DHAKA TUESDAY NOVEMBER 10, 2026



"American voters have made their choice. Time for the White House to make its own."

Iran's FM **ABBAS ARAGHCHI** on Hormuz reopening proposal

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The Daily Star

SECOND EDITION



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Bangladesh in debt for others' climate crimes

$2.34b received in loans between 2002-23 | Only $203m came as grants during the period | Bangladesh emits just 0.24% globally | $90.23b in international support needed by 2040

PINAKI ROY

A decade after the Paris Agreement pledged to support climate-vulnerable nations, Bangladesh is finding itself increasingly burdened by debt as it finances its clean-energy transition largely through loans rather than grants.

More than 90 percent of the climate finance Bangladesh received for its energy sector between 2002 and 2023 came as loans, according to a study released last week by the Dhaka-based think tank Change Initiative (CI).

Researchers say the trend is forcing one of the world's most climate-vulnerable countries to borrow heavily to address a crisis it did little to create.

The study found that Bangladesh received about $2.54 billion in identified energy-sector climate finance over the period. Of that amount, 92 percent, or roughly $2.34 billion, came as loans, while grants accounted for only 8 percent, or around $203 million.

"The most climate-vulnerable countries are being forced to borrow their way through a crisis they did not cause. This is not support; it is a second injury written into a contract," said M Zakir Hossain Khan, chief executive of Change Initiative.

According to a World Bank report published on July 22 this year, renewable energy supplies only 1.5 percent of electricity fed into Bangladesh's national grid.

Yet the country's Renewable Energy Policy 2025 aims to raise the share of renewables to 20 percent by 2030 and 30 percent by 2040. Under the third mitigation component of Bangladesh's Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) submitted to the UN, the country will require $116.18 billion to implement its plans, of which $90.23 billion is contingent on international support.

The most climate-vulnerable countries are being forced to borrow their way through a crisis they did not cause. This is not support; it is a second injury written into a contract.

M Zakir Hossain Khan
Chief executive of Change Initiative

Meanwhile, Bangladesh's National Adaptation Plan (2023-2050) identifies 113 major interventions across 11 climate-stressed regions and estimates that more than $230 billion will be required to implement them, with nearly three-quarters of that amount needed by 2040.

The interventions include integrated management of coastal polders and the construction of sea dikes and cyclone shelters to protect vulnerable communities from sea-level rise, storm surges and extreme weather.

"Bangladesh is financing its clean-energy transition largely through debt rather than grants and risk-sharing investment," Zakir said.

He argued that the energy sector has become a focal point of that debt burden.

"For every dollar in grants received for the energy sector, Bangladesh has received about nine dollars in loans while remaining dependent on imported

SEE PAGE 2 COL 4



This solar-powered irrigation pump under the Barind Multipurpose Development Authority is now inoperative, as the canal has dried up even before the onset of the dry season. Irrigation water is sold to the farmers but poor flow from the Padma is leaving hundreds of acres of Aman fields dry. The photo was taken recently in Rajshahi's Godagari upazila.
PHOTO: **AZAHAR UDDIN**

Hasina 'seeks' passport, Dhaka her extradition

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Ousted prime minister Sheikh Hasina has reportedly applied for a new Bangladeshi passport and National Identity Card, with a UK-based legal advisory firm, Matrix Chambers, emailing the Bangladesh High Commission in New Delhi to request their issuance on her behalf.

Dhaka, however, has ruled out the possibility of issuing her the documents, insisting that she must return to Bangladesh through the existing extradition procedures between the two countries.



Hasina's passport and NID were revoked during the tenure of the interim government.

Matrix Chambers sent the email on November 9, seeking new travel and identity documents for Hasina.

Speaking to The Daily Star, Bangladesh mission's press minister, Md Saidur Rahman, said they had received an email from an organisation called Matrix Chambers requesting Hasina's passport and NID. The firm claimed to be Hasina's legal counsel.

"We are not sure whether the request is genuine. There is no way for us to establish that the request was made on behalf of Sheikh Hasina, as the email sent by the law firm did not include any document or proof of her authorisation. Still, we have forwarded the email to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs," he said.

Speaking on condition of anonymity, a foreign ministry official said passports and NIDs were highly personal documents and that a legal representative could process such applications only with proper authorisation from the individual concerned.

"As legal practitioners, they should know the process better than others. For example, if more than 10 law firms sent similar emails seeking Hasina's passport and NID, whom should the Bangladesh authorities respond to? The email from Matrix Chambers therefore raises

SEE PAGE 2 COL 4

RMG workers pitch Tk 32,000 wage floor

Board gives owners 4 days to submit a counterproposal

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Workers' representatives yesterday proposed raising the minimum monthly wage in the garment sector from Tk 12,500 to Tk 32,000, citing rising living costs.

Factory owners, however, did not submit their counter-proposal at the Minimum Wages Board's second meeting in the capital. The board gave them four working days to do so, warning that it would proceed without their proposal if they missed the deadline.

The negotiations come amid protests by garment workers demanding a minimum wage of Tk 30,000. The demonstrations, continuing for more than a week, have forced the closure of hundreds of factories, affecting production and raising concerns over exports.

Presenting the proposal at the board's Segunbagicha office, workers' representative Babul Akhter said a family of four

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1



Hawkers have once again occupied the streets in the capital's Gulistan area. Dhaka South City Corporation conducted an eviction drive in the area around two weeks ago. However, it is a common occurrence for hawkers to return following such evictions. The photo was taken yesterday.
PHOTO: **PALASH KHAN**

'Both my sons are gone. Who will I live for now?'

In three days, man loses two children to dengue, measles-like symptoms

STAFF CORRESPONDENT,
Chattogram

Mohammad Kabir ran from one hospital to another, desperately trying to save his two sons. But despite his frantic efforts, he lost both within three days.

His elder son, Nur Mohammad Arafat, 9, died on Friday after battling measles, dengue and pneumonia. Three days later, his 10-month-old son, Mohammad Abu Bakkar, died early yesterday after suffering from dengue and measles-like symptoms.

Both children died while undergoing treatment in the



intensive care unit of Chattogram Ma-O-Shishu General Hospital.

For Kabir and his wife Amena Begum, the deaths have shattered every hope they had for their children.

"Both my sons are gone. Who will I live for now? My home has become empty," Kabir said, breaking down in tears while speaking to this correspondent over the phone.

The ordeal began around 18-20 days ago when Arafat developed fever, vomiting and cough.

He spent four days at Southern Hospital before his worsening condition prompted his transfer to Marine City Hospital, where he remained in the ICU for two days.

SEE PAGE 2 COL 6

Tarique to visit Türkiye for COP31 summit

May meet Erdoğan, says foreign secretary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Prime Minister Tarique Rahman will leave Dhaka today for a three-day official visit to Türkiye to attend the World Leaders' Summit of COP31, where he may also meet Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan.

The summit will be held in Antalya on November 11-12.

"There is a possibility of a meeting with Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan on the sidelines of the conference," Foreign Secretary Salahuddin Noman Chowdhury said while briefing reporters on the prime minister's upcoming visit at the foreign ministry yesterday morning.

The foreign secretary also confirmed that Tarique is expected to hold meetings with the Australian prime minister, the president of Uzbekistan, China's deputy prime minister and the British foreign secretary during the visit.



Vehicles travelling with their headlights on through dense fog, signalling the arrival of winter. Fog blankets the Rangpur region since early morning, significantly reducing visibility on the roads. The photo was taken in the Rangpur city's Satmatha area around 7:00am on Saturday.

PHOTO: S DILIP ROY

Iran war 'highly unlikely' to resume

Says Trump ahead of talks with Qatar's PM

AGENCIES



US President Donald Trump on Sunday cast doubt on renewed fighting with Iran, telling CNN that it was "highly unlikely" so long as talks progressed.

In recent weeks, Trump has threatened to renew strikes with US media reports suggesting that hostilities could resume after the US midterm elections this week.

"The answer is highly unlikely it's going to be necessary... I would if necessary, but we hit them really hard. I hit them so hard. You don't know how hard I hit them," Trump said, while warning that any decision to resume hostilities "depends on whether or not they sign a very strong agreement."

Trump previously acknowledged that the highly unpopular war with Iran was at least partially responsible for the stinging defeat that his Republican Party suffered in Tuesday's vote.

In the CNN interview Sunday, he once again suggested that the economic pressure Iran is under will force its leaders into accepting a peace deal on the United States' terms.

Trump was due to meet with Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al-Thani, who also serves as Qatar's foreign minister, in a closed-door meeting yesterday. Vice President

SEE PAGE 8 COL 6

600 fertiliser bags looted from dealer's warehouse

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Pabna*

More than 600 bags of fertiliser were looted from a dealer's warehouse after farmers became agitated during a distribution drive in Pabna's Chatmohar upazila yesterday.

The incident took place at the house of local fertiliser dealer Pradip Kumar in Chaikola Bazar under Chaikola union.

According to the upazila agriculture office, Pradip is responsible for supplying fertiliser to farmers in wards 4, 5 and 6 of the union. But farmers from different areas also gathered at his premises demanding fertiliser in the morning.

Md Monirul Islam, an official at the Chatmohar Upazila Agriculture Office, said Pradip had stocked 1,181 bags of fertiliser.

"After 170 bags had been sold against distribution slips, farmers waiting there suddenly became agitated, staged a protest and began looting the stock, damaging the shop," he said.

The farmers looted more than 611 bags of urea, diammonium phosphate and muriate of potash, Monirul added.

Distribution was suspended as the law and order situation deteriorated, he said.

Chatmohar Police Station Officer-in-Charge Md Oliur Rahman said police brought the situation under control.

Several farmers told journalists that people from different areas had gathered at the dealer's premises to collect fertiliser. They said the announcement that distribution would be restricted to farmers from wards 4, 5 and 6 triggered the agitation.



PHOTO: COLLECTED

Agitated farmers in front of the dealer's warehouse.

"Farmers from other areas became angry when they were denied fertiliser," one farmer said.

The farmers said two other dealers in the union had not started distribution on Monday, putting further pressure on Pradip's outlet.

"We are spending a considerable amount of time trying to collect fertiliser. As the other two dealers were not distributing it, we came to this dealer's shop," another farmer said.

However, Md Jahangir Alom Pramanik, deputy director of the Department of Agricultural Extension in Pabna, said, "There is no fertiliser shortage in the district. There are other dealers in the union, and it is not mandatory for all dealers to distribute fertiliser on the same day. Farmers do not normally vandalise a shop in this manner. We suspect this may have been pre-planned."

Jahangir said a probe committee would be formed to investigate the incident.

Hasina 'seeks' passport, Dhaka her extradition

FROM PAGE 1

questions about whether the firm is genuinely authorised by Sheikh Hasina to make such a request," the official added.

Asked how she could return to Bangladesh without a valid travel document, the official said a passport was a state privilege, not a right, and that governments could revoke passports to prevent criminals from fleeing.

"To repatriate or extradite someone, our missions normally issue a one-way travel pass. Once India completes Hasina's legal process, we will be able to issue that pass," the official added.

Hasina has been staying in India since fleeing Bangladesh in the face of a mass uprising in August 2024. In November 2025, she was sentenced to death in absentia by the International Crimes Tribunal for crimes against humanity.

Dhaka first formally sought her extradition through a diplomatic note verbale in December 2024 and renewed the request following her conviction.

Hasina has lately reiterated her resolve to return to Bangladesh this December.

Dhaka's extradition request included the required legal documents under the 2013 India-Bangladesh Extradition Treaty. The treaty provides for the surrender of individuals charged with or convicted of offences, while excluding certain political offences. However, it lists serious crimes, including murder, manslaughter, assault and incitement to murder, that cannot automatically be treated as political offences.

Meanwhile, Humaiun Kobir, state minister for foreign affairs, said yesterday afternoon that Bangladesh would not issue a passport or NID to Hasina, describing her as a "terrorist".

"Bangladesh does not issue passports to terrorists. We have asked for them to be handed over," he told journalists in response to a question at the foreign ministry.

Humaiun described the application as "utterly ridiculous", questioning its legal and ethical basis. He also criticised the firm's decision to represent Hasina, saying any law firm should know who its client is.

"Their client is someone who fled Bangladesh after killing more than 1,500 people," he said, adding that such representation of a "fugitive terrorist" would bring shame upon the firm internationally.

Humaiun Kobir described the application as "utterly ridiculous", questioning its legal and ethical basis. He also criticised the firm's decision to represent Hasina, saying any law firm should know who its client is.

The state minister reiterated that Bangladesh wanted Hasina returned from India under the existing extradition treaty between the two countries.

"Why did she flee if she wanted to return? Not only she, but all her family members fled."

He said the treaty contained provisions for handing over fugitives, including criminals and terrorists, and that countries could follow different procedures to extradite them.

"Under the extradition treaty, some countries hand over fugitives in handcuffs and put them on a plane, while others send them under surveillance. There are provisions for handing over criminals and terrorists under extradition treaties. We want her to be handed over," he said.

Humaiun said Hasina could return through the extradition process, surrender to a court and serve her sentence. He added that an ordinary passport application would not apply in the case of fugitive criminals.

NIDS 'LOCKED'

On February 16, 2025, the Election Commission's National Identity Registration Wing locked the NID cards of Hasina and nine of her family members, effectively rendering the cards unusable for official purposes.

The NIDs of Hasina's son and former ICT affairs adviser Sajeeb Wazed Joy; daughter Saima Wazed; sister Sheikh Rehana; Rehana's daughter and UK MP Tulip Rizwana Siddiq; and Rehana's children Radwan Mujib Siddiq and Azmina Siddiq were among those locked.

The decision also covered Maj Gen (retired) Tarique Ahmed Siddiq, Hasina's security adviser, his wife Shaheen Siddiq and their daughter Bushra Siddiq, according to an official letter dated February 16 and signed by ASM Humayun Kabir, then director general of the NID Registration Wing.

The interim government initially revoked Hasina's diplomatic (red) passport on August 22, 2024, according to foreign ministry officials. The decision was officially executed and announced by the Department of Immigration and Passports on January 7, 2025.

Speaking on condition of anonymity, a foreign ministry official said Hasina had surrendered her ordinary passport after assuming office in 2009 and had been issued a diplomatic passport as prime minister.

"The government revoked all the red passports issued to ministers, MPs and others, including Hasina, after August 5, 2024," the official said.

Drone attack on Iraq gas complex cuts supply

AFP, *Sulaimaniyah*

An Emirati-owned gas complex in Iraq's autonomous Kurdistan region was attacked on Sunday, disrupting the gas supply to the region's power plants, local Kurdish authorities said.

"At 11:00 pm (2000 GMT), the Khor Mor gas field came under a terrorist attack," the regional natural resources and electricity authorities said in a statement, without elaborating.

A Kurdish security source told AFP that an "explosive-laden drone" hit the field.

The Khor Mor complex, which supplies most of Kurdistan's power stations and is owned by the United Arab Emirates firm Dana Gas, has been hit several times in recent years.

Omed Ahmed, the regional electricity authority spokesperson, said the attack against Khor Mor halted the gas supply.

Authorities said they were taking all necessary measures to reduce the impact of the attack on the region's power grid.

There was no immediate claim of responsibility.

Long-plagued by conflict, Iraq frequently suffers such attacks.

For years, the Kurdistan region has repeatedly been targeted by rocket and drone strikes mostly against its oilfields, and local authorities have previously blamed Iran-backed Iraqi armed groups.

During the Middle East war, it became a frequent target for such attacks carried out by Iran or its allied Iraqi armed groups.

Washington has long pressured Iraq to disarm Iran-backed groups.

RMG workers pitch Tk 32,000

FROM PAGE 1

would need Tk 45,000 to Tk 60,000 a month to cover essential expenses, including housing, healthcare, and children's education.

Talking to reporters after the meeting, he said the workers' side scaled back its demand after considering the industry's situation. "Our wages started from a low base in 2006, and we are still bearing the consequences."

Under the proposed structure, grade 4, the lowest grade, would receive Tk 32,000 a month, while wages for grades 3, 2, and 1 would be Tk 38,000, Tk 43,000 and Tk 48,000, respectively. The proposed wage for apprentice workers is Tk 30,000.

Employers' representative ABM Shamsuddin, a director ofBangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA), said owners had been occupied with addressing labour unrest and could not finalise their proposal in time.

He said they would submit it within the stipulated period and that the revised wage structure would take effect in December, regardless of when the employers submitted their proposal.

Speaking to the press after the meeting, Minimum Wages Board Chairman Syed Azad Subhani said the owners initially sought seven working days, citing difficulties visiting factories amid unrest in several industrial areas.

He said the workers' proposal had been formally received. The justification for the amount, wage grades, and job classifications would be discussed the following week.

According to Subhani, the workers' side considered their circumstances, purchasing power, the industry's financial capacity, and relevant national and international provisions.

The board also unanimously decided to visit factories of different categories in major industrial areas before its next meeting.

Several workers' organisations and federations have separately submitted memorandums and wage proposals, some of which were discussed at yesterday's meeting, the chairman said.

On November 1, the government formed the wage board amid protests for increasing RMG workers' pay.

The latest negotiations concern a sector employing around 40 lakh people, according to Subhani.

The current minimum wage of Tk 12,500 was fixed in 2023, up from Tk 8,000 in 2018. The 2023 revision also reduced the number of wage grades from five to four.

The minimum wage was Tk 627 in 1986 and Tk 930 in 1994. It rose to Tk 1,662 in 2006, Tk 3,000 in 2010, and Tk 5,300 in 2013.

Meanwhile, workers' representatives Babul called on the government and its intelligence agencies to determine whether outsiders or political forces were influencing the protests.

He said different individuals, political parties, and labour organisations might be pursuing their own agendas. Even factory owners could be encouraging or opposing the protests to serve their interests, he added.

Babul said many workers returned to work, while those still absent might have grievances arising from strained relations with factory owners.

He urged all to resume work.

In another development, Border Guard Bangladesh yesterday deployed its 34 platoons in the industrial areas of Dhaka, Gazipur, and Narayanganj to maintain law and order amid the protests.

In a statement, BGB said its personnel were coordinating with local administrations and police, while headquarters monitored the situation through a dedicated cell using live footage from drones, body-worn cameras, and other devices.

Bangladesh in debt for others' climate crimes

FROM PAGE 1

fossil fuels," he said.

Major lenders include the World Bank, Asian Development Bank, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), European Investment Bank (EIB), Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) and Germany's KfW.

Grant support, meanwhile, has come from institutions such as the European Union, Green Climate Fund, Global Environment Facility, Climate Investment Funds and various bilateral development partners.

Some initiatives combine both grants and loans. The EU-EIB Renewable Energy Facility, for example, pairs a €350 million loan with €45 million in EU grants.

Zakir, however, said the central issue is not the source of financing but the financial burden it creates.

"Our concern is not simply who provides financing, but whether the terms increase public debt or deliver affordable, sustainable energy," he said.

Climate-vulnerable countries should not have to accumulate debt merely to survive a crisis they played little role in creating, he added.

The CI study highlights the disparity between Bangladesh's climate vulnerability and its contribution to global emissions.

In 2024, the world emitted about 38.6 billion tonnes of carbon dioxide. Bangladesh accounted for only 108 million tonnes, or about 0.24 percent of global annual emissions. Its historical contribution to cumulative fossil-fuel and industrial carbon dioxide emissions is estimated at just 0.11 percent.

"That is precisely why climate finance must prioritise justice, grants and sustainable investment over additional sovereign debt," Zakir said.

Dr Moazzem Hossain, president of the Knowledge Hub Institute, said Bangladesh, as a climate-vulnerable nation, deserves grant-based support.

"But if grants are not available, joint investment is a better option for such projects because it avoids adding to the country's debt burden," he said.

He added that even concessional borrowing for renewable energy was preferable to continued dependence on fossil fuels.

The study estimates that Bangladesh is now borrowing the equivalent of $29.52 for every tonne of carbon dioxide it emits annually, slightly below the average of $30.49 among least-developed countries.

As COP31 opened yesterday, Zakir called on developing countries to push for unconditional grants, climate-linked debt relief, transparent accounting of climate finance and renewable-energy financing that does not increase sovereign debt.

"Support should follow climate vulnerability, not income classification. Climate finance is an obligation, not charity," he said.

Abdul Awal Mintoo, minister for the environment, forest and climate change, said Bangladesh will seek grant-based climate finance and effective support to tackle loss and damage at the COP31 summit.

In a press conference before leaving for Antalya, Turkey, he said Bangladesh will emphasise ensuring adequate grant-based climate finance at the COP31 summit.

In particular, demands will be made to increase grants without adding to the debt burden to address adaptation and climate-induced loss and damage and to simplify the application and approval process for climate funds.

'Both my sons are gone. Who will I live for now?'

FROM PAGE 1

He was then shifted to Imperial Hospital's ICU for another four days. As his condition deteriorated further, Kabir took him to Chattogram Ma-O-Shishu General Hospital last Monday. He died there on Friday.

A similar ordeal followed with Abu Bakkar, who was treated in the ICUs of three hospitals before being admitted to Ma-O-Shishu Hospital in critical condition.

He was put on life support on Saturday morning, but his condition did not improve. He died early yesterday.

Kabir works as a goods loader at a private establishment and lives with his wife, a homemaker, in a rented house in Chattogram city's Hillview area.

The couple spent more than Tk 3 lakh on their sons' treatment, exhausting their savings and borrowing from relatives. Yet, neither child survived.

Arafat, a third-grader at Hillview Public School in Panchlaish, was good at studies and the centre of his parents' dreams.

Prof Dr Didarul Alam, a paediatric specialist and head of the hospital's Paediatric Intensive Care Unit (PICU), said both children had arrived in extremely critical condition.

