



A flower nursery, in Alonkarkathi village of Pirojpur's Nesarabad upazila, wears a deserted look without buyers. The photo was taken recently.

PHOTO: TITU DAS

COVID-19 FALLOUT

Nesarabad flower nurseries counting heavy losses

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

Thousands of flower nursery owners in Swarupkathi union of Pirojpur's Nesarabad upazila, considered the nursery hub of Barisal division, are struggling to survive amid waning sales due to Covid-19 pandemic.

With educational institutions closed since March, the owners fear that at least a third of their flower saplings will go unsold.

It will be a devastating blow to the industry if they are unable to sell the saplings during this peak season -- between October and February, the nursery owners added.

There are about 2,000 nurseries, set up on 440 hectares of land, in Pirojpur's Nesarabad upazila, where at least eight thousand people depend on the nurseries for their livelihood.

According to the Department of Agricultural Extension (DAE) in Banaripara upazila of Barisal, livelihoods of at least 200 workers depend on 68 registered nurseries, set up on 32 hectares of land in the upazila.

Chapal Krishna Debnath, agriculture officer of DAE in

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in the sector, with a market size of around Tk 150 crore, the DAE official added.

Sajjad Ullah, owner of Shanta Nursery in Swarupkathi, said he usually sells at least 10 thousand flower saplings each month, but his sales plummeted to seven thousand saplings a month now, when all educational institutions remain closed due to the pandemic.

The sale of flower saplings will be at least 30 percent lower this season, he anticipated.

Salam Hawladar, owner of Adarsha Nursery in Alonkarkathi village in the upazila, said he prepared about one lakh flower saplings for this season, but the sale so far has been poor.

The main challenge now is to support 10 workers at the nursery, he added.

Another nursery owner, Abul Hasnat, said he took a total of Tk 5 lakh loan from a bank and a cooperative for his nursery.

Worrying about how he would repay the loan with such poor sales, he urged the government to offer financial assistance for nursery businesses affected by the pandemic.

Nesarabad, said in Swarupkathi union, there is a nursery in almost every house.

Fruit and timber saplings sell well during summer and monsoon months, but flower saplings sell only during their flowering season -- from October to February.

Flower saplings from nurseries in Swarupkathi are sold across the country during the five months and about eight to ten thousand people are directly or indirectly involved

Ferry services resume after 11 hours

A CORRESPONDENT, Munshiganj

Ferry services on Shimulia-Banglabazar route resumed yesterday noon after 11 and a half hours of disruption since Monday midnight due to poor visibility and dense fog.

The ferry operation began around 11:30am, Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Corporation (BIWTC) Assistant General Manager Shafiqul Islam said, adding that currently 13 ferries are plying the route.

Man to die for killing wife

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pirojpur

A court here yesterday sentenced a man to death in connection with a case for killing his wife for dowry in Mathbaria upazila in 20414.

The convict, Halim Dhali, 44, was tried in absentia.

Judge Mizanur Rahman also fined the convict TK 1 lakh.

Poachers active as migratory birds arrive in Narail

They catch around 400 birds every day and sell them in different areas

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bagerhat

With the beginning of winter, hundreds of migratory birds have started coming to Narail district from different parts of the country.

Like every year, the birds are seen flying and frolicking in the water of the beels. But the biggest disappointment is that bird hunting is rampant in the water bodies of the district.

Poachers are hunting birds from the beels and taking the birds to the markets and nearby villages for sale, said locals.

Unabated hunting and selling of migratory birds in the district are posing a serious threat to nature and biodiversity, they said.

The poachers have set up traps in the middle of Pateshri Beel in Kalia upazila of the district to catch the birds. The hunters catch around 400 birds from the beel every day and then sell them in different areas.

The poachers played the recorded song

of the bird species in the beel. Hearing the chirping, the birds started coming to the traps placed in the beel.

At midnight, the birds get stuck in the traps when the hunters chase the birds, said villagers, adding that thus, the poachers catch the migratory birds.

Wishing anonymity, a poacher said they were catching birds in the Pateshri Beel by setting up traps. Local people bought the birds from them.

Contacted, Kalia Upazila Nirbahi Officer (UNO) Md Nazmul Huda said they came to know that such illegal bird hunting was going on. They have already asked the law enforcers for conducting drives there.

He has recently fined some bird hunters Tk 10,000, said the UNO, adding that they will stop the bird hunting at any cost.

