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Blazing Bengal Tigresses

Bangladesh's Women's Football Team Roars in Asian Cup 2026 Qualifiers

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EDITORIAL

Emphatic evidence of Bangladesh's advancement

The editorial of this edition of Cinebuzz Times can be started with a historic victorious news and emphatic evidence of Bangladesh's advancement in sports arena.

Bangladesh clinched 7-0 triumph to record their first win in the AFC Women's Asian Cup Qualifiers over Bahrain in Yangon, Myanmar on Sunday after suffering five defeats in a row in the last two editions, conceding 25 goals.

The Tigresses held a dominant 5-0 lead at halftime, added two more goals in the second half to seal their dominating win.

Bangladesh is placed in Group C of the Women's Asian Cup Qualifiers. In another Group C match held earlier of the day at the same venue, hosts Myanmar defeated Turkmenistan 8-0.

The upcoming match between Bangladesh and Myanmar on July 2 will likely determine which team from Group C advances to next year's tournament in Australia.

On the other hand, the celebration of one year anniversary of July Revolution has kicked off in Bangladesh to commemorate the fall of Awami League-led government through a mass upsurge in July and August last year.

Political and social organisations will celebrate the anniversary through various progammes from July 1 to August 5. Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP), National Citizens' Party (NCP), Bangladesh Jamaat-i-Islami and other parties have chalked out series of events for the celebration.

Sham Islam
CEO
CineBuzz Films Pvt. Ltd.

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Who are we!

Cinebuzz times magazine is part of CineBuzz Films Pvt. Ltd. Cinebuzz Films have five components, and the magazine is the fourth component of the organization. The vision and mission of the company are simple. To put Bangladesh & Bengali nation on the global map by promoting our history, culture, heritage, and Tourism to the rest of the world.

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The Distant Storm

How the Israel-Iran Conflict Threatens Bangladesh's Economy

CINEBUZZ TIMES

In the increasingly intertwined global community, conflicts, no matter how distant, inevitably cause economic ripples thousands of miles away. The recent heightened tension between Israel and Iran through tit-for-tat military attacks, regional proxy wars with an overall threat of war has not only destabilised the Middle East but created ripple effects in developing countries including Bangladesh. Geographically distant it may be, but Bangladesh is not immune to the seismic shocks of this geopolitical crisis.

The Geopolitical Flashpoint

The Israel-Iran rivalry grows out of ideological enmity, regional power dynamics, and the tangled web of theological and political animosity. Israel has considered Iran's support for groups such as Hezbollah, Hamas and Islamic Jihad as a threat to their sovereignty. Israel instead has also conducted multiple attacks against Iranian assets in Syria and beyond, including cyberattacks and targeted killings. The recent surge in direct confrontations notably the Iranian-backed drone and missile attacks on Israel and Israeli further retaliation against Iran makes for a perilous move away from proxy war toward full-on confrontation.

World pet roleum and energy inflation

Chronology The struggle between Israel and Iran is primarily fought in the world energy market. Iran is a major power in the Persian Gulf, and it controls access to the Strait of Hormuz, a vital choke point through which 20% of the world's oil flows. The slightest hint of trouble along this route sends global oil markets into a panic and causes prices to spike.

Such spikes are catastrophic for Bangladesh, which imports upwards of 85% of its fuel needs. Rising oil prices mean higher transportation and production costs, putting pressure on the country's industrial base, in particular the ready-made garment (RMG) sector, its economic cornerstone. Inflationary pressure from high energy prices further increases the price of essentials, worsening the cost-of-living crisis facing ordinary people.

Remittance Vulnerabilities

Bangladesh's economy is dominated by remittances from migrant workers in the Middle East, especially Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Qatar, and Oman.

An escalation of tensions between Iran and its Arab neighbors in the Gulf could have destabilizing implications across the region, which in turn may jeopardize the lives and livelihoods of Bangladeshi workers.

Worse, if the crisis leads to a wider regional conflict, Gulf nations could then shift spending from infrastructure and development to defence, stalling projects that rely on guest workers. Lower remittances would undermine Bangladesh's foreign currency reserves and the value of the taka, increasing import costs and trade deficits.

Supply Chain Disruptions
Bangladesh's export-oriented industries are dependent on raw materials, shipping and smooth sea transport routes. Hotspots in the Middle East could also disrupt shipping routes, drive freight rates higher and delay the flow of imports and exports.

The RMG sector, which handles more than 80% of the export earnings for the country, might experience shortages in raw materials (i.e., dyes, chemicals, or machinery) due to an overall increasing uncertainty in the global coordination. Western buyers, anxious about global instability, may also scale back or delay orders compounding the damage to export revenue.

Investor Confidence and FDI
Global investors abhor geopolitical uncertainty and Bangladesh is no different. Despite no direct connection to the confrontation, that vulnerability in emerging markets often will make investors more risk averse. The DSE hasn't been a stranger to volatility in times of crises of a similar nature.

Foreign direct investment (FDI), vital for infrastructure and energy projects, could also dwindle as investors seek steadier global conditions. Industries such as telecom, energy and manufacturing could experience postponed capital inflows, affecting growth and job creation.

Policy Paralysis and Budgetary Strain
Given these potential developments, faced with imported inflation, currency depreciation, and reserves dwindling in short supply, fiscal discipline would be a challenge for the government. On one hand, added subsidies on fuel, and food may be needed, and on the other hand, the government might not be able to conduct development spending to ward off increased debt, freezing the projects important for both long-term growth and poverty reduction. But, irrespective of the scenario, macroeconomic lenders like the IMF and World Bank would be more vigilant to scrutinize Bangladesh's progress on reforms and debt. Furthermore, any relinquishing of macroeconomic ambitions due to an external shock could harm its credit record. Conclusion: Preparing for the Worldwide Ripple While the hypothetical conflict between Israel and Iran crystalizes the threat that a global event poses to individual countries, it also presents a roadmap for economic resilience limited to macroeconomic policy.

Bangladesh's economic resilience, on the other hand, would rely on energy policy beyond the limited scope of simply switching from coal to gas tourism policy, and intensifying diplomacy to secure its workers overseas. With far-away warfare having local impacts, and shocks becoming more common than the standard, policymakers can no longer be caught unprepared. Bangladesh, too, must finally awaken to geopolitical reality: it may be preferable to be unaware, but it is not an economic choice.





Google Pay debuts in Bangladesh

A New Chapter in Digital Finance

By: SHAM ISLAM

Bridging the digital gap – Google's contactless payment service Google Pay goes live in Bangladesh Google Pay, a revolutionary mobile payment service developed in response to the growing demand for digital payment services worldwide. The announcement comes as Bangladesh is moving quickly to adopt fintech, in line with the government's 2041 "Smart Bangladesh" vision.

With Google Pay, it will provide more value and convenience to the end users and help them get advanced in their lives, and social life. But what does this blush of new wealth mean for the people of Bangladesh, and how will it transform the country's digital landscape?

A Welcome Disruption

Bangladesh already has a formidable mobile financial services (MFS) ecosystem, dominated by home-grown platforms like bKash, Nagad, and Rocket.

Now, the inclusion of a global tech behemoth like Google is another matter. Rather than being an MFS in the traditional sense, Google Pay uses MFS as a base to bring together international standards of secure digital practices, cloud-based security infrastructure, and familiar experience as part of an operating system and ecosystem governed by Google that is compatible with Gmail and Chrome for users.

Bangladesh, with more than 40 million smartphone users and a growing youth population, is a ripe market for such an invention. The arrival of Google Pay could close the gap between local wallets and international payment systems and enable cross-border repeaters, e-commerce.

Implications for Economics: For Fanning Financial Inclusion and Growth

Empowering Small Businesses

Street vendors, small merchants and gig workers frequently remain outside the formal banking system.

Content Anyone with a smartphone and internet access can accept digital payments with Google Pay. This mass democratization of financial instruments can empower micro-entrepreneurs to succeed, enhance transparency and in the long-run bolster tax revenues.

Boosting E-commerce
More consumers are likely to shop online as digital transactions become easier and safer. This will be a big boost to Bangladesh's e-commerce sector, which is projected to exceed $3 billion by 2025. When local brands integrate with international platforms via Google Pay, they go global hassle-free and accept payments from across the globe.

Facilitating Remittances
For a nation were sending money from abroad is central to the economy, Google Pay could help facilitate cross-border money transfers, with the potential to be faster, less costly, and more secure. This might help raise remittance inflow and facilitate access for families in far-flung localities.

Encouraging Formal Banking Habits
The onboarding process of Google Pay might encourage more users to open bank accounts or link cards itself, fostering an influx of its citizens into the formal financial ecosystem a major plank in Bangladesh's long-term economic planning.
Social Impact: One step closer to Smart Society

Digital Literacy and Access
With more people using Google Pay, especially in rural and semi-urban India, it will drive digital literacy and encourage them to use technology for financial transactions. For women and young people, who struggle to access conventional banking, this is incredibly empowering.

Transparency and Reduced Corruption
Digital payments mitigate the risk associated with under-the-table transactions, corruption, and fraud. Over time, services like Google Pay could foster transparent financial practices, particularly in education, health, and public service payments.

Crisis Resilience
When crises strike, including floods, pandemics or supply-chain shocks, the new systems are more resilient than those dependent on cash. As per Google, Google Pay leverages easy money transfer for the financial mobility and preparedness at the time of emergencies.

Challenges Ahead
Naturally, the road is not without travellers' headaches. Worries about privacy, cybersecurity and tech monopoly must be dealt with. Google will have to work closely with local regulators, adhere to Bangladesh Bank's digital finance directives and back local partnerships to really have a meaningful place in the economy.

A Collaborative Future
Google Pay is not just a corporate release; it's more like a signal of Bangladesh's growing role in the world digital economy. With smart cooperation among tech innovators, government policy makers and users, the platform might just stand as the bedrock of the country's digital and economic future.

As we evolve deeper into the digital age, breakthroughs like Google Pay aren't just conveniences they're tools for social good, economic empowerment, and national advancement.





A step toward electoral integrity

Government forms committee to investigate past Jatiya Sangsad elections

SHAM ISLAM

To dispel growing worries over the credibility of elections, the government has, in a major decision, constituted a five-member committee to probe allegations about the last three Jatiya Sangsad (National Parliament) polls. Comprising former high court division judge of the Supreme Court Justice Shamim Hasnain, the committee has been sent up to probe into violation of rules and prepare recommendations for holding future elections in a free and fair and neutral manner.

A Turning Point for Democratic Accountability

This comes in response to continued public debates, civil society criticism, and national and international calls for greater transparency and openness in Bangladesh's recent general elections. The 10th, 11th, and 12th parliamentary elections have all been marked by various levels of criticisms, including opposition boycotts, vote-rigging, voter suppression and election rigging like the bias that has been ascribed to electoral bodies.

By creating this committee, the government shows that it takes these concerns seriously, in an organized and institutional way. The appointment of a retired judge shows the need for fairness, legal expertise, and public trust in the committee's work.

