Prime Minister seeks

responsibility to maintain the continuity of this historic relationship and take it forward to future generations.
He hopes that this tradition of friendship and cooperation between the two countries will be further advanced by the new generation.
Tarique Rahman said that after former President Ziaur Rahman's visit to China, the canal digging program started in Bangladesh, which later gained wide popularity. This program has contributed greatly to the development of agriculture. The current government has also taken the initiative to dig 20,000 kilometers of canals, which will benefit farmers and the common people. It will also play an important role in protecting biodiversity and environmental balance.
Both sides also emphasized the importance of increasing communication and cooperation at the party level between the Communist Party of China and the BNP.
Liu Haixing said that China is interested in expanding and multi-dimensional relations between the two parties. At the time, he invited a delegation led by the BNP Secretary General to visit China.
The meeting also discussed the Bangladesh-China-Myanmar Economic Corridor. Liu Haixing also expressed China's support for Bangladesh's inclusion in the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP).
During the meeting, Prime Minister Tarique Rahman highlighted the pressure on Bangladesh's economy, society, demographics and environment caused by the long-term presence of 1.3 million Rohingyas. He sought China's cooperation in resolving the crisis.
In response, Liu Haixing said that China is aware of the Rohingya crisis. He said that he would convey the Bangladesh Prime Minister's concerns on this matter to Chinese President Xi Jinping.
The meeting emphasized China's continued cooperation in Bangladesh's development and also emphasized increasing communication between the political parties and people of the two countries.
BNP Standing Committee Member Nazrul Islam Khan, Acting Secretary General Advocate Ruhul Kabir Rizvi, BNP Vice Chairman Air Vice Marshal (Retd) Altaf Hossain Chowdhury and State Minister for Foreign Affairs Shama Obaid Islam were present during the meeting.
On the other hand, Liu Haixing was accompanied by Charge d'Affaires of the Chinese Embassy in Bangladesh Dr. Liu Yuyin, Director General of the Southeast and South Asian Affairs Bureau of the International Department of the Communist Party of China Peng Xiubin, and other senior officials.

Government working

intelligence, paperless administrative activities and increasing interoperability between government services are the main priorities of the current government.
Mentioning the important role of the Special Branch of the Bangladesh Police in the immigration system, the minister said, "We need to increase the operational capacity of our airports, land ports and immigration check posts manifold through a combination of policy and modern technology. At the same time, he emphasized on upgrading border management to professional standards and standards that are sensitive to human rights and security, rather than relying solely on technology."
Stressing on inter-ministerial coordination to prevent transnational crime, human trafficking and illegal migration, the Home Minister said that border management is not the responsibility of any single agency. It requires joint efforts of all concerned ministries, departments and law enforcement agencies.
At the event, the Home Minister welcomed the IOM's proposed strategic framework for the period 2027–2031 and called for their continued support in building an international standard border structure in Bangladesh. At the same time, he requested development partners to increase technical and financial cooperation, saying that international investment will not only secure Bangladesh's borders, but will also make a major contribution to regional stability and a secure globalization.
At the briefing, IOM Bangladesh Head of Mission Dr. Laura Tom Bonde said, "Bangladesh has already made significant progress in strengthening its migration and border management capacity. As travel patterns and operational requirements change, the need for effective systems, skilled manpower, and better coordination between relevant agencies will increase. IOM is eager to support the government in implementing its priorities through technical expertise and partnerships."
Additional Secretary of the Political and Immigration Division of the Ministry of Home Affairs Dr. Ziauddin Ahmed, Joint Secretary of the Political-1 Branch Rebecca Khan, Additional Inspector General of Police of the Special Branch of the Police Md. Kamrul Ahsan and Deputy Inspector General of Police Md. Moazzem Hossain were present at the event. In addition, representatives of various partner organizations including the High Commissioner of Canada to Bangladesh Ajit Singh and the Ambassador of Italy Antonio Alessandro participated in the discussion.
The discussions included facilitating legitimate travel and trade, as well as ways to address challenges such as human trafficking, cross-border crime, and identity fraud.

BB allows preference

2026, companies can issue preference shares to non-resident investors subject to the Companies Act, 1994, relevant regulations of the Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC), and their respective Memorandum and Articles of Association.
The central bank said preference shares must be issued against foreign currency brought into Bangladesh through official banking channels.
Under the new guidelines, companies will not require prior approval from Bangladesh Bank if the dividend rate on preference shares does not exceed five percent of their face value.
However, prior approval from the central bank will be required for preference shares carrying dividend rates above five percent, including participating or adjustable dividend rates. Companies will have to submit applications with proper justification through their nominated Authorized Dealer (AD) banks.
The circular requires AD banks to report the issuance of preference shares to the FEID within 14 days, along with relevant supporting documents, including the company's Memorandum and Articles of Association, duly endorsed Form XV, an Encashment Certificate and Schedule X, where applicable.
The central bank has also stipulated that preference shares must be issued at par, eliminating the requirement for company valuation for their issuance or redemption. However, where preference shares carry a conversion feature, the fair value of ordinary shares must be determined in accordance with the methodology prescribed in the central bank's FEID Circular No. 01 issued on March 8, 2026, to determine the applicable conversion ratio.
Upon conversion of preference shares into ordinary shares, the issuing company will have to notify the FEID through its nominated AD bank and submit the relevant supporting documents.
The circular further allows nominated AD banks to remit dividends and redemption proceeds to non-resident investors without prior approval from Bangladesh Bank, provided the issuance complies with the circular and applicable foreign exchange regulations, and all relevant taxes are deducted and paid.
For each remittance of a redemption instalment, the AD bank must submit a post-facto report to the FEID within 30 days, accompanied by relevant supporting documents, including the TM Form bearing the Online Foreign Exchange Transaction ID.