Narail Deputy Commissioner Anjuman Ara said the executive magistrates are conducting mobile courts to stop it.



Poachers set nets in the Pateshri Beel of Narail's Kalia upazila to trap birds.

PHOTO: STAR



Local people form a human chain and blocked the Tangail-Jamalpur highway in Porabari Bus Stand area for an hour yesterday, protesting the corruption of Ghatail municipality Mayor Shahiduzzaman Khan.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
EDUCATION ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT
MANIKGANJ

e-Tender Notice (Open Tendering Method (OTM))

Memo No.-EED-Manikganj-ICT College/soil Test-2020-21/12 Date: 07-12-2020

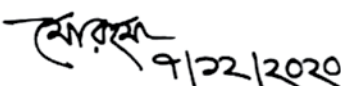
e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for following procurement of the following works:

SL No.	Tender ID	Name of works	Last date and time of selling documents	Tender Closing Date/Time	Tender Opening Date/Time
01	513863	Soil Test for Construction of Academic Building at Satoria Syed Kalu Shah Degree College, SatoriaUpazilla, Manikganj District.	29-Dec-2020 16:00 PM	30-Dec.-2020 13:00 AM	30-Dec.-2020 13:00 AM

This is 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 System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required.

The fees for downloading the e-Tender Documents from the National e-GP Portal have to be deposited online through any registered Banks branches up to 16.00 PM. on 29-Dec-2020.

Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).


(M. Mustafizur Rahman)
 Executive Engineer
 Education Engineering Department
 Manikganj.

GD-1957

The Security Printing Corporation (Bangladesh) Ltd.
Gazipur
Website: www.spcbd.org.bd

Local/International e-Tender

Electronic tenders (e-Tenders) are hereby invited from the competent local/international manufacturers/suppliers for supply of the following items for this Corporation as per under noted schedule. e-Tender documents showing terms and conditions with specifications will be available at web: etender.spcbd.org.bd/114.130.43.56. It is to mention here that this is online tender where only e-Tender will be accepted and no hard copy will be accepted except price of e-Tender schedule and earnest money. To submit e-Tender bidders need to register on etender.spcbd.org.bd/114.130.43.56. For more details, please contact cell: 880-1534002183 & 880-1534002184. Necessary information is given below:

Sl. No.	Names of the items	Nature of e-Tender	Date of publishing e-Tender	Last date and time for submission of e-Tender	Date & time for opening of e-Tender	Value/set of e-Tender schedule (non-refundable)
1.	Supply of 500 reams CBS-1 Paper for Printing MICR Cheque.	International Re-e-Tender	09.12.2020	13.01.2021 up to 11.00am	13.01.2021 at 11.15am	Tk 1000.00
2.	Supply of 500 pcs. Blankets for Super Intaglio & Super Orlof Intaglio Printing Machine	Local/International e-Tender	09.12.2020	13.01.2021 up to 11.00am	13.01.2021 at 11.15am	Tk 400.00

Bidder may collect e-Tender schedule from the aforementioned website. Earnest money @ 3% (three percent) of the total quoted price shall have to be submitted in the form of Bank Draft/Pay Order/irrevocable Bank Guarantee from any scheduled bank in Bangladesh in favour of The Managing Director, The Security Printing Corporation (Bangladesh) Ltd., Gazipur along with the price of e-Tender schedule in the form of a separate Pay-Order/DD in the tender box kept at Corporation's office in Gazipur on or before the scheduled deadline for submission of e-Tender. In the case of international tender, Irrevocable Bank Guarantee may also be given as earnest money from any international commercial bank abroad with a counter guarantee from any scheduled bank in Bangladesh. e-Tender(s) without earnest money and price for procurement of e-Tender schedule shall not be acceptable. The e-Tender shall have to be submitted as per e-Tender guidelines mentioned at the above website. Offer(s) will be opened as per schedule mentioned above in presence of the tenderer(s) if any. 01 (one) e-Tender schedule is applicable only for one supplier/manufacturer for submitting one offer along with earnest money and price of e-Tender schedule. The authority reserves the right to reject or accept any e-Tender(s) without assigning any reason whatsoever. Submission of e-Tender after the specified time shall not be acceptable under any circumstances.

Rashid Ahmed
 General Manager (Foreign Purchase)
 Phone: 88-02-9205103

GD-1953