলাই বা ইস্ত্রি করা যাবে না।
- নির্ধারিত তারিখের মধ্যে কস্টিউম ফেরত না দিলে প্রতিদিন বিলম্বের জন্য আর্থিক জরিমানা দিতে হবে।
- আমন্ত্রণপত্র হস্তান্তরযোগ্য নয়।
- মোবাইল ফোন, হ্যান্ডব্যাগ, ছাতা, পানির বোতল ও ক্যামেরা নিয়ে অনুষ্ঠানস্থলে প্রবেশ করা যাবে না।
- আমন্ত্রণপত্র ছাড়া অনুষ্ঠানস্থলে কোন অতিথি প্রবেশ করতে পারবে না।
- অনুষ্ঠানস্থলে প্রবেশের পর বাইরে যাওয়া-আসা না করাই সমীচীন।

৫৪তম সমাবর্তন-২০২৭: অনলাইন আবেদন প্রক্রিয়ার নির্দেশনা

উল্লিখিত পরীক্ষাসমূহে উত্তীর্ণ গ্র্যাজুয়েট ও পদকপ্রাপ্তদের ৫৪তম সমাবর্তন-২০২৭-এ অংশগ্রহণের জন্য আগামী ০১ নভেম্বর ২০২৬ তারিখ, রবিবার, সকাল ৮:০০টা থেকে ৩০ নভেম্বর ২০২৬ তারিখ, সোমবার, রাত ১১:৫৯টার মধ্যে https://convocation.du.ac.bd ওয়েবসাইটের মাধ্যমে অনলাইনে আবেদন করতে হবে। অনলাইন আবেদন প্রক্রিয়াটি মোট ৪টি ধাপে সম্পন্ন করতে হবে। ধাপসমূহের বিস্তারিত নির্দেশনা নিম্নরূপঃ

প্রথম ধাপঃ অনলাইনে আবেদন দাখিল

আবেদনকারীকে https://convocation.du.ac.bd ওয়েবসাইটে লগইন করে ড্যাশবোর্ড থেকে "Apply for Convocation" অপশনে ক্লিক করতে হবে। অতঃপর প্রয়োজনীয় তথ্য প্রদান করে আবেদনটি সাবমিট করতে হবে।

যেসব শিক্ষার্থীর পরীক্ষা নিয়ন্ত্রকের দপ্তরের সংশ্লিষ্ট সিস্টেম (eco.du.ac.bd)-এ পূর্ব থেকেই একাউন্ট রয়েছে, তারা ওই একাউন্টের ই-মেইল ও পাসওয়ার্ড ব্যবহার করে সমাবর্তনের ওয়েবসাইটে লগইন করতে পারবেন। যাদের কোনো একাউন্ট নেই, তারা কনভোকেশন ওয়েবসাইটে নতুন করে সাইন আপ করে একাউন্ট তৈরি করতে পারবেন। উল্লেখ্য, তৈরি করা এই একাউন্টটি পরবর্তীতেও পরীক্ষা নিয়ন্ত্রকের দপ্তরের সংশ্লিষ্ট সিস্টেমে অন্যান্য কার্যক্রম সম্পাদনের জন্য ব্যবহার করা যাবে।

আবেদনকারী প্রয়োজনীয় তথ্য পূরণ করে আবেদনটি প্রথম ধাপে থাকা অবস্থায় সংরক্ষণ করতে পারবেন এবং প্রয়োজনে ড্যাশবোর্ড থেকে আবেদনটি খুলে তথ্য হালনাগাদ করতে পারবেন। আবেদন সাবমিট করার পর এতে আর কোনো ধরনের পরিবর্তন বা সংশোধন করা যাবে না। সাবমিট করা আবেদনটি স্বয়ংক্রিয়ভাবে দ্বিতীয় ধাপে যাচাই-বাছাই ও প্রয়োজনীয় ক্লিয়ারেন্সের জন্য প্রেরিত হবে।

আবেদনের সময়সীমাঃ আগামী **৩০ নভেম্বর ২০২৬ তারিখ, সোমবার, রাত ১১:৫৯**টার মধ্যে প্রথম ধাপ সম্পন্ন করতে হবে। উল্লিখিত সময়সীমা অতিক্রান্ত হওয়ার পর নতুন কোনো আবেদন সাবমিট করে দ্বিতীয় ধাপে প্রেরণ করা যাবে না।

দ্বিতীয় ধাপঃ আবেদন যাচাই-বাছাই, অনুমোদন, ক্লিয়ারেন্স ও বকেয়া নির্ধারণ

এই ধাপে ঢাকা বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের সংশ্লিষ্ট হল, হিসাব পরিচালকের দপ্তর এবং অধিভুক্ত ও উপাদানকল্প কলেজ/ইনস্টিটিউটের দায়িত্বপ্রাপ্ত কর্মকর্তাগণ তাদের আওতাধীন আবেদনসমূহ যাচাই-বাছাই করে প্রয়োজনীয় অনুমোদন ও ক্লিয়ারেন্স প্রদান করবেন। আবেদনকারীর কোনো বকেয়া থাকলে সংশ্লিষ্ট কর্তৃপক্ষ তা আবেদনের সঙ্গে উল্লেখ করবেন।