According to the district Civil Surgeon's Office, Chattogram has recorded 41 dengue-related deaths so far this year, including 21 women and 11 children.

Since March 15, another 50 people have died with measles-like symptoms, including 35 in the city and 15 in different upazilas. Three more children died after testing positive for measles.

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Put national interests above differences

Speaker urges MPs

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speaker Hafiz Uddin Ahmad yesterday urged lawmakers to uphold parliamentary norms, show mutual respect and prioritise national interests to meet public expectations, stressing that differences of opinion should be resolved through dialogue.

"The beauty of parliamentary democracy lies in the coexistence of differing views and differing paths," he said in his opening address as the fourth session of the 13th National Parliament began yesterday afternoon.

The Speaker said lawmakers must play a responsible role in upholding the dignity of the parliament -- the highest institutional expression of the people's sovereignty, democratic aspirations and public opinion.

He said the strength of parliamentary democracy rested on debate, reason, mutual respect and the responsible expression of opinions.



A sudden downpour brings traffic to a crawl on Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue in the capital last evening, leaving commuters stuck in long queues as they struggle to make their way home.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

FROM JS GALLERY

Govt plans six 100-bed hospitals for workers

PM tells parliament

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government plans to build six 100-bed hospitals in major industrial hubs across the country to ensure healthcare services for workers, Prime Minister Tarique Rahman told parliament yesterday.



He said the hospitals will be exclusively dedicated to workers and would be built in Tongi, Ashulia, Kaliakair, Narayanganj, Savar and Chattogram.

The announcement came after BNP lawmaker Shamsur Rahman Shimul Biswas raised the issue.

He asked whether the government had any specific plans to establish hospitals in labour-intensive industrial areas to provide healthcare for workers and their family members.

Tarique said his government has been elected by the people and is working for citizens from all walks of life.

Universities push admission tests to February

Move aims to accommodate HSC retakers; DU to go ahead with December schedule

Of the 5,94,113 students who failed this year's HSC and equivalent examinations, 4,22,905 are eligible for the supplementary examinations. The exams will begin on December 1, with results expected by December 31.

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Public universities will begin accepting applications for the 2026-27 academic session in January, with admission tests scheduled for February to accommodate students who pass the upcoming HSC supplementary examinations.

The decision was taken unanimously at a meeting of public university vice-chancellors at the University Grants Commission yesterday.

UGC Chairman Prof Mamun Ahmed announced the decision at a press briefing after the meeting, saying universities will coordinate to finalise admission test dates.

The move comes amid concerns that over four lakh students

SEE PAGE 9 COL 3

Case backlog climbs to 48.55 lakh

Backlog rises by over 1 lakh in three months | 3.45 lakh cases disposed of during same period | Experts cite judge shortage, rising filings | Litigants face prolonged delays, higher costs

ASHUTOSH SARKAR

The number of pending cases in courts across the country rose by more than one lakh between March 31 and June 30 this year, adding to the suffering of justice seekers.

At the end of June, 48.55 lakh cases were pending, up from 47.42 lakh at the end of March, according to Supreme Court records.

The backlog grew despite the disposal of 3.45 lakh cases during the period, as new filings continued to outpace disposals.

Legal experts say the mounting backlog means prolonged detention, delayed justice and growing financial and emotional costs for litigants.

Karuna Sarker, detained from Narayanganj in connection with a murder case, filed a bail petition with the High Court on February 23, 2026. The petition remained unheard for more than three months.

The HC finally heard the matter on June 16, granting him ad-interim bail and issuing a rule asking the government to explain why he should not be granted permanent bail.

Similarly, Shariful Islam, detained from Mymensingh in a case filed under the Explosive Substances Act, 1908, submitted a bail petition to the HC on October 21, 2025.



The court heard his petition around three months later, on January 18 this year, and granted him ad-interim bail.

Legal experts described the growing backlog as a major challenge for the judiciary.

"It is not possible to dispose of the cases pending before the courts and tribunals in a normal manner," said Advocate Mohammad Shishir Manir, a senior lawyer of the Supreme Court and head of legal research firm Law Lab. "To solve this problem, extraordinary measures are required including the appointment of judges," he said.

SC lawyer Advocate Tasmiah Nuhiya Ahmed said litigants spend substantial resources and valuable years attending court without seeing a final outcome.

"Reducing case backlogs and ensuring timely disposal of cases are therefore essential to guarantee meaningful access to justice and uphold the rule of law," she added.

SC Registrar General Mohammad Habibur Rahman Siddiquee said the backlog could not be resolved overnight due to a shortage of judges and the large number of cases being filed.

However, Chief Justice Zubayer Rahman Chowdhury has taken steps to reduce the backlog, including the disposal of long-pending cases and monitoring disposal rates at courts across the country, he said.

Probe flags anomalies in Tk 27,860cr LGD spending: minister

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A probe committee found "serious irregularities" involving the expenditure of Tk 27,859.91 crore by agencies under the Local Government Division, LGRD Minister Abdul Moyeen Khan told parliament yesterday.

In a written reply to a question from MP Fazle Huda during the question-and-answer session, the minister said the division had formed a seven-member inquiry committee on May 12 to investigate allegations of irregularities and corruption in the activities of its offices between January 2009 and February 17, 2026.

According to the minister, the committee submitted its report on October 7, finding evidence of irregularities involving Tk 27,859.91 crore in government funds in an initial review of 66 randomly selected activities.

The report was forwarded to the ACC on October 19 for further investigation.

Meanwhile, responding to a question from MP Mobasher Alam Bhuiyan, Moyeen Khan said water samples from Dhaka Wasa would be sent to a laboratory in Sweden for fresh testing after a study reportedly detected PFAS above permissible levels in one sample.

IN BRIEF



Five more die of dengue, 2,260 get hospitalised

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

At least five dengue patients died, and 2,260 others were hospitalised in the last 24 hours till 8:00am yesterday, according to the Directorate General of Health Services.

Of the deaths, three were reported in Dhaka division and one each in Mymensingh and Barishal divisions.

With the latest deaths, the total death toll rose to 466, while the cumulative number of cases reached 1,52,173.

Currently, 6,114 dengue patients are undergoing treatment at hospitals across the country.

Man gets life term for rape of woman

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Jamalpur*

A Jamalpur tribunal has sentenced a man to life imprisonment for raping a woman in Dewanganj upazila.

The court delivered the verdict in the convict's presence yesterday, confirmed Public Prosecutor Fazlul Haque.

The court also fined Md Yunus Ali Tk 5 lakh and ordered that the entire amount be paid to the victim as compensation.

According to the prosecution, on September 6, 2016, Yunus, a co-villager of the victim, forcibly took her to a location and raped her there when she went to collect water from a nearby tube well.

The victim filed the case with the Jamalpur court on September 29 that year.



E-rickshaw drivers block Topkhana Road in front of Jatiya Press Club in Dhaka yesterday to press home their 12-point demand, including BRTA-issued licences for their vehicles, the release of detained drivers and an end to what they call harassment through criminal cases. As part of their protest, they suspended services across the city, leaving many commuters struggling to find transport.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

Opposition seeks debates on Ganges treaty, RMG unrest

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Opposition lawmakers from Jamaat-e-Islami have submitted a series of proposals seeking discussions on issues ranging from the Ganges water-sharing treaty between Bangladesh and India to labour unrest in the country's RMG sector.

They are also set to propose discussions on fertiliser shortages, rising fuel prices, the Rohingya crisis and mismanagement at the country's main airport.

With the Ganges water-sharing treaty due to expire on December 12, Mir Ahmad Bin Quasem, Jamaat's lawmaker from Dhaka-14, sought a parliamentary discussion to review the situation and consider effective measures to protect Bangladesh's national water security and interests.



PHOTO: COLLECTED

The damaged bus after the accident in Chandraganj of Lakshmipur yesterday.

Three killed, 15 hurt as bus overturns in Lakshmipur

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Noakhali*

At least three passengers were killed and 15 others injured as a speeding bus of Anand Paribahan overturned in Chandraganj upazila of Lakshmipur yesterday.

The accident took place around 11:30am in Charchamita area on the Dhaka-Lakshmipur highway.

The deceased are Babul, 45, of Latifpur village in Chandraganj; Mansur Begum, 50, of Faridganj in Chandpur; and Ashiqur Rahman, 25, of Charsita village in Ramgati upazila.

Confirming the incident, Md Adel Akbar, officer-in-charge of Chandraganj Highway Police Station, said the injured were admitted to Lakshmipur Sadar Hospital.

The damaged bus was removed from the highway and seized by police, but its driver and helper managed to flee the scene, he said.

The bodies of the deceased will be handed over to their families following autopsies, the OC added.

Business group fined Tk 11.75 lakh for hill cutting

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, *Ctg*

The Department of Environment has fined Mir Group, a Chattogram-based business entity, Tk 11.75 lakh for razing a hill without permission to build a resort in Sitakunda upazila.

DoE Chattogram Regional Director Zamir Uddin issued the fine order yesterday following a hearing and a field inspection.

Following a report published by The Daily Star on the hill being razed for building the resort in Khillapara area of Sitakunda upazila on October 19, the DoE summoned Mir Group representatives.

According to the fine order, the company damaged the environment by cutting the hill without permission and violated the law by constructing the resort without an environmental site clearance. The company may appeal against the decision by paying 25 percent of the fine amount.

Contacted, Moktar Hossain Titu, head of administration at Mir Group, who attended the hearing, said they had presented their position before the DoE but were fined nonetheless.

"The DoE has warned that a case will be filed if hill cutting happens again," he said.

Youth stabbed to death over land

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Noakhali*

A 21-year-old youth was stabbed to death and his brother-in-law critically injured in an attack following a land dispute in Begumganj upazila of Noakhali on Sunday night.

The deceased is Shahidul Islam Mona of Koraitola village under Hajipur union. The injured, Md Mamun, 38, was shifted to Dhaka Medical College Hospital for treatment.

Police detained two women on suspicion of involvement in the murder, said Begumganj Model Police Station OC Md Shamsuzzaman.

Quoting locals, police said two neighbouring families had a long-standing dispute over land and homestead boundaries.

An argument broke out between them on Sunday evening after boundary pillars set up by Mona and his family were vandalised by the other side.

Later that night, Mona and Mamun got into another altercation with members of the neighbouring family. They were then attacked with knives, allegedly by two brothers and their family members.

Man shot and injured in Ctg

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, *Ctg*

Unidentified assailants shot and injured a 32-year-old man in front of his house in the Forest Gate area of Sholashahar in Chattogram yesterday.

Imtiaz Sultan Ekram suffered a gunshot wound to his lower abdomen and was admitted to Chittagong Medical College Hospital.

His family blamed associates of fugitive criminal Sazzad Ali Khan alias Boro Sazzad for the attack.

Panchlaish Police Station Officer-in-Charge Mozammel Haque said five people arrived on two motorcycles around 1:30pm, shot Ekram and fled.

"We are trying to identify the attackers by examining CCTV footage," he said, adding that police were investigating the family's allegations too.

Police said Ekram and his wife, Suchi, had a dispute with Sazzad Hossain alias Choto Sazzad, an alleged shooter for Boro Sazzad's gang.

On February 17, Ekram and another man were arrested with a firearm in the Link Road area of Bayezid Bostami and later sent to jail. Ekram was recently released on bail.

Three BNP men held over fertiliser smuggling bid

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, *Chattogram*

Police have arrested three local leaders and activists of the BNP and its affiliated organisations over allegations of trying to smuggle 301 sacks of urea fertiliser to Myanmar through the coastal area of Mirsarai in Chattogram.

All three arrestees are residents of Osmanpur union under Jorarganj Police Station. They are Mohsin Samrat, 57, former joint convener of union BNP unit; his son Azhar Uddin Mahin, 22, an activist of union unit of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal; and Fabiatul Farabi, 24, former vice-president of the union unit of JCD.

They were arrested during separate drives in the area on Sunday, led by Jorarganj OC Mohammad Abdul Halim.

In a press release yesterday, police said they were arrested in connection with a case filed over the seizure of two fertiliser-laden trucks carrying 301 sacks of urea on October 31. The arrestees were later produced before a court.

Investigation and information gleaned from those held at the scene revealed that Mohsin had been approached by people from Noakhali to help smuggle the fertiliser to Myanmar. He allegedly coordinated with others, including Farabi, to transport the consignment through the coastal area near the Muhuri Project.

Drives were underway to arrest other members of the smuggling syndicate, the OC added.

Contacted, Nurul Amin, lawmaker from Mirsarai and joint convener of Chattogram North District BNP, said this incident should serve as a lesson for everyone.

"No criminal will be spared, regardless of their political affiliation. There will be no compromise for those involved in smuggling fertiliser to Myanmar at a time when the country is facing a crisis. They will be arrested and brought to justice," he said.

Request for Quotation for Cash Recycler Machine (CRM)

BRAC Bank PLC. delivers a full array of banking services to individuals and businesses through a network of 194 Branches, 116 Sub-branches, 330 ATMs, 446 SME Unit Offices and 1,120 Agent Banking Outlets across the country. The bank is currently seeking potential vendor(s) for the supply of **Cash Recycler Machine (CRM)**.

A Request for Quotation (RFQ) is hereby issued for this purpose. The RFQ, along with details of the submission process, can be found on the bank's website: **https://bracbank.com/en/page/e-tender**

Interested eligible bidders are requested to submit their offers as per Instruction to Bidder (ITB) as per the mentioned bidding process.

BRAC BANK
আস্থার প্রতিচ্ছবি

JAMUNA OIL PLC

(A Subsidiary of Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation)
Jamuna Bhaban, Agrabad C/A, Chattogram.

Memo No: 28.24.0000.250.015.012.26 Date: 09/11/2026

e-Tender Notice No.: 10/2026-27

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

Tender ID	Name of Works	Tender document last selling date & time	Tender closing date & time	Tender opening date & time
1343602	Construction of Hardstanding, Reconstruction of a Sliding MS (Double-Leaf) Main Gate and Surface Drainage System at Sylhet Depot.	25/11/2026 12:00 hrs	26/11/2026 12:00 hrs	26/11/2026 12:00 hrs

This is an online tender, where only e-Tenders will be accepted in the National e-GP system portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted.

(S.M. Oliuzzaman)
AGM (Engineering & Development)-In charge

GD-2720

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার

জাতীয় পেনশন কর্তৃপক্ষ
(মানবসম্পদ ও সেবা শাখা)
অর্থ বিভাগ, অর্থ মন্ত্রণালয়
৪৩, কাকরাইল, ঢাকা-১০০০
www.npa.gov.bd

নথি: ০৭.০৪.০০০০.০০০.০৪১.১১.০০০১.২৫.৪৭৮ তারিখ: ২০ কার্তিক ১৪৩৩ / ০৪ নভেম্বর ২০২৬

প্রবেশপত্র (Admit Card) ডাউনলোড সংক্রান্ত বিজ্ঞপ্তি

জাতীয় পেনশন কর্তৃপক্ষের গ্রেড-১ম হতে গ্রেড-৪র্থ এর শূন্য পদসমূহে অনলাইন নিয়োগের লক্ষ্যে লিখিত পরীক্ষা আগামী ১৪ নভেম্বর ও ২০ নভেম্বর ২০২৬ তারিখে সকাল ০৯:৩০ ঘটিকা হতে ঢাকাস্থ বাংলা কলেজ, শান্তিনগর, ঢাকাতে অনুষ্ঠিত হবে। প্রথম দিনে সিস্টেম এনালিস্ট, প্রোগ্রামার, সহকারী প্রোগ্রামার এবং সহকারী রক্ষণাবেক্ষণ প্রকৌশলী পদে লিখিত পরীক্ষা অনুষ্ঠিত হবে। দ্বিতীয় দিনে ল'ইনস্ট্রাক্টর এনালিস্ট, ব্যবস্থাপক, সহকারী ব্যবস্থাপক, এসেসমেন্ট ও হিসাবরক্ষণ কর্মকর্তা পদে লিখিত পরীক্ষা অনুষ্ঠিত হবে।

উক্ত লিখিত পরীক্ষায় অংশগ্রহণের জন্য আবেদনকারী প্রার্থীদের প্রবেশপত্র (Admit Card) টেলিটক বাংলাদেশ লিমিটেডের নিয়োগ সংক্রান্ত ওয়েবসাইটে (https://npa.teletalk.com.bd/ npa2026/admitcard) এবং www.npa.gov.bd মাধ্যমে ওয়েবসাইটে প্রবেশ করে সংশ্লিষ্ট User ID ও Password ব্যবহার করে পরীক্ষার পূর্ব সময় পর্যন্ত ডাউনলোড করা যাবে। প্রবেশপত্র ডাউনলোডের জন্য প্রার্থীদের টেলিটক বাংলাদেশ লিমিটেডের নিয়োগ সংক্রান্ত ওয়েবসাইটে প্রবেশ করে প্রয়োজনীয় নির্দেশনা অনুসরণ করতে হবে। নির্ধারিত সময়সীমা অতিক্রান্ত হওয়ার পর কোনো প্রার্থী প্রবেশপত্র ডাউনলোড করতে পারবেন না। প্রবেশপত্রে লিখিত পরীক্ষার তারিখ, সময়, কেন্দ্রের নাম ও ঠিকানা এবং পরীক্ষার্থীকে অনুসরণীয় অন্যান্য নির্দেশনা উল্লেখ থাকবে। পরীক্ষায় অংশগ্রহণের সময় প্রার্থীকে অবশ্যই ডাউনলোডকৃত প্রবেশপত্র সঙ্গে আনতে হবে।

User ID/Password সংক্রান্ত তথ্য:

কোনো প্রার্থী User ID অথবা Password ভুলে গেলে/হারিয়ে ফেললে টেলিটক বাংলাদেশ লিমিটেডের নিয়োগ সংক্রান্ত ওয়েবসাইটের (https://npa.teletalk.com.bd) মাধ্যমে Recover User ID/Password অপশন ব্যবহার করে প্রয়োজনীয় তথ্য প্রদানপূর্বক তা পুনরুদ্ধার করতে পারবেন। প্রবেশপত্র ডাউনলোড সংক্রান্ত কোনো সমস্যা হলে টেলিটক বাংলাদেশ লিমিটেডের নিয়োগ সংক্রান্ত ই-মেইলে (alljobs.query@teletalk.com.bd) যোগাযোগ করার জন্য অনুরোধ করা হলো। প্রার্থীদের নির্ধারিত সময়ের মধ্যে প্রবেশপত্র ডাউনলোড করে পরীক্ষার প্রস্তুতি গ্রহণের জন্য অনুরোধ করা যাচ্ছে।

(মোঃ আলমগীর হোসেন)
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GD-2711

জমি বিক্রয়

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বাংলাদেশ এনজিও ফাউন্ডেশন (বিএনএফ)

(আর্থিক প্রতিষ্ঠান বিভাগ, অর্থ মন্ত্রণালয়)
এফ-২০-ডি, আগারগাঁও, শের-ই-বাংলা নগর, ঢাকা-১২০৭

স্মারক নং- বিএনএফ/প্রশাঃ/জীপ/১২/২১/৪৪৯ তারিখঃ ০৯/১১/২০২৬

পুরাতন গাড়ি বিক্রয় বিজ্ঞপ্তি

বাংলাদেশ এনজিও ফাউন্ডেশন-এর ২৩৫০ সিসি বিশিষ্ট ঢাকা মেট্রো ঘ-১৩-১১৪৩ মিৎসুবিসি পাজেরো জীপ গাড়ি (প্রস্তুতকাল ২০০৮) বিক্রয়ের নিমিত্তে, আগ্রহী ক্রেতা/ প্রতিষ্ঠানের নিকট থেকে সীল মোহরকৃত খামে দরপত্র আহ্বান করা যাচ্ছে। দরপত্রের প্রয়োজনীয় তথ্যাদি বিএনএফ-এর ওয়েবসাইটে (**www.bnf.gov.bd**) পাওয়া যাবে।

ব্যবস্থাপনা পরিচালক
বাংলাদেশ এনজিও ফাউন্ডেশন

NOTICE

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF BANGLADESH
HIGH COURT DIVISION
(STATUTORY ORIGINAL JURISDICTION)
COMPANY MATTER NO. 1321 OF 2026.

Azizur Rahman ... Petitioner
-VERSUS-
Dhaka Boat Club Limited, Borokakor, Birulia, Dhaka-1216 and others. ...Respondents

Please take notice that on behalf of the Petitioner, an Application under section 43 of the Companies Act 1994, for rectification of register, have been filed before the Hon'ble High Court Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh. Upon preliminary hearing of the application on 01.11.2026 his Lordship Mr. Justice Syed Mohammed Tazrul Hossain was pleased to admit the said application and directed to issue usual notices through special messenger and publication of notices of presentation of the said application within 2 weeks from the date. His Lordship was also pleased to direct the Dhaka Boat Club Limited and its Secretary being Respondent Nos. 1 & 2 respectively to produce (i) Rules regarding disciplinary issues, (ii) up to date members' list of the said Club, (iii) allegations brought against the petitioner and materials in support of such allegations, (iv) resolutions taken against the petitioner regarding termination of his membership within 2 weeks from date. Pursuant to the order of the Hon'ble Court, this matter will be listed before the said Hon'ble Bench on 17.11.2026 for further order.
Anyone desirous of opposing the said application may do so before the Hon'ble Court either personally or through Advocate on the fixed date. Copy of the said application may be obtained from the undersigned on payment of necessary cost.

