

Bright prospect for tea cultivation in Mymensingh region

Md AMINUL ISLAM

Mymensingh division is not a region known for tea cultivation, but researchers say that might soon change. In fact, Bangladesh Tea Board (BTB) has already initiated tea cultivation in the division.

According to BTB, the region has shown promise for tea farming after several experiments. Trial runs at hilly areas of the district have yielded positive results, said BTB sources.

The authorities are hopeful for a better future and are preparing to acquire land under a programme of Bangladesh Tea Research Institute (BTRI), said project director Dr Mohammad Shamim Al Mamun.

The official said they have identified several areas suitable for growing tea, while cultivated has begun in a few areas.

"Tea cultivation could see a boom in this region. We are thinking of establishing a tea board office in Mymensingh to support local farmers easily market their produce," said the project director.

Meanwhile, a team of BTRI, led by its director Dr Mohammad Ali, has visited Muktagacha area in Mymensingh; Jhenaigati and Sreebordi in Sherpur, and Ghatail upazila in Tangail recently. BTRI's senior scientific officers Dr Mohammad Masud Rana and assistant development officer Moniruzzaman Akanda accompanied them.

During the visit, they did soil-testing to evaluate tea-growing potential of the lands. They said their visits ended with a sense of optimism.

BTRI senior scientific officer (soil) Nayeem Mustafa Ali said both the soil and weather condition of the region is good for tea cultivation.

The BTB has started the initiative to produce more tea to meet the growing demand and if the cultivation target is met, tea production will increase enough to export alongside being marketed locally, according to BTRI director Dr Mohammad Ali.

Though a new development, plans for initiating tea farming in the area go back quite some time. The potentiality for tea cultivation in the country's northern and hilly areas of Mymensingh region was proposed in the Tea Policy formulated way back in 1984.

BTB later conducted a feasibility study in 2004, while a final study was conducted in 2019, said Dr Ali.

As of now, a total of 13,645 acres have been primarily selected for tea cultivation in Mymensingh region, while another 1,235 acres have been acquired under a five-year project of BTRI. A proposal has recently been submitted to the Ministry of Commerce for approval, the project director said.

PRODUCTION IS LIKELY TO INCREASE



Farmer Abul Hasim picks up buds from his tea plants in Muktagacha.

Initially, BTB will facilitate farmers to set up tea gardens on the selected land with necessary financial and technical support.

If the project is implemented smoothly, after five years of planting saplings, around 15 lakh kg ready-tea will be produced from Mymensingh region per year, said project director Dr Mohammad Shamim Al Mamun.

This will generate employment for over 2,000 people, the official said.

The official also hoped that a BTB office and a tea processing mill will be established by early next year, given the project proposal is approved shortly.

Tea cultivation on non-cultivable high lands is cheaper than traditional cultivation, and it more profitable, said the officials. A tea farmer can earn a profit of Tk two to three lakh from just one acre of land but the highest profit from cultivating traditional crops on the same land is around Tk 50,000 to one lakh, they said.

Tea farmer Abul Hashim, of Charipara village in Mymensingh's Muktagacha, said he started farming on 18-decimal of land about a one-and-a-half years ago.

Hashim said he has already started collecting tender leaves, albeit at a small scale.

"I am sharing my leaves with my friends and relatives, and getting their feedback on the produce," he farmer told this correspondent.

The 40-year-old also said most the people living in the hilly areas, including Muktagacha and Phulbaria, live below the poverty line. If tea cultivation is started in a large scale, it might help change their lives.

GRAFT CASE

Order on Mir Nasir's bail petition today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Appellate Division of the Supreme Court will deliver its order today on a bail petition of BNP leader and former state minister for civil aviation Mir Mohammad Nasiruddin in a corruption case in which he was sentenced to 13 years' imprisonment.

A four-member bench of the Appellate Division headed by Chief Justice Syed Mahmud Hossain yesterday fixed the date for passing the order after concluding hearing on the matter.

Lawyers AJ Mohammad Ali and Md Ruhul Quddus Kazal appeared for Mir Nasir while Khurshid Alam Khan argued for the Anti-Corruption Commission during virtual hearing on the petition.

On November 8, a Dhaka court sent Mir Nasir to jail on his surrender in the case.

He recently filed the petition, seeking bail in the case on health ground.

On October 27, his son Mir Mohammad Helaluddin was sent to jail after his surrender in the same case in which he was sentenced to three years' in jail.