এ ধাপে আবেদনকারীর নিজস্ব কোনো কার্যক্রম সম্পাদনের প্রয়োজন নেই। সংশ্লিষ্ট সকল কর্তৃপক্ষের অনুমোদন ও ক্লিয়ারেন্স সম্পন্ন হলে আবেদনটি স্বয়ংক্রিয়ভাবে তৃতীয় ধাপে স্থানান্তরিত হবে এবং আবেদনকারীকে ই-মেইলে/এসএমএস-এর মাধ্যমে বিষয়টি জানানো হবে। এছাড়া আবেদনকারী নিজস্ব ড্যাশবোর্ড থেকেও আবেদনের বর্তমান অবস্থা দেখতে পারবেন।

অনুমোদন সম্পন্নের সময়সীমাঃ দ্বিতীয় ধাপে আবেদন যাচাই-বাছাই, অনুমোদন ও ক্লিয়ারেন্স সম্পন্ন করতে সংশ্লিষ্ট কর্তৃপক্ষের ২৪-৪৮ ঘণ্টা সময় লাগতে পারে। তবে, বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় প্রশাসন ০১ ডিসেম্বর ২০২৬ তারিখ, মঙ্গলবারের মধ্যে সংশ্লিষ্ট সকল কর্তৃপক্ষের যাচাই-বাছাই, অনুমোদন ও ক্লিয়ারেন্সের কার্যক্রম সম্পন্ন হওয়া নিশ্চিত করবেন, যাতে আবেদনকারীরা নির্ধারিত সময়ের মধ্যে তৃতীয় ধাপে প্রবেশ করে অনলাইনে ফি পরিশোধ করতে পারেন।

তৃতীয় ধাপঃ অনলাইনে ফি পরিশোধ

দ্বিতীয় ধাপের সকল অনুমোদন ও ক্লিয়ারেন্স সম্পন্ন হওয়ার পর আবেদনকারী তৃতীয় ধাপে অনলাইনে ফি পরিশোধ করতে পারবেন। এক্ষেত্রে সমাবর্তনের নির্ধারিত ফি-এর সঙ্গে দ্বিতীয় ধাপে নির্ধারিত বকেয়া (যদি থাকে) যোগ করে প্রদেয় মোট অর্থ অনলাইনে পরিশোধ করতে হবে। পেমেন্ট সফলভাবে সম্পন্ন হলে আবেদনটি স্বয়ংক্রিয়ভাবে চতুর্থ ধাপে স্থানান্তরিত হবে।

পেমেন্টের সময়সীমাঃ আগামী ০২ ডিসেম্বর ২০২৬ তারিখ, বুধবার, রাত ১১:৫৯ টার মধ্যে অনলাইনে পেমেন্ট সম্পন্ন করতে হবে। উক্ত সময়সীমার পর আর কোনো পেমেন্ট করা যাবে না। নির্ধারিত সময়ের মধ্যে পেমেন্ট সম্পন্ন না হলে সংশ্লিষ্ট আবেদনগুলো স্বয়ংক্রিয়ভাবে বাতিল হয়ে যাবে।

চতুর্থ ধাপঃ সনদ উত্তোলনের আবেদন ফরম জমা ও প্রয়োজনীয় কাগজপত্র সংরক্ষণ

চতুর্থ ধাপে শুধু এমফিল, পিএইচডি ও ডিবিএ ডিগ্রিধারীদের সিস্টেম থেকে সনদ উত্তোলনের আবেদন ফরম ডাউনলোড করে স্বাক্ষরপূর্বক আগামী ০৩ ডিসেম্বর ২০২৬ তারিখ, বৃহস্পতিবার, বিকাল ৪:০০টার মধ্যে সংশ্লিষ্ট বিভাগ/ইনস্টিটিউটে জমা দিতে হবে।

অন্যদিকে, যেসব গ্র্যাজুয়েট ইতোমধ্যে তাদের মূল সনদ উত্তোলন করেছেন, তাদের সমাবর্তনের আবেদন ফরম ০২(দুই) কপি প্রিন্ট করে মূল সনদসহ আগামী ০৩ ডিসেম্বর ২০২৬ তারিখ, বৃহস্পতিবার, বিকাল ৪:০০টার মধ্যে পরীক্ষা নিয়ন্ত্রকের দপ্তরের ৩০৯ নম্বর কক্ষে জমা দিতে হবে। উল্লেখ, এমফিল, পিএইচডি ও ডিবিএ ডিগ্রিধারী এবং ইতোপূর্বে মূল সনদ উত্তোলনকারী গ্র্যাজুয়েট **ব্যতীত অন্য কোনো আবেদনকারীকে আবেদন ফরম জমা নিতে হবে না। আবেদনকারীকে** নিম্নেবর্ণিত কাগজপত্র কনভোকেশন ওয়েবসাইট থেকে ডাউনলোড করে সমাবর্তন এবং সনদ উত্তোলন কার্যক্রম সম্পন্ন না হওয়া পর্যন্ত সংরক্ষণ করতে হবেঃ