Shamsul Hasan, Barrister-at-Law, Advocate Supreme Court of Bangladesh
ABC House (4th Floor) 8 Kemal Ataturk Avenue Banani, Dhaka-1213,
Mobile-01719-113538

বেতন বৃদ্ধি নিয়ে গার্মেন্টস শ্রমিকদের চলমান আন্দোলনে গিভেন্সী গ্রুপকে জড়িয়ে সংবাদ প্রকাশের প্রতিবাদলিপি

গিভেন্সী গ্রুপ একটি বনেদিয়ানা বহু শিল্প গ্রুপ যা বিগত প্রায় ৪২ বছর যাবৎ দেশে অত্যন্ত সুনামের সাথে ব্যবসা পরিচালনার মাধ্যমে বৈদেশিক মুদ্রা অর্জনসহ হাজার হাজার মানুষের কর্মসংস্থানের ব্যবস্থা করে দেশের অর্থনীতিতে গুরুত্বপূর্ণ ভূমিকা রেখে আসছে। উল্লেখ্য, বিগত ৪২ বছরে অনেক উত্থান-পতন হলেও আমরা কখনও ব্যবসার সাথে রাজনীতিকে জড়াইনি। ব্যবসার পাশাপাশি কোন রকম সরকারী, বেসরকারী বা আন্তর্জাতিক সাহায্য সহযোগিতা ছাড়াই সম্পূর্ণ নিজস্ব উদ্যোগ ও অর্থায়নে **"বয়স্ক পুনর্বাসন কেন্দ্র"** গড়ে তুলেছি যেখানে ৬০+ বৃদ্ধ/বৃদ্ধাদের **'সম্পূর্ণ বিনামূল্যে'** আমৃত্যু আশ্রয় প্রদান করা হয়।
গিভেন্সী গ্রুপের প্রধান কার্যালয়, জোগাড়া, বাইপাস মোড়, গাজীপুরের প্রাঙ্গন হতে গাজীপুর জেলা প্রশাসকের নেতৃত্বে জেলার উর্ধ্বতন কর্মকর্তাবৃন্দ, গাজীপুর, টঙ্গী ও সাভার (আংশিক) অঞ্চলের গার্মেন্টস শ্রমিকদের বেতন বৃদ্ধি নিয়ে চলমান সহিংস আন্দোলন পর্যবেক্ষণ ও নিয়ন্ত্রণ করেছেন। উল্লেখ্য, পুলিশ, আনসার, বিজিবি, এসআরবি এর শত শত সদস্য **গিভেন্সী গ্রুপের** প্রধান কার্যালয় প্রাঙ্গণে অবস্থান করেছেন। তাছাড়া, প্রধান কার্যালয় ব্যতিত **গিভেন্সী গ্রুপের** জোগাড়া, মনিপুরে অবস্থিত সহযোগী শিল্প প্রতিষ্ঠান হতেও জোগাড়া, যাওনাসহ ঐ অঞ্চলের শ্রমিক আন্দোলন নিয়ন্ত্রণ ও পর্যবেক্ষণ হয়েছে।
উপরে বর্ণিত প্রশাসনের প্রতি সহযোগিতার কারণে উদ্বুদ্ধিত হয়ে কোন ব্যক্তি বা প্রতিষ্ঠান গার্মেন্টস শ্রমিকদের বেতন বৃদ্ধি নিয়ে চলমান সহিংস আন্দোলনে অর্থায়ন নিয়ে **গিভেন্সী গ্রুপের** পরিচালকদের জড়িয়ে দৈনিক পত্রিকা, অনলাইন ও প্রিন্ট মিডিয়াতে সংবাদ প্রকাশ করা হয়েছে। আমরা এর সাথে কোনভাবেই জড়িত নই। এই সকল অভিযোগ মিথ্যা ও ভিত্তিহীন। **গিভেন্সী গ্রুপের** পক্ষ হতে আমরাও তীব্র নিন্দা প্রকাশের পাশাপাশি সত্যটা প্রকাশ করার অনুরোধ করছি।

ধন্যবাদান্তে,
খতিব আব্দুল জাহিদ মুকুল
চেয়ারম্যান ও ব্যবস্থাপনা পরিচালক
গিভেন্সী গ্রুপ অব ইন্ডাষ্ট্রিজ লিঃ
প্রতিষ্ঠাতা চেয়ারম্যান, বয়স্ক পুনর্বাসন কেন্দ্র।

NRBC BANK

Facility Management Division
Head Office, 5th Floor, 114 Motijheel C/A, Dhaka-1000. PABX: +88-02223353422-30

NOTICE FOR ENLISTMENT

Tender Ref: NRBCB/FMD/2026/1109 November 09, 2026

Applications are invited from the bonafide Bangladeshi Firms/Companies/Manufacturers/Suppliers/ Contractors/ Consultants/ Printing Press/Vehicle workshops/Servicing/Maintenance firms etc. for new enlistment with the Bank for the year 2027 in the following categories:

CATEGORY	PARTICULARS	CATEGORY	PARTICULARS
A	Stationery, Packaging/Printing & Others (General Stationery, Printing Stationery, Gift Items, Condolence, Times, Ribbon & Silk)	F	Consultancy & Professional Services (Design, Event Management)
B	Construction, Furniture & Fixture (Interior Decoration & Renovation, Furniture, Signboard & Branding)	G	Courier Services
C	Computer, Mechanotron & Plants (ATM & CDM, Computer, Laptop, Printer, UPS, Router, Switch, Facsimile, Photocopier, Mobile Phone, POS, Scanner, Note Counting Sorting Machine, MICR, Water Purifier, FAMS, Access Control, Software & Utility Software, etc.)	H	Manpower & Security Service Providers
D	Office Equipment (AC, TV, Fridge, Fan, Electric Accessories, Generator, Energy & Power Solution, Solar Panel, CCTV, Fire Extinguisher, Alarm, etc.)	I	Uniform & Liveries (Support Staff, Drivers & Gunmen)
E	Motor Vehicle (New Vehicle, Repair and Maintenance of Vehicle, Spare Parts, Fuel, Vehicle Rental Service)	J	Miscellaneous (LAN, WAN & Others)

N.B.: For further details, please visit the official website of NRBC Bank PLC. at https://www.nrbcommercialbank.com/ and navigate to the "Enlistment" tab. NRBC Bank PLC. reserves the right to accept or reject any or all applications for enlistment, either in full or in part, without assigning any reason whatsoever.

A.J.M. Mostafa
SVP & Head of FMD, NRBC Bank PLC

Office Of The Chief Engineer
Jagannath University
9-10 Chittaranjan Avenue, Dhaka-1100
Phone- 02-226640007
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প্রধান প্রকৌশলীর কার্যালয়
জগন্নাথ বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়
৯-১০ চিত্তরঞ্জন এভিনিউ, ঢাকা-১১০০
ফোন: ০২-২২৬৬৪০০০৭
ইমেইল: ce@jnu.ac.bd

Memo No. JnU/OCE/Social Science Bldg.-2/Semi-Pucca Shed /831/2025/5454 Date: 08/11/2026

Invitation for e-Tender for Works

1	Invitation reference No.	(1) JnU/OCE/Social Science Bldg.-2/Semi-Pucca Shed/831/2025/5454 (2) JnU/OCE/Sajid Bhaban/Lift No. 01/919/2026/5455	
2	Tender ID (from e-gp Portal)	(1)1366201 (2)1367813	
3	Procuring Method	Open Tendering Method (OTM)	
4	Name of the work	1.Construction of Semi-Pacca Shed (Tin shed) on roof of Social Science Building-2 of Jagannath University. 2.Vertical extension with commissioning of Lift No 01 of Shaheed Sajid Bhaban from 7th storey to 13th storey including supply, Installation and testing of necessary Lift's accessories at Jagannath University	
5	Tender Package No.	(1) PW 26-27/831/01 (2) PW26-27/919/02	
6	Tender Publication Date	10/11/2026	12.00 Noon
7	Tender Last Selling Date	22/11/2026	16.00 PM
8	Tender Closing & Opening Date and Time	23/11/2026	12.00 Noon
9	Tender Document Price	(1) 2500/- (Two Thousand five hundred only) (2) 1500/- (One Thousand five hundred only)	

This is an online tender, where only e-tenderers will be accepted in e-GP portal and no offline and hard copy will be accepted. To submit e-tender, please register on e-GP system. (http://www.eprocure.gov.bd)

(Engr. Md. Helal Uddin Patwary, PEng.)
Chief Engineer

GD-2723

GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH
Office Of The Commissioner Of Taxes
Taxes Zone-Khulna
Kor Bhaban (3rd floor), Jalil Saroni, Boyra, Khulna.

Memo no-Egp/Nezarat/2026-2027/13 Date: 09-11-2026

e-Tender Notice

The following Tender has been published through e-GP system:

Sl No	Tender ID	Description
1.	1365792	Procurement of Computer equipment
2.	1364599	Procurement of Equipment and machineries
3.	1364595	Procurement of Different Types of Stationery
4.	1364593	Procurement of Furniture
5.	1323222	Procurement of Computer and Accessories
All other information is available at (http://www.eprocure.gov.bd).		

Md. Zillur Rahman
Deputy Commissioner of Taxes
Head Quarter (Admin)
Taxes Zone-Khulna

GD-2722

Deportation policy was 'too tough'

Trump says after midterm rout

AFP, *Washington*

US President Donald Trump said that his mass deportation of undocumented immigrants was "too tough," according to an excerpt of an interview with CBS aired Sunday.

Asked about his deportation policy, Trump told CBS' "60 Minutes": "I think it was too tough...I think it might be too tough."

The excerpt was published by CBS on X ahead of a broadcast of the interview on network TV. It was recorded after the Republican Party's heavy loss in midterm polls.

While Trump has won some support for securing southern border, his administration's aggressive push to deport millions of undocumented migrants has drawn widespread criticism.



Greenpeace activists demonstrate during the COP31 UN Climate Change Conference at the Antalya Expo Centre in Antalya, Turkey, yesterday. PHOTO: **AFP**

This year set to be one of four hottest on record: UN

REUTERS, *Geneva*

This year is on track to be one of the four hottest on record, driven by a powerful El Niño and perpetuating a warming streak of more than a decade, a UN report showed yesterday.

Between January and September this year, the global average temperature was 1.47 degrees Celsius above the pre-industrial average and could rise further due to a major El Niño, the report showed.

The WMO report, which encompasses nine data sets, showed that each of the past 12 years, including 2026, was ranked among the 12 warmest ever recorded since records began in around 1850.

"Every indicator here is telling the same story. We're seeing the heat trapped by greenhouse gasses is showing up in the ocean, in the atmosphere, in the melting of ice and the rising of sea levels," WMO Head of Climate Information John Kennedy told reporters in Geneva ahead of the conference.

The EU's Copernicus climate service already said 2026 was all but certain to become the second calendar year after 2024 to exceed the threshold of 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels set in the 2015 Paris Agreement.

The planet is increasingly accumulating heat, the UN report said, with ocean temperatures continuing to rise this year from 2025 all-time highs. Global mean sea levels have also reached a record this year as glaciers and ice sheets melt and seawater expands as it heats, the report said.

IN BRIEF



20 migrants die trying to reach Greece's Crete

AFP, *Athens*

Twenty people have died over the weekend trying to reach Greece's island of Crete, which has become a main destination for migrants headed for the European Union, authorities said yesterday.

Eight bodies were found on one boat and 12 on another, while some 40 people were rescued off both, the Greek coast guard said yeterday.

Maritime police launched an emergency rescue late Saturday after a boat issued an alarm signal, the coast guard said. Around 28 survivors and one body, all Sudanese nationals, were picked up by another boat sailing nearby, then transferred to a police vessel and taken to Crete, authorities said on Sunday.

Ukraine strikes Russian missile fuel plant

AGENCIES

Ukraine's military said it struck a Russian plant near St Petersburg that makes explosives and solid fuel for missiles, damaging three production workshops.

In a post on the Telegram messaging app, Ukraine's General Staff said Ukrainian forces hit the Morozov Plant overnight. It said the plant's three production workshops were damaged and that the extent of the damage was being clarified.

The plant developed solid fuel for engines of Topol-M missile systems and made and supplied solid-fuel charges for the engines of Iskander-M ballistic missiles

The General Staff said the plant developed solid fuel for engines of Russia's Topol-M missile systems and made and supplied solid-fuel charges for the engines of Iskander-M ballistic missiles. Russia has used Iskander missiles in strikes on Ukrainian cities since it invaded in February 2022, reports Reuters.

'Move faster' on climate

COP31 leaders urge world to act as summit opens in Turkey

AGENCIES

Leaders of the COP31 climate summit urged the world to accelerate the fight against global warming as rising temperatures and an increasing number of climate-driven disasters threaten lives and the global economy, as the annual meeting began in Turkey yesterday.

The comments at the start of the two-week UN conference were an appeal to governments to focus on climate, even as other international crises from war to soaring inflation and the uncertainty of AI compete for their attention. The US has shunned climate cooperation for second year in a row.

"The urgency of this moment must drive us forward," UN Climate Change Executive Secretary Simon Stiell said in prepared remarks for the opening of the event on Turkey's Mediterranean coast, adding that progress so far was "nowhere near fast enough."

Turkey's COP31 presidency has focused this year's summit on a goal to electrify more than a third of the global economy by 2035, up from around a fifth today

"A supersized El Nino is colliding with a planet already superheated by manmade climate change," the UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres said in a statement.

A report by the UN Environment Programme published in October said the world was already set to overshoot 1.5C of warming above pre-industrial times, the threshold set at the 2015 Paris climate summit to avoid the worst consequences of warming, reports Reuters.

Turkey's COP31 presidency has focused this year's summit on a goal to electrify more than a third of the global economy by 2035, up from around a fifth today. It is asking nations to sign onto a pledge supporting that target.

Theoretically, such a goal could help reduce planet-warming emissions by speeding the global shift away from fossil fuel-powered vehicles, furnaces, boilers, cooking stoves, and other greenhouse gas-emitting equipment.

Government of The People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Executive Engineer
Education Engineering Department, Sunamganj.
www.eedmoe.gov.bd

Tender Notice No: e-Tender-09/5974/SHED/XEN/EED/SUN/2026-2027 Date: 09/11/2026.

Invitation for e-Tender (LTM)

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP system portal ((http://www.eprocure.gov.bd) for the procurement of works mentioned below under Education Engineering Department, Sunamganj District.

Sl No	Tender/ proposal package No.	Tender ID	Name of Works/ Package description	Last date & Time of Selling Documents	Last date & Time of Submission Documents	Tender/ Proposal Opening Date and Time
01	WD_5974_SHED_EED_SUN_2025-26_05	1364078	Repair and Renovation Works (FY 2025-26) at Matiapur SESDP Model High School, Derai, Sunamganj. (RMS ID NO: 1058426).	23-Nov-2026 Time 15.00	24-Nov-2026 Time 11.00	24-Nov-2026 Time 12.00
02	WD_5974_SHED_EED_SUN_2025-26_07	1364079	Repair and Renovation Works (FY 2025-26) at Joynal Abedin Degree College, Tahirpur, Sunamganj. (RMS ID NO: 1057451).	23-Nov-2026 Time 15.00	24-Nov-2026 Time 11.00	24-Nov-2026 Time 12.00
03	WD_5974_SHED_EED_SUN_2025-26_08	1364080	Repair and Renovation Works (FY 2025-26) at Gagli Narainpur Junior School, Shantiganj, Sunamganj. (RMS ID NO: 1057497).	23-Nov-2026 Time 15.00	24-Nov-2026 Time 11.00	24-Nov-2026 Time 12.00
04	WD_5974_SHED_EED_SUN_2025-26_09	1364081	Repair and Renovation Works (FY 2025-26) at Abdul Gafur High School & College, Shantiganj, Sunamganj. (RMS ID NO: 1057495).	23-Nov-2026 Time 15.00	24-Nov-2026 Time 11.00	24-Nov-2026 Time 12.00
05	WD_5974_SHED_EED_SUN_2025-26_10	1364082	Repair and Renovation Works (FY 2025-26) at Goninogar Shologram High School, Shantiganj, Sunamganj. (RMS ID NO: 1057496).	23-Nov-2026 Time 15.00	24-Nov-2026 Time 11.00	24-Nov-2026 Time 12.00

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 of Said Package from the National e-GP System portal have to be deposited online through any registered Banks' branches up to 23/11/2026 Time: 15:00.
Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@epocure.gov.bd).

03.11.2026
(Md. Kamruzzaman)
Executive Engineer (C.C.)
Education Engineering Department.
Sunamganj.

GD-2714



The Daily Star
FOUNDER EDITOR: **LATE S. M. ALI**

Our migrant workers deserve justice

The state must prioritise protecting their dignity

According to the Bureau of Manpower, Employment and Training (BMET), Saudi Arabia is the top destination for overseas employment for both male and female Bangladeshi migrant workers. This makes the findings of the latest report by this daily all the more horrifying. The report details the experiences of Bangladeshi female migrant workers returning from Saudi Arabia, some dead and others physically and/or psychologically scarred, exposing a deeply troubling failure of our migration governance.

Some of the accounts of these women returnees are truly heartbreaking. One returnee alleged that she had been denied adequate food and medical treatment throughout her stay. An officer from BRAC's Migration Welfare Centre said nearly 90 percent of female Saudi returnees she had encountered had reported suffering physical or psychological abuse, including sexual abuse, food deprivation, excessive workload, restrictions on communication with families, and confiscation of phones and passports. Saudi Arabia is also the top destination country returning our workers in coffins. A Bonik Barta report found that, between 2017 and October 25, 2026, of the dead bodies of 1,065 female Bangladeshi migrant workers repatriated, at least 486 came from Saudi Arabia. Among those deaths, 112 were classified as suicide cases. Death certificates issued abroad are often accepted here without independent scrutiny. However, a 2023 RMMRU study documented serious doubts among bereaved families about the causes of death recorded on official certificates.

Independent post-mortem examinations must be made mandatory upon the repatriation of all migrant workers' bodies, both female and male, with proper forensic documentation to establish causes of death and identify possible injuries or signs of abuse.

It is a matter of great shame for us that this situation has persisted for years without any effective measures taken to put a stop to the inhumane treatment of our migrant workers—often celebrated as "remittance warriors"—at their countries of employment. An April 2026 report by this daily found that, between 2021 and 2025, women filed 2,036 complaints with BMET. Although 1,969 were marked resolved, only 14 of 110 agencies accused of wrongdoing in 2025 were compelled to pay compensation.

As experts have rightly pointed out, Bangladesh must rethink its approach to protecting migrant workers, beginning before they leave. BMET must independently verify foreign employers, job offers, employment contracts, salaries and working conditions, rather than relying primarily on recruitment agencies' assurances. Our diplomatic missions need adequately staffed and empowered labour wings, independently monitored shelters, round-the-clock emergency helplines, and regular, confidential contact with workers, particularly women employed in private households. The government has announced agreements with 22 law firms in 13 countries and has two safe homes in Saudi Arabia. Their effectiveness must be measured by how many workers they actually protect and how many perpetrators they help bring to justice.

Equally important is accountability when workers die abroad. Independent post-mortem examinations must be made mandatory upon the repatriation of all migrant workers' bodies, both female and male, with proper forensic documentation to establish causes of death and identify possible injuries or signs of abuse. Where evidence warrants, Bangladesh must demand further investigation and accountability from destination countries. Our remittance earners must not be treated with neglect any longer. The state must protect their rights with the same determination it promotes overseas employment.

Food inflation needs urgent remedy

Restart, expand TCB truck sales to provide essential support

A recent WFP report projected that the number of people facing acute food insecurity could reach 1.81 crore between September and December this year, up by 28 lakh from the beginning of the year. Meanwhile, inflation is reportedly set to see a 16-year high next year. In this situation, the six-month hiatus in the Trading Corporation of Bangladesh's (TCB) mobile truck sales has left many citizens without access to affordable essential food items. Besides distributing subsidised food items to around 75 lakh cardholders, TCB also sells edible oil, rice, flour, lentils and more at lower-than-retail prices via mobile trucks. Although the truck sales are meant to be occasional, with living costs rising over the last few years, more and more people have come to depend on this government initiative.

Per the latest guidelines, the TCB truck sales will primarily be held ahead of Eid-ul-Fitr and Eid-ul-Azha. TCB authorities also expect subsidies to decrease in the current fiscal year to Tk 2,400 crore, down from last year's Tk 2,700 crore. According to food ministry data, around 2.68 lakh tonnes of rice and wheat were allocated under the TCB's Open Market Sale (OMS) programme between July and October—26 percent less than the allocation in the same period last year. How sensible is it to downsize this crucial form of support when, according to the World Bank, the last four years have seen the addition of at least 80 lakh newly poor in Bangladesh? If anything, now would be the time for TCB to expand its OMS and truck sale programmes to provide support to those struggling to cope with the rising food prices.

While continuously hiked fuel costs are often cited as the main reason behind the inflation, prices have reportedly risen by more than the actual increase in costs. The low distribution of food through TCB is also concerning because the government's stock of rice and wheat has reportedly increased, with the current collective stock of the two items being higher than it was even last year. Not only should the government investigate whether the rise in food prices has been proportional to increasing fuel and transport costs, but it must also take the WFP's food insecurity projection into account and work accordingly to reduce its impact. It is the government's duty to ensure that the poorest can weather this period of food inflation.

New e-rickshaw rules were long overdue, but they leave critical gaps



Dhrubo Alam is deputy transport planner at Dhaka Transport Coordination Authority.

■ **DHRUBO ALAM**

Ataur Rahman, 60, was killed in Kapasia, Gazipur on August 20, 2026. His battery-run rickshaw, worth about Tk 1.4 lakh, was taken by three men (who were later arrested for the murder) and sold for Tk 42,000. His case is one of at least 404 recorded in a recent tally based on police records of battery-run rickshaw drivers murdered between 2020 and October 20, 2026. Put another way, an e-rickshaw driver has been killed by muggers roughly every six days for nearly seven years. The method used in these killings is well known to investigators. The rickshaw is usually hailed by someone posing as a passenger, who then asks the driver to go somewhere quiet before attacking them, mostly under the cover of darkness. The vehicle is then sold whole or stripped for parts within hours. These rickshaws have been described by some as "liquid money," since nothing on them shows who owns them.