The Committee's Mandate

The 5-member panel is poised to look through the records of the last three general elections in matters, examine claims of corrupt election practices or process deficiencies.

It will consult widely with political parties, election monitors, civil society activists and others to ensure 2. full opportunity for input and scrutinise the responsibility and efficacy of the Election Commission and the police during elections.

The body will also propose practical changes to enhance the fairness, neutrality, transparency, credibility, and confidence of registered voters in the election process.

A judge with a high moral authority Justice Shamim Hasnain carries his judicial tempered wisdom as well. Famed for his fair legal interpretations and moral character, his direction is expected to give credence and weight to the committee's conclusions.

Public and Political Reactions

The creation of the committee has generated diverging reactions. Supporters say it is an essential move to restore trust in the democratic process and to keep political polarization in check. "We welcome any step that perpetuates transparency," said a senior leader of a leading opposition party, "but this process must be independent, inclusive as well as empowered."

Sceptics, however, doubt whether the committee will have enough power or access to have any real effect. Some also warn that without serious attempts at enforcing the commission's recommendations, the effort could be little more than symbolic.

A Road Toward Reform

The committee's inquiry has come at a time of heightened political sensitivity for Bangladesh's democracy. With local elections on the horizon and mounting global interest in governance, the time is ripe for electoral reform and its outcomes could be significant.

Observers are eager to learn how the committee will operate, such as its timetable, procedural purview and means of transparency. The committee, the government has assured, will function independently and submit a detailed report within six months.

Should the suggestions prove strong and be followed through upon, the effort could lead to lasting electoral reform and a resurgence of democratic values. As Bangladesh embarks on this path of maturation as a democratic nation, the recommendations of the Justice Hasnain Committee could become the blueprint for restoring public faith in the ballot.





BRICS alliance takes a stand

A new geopolitical equation against Israeli aggression

SHAM ISLAM

In a stunning geopolitical reversal, the BRICS alliance consisting of India, Russia and China has explicitly stated that recent Israeli and U.S. military aggressions against Iran are unacceptable. This collective statement reflects more than just a change in people's diplomatic postures; it marks a reimagination of the geopolitics of the world considering the Iran-Israel clash.

In a statement quoted by Al Jazeera, the BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa) bloc, along with the addition of Iran and the UAE most recently, expressed "deep concern" at the attacks on what it called Iran's "peaceful nuclear installations." The strikes were a flagrant violation of international law and the UN Charter, the collective said.

A Message of Solidarity with Iran

The BRICS statement is well-timed. A cessation of hostilities was declared between Israel and Iran on 24 June as a short break in the tension between the two countries came into effect. The bloc's expression of solidarity with Iran is more than just a statement. It is reflective of a much broader ideological posture: opposition to unilateral acts of war, and insistence on adherence to multilateral conventions.

BRICS said in its condemnation of the attack that Iranian nuclear sites are under international supervision and comply with the IAEA rules. Striking such sites, the bloc's members argue, would violate not just Iran's sovereignty, but also the very edifice of global nuclear governance.

India's Calculated Shift

It is significant that India has been party to such strong language. In the past, it has sought to balance its relationship between the West and strategic partners, such as Iran and Russia, and its alignment here reflects a growing commitment to a multipolar world order. This could also be interpreted as a rebuke to the emerging era of Western military unilateralism in the Middle East a region critical to India's energy and diaspora interests. India's placement in BRICS has been widely understood as pragmatic more than ideological. But this universal condemnation hints at a move from passive non-alignment to active participation in global normative discussion.

China and Russia: Anchors of Anti-Western Pole

China and Russia, the most outspoken in BRICS against Western hegemony, have long viewed Iran as a key partner in the construction of alternative architecture against U.S. dominance.

Critical perspectives toward the Israeli and American actions are predictable, but when reciprocated by India, Brazil, and South Africa, they indicate a new inter-internal coherence within BRICS.

With its Belt and Road ambitions, China sees regional stability in Iran as crucial to its strategic calculus, as does Russia, which is deeply interwoven in the Middle Eastern security politics. Describing the assaults as transgressions of international law, the want to reassert the importance of sovereignty and multilateralism, values they say the West habitually ignores.

From economic blocks to political powers

Conceived as an economic club of developing nations, BRICS now sees itself as a geopolitical balancing force. The group is increasingly becoming a platform for strategic cooperation and concerted action, with new members including Iran and the UAE. Its collective position on this crisis is proof of a self-confident BRICS, one no longer afraid to get embroiled in global security matters.

The appeal for diplomacy and de-escalation is more than just a diplomatic talking point. It is a wider philosophical contrast between the BRICS and the U.S.-led bloc: while the latter prefers usually to coerce things, BRICS is positioning itself as the voice of dialogues, peace, and respecting sovereignty.

What This Means for the World Order

This development has very deep implications. 4 In this regard, as the BRICS coalition grows and discovers its shared political voice, so too will its capacity to help shape global narratives around conflict, security, and legality. This increasing homogenisation might be viewed as a threat to Western accounts of global conflicts, in sensitive areas such as the Middle East.

In addition, the refusal to pander to the power of Israel's patrons, clearly expressed even though Israel has some strong backers, represents a new boldness on the part of the group in addressing uncomfortable questions that were hitherto tiptoed around. It also establishes a precedent: the unified disapproval of the major global players who are outside of both NATO and Western blocs can no longer be disregarded.

Conclusion

The BRICS declaration criticizing Israeli and U.S. military actions is a blow to US-Israel and reversal of global diplomacy. Beneath the headlines, it reflects a shift in power in favour of multipolar intercourse, respect for sovereignty and rule-governed international conduct. Whether this will yield actual deterrence or remain symbolic will be determined by the future consistency of the individual BRICS nations in enforcing it in future crises. But there is one thing that is certain: the world is no more unipolar, and BRICS is demanding to be heard.





CAAB eyes third-party infrastructure, revenue sharing from mobile operators

CINEBUZZ TIMES

The meeting was held yesterday between the mobile phone companies and the Civil Aviation Authority of Bangladesh, sources said. The introduction of the new cell tower Guidelines would be extended to all airports and satellite towns in Dhaka where the mobile companies installed the towers." Open source two. CAAB had informed the authorities that it was keen to engage a third party for setting up and running telecom infrastructure in its area. This shift could have a major impact on how mobile services are deployed in these areas.

The development comes at a time of increasing pressure on the authorities for having better coverage and network support in the airports, especially in the case of international gateways like Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport in Dhaka, Shah Amanat International Airport in Chattogram and Osmani International Airport in Sylhet.

Third-Party Kit: Change of Tack

Instead of giving direct access to mobile operators to build their infrastructure at airports, CAAB is said to be considering a solution whereby an independent third-party infrastructure provider constructs the required network facilities. Operators would then rent capacity from this provider to meet the needs of passengers, staff, and other stakeholders at these major transportation centres.

Experts said, this model could ensure an approach to infrastructure deployment with a more coordinated approach and thus a tighter regulatory oversight within these highly securitised zones.

"This is a global best practice, especially for sensitive and high-Density areas," a senior executive with one of the country's mobile operators said. "How this succeeds will be down to how transparent they are on the third-party provider and precisely what this is going to cost the operators."

Revenue Sharing Emerges as Key Contention

CAAB has raised the question of revenue sharing from the Mobile Operators side by side managing the infrastructure. While exact details were unclear at the meeting, it suggests CAAB is interested in a cut of the revenues generated by telcos at the airport, potentially via way of leases, licences, or usage-based payments.

Operators have yet to publicly respond to the suggestion, though sources warn that such demands would need to be weighed against commitments to the Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission (BTRC), not to mention the desire to ensure rates and quality of service comparative to, and competitive with, other players in the market.

A Way Forward: The Balance of Regulation and Service

In the continuing discussions, there have been demands for inclusive and extensive resolution of these challenges. Actions have been proposed at a meeting which can be seen below which advises CABB to consult with BTRC to reduce unnecessary regulatory doubling up and keep the original end game in focus, seamless, quality mobile coverage for travellers and those who work at the airport.

"The aviation and telecom industries are equally important from security and nation interest standpoint," said an industry expert. “Finding a solution that puts passengers first, respects regulatory limits and creates a fair revenue share will be essential.”

The plan is in the initial stages, and more meetings are over the next several months to keep refining the plan and determine rules and financial terms. For now, the industry is watching carefully as CAAB makes its first forays into reshaping digital connectivity in the satellite hubs of Bangladesh.





Europe's Green Gateway

€1 billion investment signals new era for Bangladesh

CINEBUZZ TIMES

A new era is underway in the relations between the European Union (EU) and the People's Republic of Bangladesh. The EU has committed to invest €1 billion in critical sectors in Bangladesh officially and has ambitious plan to double the investment shortly. This major pledge, which follows last week's high-level meetings in Dhaka, highlights the EU's increased engagement with the South Asian country and its support to foster sustainable development.

The first €1 billion of the investment is directed purposely to priority areas essential to Bangladesh's continued development and ability to withstand shocks: water, energy, and urban infrastructure, transport, and health. The multi-pronged strategy exemplifies a comprehensive approach to the development needs of Bangladesh and the opportunity for long-term, substantial partnership.

A large part of the first investment- namely €350 million from the European Investment Bank and €45 million from the EU in the form of a grant- will go towards the upscaling of renewable energy projects with particular emphasis on Solar and Wind energy projects.

This commitment to green energy underpins the EU's "Global Gateway" strategy a global plan to support smart, clean, and secure connections of all kinds, whether in the digital, energy and transport sectors or the health, education, and research systems. The 'Bangladesh Renewable Energy Facility' is a flagship Global Gateway initiative in South Asia which will seek to add around 750MWp of new renewable energy capacity.

In addition to the budget support, the EU is also engaged in technical assistance and policy programming. Debates have focused on what a Bangladeshi legal framework could look like that encourages investment for an inclusive green energy transition, as well as on measures to increase job access, particularly for female professionals, in the energy industry. The end-to-end, people-oriented perspective also illustrates a partnership that's more than just monetary; it's about giving the strongest foundation and giving power to local people.

The timing of this enhanced investment assumes further significance in the context of Bangladesh's upcoming graduation from the Least Developed Country (LDC) status by 2026. “LDC graduation is evidence of Bangladesh’s impressive economic progress, but it also comes not without challenges, not least the prospect of losing preferential trade treatment under the EU’s “Everything but Arms” (EBA) scheme.

The EU has already signalled its readiness to maintain duty-free access for Bangladesh until 2029 and both parties are engaged in preparations for a new, ambitious Partnership and Cooperation Agreement (PCA) to be concluded by 2026. This ‘conversation’ and dedication to a new trade architecture is fundamental to secure uninterrupted market access and a smooth transition for Bangladesh’s export-oriented industries, notably the all-dominant ready-made garment industry.

Already Bangladesh’s apparel export to EU had made significant headway, soaring to $8.07 billion during January-April 2025, which was far higher compared to US$ 6.51 billion, the same period in 2024. This reflects the already strong trade linkages and further opportunities that now also have the backing of additional investment.