Tk 714cr DSCC

1000) of Bangladesh Secretariat. According to a project summary prepared by the Planning Commission's Physical Infrastructure Division for consideration at the ECNEC meeting, the project aims to improve urban connectivity, reduce waterlogging and enhance the living standards of city residents.
The proposed project will cost Taka 714.28 crore. The government will provide Taka 499.99 crore, while the DSCC will contribute Taka 214.28 crore from its own resources. Of the government allocation, Taka 299.99 crore will come as loans and Taka 199.99 crore as grants. The Local Government Division under the Ministry of Local Government, Rural Development and Cooperatives will sponsor the project, while the DSCC will implement it over three years, till September 30, 2029. Under the project, the authorities will develop 28.45 kilometres of roads at a cost of Taka 141.27 crore, 48.63 kilometres of drains at Taka 496.78 crore and 48.7 kilometres of footpaths at Taka 46.06 crore. The project will also include the renovation of 5.18 kilometres of road medians at a cost of Taka 2.07 crore. Drainage development accounts for the largest share of the proposed expenditure, at around 69.5 percent of the total project cost.
The project will cover Dhanmondi, New Market, Shahbagh, Ramna, Paltan, Shahjahanpur, Lalbagh, Bangshal, Jatrabari and Motijheel under DSCC's administrative zones 1 to 5.
Explaining the need for the project, the Planning Commission said Dhaka's growing population and increasing number of vehicles had intensified traffic congestion while heavy rainfall had damaged roads and inadequate drainage facilities had worsened waterlogging.
"Recent heavy rainfall has damaged most of the roads in Dhaka metropolis, while inadequate drainage facilities have increased public suffering due to waterlogging," the commission observed in its project summary. It also said that damaged footpaths had disrupted safe pedestrian movement in the capital.
Describing the condition of the selected project areas, the commission said the road and drainage systems there were "extremely poor" and even moderate rainfall caused waterlogging.
The project aims to improve communication facilities through road development, drainage construction and footpath development, alongside improving the urban environment and the quality of life of city residents.
SPIN Consultancy Services conducted the feasibility study for the proposed project, according to the Planning Commission.
The project has also been included in the list of unapproved new projects (green pages) of the Annual Development Programme for the 2026-27 fiscal year.

Experts for soft

grants to reduce project preparation costs, introducing development bank guarantees to share lending risks and ensuring affordable loans in local currency.
Change Initiative Co-founder and Chief Executive Officer M Zakir Hossain Khan said Bangladesh's longstanding dependence on imported fossil fuels had exposed its energy system to global crises.
He stressed the need to expand renewable energy to achieve energy sovereignty and ensure greater control over the country's energy future.
To achieve the target of generating 10,000 megawatts of solar power, affordable financing must be ensured, he said, adding that grants, concessional financing and responsible investment were essential to help households and industries adopt renewable energy, which would also ease pressure on public finances.
Shama Obaed Islam said dependence on imported fossil fuels and the burden of excessive debt must be reduced.
She said the government had set a target of generating 20 percent of the country's total electricity from renewable sources by 2030 and 30 percent by 2040.
"Achieving these targets would require transparency, coordinated investment and stronger climate diplomacy," she added.
She also stressed the need to develop a unified national position ahead of COP31, reflecting the views of researchers, civil society, the private sector and young innovators. An analysis of energy-sector climate financing between 2002 and 2023 found that Bangladesh received nearly US$9 loan against US$1 grants. In comparison, the average ratio for least developed countries (LDCs) was US$1.53 loan for every US$1 in grants, which means Bangladesh's loan-to-grant ratio was nearly six times the LDCs average. A separate analysis of renewable energy financing between 2000 and 2025 showed that 90.4 percent of investment came in the form of loan, while grants accounted for only 7 percent.
Reserved seat MP Sultana Jesmin said the imbalance between loans and grants in climate financing was creating pressure on both the country and renewable energy entrepreneurs.
She said financing must be made more affordable to ensure greater participation of domestic entrepreneurs and the sustainability of their businesses.
She also called for water security and farmers' livelihoods to receive direct attention in climate financing.
Climate expert Dr Fazle Rabbi Sadek Ahmed said adaptation initiatives often did not generate direct revenue, despite their importance for public welfare. Therefore, grant-based financing was essential for adaptation activities, he said, adding that affordable financing and access to appropriate technologies must also be ensured for renewable energy projects.
He said Bangladesh needed a financing framework that would strengthen its long-term capacity to address climate change without creating an unsustainable debt burden. Greater disbursement of development bank financing recommended According to the study, five major multilateral development banks have the potential to provide Bangladesh with annual public financing of around US$630 crore.
However, commitments identified as relevant to renewable energy during 2024-2026 amounted to approximately US$82 crore, equivalent to around 4 percent of the potential financing envelope over the three-year period. he study also identified the disbursement of approved funds as a major challenge.
Citing the World Bank documents, it said only 12 percent of an approved financing facility for renewable energy had been disbursed even five years after its approval. Annual budget released for the relevant project were also delayed by four to five months.