Against this backdrop, the Local Government Division (LGD) issued the Three-Wheeled Low-Speed Battery-Operated Rickshaw (E-Rickshaw) Movement Rules, 2026 through a gazette notification on October 29, making their registration compulsory in every city corporation area. No e-rickshaw can now ply without registration in these areas. National highways, expressways, BRT corridors, and major bus routes have also been declared off-limits to these vehicles, and each registered e-rickshaw must carry a QR-coded plate.

Although these changes are significant on paper, a close reading of the 12-page gazette suggests that it has been written almost entirely around the vehicle in question, while the person at the handlebar is barely mentioned.

A close reading of the 12-page gazette issued by LGD suggests that it has been written almost entirely around the three-wheeled low-speed battery-operated rickshaw, while the person at the handlebar is barely mentioned.

The first gap appears in licensing. Under Rule 2, "licence" is defined only in relation to manufacturing or charging points, with no provision for a driver's licence or permit of any kind. The application form in Schedule 1 asks the owner for details down to their educational qualification and motor number, but nothing is asked about who will drive the vehicle. The same concern has been echoed by the drivers' and owners' association as well. Training, meanwhile, has been left optional: under Rule 10, courses on traffic law, road safety, and battery maintenance "may" be arranged by the authorities. Insurance has also been deferred, with Rule 4(14) stating that e-rickshaws will be brought under it "in phases." The application form asks for a policy number only, "if any." Equally importantly, there appears to be no provision for life insurance for drivers—the protection that would have mattered most to the families of murdered drivers.

Penalties are another area where the rules seem incomplete. The offences are listed in Rule 19, ranging from driving an unregistered vehicle and overloading to using an unapproved battery and fleeing after a crash. Beyond stating that legal action "may be taken," however, the rules specify neither fines nor suspension periods. The duty placed on drivers by Rule 18—to stop after a crash, help the injured, and inform the police—is sensible but may prove difficult to enforce when drivers' identities are not recorded. There is also a geographic gap: under Rule 1(2), the rules apply only within city corporation areas. Of the 404 murders reviewed by New Age, only 26 were recorded inside Dhaka city (which topped the list), suggesting that many of the others likely occurred on peri-urban and rural roads beyond city corporation limits.

The QR-coded plate could perhaps do the most for driver safety by turning an otherwise anonymous asset into traceable property. A code is useful only if it can be checked against a reliable record, however. As an LGD official has acknowledged, there is currently no central database. Instead, records are to be maintained separately by each city corporation and by fitness-certificate issuers under Rule 4(12). Under this arrangement, a stolen registered rickshaw could still be broken up in a backstreet garage, with its battery and motor sold separately, without anyone involved in the transaction being required to verify its registration.

That said, there may still be time for these gaps to be addressed, as registration has barely begun. DSCC, for example, opened registration counters on November 3 and around 700 forms had been sold by the following day. However, no rickshaw was registered by the end of that week. There has been hardly any update from the other city corporations.

Of course, any discussion about the regulation of battery-run rickshaws would be incomplete without addressing the principal concern: passenger safety. There is no agreed-upon figure for the harm caused to passengers by these vehicles. A study by the Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD) attributed 21.01 percent of road fatalities in 2024 to battery-powered three-wheelers while, according to Bangladesh Jatri Kalyan Samity's June 2026 count, battery rickshaws and easy-bikes accounted for 14.96 percent of the vehicles involved in crashes. The two figures measure different things, and neither comes from an official system that records e-rickshaws separately. Setting appropriate speed limits, zone sizes, and fleet caps is difficult without reliable data.

Under these circumstances, several steps could help address the shortcomings. Drivers could be registered alongside the vehicles. A photo-bearing driver card or licence, linked to the vehicle's QR-coded plate and issued after a short compulsory training course, would cost relatively little. Rule 10's permissive "may" could then be replaced with a definitive "shall". A single national registry could also be established before registration expands, linked to NIDs and made searchable by the police. If garages and scrap dealers were required to check the registry before buying a vehicle or motor, and purchasing an unverified one were made an offence, the resale trade that often drives these muggings could be hit hard.

It would also help to attach a schedule of fines and suspensions to Rule 19, giving traffic police something definite to enforce. If e-rickshaws were recorded as a separate vehicle type in police crash reports and hospital records, future discussions of their safety could begin with a shared set of figures. The promised rules for pourashavas and upazilas, where many rickshaw muggings likely occur, should also be issued without delay.

The LGD gazette has created a legal framework for e-rickshaws but it has yet to establish clearly who is driving them or what protection the state owes those drivers and their passengers in the event of an accident or other unforeseen incident.



On October 29, the Local Government Division issued the Three-Wheeled Low-Speed Battery-Operated Rickshaw (E-Rickshaw) Movement Rules, 2026 through a gazette notification. FILE PHOTO: **STAR**

The danger of defining young lives by exam results



Shah Md Saad Abdullah is an undergraduate student at BRAC University.

■ **SHAH MD SAAD ABDULLAH**

On October 31, a total of 1,240,798 students sat this year's HSC and equivalent examinations, and 646,685 passed. The pass rate of 52.12 percent is the lowest in 22 years. Roughly 594,000 candidates failed in one or more subjects, 293 institutions recorded no passes, and the number of GPA-5 achievers fell to 40,084 from 69,097.

On the same day, two students, in Satkhira and Lakshmipur, reportedly died by suicide after learning that they had failed. Two deaths do not establish a trend, but this is not new. After the results this August, Aachol Foundation counted at least 10 students' deaths by suicide reported in the media within a week, and it points to the days around results as a period of increased risk.

The government attributes the decline in results to impartial marking and gaps in student learning, while others point to weak foundations and teacher shortages. Inflated grades helped no one, but a system that raises its standards without raising its support makes result day heavier for the students. Roughly 423,000 students who failed one or two subjects will get another chance, with retakes due in early December. But 171,000 students who failed three or more subjects will be left out. In the last admission cycle, Chittagong University received 233,327 applications for just 4,165 seats, or roughly 56 applicants per seat. The overwhelming majority will fail to secure admission. Yet beyond celebrating those who succeed, we must ask what message this fiercely competitive system sends to those who are left behind.

We are often taught from a young age that failure isn't an option. Encouraged by families, schools, and coaching centres to compete, students will choose subjects that will look good on paper. Many won't ever know what they're interested in.

The cost is visible. A 2026 survey of 1,500 university students in Dhaka, conducted at a youth wellness festival, found that nearly two in three feel stressed almost every day, with family expectations and career uncertainty among the causes. Aachol Foundation counted 403 student suicides in 2025 and associated 72 of them with academic pressure, mostly among school and college students. However, Aachal Foundation stated that failure in an examination should not define a student's future and worth. Failure leaves a wound, a lesson, and a chance to repair. How a young person responds depends largely on whether those around them see the situation as a new beginning or the end of the road.

Regret, however, is different from the disappointment of failure. It does not necessarily emerge on the day results are announced. Instead, it builds over the years, from the subjects we never studied, the risks we never took, and the paths we followed simply to meet others' expectations. Such regret can shape a person's life in ways that are quieter but more enduring than the pain of failure. A student who fails while pursuing their own aspirations can at least find satisfaction in having tried. But one who succeeds in a field they never wanted to pursue may spend years wondering what life could have been like had they followed their own ambitions.

A student who fails while pursuing their own aspirations can at least find satisfaction in having tried. But one who succeeds in a field they never wanted to pursue may spend years wondering what life could have been like had they followed their own ambitions.

This does not mean that effort and competition are undesirable. Merit matters, and university seats are limited. However, an education system in which most applicants inevitably fail to secure admission must do more than simply rank students according to their performance. It must also help those who are unsuccessful recognise that failing an admission test does not mean failing in life. Three measures could help address this challenge.

First, the education ministry should direct boards and universities to plan for result days carefully. Experts have urged a coordinated response from the education system, families, society, and mental health services. Counselling should be available before and after results are published. Secondly, schools and colleges should employ trained counsellors and make their services a priority. Students cannot take advantage of resources that are not available.

Most importantly, parents and teachers should widen their definition of a good result. A family conversation that picks up from "what do you want to do?" instead of "what will people say?" gives the child the rarest gift: the right to their own life.

Young people have their part to play. Choosing for yourself doesn't guarantee success and carries a real risk of failure. But that risk is theirs, and it stops when the result is announced. The alternative, a life built to satisfy someone else's idea of success, has no result day and no end.

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Bangladesh needs a sustainable debt management policy

MACRO MIRROR



Dr Fahmida Khatun is an economist and distinguished fellow at the Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD). Views expressed in this article are the author's own.

FAHMIDA KHATUN

The recent World Bank International Debt Report 2026 reveals that every Bangladeshi now carries about $646 of foreign debt on paper, that is, the country's per capita external debt. The country's external debt stood at $113.44 billion at the end of 2025. This is 8.6 percent more than the previous year, and nearly triple the 2015 total of $38.77 billion.

The World Bank report also shows that Bangladesh's external debt per person exceeds South Asia's average of about $564, although it is higher than the amount in some neighbouring countries and lower than in others. These figures, however, should be read carefully because countries differ in income, population, foreign exchange earnings, interest rates, repayment schedules, and their economy size. India, for example, has a much larger economy and export base than Bangladesh. Small island countries may have higher debt per person, but their economies and borrowing patterns differ. For a fair comparison, debt relative to GDP, exports and government revenue should be assessed.

In assessing debt-to-GDP ratio, the more important questions are whether the debt is creating future income, whether the country can repay it without squeezing essential spending, and whether its foreign exchange earnings can meet external obligations.

Those questions have become increasingly pressing. In 2025, Bangladesh's external debt stood at 23.6 percent of gross national income and 210.5 percent of exports, while debt service absorbed 15.7 percent of export earnings. This indicates that debt management is crucial to fiscal management and foreign exchange stability, particularly as the country prepares to graduate from the Least Developed Country (LDC) category.

It is also important to distinguish external debt from total public debt. The World Bank's external debt figure covers government and publicly guaranteed borrowing, private borrowing that is not publicly guaranteed, and short-term debt. Using a broader measure of public and publicly guaranteed liabilities, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) estimated Bangladesh's total public debt at 41.3 percent of GDP in FY2024-25, with more than half of that stock comprising domestic debt. The figures differ because they cover different borrowers and types of debt, so they should not be presented as though they measure the same thing.

The debt-to-GDP ratio is concerning because the economy has not yet achieved durable stabilisation. It is going through a difficult period, marked by persistent inflation, subdued private investment, a stressed banking sector, weak revenue mobilisation, low foreign direct investment, and exports vulnerable to external shocks. In this context, debt service competes directly with spending and reforms needed to strengthen productivity and create jobs.

Bangladesh's debt has risen in part because borrowing has funded infrastructure and covered budget deficits. Loans for well-planned ports, power connections, railways or flood protection projects can boost productivity and strengthen the economy's ability to repay. Problems arise when project costs rise, implementation is delayed, or the completed asset fails to deliver the expected economic and fiscal returns, as observed many times over the past decade or so. The debt remains, but the promised growth dividend does not materialise.

The exchange rate adds another risk. When the taka depreciates, the local currency cost of repaying foreign debt rises, even if the loan's dollar value remains unchanged. Projects that depend on imported equipment but generate no foreign exchange earnings can deepen this mismatch. The government should, therefore, assess not only a project's construction costs and expected domestic benefits, but also its foreign currency needs and contribution to export capacity, import savings, or other sources of foreign exchange.

Debt composition also deserves attention. World Bank data shows that multilateral creditors held about 39.8 percent of Bangladesh's external debt stock in 2025, while concessional debt accounted for about 32.8 percent. These are distinct categories because multilateral does not automatically mean concessional. As the country graduates from the LDC category in three years, it must prepare for a financing landscape in which some forms of preferential support may become less available, and new borrowing may carry less favourable terms. Concessional finance will not disappear overnight, but it should not base its plans on the continuation of today's terms.

To develop a well-planned debt management strategy, first, Bangladesh needs a credible medium-term revenue plan. The immediate priority should be to broaden the tax base, making it fairer and more predictable. Digital tax administration, fewer discretionary exemptions, stronger compliance, simpler procedures, and a clearer separation of tax policy from tax collection can raise revenue without shifting the entire burden onto formal businesses and wage earners.

Second, the government should manage debt across the entire public sector. It needs a regularly updated debt strategy that details borrowing by currency, interest rate, maturity and creditor, as well as annual repayment obligations. It should also disclose contingent liabilities arising from state-owned enterprises, guarantees and public-private partnerships. Stress tests should assess the effects of slower exports, a weaker taka, higher interest rates, and increased spending on climate-related disasters. Greater transparency can support better decisions before liabilities become budget shocks.

Third, public investment management needs strengthening. Every large project should undergo an independent cost-benefit review that includes realistic estimates of land acquisition, import, maintenance and foreign exchange costs. Projects should be prioritised according to their contribution to productivity, resilience and jobs, while weak projects should be redesigned or halted. Procurement, completion timelines and post-completion performance should be reported openly. Higher public spending is not necessarily a development achievement if assets are delayed, underused or too expensive to maintain.

Fourth, Bangladesh should build foreign exchange earning capacity before graduation changes the terms of market access. The European Union will provide a three-year transition for graduating countries to continue accessing Everything But Arms (EBA) preferences, with the possibility of Generalised Scheme of Preferences Plus (GSP+) for eligible countries. That bridge is useful, but market access after it cannot be taken for granted. Bangladesh signed an Economic Partnership Agreement with Japan in February 2026, and a Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement with South Korea in August 2026. These arrangements can support trade and investment, but only if firms can meet rules of origin and labour and environmental requirements, and if customs, ports and logistics become more reliable.

The government should use the transition period to identify which products, firms and jobs are most exposed to changing preferences, while pursuing practical market access arrangements. Export diversification must go beyond routine promotion of promising sectors. It needs predictable regulation, access to finance, reliable energy, skilled workers, lower logistics costs and the removal of anti-export biases created by high, uneven tariffs. Productivity gains and greater value addition will make exports more resilient than reliance on low wages or temporary preferences.

Finally, debt policy must be aligned with the reforms that drive growth. Weaknesses in the financial sector, unreliable energy, limited competition and a difficult business environment all reduce returns on public and private investment. Thus, revenue mobilisation, banking stability, energy security and the business environment must be strengthened as they are integral to debt management. A more productive economy generates more tax revenue and foreign exchange, making debt easier to service.

We cannot avoid borrowing. But we must ensure that borrowed funds boost productivity and resilience, on terms aligned with future repayment capacity. Per capita debt is a useful starting point for public discussion, but not the best measure of a country's financial health. The key test is whether each new loan leaves Bangladesh with an asset, a stronger revenue base, or greater capacity to earn foreign exchange.



FILE VISUAL: SALMAN SAKIB SHAHRYAR

Rising LPG costs pushing the poor to the edge of survival



Amith Kumar Malaker is human rights defender and public policy analyst.

AMITH KUMAR MALAKER

For millions of low-income households in Bangladesh, meeting the cost of everyday necessities has become an increasingly difficult struggle. Food, cooking fuel, transportation, housing, healthcare, and education consume a growing share of household income, leaving families with fewer choices and little financial security. The latest increase in liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) prices is another indication of how the burden of economic adjustment continues to fall disproportionately on those least able to afford it.

On November 2, 2026, the Bangladesh Energy Regulatory Commission (BERC) raised the retail price of a 12-kilogram LPG cylinder by Tk 223 to Tk 2,060, up from Tk 1,837 in October. Following an earlier increase of Tk 252 in October, consumers have faced a cumulative rise of Tk 475 in just two months. The price of autogas also increased from Tk 84.62 to Tk 91.95 per litre. However, the official price does not necessarily reflect the actual market situation. Media reports and the experience of the general public indicate that consumers have been paying Tk2,200 to 2,400 for 12kg cylinders in several markets despite regulated prices. Reports of supply restrictions, alleged stockpiling, and weak enforcement raise serious questions about the effectiveness of existing price regulation. When consumers face both official price increases and additional market premiums, regulation offers little meaningful protection.

Inflation continues eroding purchasing power

The LPG price hike comes amid persistent inflation and weakening household purchasing power. According to the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS), consumer price inflation reached 8.34 percent in September 2026, up from 8.26 percent in August. Food inflation stood at 7.22 percent, while non-food inflation reached 9.30 percent. More concerningly, wage growth slowed to 7.90 percent, remaining below inflation.

This gap has serious implications for households dependent on fixed or irregular earnings. A moderation in inflation does not mean that prices are falling. Families that have already experienced successive increases in food, rent, transportation, electricity, healthcare, and education expenses do not regain their lost purchasing power simply because inflation slows. Higher energy costs also affect restaurants, small food businesses, transport operators, and other service providers.

The central question here is not simply whether international energy prices have increased or whether domestic regulators need to revise prices. It is who bears the consequences of those adjustments. Unlike many government and formal-sector employees, millions of informal workers, day labourers, rickshaw pullers, domestic workers, small traders, and low-income service providers have no reliable mechanism to secure corresponding income increases. Their earnings often remain stagnant while essential expenses continue to rise. These families often reduce protein consumption, purchase lower-quality food, postpone medical treatment, withdraw children from educational activities, accumulate debt, or exhaust their savings. According to the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics' (BBS) Living Standard Survey 2025, 47.42 percent of households across the country have fallen into debt to meet rising living expenses amid stagnant earnings, with rural households facing greater pressure than their urban counterparts. The burden is not limited to informal workers, as RMG workers, too, face mounting pressure as wages struggle to keep pace with the cost of living.

Healthcare expenses further compound this vulnerability, as out-of-pocket healthcare payments pushed an estimated 1.1 crore people below Bangladesh's national poverty line over the 17 years leading up to 2022. Furthermore, women frequently bear a disproportionate share of this burden by reducing their own food consumption and undertaking additional unpaid household work, with potentially serious consequences for their health. A study published in Health Science Reports underscores this vulnerability, finding that 77.9 percent of women among 459 adults seeking healthcare in rural Chattogram were anaemic.

Bangladesh's LPG market needs structural reform

A comparison with neighbouring India raises important questions about Bangladesh's LPG market structure and consumer protection mechanisms. In November 2026, a 14.2 kg domestic LPG cylinder cost 942 rupees in Delhi, 941.50 rupees in Mumbai, 968 rupees in Kolkata and 1,031.50 rupees in Patna. Prices vary across Indian states because of differences in local taxes and distribution costs. India's market is served by major state-owned oil marketing companies, including Indian Oil, Bharat Petroleum, and Hindustan Petroleum. Eligible low-income households also receive targeted assistance through the Ujjwala scheme. Although differences in cylinder sizes, taxation, exchange rates, and subsidies prevent direct price comparisons, India's institutional arrangements offer important lessons for consumer protection.

Bangladesh, by contrast, heavily depends on private companies for approximately 99 percent of its LPG market. Although BERC has licensed 35 companies to import LPG, only 10 to 12 are active importers, with more than 70 percent of imports in FY2025–26 reportedly coming through just seven companies. Market concentration and brand-specific cylinder systems create additional supply-chain inefficiencies. More than two crore empty cylinders reportedly remain outside the active supply chain because consumers cannot readily exchange cylinders across competing brands. These challenges demonstrate that Bangladesh's LPG crisis is not exclusively an international price issue. It is also a problem of market concentration, competition, supply-chain inefficiency, and regulatory accountability.

Price regulation must translate into accountability

BERC's responsibility cannot end with announcing an official retail price. The gap between regulated and actual market prices demands stronger monitoring, transparent supply-chain management, and effective enforcement. BERC, the Directorate of National Consumer Rights Protection, and local administrations must coordinate regular market inspections, investigate allegations of artificial shortages, require transparent invoicing, and take credible action against businesses violating pricing regulations. Fuel-price adjustments should also follow a predictable and transparent mechanism. International price increases may justify domestic revisions, but consumers must benefit promptly when international prices decline.

First, the government should introduce targeted, temporary energy assistance for low-income households, particularly those dependent on purchased cooking fuels. Such support should follow transparent eligibility criteria and use inclusive social protection delivery mechanisms. Second, existing cash and food assistance programmes must be reviewed against actual household expenditure, inflation, and wage trends. Benefit levels should be adjusted where necessary to protect the purchasing power of vulnerable families. Third, the government must address structural weaknesses in essential commodity markets, strengthen competition, improve supply-chain efficiency, and expand income protection for informal workers.

Bangladesh cannot completely insulate itself from international market volatility, nor can every increase in import costs be absorbed indefinitely by public finances. However, economic constraints cannot justify transferring the entire burden to ordinary consumers without adequate protection, transparency, and accountability. The latest LPG price increase is about much more than the cost of a cooking cylinder. It raises a fundamental question of economic fairness: how long can households with limited incomes continue absorbing rising costs when their earnings fail to keep pace? The government's responsibility is not merely to explain why prices are increasing, but to demonstrate how citizens will be protected. An economy cannot claim resilience when millions of people are forced to choose between cooking a meal, seeking medical care, and sending their children to school.

GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH
Ministry of Health and Family Welfare · Health Services Division
Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS)
Office of the Project Director
Upgradation of the Existing Kidney Dialysis Centre of Medical College Hospitals upto 50 beds and Establishment of 10 beded Kidney Dialysis Centre at District Hospitals
Room: 462, 463 (3rd floor), Department of Nephrology, National Institute of Kidney Diseases and Urology (NIKDU), Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207, Bangladesh

ADDENDUM NOTICE No. 01
International Competitive Tendering (ICT) through e-GP

Memo No.: DGHS/PDO/Dialysis/GD1(HD)/2026/776 Date: 08 November 2026

Ref.: IFT No. DGHS/PDO/Dialysis/ GD1(HD)/2026/706, dated 15 October 2026

Addendum No. 01 to the Tender Document for the procurement of 1,030 (one thousand thirty) Hemodialysis Machines (HD Only) with integral rechargeable battery back-up, Package No. GD-1, e-GP Tender ID No. 1333848, has been issued through the e-GP System (www.eprocure.gov.bd) under ITT 11.

The Addendum amends the specific experience requirement, certain clauses of the Technical Specification and the related forms, and the Brief Eligibility and Qualification of the tender notice. It forms part of the Tender Document, and Tenderers shall prepare their Tenders accordingly.

The deadline for submission and opening of Tenders (30 November 2026, 16:00 hours) and all other terms and conditions of the Tender Document remain unchanged.

(Professor Dr. A.N.M. Ehsanul Karim)
Project Director and Official Inviting Tender
Telephone: 01819-251431 · E-mail: pddialysis@ld.dghs.gov.bd

GD-2716

Want to take our films beyond borders: MEHAZABIEN

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

After earning acclaim at home and abroad with her two films already, Mehazabien Chowdhury is all set for her third big-screen project, ***Opolok***. Rehearsals for the film are underway, with shooting expected to begin soon.

The film will see her reunite with Afran Nisho, her frequent co-star from television dramas, for their first on-screen pairing in cinema. Directed by Adnan Al Rajeev, it also marks the filmmaker's feature debut.

Describing ***Opolok*** as a love story, Mehazabien said, "Alongside love, the film explores human emotions, the complexities of relationships and some very familiar feelings associated with life. I find the story beautiful and particularly relatable."

While her character offers considerable scope for performance, the actor prefers to keep its details under wraps. "I would rather not reveal too much at this stage. I want audiences to discover the character when they watch the film in theatres," she added.

"I want to work in different stories and portray diverse characters, especially those that allow me to discover new aspects of myself as an actor and leave a lasting impression on audiences"

Mehazabien has previously worked with Adnan on a few advertisements, but ***Opolok*** will be their first film together.

"I really like his storytelling approach, visual sensibility and the care he puts into his work. He is very focused and has a clear idea of what he wants to communicate. Since this is his first feature film, the project carries a special emotional significance for him. I hope we can create something beautiful for audiences together," she said.

The film will also bring Mehazabien and Nisho together after nearly four years. Their television collaborations have earned considerable affection from viewers, who have long hoped to see the duo reunite.

"We have not worked together in quite some time, but audiences have always wanted us to collaborate again. Finally, that opportunity has come, and on the big screen this time. It is certainly very exciting," she said.

Recalling their years of working together, Mehazabien described Nisho as a skilled, hardworking and dedicated co-star. "We have done so many dramas together, and audiences have given our pairing so much love. Over the years, we have developed a good understanding of each other's work. Although the medium is different this time, I hope audiences will enjoy seeing us in a new light and continue to shower us with affection."

As for the roles she hopes to explore, Mehazabien has no intention of limiting herself to a particular genre or character type.

"I want to work in different stories and portray diverse characters, especially those that allow me to discover new aspects of myself as an actor and leave a lasting impression on audiences," she said.

For her, the impact of a performance matters more than screen time. "What matters is not how much screen time I have, but how deeply my presence affects the audience."

Her larger ambition is to be part of films that endure beyond their release.

"My dream is to be part of good cinema and stories that people will remember for years. Our stories, emotions and culture have immense strength. I want to take them beyond our borders and reach international audiences as well," she said.

With preparations for ***Opolok*** progressing, Mehazabien hopes to begin shooting soon, seeking the audience's blessings for the entire team.



PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

Hrithik Roshan becomes first Indian actor to attend LACMA gala



Actor Hrithik Roshan attended the 15th annual LACMA Art + Film Gala in Los Angeles on November 7, reportedly becoming the first mainstream Indian actor to attend the prestigious event.

Roshan joined international figures including Kim Kardashian, Kylie Jenner, Nicole Kidman, BLACKPINK's Rosé, Anya Taylor-Joy, Andrew Garfield and Michelle Yeoh. He wore a custom tuxedo by Italian luxury fashion house Brunello Cucinelli.

The 2026 gala, co-chaired by Leonardo DiCaprio and LACMA trustee Eva Chow, honoured visual artist Vija Celmins and filmmaker Denis Villeneuve, director of the ***Dune*** films. Hrithik's appearance marks a notable moment for Indian representation at the international gathering.

Presented by Gucci, the annual charity event brings together figures from art, film, music and fashion. Proceeds support the Los Angeles County Museum of Art's film-related programming, exhibitions, acquisitions and educational initiatives.

Events

'Inkography: A Chromatic Silence'



Alliance Française de Dhaka presents ***Inkography: A Chromatic Silence***, a solo art exhibition by Zain Eiffel. Moving beyond traditional colour palettes, the showcase relies on intricate ink drawings, stark tonal contrasts, and expressive lines to articulate complex narrative and emotional landscapes.

Date: Friday–Wednesday | November 13–18, 2026
Time: 3:00pm–9:00pm (Opening Day: 6:00pm)
Venue: Alliance Française de Dhaka, Dhanmondi

NEWS

UGC drafting rules for foreign univ campuses here

FROM PAGE 12

would be mandatory, although its form has yet to be decided. Partnerships with Bangladeshi universities are among the options.

The UGC wants tuition fees to remain affordable but has yet to fix a ceiling or determine scholarship requirements.

It is also considering requiring parent universities to send faculty members to their Bangladesh campuses alongside locally recruited teachers. The ratio has yet to be decided.

Other proposals include allowing students to transfer midway through their programmes to parent campuses abroad, offering joint and dual degrees, and facilitating student and teacher exchanges.

Abedin said credit transfer arrangements must be clearly defined before admission, warning that students who complete two years in Bangladesh could face financial losses if parent universities recognise only one year's credits.

He also said foreign institutions should operate on a non-profit basis, as local private universities must under the Private University Act 2010, and reinvest any surplus in Bangladesh.

He also suggested scholarships for disadvantaged students and partnerships between foreign and Bangladeshi universities.

APUB Secretariat Director Belal Ahmed said the association had not yet been consulted and called for private universities to be included in discussions before the policy is finalised.

EXISTING RULES DIFFER

Existing laws set different requirements for local private universities and foreign university branches and study centres.

Under the Private University Act 2010, local universities seeking initial approval must have at least 25,000 square feet of floor space, three faculties and six departments.

They must also maintain reserve funds of Tk 5 crore in Dhaka and Chattogram metropolitan areas, Tk 3 crore in other metropolitan areas and Tk 1.5 crore elsewhere.

To obtain a permanent charter, they must establish campuses on at least one acre of land in Dhaka and Chattogram metropolitan areas, or two acres elsewhere.

The law also requires universities to reserve 6 percent of admission places with fee waivers -- half for children of freedom fighters and half for poor and meritorious students from remote and underdeveloped areas.

Universities must also use their general funds to cover institutional expenses.

The 2014 regulations governing foreign universities, meanwhile, require branch campuses to have 25,000 square feet of floor space and study centres 10,000 square feet, in either owned or rented premises.

The required reserve funds are Tk 5 crore for branch campuses and Tk 1 crore for study centres.

Unlike the rules for local universities, the regulations have no permanent land requirement or international ranking threshold.

They also allow surplus funds to be shared among foreign universities, local representatives and entrepreneurs.

APUB wants the new policy to address these disparities so that foreign institutions do not receive preferential treatment.

PAST ATTEMPTS, NEW PUSH

In 2007, the UGC identified 56 unauthorised institutions operating as purported foreign university branches or affiliated centres amid allegations of degree-selling. Four challenged the decision in court.

The government introduced regulations for foreign universities in 2014 but suspended the approval process in November 2016.

The UGC later considered amendments, including a proposed ban on study centres.

A study centre linked to Monash College, approved in 2021, drew objections from APUB. Malaysia's UCSI University, meanwhile, opened a branch campus in Dhaka in 2023.

In March this year, the UGC cited the 2014 regulations when ordering unauthorised branches and study centres to suspend operations and apply for approval by April 25.

Mamun said bringing reputed foreign universities to Bangladesh could help reduce spending on overseas education and attract students from neighbouring countries.

He advocated "brain circulation" rather than "brain drain", with Bangladeshis studying abroad maintaining ties with the country.

The proposed policy would also cover Bangladeshi universities seeking to open campuses overseas.

The UGC also plans to launch a "Study in Bangladesh" portal, set up international offices, coordinate with relevant ministries and create a database of foreign students.

Prof Mamun said foreign campuses would be monitored to ensure their academic standards remained comparable to those of their parent universities.

"I hope we can finish it this year," he said.

Another day

FROM PAGE 12

upazila. The incidents took place in the Chandra area along the Dhaka-Tangail highway, one early in the day and the other in the evening, said Kaliakair Police Station Officer-in-Charge Shahidul Islam.

Meanwhile, crude bombs exploded in several parts of the capital, including Banasree, Mohakhali, Dhaka University campus and in front of Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Court.

At DU, a crude bomb exploded on a road near the Teacher-Student Centre in the evening. Students detained two men suspected of involvement in the blast, beat them and handed them over to police.

Sub-Inspector Mainul Islam of Shahbagh Police Station said the two men were being held there. A bag was also found at the scene, he said, adding that police had cordoned off the area and were awaiting the bomb disposal unit.

In Banasree's G Block, a crude bomb exploded around 7:00am. Police arrested two men, identified as Srabon Sardar, 20, and Robin, 27, in connection with the incident.

OC Saiful Islam of Khilgaon Police Station said the two were active members of the banned Chhatra League. Legal proceedings against them were under way.

In Mohakhali, two men on a motorcycle hurled a crude bomb from the flyover, said OC Md Salauddin of Banani Police Station. The bomb exploded, but no damage was reported.

In the evening, another crude bomb exploded in front of the CMM Court. Police detained two men, identified as Faisal and Sukumar Halder, at the scene.

Police seized their motorcycle and recovered an unexploded crude bomb, said Mahbubuddin Mahmud Sohel, deputy commissioner of the DMP's prosecution division.

Another person was arrested in Shyampur, according to a DMP update.

Contacted around 8:30pm yesterday, DMP Deputy Commissioner (Media) Akhter Hossain said police had arrested at least 19 people in the previous 24 hours in connection with recent blasts and attacks.

Many of those arrested were linked to Awami League, he added.

G7 ministers press Rubio on Iran, Ukraine at Paris talks

AFP, *Paris*

G7 top diplomats yesterday began a two-day meeting in Paris with European foreign ministers set to press US Secretary of State Marco Rubio to ensure any settlement in the war with Russia is fair to Ukraine and steer clear of any new escalation with Iran.

The meeting of ministers from the leading industrialised nations of Britain, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan and the United States provides Europe and its allies with a chance to air concerns with their US counterpart.

Russia's war against Ukraine following the February 2022 full-scale invasion of its neighbour is grinding towards its fifth anniversary. And Washington is still not ruling out new attacks against Iran even after the defeat of President Donald Trump's Republicans in last week's midterm elections.

The meeting coincides with US-mediated talks with Moscow and Kyiv in Abu Dhabi, scheduled for today and tomorrow, on ending the Ukraine war.

Europe is concerned that Kyiv risks being forced to accept disadvantageous conditions and that the United States could offer Russia new security guarantees over the heads of the Europeans.

"For Europe, it is clear: we do not need to establish a new security architecture for Europe," said German Foreign Minister Johann Wadephul as he headed to the talks, adding Europe "must have a place at the table".

French Foreign Minister Jean-Noel Barrot said on Sunday that Europeans would be represented at the Abu Dhabi talks, with France also participating.

Trump stoked fears of a US pivot toward the Kremlin by predicting a "very big" deal with Russia involving not only Ukraine but "all of Europe".

But before leaving for Paris, Rubio said the post-war security infrastructure of Europe is "one of the key topics that's been raised repeatedly in every conversation any time negotiations have been discussed".

"We obviously have to get past the conflict to get to that point," he noted.

Ukraine's Foreign Minister Andriy Sybiga will be joining the talks in Paris for a session on Ukraine today.

Confront

FROM PAGE 12

minister Sheikh Hasina was also briefly discussed at the meeting.

Salahuddin told lawmakers that Bangladesh and India have an extradition treaty and that the government would take necessary steps under the agreement, in accordance with applicable laws, regulations and established procedures, if Hasina seeks to return to the country.

The discussion came against the backdrop of a recent interview Hasina gave to Reuters, during which she expressed her intention to return to Bangladesh and surrender before a court.

Media reports published yesterday also claimed that she had applied for a new passport and national ID at the Bangladesh High Commission in New Delhi. The government, however, has yet to verify the reports.

Iran war

FROM PAGE 2

JD Vance was also scheduled to meet with the Qatari leader, according to a US official.

Iran yesterday defended a proposal to restart peace talks in as few as two days as the most reasonable offer on the table, after US Secretary of State Marco Rubio called some of Iran's conditions "outrageous and ridiculous".

In a separate development, Saudi authorities, earlier yesterday, sent a text message to residents of the capital Riyadh briefly warning of an aerial threat, before lifting the alert minutes later.



An anti-smog gun sprays water amid smog and air pollution in Lahore, Pakistan, yesterday. PHOTO: REUTERS



A woman weaves bamboo strips to make baskets in Pomra union of Rangunia upazila, Chattogram, yesterday. Many people in the area earn a living from bamboo craftsmanship and support their families with the income. Depending on the season, each basket sells for Tk 60 to Tk 250. PHOTO: **RAJIB RAIHAN**

Schoolgirl stabbed by 'stalker' in Kushtia

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Kushtia*

A class 10 student was stabbed and injured allegedly by a stalker outside her home in Kushtia town yesterday afternoon.

The victim, Jakiya Sultana Momo, is undergoing treatment at the 250-bed Kushtia General Hospital.

Dr Iqbal Hasan, a resident physician at the hospital, said she sustained injuries to her hand and other parts of her body from a sharp weapon. She is now out of danger, he added.

A video of the attack later circulated on social media, identifying the alleged attacker as Imon, a local youth.

Police had not arrested him until yesterday evening.

Kushtia Model Police Station Officer-in-Charge Zakir Hossain said Jakiya had returned home after sitting for her SSC test examination at Kushtia Mission Secondary School. While she was waiting at the gate of her house, Imon allegedly attacked and stabbed her.

The victim's father said Imon had been harassing his daughter on her way to school for some time.

"Who could have imagined that he would attack my daughter with the intention of killing her? I want him to face exemplary punishment," he said.

Nursing college construction stalled for two years

PARTHA CHAKRABORTTY, *Bagerhat*

The construction of Bagerhat Nursing College has remained stalled for the past two years since the contractor allegedly abandoned work in 2024, leaving the incomplete structures unprotected and exposed to damage.

According to sources at the Health Engineering Department in Bagerhat, the college is being built on three acres of land in Muniganj, on the outskirts of Bagerhat town, at an estimated cost of Tk 17.5 crore.

Construction began in November 2023, but the contractor stopped work after completing around 60 percent of the project.

As such, there is no visible progress to reassure residents waiting for the college to become operational and expand nursing education among youths in the district for careers in healthcare.

Sanjib Mollick, a local resident, said the prolonged suspension had put the project's purpose at risk.

Aby Syed Sunu, another resident, urged the authorities concerned to complete construction work and make the college operational so that local youths could benefit from nursing education.



Construction began in November 2023, but the contractor stopped work after completing around 60 percent of the project. PHOTO: **STAR**

Contacted, Md Enamul Haq, HED assistant engineer in Bagerhat, said construction had stalled after the project's operational plan expired.

The remaining work was not included in a spillover arrangement, requiring the authorities to prepare a new development project proposal (DPP) before proceeding with fresh tenders, he also said.

"We have prepared a new DPP and moved to the tendering stage. One package of work has already started, and we hope to begin work on the academic building very soon," he added.

Universities push admission tests to February

FROM PAGE 3

eligible for the supplementary examinations could miss out on university admissions this year, as several institutions have already announced application deadlines and test schedules.

Education Minister ANM Ehsanul Hoque Milon announced the supplementary examinations on October 31, allowing students who failed in up to two subjects to retake them without waiting another year.

Of the 5,94,113 students who failed this year's HSC and equivalent examinations, 4,22,905 are eligible for the supplementary examinations. The exams will begin on December 1, with results expected by December 31.

Prof Mamun said the government is working to publish both the supplementary examination and answer script re-evaluation results by the end of December. Students who pass through either process will be eligible to sit for university admission tests.

Several universities have already announced their schedules.

Dhaka University is set to accept applications from November 11 to 25 and hold five admission tests between December 5 and 26. Jagannath University will accept applications from November 15 to December 10, with tests beginning on January 1.

Prof Mamun said universities that have announced their schedules have been asked to reconsider them. The UGC also urged universities to avoid overlapping test dates and consider Ramadan when fixing schedules.

However, DU has decided to retain its existing schedule, according to a report by Prothom Alo. The decision was taken unanimously at an emergency meeting of its general admission committee, the report said.

Under the schedule, DU will complete its admission process before the supplementary results are published, potentially excluding students awaiting those results.

The UGC meeting also discussed forming a central coordination committee comprising representatives from the UGC, the education ministry and universities to coordinate admission activities and test schedules throughout the year.

Prof Mamun said universities will retain their existing multiple-choice question (MCQ) format this year.

However, the meeting discussed introducing subject-based and analytical questions alongside MCQs from the next academic session to assess students' understanding and problem-solving abilities.

The UGC also urged universities to consider the number of HSC graduates and available higher education seats when setting GPA requirements.

Prof Mamun said the coordination initiative will respect universities' autonomy and legal authority. They will continue to conduct admissions under their own rules, with the UGC providing technical and administrative support.

According to earlier UGC figures, the country has 14,92,288 undergraduate places for the 2026-27 session. Of these, 63,656 are at public university main campuses, 10,18,632 at affiliated colleges and institutions, and 4,10,000 at private universities.

বাংলাদেশ উন্মুক্ত বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়
BANGLADESH OPEN UNIVERSITY

৬ষ্ঠ সমাবর্তন-২০২৭

রেজিস্ট্রেশন সংক্রান্ত বিজ্ঞপ্তি

বাউবি/প্রশা(সাধা)/৬ষ্ঠ সমাবর্তন-২৮(৯)/২০১৮/পার্ট-০১/৬৮৯৬

তারিখ: ২৪ কার্তিক, ১৪৩৩ বঙ্গাব্দ / ০৯ নভেম্বর, ২০২৬ খ্রিস্টাব্দ

বাংলাদেশ উন্মুক্ত বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় (বাউবি)-এর ৬ষ্ঠ সমাবর্তন আগামী ২২ মার্চ ২০২৭ তারিখে অনুষ্ঠিত হবে। সমাবর্তনে গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশের মহামান্য রাষ্ট্রপতি ও বাংলাদেশ উন্মুক্ত বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের চ্যান্সেলর জনাব মির্জা ফখরুল ইসলাম আলমগীর সভাপতিত্ব করবেন। নিম্নবর্ণিত পরীক্ষায় চূড়ান্তভাবে উত্তীর্ণ শিক্ষার্থী/অ্যাওয়ার্ডপ্রাপ্ত গবেষকগণ ৬ষ্ঠ সমাবর্তনে অংশগ্রহণের জন্য রেজিস্ট্রেশন করতে পারবেন।

