Man held over killing of 13-year-old boy

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police have arrested a 20-year-old man in connection with the killing of a 13-year-old boy who went missing four days ago and was found dead in a bush in Dhaka's Demra on Tuesday.

The body of Hamidul Islam was recovered in a decomposed state from behind a bottle factory in Naraibag after locals alerted police, said Sub-Inspector Shaikh Khasru of Demra Police Station yesterday. Police sent the body to Dhaka Medical College Hospital for an autopsy.

The suspect, Arif, a hotel worker, was arrested after police examined CCTV footage, the SI said.

During interrogation, Arif confessed to sexually assaulting him. When the boy screamed, Arif allegedly strangled him and left his body there, the SI said. The exact cause of death will be determined through the autopsy, he added.

Bangladesh joins global rooftop solar pact

FROM PAGE 2

The voluntary, non-binding declaration supports the "300 Million Solar Homes" initiative, which aims to double the number of solar-powered households worldwide to 300 million by 2030.

Signatories agree to prioritise simpler permitting processes, integrate rooftop solar into energy and climate policies, ensure affordable financing for households and communities, upgrade grids, guarantee equitable access to solar power, and train local workers.

"Many countries have the sunshine, the space, and the demand but lack the finance, infrastructure, and workforce needed to unlock this opportunity," said Chris Bowen, Australia's minister for climate change and energy, who is presiding over the COP31 negotiations.

One in three Australian homes currently has rooftop solar, the highest rate in the world, he said in the release.

Bangladesh's 5,500MW target is outlined in the government's National Renewable Energy Development Strategy 2026-2030, which aims to generate 20 percent of the country's electricity from renewable sources by the end of the decade.

However, the country remains far short of the goal. Official data puts installed rooftop solar capacity at 418.1MW as of June this year, though the Institute for Energy Economics and Financial Analysis (IEEFA), a US-based think tank, estimates the actual figure could be around 1,000MW, as official statistics miss many installations.

Heated exchanges in JS over fertiliser dealerships

FROM PAGE 3

of the 31 fertiliser dealers in Thakurgaon were affiliated with the BNP, including wives, children and nieces of party leaders.

He claimed a "festival" of dealership appointments had taken place, with some reserved-seat MPs issuing demi-official (DO) letters in exchange for money.

Hasnat demanded a review of the appointments. "When will this culture end in our country that whenever I become an MP, my son becomes a businessman, my wife becomes a businesswoman and my nephew becomes a businessman? I want a clear answer from the honourable minister," he said.

Responding, Aminur Rashid said he viewed the word "festival" positively.

"He [Hasnat] said there was a festival surrounding fertiliser dealerships. We actually want it to be a festival that people can celebrate. I understand the word festival in a positive sense. If you view it negatively, that is a different matter," he said.

His remarks triggered loud protests from opposition MPs, prompting the minister to urge them to stop interrupting.

Aminur Rashid said district- and upazila-level committees had been formed to appoint fertiliser dealers. Applications were assessed against established rules and criteria before scrutiny by district committees, with local MPs eligible to serve as advisers.

As opposition lawmakers continued protesting, Deputy Speaker Kayser Kamal, who was presiding over the sitting, intervened.

"If members are not satisfied with the answer, we will take another question. But why should we turn ourselves into schoolchildren by creating such a commotion? Please sit patiently and listen to his [minister's] answer," he said.

Several ruling party lawmakers also urged opposition MPs, some of whom had stood up, to return to their seats.

Chief Whip Nurul Islam Moni rejected the allegation that ruling party MPs had secured dealerships in exchange for money.

He challenged those making the allegations to submit written evidence or discuss the matter with the minister. Otherwise, he demanded that the "false statement" be expunged from the parliamentary record.

Despite further attempts by opposition MPs to speak, the deputy speaker moved on to the next question.

4 officials off to Netherlands

FROM PAGE 3

All expenses will be borne by the respective supplier, with no financial involvement from the Bangladesh government.

The officials' stay abroad, including travel and transit, will be counted as official duty. They cannot extend their stay beyond the approved period and must submit a report to the home ministry's senior secretary within 15 days of returning.

Contacted, Deputy Secretary Mohammad Shariful Islam, who signed the order, said yesterday evening, "The decision has been taken by the government and the order was taken accordingly."

He declined further comment.

RMG unrest continues

FROM PAGE 3

The government formed a wage board on November 1 following protests by RMG workers demanding a minimum monthly wage of Tk 30,000.

However, workers have continued protesting, demanding an announcement of the new minimum wage rather than merely the formation of the board.

