



A craftsman in Kamalabari village of Lalmonirhat's Aditmari upazila uses hand tools and slivers of bamboo to make duli, inset, a miniature rice silo that the farmers use to store the grain for consumption by family members till the next harvest.

PHOTO: S DILIP ROY

RURAL LALMONIRHAT

Traditional miniature silo still in demand

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Lalmonirhat

Slowly and steadily traditional agricultural practices as well as tools and accessories used by farmers are being replaced by modern machinery and gadgets. But duli, a traditional rice storage bin or a miniature silo, made of bamboo, is still being used by farmers in rural Lalmonirhat.

Depending on the amount of rice harvested in a season, each rice farmer usually sets up one or two duli in their homestead to store rice for the consumption of family members all through the year.

The rice harvest season is when demand for duli is at its peak and it is the time when craftsmen remain the busiest, trying to keep up with orders made by duli traders.

Many rice farmers also visit the local craftsmen at their houses to place custom order or pick up a readymade duli of their choice.

Duli craftsman Shafiqul Islam, from

Kamalabari village in Aditmari upazila, said they had been busy making duli before the harvesting of rice started this season.

It takes about two to three days to make a duli. But the demand is so great this time around that the artisans have been working from dusk till dawn since then and many of them are even working nights to ensure on-time delivery of their products to their buyers.

Many buyers even make advance payments to the craftsmen and the profit from the sale of each duli is around Tk 600 to 700, he also said.

Nur Hossain, another duli maker from the same village, said there are over 60 duli artisans in Lalmonirhat.

Compared to previous years, the profit margin on each duli has come down in recent time as the price of its main component, bamboo, has gone up. Nonetheless, this year seems to be promising so far, with almost double the sales than that in the year before,

he added.

Rice farmer Mahesh Chandra Barman, from Hajiganj village, said duli is popular among local rice farmers for storing rice in their houses.

Duli is available in three regular sizes -- small, medium and large. The small one holds about 10 to 12 maunds of rice, the medium 20 to 22 maunds and the large one holds as much as 25 to 30 maunds.

If made with inferior quality and thin bamboo slivers, a duli lasts around three to four years. But a duli made with high quality thick bamboo slivers can last up to seven or eight years, he explained.

Rice farmers have been blessed this year with a good harvest and the increased production of the crop has given rise to the need for more duli in each farmer's house, said an all smiles elderly farmer, Ranjit Chandra Barman, from Megharam village in Lalmonirhat Sadar upazila.

BARGUNA GENERAL HOSPITAL 56 Covid-19 patients recover

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Patuakhali

As of Saturday, 428 Covid-19 positive and suspected coronavirus patients at Barguna General Hospital have successfully recovered. Of them, 56 were Covid-19 positive patients.

No Covid-19 positive patient has died at the Corona unit of the hospital till date, said Dr Md Sohrab Uddin, superintendent of the hospital, adding, that the first coronavirus patient of Barguna was admitted to the unit on April 9.

Of the 428, 217 were admitted to the Corona unit while the rest put in home quarantine and they received treatment over phone, said Sohrab.

Apart from this, nine Covid-19 positive and 20 suspected coronavirus patients were being treated at the hospital till Saturday, he said.

Dr MK Azad, who is treating the coronavirus patients at the hospital alone, said two coronavirus patients in two upazilas of the district died till now. Of them, one was treated at Barisal Sher-e-Bangla Medical College Hospital and another at Patuakhali General Hospital, but no coronavirus death has been reported at Barguna General Hospital till Saturday.

The superintendent said according to World Health Organization (WHO), doctors, who are on the frontline fighting the virus, will be quarantined for 14 days after giving medical care to patients every seven days, but MK Azad cannot go into quarantine as he is the only doctor at the hospital who took training on coronavirus treatment.

Dr MK Azad expressed his gratitude to all the health workers including the civil surgeon in Barguna and the superintendent of the hospital in achieving such success.

He further said they are treating the coronavirus patients at the hospital following the guidelines of WHO.

Zakia Parveen Seema, a nurse of Barguna General Hospital, said she willingly came here to serve the coronavirus patients in the crisis time.

Barguna Civil Surgeon Humayun Khan Shaheen said efforts are being made to provide comparatively better service at Barguna General Hospital. However, there are some problems including lack of ICU and central oxygen supply, which are now very essential for coronavirus patients.