ক) সমাবর্তনের আবেদনপত্র;
খ) সমাবর্তনের পোশাক (কস্টিউম) গ্রহণের ফরম;
গ) গৃহীত কস্টিউম ফেরত প্রদানের রসিদ;
ঘ) গিফট গ্রহণের ফরম; এবং
ঙ) ফি জমা প্রদানের রসিদ।

২৬/১০/২০২৬

মুনসী শামস উদ্দিন আহম্মদ
রেজিস্ট্রার (ভারপ্রাপ্ত)
ঢাকা বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়

প্রশাসনিক ভবন
ঢাকা বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়

GD-2599

কৃষিই সমৃদ্ধি

বাংলাদেশ কৃষি গবেষণা ইনস্টিটিউট
Bangladesh Agricultural Research Institute

সংগ্রহ ও ভান্ডার শাখা
গাজীপুর-১৭০১ ।

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Memo no: 12.21.0000.000.007.05.0351.26.1392 Date: 26 October, 2026

e-GP: Tender Notice No. 09 (2026-2027)

e-Tender is invited in the e-GP system Portal (http://www.eprocure.gov.bd) for the procurement of the following goods. Details are given below:

Sl No	Package no.	Tender ID & Ref No	Description of goods	Tender Documents Last selling (Date & Time)	Tender Closing date & Time	Tender Opening date & Time
01.	GD-08	1351086 & IRN: 0351	Office Furniture 06 (Six) Items.	08.11.2026 11:00	08.11.2026 12:00	08.11.2026 12:00
02.	GD-09	1351626 & IRN: 0360	Office Furniture (Conference Room) 05 (Five) Items.	08.11.2026 11:30	08.11.2026 12:30	08.11.2026 12:30

The interested persons/firm may visit the website www.eprocure.gov.bd to get the details of the tender.
This is an online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the national e-GP portal and no offline/hard copy will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP system portal is required.
Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP system portal and e-GP Help Desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).
Budget Type: Strengthening Regional Pulse Research Station, Madaripur and increase production of pulse crops at greater Barishal, Faridpur Region (2nd Revised).

(Md. Younus Ali)
(BARI-0663),
Deputy Director (In-Charge)
On behalf of Director General

GD-2594

LAW VISION

From Law to Practice: Building Workplaces Free from Sexual Harassment

SK. JENEFA K. JABBAR

Bangladesh has taken important steps towards addressing sexual harassment at work. The Labour Act has been strengthened, sexual harassment is now addressed in legislation, and Bangladesh has ratified ILO Convention №190 (C190) on Violence and Harassment. With the Labour Rules now under review, the opportunity before us is to turn these commitments into a system that works in practice.

The question is no longer whether sexual harassment should be addressed. It is how Bangladesh can create a framework that people in the world of work can trust, organisations can operate, and regulators can enforce.

This is first a matter of rights. No one should have to trade dignity, safety or equality for work. When harassment occurs, and there is no effective response, inaction can allow a rights violation to continue. C190 recognises the right to a world of work free from violence and harassment and calls for prevention, protection, enforcement, remedies and effective investigation.

It is worth noting that poorly handled complaints can turn workplace problems into prolonged disputes, loss of trust, reputational damage and organisational disruption. For organisations, prevention and effective response are therefore not simply compliance costs; they are part of good governance, risk management and institutional performance.

For government, this is fundamentally about giving practical effect to Bangladesh's international and national commitments. Bangladesh ratified C190 in November 2025, and the Convention enters into force for Bangladesh on 20 November 2026. C190 calls for an inclusive, integrated and gender-responsive approach to preventing and addressing violence and harassment, including prevention, enforcement, remedies, investigation, training and social dialogue.

The current reform of the Labour Rules therefore provides an important opportunity to ensure that Bangladesh's domestic framework can give practical effect to these commitments. The next stage should not simply be to add more requirements to the Rules. It should be to ensure that the Labour Act and the Rules operate as one coherent system.

First, the relationship between Sections 23, 24, 332 and 332A needs to be clarified. Sections 23 and 24 provide the misconduct and disciplinary framework, while Sections 332 and 332A address prevention of violence and harassment and establish the complaints committee. The legal framework should clearly explain how an investigation into sexual harassment connects with the disciplinary process when misconduct is established, who initiates disciplinary proceedings, who makes the final decision, and what safeguards apply to all parties.

The objective is not to prejudge a complaint or to make the complaints committee a substitute for disciplinary authority. It is to establish a clear pathway from complaint, investigation and findings to disciplinary decision-making and remedy. If the Act does not provide a sufficient legal basis for that pathway, the relevant provisions of the Act may need amendment; the Rules alone cannot create substantive legal duties or consequences that the Act does not support.

Second, Section 332 needs to be operationalised through the Rules. The amended provision places responsibilities on employers and authorities to prevent violence and harassment and to establish preventive measures. The Rules should translate these broad duties into practical requirements covering workplace policies, risk assessment, awareness and training, reporting, protection and prevention.