On November 19 last year, the High Court upheld a lower court verdict that sentenced Mir Nasir to 13 years and his son to three years in jail in the case.

The court also ordered them to surrender before the trial court within three months after the court received the certified copy of its verdict.

COMMODORE RABBANI MURDER CASE

Convict Abu Naser Chy refused bail by apex court

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Appellate Division of the Supreme Court yesterday refused to grant bail to Abu Naser Chowdhury, a convict in the Commodore Ghulam Rabbani murder case.

Chamber judge of the Appellate Division Justice Hasan Foez Siddique passed the order after hearing a bail petition filed by Abu Naser.

The apex court judge, however, sent the petition to its full bench for hearing the matter on November 22.

Lawyer Nozrul Islam Chowdhury appeared for Abu Naser Chowdhury while Attorney General AM Amin Uddin represented the state.

Ghulam Rabbani, a former Korean Export Processing Zone (KEPZ) managing director and a former aide-de-camp of Bangabandhu, was shot in the throat by criminals at Muradpur in Chattogram on his way to the KEPZ on April 11, 2004.

Thirteen days later, Rabbani, who also had been a vital prosecution witness in both the Bangabandhu murder and the jail killing cases, succumbed to his injuries at

Bumrungrad Hospital in Bangkok.

Rabbani was reportedly killed following a conflict between him and a few of his colleagues at the KEPZ over his appointment as its MD, and termination of two employees of the KEPZ before and after his appointment.

Abu Naser and one Md Selim, two convicts of the case were sent to jail on their surrender before a Chattogram court on December 15, 2016.

Chattogram Speedy Trial Tribunal Judge Muhiithul Haque Enam Chowdhury passed the order after former general manager of KEPZ Abu Naser and Selim surrendered before the court.

They surrendered before the court following a High Court order that had directed four accused -- Abu Naser, its former chief security officer Humayun Kabir Chowdhury, Selim and Saiful Islam alias Bilal Saiful -- to surrender to the trial court.

Naser, Humayun and Selim have been sentenced to life term imprisonment and Saiful's acquittal has been cancelled by the HC on February 12, 2014.



Flatbed trucks are left on the side of the road in the capital's Kamalapur, near the inland container depot from where goods are transported using these vehicles. The encroachment is narrowing the road, with no apparent consequences for the violators.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

Rail Day

FROM PAGE 3

The incumbent government is giving priority on the rail sector, he said adding that he hoped they would be able to bring back the previous glory of railways.

Railways ministry Secretary Salim Reza, BR Additional Director General (operations) Mia Jahan, ADG (infrastructure) DN Majumder, among other, spoke at the programme with BR Director General Md Shamsuzzaman in the chair.

Earlier, Md Shamsuzzman took part in a programme at Kamalapur Railway Station to mark the day.

Coast Guard

FROM PAGE 3

She said Narayanganj dockyard and Khulna shipyard, now operating under Bangladesh Navy, are building two inshore patrol vessels, one floating crane, two tugboats and 16 boats. "Soon, these will be inducted into the coast guard fleet."

The PM mentioned that a dockyard is being prepared in Gajaria for the coast guard to increase its capacity of repairing and maintenance.

"Besides, initiatives have been taken to procure hovercraft, drone, and all-weather 3,500 metric-tonne vessel. We want to build the coast guard as a modern and time befitting force," she said.

Terming Bangladesh a land of natural calamities, she said people of the country have to live facing all these adversities. "We have to live with these [natural adversities], we have to put our attention towards saving the lives of people facing all the odds... we've to acquire that capability."

Hasina said the country has a vast ocean boarder, which can be utilised for the economic development. "The Bay of Bengal is very important; trade and commerce of many countries run through this area."

The premier mentioned that the government wants to ensure security in coastal districts and improve their economic condition.

"Keeping that in mind, we want to use our sea resources for our economic development. For that, we've declared the 'Blue Economy', we have taken a plan as to how we could use our ocean resources for the country," she said.

Director General of Bangladesh Coast Guard Rear Admiral M Ashrafur Haque also spoke at the programme from Coast Guard Berth, Patenga.

Another

FROM PAGE 3

Shajahan Khan blamed BNP-Jamaat men for the arson attack.

He said when the government is trying to restore economy hit hard by the Covid-19 pandemic, BNP-Jamaat alliance is trying to destabilise the situation. He demanded arrest and punishment of the perpetrators.

Shajahan Khan also demanded forming a special tribunal and punish the perpetrators responsible for killing 92 transport workers by petrol bomb and arson attack in between 2013 and 2015.