Kabir Hossain, joint secretary of the central committee of the Jatiya Garments Sramik Federation, said those described as outsiders were actually workers who had lost their jobs following factory closures over the past two to three years.

"They are now engaged in different occupations, from driving rickshaws to other jobs. When the workers started the movement, these people joined in, driven by their own grievances," he added.

Primary education

FROM PAGE 3

conclusions from a study of only 24 schools.

NAPE Director General Farid Ahmad said many pupils still struggled with basic reading, making advanced learning approaches difficult to introduce.

Prof Nurun Nabi Alam, senior specialist at NCTB, said STEAM principles were already included in the curriculum, but teachers needed support to implement them. He recommended reviewing learning gaps across classes I to V.

World Vision education specialist Kamruzzaman Kamrul questioned a proposed model offering advanced facilities to urban schools but low-cost alternatives to rural ones.

Sesame Workshop Country Director Talat Mahmud opposed another pilot project, advocating nationwide implementation of existing STEM principles.

CAMPE Executive Director Rasheda K Choudhury, who chaired the discussion, called for stronger cooperation to improve primary education.

CAMPE Programme Officer Sizul Islam presented proposals on eligibility, exam schedules, university admissions, vocational training, employment opportunities and research into institutions recording either 100 percent passes or zero passes.

316 killed in armed attacks in CHT

FROM PAGE 3

He said the armed forces' special operation, "Operation Uttaran", was underway to curb the activities of regional armed groups, including KNF, UPDF and JSS, and recover illegal weapons.

The Bangladesh Army, Border Guard Bangladesh, police and Special Response Battalion were conducting regular patrols and intensifying intelligence activities.

Hundreds of active members of regional armed groups had been arrested, while large quantities of sophisticated firearms, ammunition, magazines, combat uniforms, drones and signal equipment had been recovered, he said.

The minister said authorities had identified key funding sources and economic sectors linked to the armed groups and placed them under strict surveillance to disrupt their financing and prevent arms and drug smuggling.

BGB had also strengthened surveillance along borders and in remote areas to prevent the smuggling of illegal firearms and drugs, he added.

Family outing ends in tragedy

FROM PAGE 3

handed them over to the family without autopsies at their request.

Mamun's father, Nazrul Hossain Mofazzal, said the family had gone on a trip to the Chandra area of Gazipur.

"They left the house all smiling, and returned lifeless hours later," he said, breaking down in tears.

OC Manzur said the family had yet to file a complaint.

"If a complaint is filed, legal procedure will be followed," he added.

Meanwhile, two women were killed in a road accident in the capital's Gabtoli around 10:30am yesterday.

The victims, Delowara Begum, 63, and Kajol Begum, 45, were waiting for a vehicle when a Dhaka-bound Chadni Paribahan bus from Bogura hit them, said Dulal Hossain, officer-in-charge of Darussalam Police Station.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Department of Environment
Host and Rohingya Enhancement of Lives Project (HELP)
DoE Component-"Comprehensive Environmental Impact and Damage Assessment of Rohingya Influx in Cox's Bazar and Bhasanchar of Chattogram Division
1st Floor, Room: 202, Poribesh Bhaban New Building
E/16 Agargaon, Sher-E-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207
www.doe.gov.bd

Memo No.: 22.02.0000.020.76.019.26.154 Date: 11/11/2026

Request for Expressions of Interest
(Consulting Services – Firm Selection)

Country: Bangladesh
Name of the Proposed Project: Host and Rohingya Enhancement of Lives Project (HELP)
Grant No.: E325-BD
Assignment Title: Development of Turtle Hatchery for conservation
Reference No.: S-12
Project ID No: P501274

The People's Republic of Bangladesh has received financing from the World Bank toward the cost of the **Host and Rohingya Enhancement of Lives Project (HELP)** and intends to apply part of the proceeds for consulting services for Development of Turtle Hatchery for conservation for the ultimate objective of this assignment is to facilitate hatchling production for conservation of sea turtles in Sonapara, Cox's Bazar.

1. The broad scope of consulting services ("the Services") includes but not limited to:
   - Inception
   - Situational Report
   - Mid-Term Progress Report
   - Comprehensive Conservation Strategy Report
   - The final report consolidating all Deliverables

1. Objectives

The ultimate objective of this assignment is to facilitate hatchling production for conservation of sea turtles in Sonapara, Cox's Bazar. The specific objectives are to: (1) understand sea turtle nesting sites' current situation, threats, and necessary conservation actions in Sonapara; (2) establish and operationalize turtle hatchery; and (3) conduct awareness raising activities.