The announced EU pledge to double its investment beyond the initial €1 billion shows the long-term perspective for its cooperation with Bangladesh. This pledge, part of a wider “Team Europe” initiative of EU member states, signals a strategic convergence of interests. And as Bangladesh looks to become a developed nation by 2041, EU’s investment in essential infrastructure, green energy, and human capital expansion, will surely be a key component. This is not just a financial help but is also a display of the confidence in Bangladesh’s capacity and, more importantly, the way forward for a more sustainable, prosperous future for both.





The Pulse of a Generation

Trending social cultures among Bangladeshi youths

By: SHAM ISLAM

Young people in Bangladesh find themselves at a fascinating crossroads in a country where the past and present constantly intertwine. Today's youth in Bangladesh are not only adapting to change but also leading it, with one foot firmly planted in centuries-old cultural traditions and the other confidently stepping into a digital, globalised world.

So, what are they up to, the young people in Bangladesh? Let's delve into the ever-changing tapestry of their social culture.

Digital Natives as Advocates

TikTok reels, YouTube vlogs and more: the digital footprint of Bangladeshi youth is burgeoning. But this is no longer just for fun now it also involves storytelling, activism, and self-expression. Young creators are making videos on mental health, gender rights, climate change and rural development from Chattogram to Chapainawabanj. Services such as Facebook and Instagram have always been popular, but what is new is that young and ambitious people are using LinkedIn and freelancing services to pursue work in top companies around the world.

A New Lens on Tradition

Whether it's reviving folk music through indie bands or rejiggering traditional sarees and Panjabis with cool-kid flair, young people are reinterpreting what it means to be Bangladeshi.

Flash mobs, cappuccino counters, and the ubiquitous tree planting, nothing is too big or small to escape the makeover touch, with stuffy old weddings and receptions being graced with a little bit of boogie wonderland and eco-chic while long-forgotten festivals like Nabanna and Pahela Boishakh, even mela-style village fairs, have been embraced with all the Friso factors, media savvy, and youth power at the disposal of our cultural rebrands.

The Ascendance of Social Entrepreneurship

More young people are launching social start-ups that value more than just profit and aims to solve factual issues in society from menstrual hygiene among rural women to recycling of plastic waste. Unis' clubs and such under-30s-run NGO's become innovation pools, demonstrate that entrepreneurship and empathy do coincide.

Navigating Gender, Navigating Identity

Today's young people are speaking up more than ever about gender equality, LGBTQ+ acceptance and personal freedom. Young activists' women and men are beginning to lead feminist movements and gender-awareness campaigns that use both the street and the screen to challenge patriarchal norms. And gradually for many voices at the cultural margins, this change is making space safer.

A Hybrid Way of Life: Local + Global

K-pop meets Baul gaan. BTS dances on Pahela Falgun. Sushi-roll iftar platters. Bangladeshi youth the largest demographic that makes up the 17 million new internet users each year are synthesizing global trends and local Flavors to form a mash-up lifestyle where the YouTube makeup tutorial meets the deshi skin care hack, and online gaming tournaments collide with rooftop adda. It's a mixed culture that honours tradition and welcomes the new.

Taking the Lid Off the Issue of Mental health Literacy

We talk about it now, and don't talk about it in hushed whispers. Mental well-being has rocketed to the top of the youth agenda and that is how it is playing out in their everyday from apps and therapy sessions to podcasts on anxiety, burnout, and self-care. Universities are beginning to catch up, providing counselling and peer-support programs run by student leaders.

Political, but on Their Terms

Those of the days when youth politics meant "partisan politics" are over. Today's generation is one of policy rather than party.) They care about reforming education, the digital divide, the environment, and freedom of speech. Through satire, art and citizen journalism, they are shaping a discourse in subtle but powerful ways.

Final Thoughts:

Bangladeshi youth are not a homogeneous mass they are a rainbow of communities, a kaleidoscope of activism, a web of ever-morphing identities of what it means to be "Bangladeshi" in the 21st century! They hold onto the past but are not afraid to question it. Theirs is not a culture that is static; it is fluid, fierce, unrelenting.

If the future of a nation rests firmly in the hands of its young, then there are exciting times ahead for Bangladesh.





A new dawn for education

Salehuddin Ahmed highlights budget priorities

DESK REPORT, DHAKA

Finance Adviser Salehuddin Ahmed said on Monday in a strong reaffirmation of the government's dedication to transforming education that the national budget of the fiscal year gives "special priority on creating the environment for a science-based, technology-driven and employment-oriented education system."

Speaking to a gathering of journalists, economists, and teachers in Dhaka, Ahmed underlined that this budget represents a significant turning point in terms of the educational orientation of the nation. "Our young people have to be ready with tools and knowledge to participate in the global economy," he said. "This year's budget is a turning point it recognises that education is no more only about literacy; it's about skills, innovation, and adaptability."

A calculated turn towards innovation

Along with increased expenditures on STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) education at the secondary and higher levels, the 2025–26 budget includes a notable rise in funds for technical and vocational training.

The action marks a deliberate turn towards getting students ready for the needs of the information economy, digital platforms, and automated, increasingly defined labour market of the twenty-first century.

Among the various important steps Salehuddin Ahmed listed were the creation of model scientific schools in undeveloped areas, more scholarships for women in technological disciplines, and alliances with the business sector to offer on-the-job training.

"Employment-oriented education is not an abstract concept now," he said. "We're directly including skill certifications, internship programs, and career direction into the curriculum."

A Long-Term View towards Equity and Expansion

This fresh emphasis on education coincides with growing worries about young unemployment and a mismatch of skills in the workforce.

According to recent surveys, many graduates still lack the necessary skills for the real-world demands even although enrolment in universities has climbed. Targeting the core causes outdated syllabi, inadequate technology infrastructure, and restricted teacher training the government seeks to close the distance between academics and business.

Salehuddin Ahmed also underlined the important need of fair access: "We are particularly focused on rural and marginalised communities, ensuring that no student is left behind due to geography or socioeconomic level."

Reception & Responses

Development partners and professionals in education have praised the declaration. The change "a necessary leap towards modernising our education landscape," said BRAC University's education policy expert Dr. Samira Rahman. Additionally showing interest in working on fresh pilot projects in line with government goals are international donors and institutions such UNESCO and UNICEF.

Some voices warn, nonetheless, that actual test will be implementation. Former governor of Bangladesh Bank, Dr. Atiur Rahman remarked, "budgets can promise a lot," but "effective execution especially in training teachers and monitoring quality is where success or failure lies."

Ahead Looking Ahead

The emphasis on science, technology, and employment-readiness in education signals a strategic change as Bangladesh keeps on its path towards knowledge-based middle-income country. For millions of pupils, this may imply a future rather than simply a classroom.

"Education is our bridge to a smarter, fairer, and more prosperous Bangladesh," Salehuddin Ahmed said optimistically at closing. The basis is laid by this budget.





New generation of public servants

45th BCS written exam results announced

CINEBUZZ TIMES

Officially releasing the results of the 45th BCS (Bangladesh Civil Service), the Bangladesh Public Service Commission (BPSC) marks a major turning point in the competitive and esteemed public recruitment process of the nation. For thousands of applicants across who have been nervously waiting for months, the news, announced on [insert official date], has brought both relief and enthusiasm.

Following the preliminary exam, out of the more than 20,000 applicants who sat for the written examinations, [insert number] candidates have passed and are now qualified to show up in the viva voce, the last phase in the thorough BCS selection process.

An odyssey of commitment and will

Considered as one of Bangladesh's most demanding and sought-after job paths, the BCS exam is It evaluates analytical ability, mental fortitude, civic duty, and intellectual understanding in addition to academic background. Drawing applicants from various educational backgrounds business, social sciences, medical, engineering, and the arts the 45th edition was no different.

Many find success on the written test to be a triumphant event. "It's been a long, difficult road full of sacrifices," said winning Rajshahi candidate Afsana Ahmed. But today I believe it has all been worthwhile. The written test challenged us to apply critical thinking to link national policy with practical consequences.

Main Characteristics of the 45th BCS.

Announced to fill 2,309 cadre jobs encompassing those in administration, police, foreign affairs, education, and other key areas, the 45th BCS was It shows the government's ongoing dedication to enhancing the civil service by means of imaginative, educated, and motivated young leaders.

The growing involvement of women, who are shattering stereotypes and claiming their place in civil service leadership, is one obvious feature of this year's BCS. Positive evidence for gender inclusion in the public sector comes from the written results showing a steady upward trend in female candidates passing at a competitive level.

Looking forward: Viva Voce and Choice of Final Thought

Successful candidates have been advised by the BPSC to be ready for the viva voce, with honesty and alertness. Candidates will be evaluated in areas like personality, communication ability, ethical judgement, and awareness of national and worldwide events. Soon on the official BPSC website will be announcements about the interview schedule.

The BPSC advises people who failed this time not to lose hope. One former BCS cadre remarked, "BCS is not only an exam but a journey of perseverance." "Many successful officers today experienced failure before they reached their target."

Openness and changes in policy

The 45th BCS written exam results were released under thorough review and openness, the BPSC underlines. The commission has been implementing changes lately to guarantee a more fair and effective hiring procedure, including digitalisation of evaluation and simplified correspondence with candidates.

Final Thoughts

It is impossible to overestimate the value of a competent and ethical public service as Bangladesh negotiates its way towards Vision 2041 and works to create a knowledge-based, inclusive economy. The youthful talents making it to the 45th BCS bear the dreams of millions and the obligation of determining the course of the country.

Right now, they honour a hard-earned triumph while the nation waits for its next round of public servants.





A Question of Coordination

Analysing May 23 Recruitment Exam Conundrum

CINEBUZZ TIMES

Friday, May 23, Bangladesh saw an unheard-of event: 23 distinct government and commercial job recruitment tests were conducted concurrently all throughout the nation. Widespread irritation and discontent erupted on social media and student forums as job seekers hurried from one exam canter to another or were compelled to completely rule out several prospects. One naturally wonders why the planners chose such overlapping timing. Was it a logistical error, a determined choice, or an oversight with unanticipated results?

The point of view of the organisers: Motive Behind the Simultaneity Administrative-wise, there are a few reasonable reasons for focussing recruiting tests on one day:

1. Minimising Administrative Work

Setting up recruiting exams calls for major logistical cooperation from venue procurement to security agent deployment. Especially in busy exam seasons, holding several tests on the same day might help to lessen ongoing load on the infrastructure and workers engaged.

2. Time Restriction and Financial Deadlines

Many public universities run under tight fiscal-year plans. There is typically pressured to finish hiring procedures as the fiscal year-end, June, draws near. Combining tests might be an attempt to speed hiring within administrative targets.

3. Ste clear of paper leaks and delays.

Bangladesh has seen many instances of question paper leaks in the past, usually ascribed to significant intervals between tests. Minimising such dangers might be the focus of a concerted scheduling effort, particularly because internet communication facilitates the flow of queries.