A total of 154 people have been infected with Covid-19 in Barguna till Saturday, he said.



A Covid-19 patient undergoing treatment at Barguna General Hospital.

PHOTO: SOHRAB HOSSAIN

Kite flying gets back life

Students take to the pastime as schools closed during Covid-19 pandemic



A variety of kites fly in a rural area of Mymensingh Sadar upazila as people take to the traditional sport as a pastime during the closure of various activities amid the spread of Covid-19.

PHOTO: STAR

MD AMINUL ISLAM, Mymensingh

Famboyant kites of different shapes and colours are seen flying in the sky especially in rural areas as children have enough time for the traditional pastime during the closure of schools amid the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic.

"I used to fly kite as recreation during my childhood days but as pressure of study mounted, I left it a couple of years ago," said Asif Ahmed, a ninth grader of Char Gobindapur village in Mymensingh Sadar upazila.

"Now we have got the opportunity to fly kites again as there is enough leisure time due to closure of the educational institutions during coronavirus pandemic," said the boy. Familiar local names of kites include tilenga, chilghuri, saapghuri, dulghuri, and changaghuri, duarghuri, etc.

Of them, large sized kites like dulghuri, changaghuri and duarghuri are flown especially at night with

small electric lights, which adds to amusement for the rural people, said Parvez Mia, a boy of the same village.

"We get small colour lights connected with mobile battery and set these with the large kites," he said.

Rejwan Islam, an honours first year student at Government Ananda Mohan College, said he almost forgot kite flying as he gradually moved to higher classes that required spending more time for study.

Rejwan, hailing from Melandah upazila of Jamalpur, said he can make kites of at least five shapes.

This correspondent found some youths making kites in Mymensingh city's Mityunjoy School Road area.

One of them, Amol Basak said, "We had passion for kite flying in childhood. Now we are making kites for merriment with local children as a way to spend free time during the coronavirus pandemic. We also make kites for sale as many people come to the area to buy it for their children."

Many youths and adults are also

seen flying kites as the shopping centres are closed down at 4:00pm and there is leisure in the afternoon, said Alok Pal Chowdhury, a cosmetic trader in the city.

"As the classes at educational institutions are off, the students have enough time to enjoy in nature. The scene of children's movement with kites in the open field of the village reminds us of our childhood days," said advocate Johirul Huq, now staying at his village home in Mymensingh Sadar upazila.

Excessive pressure of study often keeps the children away from many traditional recreations like kite flying but they are doing it now in a relaxed mood, he said.

"Due to the spread of coronavirus, many families have returned to their village home and the children are enjoying kite flying. Such decent entertainment is part of our traditional culture," said Shahadat Hossain Khan Hilu, secretary of Bahurupi Natya Sangstha.

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Request for Expression of Interest (EOI)

1	Ministry/Division:	Information and Communication Technology Division
2	Agency:	Bangladesh Computer Council
3	Procuring Entity Name:	Development of National ICT Infra-Network for Bangladesh Government Phase-III (Info-Sarker Phase-3) Project.
4	Procuring Entity Code:	N/A
5	Procuring Entity District:	Dhaka
6	EOI for Selection of:	Individual Consultant (Time-based).
7	EOI Ref No.:	99.01.0009.027.007.004.17-1319(1)
8	Date:	June 19, 2020

KEY INFORMATION

9	Procurement Method:	Individual Consultant
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FUNDING INFORMATION

10	Budget and Source of Funds:	GoB
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PARTICULAR INFORMATION

11	Project/Programme Code:	N/A
12	Project/Programme Name:	Development of National ICT Infra-Network for Bangladesh Government Phase-III (Info-Sarker Phase-3) Project
13	EOI Closing Date:	07-07-2020 at 4:00 PM