Third, Section 332A needs clear procedural and institutional rules. The Act establishes a five-member complaints committee, with a majority of women, a woman chair and two members from organisations working on gender and sexual violence. The committee is expressly responsible for investigating complaints. The Rules should clarify its mandate, competence, independence, timelines, confidentiality, reporting lines and safeguards against interference. They should also clarify how its investigation and findings connect with the formal disciplinary process and the authority responsible for the final decision.

Fourth, the Rules should establish a clear end-to-end process: how a concern is received; how immediate safety is assessed; when a matter proceeds to formal investigation; who investigates; how conflicts of interest are managed; how evidence is assessed; who initiates any disciplinary or other action; who makes the final decision; how the parties are informed; and what remedies and avenues for review are available.

The framework should also recognise that sexual harassment is not always worker-to-worker conduct. It may involve supervisors, managers, contractors, clients, service providers or others connected with the workplace. The system should therefore ensure that a complaint does not fall outside the protection of the framework simply because the complainant or respondent does not fit a narrow statutory category.

Fifth, there must be effective protection against retaliation and victimisation, alongside confidentiality and safe reporting. Protection should extend, where appropriate, to complainants, witnesses, committee members and others participating in a process. At the same time, confidentiality must be balanced with the requirements of a fair investigation and the respondent's right to know and respond to the relevant allegations.

Finally, the Rules need to be workable across different sectors and organisational sizes. A multinational, a large factory, an NGO and a smaller enterprise may require different operational arrangements, but all should be capable of meeting the same core principles of prevention, safe reporting, fair investigation, accountability and remedy.

This distinction between law and Rules matters. The Act should establish substantive rights, duties, misconduct and protections. The Rules should provide the practical machinery through which those rights and duties can be exercised and enforced. Rules can operationalise the law; they cannot substitute for substantive gaps in the Act.

Why does this matter?

For people in the world of work, a credible system means that speaking up does not have to mean risking their livelihood, dignity, safety or professional standing.

For organisations, it provides clarity, consistency and a defensible process for managing workplace risk. It also helps address problems before they become entrenched disputes, turnover, absenteeism or wider disruption.

For workers' organisations and trade unions, it provides greater confidence that workers can raise concerns and exercise their rights without retaliation. For employers' organisations and industry associations, a clear and workable framework provides a more level playing field and reduces uncertainty about how cases should be handled.

For government, it demonstrates that Bangladesh's international commitments are being translated into domestic practice rather than remaining commitments on paper. For the development sector, credible PSEAH and safeguarding systems are increasingly important to maintaining donor and partner confidence. For business, the issue extends beyond the workplace itself. Responsible-business expectations increasingly reach into supply chains. Buyers want evidence that labour rights, worker voice, grievance mechanisms, investigation and remedy are functioning in practice, not simply that a policy exists.

There is also a wider market-access dimension. The European Union is Bangladesh's largest trading partner, and textiles account for the overwhelming majority of EU imports from Bangladesh. Bangladesh currently benefits from the EU's Everything but Arms arrangement. Following LDC graduation, Bangladesh will continue to receive EBA preferences for at least three years and has the possibility of seeking GSP+, subject to its conditions. The EU's revised GSP framework, applying from 1 January 2027, places continued emphasis on human rights, labour rights, sustainable development and good governance.

The supply-chain implications are also becoming more significant. From 14 December 2027, the EU Forced Labour Regulation will prohibit products made with forced labour from being placed on, made available on, or exported from the EU market. Sexual harassment should not be equated with forced labour. However, violence, intimidation, abuse of vulnerability and other coercive practices can be relevant to wider labour-rights and forced-labour risks. For businesses and supply chains, credible worker voice, grievance, investigation and remedy mechanisms are therefore increasingly part of responsible risk management.

This matters for Bangladesh's export-oriented economy. Market access is no longer determined only by price, quality and delivery. Increasingly, buyers, regulators and consumers want confidence that labour rights and responsible-business commitments are implemented in practice.

The case is therefore not simply about compliance. It is about good governance and good business. A credible system can protect rights, reduce avoidable productivity losses, strengthen trust across the workplace, support responsible supply chains, meet Bangladesh's international commitments, strengthen donor confidence and contribute to continued access to important markets. These are not competing interests. People in the world of work need protection and remedy. Organisations need clarity and workable processes. Government needs an enforceable framework. Trade unions need confidence in workers' rights. Development partners need credible safeguarding systems. Industry needs a level playing field. Buyers need confidence in responsible supply chains.

They all point towards the same objective: a workplace system that works in practice.



Poorly handled complaints can turn workplace problems into prolonged disputes, loss of trust, reputational damage and organisational disruption. For organisations, prevention and effective response are therefore not simply compliance costs; they are part of good governance, risk management and institutional performance.

The writer is a Barrister-at-Law and Principal of Jenefa Jabbar Consultancy.

YOUR ADVOCATE

When does non-payment amount to cheating?

*This week, Your Advocate is **Barrister Omar H. Khan**, Advocate of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh. He heads the chambers of the renowned law firm 'Legal Counsel,' a full-service corporate practice in Bangladesh with extensive expertise in commercial, family, labour, land, constitutional and criminal law, as well as dispute resolution.*

Query

Hello, I run a small business in Bangladesh. A few months ago, another company approached me to purchase goods on credit. Before supplying the goods, they assured me they could pay within the agreed time and provided various business documents and information to support their claims. We agreed that they would pay within 30 days of delivery. Relying on these assurances, I supplied the goods.