4. Policymakers' and recruitment authorities' pressure

Many ministries and agencies have a backlog of open positions; hence government entities might have been under pressure to fill openings fast. The multi-agency schedule would show a top-down drive for quick execution.

5. Effort towards Simplifying

Though it might not appear like it from the outside, this could be part of an effort to simplify recruiting into a "one-day testing model," same as how national university or civil service examinations are carried out elsewhere. Still, this strategy seems to have omitted required foundation.

The Reality on Ground: An Emotional and Logistically Disaster

Notwithstanding these explanations, applicants experienced different ground realities.

Thousands of job seekers many of whom had years of preparation for such possibilities were forced to make tough decisions. Let alone mentally prepare for another demanding examination, a candidate seated for an exam in the morning at one end of the city had no time to reach another canter in the afternoon. Some students tried to show up for many assessments but missed one because of last-minute venue uncertainty or delayed transportation. The whole outcome is Fewer opportunities taken advantage of, scattered attention, and general mental tension.

Candidates from Dhaka, Chattogram, Rajshahi, Sylhet queued up in impatience, many of them challenging the rationale for the timing. Youth forums calling for responsibility and a more inclusive hiring policy planned small-scale demonstrations and news briefings in many locations.

Was the Plan Effective?

From the organisers' point of view, if the tests were conducted without disturbance, paper leaks, or logistical breakdowns, the execution might be judged successful; from a candidate-centric perspective, success means access to fair and equal opportunity – and by this measure, the scheduling was a clear failure.

Initial data indicate that, particularly in cases where the applicant pools overlapped such in bank employment and BCS-type competitive tests, attendance rates in some tests plummeted by 20–30% compared to preceding years. Reduced competitiveness, inferior quality of selection, and even empty positions might follow from this.

Do They Approval the Result?

A central government's cohesive response to the problem has not been forthcoming, which points to a lack of coordinated supervision.

Internal sources from a few recruitment boards, however, said that the attendance and comments had spurred thought about future. Speaking anonymously, a top official from the Bangladesh Bank said: "We reached the target for the exam, but obviously the candidates' experience was not ideal. We must have a better model.

The Road Ahead: Organisation or Anarchy?

One thing is quite evident from this incident: Bangladesh must have a centralised timetable for recruiting tests. Working together, stakeholders including the Public Service Commission, Bangladesh Bank, private sector companies, and academic institutions should establish a national recruiting coordination board. Smart scheduling, early notification, and openness might reduce candidate strain and maximise national talent use.
Furthermore, given the extent of young unemployment and the emotional cost job searchers pay, justice cannot be given up on the altar of bureaucratic efficiency.

Conclusion:
In conclusion, while certain administrative boxes may have been ticked thanks to the May 23 schedule, it has also revealed serious coordination and empathy breakdowns in the recruiting system. Should the final objective be to choose the greatest applicants, the procedure must be first accessible, fair, and compassionate. Otherwise, efficiency turns into simply another label for exclusion.





Cramped Commutes

Daily struggles of women on Bangladesh's public buses

By: SHAM ISLAM

DHAKA, Bangladesh It is early morning, just after dawn, in the grey-blue light of Dhaka, and the city is restless. Buses roar to life, horns honking, as thousands of workers embark on the daily pilgrimage to offices, garment factories, hospitals, and schools. It includes countless women like me and you who are struggling to cope with not only the dense traffic and long hours, but also the special challenges of commuting in a public transport system that frequently has no regard for their safety, dignity or even basic rights.

A Daily Struggle for Room and Respect

For many working women in minor cities such as Dhaka, Chattogram or Khulna, the daily commute starts with a mental checklist: scarf tightly pinned, elbows in, phone zipped away, senses on high alert. When a bus at last pulls over often, while in motion a frenetic scramble ensues. In the melee of limbs and inevitability, many women can find themselves shoved, pushed, sometimes groped doing their best to keep from falling over in a desperate attempt to enter.

"I have to leave home by 6:30 even though the shift starts at 8," says Jahanara Begum, a 32-year-old garment worker in Mirpur. "If I miss the first two buses, I either won't have a seat or I'm a sardine," she said.

While it is compulsory for men to leave the "women-only" seats at the front of most public buses to female passengers, they often remain seated, and men do not get up unless specifically asked to. When women speak out, they're likely to be dismissed or ignored.

The Hidden Harassment

There is, however, a more sinister reality beyond mere physical discomfort, or harassment. From sexually suggestive remarks muttered under breath to invasive touches in the pinches of packed bodies, women say the bus is a place of vulnerability. "Even if someone gropes you," says university student Aklima Akter, "No one supports you. And if you do take issue, the conductor, or your fellow passengers, might chuckle or tell you not to make trouble."

For younger commuters and schoolgirls, though, the bus can be fear-inducing. Many carry their own pins, others have their bags or (dupattas) doubled up across their chests in defensive mode; while some opt to stand even if they are old or frail just to avoid being touched. Strategies for Coping and Silent Resistance

Even with all these challenges, women are incredibly resilient. Others travel with a friend to stave off harassment. The latter crowd uses mobile apps to watch for buses and to wait for less-crowded buses — time permitting. And many have safety pins or pepper spray stowed away in their bags. Older women sometimes serve as protectors and interveners, speaking out when they see younger girls being harassed.

From time-to-time women push back and they do it loudly. Videos of women standing up to harassers or refusing to vacate their designated positions have gone viral. These acts of defiance lead to conversation but seldom to systemic change.

A Glaring Policy Gap

Women have reserved seats on public transport in Bangladesh, and in some cities, women-only buses. But enforcement is lax. Very few conductors and drivers undergo gender sensitivity training. Male and female zones no longer have meaning during rush hours. "There's a lack of political will and accountability," says Shireen Haque, a gender rights activist. "We don't need token seats, we need a transport system that respects and protects its women."

Towards Safer Commutes

Some grassroots movements have developed. Organizations in Dhaka such as BRAC have conducted awareness campaigns on public buses. Apps like "Shohoz" and "Bohubrihi" currently permit users to report harassment anonymously.





But the scale of the problem calls for something more. Implementing just and equitable public transportation must be at the top of urban planners' and policymakers' agendas. This will be done by increasing bus numbers, particularly in rush hours, increasing the women-only service, training bus staff and running public awareness campaigns.

The Bigger Picture

The larger story of urban inequality is behind the wheel of each clogged commute. Women's access to safe and affordable transportation has implications not only for their daily lives, but for their right to work, go to school, and live free from violence.

Yet as Bangladesh pushes ahead with new strategies for urbanization and smart cities, the echoing calls of women sardined in the cramped rear ends of buses can't be lost. Their travels count not simply because they fly as passengers, but as fellow citizens on the rise in a proliferating land.

Call to Action:

If you've been harassed, or have witnessed someone else being harassed, on public transport in Bangladesh, be sure to speak up, help the victim and report it. It starts with understanding and the courage to accept the space every woman is entitled to.



Bichanakandi

Sylhet's Enchanting Stone-Bed Haven

CINEBUZZ TIMES

A Peek into the Past & the Origin of Names

Bichanakandi (alternative spelling: Bichnakandi or Bichanakandi) is a village in Rustompur Union in Gwanghae Upazila in Sylhet District of Bangladesh. Its name is a Sylheti one: bichhana (bed), with kandi (cluster or dam), a soulful allusion to the flat plains of bog-land full of colourful boulders which acts like a natural rock bed.

Unsurpassed by its medieval structures, Bichanakandi geological work of art on the other hand establishes the backdrop further down the line as flowing rocks from the Khasi hills are collected by the banks of the Piyain river. It has no become a popular site for rock quarrying as stone for construction and ecotourism.

Where It Sits At a Borderland Confluence

Sited at around 25–40 km north of Sylhet city, Bichanakandi is near to the Bangladesh–India border.

It is located at a peculiar junction of the Khasi Hills where several tectonic plates meet, giving the area its dramatic topography and making it prone to earthquakes, like Jaflong and Lalakhal.

The valley is drained by the streams which now cascading from Meghalaya forms here and there natural waterfalls, and which after mixing with the River Piyain, flows down a wide expanse of wave-worn boulders.

Tourists Attraction at Bichanakandi There are various tourist spots at Bichanakandi.

The Stone-Bed River

This unique riverbed is a vast undulating expanse of smooth multi-coloured stones, some barely poking through the water, ideal for walking, rock hunting, and photography.

Waterfalls from Meghalaya

Dropping from high cliffs on the other side of the border, these waterfalls and streams become cascades that mistily glide into the river below.

Travel In Boats Through the Green Valleys
Local boats that float for 20 60 minutes upstream into the mountain enclosed gorge can be taken from Hadarpar Bazaar. The journey is through scenery green enough to set the stage for introspection and adventure.

Panthumai & LokkhonChora Waterfall
Adjacent spots like Pantumai and LokkhonChora are more enticing as hiking/waterfall destination combos.

Nature Photography & Wildlife Watching
Soaring hills, flowing water, hanging clouds and birds overhead, Bichanakandi is an ideal spot for a photographer to shoot and for a bird watcher to identify the birds.

Peaceful Picnics and Walking by the River
With their flat stone beds and smooth currents, the rivers of Bichanakandi are tranquil options for leisurely strolls, barefoot wades, and picnickers along the water, especially in the post monsoon season.

Getting There & Planning Tips:

Route to Hadarpar Bazaar
Take a CNG microbus from Sylhet (25 km) and go with to Hadarpar via Salutikar

Boat to Bichanakandi
Rent an engine from Hadarpar: Tk150–500 per person, or for a group boat.