Italy opens

in labour migration, skills development and human resource mobility. Among the speakers were Dr Laura Nicole Tomm-Bonde, Chief of Mission of the International Organization for Migration (IOM) in Bangladesh; Gunjam Dallakoti, Head of Programme of the International Labour Organization (ILO) in Bangladesh; and Dr ASM Fazlur Rahman, Joint Secretary of the Ministry of Expatriates' Welfare and Overseas Employment. The programme focused on pre-departure training projects for Bangladeshi workers seeking employment in Italy under Article 23 of the Italian Migration Law. The projects aim to equip prospective migrants with Italian language skills, civic knowledge and professional competencies before their departure.
Speakers highlighted the outcomes of the first initiatives of this kind in Bangladesh, stressing that proper preparation would help workers adjust to their workplaces, understand local laws and integrate into Italian society.
They particularly emphasised Italian language proficiency as an essential requirement for effective communication, improved workplace performance and social integration.The programme also discussed legal procedures and requirements for migration to Italy. A migration specialist responded to participants' queries about lawful migration channels, relevant regulations and official procedures.
Representatives of Italian and Bangladeshi private-sector organisations involved in the training projects also attended the event. Prospective migrant workers undergoing training, particularly for jobs in the hospitality and textile sectors, were present.
Their participation highlighted how language education and occupation-specific training could help Bangladeshi workers meet the requirements of the Italian labour market. The initiative reflects broader efforts by the two countries to make labour migration more organised, transparent and skills-oriented by aligning training in Bangladesh with the actual needs of overseas employers. For Bangladesh, such an approach could help workers secure better employment, protect their rights and reduce the risks of exploitation while contributing to Italy's economy.
As Dhaka and Rome seek to deepen bilateral cooperation, the initiative could emerge as an important model for expanding skilled employment opportunities and promoting mutually beneficial labour migration.

Law enforcement

Safipur areas. At one stage, BNP leaders and activists took up positions in the Konabari BSCIC area and conducted a demonstration on the highway. At that time, a section of workers took up positions with them holding sticks. However, despite their presence around the highway and under the flyover, the movement of vehicles was not obstructed. As a result, the movement of vehicles on the Dhaka-Tangail highway remained normal. No new violence or unpleasant incidents were reported till the time of writing this report at 2:30 pm.
According to industrial police sources, workers joined work as most garment factories reopened on Tuesday morning. However, due to worker dissatisfaction and security concerns, authorities declared 20 to 25 factories in different areas closed. Most of the workers in these factories returned home safely.
The protesting workers are demanding that the minimum wage be set at 30,000 taka. However, they do not want vandalism or violence. Some workers said they want a peaceful solution through negotiations.
Gazipur City Corporation Administrator and Metropolitan BNP President Md. Shawkat Hossain Sarkers said that leaders and activists of BNP and its affiliates have taken positions at various places on the highway to prevent the mischief of miscreants posing as workers. The violent movement may have a link with the banned Awami League. Such mischief will be dealt with politically. Meanwhile, additional police, SRB and other law enforcement personnel have been deployed at important locations in Gazipur to prevent violence and destructive activities in the name of the workers' movement. In addition, 10 platoons of BGB and 25 executive magistrates of the district administration are on the ground. Gazipur Industrial Zone-2 Police Superintendent Md. Amjad Hossain said that workers from various factories went to join work in the morning. At that time, workers from some areas tried to protest by blocking the Dhaka-Tangail and Dhaka-Mymensingh highways at various places including Naojor, Bhogra, Konabari, Mouchak, Safipur and Pallibidyut. Police quickly reached the spot and removed them. Authorities of 20 to 25 factories in different areas have declared a holiday to avoid any untoward incident.
Gazipur Police Superintendent Md. Jasim Uddin said that at least 4,000 people have been accused as of Tuesday in cases filed for violence, vandalism and arson incidents centered on the workers' movement of the past few days. 30 people have been arrested in these incidents. In addition, a public notice has been issued to house and flat owners not to give shelter to outsiders. Considering the overall situation, law enforcement agencies are continuing to monitor important points in the industrial area.