However, after receiving the goods, they failed to make payment despite repeated reminders. On top of that, I have now come across information suggesting that some of the statements and documents provided by them may not have been genuine. I suspect that they may have misled me from the beginning to obtain goods without any intention of paying.

I believe I have been cheated. Can I file a criminal case against them? What legal steps should I take, and where should I file a complaint?

Sefina Hossian

Response

Thank you for your query. When a buyer fails to pay, a business owner may wonder whether the matter is a civil dispute or a criminal offence. I understand that such situations can affect a business financially and leave business owners uncertain and concerned about what steps to take next.

The answer depends on the facts of each case. Not every failure to pay amounts to a criminal offence. For instance, if a buyer intended to pay but later became unable to do so because of financial difficulties or business losses, the matter will only be a civil dispute.

However, the situation is different when a person never intended to pay from the beginning and used false information, misleading representations, or fake documents to persuade another person to deliver goods. In such circumstances, the conduct may amount to the criminal offence of cheating.

Section 415 of the Penal Code, 1860 defines cheating. It defines it as deceiving a person to dishonestly or fraudulently induce them to deliver property, or to consent that any person shall retain any property, or intentionally induce a person to do or omit to do something they would not otherwise have done. The conduct must cause, or be likely to cause, harm to the person's body, mind, reputation or property. Under section 417, cheating is punishable with imprisonment for up to one year, a fine, or both. Where such deception results in the delivery of property, section 420 of the Penal Code 1860 may apply. A person convicted under section 420 may be punished with imprisonment for up to seven years and shall also be liable to a fine.

The key question, therefore, is whether the other party intended to deceive you from the very beginning. An honestly made promise that is later broken is not necessarily cheating. However, if the promise to pay was made only to convince you to supply goods when there was no intention of making payment, criminal liability can arise.

Since cheating can be cognisable or non-cognisable depending on the section that applies, the first step varies. You may approach the police station having jurisdiction over the place where the alleged offence occurred. If the information you provide discloses a cognisable offence, section 154 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898 requires the police to record your complaint in writing (if it is made orally), read it back to you, obtain your signature and enter it in the prescribed register.

After receiving the information, the police may investigate the matter. During the investigation, they may collect relevant evidence, examine witnesses and take other steps permitted by law. Once the investigation is completed, the police may submit a report before the court under section 173 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898. If the offence is non-cognisable or if the police do not take action despite the complaint disclosing a cognizable offence, you can approach the Magistrate. Under section 190 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898, a Magistrate may take cognisance of an offence upon receiving a complaint and proceed in accordance with the law.

It is also important to assess whether the amount justifies filing a case. A criminal case does not deal with recovery of money; rather, it is concerned with punishment for a crime. However, practically, it is sometimes seen that the perpetrator comes forward to pay the amount in order to settle the case. I would advise you to formally write to them and demand payment. If they do not pay, you may decide to serve a legal notice to them through a lawyer. Only after that should you consider filing a case.



Since cheating can be cognisable or non-cognisable depending on the section that applies, the first step varies. You may approach the police station having jurisdiction over the place where the alleged offence occurred. If the information you provide discloses a cognisable offence, section 154 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898 requires the police to record your complaint in writing (if it is made orally), read it back to you, obtain your signature and enter it in the prescribed register.

DHAKA WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 28, 2026, KARTIK 12, 1433 BS

SPORT

Tigers' spin dilemma in Mirpur

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh head into today's crucial first Test against West Indies in Mirpur uncertain about the conditions they will encounter. Pace has been a strength for the Tigers in the current World Test Championship (WTC) cycle, but the visitors also boast a formidable pace attack for the two-match series.

Statistics, however, suggest that relying heavily on spin against stronger opposition at the Sher-e-Bangla National Cricket Stadium has rarely paid off for Bangladesh.

There has been speculation that the team management has requested a spin-friendly pitch in Mirpur. But after the venue recently produced more sporting surfaces, a shift towards a turning track would mean moving away from Bangladesh's pace strength while exposing their batters to the challenges posed by Mirpur's turners.

Bangladesh have played nine Tests in Mirpur over the past five years, six of them against top opposition. Since December 2021, they have hosted Pakistan, Sri Lanka, India, New Zealand, South Africa and Pakistan again at the venue. Their only win in those six matches came against Pakistan this year, while the other five ended in defeats.

Bangladesh earned plaudits after that victory, particularly for the balance between pace and spin. Nahid Rana made the difference on the final day, with reverse swing from the old ball working in the Tigers' favour.

The pace attack had also developed well, aided by some assistance from the surface. The Mirpur pitch looked green in the days leading up to the match, but appeared more barren as the Test approached.

"I still think they're going to probably shave down some grass [from the wicket] or have a little more preparation," West Indies skipper Roston Chase said at Tuesday's



press conference.

"Obviously, with the amount of grass, you would think that it may be more spin-friendly, but looking at it, it still looks a bit dry underneath. And it's Bangladesh. Bangladesh is really known for mainly spin, so we think that it will get some spin also," he added.