Federation's general secretary Osman Ali threatened to go for tougher movement if the government failed to arrest and punish the perpetrators of November 12 attacks.

Dhaka unit's convener Sadique Rahman Hiru presided over the programme.

IN LOVING MEMORY OF NANA BHAI

16 th November has always been special for us. Little did we know that things will not be the same anymore from this year. It is a first for us to not have you in our presence on your birthday. The pain of not having you beside us cannot be put into words. Your passing away is an irreparable loss for our family. You were a huge blessing for us. You had given your all and played each role with equal aplomb and here's to you - the loving husband, the doting father and grandfather, the patriot, the successful entrepreneur. You have touched countless hearts by your kindness and selflessness. The values instilled in your children and the legacy that you have left behind are laudable. You will always be remembered fondly for your exemplary contribution towards nation and family. You will be missed beyond measure. May Allah azza wa jal grant you the highest place in jannah. Aameen.

Bereaved Family Members.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Local Government Engineering Department
Office of the Upazila Engineer
Upazila: Baraigram, Dist: Natore
www.lged.gov.bd

শেখ হাসিনার মূলনীতি
গ্রাম শহরের উন্নতি

Memo No. 46.02.6915.000.16.002.20-৬৬১ Dated: ১৫/১১/২০

e-Tender Notice 06/2020-2021 (NOTM)

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of the below package (FY: 2020-21) for this Upazila.

Tender ID	Name of work	Last selling date & time	Proposal closing date & time	Proposal security submission date & time
1	2	3	5	4
TID-511673	Construction of additional classroom for Peobhag GPS under PEDP4 Baraigram Upazila, Dist: Natore	14-12-2020 17:00pm	15-12-2020 12:00am	15-12-2020 11:30am

These are an online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted.
To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required.
The fees for downloading the e-Tender documents from the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through any registered bank branches up to mentioned above.
Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@procure.gov.bd).

Md. Abdur Rahim
Upazila Engineer
Baraigram, Natore
Telle: 077723-65032
E-mail: ue.baraigram@lged.gov.bd

GD-1825

Bridges

FROM PAGE 3

by eliminating mismanagement in the projects," he said. To this end, a list of the projects taken by the ministry, city corporations and other organisations have been sought. All of them will be brought under the master plan, the minister said.

State Minister for Shipping Khalid Mahmud Chowdhury, Mayor of Dhaka South City Corporation Sheikh Fazle Noor Taposh, Mayor of Narayanganj City Corporation Nilina Hayat Ivy and Mayor of Gazipur City Corporation Jahangir Alam participated in the meeting.

Besides, senior secretary to LGD, secretary of Prime Minister's Office, chairman of National River Commission and chairman of BIWTA, among others, were present.

Stop sale

FROM PAGE 3

Petitioners also prayed to the HC to issue a rule asking respondents to show causes why their plan to sell arms and weapons to foreign buyers should not be declared illegal.

Secretaries to the ministries of defence, finance, libertarian war affairs and commerce have been mentioned as respondents in the required rule.

Md Shahinuzzaman, a lawyer for the petitioners, told The Daily Star the HC may hold hearing on the petition next week.

Islami Bank Bangladesh Limited

Based on Islamic Shari'ah

Operations Wing
Engineering Division

Procurement of Computer Hardware and Accessories Department
20, Dilkusha C/A (9th floor), Dhaka - 1000

Tender Notice

Sealed Tenders are hereby invited by Islami Bank Bangladesh Limited from reputed Manufacturers / Local Agents / Companies / Dealers / Distributors / Resellers to supply, installation and commissioning of Network Passive accessories for both Copper and Fiber system for Network Up-gradation at Data Center of Islami Bank Bangladesh Limited under the following terms and conditions:

The intending bidders have to apply in their letter head pad for purchasing tender document to supply, installation and commissioning of Network Passive accessories for both Copper and Fiber system for Network Up-gradation at Data Center of Islami Bank Bangladesh Limited. The tender document will be sold upon payment of **Tk.2,000/-** only in cash (non-refundable) **from 16.11.2020 to 26.11.2020** during office hours. Tender will be received at the office of the undersigned during office hours up to **3:00 PM on 29.11.2020** and Technical offer(s) will be opened virtually at **3:15 PM** on the same date in presence of the bidder(s) or their representatives (who may like to attend). Details information relating to the Tender are available at Bank's website: **www.islamibankbd.com** or in the form of hard copy at the office of the undersigned.