Chief prosecutor to send

Crimes Tribunal, told that he will send a letter to the home ministry yesterday to implement the order for the confiscation of assets belonging to Sheikh Hasina and Asaduzzaman Khan Kamal.
"Also, we will send letters to the Ministry of Home Affairs in due course to ensure the execution of other tribunal verdicts that direct the confiscation of assets of others," he said. In the letter addressed to the Senior Secretary of the Ministry of Home Affairs, the chief prosecutor stated that on November 17, 2025, International Crimes Tribunal-1 sentenced the fugitive accused, Sheikh Hasina, to death for crimes against humanity. The tribunal also ordered the confiscation of all her assets, directing that those be distributed as compensation to the families of those martyred during the July 2024 uprising and to other victims. The tribunal further asked the home ministry to take the necessary steps to enforce this confiscation.
The letter warned that if all movable and immovable assets of the fugitive convict are not immediately brought under government control, she could potentially enjoy, sell, or otherwise transfer these assets, thereby rendering the tribunal's confiscation order ineffective.
Consequently, the ministry is urgently requested to compile a comprehensive list of all the fugitive convict's movable and immovable assets, bring those under state control, and take the necessary measures to distribute the assets in accordance with the tribunal's directive as compensation to the families of the martyrs and the victims of the July 2024 uprising.
Confiscation of assets of Hasina & Kamal: The International Crimes Tribunal-1 has sentenced ousted Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and former Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan Kamal to death for crimes against humanity committed during the Mass Uprising in 2024. In the same verdict, former Inspector General of Police (IGP) Chowdhury Abdullah Al-Mamun, who testified as a state witness, was sentenced to five years in prison.
This historic judgment, delivered on November 17, 2025, by a three-member panel led by Justice Md Golam Mortuza Majumder, also ordered the confiscation of the assets of Sheikh Hasina and Asaduzzaman Khan Kamal, with the proceeds directed toward providing appropriate compensation to the families of the martyrs and those who were injured.

National plan gains

State Minister for Planning Md. Jonayed Abdur Rahim Saki, MP, was present as a discussant in the meeting.
Also present as panelists were Dr. Hossain Zillur Rahman, Chairman of the Power and Participation Research Center (PPRC), Dr. Nazneen Ahmed, Executive Director of the Center for Policy Dialogue (CPD), and Kem Meti, South Asia Regional Practice Director (People Vertical) of the World Bank.
The event, moderated by Jean Esme, Division Director for Bangladesh and Bhutan at the World Bank, was also attended by senior World Bank officials, prominent economists, researchers, and high-ranking representatives of various relevant ministries and departments of the government. Dr. AZM Zahid Hossain said, one of the main goals of the current government is to ensure women's empowerment. Keeping this goal in mind, 'Family Cards' are being provided to families of five members, mainly the eldest woman. This assistance will help women meet their daily family expenses and ensure good education for their children, as well as help them develop as entrepreneurs, which will make a significant contribution to the growth of the national GDP. He said that no 'family tree' has been preserved in the past for families in our country. Through the family card, a family tree based on specific information of each family will be created and the national development plan will be further enriched with information from there..

Gazipur labour

Highway flyover. They later blocked the highway, bringing traffic to a standstill on both sides. At the same time, workers of Bay Footwear in Konabari, Purvani in Mouchak, and Logos Apparels and ATS Apparels in Telichala stopped work and joined the protests, taking positions on the highway.
Police and Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) personnel, led by Gazipur Metropolitan Police (GMP) Deputy Commissioner (Crime and Operations) Mohammad Belayet Hossain, later fired tear gas shells and sound grenades to disperse the protesters. Traffic resumed after the situation came under control. Meanwhile, workers from several factories blocked the Dhaka-Mymensingh Highway in the Bhogra area around 9:30am, setting tyres on fire.
Industrial police, BGB, district police and metropolitan police personnel rushed to the scene and tried to defuse the situation through negotiations. However, protesters suddenly pelted police with bricks and stones, injuring several officers. Police later fired tear gas shells and charged batons to disperse the protesters. Since Saturday, garment workers in several areas of Gazipur, including Chandra, Palli Bidyut, Mouchak, Safipur and Konabari in Kaliakair, have been staging demonstrations and blocking highways to press their demand for higher wages.
The protests have also seen incidents of vehicle vandalism and arson attacks on police boxes and vehicles. Several people, including police personnel and journalists, have been injured, while a factory warehouse was also set on fire.Additional law enforcement personnel have been deployed at key points across the industrial zones to maintain order. Police have filed three cases with Konabari, Basan and Kaliakair Police Stations over the incidents, implicating several thousand workers. Several people have also been arrested on allegations of participating in and instigating the unrest.
Gazipur Industrial Police Superintendent Amzad Hossain said at least 60 factories had announced closures for the day after 11am amid the labour unrest. He said the seven people arrested on charges of sabotage were not factory workers.
The protests disrupted traffic on the Dhaka-Mymensingh Highway from 9:30am and the Dhaka-Tangail Highway from 11:00am, causing severe suffering to commuters. Traffic on the Dhaka-Tangail Highway returned to normal around 11:30am after protesters were cleared from the road. On the Dhaka-Mymensingh Highway, traffic resumed around 12:30pm following a three-hour disruption. Amzad said police had arrested seven people in connection with the unrest. He added that earlier, around 7:45am, a group of workers had attempted to block the Dhaka-Tangail Highway in the Mouchak area of Kaliakair. Law enforcement personnel intervened and persuaded them to leave without any confrontation.
Around the same time, workers also attempted to block the highway at Palli Bidyut intersection in Kaliakair. Police and BGB personnel rushed to the spot and cleared the road.