Exactly how much turn the surface will offer remains to be seen. However, Bangladesh's recent record in Mirpur suggests that spin has often been a double-edged sword. Over the past five years, spinners have taken 80 wickets against Bangladesh at the venue, compared with 73 for pace bowlers.

In 2021, Bangladesh lost to Pakistan by an innings and eight runs despite nearly two days being lost to rain. Off-spinner Sajid Khan claimed 12 wickets across the two innings, including eight for 42.

A year later, Ravichandran Ashwin and Axar Patel combined to take nine wickets as India edged Bangladesh out on a surface that offered little assistance to the pacers.

In 2023, New Zealand's spin trio of Ajaz Patel, Mitchell Santner and Glenn Phillips dominated their Bangladesh counterparts, taking 17 wickets between them in the Mirpur Test. The home side's spin-heavy approach backfired badly.

With Bangladesh still harbouring hopes of reaching the WTC final, their pace resources offer a strong alternative. Captain Najmul Hossain Shanto indicated that the quicks were ready to deliver.

"Our pacers are very clear about what conditions they will play in, and preparation-wise, they are all in a good position. That's a positive, as I can pick them for any match," Shanto said when asked about the pace attack.

With West Indies also armed with a formidable pace unit, the surface could prove decisive. Whether Bangladesh stick to their strengths or put their faith in spin remains to be seen -- as does whether a turning track will work in their favour or backfire once again.



Bangladesh captain Najmul Hossain Shanto and West Indies captain Roston Chase pose with the trophy on the eve of the first of their two-Test series, which begins at the Sher-e-Bangla National Cricket Stadium today. PHOTO: FIROZ AHMED



HARRY NO WIZARD, but he broke the curse

TANVIR AHMED PRANTO

Harry Kane needed a moment to take it all in as his name was announced as the men's Ballon d'Or winner at the London Palladium yesterday. The England captain sat absorbing the moment, with Lamine Yamal and Rodri applauding beside him. After years of doubt, heartbreak and relentless pursuit, Kane had reached the summit of world football.

The boy Arsenal reportedly rejected as too 'chubby' was now the best footballer in the world.

Football has its wizards, the likes of Kylian Mbappe and Lamine Yamal, whose extraordinary talent marked them out for greatness from an early age. Kane's rise was different. There was no teenage explosion or overnight sensation, but a slower, harder journey shaped by setbacks and closed doors. For him, reaching the top took years, not spells.

Leyton Orient, Millwall, Norwich City and Leicester City offered no guarantees. At Norwich, opportunities were scarce before a foot injury stalled his progress. At Leicester, he was a substitute in the 2013 Championship play-off defeat to Watford.

"If I can't play for Norwich or for Leicester, even in the Championship, then how am I going to get back and play for Tottenham?" he later recalled thinking.

He returned to Spurs to become their record goalscorer, with 280 goals in 435 appearances, and England's all-time leading scorer with 91 international goals.

But one curse refused to loosen its grip.

For all the records and individual accolades, Kane's lack of major trophies became a punchline. At Tottenham, silverware remained elusive. With England, he endured the agony of losing European Championship finals in 2021 and 2024.

It was painful to watch him come so close, only to fall short. He had given the country so many reasons to believe, yet the biggest prizes remained out of reach.

His move to Bayern Munich in 2023 was supposed to change that. Instead, his first season in Germany ended without a trophy, prolonging a narrative that seemed almost impossible to escape.

Then came the breakthrough.

Kane began winning silverware with Bayern and took his performances to extraordinary heights. His 73 goals in 65 appearances for club and country in 2025-26 underlined his remarkable consistency. No longer just a ruthless finisher, he had become a complete forward, capable of creating chances, dictating play and making those around him better.

There was no teenage explosion or overnight sensation, but a slower, harder journey shaped by setbacks and closed doors. For Harry Kane, reaching the top took years, not spells.

The curse had finally been broken.

Yet the most revealing part of his coronation was his humility. There was no grandstanding or attempt to settle scores with his doubters. His acceptance speech reflected a player who understood the work behind the glory and the people who had helped him along the way.

Soon after the ceremony, he posted: "Work hard in silence. Let success make your noise."

He let his success do the talking, just as he always had.

For England supporters, his triumph feels personal. He has spent years carrying the nation's hopes, enduring its heartbreak and giving it reasons to believe again. In his own way, he has been a Wonderwall for those who followed him through the near-misses and disappointments.

Harry is no wizard. He never needed a magic wand. He needed patience, perseverance and an unshakeable belief in what he could become.

In 2017, it was a dream to be the best player in the world. Now, he is living it.

SAFF tickets ask too much of fans

SPORTS REPORTER

South Asian Football Federation (SAFF) expects Bangladeshi fans to pay Tk1,000 to watch two matches on a single day in the upcoming SAFF Championship. Its general secretary, Purushottam Kattel, has defended the price as Tk 500 per match. But who is getting that bargain? Supporters may only want to watch one fixture, while those seeking value must spend six to seven hours in the galleries.