FAVP & Head of Department

বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংক

ব্যাংকার্স সিলেকশন কমিটি সচিবালয়
প্রধান কার্যালয়
ঢাকা

তারিখঃ ১১/১১/২০২০

বিজ্ঞপ্তি নং-১৫২/১০২০

রূপালী ব্যাংক লিমিটেড এ 'সিনিয়র অফিসার (ফিন্যান্সিয়াল এনালিস্ট)' পদে সরাসরি নিয়োগের উদ্দেশ্যে প্রার্থীদের MCQ Test এর সময়সূচি সংক্রান্ত বিজ্ঞপ্তি

ব্যাংকার্স সিলেকশন কমিটি সচিবালয়ের তত্ত্বাবধানে রূপালী ব্যাংক লিমিটেড এ 'সিনিয়র অফিসার (ফিন্যান্সিয়াল এনালিস্ট)' পদে সরাসরি নিয়োগের লক্ষ্যে Online-এ প্রাপ্ত আবেদনসমূহ যাচাইয়েতে যোগ্য বিবেচিত প্রার্থীদের ০১ ঘণ্টা ব্যাপী ১০০ নম্বরের MCQ Test আগামী ২০/১১/২০২০ তারিখ শুক্রবার সকাল ১০.০০টা থেকে ১১.০০টা পর্যন্ত নিম্নবর্ণিত ৩টি কেন্দ্রে অনুষ্ঠিত হবে।

ক্রমিক নং	কেন্দ্রের নাম	ঠিকানা	রোল নম্বর
০১.	খিলগাঁও মডেল কলেজ	খিলগাঁও চৌরাস্তা, ঢাকা-১২১৯	২০০০১-২৩৫৭৯
০২.	সেন্ট্রাল উইমেল কলেজ	১৩/২, অভয় দাস সেন, টিকাটুলি, ঢাকা-১২০৩	২৩৫৮০-২৬৫৭৯
০৩.	লালমতিয়া উচ্চ বিদ্যালয়	৯/১৫, বুক-ডি, লালমতিয়া, মোহাম্মদপুর, ঢাকা-১২০৭	২৬৫৮০-২৮৫৭৯

উক্ত পরীক্ষার প্রবেশপত্র বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংকের ওয়েবসাইট (<https://erecruitment.bb.org.bd>) এ ইতোমধ্যে আপলোড করা হয়েছে। প্রার্থীগণ পরীক্ষা শুরু করার অব্যবহিত পূর্ব পর্যন্ত উক্ত ওয়েবসাইটে হতে তাদের প্রবেশপত্র সংগ্রহ করতে পারবে। উল্লেখ্য, পরীক্ষার হলে প্রবেশের পূর্বে প্রয়োজনীয় চেকিং কার্যক্রম সম্পন্ন করার জন্য পরীক্ষা শুরুর কমপক্ষে ০১ (এক) ঘণ্টা পূর্বে পরীক্ষার্থীকে পরীক্ষা কেন্দ্রে উপস্থিত হতে হবে এবং সামাজিক দূরত্ব মেনে সারিবদ্ধভাবে কেন্দ্রের অভ্যন্তরে প্রবেশ করতে হবে। প্রবেশপত্র ব্যতিরেকে কোনো প্রার্থীকে পরীক্ষায় অংশগ্রহণ করতে দেয়া হবে না। পরীক্ষার্থীদেরকে পরীক্ষার হলে মোবাইল ফোন, ক্যালকুলেটর, স্মার্ট ওয়াচ, প্রবেশপত্রের একাধিক কপি বা অন্য কোন ইলেকট্রনিক ডিভাইস নিয়ে প্রবেশ না করতে নির্দেশনা দেয়া যাচ্ছে। মাশ্ব পরীক্ষার ব্যতিরেকে কোন প্রার্থীকে পরীক্ষা কেন্দ্রে প্রবেশ করতে দেয়া হবে না।

ডিসিপিঃ ৪৮/২০২০-০২৯০
তারিখঃ ১৫/১১/২০২০

ব্যক্তিগ ও আর্থিক সেবা পেতে হয়রানির শিকার হলে কিংবা কোনো অভিযোগ থাকলে ১৬২৩৬ নম্বরে ফোন করুন।

স্বাক্ষরিত/-
আরিফ হোসেন খান
মহাব্যবস্থাপক, বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংক
ও
সদস্য-সচিব, বিএসসি

জিডি-১৮২৭