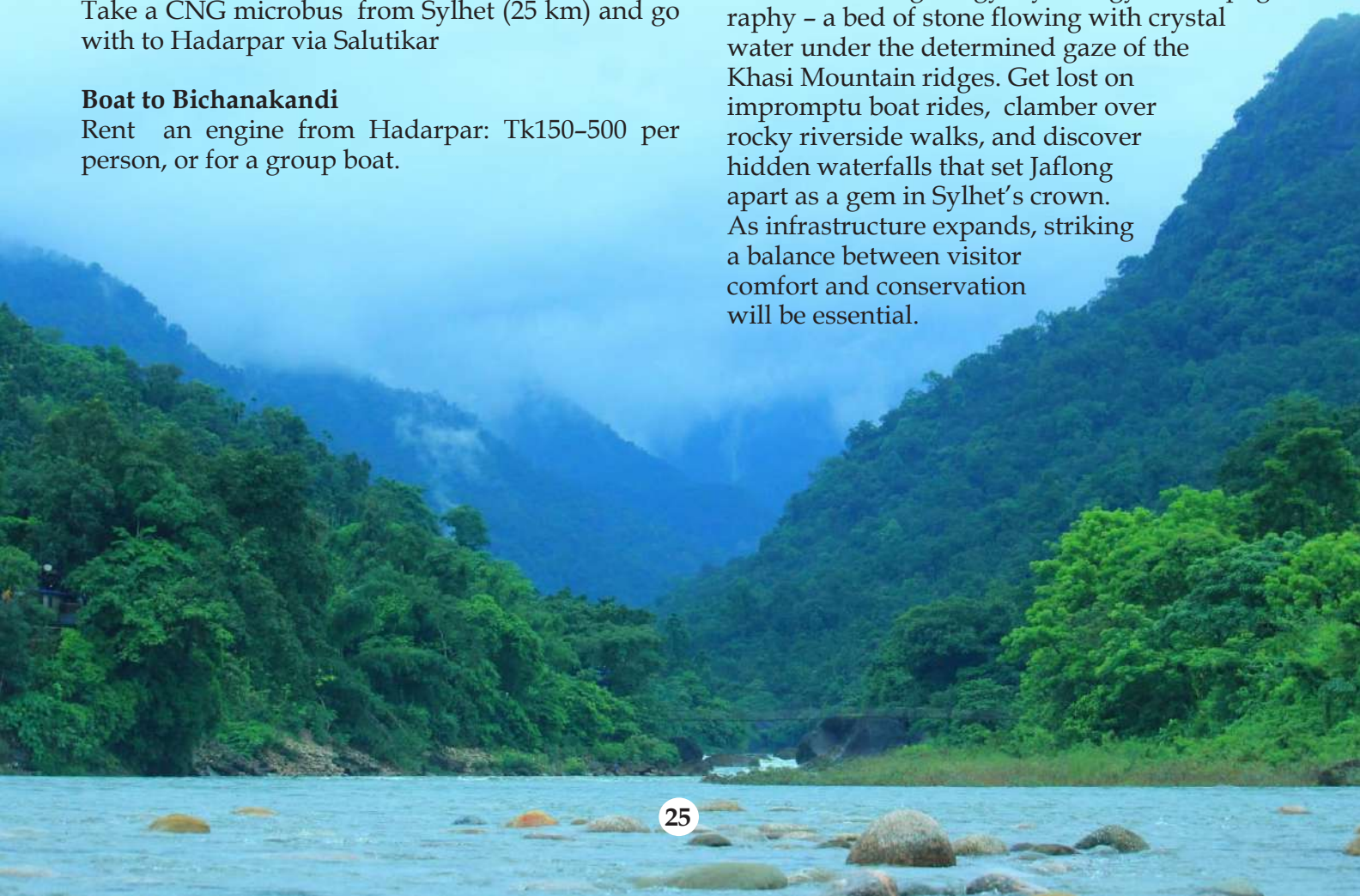
Best Time to Visit
June-September (monsoon / post-monsoon): rendering the landscape green and lush, with high water flow, plants blooming full-born green.

Cautions & Facilities

No public toilets/changing rooms; deteriorating road; carry food, water, sun protection; watch water flow and stay within borders.

Conservation & Sustainability
Bichanakandi may be picturesque, but it is under threat. Stone theft and quarrying have caused destruction of riverbanks, disrupting habitats. The government is putting together eco park plans, planting more than 10,000 saplings in an area of about 35-odd acres to help promote conservation and absorb footfalls.
Final Thoughts

Bichanakandi offers to the eyes, a spectacular combination of geology, hydrology, and topography – a bed of stone flowing with crystal water under the determined gaze of the Khasi Mountain ridges. Get lost on impromptu boat rides, clamber over rocky riverside walks, and discover hidden waterfalls that set Jaflong apart as a gem in Sylhet's crown. As infrastructure expands, striking a balance between visitor comfort and conservation will be essential.





Education reform 2027

Bangladesh unveils ambitious new secondary curriculum

By: SHAM ISLAM

In a radical move to re-imagine the future of education, the Government of Bangladesh has said they will begin rollout of the new national curriculum at secondary level, with widespread implementation by 2027. The sweeping reform is being described as one of the biggest overhauls to the country's education system in decades and will see students moving away from rote learning and into critical thinking, creativity, and life skills.

A Curriculum for the Future
The new framework has been developed over the last few years by the Ministry of Education with the National Curriculum and Textbook Board (NCTB) as its collaborator. Revised curriculum According to officials, the revised curriculum marks a meaningful change that aims to prepare students more effectively for the rapidly changing world influenced by technology, globalisation, and the complex challenges posed by climate change and economic inequality.

The aim of us would be to build a new generation who are thinkers, analytical people and as well as responsible citizens," Education Minister Dr. Dipu Moni said. "The 2027 syllabus is learner-centred, inclusive and is in harmony with both national priorities and global educational trends.

Highlights of What's New
Cross-Disciplinary Learning: There will be more blurring of subject borders, stimulating integrated teaching and learning. For example, science, technology, environment, and ethics could be learnt through thematic units.

Focus on skill development: Communication, digital literacy, financial awareness, emotional intelligence and teamwork will be covered, especially for grade 6-10. Reforming Assessment: Tests would not be the only measure of your academic progress. The focus will be on formative assessment, project work and applications.

Inclusivity and equity: The curriculum hopes to meet the learning requirement for all and include those who are differently abled, children of the Indigenous, and the children from the rural/remote/underprivileged background as well.

Environmental and Civic Education: -Active citizenship and environmental responsibility from early age through community engagement for solving the current society's environmental problems.

Training the Teachers
The preparation of teachers is clearly a vital part of this reform. These new methods of teaching will require at least 500,000 secondary school teachers to undergo substantial retraining. The government, working with groups such as UNICEF and BRAC, already has begun a countrywide training program on active learning, digital resources, and classroom inclusivity.

Dr Md Farhad Hossain mentioned, "No teacher, no curriculum reform. Our teachers are the link between theory and practice."

Challenges Ahead
Though the reform has been widely welcomed, it remains fraught with problems. There is also scepticism on whether schools, especially those in rural areas, is ready for the shift to technology-based and student-driven learning. Infrastructure gaps, scarce internet access and inadequate teacher-student ratios are real obstacles that must be overcome.

Parents will need orientation as the traditional signs of academic success change, too. As one mother in Dhaka put it: "We were born and brought up thinking grades are everything. Now, we must learn an entirely new way of learning."

Looking Forward
The 2027 education reform is not just a new education policy — it is a social contract." It symbolizes Bangladesh's determination to raise a generation that can make out in a complicated world, value democracy and be useful to the society.

And with political will, community support and ongoing investment, this curriculum can not only revolutionize classrooms, but also the future of the country.

Banking after Racine et al.
Sidebar: Student Life in 2027
• Method One science or arts in any separate class till class 10
• Availability of tablets and smartboards in the classroom
• Projects instead of "textbook only" assignments.
• New topics: Climate Studies, Gender & Society, Digital Citizenship
• Extra PE, arts and mental health sessions





Lymphatic Filariasis

A Persistent Threat in Bangladesh's Red Zones

By: SAMIA SIDDIKA

Millions of people in Bangladesh's endemic "red zones" are still plagued with lymphatic filariasis (LF), a crippling neglected tropical illness. The parasitic worms Washeteria bancroftian and Brugia Malaya cause LF, which is spread by mosquito bites and causes hydrocele, elephantiasis, and persistent swelling. Notwithstanding international efforts, hotspots like coastal regions and northern Bangladesh continue to exist, where ecological difficulties, poverty, and inadequate sanitation contribute to the spread of the disease.

Bangladesh's Filariasis Red Zones:

Although Bangladesh has made great strides towards LF eradication, a few areas continue to be high-risk "red zones" because of ongoing transmission. The areas most impacted are as follows:

Kurigram, Rangpur, Lalmonirhat, Nilphamari, and Gaibandha are the northern districts.
Seasonal flooding, elevated levels of poverty, inadequate sanitation, and a high density of *Culex* mosquitoes reproducing in standing water are the causes.

2. The Southern and Coastal Areas: Khulna, Satkhira, Bagerhat, and Patuakhali. The Sundarbans, mangrove habitats, and brackish water make these areas perfect mosquito breeding grounds.

3. The Central and Eastern Regions: Kishoreganj, Netrokona, and Mymensingh: Poor drainage systems and a lack of knowledge about preventative measures are the causes.

These districts show microfilaria prevalence rates exceeding 1%, which is the threshold for necessitating mass drug administration (MDA), according to the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS).

Bangladeshi filariasis causes include:

1. Vectors of mosquitoes:
The primary vector in urban and semi-urban regions is Culex quinquefasciatus. Mansonia species are prevalent in coastal areas that are marshy.

2. Environmental Factors: - Water that is stagnant (ponds, sewers, flooded fields). Urban slums that are overcrowded and have inadequate waste management.



3. Socioeconomic and behavioural factors: - Poor adherence to MDA programmes because of misconceptions (e.g., fear of side effects). In rural places, bed nets and preventative healthcare are scarce.

Clinical Signs and Pain Experienced by Patients: Chronic Lymphoedema in Kurigram District, Northern Bangladesh

In 2018, Rahima Begum, a 45-year-old lady from Kurigram, a WHO red zone, became afflicted with stage II lymphoedema. She was unable to work as a seamstress after developing elephantiasis after first presenting with recurring fever and swelling.

"My legs are always leaking fluid. My neighbours refer to me as "hati" (elephant). To take care of me, my kids left school.

Transmission is sustained by Kurigram's inadequate drainage systems and *Culex* mosquito breeding grounds. Because of vaccination reluctance, MDA coverage is less than 60% here (Bangladesh MoHFW, 2022).

Where Patients Can Receive Appropriate Care: one. Governmental Medical Facilities:

In endemic areas, district hospitals offer free blood testing for diagnosis and ant filarial medications (DEC + albendazole).

Upazila Health Complexes provide physiotherapy and hygiene kits for the treatment of lymphoedema.

2. Specialised Centres: ICDDR, B (Dhaka): Advanced research and treatment for complex situations. Clinics for Lymphatic Filariasis in Mymensingh, Khulna, and Kurigram Pay attention to managing morbidity.

3. NGO Initiatives: Community-based MDA and awareness campaigns; BRAC's Filariasis Elimination Program. In remote locations, Sights avers supports hydrocele procedures.



Important Precautions to Avoid Filariasis:

one. Mass Drug Administration (MDA) Compliance: - Take DEC + Albendazole (government-provided free) once a year.

2. Use insecticide-treated bed nets (ITNs) as a mosquito control measure. Remove standing water by cleaning drains and covering water containers. At nightfall or in the morning, when mosquito activity is at its highest, wear long sleeves.

3. Early Symptom Recognition: - Recurrent fever + enlarged lymph nodes → Get blood work done very away. Elevate limbs and practise good cleanliness to avoid infections in cases of early stage lymphoedema.

4. Community Awareness: Village health professionals educate the local population on how to care for people with lymphoedema on foot.

- Mobile health initiatives to dispel misunderstandings about MDA in red zones.

In summary:

The Road to Elimination in Bangladesh
By 2030, Bangladesh wants to eradicate filariasis, but this would only be possible if MDA in red zones is strengthened.