ক্রম	প্রোগ্রামের নাম	পাশের বছর (টার্ম)
১	Bachelor of Arts (BA)	২০১৪ হতে ২০১৮
২	Bachelor of Social Science (BSS)	২০১৪ হতে ২০১৮
৩	Bachelor of Arts (BA) [Ex-Bangladesh, NICHE-2]	২০২৩ পর্যন্ত
৪	Bachelor of Social Science (BSS) [Ex-Bangladesh, NICHE-2]	২০২৩ পর্যন্ত
৫	Bachelor of Education (B.Ed.)	২০১৫(১৫১) হতে ২০২০(২০১)
৬	Bachelor of Madrasha Education (B.MEd.)	২০২৫(২৫১) পর্যন্ত
৭	Bachelor of Business Studies (BBS)	২০১৫(১৫১) হতে ২০১৮(১৮১)
৮	Bachelor of Agricultural Education (B.Ag.Ed.)	২০১৫(১৫১) হতে ২০২০(২০২)
৯	Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA)	২০১৪(১৪২) হতে ২০২৩(২৩২)
১০	Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA-Bangla Medium)	২০২৪(২৪১) পর্যন্ত
১১	Bachelor of Science in Computer Science and Engineering (CSE)	২০২৩(২৩২) পর্যন্ত
১২	Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in History	২০২৩(২৩২) পর্যন্ত
১৩	Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Philosophy	২০২৩(২৩২) পর্যন্ত
১৪	Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Islamic Studies	২০২৩(২৩২) পর্যন্ত
১৫	Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Bangla	২০২৩(২৩২) পর্যন্ত
১৬	Bachelor of Social Science (Honours) in Sociology	২০২৩(২৩২) পর্যন্ত
১৭	Bachelor of Social Science (Honours) in Political Science	২০২৩(২৩২) পর্যন্ত
১৮	Bachelor of Laws (Honours)	২০২৪(২৪২) পর্যন্ত
১৯	Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Food Science and Nutrition (BFSN)	২০২৫(২৫১) পর্যন্ত
২০	Commonwealth Executive Master of Business Administration (CEMBA)	২০১৪(১৪২) হতে ২০২২(২২২)
২১	Commonwealth Executive Master of Public Administration (CEMPA)	২০১৪(১৪২) হতে ২০২২(২২২)
২২	Master of Business Administration (MBA)	২০১৪(১৪২) হতে ২০২২(২২২)
২৩	Master of Business Administration (MBA-Bangla Medium)	২০২৪(২৪২) পর্যন্ত
২৪	Professional Master of Business Administration (PMBA/MBA)	২০২৪(২৪২) পর্যন্ত
২৫	Master of Education (M.Ed.)	২০১৫(১৫২) হতে ২০২১(২১২)
২৬	Master of Arts in History	২০২৩(২৩২) পর্যন্ত
২৭	Master of Arts in Philosophy	২০২৩(২৩২) পর্যন্ত
২৮	Master of Arts in Islamic Studies	২০২৩(২৩২) পর্যন্ত
২৯	Master of Arts in Bangla	২০২৩(২৩২) পর্যন্ত
৩০	Master of Social Science in Sociology	২০২৩(২৩২) পর্যন্ত
৩১	Master of Social Science in Political Science	২০২৩(২৩২) পর্যন্ত
৩২	Master of Laws (LLM)	২০২৪(২৪২) পর্যন্ত
৩৩	Master in Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Livelihood (MSARL)	২০২৫(২৫১) পর্যন্ত
৩৪	Master of Science in Irrigation and Water Management (MSIWM)	২০২৪(২৪২) পর্যন্ত
৩৫	Master of Science in Entomology	২০২০(২০২) পর্যন্ত
৩৬	Master of Science in Aquaculture	২০২০(২০২) পর্যন্ত
৩৭	Master of Science in Agronomy	২০২৩(২৩১) পর্যন্ত
৩৮	Master in Criminology and Criminal Justice (MCCJ)	২০২৪(২৪১) পর্যন্ত
৩৯	Master of Disaster Management (MDM)	২০২৫(২৫২) পর্যন্ত
৪০	Master of Development Studies (MDS)	২০২৫(২৫২) পর্যন্ত
৪১	Master of Public Health (MPH)	২০২৫(২৫১) পর্যন্ত
৪২	Master of Disability Management and Rehabilitation (MDMR)	২০২৫(২৫২) পর্যন্ত
৪৩	MPhil	২০২৬ পর্যন্ত
৪৪	PhD	২০২৬ পর্যন্ত

রেজিস্ট্রেশন সংক্রান্ত তথ্যঃ

রেজিস্ট্রেশন লিংক ও অনলাইন পেমেন্ট সংক্রান্ত তথ্যাদি	www.convocation.bou.ac.bd
অনলাইন রেজিস্ট্রেশনের সময়সীমা	২০/১১/২০২৬ তারিখ সকাল ৯:০০টা হতে ১৫/০১/২০২৭ রাত ১২:০০টা পর্যন্ত।
রেজিস্ট্রেশন ফি	৩,৫০০ (তিন হাজার পাঁচশত) টাকা
মূল সনদ ফি (প্রতিটি): মূল সনদ গ্রহণের সময় সাময়িক সনদ ফেরত দিতে হবে	৫০০ (পাঁচশত) টাকা [BA, BSS, CEMBA, CEMPA, MBA, BBA, BBS, B.Ed, B.Ag.Ed, M.Ed, BA (Honours), BSS (Honours), MA, MSS, CSE, MCCJ, BBA-Bangla, MBA-Bangla, LLB(Honours), LLM, BFSN, MPH, B.MEd, MDM, MDS, MDMR, MPhil, PhD]
	১০০০ (এক হাজার) টাকা [MS in Entomology, MS in Aquaculture, MS in Agronomy, PMBA, MSIWM, MSARL]
	৩,০৫০ (তিন হাজার পঞ্চাশ) টাকা [BA-NICHE-2, BSS-NICHE-2]
	ইতোমধ্যে মূল সনদ গ্রহণ করে থাকলে সনদ বাবদ ফি দিতে হবে না।
জরুরী যোগাযোগ	পরীক্ষা সংক্রান্ত: ০১৫৭৬৬৪৮১৬৩, রেজিস্ট্রেশন সংক্রান্ত: ০১৬১৮৯৭৭২৩৭, সাধারণ জিজ্ঞাসা: ০১৬১২৭০১৬০৭

কর্তৃপক্ষের নির্দেশক্রমে-
০৯/১১/২০২৬
রেজিস্ট্রার
বাংলাদেশ উন্মুক্ত বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়

GD-2718

বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংক কলোনি উচ্চ বিদ্যালয়
আগ্রাবাদ, চট্টগ্রাম ।

তারিখঃ ০৮/১১/২০২৬

সহকারী শিক্ষক নিয়োগ বিজ্ঞপ্তি।

বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংকের অর্থায়নে পরিচালিত বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংক কলোনি উচ্চ বিদ্যালয়, আগ্রাবাদ, চট্টগ্রাম এ প্রাথমিক শাখার জন্য সহকারী শিক্ষক নিয়োগের লক্ষ্যে নিম্নবর্ণিত শর্তে বাংলাদেশের স্থায়ী নাগরিকদের নিকট হতে দরখাস্ত আহ্বান করা যাচ্ছেঃ

১) **ন্যূনতম শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতাঃ** স্বীকৃত বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় হতে ০৪ বছরের স্নাতক/স্নাতকোত্তর ডিগ্রী থাকতে হবে। শিক্ষা জীবনের কোন পর্যায়ে ৩য় শ্রেণী/বিভাগ গ্রহণযোগ্য হবে না।

২) **বেতন ও গ্রেড এবং অন্যান্য সুবিধাদিঃ** বিএড/বিপিএড/পিটিআই ডিগ্রী থাকলে ১২তম গ্রেড এবং বিএড/বিপিএড/পিটিআই ডিগ্রী না থাকলে ১৩ তম গ্রেড। সরকারি বিধি মোতাবেক সংশ্লিষ্ট অন্যান্য ভাতাদি (বাড়ি ভাড়া, চিকিৎসা ভাতা, শিক্ষা সহায়ক ভাতা, উৎসব ভাতা, বৈশাখি ভাতা, পিএফ, গ্র্যাচুইটি) এবং প্রতিষ্ঠান কর্তৃক সময়ে সময়ে নির্ধারিত অন্যান্য ভাতাদি।

৩) **পদ সংখ্যাঃ** ০৪টি।

শর্তাবলী:

১) প্রার্থীকে জীবন-বৃত্তান্ত, ০৩ কপি পাসপোর্ট সাইজের সত্যায়িত ছবি, জাতীয় পরিচয়পত্র, শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতার সকল সনদপত্র, ইউনিয়ন পরিষদ/পৌরসভা/সিটি কর্পোরেশন কর্তৃক প্রদত্ত জাতীয়তা সনদপত্র ও অভিজ্ঞতার সনদের সত্যায়িত অনুলিপিসহ স্ব-হস্তে লিখিত আবেদনপত্র আগামী ০৩/১২/২০২৬ তারিখ বিকাল ৫:০০ টার মধ্যে সভাপতি, বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংক কলোনি উচ্চ বিদ্যালয়, আগ্রাবাদ, চট্টগ্রাম এর নিকট পৌঁছাতে হবে। শুধুমাত্র স্ব-হস্তে লিখিত আবেদনপত্রের PDF কপি **bbchs.agr.ctg@gmail.com** এই ঠিকানায় ইমেইল করতে হবে এবং **recruit.hrd@bb.org.bd** ঠিকানায় cc প্রদান করতে হবে।

২) আবেদনপত্রের সাথে প্রধান শিক্ষক, বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংক কলোনি উচ্চ বিদ্যালয়, আগ্রাবাদ, চট্টগ্রাম' বরাবর ২০০/- টাকার পে-অর্ডার/ব্যাংক ড্রাফট (অফেরতযোগ্য) সংযুক্ত করতে হবে।

৩) আবেদনপত্রে অবশ্যই প্রার্থীর মোবাইল নম্বর এবং ই-মেইল উল্লেখ করতে হবে।

৪) আবেদনপত্র যাচাই বাছাইপূর্বক প্রাথমিকভাবে উপযুক্ত প্রার্থীদের লিখিত পরীক্ষা আগামী ১৮/১২/২০২৬ তারিখ সকাল ০৮:৩০ ঘটিকায় বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংক কলোনি উচ্চ বিদ্যালয়, আগ্রাবাদ, চট্টগ্রাম এ গ্রহণ করা হবে। একই তারিখে লিখিত পরীক্ষার ফলাফল প্রকাশ করা হবে এবং লিখিত পরীক্ষায় উত্তীর্ণ প্রার্থীদের ডেমোন্সট্রেশন ও মৌখিক পরীক্ষা গ্রহণ করা হবে। মৌখিক পরীক্ষার পূর্বে প্রার্থীর সকল মূল সনদপত্র ও দলিলাদি প্রদর্শন করতে হবে।

৫) প্রাথমিকভাবে উপযুক্ত প্রার্থীদেরকে তাঁদের আবেদনপত্রে উল্লেখকৃত ই-মেইলে এবং মোবাইল নম্বরে SMS এর মাধ্যমে অবহিত করা হবে। পরীক্ষার দিন পরীক্ষা শুরুর পূর্বে পরীক্ষার কেন্দ্র হতে প্রবেশপত্র সংগ্রহ করতে হবে।

৬) নিয়োগের জন্য চূড়ান্তভাবে মনোনীত প্রার্থীদের প্রাথমিকভাবে ০২(দুই) বছরের জন্য চুক্তিভিত্তিক নিয়োগ প্রদান করা হবে। নিয়োগপ্রাপ্ত প্রার্থীদের চুক্তিকালীন চাকরি সন্তোষজনকভাবে সমাপনান্তে প্রার্থীকে চাকরিতে নিয়মিত করার বিষয়ে বিবেচনা করা হবে।

৭) আবেদনকারী প্রার্থীর বয়স সর্বোচ্চ ৩২ বছর।

৮) অসত্য ও অসম্পূর্ণ তথ্য প্রদান করলে সংশ্লিষ্ট প্রার্থীর প্রার্থিতা বাতিল করা হবে।

৯) এ নিয়োগ বিজ্ঞপ্তি কোন প্রার্থীকে চাকরির নিশ্চয়তা প্রদান করে না। কর্তৃপক্ষ কোনো প্রকার কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতিরেকে যে কোনো পর্যায়ে নিয়োগ প্রক্রিয়া স্থগিত/বাতিল করার ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করে।

১০) নিয়োগ পরীক্ষায় অংশগ্রহণের জন্য কোনো প্রকার টিএ/ডিএ প্রদান করা হবে না।

ডিসিপি: ৪৮/২০২৬-২৮৭০
তারিখঃ ০৯/১১/২০২৬

স্বাক্ষরিত/-
সভাপতি
বিদ্যালয় পরিচালনা কমিটি
বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংক কলোনি উচ্চ বিদ্যালয়
আগ্রাবাদ, চট্টগ্রাম।

GD-2719

PRAYER TIMING
NOVEMBER 10

	Fazr	Zohr	Asr	Maghrib	Esha
AZAN	5-00	12-45	3-45	5-25	7-00
JAMAAT	5-35	1-15	4-00	5-30	7-30

SOURCE: **ISLAMIC FOUNDATION**

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Ministry of Finance, Finance Division
Administration Branch-6
Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka
www.mof.gov.bd

Memo No: 07.00.0000.000.086.07.0005.26.5319 Date: 09 November, 2026

CORRIGENDUM NOTICE

The e-Tender notice published on 05-11-2026 in The Daily Star and The Daily Ittefaq has been amended as follows:

Sl	Tender ID	Description of Procurement Package	As per existing Date			As per amended Date		
			Tender Publication Date & Time	Last Selling of Tender document (Date & Time)	Tender Closing (Date & Time)	Tender Publication Date & Time	Last Selling of Tender document (Date & Time)	Tender Closing Date & Time
1	ID: 1360387	Procurement of Computer-All in one	05/11/2026 15:00	18/11/2026 16:00	19/11/2026 15:00	09/11/2026 13:00	22/11/2026 16:00	23/11/2026 15:00
2	ID: 1365082	Procurement of Printer and other Accessories	05/11/2026 15:00	18/11/2026 16:00	19/11/2026 15:00	09/11/2026 13:00	23/11/2026 16:00	24/11/2026 15:00
3	ID: 1337619	Procurement of Stationery and Consumables Items (Framework Agreement)	05/11/2026 15:30	18/11/2026 16:00	19/11/2026 15:05	09/11/2026 13:00	22/11/2026 16:00	23/11/2026 13:00
4	ID: 1362072	Procurement of Laptop	05/11/2026 14:50	22/11/2026 16:00	23/11/2026 14:30	09/11/2026 13:00	23/11/2026 16:00	24/11/2026 14:30

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. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP system portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd, dial 16575 to reach e-GP helpdesk).

09.11.26
(Md. Mahbubul Alom)
Senior Assistant Secretary
Phone: 55100119
Email: fdadmin6a@finance.gov.bd

GD-2721

The 27th Convocation

Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB)

TEACHETH MAN THAT WHICH HE KNEW NOT
IUB
INDEPENDENT UNIVERSITY, BANGLADESH

10 November 2026

রাষ্ট্রপতি
গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ
বঙ্গভবন, ঢাকা।

২৫ কার্তিক ১৪৩৩
১০ নভেম্বর ২০২৬



ইনডিপেনডেন্ট ইউনিভার্সিটি, বাংলাদেশ (আইইউবি)-এর ২৭তম সমাবর্তন উপলক্ষে নবীন স্নাতক, তাঁদের অভিভাবক, সম্মানিত শিক্ষকমণ্ডলী ও বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় কর্তৃপক্ষসহ সংশ্লিষ্ট সকলকে আন্তরিক শুভেচ্ছা ও অভিনন্দন জানাই।

একটি উন্নত, সমৃদ্ধ ও জ্ঞানভিত্তিক বাংলাদেশ বিনির্মাণে মানসম্মত উচ্চশিক্ষা, গবেষণা ও উদ্ভাবনের ভূমিকা অপরিসীম। বিজ্ঞান, প্রযুক্তি ও তথ্যপ্রযুক্তির দ্রুত পরিবর্তনের সঙ্গে সামঞ্জস্য রেখে উচ্চশিক্ষাকে সময়োপযোগী, গবেষণানির্ভর ও কর্মমুখী করা অপরিহার্য। বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় কেবল সনদ প্রদানের প্রতিষ্ঠান নয়, এটি মুক্তবুদ্ধি, সৃজনশীলতা, উদ্ভাবন এবং মানবিক ও গণতান্ত্রিক মূল্যবোধ চর্চার প্রধান কেন্দ্র।

বাংলাদেশের তরুণ প্রজন্মের মেধা, সৃজনশীলতা ও কর্মস্পৃহাই আমাদের ভবিষ্যৎ অগ্রগতির প্রধান চালিকাশক্তি। আধুনিক জ্ঞান ও প্রযুক্তিতে দক্ষতা অর্জনের পাশাপাশি নতুন প্রজন্মকে নিজস্ব ইতিহাস, সাহিত্য, সংস্কৃতি ও মূল্যবোধের প্রতি শ্রদ্ধাশীল থেকে সততা, মানবিকতা, সহনশীলতা ও গণতান্ত্রিক চেতনা ধারণ করে দেশ ও মানুষের কল্যাণে আত্মনিয়োগ করতে হবে।

আজকের নবীন স্নাতকদের প্রতি আমার আহ্বান—অর্জিত জ্ঞান ও দক্ষতাকে ব্যক্তিগত সাফল্যের গণ্ডিতে সীমাবদ্ধ না রেখে দেশ ও সমাজের কল্যাণে কাজে লাগান। পরিবর্তনশীল বিশ্বের চ্যালেঞ্জ মোকাবিলায় নিজেদের যোগ্য, দক্ষ ও দায়িত্বশীল নাগরিক হিসেবে গড়ে তুলুন।

সমাবর্তন শিক্ষাজীবনের একটি আনন্দময় ও স্মরণীয় সমাপ্তি এবং বৃহত্তর কর্মজগতে প্রবেশের নতুন সূচনা। আপনারা দেশে ও আন্তর্জাতিক অঙ্গনে বাংলাদেশকে প্রতিনিধিত্ব করবেন। তাই জ্ঞান, দক্ষতা, সততা ও দায়িত্ববোধের সমন্বয়ে জাতীয় প্রত্যাশা পূরণ এবং বৈশ্বিক প্রতিযোগিতায় নিজেদের যোগ্য করে গড়ে দেশের মর্যাদা সমুন্নত রাখবেন—এটাই প্রত্যাশা।

আমি বিশ্বাস করি, আইইউবি উচ্চশিক্ষার গুণগত মানোন্নয়ন, আন্তর্জাতিক মানের গবেষণা ও মানবিক মূল্যবোধসম্পন্ন মানবসম্পদ তৈরির মাধ্যমে দেশের আর্থসামাজিক উন্নয়নে আরও গুরুত্বপূর্ণ অবদান রাখবে।

আমি আইইউবি-এর ২৭তম সমাবর্তনের সার্বিক সাফল্য ও নবীন স্নাতকদের উজ্জ্বল ভবিষ্যৎ কামনা করছি।

মির্জা ফখরুল ইসলাম আলমগীর

প্রধানমন্ত্রী
গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার

২৫ কার্তিক ১৪৩৩
১০ নভেম্বর ২০২৬



১০ নভেম্বর ২০২৬ ইনডিপেনডেন্ট ইউনিভার্সিটি, বাংলাদেশ (আইইউবি)-এর ২৭তম সমাবর্তন। এ উপলক্ষে বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের শিক্ষক, শিক্ষার্থী ও সংশ্লিষ্ট সবার প্রতি রইল আমার আন্তরিক শুভেচ্ছা।

বাংলাদেশের বিপুল তরুণ জনগোষ্ঠীর মেধা, দক্ষতা ও উদ্ভাবনী শক্তিকে যথাযথভাবে কাজে লাগাতে পারলে কাঙ্ক্ষিত বাংলাদেশ গড়ে তোলা সম্ভব। নতুন বাংলাদেশ বিনির্মাণে প্রত্যেক নাগরিক নিজের মেধা, যোগ্যতা ও সামর্থ্য অনুযায়ী বিকশিত হওয়ার এবং এগিয়ে যাওয়ার সুযোগ পাবেন।

এই লক্ষ্য অর্জনে সরকার শিক্ষাকে কেবল সনদ অর্জনের মধ্যে সীমাবদ্ধ রাখতে চায় না। সরকার দক্ষতাভিত্তিক, কর্মমুখী ও নৈতিক মূল্যবোধসম্পন্ন শিক্ষাব্যবস্থা গড়ে তোলার ওপর গুরুত্ব দিচ্ছে। একই সঙ্গে তরুণদের জন্য নতুন কর্মসংস্থান সৃষ্টি, উদ্যোক্তা হওয়ার সুযোগ সম্প্রসারণ এবং গবেষণা ও উদ্ভাবনের অনুকূল পরিবেশ তৈরিতে কাজ করছে।

বিশ্বজুড়ে প্রযুক্তির দ্রুত পরিবর্তন, বিশেষ করে কৃত্রিম বুদ্ধিমত্তার বিকাশ, আমাদের সামনে নতুন নতুন সম্ভাবনার দ্বার উন্মোচন করেছে। এসব সম্ভাবনাকে কাজে লাগাতে হলে শিক্ষার্থীদের শুধু চাকরির জন্য প্রস্তুত হলেই চলবে না। বরং নতুন ধারণা, উদ্যোগ ও উদ্ভাবনের মাধ্যমে অন্যদের জন্য কর্মসংস্থানের সুযোগ সৃষ্টি করতে হবে। এ ক্ষেত্রে সরকার, শিক্ষাপ্রতিষ্ঠান, গবেষক, উদ্যোক্তা ও বিনিয়োগকারীদের সমন্বিত উদ্যোগ অত্যন্ত গুরুত্বপূর্ণ।

আপনারা এমন এক সময়ে কর্মজীবনে প্রবেশ করতে যাচ্ছেন, যখন বাংলাদেশের সামনে নতুন সম্ভাবনা ও এগিয়ে যাওয়ার সুযোগ সৃষ্টি হয়েছে। এই সম্ভাবনাকে বাস্তবে রূপ দেওয়ার দায়িত্ব আপনাদেরও। আপনাদের মেধা, সৃজনশীলতা, উদ্ভাবনী চিন্তা ও কর্মপ্রচেষ্টাই আগামী দিনের বাংলাদেশকে এগিয়ে নেবে। আমি বিশ্বাস করি, সততা, নিষ্ঠা ও দায়িত্ববোধের সঙ্গে নিজেদের যোগ্যতাকে কাজে লাগাতে পারলে ব্যক্তিগত সাফল্যের পাশাপাশি দেশ ও সমাজের উন্নয়নেও গুরুত্বপূর্ণ অবদান রাখা সম্ভব।

আমি বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের নবীন স্নাতক, তাঁদের অভিভাবক, শিক্ষক, কর্মকর্তা-কর্মচারীসহ সংশ্লিষ্ট সবাইকে জানাই আন্তরিক শুভেচ্ছা ও অভিনন্দন।

তারেক রহমান

ড. আ ন ম এহছানুল হক মিলন এমপি
মন্ত্রী
শিক্ষা মন্ত্রণালয়
প্রাথমিক ও গণশিক্ষা মন্ত্রণালয়
গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার



ইনডিপেনডেন্ট ইউনিভার্সিটি, বাংলাদেশ (আইইউবি)-এর ২৭তম সমাবর্তন অনুষ্ঠিত হতে যাচ্ছে জেনে আমি আনন্দিত। এ উপলক্ষে বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের শিক্ষক-শিক্ষার্থী, স্নাতক, অভিভাবক ও সংশ্লিষ্ট সবাইকে আন্তরিক অভিনন্দন জানাই।