Roadmap ready

the two wells through a turnkey contractor selected through open competitive bidding.
Gas supply and demand gap:
Bangladesh's daily gas demand stands at 5,300 mmcfd based on approved loads and 3,800 mmcfd based on actual consumption, while average daily supply remains at around 2,700 mmcfd.
Imported regasified LNG supplied through floating storage and regasification units (FSRUs) accounts for 1,100 mmcfd, or 41 percent, of the supply.
International oil companies provide 890 mmcfd, or 33 percent, while domestic state-owned companies contribute 726 mmcfd, or 26 percent.
The domestic output comprises 480 mmcfd from BGFCL, 138 mmcfd from SGFL and 108 mmcfd from BAPEX. International company production includes 861 mmcfd from Chevron and 30 mmcfd from KrisEnergy Bangladesh.
Bangladesh has drilled 262 wells so far, of which 119 are currently producing gas. These include 76 wells operated by domestic companies and 43 by international oil companies.
Company-wise drilling targets:
Under the first phase, BAPEX has a target of 21 wells, of which nine have been completed; BGFCL has a target of 13, with seven completed; and SGFL has a target of 16, with 13 completed.
The second phase covers 100 wells, including 69 new wells and 31 workovers. BAPEX will undertake 68 wells, comprising 52 new wells and 16 workovers. BGFCL will undertake 21, including nine new wells and 12 workovers, while SGFL will undertake 11, including eight new wells and three workovers.
For the second phase, BAPEX has proposed 14 projects to drill 52 new wells. One project has received approval and seven remain under the approval process; no well under this component has been completed.
BGFCL has proposed four projects for nine new wells, with two projects under the approval process and none approved. SGFL has proposed five projects for eight new wells, with two projects under the approval process and none approved.
Projects reviewed by PEC:
The Planning Commission's Project Evaluation Committee (PEC) has held meetings on the following projects:
Drilling of three wells by BAPEX: Semutang-7, an appraisal-cum-development well; Begumganj-7, an appraisal well; and Charlakshya-1, an exploration well with an estimated cost of Tk 410 crore from BAPEX's own funds.
Drilling of three wells by BAPEX: Sundalpur-5, an appraisal-cum-exploration well; and Subarnachar-1 and Noakhali-1, exploration wells with at an estimated cost of Tk. 406 crore from the company's own funds.
Drilling of three wells by SGFL: Beanibazar-3, an appraisal-cum-exploration well; and Kailashtila-10 and Batichhia-1, exploration wells with an estimated cost of Tk 831.60 crore.
Drilling of two wells at Zakiganj by BAPEX: Zakiganj-2, an appraisal well, and Zakiganj-3, an exploration well with an estimated cost of Tk 314.69 crore. A 3D seismic survey will be carried out over Char Fasson by BAPEX with an estimated cost of Tk 197.10 crore.
The government expects the phased drilling and workover programme, alongside exploration activities and seismic surveys will strengthen domestic gas production and improve the country's overall energy supply.

Pirganj Upazila

sitting on a chair bare-chested and signing government files. A pack of cigarettes and a lighter were kept on his table, which is strictly prohibited in government offices.
Such an incident has generated anger among hospital officials, employees, and ordinary citizens seeking healthcare services. Many are questioning what urgent file work could possibly require being locked behind closed doors at midnight.
Addressing the matter, accused Chief Assistant Babul Hossain said, "There will be an audit at the hospital, and there is immense work pressure. Therefore, I was organizing the files at night. I am working at night with the knowledge of the Upazila Health and Family Planning Officer." However, he could not provide a satisfactory explanation for being bare-chested and having cigarettes on his table. Pirganj Upazila Health and Family Planning Officer AKM Shahinur Rahman stated, "I am unaware of the matter and learned about it through you. Such behavior from a government official is by no means acceptable. The matter will be looked into and action will be taken."
Meanwhile, District Civil Surgeon Anisur Rahman stated over the phone, "I have received such news, and he has already been warned. The matter of being bare-chested and keeping cigarettes in the office will be investigated and action will be taken."
Notably, allegations exist that despite news reports published in various media outlets previously regarding Babul Hossain's misbehavior with officials and staff, no administrative action had been taken against him.