- Extending care for lymphoedema and hydrocele.
- Involving the community to fight stigma.

Residents in endemic regions are urged to take part in MDA and report symptoms as soon as they appear.

Legislators: Provide more money for patient rehabilitation and vector control. Bangladesh can become one of the countries free of filariasis if it works hard.

In conclusion, the necessity of comprehensive vector control and fair access to healthcare is shown by LF's persistence in red zones. Rahima's and other patient experiences demonstrate how urgent it is to treat both the parasite and the pain it causes in humans.

Citations: WHO, BRAC, and DGHS Bangladesh.



Inside the Leak

The Iran Strike Intelligence Breach Raises Alarms

CINEBUZZ TIMES

Intel for the Decade's Largest Breach: Details of a Classified Israeli Raid Exposing what is being called one of the most serious intelligence leaks of the past decade, Israeli spies carried out an operation inside Iran with the help of a mole in the country. The disclosure has rattled the world's diplomats and spies, renewing fears in an already tense Middle East.

The Leak

On June 10, intelligence sources told the outlet that sensitive information about a pivotal Israeli strike on a nuclear site in Iran's Isfahan province had been exposed. The leak, which was initially reported by an independent cybersecurity watchdog and then amplified by major international outlets, contained satellite images, internal memos and incomplete communications purportedly from Mossad agents.

No state is believed to have taken responsibility for the leak, but internal probes are under way in Tel Aviv and Washington, D.C., where the most senior officials believe that the skulduggery will have occurred during a series of top-level joint planning sessions. The U.S. Department of Defence declined to comment, but a Pentagon spokesman said, "shared operations rely on trust, and any violation of that trust will be taken seriously."

Fallout in the Region

The June 14 airstrike caused major structural damage to what Iranian officials say was a "civilian energy facility." But international nuclear watchdogs had long called attention to red flags about the site's possible dual-use capability. Iran's response was swift: The Supreme National Security Council denounced the "illegal aggression" and promised retaliation and a review of its nuclear defence protocols.

After the attack, Iranian officials denounced foreign enemies particularly Israel and the United States for engaging in "covert warfare," and warned that any additional "aggressions will not go unanswered." This rhetoric, along with Iran's military exercises along the Strait of Hormuz in recent days, has raised concerns of escalation.

A Fractured Intelligence Alliance?

But what concerns analysts most about the incident is the potential for a schism in the intelligence-sharing alliance between the U.S. and Israel. Although the nations have long had a strong relationship on Middle East security cooperation, the rift has revived questions about how to handle compartmentalization and oversight and even operational secrecy.

"It's not so much about the leak itself but about what it tells," said Dr. Leila Rahmani, a geopolitical analyst at the European Institute for Security Studies. "There is an increasing conflict between operational efficiency and political accountability. This is a wake-up call to both countries."

Who Benefits?

Rumours as to who could be behind the leak run the gamut from a whistle-blower within the PP to a foreign cyber-intelligence organization. Some accounts suggest the participation of Russian or Chinese entities seeking to sabotage strategic cooperation between the U.S. and Israel in the region. Others speculate it could be Iranian counterintelligence penetrating compromised digital lines.

Either way, the accuracy and timing of the leak indicate an extraordinary level of sophistication and have raised fears, among lawmakers and others, that the global cyber battlefield has now become firmly entwined with actual violence.

What Comes Next?

Following the strike and the leak, European back-channels are said to have been activated, with France and Germany pressing for de-escalation talks. The U.N. Security Council is to hold an emergency meeting next week on the situation.

Israel, meanwhile, has refused to confirm or deny its involvement in the strike, sticking with its policy of strategic ambiguity. Images now widely published on Iranian state media depict the damaged facility, still draped in the rubble of the massive explosion, and messages rallying the country to unity and resiliency.

With the world watching on, one thing is crystal clear: the era of hybrid warfare where digital intrusions launch real-world effects is no longer around the corner. It's here.





Tasmim Zobaear takes Bangladeshi couture to Cannes

with Urvashi Rautela's Dazzling Gown

SHAM ISLAM

The red carpet at Cannes becomes more than just a venue for film; it transforms into a worldwide forum for fashion diplomacy when the French Riviera shines with cinematic brilliance each May. Amid the glitter and cameras, Bangladeshi designer Tasmim Zobaear captivated the world with a sartorial masterpiece worn by Indian actress and Cannes regular Urvashi Rautela this year.

Celebrated for her bold red-carpet choices, Urvashi captured attention in an ethereal pink couture gown custom-designed by Tasmim Zobaear, shimmering with over 20,000 crystals. The outfit made a striking statement from South Asia, embodying a blend of modern elegance and traditional artisanry, becoming more than just a garment. Reflecting the exquisite skill of Bangladeshi design, the gown encapsulated the essence of haute couture with its flowing layers and elaborate hand-embellishments.

"It's a dream come true," Tasmim stated in an interview. "To see a creation born from our studios in Dhaka stand alongside the biggest fashion houses in the world on the red carpet is a win not just for Bangladesh but for me."

Tasmim Zobaear, who was born and raised in Bangladesh, represents a new generation of designers reinventing South Asian couture on the international stage.

Known for his meticulous diligence and keen awareness of silhouette, his designs often intertwine regional concepts with global style. Initially focusing on bridal fashion, he swiftly expanded his vision to include celebrity couture, culminating in the Cannes event that has the entire country abuzz.

The way Zobaear highlights the untapped potential of Bangladeshi high fashion makes her achievement more significant. Long recognised globally for its garment production, Bangladesh has rarely been acknowledged for luxury design until recently. "Urvashi's look at Cannes this year proves that Bangladeshi designers can compete at the highest levels of global fashion," stated a fashion editor from Vogue India. Bangladesh has experienced a red-carpet moment thanks to Tasmim Zobaear.

Social media reacted with immediate and fervent enthusiasm. Thousands of people lauded the artisanry in Instagram images featuring the gown. Fashionistas from Bangladesh beamed with pride, elevating Tasmim to the status of a national hero. For young Bangladeshi designers, this serves as inspiration rather than merely a headline. Vision, resilience, and a commitment to excellence have demonstrated to Zobaear that Bangladesh can firmly establish itself on the fashion map.

One thing is certain as Cannes continues to celebrate world cinema and culture: the red carpet now bears a different name. And it is Tasmim Zobaear.



Best 3 movies of Eid

CINEBUZZ TIMES

Six movies were released on Eid-ul-Adha. It's time to find out which of these movies are in the top three.

Taandob

Shakib Khan's Taandob movie was released in the country's maximum 132 theaters. Regarding the movie's income, producer Shahriar Shakil said that according to the first five days' gross sales, they are more than five crores.

Sabila Noor has teamed up with Shakib Khan for the first time in the film. Also in the cast are Rosie Siddiqui, Dr. Ejaz, F. S. Naeem, Fazlur Rahman Babu, Gazi Raqayet, etc. Afran Nisho and Siam Ahmed have been seen in guest roles.

Utshav
Even before its release, the audience was quite interested in the movie Utsav. The movie started its journey with 9 screenings in multiplexes. However, considering the audience demand, the show is currently being extended.

The producer of this movie, Tanim Noor, said that Utsav earned more than one crore taka in the first 9 days of its release. The movie stars Zahid Hasan, Jaya Ahsan, Api Karim, Chanchal Chowdhury, Afsana Mimi, Tariq Anam Khan, Azad Abul Kalam, Intekhab Dinar, Sunerah Binte Kamal, Sadia Ayman, Soumya Jyoti, etc. The presence of so many stars in one movie is rare in domestic cinema. It is said that there is no case of so many National Film Award-winning actors working in one movie.

Insaaf
Insaaf was second in the hall numbers. Producer Khorshed Alam Khasru is happy with the commercial success of the movie. He said, our movie will do better in the future. Because, if Tandoob is withdrawn from various halls, we will enter as a new one. That is how we are talking to the hall owners. Talking about the income, the total income from the cineplex alone will cross crows.

Mosharraf Karim, Shariful Raj, Tasnia Farin, Misha Sawdagar, etc. are acting in the movie Insaaf produced by Sanjay Samaddar. The movie is produced by Titas Kathachitra and TOT Films.

Neelchakra

After a long time, Arifin Shuvo's film Neelchakra was released on Eid-ul-Adha. It was expected that the film would do good business. However, the more hopes it raised, the more it fell behind. Even the number of shows decreased. Naturally, the income from films has decreased. Director Mithu Khan said, our film will be released on a large scale outside the country from July. I hope it will earn a good income from there.

Apart from Arifin Shuvro, Mandira Chakraborty, Priyanti Urbi and others also acted in the film.

Esha Murder

Before the release, there was not much excitement about the movie Esha Murder. However, since its release, the movie has been on the news. Its audience has also increased. Due to which the number of theaters has increased. The producer of this movie, Sunny Sanwar said, "Our movie is of medium budget. As we are earning, we are also getting good appreciation from the audience. This is our achievement. In the future, our movie will be released outside Dhaka as well. We will be in an advantageous position in terms of income. But it will take some time.

It is known that the movie's income from multiplexes alone is around 1.6 million. In addition, the movie's rights have also been sold at a high price. Azmeri Haque Badhan, Pooja Cruz, Faruk Ahmed, Misha Saudagar, among others, have acted here.

Tagar

The audience was quite interested in the movie Tagar. Especially the songs of the movie were highly appreciated. However, the movie could not meet the audience's demand after its release. Zahid Hasan, the director of Avi Kathachitra, the movie's distributor, said, "We don't want to focus on how much it earned." Because Tandoob is earning the most on Eid. There are no other movies even close to it. That doesn't mean that other movies are not good.

It is known that the income of the movie 'Tagore' has reached around 1.4 million so far. It was directed by Alok Hasan. Adar Azad and Pooja Cherry are paired in this movie.

Top 3 films

The best film of Eid-ul-Adha is undoubtedly Tandoob. Utsav is in second place and Insaaf is in third place.





Shakib Khan in Hollywood movie!

DESK REPORT, DHAKA

Shakib Khan is taking himself to new heights. He is giving hits one after another. The audience is also flocking to the theaters to watch this actor's movies. Already, there is a buzz about his next project. Rumors are going around that this time the Dhallywood superstar will be seen on a bigger canvas internationally.

It is learned that Shakib Khan is going to act in a new movie by MR Nine famous director Asif Akbar. The actor has already met with the director several times. The concept and initial story of the movie have been finalized. The script is currently being written. If all goes well, the official announcement of the movie will be made in July.

Sources say that two heroes will be seen opposite Shakib in the movie. One of them will be from Bangladesh, while the other will come from Hollywood. However, this time, it will not be an actor with a name, but a familiar face from Hollywood will be opposite Shakib.

Not only that, but a popular Hollywood actor will also play the villain in the movie. If the rumors are true, not only Shakib's career but also the history of Bangladeshi cinema will be rewritten. It is known that this big-budget project is going to be a crime thriller. The makers plan to release the movie worldwide in 2026.