2. Scope of Work

1) Conduct an assessment and year-round monitoring of sea turtle nesting at Sonapara Beach

The Consultant will identify and map sea turtle nesting sites and conduct focus group discussions (FGDs) with fishers to identify threats (including bycatch, predation, human disturbance, and habitat degradation). The Consultant will monitor nesting throughout the year to capture seasonal patterns and inform conservation actions. Develop a situational report which will cover: (i) identification and characterization of critical nesting habitats; (ii) migration and population studies using appropriate, ethical methods; (iii) development of an inventory of nesting events and hatching success; (iv) documentation of mortality, nesting frequency, and nest fate; and (v) identification and quantification of sources and levels of threats (including bycatch). The Consultant will prepare a comprehensive conservation strategy report summarizing findings and proposing a Conservation Management Plan (CMP) with actionable, long-term strategies, responsibilities, and a time-bound implementation schedule. The report also summarizes the results of all the activities conducted under this assignment.

2) Establish and manage turtle hatchery

The Consultant will establish a turtle hatchery and guard shed with appropriate equipment and security measures. Nests will be managed for safe in-situ incubation and hatching; where in-situ protection is not feasible, the Consultant will implement ex-situ conservation (egg relocation) following accepted protocols and required permits. The Consultant will deploy guards as needed, control predators (e.g., dogs, crows, and other predatory animals), and prevent egg poaching consistent with legal and ethical standards. The Consultant will maintain records of nests managed, relocation activities, hatching success, and predator control actions.

3) Conduct awareness raising activities

The Consultant will conduct awareness meetings with fisher communities on safe handling and release of entangled turtles. The Consultant will identify turtle egg collectors and hold dialogue with them to reduce poaching and promote stewardship. The Consultant will prepare and post informational signboards at key locations, develop and print a sea turtle information poster or leaflet (1,000 copies), and organize media campaigns around turtle hatchling releases and relevant observances (e.g., World Sea Turtle Day), in coordination with local authorities and community groups.

3. The detailed Terms of Reference (ToR) can be found at the following website: www.doe.gov.bd The ToR or any further information can be obtained at the address of the undersigned given below, during office hours from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm Bangladesh Standard Time (BST).

4. The Department of Environment (DoE) now invites eligible consulting firms ("Consultants") to indicate their interest in providing the services. Interested Consultants should provide information demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the services. The shortlisting criteria are:
   a) General Experience of the Firm in providing services (core business and years in business);
   b) The Consultant must have at least 10 years of in-depth working experience on Development of Turtle hatchery in Bangladesh;

5. **Consultants are requested to submit, but not limited to, the following supporting documents in support of the above-mentioned criteria:**
   (i) The Firm's Incorporation/Trade/registration documents from the country of the firm (ii) Firm's brochures; (iii) description of similar consultancy contracts, including the scope, contract amount, name of Client, period of the contract (date of contract signing to date of completion), location/ country of the services, etc.

6. The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to the Section III, Para 3.14, 3.16, and 3.17 of the World Bank Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers, September 2023 ("Procurement Regulations"), setting forth the World Bank's policy on conflict of interest.

7. Consultants may associate with other firms to enhance their qualifications but shall indicate clearly whether the association is in the form of a joint venture (i.e. all members of the joint venture shall be jointly and severally liable) and/or a sub-consultancy (i.e. the Consultant will be responsible, including for the services of the sub-consultant). In case of an association, the Consultant must explain in the EoI submission (a) the rationale/ justification for the proposed inclusion of the JV members and/or sub-consultants; and (b) the anticipated role and relevant qualifications of each member of the Joint Venture and/or of each sub-consultant for carrying out the assignment. Failure to provide the above explanation in the EoI may risk the association not being shortlisted for the assignment. However, the qualifications/ experience of sub-consultants will not be considered by the Client in the evaluation of Expressions of Interest for Shortlisting purposes.

8. A consulting Firm will be selected following the "Consultant Qualification Selection" method.

9. Expected date for commencement of the services is March 2027 and the tentative duration of the entire assignment is 12 months.

10. Expressions of Interest must be delivered in a written form to the address below (in person or by mail) by 1500 hours (BST) (GMT + 6 hours) on 29 November, 2026.

11. The authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all EoIs without assigning any reason, whatsoever.

Signed

Md. Samsuzzaman Sarker
Project Director,
Host and Rohingya Enhancement of Lives Project (HELP)
DoE Component-Comprehensive Environmental Impact and Damage Assessment of Rohingya Influx in Cox's Bazar and Bhasanchar of Chattogram Division
Department of Environment
1st Floor, Room: 202, Poribesh Bhaban New Building
E/16 Agargaon, Sher-E-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207, Bangladesh
Phone: 02-2222218378, Email: helpdoepd@gmail.com

GD-2742