Government Iqbal

exams, amidst a massive result debacle across the Comilla Board, this college has set a unique precedent.
A total of 1039 examinees from the institution participated this year, of whom 523 passed. While the overall pass rate in the entire Comilla Board stood at a mere 48.04%, this college achieved a pass rate of 50.34%. Local conscious circles view this achievement amid surrounding discrepancies as a major relief and a remarkable comeback story.
Investigations reveal that although the college was nationalized in 2018, the doors for recruiting teachers and staff have remained shut since 2016. Over the past decade, no new teachers have joined the institution. Conversely, an average of 2 to 3 teachers are retiring every year, bringing the college's educational activities to the verge of collapse. Currently, against 48 approved teaching positions, only 22 teachers are serving. The gravest crisis has emerged in core science subjects, with no permanent lecturers in crucial higher secondary subjects such as Mathematics, Chemistry, Biology, and Statistics. Consequently, classes have been kept running haphazardly using part-time or guest teachers. In other departments where 3 to 4 teachers are required, just 1 or 2 teachers are single-handedly bearing the massive workload of four to five classes daily.
Beyond the teacher shortage, the college faces multi-dimensional hurdles both inside and outside its premises. Though paper-wise student enrollment stands at approximately 2,500, average daily classroom attendance hovers at a mere 300 to 400. Inquiries revealed that due to online admission complexities and commuting hassles from distant areas, nearly 40 percent of students are losing interest in attending college regularly.
Furthermore, with a major share of the region being expatriate-dominated, parents of nearly 30 percent of students reside abroad. Lacking proper guidance and conscious domestic guardianship, these young students are losing focus on studies and leading largely uncontrolled, vagabond lives. Compounding this is the negative influence of local adolescent gangs (Kishore Gang) and teenage political infatuation, acting as major barriers to drawing students back to the classroom.
Amidst this darkness, Principal Professor Md. Mulkuter Rahman has been striving to spark hope and restore a sound academic environment since taking charge. To bring students back to classrooms and ensure educational quality, he has already adopted several strict and timely policies. Specifically, to retain students regularly in classrooms and evaluate academic standards, special 'Chapter-wise Evaluation Tests' have been introduced on a weekly and monthly basis. To encourage students to attend classes and foster a healthy competitive spirit among them, college authorities officially reward those securing high scores in these evaluation tests. This innovative initiative has kindled a renewed interest among students to return to classrooms and study tables.
Expressing deep emotion and firm resolve regarding the institution's resilient journey and success, Principal Professor Md. Mulkuter Rahman stated, "We are surrounded by mountains of discrepancies and inadequacies. Only we know how difficult it is to run this massive empire of two and a half thousand students with a mere 22 teachers. As an institutional head, my heart breaks when there are no permanent teachers for core science subjects. But I am not one to give up. My fellow teachers are fighting like warriors. Putting aside personal exhaustion and enduring the burden of extra classes, they are pouring out their utmost sincerity. They are not merely finishing syllabi; they are providing mental counseling to students as well. The orderly environment we have maintained, and achieving a pass rate higher than the board average in this disaster, is the fruit of our teachers' relentless and selfless efforts."

Freedom Fighter

His extensive experience as a public representative and his political activities elevated him to an important position in district politics.
His tenure across various tiers of the local government system is particularly noteworthy. His journey as a people's representative began with his service as the Chairman of Binodpur Union Parishad. Later, he was elected as the Chairman of Shariatpur Sadar Upazila Parishad and also served as the Chairman and Mayor of Shariatpur Municipality. During his tenures in these offices, he worked extensively on local infrastructure development, road construction, drainage systems, and the enhancement of civic services.
His role is equally discussed in the history of the establishment and administrative development of Shariatpur district. His political and administrative involvement was deeply intertwined with expanding administrative activities, building infrastructure, and founding various government institutions in the district. He has continuously associated himself with the vision and endeavor of building Shariatpur as a promising district.