The six-nation tournament begins on November 5, with two matches scheduled on each of four of the five match days.

"The ticket price has been decided and Tk 1,000 is for two matches [in a day]. So, it's like Tk 500 each and it's a day pass... we are assuming that it will be a full house," Kattel told reporters.

Bundling two fixtures does not make them equally attractive. SAFF's confidence in a "full house" rests on an assumption its day-pass model does little to justify.

For Bangladesh's three home matches in the 2025 AFC Asian Cup Qualifiers, Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) charged Tk 400 per match for gallery tickets. All three sold out within hours of online sales opening. Although the comparison is not exact, as the SAFF ticket covers two matches, those sell-outs showed that relatively affordable prices can draw strong demand.

Other seating categories have also become more expensive. Club houses, VIP boxes, red boxes, corporate boxes and the sky lounge cost between Tk 4,000 and Tk 12,000 for the SAFF Championship, compared with Tk



2,000 to Tk 5,000 during the Asian Cup Qualifiers. The Tk 12,000 sky lounge price raises questions, given that state minister for youth and sports Aminul Haque had instructed the National Sports Council and BFF to protect seats in the section allocated to sports journalists.

Kattel explained the high ticket prices to The Daily Star, citing inflation and rising operational costs, including high airfares.

Those costs are real. So is the squeeze on household budgets. If inflation makes staging the tournament more expensive, it also makes a Tk 1,000 day at the stadium harder for fans to justify.

BFF has distanced itself from the decision, saying it is providing logistical support and has no role in ticketing or other financial matters. "The entire event is owned, organised and hosted by SAFF. I would humbly ask you to refer the matter to the SAFF office," BFF president Tabith Awal told The Daily Star yesterday after Kattel announced the prices following the first coordination meeting with BFF officials.

Bangladesh-registered TSA Sports and Entertainment has secured the ticketing rights and will also handle the tournament's wider commercial and event operations. Tickets are expected to go on sale online through Tickify from Thursday.



Abhishek sets new benchmarks

An explosive 133-run partnership between Abhishek Sharma and Vaibhav Sooryavanshi powered India to a six-wicket win over New Zealand in Wellington on Tuesday, sealing the five-match T20I series with two games to spare. India chased down 199 in just 13.2 overs, with Abhishek smashing 113 off 38 balls and Sooryavanshi contributing 45 off 19.

- India smashed 118 runs in the Powerplay, setting a new T20I record.
- India reached 150 in just 7.4 overs, setting a new benchmark in T20s. The previous record was 8.2 overs, set by Sunrisers Hyderabad against Lucknow Super Giants in the 2024 IPL, with Abhishek also featuring.
- India plundered 26 runs in the first over, the most by a Full Member nation in a men's T20I.
- Three of Abhishek's four T20I centuries have come off fewer than 40 balls, a feat unmatched by any other batter.
- Abhishek smashed 11 sixes, reaching double figures in maximums for the third time in a T20I innings -- the most by a batter from a Full Member nation. Chris Gayle achieved the feat twice.
- India chased down the 199-run target with 40 balls to spare, setting a record for the fastest chase of a target above 190 by a Full Member team.

WHAT TO WATCH

T Sports, Nagorik TV
Bangladesh vs West Indies
1st Test, Day 1
Live from 9:30 am

T Sports
NCL GT20
Vancouver vs Brampton
Live from 8:00 pm

Star Sports Network
Nepal Premier League
Pokhara vs Sudurpaschim
Live from 5:30 pm





'Oh, my son! Where have you gone?'

6-yr-old among 5 killed as lorry hits stranded bus passengers in Sitakunda

ARUN BIKASH DEY

"Oh, my son! Oh, Rakib, where are you? Where have you gone?" cried Azharul Islam.

With both legs bandaged, he lay on the floor outside the emergency department of Chittagong Medical College Hospital (CMCH), crying inconsolably over the death of his six-year-old son.

Beside him sat his wife, Fatema Aktar, with visible injuries on her face and hands. She stared blankly ahead, too shocked and grief-stricken to speak.

The couple's journey home turned tragic early yesterday when a speeding lorry ploughed into a group of passengers standing beside their broken-down bus on the Dhaka–Chittagong highway in Sitakunda.

Three people died on the spot, while eight others, including Azharul and his family, were injured and taken to hospital, police said.

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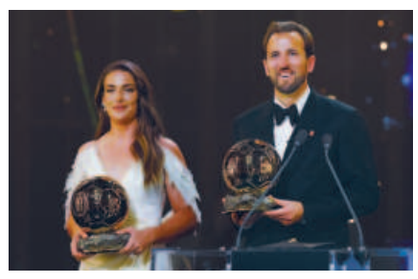
CAUGHT IN A DEATH TRAP

A kingfisher hangs dead after becoming entangled in a fine-mesh net stretched over a pond in Khulnabari village of Rajshahi's Godagari upazila yesterday. Such nets, used to protect fish from predatory birds, often trap and kill kingfishers and other birds that dive into the water in search of food. PHOTO: AZAHAR UDDIN

Ballon d'Or glory for Kane, Putellas

REUTERS, *London*

Harry Kane completed his long quest for football's highest individual honour on Monday, the Bayern Munich and England striker winning the Ballon d'Or after a record-breaking season that cemented his status as one of the game's greatest goalscorers.