ইনডিপেনডেন্ট ইউনিভার্সিটি, বাংলাদেশ জ্ঞানচর্চা, গবেষণা ও উদ্ভাবনের মাধ্যমে জাতীয় উন্নয়নে গুরুত্বপূর্ণ ভূমিকা পালন করে চলেছে। এজন্য এই বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের সংশ্লিষ্ট সকলকে আন্তরিক ধন্যবাদ জানাচ্ছি। আমাদের বিপুল জনগোষ্ঠীকে দক্ষ মানবসম্পদে রূপান্তর করতে উচ্চশিক্ষায় কারিগরি ও বৃত্তিমূলক শিক্ষার সম্প্রসারণ এবং কৃত্রিম বুদ্ধিমত্তাসহ আধুনিক প্রযুক্তির ব্যবহার বৃদ্ধির বিকল্প নেই। এক্ষেত্রে, ইনডিপেনডেন্ট ইউনিভার্সিটি, বাংলাদেশ এর কার্যকর ভূমিকা প্রত্যাশা করছি।

মাননীয় প্রধানমন্ত্রী জনাব তারেক রহমানের নেতৃত্বাধীন বর্তমান সরকারের অন্যতম অগ্রাধিকার হচ্ছে দেশের উচ্চশিক্ষাব্যবস্থাকে যুগোপযোগী ও কর্মমুখী করে গড়ে তোলা। আধুনিক প্রযুক্তি ও সামাজিক পরিবর্তনের সঙ্গে সামঞ্জস্য রেখে উচ্চশিক্ষার পাঠ্যক্রম সংস্কার, মানসম্মত গবেষণার প্রসার এবং আন্তর্জাতিক পর্যায়ে বাংলাদেশের বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়গুলোর অবস্থান সুদৃঢ় করার লক্ষ্যে আমরা কাজ করছি। আমি বিশ্বাস করি, ইনডিপেনডেন্ট ইউনিভার্সিটি, বাংলাদেশ এই লক্ষ্য অর্জনে আন্তরিকভাবে কাজ করবে।

স্নাতকদের উদ্দেশ্যে আমি বলব: আজ তোমাদের শিক্ষার সমাপ্তি নয়, বরং দেশ ও জাতির জন্য অবদান রাখার যাত্রার সূচনা। তোমাদের জানকে শুধু নিজের জীবিকা ও সাফল্য অর্জনের জন্য নয়, বরং অন্যদের জন্য সুযোগ সৃষ্টি করতে এবং সততা, নিষ্ঠা ও পরিশ্রমের মাধ্যমে দেশের সেবায় নিয়োজিত করতে ব্যবহার করতে হবে।

বাংলাদেশকে আন্তর্জাতিক শিক্ষার একটি কেন্দ্রে পরিণত করার সম্ভাবনাকে আমরা কাজে লাগাতে চাই। এ জন্য বিদেশে অবস্থানরত মেধাবী শিক্ষক ও গবেষকদের দেশে ফিরিয়ে আনা এবং তাঁদের জ্ঞান ও অভিজ্ঞতাকে জাতীয় উন্নয়নে কাজে লাগানো অত্যন্ত গুরুত্বপূর্ণ। এক্ষেত্রে বেসরকারি বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়গুলোকেও কার্যকর ভূমিকা রাখতে হবে। আমি আশা করি, আইইউবি মানসম্মত শিক্ষা, গবেষণা ও উদ্ভাবনের মাধ্যমে দক্ষ ও দায়িত্বশীল মানবসম্পদ গড়ে তোলায় তাদের অবদান অব্যাহত রাখবে।

নবীন স্নাতকদের উজ্জ্বল ভবিষ্যৎ এবং আইইউবির ২৭তম সমাবর্তনের সার্বিক সাফল্য কামনা করছি।

ড. আ ন ম এহছানুল হক মিলন এমপি

চেয়ারম্যান
বাংলাদেশ বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় মঞ্জুরী কমিশন

চেয়ারম্যান
বাংলাদেশ বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় মঞ্জুরী কমিশন

২৫ কার্তিক ১৪৩৩
১০ নভেম্বর ২০২৬



ইনডিপেনডেন্ট ইউনিভার্সিটি, বাংলাদেশ (আইইউবি)-এর ২৭তম সমাবর্তন উপলক্ষে বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের স্নাতক, তাঁদের অভিভাবক, সম্মানিত শিক্ষক, কর্মকর্তা-কর্মচারী এবং সংশ্লিষ্ট সকলকে জানাই আন্তরিক শুভেচ্ছা ও অভিনন্দন। জীবনের এক গুরুত্বপূর্ণ শিক্ষায়তনিক অর্জনের এই মাহেন্দ্রক্ষণে স্নাতকদের প্রতি রইল আমার বিশেষ শুভকামনা।

বাংলাদেশের উচ্চশিক্ষা গত কয়েক দশকে উল্লেখযোগ্যভাবে সম্প্রসারিত হয়েছে। এই অগ্রযাত্রাকে টেকসই ও অর্থবহ করতে এখন প্রয়োজন শিক্ষার গুণগত মান নিশ্চিত করা, গবেষণার উৎকর্ষ সাধন এবং জ্ঞান ও দক্ষতাভিত্তিক মানবসম্পদ গড়ে তোলা। বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় কেবল পাঠদান ও ডিগ্রি প্রদানের প্রতিষ্ঠান নয়; এটি নতুন জ্ঞান সৃষ্টি, মুক্তচিন্তা ও সৃজনশীলতার বিকাশ, উদ্ভাবন এবং সমাজ ও রাষ্ট্রের বহুমাত্রিক সমস্যার কার্যকর সমাধান অনুসন্ধানের কেন্দ্র। তাই উচ্চশিক্ষাকে জাতীয় উন্নয়ন, মানবিক মূল্যবোধ এবং বৈশ্বিক অগ্রগতির সঙ্গে আরও নিবিড়ভাবে সম্পৃক্ত করতে হবে।

বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় মঞ্জুরী কমিশন উচ্চশিক্ষার গুণগত মানোন্নয়ন, গবেষণা ও উদ্ভাবনের পরিবেশ সম্প্রসারণ, একাডেমিক সততা, সুশাসন ও জবাবদিহি নিশ্চিতকরণ এবং আন্তর্জাতিক মান অর্জনের ওপর গুরুত্বারোপ করছে। এ ক্ষেত্রে সরকারি ও বেসরকারি বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়গুলোর সমন্বিত উদ্যোগ অত্যন্ত গুরুত্বপূর্ণ। যোগ্যতা, প্রাতিষ্ঠানিক সক্ষমতা ও গবেষণার উপযুক্ত পরিবেশের ভিত্তিতে বেসরকারি বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ে পিএইচডি প্রোগ্রাম চালুর বিষয়টি বিবেচনাধীন রয়েছে। তবে উচ্চতর গবেষণার সুযোগ সম্প্রসারণের পাশাপাশি গবেষণার মান, নৈতিকতা ও আন্তর্জাতিক গ্রহণযোগ্যতা নিশ্চিত করতে হবে।

আমি বিশ্বাস করি, একটি বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের প্রকৃত উৎকর্ষ নির্ভর করে তার শিক্ষার মান, দক্ষ ও নিবেদিতপ্রাণ শিক্ষক, শক্তিশালী গবেষণা-পরিবেশ, স্বচ্ছ ও জবাবদিহিমূলক প্রশাসন এবং শিল্প ও কর্মজগতের সঙ্গে কার্যকর সংযোগের ওপর। কৃত্রিম বুদ্ধিমত্তা, ডিজিটাল প্রযুক্তি ও দ্রুত পরিবর্তনশীল বৈশ্বিক বাস্তবতার এই সময়ে শিক্ষার্থীদের বিষয়ভিত্তিক জ্ঞানের পাশাপাশি বিশ্লেষণী চিন্তা, সমস্যা সমাধান, যোগাযোগ, নেতৃত্ব ও অভিযোজনের দক্ষতা অর্জন করতে হবে। একই সঙ্গে আন্তর্জাতিক সহযোগিতা, আন্তঃবিষয়ক শিক্ষা এবং উদ্ভাবনী উদ্যোগের মাধ্যমে বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়গুলোকে জ্ঞানভিত্তিক অর্থনীতি গঠনে আরও কার্যকর ভূমিকা রাখতে হবে।

আজকের স্নাতকেরাই আগামী দিনের নেতৃত্ব দেবেন—গবেষণাগারে, কর্মক্ষেত্রে, উদ্যোক্তা উদ্যোগে, প্রশাসনে এবং সমাজের নানা ক্ষেত্রে। তাঁদের প্রতি আমার আহ্বান, অর্জিত জ্ঞান ও দক্ষতাকে সততা, মানবিকতা, দায়িত্ববোধ ও দেশপ্রেমের সঙ্গে কাজে লাগাবে। মনে রাখতে হবে, শিক্ষার প্রকৃত সার্থকতা কেবল ব্যক্তিগত সাফল্য বা পেশাগত প্রতিষ্ঠায় নয়; বরং অর্জিত জ্ঞানকে মানুষের কল্যাণে প্রয়োগ, ন্যায়ভিত্তিক সমাজ বিনির্মাণ এবং দেশের টেকসই উন্নয়নে অবদান রাখার মধ্যেই এর পূর্ণতা।

আমি প্রত্যাশা করি, ইনডিপেনডেন্ট ইউনিভার্সিটি, বাংলাদেশ মানসম্মত শিক্ষা, মৌলিক ও প্রয়োগমুখী গবেষণা, উদ্ভাবন, একাডেমিক সততা এবং আন্তর্জাতিক সহযোগিতার ক্ষেত্রে আরও সম্প্রসারণের মাধ্যমে বাংলাদেশের উচ্চশিক্ষার অগ্রযাত্রায় গুরুত্বপূর্ণ অবদান রেখে যাবে।

ইনডিপেনডেন্ট ইউনিভার্সিটি, বাংলাদেশের ২৭তম সমাবর্তনের সার্বিক সাফল্য কামনা করছি। স্নাতকদের আগামী দিনের পথচলা হোক জ্ঞান, সৃজনশীলতা, নৈতিকতা ও মানবকল্যাণের প্রত্যয়ে সমুজ্জ্বল।

প্রফেসর ড. মামুন আহমেদ
চেয়ারম্যান

চেয়ারম্যান
বোর্ড অফ ট্রাস্টিজ



ইনডিপেনডেন্ট ইউনিভার্সিটি, বাংলাদেশের ২৭তম সমাবর্তনে অংশগ্রহণকারী স্নাতক, অভিভাবক, শিক্ষক, কর্মকর্তা, কর্মচারী এবং বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় পরিবারের সবাইকে আন্তরিক শুভেচ্ছা ও অভিনন্দন জানাই। এই অর্জন আমাদের সম্মিলিত প্রচেষ্টা ও দীর্ঘ পথচলার একটি গুরুত্বপূর্ণ মাইলফলক।

একটি বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের সার্থকতা শুধু শিক্ষার্থীদের ডিগ্রি অর্জনের মধ্যে সীমাবদ্ধ নয়; বরং তারা সমাজে কতটা ইতিবাচক পরিবর্তন আনতে পারছে, তার মধ্যেও নিহিত। সেই বিশ্বাস থেকেই আমরা আইইউবিকে এমন একটি প্রতিষ্ঠান হিসেবে গড়ে তুলতে চেয়েছি, যেখানে শিক্ষা, গবেষণা, উদ্ভাবন ও সামাজিক দায়বদ্ধতা একে অপরের পরিপূরক।

কৃত্রিম বুদ্ধিমত্তাসহ নিত্য নতুন প্রযুক্তি আমাদের জীবন, কর্মক্ষেত্র ও অর্থনীতিকে দ্রুত বদলে দিচ্ছে। এই পরিবর্তনের সঙ্গে তাল মিলিয়ে চলাই যথেষ্ট নয়; পরিবর্তনের নেতৃত্ব দেওয়ার সক্ষমতা অর্জনও সমান জরুরি। প্রযুক্তিনির্ভর বিশ্বে একটি জাতির মূল্যায়ন হয় তার প্রযুক্তিগত জ্ঞান ও গবেষণার ভিত্তির উপর। চীন, ভিয়েতনাম ও অন্যান্য উন্নয়নশীল দেশগুলো যে পথে এগিয়েছে সেই পথেই আমাদেরও অগ্রসর হতে হবে। এজন্য প্রয়োজন উদ্যোক্তা মনোভাব, সমস্যা সমাধানের দক্ষতা, শিল্পখাতের সঙ্গে কার্যকর সহযোগিতা এবং আন্তর্জাতিক পরিসরে কাজ করার প্রস্তুতি।

প্রযুক্তিগত উৎকর্ষের পাশাপাশি মানবিক মূল্যবোধও সমান গুরুত্বপূর্ণ। সহমর্মিতা ও সামাজিক দায়িত্ববোধ ছাড়া কোনো উদ্ভাবনই প্রকৃত অর্থে সফল হতে পারে না। আমাদের শিক্ষা ও গবেষণার লক্ষ্য হওয়া উচিত মানুষের জীবনমান উন্নয়ন এবং সমাজের বাস্তব সমস্যার টেকসই সমাধান খুঁজে বের করা।

নবীন স্নাতকদের প্রতি আমার আহ্বান, তোমরা বড় স্বপ্ন দেখবে, নতুন উদ্যোগ গ্রহণ করবে এবং প্রচলিত চিন্তার সীমা অতিক্রম করার সাহস রাখবে। একই সঙ্গে তোমাদের জ্ঞান ও সাফল্য যেন বৃহত্তর সমাজের কল্যাণে কাজে আসে, সেদিকে সচেতন থাকবে। আমি দৃঢ়ভাবে আশাবাদী, আইইউবি আগামী দিনগুলোতে উদ্ভাবন, উদ্যোক্তা উন্নয়ন ও আন্তর্জাতিক অংশীদারত্বের মাধ্যমে আরও এগিয়ে যাবে। আইইউবির ২৭তম সমাবর্তনের সর্বাঙ্গীণ সাফল্য এবং সকল স্নাতকের উজ্জ্বল ভবিষ্যৎ কামনা করছি।

দিদার এ হোসেইন

চেয়ারম্যান
এডুকেশন, সায়েন্স, টেকনোলজি অ্যান্ড কালচারাল ডেভেলপমেন্ট ট্রাস্ট



ইনডিপেনডেন্ট ইউনিভার্সিটি, বাংলাদেশের ২৭তম সমাবর্তন উপলক্ষে আমি নবীন স্নাতক, তাঁদের অভিভাবক, শিক্ষক, কর্মকর্তা-কর্মচারী এবং বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের সঙ্গে সংশ্লিষ্ট সকলকে আন্তরিক শুভেচ্ছা ও অভিনন্দন জানাই। এই আনন্দঘন মুহূর্তে মহান আল্লাহর প্রতি শুকরিয়া আদায় করছি।

শিক্ষা, বিজ্ঞান, প্রযুক্তি ও সংস্কৃতির বিকাশের লক্ষ্যে প্রতিষ্ঠিত এডুকেশন, সায়েন্স, টেকনোলজি অ্যান্ড কালচারাল ডেভেলপমেন্ট ট্রাস্টের উদ্যোগে আইইউবির যাত্রা শুরু হয়েছিল। আমাদের প্রত্যাশা ছিল, এই প্রতিষ্ঠানটি কেবল উচ্চশিক্ষার সুযোগই সম্প্রসারণ করবে না, বরং জ্ঞানচর্চা, নৈতিকতা ও মানবিক মূল্যবোধের বিকাশেও গুরুত্বপূর্ণ ভূমিকা রাখবে। আজকের এই সমাবর্তন সেই দীর্ঘ পথচলার একটি তাৎপর্যপূর্ণ অধ্যায়।

শিল্প-সাহিত্য মানুষের জীবন, সমাজ ও মনোজগৎকে গভীরভাবে উপলব্ধি করতে শেখায়। বিজ্ঞান ও প্রযুক্তি আমাদের সামনে নতুন সম্ভাবনার দ্বার উন্মোচন করে। আর নৈতিক শিক্ষা আমাদের সেই জ্ঞান ও সক্ষমতাকে সঠিক পথে কাজে লাগানোর প্রেরণা দেয়। আমি বিশ্বাস করি, একটি পরিপূর্ণ শিক্ষাব্যবস্থায় এসবের সমন্বয় থাকা প্রয়োজন।

জীবনের দীর্ঘ অভিজ্ঞতায় আমি উপলব্ধি করেছি, সততা, নিষ্ঠা, পরিশ্রম এবং মানুষের আস্থা অর্জন ছাড়া কোনো সাফল্যই স্থায়ী হয় না। ব্যবসা-বাণিজ্য, পেশাগত জীবন কিংবা সমাজসেবা – সর্বক্ষেত্রেই ন্যায়পরায়ণতা, দায়িত্ববোধ ও মানুষের প্রতি সম্মান অপরিহার্য। ইসলামের শিক্ষাও আমাদের জ্ঞান অর্জন, ন্যায় প্রতিষ্ঠা এবং মানুষের কল্যাণে কাজ করার গুরুত্ব স্মরণ করিয়ে দেয়।

স্নাতকদের প্রতি আমার আহ্বান, তোমরা জীবনে যত বড় সাফল্যই অর্জন করো না কেন, বিনয়, সততা ও মানবিকতা থেকে কখনো বিচ্যুত হবে না। তোমাদের শিক্ষা যেন পরিবার, সমাজ ও দেশের কল্যাণে কাজে আসে। আমি আশা করি, আইইউবি আগামী দিনেও জ্ঞান, নৈতিকতা ও মানবিক উৎকর্ষের সমন্বয়ে যোগ্য ও দায়িত্বশীল নাগরিক গড়ে তোলার প্রয়াস অব্যাহত রাখবে।

মহান আল্লাহর কাছে সবার কল্যাণ, সাফল্য ও সুন্দর ভবিষ্যৎ কামনা করছি। আইইউবির ২৭তম সমাবর্তন সফল হোক।

মোহাম্মদ জাকারিয়া খান

উপাচার্য
ইনডিপেনডেন্ট ইউনিভার্সিটি, বাংলাদেশ



ইনডিপেনডেন্ট ইউনিভার্সিটি, বাংলাদেশের ২৭তম সমাবর্তন উপলক্ষে স্নাতক, অভিভাবক, শিক্ষক, কর্মকর্তা-কর্মচারী এবং শুভানুধ্যায়ীদের আন্তরিক শুভেচ্ছা ও অভিনন্দন জানাই। প্রতিটি সমাবর্তন শিক্ষার্থীদের অর্জন উদ্‌যাপনের পাশাপাশি বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় হিসেবে আমাদের দায়িত্ব ও ভবিষ্যৎ পথচলা নিয়ে ভাবারও একটি বিশেষ উপলক্ষ।

বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় শিক্ষার অন্যতম সার্থকতা হলো শিক্ষার্থীদের বাস্তব জীবনের জটিল সমস্যা চিহ্নিত করা, বিশ্লেষণ করা এবং তার কার্যকর সমাধান খুঁজে বের করার সক্ষমতা অর্জন। জলবায়ু পরিবর্তন, জ্বালানি নিরাপত্তা, পরিবেশগত বিপর্যয় কিংবা প্রযুক্তির দ্রুত পরিবর্তনের মতো চ্যালেঞ্জ মোকাবিলায় শুধু পাঠ্যপুস্তকের জ্ঞান যথেষ্ট নয়। প্রয়োজন অনুসন্ধিৎসা, সমালোচনামূলক চিন্তা, সৃজনশীলতা এবং বিভিন্ন শাখার জ্ঞানকে সমন্বিতভাবে কাজে লাগানোর দক্ষতা।

প্রযুক্তিগত সমাধান তখনই টেকসই হয়, যখন তার সঙ্গে অর্থনৈতিক বাস্তবতা, পরিবেশগত প্রভাব এবং মানুষের প্রয়োজনকে বিবেচনায় নেওয়া হয়। বিজ্ঞান ও মানবিক জ্ঞান পরস্পরের প্রতিদ্বন্দ্বী নয়, বরং পরিপূরক। এই সমন্বিত দৃষ্টিভঙ্গিই আমি আইইউবির শিক্ষার্থীদের মধ্যে দেখতে চাই। আমরা এমন একটি পরিবেশ গড়ে তুলতে চাই যেখানে শিক্ষার্থীরা প্রশ্ন করতে এবং অর্জিত জ্ঞানকে বাস্তব সমস্যার সমাধানে প্রয়োগ করতে শেখে। গবেষণা, উদ্ভাবন, পারস্পরিক সহযোগিতা ও সমাজের সঙ্গে নিবিড় সংযোগ এই প্রচেষ্টার গুরুত্বপূর্ণ অংশ।

আইইউবির ২৭তম সমাবর্তনে উপস্থিত থেকে স্নাতকদের অনুপ্রাণিত করার জন্য গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশের মহামান্য রাষ্ট্রপতির প্রতি আমি গভীর কৃতজ্ঞতা প্রকাশ করছি। শিক্ষা মন্ত্রণালয়, বাংলাদেশ বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় মঞ্জুরি কমিশন, আইইউবির বোর্ড অব ট্রাস্টিজ এবং ইএসটিসিডিটির অব্যাহত সহযোগিতা ও দিকনির্দেশনার জন্য তাঁদের আন্তরিক ধন্যবাদ জানাই। একই সঙ্গে বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের শিক্ষক, প্রশাসনিক কর্মকর্তা ও কর্মচারীদের নিষ্ঠা ও নিরলস প্রচেষ্টার জন্য তাঁদের প্রতি অশেষ কৃতজ্ঞতা।

স্নাতকদের উদ্দেশ্যে বলতে চাই, অর্জিত জ্ঞানকে কেবল ব্যক্তিগত সাফল্যের উপকরণ হিসেবে নয়, মানুষের জীবনমান উন্নয়ন এবং একটি টেকসই ও ন্যায়সংগত ভবিষ্যৎ নির্মাণের শক্তি হিসেবে ব্যবহার করবে। সবার উজ্জ্বল ভবিষ্যৎ এবং আইইউবির ২৭তম সমাবর্তনের সর্বাঙ্গীণ সাফল্য কামনা করছি।

অধ্যাপক ম. তামিম

Pro-Vice Chancellor
Independent University, Bangladesh



It is a profound privilege to congratulate the 2026 graduating class of Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB). As we celebrate IUB's 27th Convocation, I also acknowledge the supportive families, faculty, staff, and trustees who have been instrumental in bringing the university and its graduates to this momentous and historic occasion.