Evidence-based

establishing sustainable accountability mechanisms going forward. Jointly organised by the Anti-Corruption Resource Centre, partner Embassies of Switzerland, Norway, UK, Denmark, and Germany, and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the event brought together key government officials, development partners, academic experts, civil society leaders, and international partners. Over the course of two days the workshop aimed to help enhance Bangladesh's ability to track corruption trends over time and strengthen its capacity to assess the impact of reform initiatives.
The workshop featured international good practices, the operationalization of the UNODC statistical framework as well as group work to identify gaps, opportunities, and priorities for improved corruption measurement and collaboration in Bangladesh.
Utilizing the UNODC Statistical Framework to Measure Corruption, approximately 40 expert participants from relevant institutions reviewed existing data sources - such as household surveys, administrative records, and transparency assessments - to build towards a comprehensive evidence base for ongoing national reforms. The opening high-level session featured prominent national and international figures, including Justice A. K. M. Asaduzzaman, Chairman of the Anti-Corruption Commission, who attended as the chief guest. He emphasised that sustainable anti-corruption reform requires collective commitment. "Strong institutions, effective oversight, public participation, and a culture of integrity are indispensable to building a society where corruption has no place." Director of the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics Md Emdadul Haque highlighted that the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics remains committed to supporting national efforts to strengthen the evidence base for development and governance reforms, within its mandate and if necessary in collaboration with relevant institutions.
Ambassador of Switzerland to Bangladesh Reto Renggli said collectively, society needs a shift in attitude and in mindset to address corruption. "This must start in kindergarten and classrooms. Following rules is one thing, believing in the rules is a social precondition." Ambassador of Norway to Bangladesh Håkon Arald Gulbrandsen also attended as the special guest. He highlighted that Bangladesh will be one of the first countries to implement the UNODC Statistical Framework to Measure Corruption if this endeavor moves forward and that it will be noticed internationally as a highly positive and practical action. UN Resident Coordinator a.i. Max Tunon emphasised that measuring the scale of corruption and assessing the effectiveness of anti-corruption efforts are strategic imperatives for effective governance, sustainable development and building public trust in institutions.
Tunon expressed the UN system's commitment to implementing the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC) and relevant resolutions of the Conference of the States Parties related to corruption measurement. He also reaffirmed the UN's commitment to strengthening evidence-based public policies through the adoption of the UNODC statistical framework to demonstrate the real impact of anti-corruption efforts in Bangladesh.
Acknowledging the extremely important role of strengthening the capacity to generate credible data on corruption, Dr. Iftekharuzzaman, Executive Director of TIB said the problem in Bangladesh is often not so much the generation of data, as the lack of interest and commitment to use the available data and knowledge that already exist on corruption.
He also called on the importance of exploring innovative ways of measuring the comparative implications of the multi-trillion-dollar global economy of money laundering for the source and host economies.
Dr. Sofie Schuette, Principal Adviser, Anti-Corruption Resource Centre at Chr. Michelsen Institute and Shah Mohammad Naheeaan, Head of Office, UNODC were also present in the high-level segment.
"Credible evidence can help Bangladesh turn anti-corruption commitments into meaningful change by guiding reforms, strengthening accountability and making progress visible" Dr. Schuette stressed the importance of data for reform.

BCC to develop

16 locations and sent a Detailed Project Proposal (DPP) to the Ministry of Local Government for approval. The project is estimated to cost Taka 50 crore. The initiative has been taken in line with the government's priority programme for sports development and the Ministry of Youth and Sports' directives to establish futsal fields in city corporation areas across the
country.
The proposed fields will feature surface levelling, natural grass, peripheral drainage systems, LED floodlights, modern washrooms and galleries. The facilities are expected to allow players to practise and play both during the day and at night. Among the selected locations are the BSCIC field in Kawnia, Paresh Sagar field in Alekanda, Kawnia Housing field and the field adjacent to Alamgir Student Hostel.
Barishal city has long been facing a shortage of playgrounds for children and adolescents. Many traditional and prominent playing fields have become unsuitable for regular sports activities, depriving young people of opportunities to participate in outdoor games. Parents and young sports enthusiasts believe the lack of adequate playgrounds is hindering the development of emerging talent. They have welcomed the government's initiative, expressing hope that the new facilities will help revive the city's sporting environment.
Young player Rakib Hasan said Paresh Sagar field and the BM School field were once popular venues for cricket, football and other sporting events. However, the condition of these grounds has deteriorated over time.

Singapore keen to

Affairs. On the Bangladesh side, Jamaat Secretary General and former MP Mia Golam Porwar, Assistant Secretary General and Secretary of the Central Publicity and Media Department Advocate Ahsanul Mahbub Zubair, Opposition Leader's Foreign Affairs Adviser Barrister Mir Ahmad Bin Quasem Arman MP and member of the Opposition Leader's Foreign Affairs Advisory Committee Ali Ahmad Mabrur were present.
The meeting highlighted the importance of continued diplomatic engagement and cooperation between Bangladesh and Singapore, particularly in areas of mutual interest, including economic development, trade and investment.