Bangladeshi directors could not utilise my potentials

DESK REPORT, DHAKA

It's time for Jaya Ahsan, the famous actress of both Bengals. She is having a wonderful time. Two movies have been released in theaters across the country on Eid-ul-Aha. A movie is also awaiting release in Kolkata. She is also shooting for a new movie there. She spoke to Cinebuzz Times about all this.

Two of your films have been released on Eid-ul-Adha. Both films have been liked by the audience…

Two diverse types of films. Tandoob is action-oriented, and Utsab is story-based. The audience watch both films. They are praising them. It has overwhelmed me. I act for the audience. It is our success to make them like us. Overall, it is a great feeling.

Tandoob has become piracy…

This is incredibly sad. The good news is that some people have already been arrested. This was very necessary. If we had acted earlier, this might not have happened. All those involved in this must be brought to justice. Then no one will dare to commit piracy again. Piracy is not desirable, and it should not happen. I would like to tell the viewers – you should not watch pirated copies. Watching pirated copies means stealing. Why would you do that?

Are Bangladeshi directors able to use you?

That is my regret. Bangladeshi directors could not use me. I want them to make better stories with me. Bring out the best acting from me. Hopefully, it will happen in the future.

The movie Dear Maa will be released in Kolkata. You played the role of a mother in it. Was there any objection?

No, I am acting. I have acted many times before at that age, which is not my age. I have functioned as a seventy-five-year-old woman, and I have also worked as a twenty-six-year-old girl. I don't think about all this.

You are shooting for a new film in Kolkata...

I am shooting for the film Ajwo Ardhangini. It is the sequel to Ardhangini. I enjoy working with Kaushik (Ganguly) very much. It will be the same this time too. Every day is a unique experience at work. I am improving myself as an actress. In this, I am getting Churni Ganguly as my co-star again. Getting an actress like her means further development of your character.

You are also a producer now. What kind of films do you think are being made now?

Mother-daughter, mother-son... these relationships are eternal. Films have been made about these stories and will continue to be made. How a director tells the story is important. The way a director has shown the relationship between a mother and son in the past, the new director will show it in a unique way. But I think we want to see the kind of films where the visuals are pleasing to the eye. There is no crime, there is emotion, there is a human aspect. In fact, these are part of our lives, the feeling of seeing them on screen is always remarkably close to home.



You have been working in Kolkata for a long time; you have done Hindi films. What advice would you give to our industry from this experience?

Look, our country is not incredibly old either. During these 54 years, we have also gone through turbulent times. The environment, the situation, depend a lot on the country, politics, everything. Still, every year we have many good films, web series, festival films are doing very well. I have also seen one or two particularly good commercial films a year. In fact, for everything, we need many films, many works coming together. More than that, we need to feel safe as people, so that we can go to the hall and watch the film. We can move freely. Only then will we learn more about entertainment.

How do you see the state of the country's cinema amidst the political unrest in the country?

The background of the country has changed. The country is in turmoil. There is political unrest. Amidst all this, our industry is doing very well. Everyone is trying. Our artists are trying to do well. Overall, our cinema is doing great.

Does Jaya Ahsan have no desire to get married and have a family?

I do have a family. I do. Does getting married only make a family? I have so many responsibilities, is that less than having a family! I don't have time for all this. Everyone must believe that getting married doesn't make a family. I also got married and had a family. I tasted that too. Now I am doing this family. What is wrong with that? It feels good to me. Since I feel better in this, I am successful in this family.

I have four children (Alsatian). My mother, siblings, my family, my plants, everything are my family. They are my family. Even after getting married, many people remain miles apart. In that sense, is that family? Those who remain miles apart mentally even after getting married, are that family? There is no point in making a family of photo frames to show people. If someone really makes a family, let them do that. Let them create an extension of it. Let them do something to give to the world. This is how I make a family in my own way. I will do it.



Singer Noble granted bail in rape case

DESK REPORT, DHAKA

Singer Mainul Ahsan Noble has obtained bail in a case filed over the alleged confinement and rape of a former student of Eden Mohila College.

Dhaka Metropolitan Magistrate Mehera Mahbub granted bail upon a bond of Tk1,000 following a petition submitted by the defense.

The victim, whom Noble married on the premises of the Dhaka Central Jail in Keraniganj on 19 June under the supervision of prison authorities, during today's hearing, said she has no objection if Noble is given bail.

Defense lawyer Md Monir Uddin said the case was filed due to a misunderstanding between the victim and the accused.

They are now legally married, and the victim has no objection to his release on bail, he added. On 18 June, Dhaka Metropolitan Magistrate Nazmin Akter ordered the prison authorities to arrange the marriage of the victim with Noble by mutual consent and inform the court.

On 20 May, Noble was arrested in the Demra area of Dhaka in a case filed over the alleged abduction, confinement, rape, and torture of a woman over a period of seven years.

The case was filed by the victim with Demra Police Station, citing Noble as the prime accused, after police rescued her from a house in Demra following a call to the national emergency service 999.



Rahat Fateh Ali Khan lends his voice to Bangladeshi songs

DESK REPORT, DHAKA

This time, renowned singer Rahat Fateh Ali Khan of the subcontinent sang a Bengali song. The song is titled Tumi Amar Prem Piyasa. In it, UK-based Bangladeshi singer Rubaiyat Jahan has provided a duet with him.

The lyrics of the song are written by lyricist Kabir Bakul. The tune and music were arranged by Raja Kashef. The production company Dhrub Music Station confirmed the matter to the media.

It is learned that the song was sung by Rahat Fateh Ali Khan and Rubaiyat Jahan at Playback Creative Studio in Dubai.

In this regard, Rubaiyat Jahan said, When I met Rahat Fateh Ali Khan in London, he told me about his love for Bengali songs. He also mentioned his interest in singing Bengali songs.

She further said, Rahat Fateh Ali Khan really liked the vocals, melody and music of the song. And it felt like I got the moon of the sky in my hands. I think this is one of the achievements of my life. I tried to give my best singing in this song. I hope the audience will like it."

There is no information about when the song will be released. Rahat Fateh Ali Khan is very popular in Bangladesh. In addition to qawwali songs, he is also found in melody-based songs in Hindi movies. Now he is being found in a new Bengali song.



Malicious group wants to destroy cinema industry: Shakib Khan

DESK REPORT, DHAKA

The movie Tandoob starring megastar Shakib Khan, which was released on Eid-ul-Adha, has created a frenzy among the audience. Since its release, the movie has been the center of discussion across the country. However, the movie was a victim of piracy soon after its release. Recently, Shakib Khan highlighted his strong stance against this piracy in a press conference. He emphasized that despite piracy, the audience demand for Tandoob has increased further.

Shakib Khan said, even after piracy, as this bad circle wants to explain, piracy has happened, this movie will not run anymore, there is no cinema sales. But after the piracy, the demand for Tandoob has increased further. Insha'Allah, as I said last time, Tandoob is captivating people everywhere from Gulshan to Gulistan. Wherever Tandoob is going in the country and abroad, it is causing havoc in the minds of people.

He also said, "We all have to work together against piracy." Bengali cinema is the cinema of the entire country; it is our cinema. We all must work on the development of our cinema. We have to say no to pirated copies.

Shakib Khan especially thanked the country's cinema-loving audience. He alleged that a malicious group always wants to destroy Bangladeshi cinema. In his words, A few days ago, there was also a malicious group in the case of Tandoob, who always wants to destroy Bangladeshi cinema. Today, where Bangladeshi cinema is spreading all over the world, it is being performed with profound respect and pride, at that time, a bad group, a bad group, always wants our cinema to be destroyed. So that we can no longer make good cinema.

In Shakib's words, that nation is the most developed, the one whose cultural aspect advances the most. We are spreading our culture and cinema all over the world, and at that moment, we see piracy. We saw it during Borbad, now we saw it in Tandoob, which caused piracy even earlier.

Tandoob was released in 132 cinema halls in the country. Sabila Noor and Jaya Ahsan also acted in this action-oriented film.



Gaan Bangla TV Chairperson Taposh released from prison

DESK REPORT, DHAKA

Gaan Bangla Television Chairperson Kaushik Hossain Taposh has been released on bail from Keraniganj Dhaka Central Jail on June 18.

Suraiya Akhter, Senior Jail Superintendent of Dhaka Central Jail, confirmed the release. She said that, when all the documents for release from the court reached the prison, Taposh was released at 7:05 pm after verification.

Earlier, on the night of November 3 last year, the police arrested Kaushik Hossain Taposh, chairperson of Gaan Bangla TV, from Uttara, Dhaka in a murder attempt case. Taposh was in jail for about 7 months.

On August 5, the day the Awami League government fell, the office of Gaan Bangla in Pragati Sarani was vandalized and set on fire by those labeled as government friendly. The channel's broadcasts were stopped.

The channel's studio setup, shooting floor, sound system, editing panel, and various broadcasting equipment were located on most floors of the 10-story building.



I do not want to talk about my personal life

DESK REPORT, DHAKA

Actress Mandira Chakraborty made her big screen debut a few years ago with the film Kajal Rekha. After that, her film Neelchakra, which was released last Eid, was praised by the audience; along with this, the hero became a favorite of the fans as well.

Meanwhile, at the beginning of her career, Mandira had said that her favorite actor was Arifin Shuvo. Fortunately, the hero paired up with her favorite star in the movie NeelChakra; along with the story and production style of the movie, the chemistry between Mandira and Shuvo impressed the audience.

Mandira is facing many questions when there are various speculations among the audience about the matter. In this regard, she clarified her position and said, the audience should see Arifin Shuvo and Mandira on screen, in distinct roles, and enjoy them - that is what I want as an artist. Not in real life will we be one in the story of the screen.

Mandira further said, the audience has loved and appreciated our couple - their love certainly encourages us. But that is not real, we will be together on the screen. I want the directors to make good stories about us.

Although fans are curious about her personal life, Mandira is reluctant to talk about it now. She said, "Personal life, marriage - I am not thinking about these things at all right now. I do not want to say much about these things.



Everyone knows about the relationship, we are taking our time

CINEBUZZ TIMES

Drama artist Samira Khan Mahi is a face well known in the drama industry. She has acted in several dramas and has taken everyone in show-biz by surprise in a short span of time.

Recently in an interview, Mahi opened about career and personal life. On working in OTTs, the actor added, “There is not much work on OTT (now) like how there was before. This is for the fact that you know the state of our country, the budget and all that go with it.” If I get an excellent job I will do it.

About acting in the film, the actor said, "I think cinema is a large canvas, it's a colour choice to not prepare yourself perfectly." Mahi, when asked about when does she plan to get married, said that she is waiting. But when she does all of us will know she is married.

"Dil mil gaya" (literally: heart found) "Everyone knows about relationships, we are taking it slow." - Mahi When we are in a relationship with someone somebody to be exact, if it is a girl, a girl thinks that they will be with that guy and want to be with that guy. I will do everything I can to hang around and fight. But in other instances, parties part company and relationships do not materialize. Be it love or married to someone. We have plans, but even then, it is a question.