IUB is built upon foundations of teaching-excellence, effective learning environments, research innovation, personal development, and a sincere drive for understanding and improving our local and global communities. The university is committed to principles of critical and creative thinking, intellectual curiosity, and adaptability.

As one of the leading private universities in Bangladesh, IUB serves its current students and alumni with firm assurances that we actively protect, grow, and enhance the IUB brand. As you go forth into the labor market and other ventures, you are ambassadors of the university. Your successes directly reflect upon the university and the education that you received at IUB.

To our new graduates, today you become members of the IUB alumni community. With this new identity, you join a prestigious group of those who came before. Your character, integrity, and engagement as alumni with IUB and its student populations helps to shape our university's impact and reputation into the future.

I encourage you to remain curious, embrace lifelong learning, and use your education to make meaningful contributions to the lives of those around you. I wish you well as you go beyond the 27th Convocation and use your education for good as IUB alumni.

Prof. Dr. Daniel W. Lund

BIOGRAPHY OF THE CONVOCATION SPEAKER



Dr. Ainun Nishat

Dr. Ainun Nishat's career spans more than five decades of work on the water management, rivers training, nature and ecosystems conservation, flood and disaster management and climate challenges that shape Bangladesh's development. A civil engineer by training with specialization in water sector, he has worked across academia, government advisory bodies, and international development agencies, connecting scientific research with decisions about water security, environmental protection, and people's livelihoods.

As Professor Emeritus and Advisor at the Centre for Climate Change and Environmental Research (C3ER), BRAC University, he guides research and policy engagement on climate adaptation, climate finance, disaster risk reduction, and environmental governance. His approach draws on a career spent examining how environmental change affects communities and how institutions can respond.

Dr. Nishat previously served as Vice Chancellor of BRAC University, Country Representative of IUCN Bangladesh, Senior Advisor for Climate Change at IUCN Asia, and Professor at Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET). As an Adjunct Professor, he was involved with several national and international universities. These roles brought together distinct responsibilities: educating engineers and professionals, leading institutions, advancing conservation, and advising on climate and development policy. Water has remained a central thread throughout his work. As a member of the Indo-Bangladesh Joint Rivers Commission from 1982 to 1999, he was involved in the institutional processes surrounding shared river management in the region.

Dr. Nishat earned his bachelor's and master's degrees in Civil Engineering from BUET in 1969 and 1975, respectively, and completed his PhD in Civil Engineering at the University of Strathclyde, United Kingdom, in 1981, researching alluvial channels. He is a Fellow of the Institution of Engineers, Bangladesh.

THE 27TH CONVOCATION AT A GLANCE

Total Number of Graduates:	**2067**
Graduate Level:	**323**
Undergraduate Level:	**1744**

TOP PERFORMERS (Graduate Level)

Top Achiever's Awards	04

CGPA: 4.00 (on a scale of 4.00)

TOP PERFORMERS (Undergraduate Level)

Chancellor's Gold Medal	03
Summa Cum Laude	23
Magna Cum Laude	74
Cum Laude	154

GRADUATING STUDENTS OF THE 27TH CONVOCATION

Name of School	Graduate	Undergraduate
School of Business and Entrepreneurship	147	838
School of Engineering, Technology and Sciences	26	474
School of Environment and Life Sciences	58	154
School of Law	07	79
School of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences	44	104
School of Pharmacy and Public Health	41	95
Total	323	1744

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Former Chairman, Bo

DHAKA TUESDAY NOVEMBER 10, 2026, KARTIK 25, 1433 BS

SPORT



Bangladesh's biggest football star, Hamza Choudhury, arrived yesterday morning and joined the team's training session, kicking the ball as Fahamedul Islam looks on, at Bashundhara Kings Arena. The Sheffield United player is expected to strengthen Bangladesh's midfield when they face Sri Lanka in their final group match, having already secured a place in the SAFF Championship semifinals. PHOTO: BFF

'Everything seems to revolve around Hamza'

Bishwanath Ghosh has become an unlikely option up front for Bangladesh, with head coach Thomas Dooley turning to the central defender in search of a solution to the team's striking problems. After playing as a forward against Bhutan in the opening match of the SAFF Championship, the experienced defender is ready to shoulder the responsibility again. In an interview with The Daily Star's Anisur Rahman, Bishwanath discusses his new role, Bangladesh's SAFF title ambitions and more. Excerpts are as follows:

The Daily Star (DS): How is the overall condition of the national team after Bangladesh secured a semifinal berth with a match to spare?

Bishwanath Ghosh (BG): Everyone is in good spirits and shape. Our only target is to win the SAFF Championship on home soil. We are happy to have secured points against Bhutan, but one victory is not enough. We have to go all the way to the final, and the players and team management are following a planned approach towards that goal.

DS: Did you watch the Sri Lanka-Bhutan match? How do you assess your next opponents?

BG: Yes, we watched it together at the hotel. Sri Lanka did not look as strong as we had expected, but we are taking them seriously. We will give our best to get the desired result. Bhutan, meanwhile, surprised us with their fighting spirit.

DS: A draw would be enough for Bangladesh to finish as group champions. Will you conserve energy or go for all three points?

BG: Our target is always to get the best possible result. Sometimes we play well, sometimes we don't, but we always try our best. I cannot predict the outcome, but we want to leave the field with all three points.

DS: Since Bangladesh will play the final group match, do you have any preference for your semifinal opponents, particularly between India and Pakistan?

BG: No. Whoever comes our way is an equal opponent. We have to overcome the semifinal hurdle, whether it is India or Pakistan. Our priority is to stay in the title race and keep the trophy at home.

DS: How ready are you to play as a number nine against Sri Lanka, having been deployed as a striker against Bhutan?

BG: Honestly, I don't know whether I will play as a striker or defender in



the next match. I am ready to play wherever the team and coach need me. I may not be able to do everything that a natural forward can do, but there will never be any shortage of effort from my side.

Had I scored in the last match, perhaps the criticism would have been different. People might have said that the forwards could not score, but a defender playing up front had found the net. I created a few chances and tried my best, but could not convert them. Perhaps I was unlucky, but there was no lack of effort. If the coach needs me up front again, I will give everything I have.

DS: How did the coach explain his decision to use you as a striker against Bhutan?

BG: The coach said he was considering me as a striker because he was not getting the instincts he wanted from the regular forwards. I told him he could play me anywhere on the pitch, but I would not be as effective as I am in my natural defensive position.

He then asked me to disrupt the opposition's backline, keep their defenders under pressure and try to score. He believed I could do the job, and I accepted the responsibility.

DS: Hamza Choudhury joined the squad on Monday. How much difference does his presence make?

BG: I have shared the dressing room with him in only two matches so far, but his presence gives us the feeling of being a complete team. Everything seems to revolve around Hamza. His experience and presence motivate the players and change the overall atmosphere within the team.

WHAT TO WATCH

T Sports
Pakistan vs Sri Lanka
1st Test, Day 2
Live from
10:30 am

Sony Sports 1, 2, 5
U-19 Asia Cup
India vs UAE
Nepal vs Pakistan
Live from 11:00 am

Sony Sports 1
New Zealand vs India
3rd ODI
Live from
8:00 am



"We came here with the idea of winning two Test matches, but will take [the series win]....I thought we had a good year and we had our plans. We had three series and we didn't lose any this year.

West Indies captain **Roston Chase**

WTC dreams sacrificed at altar of poor planning

ABDULLAH AL MEHDI FROM SYLHET

Bangladesh have sacrificed their World Test Championship (WTC) dreams at the altar of chaos and mismanagement. As the team prepares to depart for South Africa on Wednesday afternoon after a 1-0 home series defeat to West Indies, skipper Najmul Hossain Shanto has little time to reflect on the planning failures that plagued the series.

The first two Tests of a crucial four-match stretch, which also includes two away Tests against South Africa, have exposed some of the worst planning failures in recent memory, leaving Bangladesh's WTC ambitions on shaky foundations.

It remains unclear who will take responsibility for the calamitous decisions. The team management wanted spin-friendly wickets, but the Mirpur and Sylhet surfaces turned out to be sporting tracks, despite the grass being trimmed to prepare them for spinners.

After the Mirpur debacle, where the spinners failed to deliver, there were warnings that the Sylhet wicket would offer little assistance even on the fourth or fifth day. Yet the hosts persisted with three spinners.

What went wrong in the communication between curator Tony Hemming and the team management is difficult to ascertain. And who was responsible for having the 4mm grass cut on the day of the Sylhet Test, if not the team management?

The skipper, however, was more direct about the team's preference for spin-friendly conditions.

Asked about the warning that the Sylhet wicket might not offer the required assistance to spinners on the fourth and fifth days, Shanto said: "These things were planned from before on what wickets we want when we play at home. So we have to take that advantage and that's what we should have gotten. Unfortunately we got less of that even though I don't want to make excuses since our batters and bowlers didn't do well."

"The responsibility is ours. At home, when opportunities come, we have to think hard before preparing the conditions," he added.

Not only did the wickets fail to match the plans, but the plans themselves failed to suit the situation. The team management, and head coach Phil Simmons in particular, may also be culpable for how things unfolded.

Why did the plans fail to suit the situation?

"We focused more on the opponents' weaknesses rather than our own strengths. The wicket should have been like the Pakistan series where our pacers can dominate. Batting against spin was our weak point but the series played out to wrong plans," came the reply of a member of the team management.

Yet Shanto and Simmons had strongly backed the spin-focused approach.

"We just thought that [spin] to be the better option going into this game," Simmons had said after day three.

The build-up to the series was also poorly planned, with Bangladesh playing a one-off Test in Abu Dhabi followed by a tri-nation series. Lead pacer Hasan Mahmud and spinner Taijul Islam could have been rested ahead of more important WTC assignments. Instead, the planning appeared muddled.

Hasan has now had a run of games, while Shanto admitted that preparation for the South Africa tour would be difficult.

"Honestly, there is no opportunity for preparation in South Africa," Shanto said.

Bangladesh's batting on a Sylhet track, one of the flattest at home, looked unsettled. If the team and the board had been serious about the WTC, it was difficult to see that reflected in their planning.

"I think it's disappointing. We should have won this Test match. We didn't bat well in the first innings, which cost us this Test match. Overall, it's also disappointing. We're not consistent with the bat, not enough collective play. We have been planning for a few months, but we didn't execute the plans. The spin bowlers didn't bowl well."

Najmul Hossain Shanto

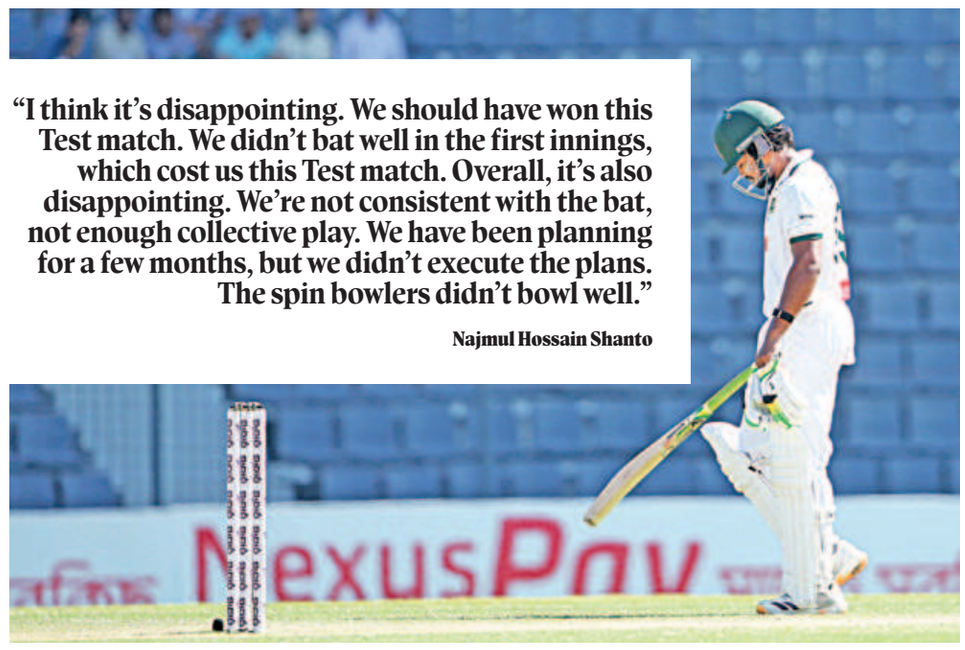


PHOTO: FIROZ AHMED

- **Tawhid Hridoy became Bangladesh's highest run-scorer in a Test match with 324 runs (242 not out and 82), surpassing Mominul Haque's 281 (176 and 105) against Sri Lanka in Chattogram in 2018.**
- **Mushfiqur Rahim became the first Bangladesh batter to score 7,000 Test runs, reaching the milestone with nine runs in the second innings before making 49 in Monday's drawn Sylhet Test. Mominul Haque is second with 5,293 runs.**
- **Jomel Warrican topped the series with 16 wickets and reached 100 Test wickets, becoming the West Indies' 27th bowler to achieve the milestone.**
- **Since their 2-0 home series victory in 2018, Bangladesh have gone four successive home Tests without beating West Indies. The visitors won the previous three.**
- **World Test Championship: Bangladesh remains fifth in the 2025-27 cycle with 45.83 percentage of points despite drawing the second Test. West Indies finished their campaign with 27.38 percentage of points from 14 Tests.**

Mumin, Tanim records take U-19s into semis



Record-breakers Ahsan Al Mumin and Tafiul Alam Tamim powered Bangladesh U-19 into the ACC U-19 Asia Cup semifinals following a crushing 205-run victory over Malaysia in Oman yesterday. Mumin smashed an unbeaten 152 to rescue Bangladesh from a precarious 144 for six to a commanding 303-8. The right-hander's 133-ball knock is the highest individual score by a Bangladeshi in Youth ODIs, eclipsing Sharear Sakib's previous record of 134. Right-arm pacer Tamim then dismantled Malaysia with a devastating spell of 7 for 18 in 7.5 overs -- registering the best-ever bowling figures by a Bangladeshi at this level -- as Bangladesh bundled out Malaysia for 98 in 30.5 overs.

PHOTO: ACC



Bangladesh look to Robin to end leftie overload

SPORTS REPORTER FROM SYLHET

The Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) yesterday announced its squad for the upcoming South Africa series, beginning on November 15. While there were a few notable changes, the spotlight fell on the inclusion of 22-year-old right-handed opener Mahfijul Islam Robin, who earned his maiden Test call-up.

Opener Naim Sheikh returned after last playing a Test against New Zealand in 2022, replacing the injured Shadman Islam, while wicketkeeper-batter Amite Hasan was dropped. Spinner Nayeem Hasan made way for pacer Khaled Ahmed.

More significantly, right-handed opener Mahmudul Hasan Joy was ruled out at the last moment due to injury, making Robin's inclusion a necessity.

Robin has been consistent as a first-class opener, but just as important was his right-handedness.

Bangladesh have developed a peculiar imbalance at the top of the order, with their top four in Shadman Islam, Tanzid Hasan Tamim, Najmul Hossain Shanto and Mominul Haque all being left-handers.

That presents a potential tactical problem, as right-arm pacers have increasingly found ways to trouble left-handed batters, particularly with deliveries angled across them from around the wicket.

SQUAD

Shanto (C), Tamim, Naim, Mominul, Mushfiqur, Litton, Hridoy, Jaker, Miraz (VC), Taijul, Taskin, Mahmud, Shoriful, Ebadot, Khaled, Robin.



Mahfizul Islam Robin

The use of the Decision Review System (DRS) has also brought more dismissals into play, particularly when right-arm quicks operate from around the wicket against left-handers. Stuart Broad and Kemar Roach have been among the more successful exponents of this approach, with others following suit.

Asitha Fernando, Jayden Seales and Alzarri Joseph have been the leading pace wicket-takers against Bangladesh over the past five years, and all three are right-arm quicks. Having several left-handers in succession can also allow opposition bowlers to settle into similar lines and lengths, making it easier to execute their plans.

Mahmudul Hasan Joy had offered Bangladesh a right-handed option at the top, but his injury has deprived them of that balance ahead of the South Africa series. "We brought Robin in, we were thinking about it from the beginning because we felt it was very necessary to produce a right-handed opener. So basically, we didn't have anyone ready at hand. We actually wanted to give Robin a little more time to get ready," Bashar said, indicating that Robin's call-up had come earlier than originally intended.

Robin's inclusion follows an impressive run in the ongoing National Cricket League (NCL), where he has scored three centuries and two half-centuries for Mymensingh, including a double century against Chattogram Division.

"We saw him in first-class, we saw him play for the A team, where he looked very promising. So since we have too many left-handers in the top order, we need a right-handed batsman. That's why we chose Robin," Bashar said.

Being a right-hander has its merits!





'Confront all plots on the streets'

Tarique tells MPs at BNP Parliamentary Party meet

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Prime Minister and BNP Chairman Tarique Rahman yesterday urged party lawmakers to remain on the streets and take on conspiracies.

"The message is loud and clear. We are on the streets; we must remain on the streets, and it is on the streets that we must confront all plots."



He made the remarks at a meeting of BNP Parliamentary Party at the Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban in the afternoon ahead of the fourth session of the 13th National Parliament, according to sources present at the meeting.

Tarique, who chaired the meeting in his capacity as leader of the House, sought detailed updates from ministers on the activities of their respective ministries, according to several sources who attended the meeting.

Discussions covered ongoing road development projects, the country's fuel and power situation, and the market conditions for essential commodities ahead of Ramadan.

Home Minister Salahuddin Ahmed also briefed lawmakers on the country's law-and-order situation.

The possible return of ousted prime

SEE PAGE 8 COL 6



A bus burns under the Farmgate Metro Rail Station in the capital yesterday evening. PHOTO: STAR

UGC drafting rules for foreign univ campuses here

ARAFAT RAHAMAN

The University Grants Commission is drafting a policy to allow selected foreign universities to set up campuses in Bangladesh, as local private universities call for a level playing field.

Several universities from Australia, England and elsewhere have expressed interest, UGC Chairman Prof Mamun Ahmed told The Daily Star. The commission hopes to finalise the policy this year.

"But we will be very selective," he said.

The UGC is considering restricting eligibility to universities ranked among the world's top 100, 200 or 500, but no decision has been made.

The Association of Private Universities of Bangladesh (APUB) supports the entry of reputed foreign universities but wants them to meet requirements similar to those imposed on local institutions.

APUB Secretary General Ishtiaque Abedin said newer private universities could be the hardest hit, as many are still developing their campuses and struggling to attract students.

"If it is healthy competition, that is good for us," he said, adding that foreign universities should establish proper campuses rather than operate poorly equipped study centres.

WHAT UGC IS CONSIDERING

The proposed policy will cover the operations of foreign universities, tuition fees and their arrangements with parent institutions.

Prof Mamun said local involvement

SEE PAGE 8 COL 1

Another day of blasts, arson

19 held over recent attacks

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Six buses were set on fire in Savar, Dhaka and Gazipur yesterday, while crude bombs exploded in several parts of the capital.

At least 19 people were arrested in connection with recent blasts and attacks on police, according to the Dhaka Metropolitan Police.

In Savar, two buses parked along the Dhaka-Aricha highway were set on fire in the Genda and Baliarpur areas around 1:00am and 4:00am, said Jahangir Alam, senior station officer at Savar Fire Service.

The first bus, used to transport garment workers, was parked beside the highway in Genda. The second, belonging to Itihash Paribahan, was parked in Baliarpur.

> **Many of those arrested were linked to the Awami League, whose activities are currently banned.**
>
> **AKHTER HOSSAIN,** DMP Deputy Commissioner (Media)

Firefighters brought both fires under control. The buses' seats and interior fittings were damaged.

Saiful Alam, officer-in-charge of Savar Model Police Station, said police suspected Awami League, whose activities are currently banned, involvement in both incidents. Police were investigating the fires and trying to identify those responsible, he added.

In the capital, a Lovely Paribahan bus was set on fire beneath the Farmgate metro station in the evening.

Rojina Akter, duty officer at the fire service, said firefighters received information around 6:35pm. Two units brought the blaze under control by 7:09pm.

She could not immediately confirm whether anyone had been injured or what had caused the fire.

Around 9:15pm, unidentified assailants set fire to a bus parked under the metro rail line in Mirpur-11, said Jalal Uddin, officer-in-charge of Pallabi Police Station.

"A Basumati Paribahan bus was parked by the roadside when miscreants set it on fire. No one from the bus was around at the time," he said.

In Gazipur, criminals set fire to two parked buses in Kaliakair

SEE PAGE 8 COL 1

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