INFORMATION FOR APPLICANTS

14	Brief Description of Assignment:	(a) Network Specialist (Transmission) (Nos.2) Network Specialist (Transmission) will work under the project Director and Deputy Project Director for such task as he/she may be assigned but will be responsible for the following: Lead the team engaged in supervision of Site Survey, Network Design & Implementation works of the OSP & DWDM network. Assist the Project Director and Deputy Project Director related to startup management. He/she will be responsible for selection of startup proposal selection. Develop strategy the team to reach the goal of the project, communicate clear instructions to team members and manage the flow of day-to-day operation. Assist in monitoring and reviewing the progress of project activities according to the DPP. Ensure collection and compilation of project related data for preparing quarterly, annual and periodical progress reports for information to all concerned. Such other functions as may be assigned by higher authority. (b) Maintenance Engineer (Power) (Nos.1) Maintenance Engineer (Power) will work under the project Director and Deputy Project Director for such task as he/she may be assigned but will be responsible for the following: Lead the team engaged in supervision of site survey, design & implementation for setup of site power system. Assist the Project Director and Deputy Project Director related to startup management. He/she will be responsible for selection of startup proposal selection. Develop strategy the team to reach the goal of the project. Communicate clear instructions to team members and manage the flow of day-to-day operation. Assist in monitoring and reviewing the progress of project activities according to the DPP. Ensure collection and compilation of project related data for preparing quarterly, annual and periodical progress reports for information to all concerned. Such other functions as may be assigned by higher authority. (c) Junior Network Specialist (Transmission) (Nos. 2): Junior Network Specialist (Transmission) will work under the Deputy Project Director (Technical) & Network Specialist for such task as he/she may be assigned but will be responsible for the following: Lead the team engaged in monitor/inspection of Site Survey, Network Design & Implementation works of the OSP & DWDM network at division level. Communicate clear instructions to team members and manage the flow of day-to-day operation. Assist in monitoring and reviewing the progress of project activities according to the DPP. Ensure collection and compilation of project related data for preparing quarterly, annual and periodical progress reports for information to all concerned. Such other functions as may be assigned by higher authority.
15	Experience, Resources and Delivery Capacity Required:	(a) Network Specialist (Transmission) (Nos.2): Bachelor in Computer Science / EEE or equivalent; 10 years' experience in OSP & DWDM Network; International project accomplishments will have preference; Experience in similar position Info-Sarker Project will get preference; Experience may be relaxed in the case of highly qualified person or person with exceptional experience and meeting all other requirements. (b) Maintenance Engineer (Power) (Nos.1) Bachelor in Computer Science / EEE or equivalent; 07 years' experience in Network Infrastructure, DC power System; International project accomplishments will have preference; Experience in similar position Info-Sarker Project will get preference; Experience may be relaxed in the case of highly qualified person or person with exceptional experience and meeting all other requirements. (c) Junior Network Specialist (Transmission) (Nos. 2): Bachelor in Computer Science / EEE or equivalent; 07 years' experience in OSP & DWDM Network; International project accomplishments will have preference; Experience in similar position Info-Sarker Project will get preference; Experience may be relaxed in the case of highly qualified person or person with exceptional experience and meeting all other requirements. (details in Request for Application (RFA)).
16	Other Details:	Interested applicants may obtain further information from the Project Office from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM in any working day before the closing date. Applicants shall have to submit EOI with their CV and forwarding letter through e-mail or in sealed envelope labeled with Individual Consultant for the above-mentioned position under Development of National ICT Infra-Network for Bangladesh Government Phase-III (Info-Sarker Phase-3) Project to the address, mentioned in clause 20 and 21. The Standard Request for Application (RFA) may be collected from Info-Sarker Phase-3 Project Office or BCC website.
17	Association with foreign firm:	Not applicable

Ref No.	Phasing of Services	Location	Indicative Start Date	Indicative Completion Date
1	12 (six) Man Months	Info-Sarker Phase-3 Project, Bangladesh Computer Council, ICT Tower, Agargaon, Dhaka-1207, Bangladesh	July-2020	June 2021

PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS

19	Name of Official Inviting EOI:	Bikarna Kumar Ghosh
20	Designation of Official Inviting EOI:	Project Director, Development of National ICT Infra-Network for Bangladesh Government Phase-III (Info-Sarker Phase-3) Project.
21	Address of Official Inviting EOI:	Bangladesh Computer Council (BCC), ICT Tower, 11th Floor, Plot # E-14/K, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Agargaon, Dhaka-1207, Bangladesh
22	Contact Details of Official Inviting EOI:	Tel: +880 2-55006794, email: info@sarker3@bcc.gov.bd
23	The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject any/all EOI without assigning any reason whatsoever.	

GD-1018

Project Director
Info-Sarker Phase-3 Project