Bangladesh AI business

made the announcement at a press conference held at the conference room of the Ministry of Science and Technology at the Secretariat here yesterday.
He said the inaugural session of the summit will begin at 10:00 am on Thursday at the Hall of Fame of the conference centre. President Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir has consented to attend the event as the chief guest. The minister said artificial intelligence had emerged as a key driver of economic growth and national capacity in the era of the Fourth Industrial Revolution. The use of AI technology is expanding rapidly across the world, while discussions are also growing over its potential misuse and adverse impacts alongside its positive prospects, he added.
Against this backdrop, the summit is being organised to help Bangladesh move towards a technology-driven and competitive advanced economy, he added.
Highlighting the importance of AI in the economy of the future, the theme of this year's summit has been set as "AI for Tomorrow's Economy". The core philosophy of the initiative is to enhance the country's productivity and business efficiency through the integration of people, businesses and artificial intelligence, he continued. The minister said three important thematic sessions would be held during the day-long summit. The first session will focus on the AI revolution, its applications, prospects and challenges. Scheduled to begin at noon, it will address the role of AI in economic transformation, policy challenges, skilled human resources and the need for technological infrastructure. The second session will focus on strengthening partnerships between educational institutions and industries to promote business innovation and technology transfer. Discussions will cover research, innovation, the
commercial application of technology and the development of skilled human resources in line with industrial needs. The third session, scheduled for 3:00 pm, will discuss the role of AI agents as digital co-workers. It will also focus on the use of local technology and artificial intelligence in business operations, including order processing, transaction coordination and addressing practical challenges across different industrial sectors. DCCI President Taskeen Ahmed, Science and Technology Secretary Md Anwar Hossain and senior officials of the ministry were present at the press conference.

CPC International

same day. The Chinese delegation accompanying Liu during the meeting will include Chinese Embassy Charge d'Affaires in Dhaka Dr Liu Yuyin, Director General of the CPC International Department's Bureau of Southeast and South Asian Affairs Peng Xiubin, Director General of its Public
Information and Communication Bureau Hu Zhaoming, Deputy Director General-level official of the Bureau of Southeast and South Asian Affairs Li Jinyan, Director of the same bureau Wang Siqi, and Deputy Division Director of the department's General Office and Minister's Assistant Liu Chengxiao.
The delegation also includes English interpreter Shi Meiqi and department officials Chen Yongpei, Zhang Guyu, Liu Hongru and He Yiyang.
Following the meeting with the Prime Minister, Liu will pay a courtesy call on the President at Bangabhaban at 11:00am. He will also visit Bangabhaban and attend a welcome luncheon hosted by the President.
From 2:00 pm to 3:30 pm, the Chinese delegation leader will attend a roundtable discussion titled 'Where History Illuminates the Future: China-Bangladesh Political Parties Plus' at the Crystal Ballroom of Hotel InterContinental in Dhaka.
He is also scheduled to attend the inauguration of the Bangladesh-China Centre for Party and State Governance Studies at the event.

Guimara Region

other necessary learning materials for their children to continue studying at the higher secondary level after completing secondary education.
Against this backdrop, the initiative by the Guimara Region is expected to play a positive role in helping students continue their studies without interruption.
The Bangladesh Tripura Students' Unity Council expressed its deep gratitude and sincere appreciation to the respected Region Commander of the Guimara Region for extending the educational assistance.
The organisation said such education-friendly initiatives were highly commendable, particularly in helping students from remote and disadvantaged areas pursue higher education and fulfil their aspirations. It added that the support would inspire Tripura students to build a better future. The initiative is not merely about distributing educational materials; it also represents a positive effort to spread the light of education among disadvantaged communities in the hills and help unlock their future potential.
Education stakeholders believe that ensuring equal educational opportunities in remote and hard-to-reach areas requires collective efforts involving the government, the Bangladesh Army, local administration, social organisations and philanthropists.
They said continued humanitarian support of this kind would enable more students from ethnic minority communities in the hilly regions to pursue higher education and contribute to the development of society and the country.

Legal notice sent

Patwary to withdraw the remarks and issue a public, unconditional apology within 15 days of receiving it. Otherwise, legal action would be taken against him in court. According to the notice, Patwary made the remarks about Annie at a public meeting in Dhaka recently. He reportedly said: "There is this group of terrorists... Annie Chowdhury receives no phone calls at the place where they send me money."
The notice issuer alleged that the statement was entirely baseless and politically motivated. The remarks were broadcast by a private television channel, online news outlets and social media on October 30, allegedly damaging the personal dignity and social reputation of Shahiduddin Chowdhury Annie, the lawmaker for Lakshmipur-3 (Sadar).
The notice further stated that such remarks could constitute defamation under Sections 499 and 500 of the Penal Code, 1860.
It reiterated that legal proceedings would be initiated before the competent court if Patwary failed to withdraw the statement and issue an unconditional apology within the stipulated 15-day period.

Body of Indian Medical Student Recovered from Pond 2 Days After Disappearance in Comilla

Sayeed Mahmud Parvez, Comilla Correspondent:
Police have recovered the body of an Indian medical student named Adnan from a pond adjacent to the college, two days after he went missing from the hostel of Eastern Medical College in Comilla. He was a 5th-year student.
The deceased, Adnan, hailed from the Jammu and Kashmir area of India and was a student at the medical college.
Confirming the matter, Officer-in-Charge (OC) Lutfur Rahman of Burichong Police Station stated that locals spotted a floating body in the pond on Wednesday morning and informed the police. Later, college authorities and the deceased's mother arrived at the scene and identified the body as Adnan's.
The OC stated that Adnan arrived in Bangladesh with his mother on October 31. As he was