Kane was the first Englishman to win the prestigious award since Michael Owen in 2001.

"Wow, wow, wow!" Kane said after taking the stage. "I am almost speechless. Being here in London has made it extra special. Made it a good omen for me tonight. Thank you to everyone who voted for me. I can imagine it was tough this year.

"Some world-class players in the room tonight. Congratulations to all the winners and nominees tonight and impressive

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ISRAELI POLLS

Netanyahu faces tough test, turnout record high



REUTERS, *Jerusalem*

Israelis streamed to the polls yesterday in record numbers to pass wartime judgement on Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu in what some described as the most consequential election in the nation's history.

Long lines formed outside polling stations for the first election since the Hamas-led attacks on October 7, 2023, as voters grappled with the trauma of Israel's deadliest day and its ensuing wars in Gaza, Lebanon and Iran.

The Central Elections Committee reported the turnout at 6:00pm (1600 GMT) at 66.7%, a record at that point of the day. With four hours left to go, more people had voted than in the entire previous election.

The policies of Netanyahu's right-wing

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Migrants from 29 countries lured into Russia's war: UN

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladeshis were among nationals of several countries trafficked into the Russian armed forces through deception or coercion, a United Nations investigation has found.

Lured to Russia with promises of well-paid civilian jobs, men from at least 29 countries were instead made to sign military contracts in Russian, a language most did not understand, before being sent to the front lines in Ukraine.

Many of the recruits were reportedly killed or went missing, leaving their families struggling to find out what happened to them.

According to the Bureau of Manpower, Employment and Training's Overseas Employment Platform, 7,949 employment clearances were issued for Russia between January 1, 2025, and October 27, 2026.

The Independent International Commission of Inquiry on Ukraine also obtained copies of business visas issued to Bangladeshi recruits, showing that a civilian company in Russia had invited them for civilian work.

The findings were presented to the UN General Assembly's Third Committee on Monday. The report, however, did not specify how many Bangladeshis had been trafficked, killed or reported missing.

According to the Bureau of Manpower, Employment and Training's Overseas Employment Platform, 7,949 employment clearances were issued for Russia between January 1, 2025, and October 27, 2026. The figure, however, does not establish how many people actually travelled to Russia or were trafficked.

A joint investigation by Fortify Rights and Truth Hounds, reported in March, identified at least 104 Bangladeshis recruited into the Russian military, of whom at least 34 were reportedly killed.

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Grid glitch disrupts power to parts of Dhaka, Ctg

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A technical fault in the national grid disrupted electricity supply in parts of Dhaka and Chattogram yesterday, leaving several areas without power.

The affected areas in Dhaka include Gulshan, Rampura, Ulan and Motijheel, as well as Bhulta, Haripur and Siddhirganj in Narayanganj, state-owned Power Grid Bangladesh PLC said in an emergency statement.

The Secretariat reportedly remained without electricity for nearly an hour, it said.

The outage began at 12:43pm after a fault developed in the Meghnaghat-Haripur national grid line, according to multiple officials at the Power Division.

Power Grid Bangladesh said efforts were underway to restore electricity supply to the affected areas.

"Power connections have already been restored in most affected areas. We hope to ensure electricity supply to the remaining areas within a short time," the statement said.

The company apologised to customers for the temporary inconvenience.

Dengue death toll now 400

11 die in deadliest day of the year; experts blame delayed diagnosis, hospitalisation

- More patients coming in with dengue shock
- Timely, appropriate use of intravenous fluids is of the essence
- Severe complications more common than in previous years



HELEMUL ALAM

At least 11 dengue patients died yesterday, taking this year's death toll to 400, as health experts warned of delayed diagnosis and hospitalisation, inadequate treatment and gaps in dengue management.

So far, 128,237 dengue patients have been hospitalised nationwide this year, according to the Directorate General of Health Services.

Dengue admissions have started to decline compared with previous weeks, but a larger proportion of patients arriving at hospitals are critically ill, said HM Nazmul Ahsan, associate professor at Shaheed Suhrawardy Medical College Hospital.

"We are seeing a significant number of patients arriving in shock, with undetectable blood pressure and falling oxygen saturation."

Patients suffering from dengue shock have a much better chance of recovery if they receive treatment early.

Delays, however, could cause irreversible damage to vital organs and significantly increase the risk of death.

Patients sometimes lose valuable time during transportation, emergency assessment and admission procedures, allowing their conditions to deteriorate before they receive appropriate care.

He also identified elderly people, patients with underlying health conditions and those who are obese as particularly vulnerable to severe dengue outcomes.

Ahsan stressed that timely, appropriate use of intravenous fluids, blood products and other treatments is crucial for critically

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Siblings Siyam and Samia bring home sprouted palmyra palm seeds they collected from an abandoned spot in their village to eat the tender shoots inside. The seeds can be eaten by cutting out the white inner portion. The photo was taken in Paschim Narayanpur village of Barishal's Uzirpur upazila yesterday. PHOTO: TITU DAS