Samira Khan actor Samira and Mahi's Break Up Rumours A few months ago, rumours suddenly emerged on social media that actor Samira Khan and Mahi Zareen had broken up. This had been announced by the actor herself on social media. For the last four years, she had been in a relationship with a man named Saadat Shafi Nabil. That they were having an affair became public a couple of years ago.



Blazing Bengal Tigresses

Bangladesh's Women's Football Team Roars in Asian Cup 2026 Qualifiers

By: SHAM ISLAM

Yangon, Myanmar was buzzing with excitement on Wednesday, June 29, as the Bangladesh women's national football team began their AFC Women's Asian Cup 2026 Qualifiers campaign. What emerged was something more than a victory, something more like a proclamation: a 7-0 shellacking of Bahrain that set the Bangladeshi football community and beyond abuzz.

It wasn't just a win, but a complete performance where tactical acumen, individual brilliance and a collective appetite belied Bangladesh's current FIFA ranking of 128. Against a Bahrain side 68 places above them, what we saw from the 'Bengal Tigresses' was maturity and signs that they would be a force to reckon with in Asian women's football.

Bangladesh was in full control right from the first whistle. Their quick, incisive passing and calm build play was repeatedly cutting through the Bahrain midfield as they mounted wave after wave of attacks. There were five in the first half and the game was done before half-time. Shamsunnahar Junior put the ball at the back of the net in the 10th minute before a Ritu Porna Chakma stunner from distance doubled the lead six minutes later. Kohati Kisku made it 3-0 and then the veteran Tohura Khatun scored twice in quick succession just before half-time added time to leave Bahrain stunned and deflated.

The second half wasn't quite as frantic when the points were scored, but Bangladesh were still able to keep their foot on the pedal. Bahrain again had no luck in the 60th minute, as Rawan Al Ali found her own net to make it five at the break, and substitute Munki Akhter added the sixth in the 74th minute.

What does this astounding triumph say to us?
Tactical Masterclass: Peter Butler's Plan Paid Dividends. The team had great chemistry, with the midfield, and Maria Manda for that matter, instrumental in making the attack and giving the forwards the ball. The way that they managed play and drove through the defensive line is a sign of detailed planning and specific game plan.

Depth of attack and Clinical Finishing: Seven goals from different goal, scorers (Shamsunnahar Junior, Ritu Porna Chakma, Kohati Kisku, Tohura Khatun and Munki Akhter and the Own goal) shows that how various attacking threats this team have.

Importantly, the players were cool-headed and deadly in front of the goal, decisively burying a lot of their chances – a key feature in matches with people to compete against. Tohura Khatun showed her predatory instinct with a well-taken brace.

Mental Strength and Confidence: Bangladesh was never daunted from Bahrain (which ranked higher). This belief could also come from their recent showings which saw them draw with higher-ranked Lebanon and Indonesia in a three-nation tournament. The fact that the team is strong enough to keep a clean sheet with such a high goal count is testament to their defensive discipline and belief.

New History in AFC Qualifiers: Bangladesh's 7-0 triumph meant that they recorded their first win in the AFC Women's Asian Cup Qualifiers after suffering five defeats in a row in the last two editions, conceding 25 goals. That's an uplifting victory historically and emphatic evidence of how far they've come.

"And now to the future, the road to the AFC Women's Asian Cup 2026 in Australia is tough. Bangladesh currently lies second in Group C, one goal in arrears of hosts Myanmar who earlier also opened their campaign with an 8-0 win against Turkmenistan. The clash takes place on July 2 and will be a crucial fixture, even deciding which of the two teams from Group C is going through into the final round of the competition. This will be quite a belting for BD, against a tough and regional rival.

The reason for optimism is the dazzling performance against Bahrain, however. WOMEN'S FOOTBALL Bangladesh have proved their ranking is not a true reflection of their abilities. With progression, tactical guidance, and steadfast encouragement the 'Bengal Tigresses' are ready to make more significant dents in Asian football. It was not only a victory, but it was also a statement of intent, a promise of things to come of women's football in Bangladesh.



Rising with Resolve

Najmul Hossain Shanto's heroic Test against Sri Lanka

CINEBUZZ TIMES

One name has slowly climbed the ranks in the era of change and aspiration for Bangladesh cricket: Najmul Hossain Shanto, not with loud announcements but with quiet resolve. Apart from reaching a personal milestone, his recent performance against Sri Lanka in the Test arena provided a window into the future leadership of Bangladesh cricket.

The Dawn of a New Captain

Questions hung when Najmul Hossain Shanto was appointed test captain. Could this quiet top-order hitter handle the duties of running a national side renowned for its volatility and passion? Would the weight of leadership either sharpen or impede his batting?

The response came quickly and forcefully at the most recent Test match against Sri Lanka, where Shanto not only guided the team with calm assurance but also anchored the innings with a performance likely to be remembered for years.

The knock of a Captain: 148 with Grit and Grace

Bangladesh found themselves in a challenging scenario in the opening innings of the game. Early wickets had fallen, the pitch presented no easy runs, and the Sri Lankan bowlers were disciplined. For a captain, this was a time requiring calm, cunning, and fortitude.

Shanto came up with a brilliant batting show, developed relationships, and deftly negotiated pressure spells. Reaching a stunning 148, he combined creativity with agility, patience with accuracy. His demeanour was that of a seasoned leader, and his approach proved robust against both speed and spin.

The manner he returned not out on 89 overnight, tall as the basis of Bangladesh's innings, added even more significance to the innings. Never losing control of the story, he started again with concentration, leading the lower order and speeding when necessary. It was a course in test match batting, in grit, timing, and intellect.

More than a century

Najmul's 148 beyond mere numerical value. It was a remark.

From a player previously deemed too erratic to today's cornerstone of the hitting lineup, it was a statement of growth. It was a statement of character as much as a method in leadership. And it was a statement of Bangladesh's cricketing character: tough, understated, but brilliantly talented.

The squad has already displayed indicators of cohesiveness and fresh vigour under Shanto's captaincy.

His cool head and deliberate approach fit very nicely with Bangladesh's conventional emotive manner, thereby maybe providing a necessary counterpoint during trying circumstances.

Looking Ahead Najmul Hossain Shanto's performance against Sri Lanka will be remembered not only for the runs but also for his style of leading from the front, with bat in hand, and a calm head above the shoulders.

Bangladesh may have discovered in him not only a transient leader but also the pillar of its future Test cricket era.

And if this game is any guide, Shanto's finest still must come.





Red & Green Renaissance

The Rise of Bangladesh Football

By: SHAM ISLAM

The path of Bangladesh football has been one of lost possibilities, waning glory and looking back with nostalgia at the heydays of the 1980s and 90s for years. Yet something remarkable has blown up the football fields around the country in recent months – a revival that has taken everyone from fans and analysts to doubters by surprise.

The Bangladesh side is playing with a new direction, togetherness, and determination. On disciplined defence, creative midfield plays and sharper finishes up front, those red-and-green warriors are no longer showing up; they're showing promise.

What Is Driving the Sudden Upsurge?

As it happens, the answer is twofold. It all comes in an alchemy of numerous factors: a better vision from BFF (Bangladesh Football Federation), the right methodologies of recruitment followed in appointing managers, and an impactful hand with a fresh energy and global experience from NRB (Non-Resident Bangladeshi) players.

A New Era of Management

One of the biggest turning points was when the BFF decided to remodel itself from the inside. For years, the federation had been criticized for mismanaging the sport and for failing to plan for the long term. But new hires — most notably in the coaching and technical staffs — have foreshadowed a renewed emphasis on data-centred, merit-based methods.

Bringing in a reputable head coach, who has clear ideas of how he wants them to play, has also added consistency and discipline – things they were missing previously.

"We've gone from playing reaction football to willing football," one BFF official said in a post-match interview in this World Cup qualifying cycle. "This team knows that we have different roles and is really proud to be here repping the country."

The NRB Effect

Just as important, though, has been the influence of NRB players — second-generation Bangladeshis brought up in the footballing cultures of Europe, North America, and Australia.

These players, who come from more competitive surroundings, have also brought technical skill, athleticism and another mentality to the team.

The likes of Jamal Bhuyan, a long-time figurehead of the NRB movement, are now accompanied by a second generation of diaspora talent. They not only raised the bar, but they also inspired the local players to step up their game. Even better is the relationship that is forming between homegrowns and NRBs. The integration is not working just on the field; it is fostering unity in a shared identity, in mutual respect.

Scouting And Youth Investment

Although the senior team steals the spotlight, a sizeable chunk of credit must be awarded to recent youth development. Academies, disorganized scouting, and age-level national tournaments finally are producing players with those ever-popular technical foundations.

The current national team players are already reaping the dividends of a time when they played together at U-17 and U-20 by hardly putting a cap behind it. There's a chemistry that was not being built before. Factor in foreign training for NRB players and you start to see the results.

A Nation Behind the Team

Bangladesh has always been a football-crazy country even if cricket has made the headlines in recent years.

But this revival has resurrected interest. Stadiums are filling up. Fans are the buying jerseys again. The response on social media is nothing short of giddy. The bond between team and nation are being reestablished, and no one's going to pretend that psychological lift isn't significant.

The Road Ahead

Caution is necessary. Bangladesh is still on the way up and has not yet become a team consistently able to compete with the big boys of Asia. But for now, the signs are encouraging. There is nothing fluky about the Knick team of late; there are conscious choices, bold experiments, faith restored.

There remains however so much to prove for the Bangladesh Football Federation, in particular the ability to maintain this momentum. So too will continued investment in youth, infrastructure, and long-term planning.

But for the first time in years, Bangladesh football fans can dare to dream. Not only of qualifying and competing but also of winning, of belonging. From vanishing echoes to roaring revival, Bangladesh football is in transition.





Alif wins gold in Asia Cup Archery

DESK REPORT, DHAKA

In the men's recurve solo event of Asia Cup Stage-2, Bangladesh archer Abdur Rahman Alif defeated Japanese archer Miyata Gakuto 6-4 in the gold-deciding match hosted in Singapore on Friday.

After winning the first two sets by 28-27 and 29-28 respectively, Alif made a lucky start by leading 4-0. The Japanese archer then produced a remarkable come back to tie the set points at 4-4.

Alif maintained his nerve cool to win 29-26, earning his first international solo medal with the gold. The match went into the fifth and decisive set. Alif stated it's rather amazing to win first international gold on foreign ground.

"It's a great feeling to me because this the first time I have able to hear the national anthem in the foreign soil after winning the first gold in international competition," he remarked in his initial response to his victory.

Enquired as to his next aim. The archer stated his sole goal would now be to remain ahead and medal in the Olympics; he is preparing in line with the coach.

Alif also asked the archery organisation to arrange more team tournaments. "More competitions are needed to improve team's performance since if the federation organise more competition for the team, the world ranking of the team would be improved and the chance of qualify in Olympics would be brightening." he stated.

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