

LED lights revolutionize chrysanthemum cultivation

SHYKH SERAJ

Flower business was expanding in Bangladesh with immense potential. Flowers were becoming more occasional and ornamental product nowadays. We can't just call it a luxury item now while farmers also saw the benefits of flowers cultivation. But amid the COVID-19 outbreak, a vivid shock has altered everything in the trade. Not only Bangladesh but the Netherlands, which is famous for flower cultivation, and China are also facing threat regarding the flower business. When the entire world is facing a tough time, Bangladeshi flower growers are trying their best to fill their fields with flowers. Yes, they certainly have gone through some terrible times and suffered horrible losses but, gradually they are turning around. I still remember the tears of the couple, Delwar and Shelley of Gazipur's Sreepur upazila, who have planted tulips for the first time in Bangladesh, and even after a great start their business faced severity due to outbreak of the corona virus. They also urged the government to stand beside the flower growers across the nation, because this truly is a promising sector.

I travelled across the flower regions of the country this month, because, at this time of the year, they remain busy with the charm that they would make a lot of money by selling flowers in different occasions, both national and social.

Dear readers, you would probably know that floriculture has spread in the south-western regions of the country. Here, the flower business has occupied a large portion of farming business. The images of socio-economic change we are witnessing around flower cultivation in Jashore's Godkhali are a great hope for the whole country, as I have mentioned in my articles and TV programmes over and over again. I remember the year 2005. From Kaliganj in Jhenaidah, a special programme on floriculture was aired on Hridoye Mati O Manush (Soil & People in Heart) in Channel i; the image of successful

commercial expansion of floriculture was well portrayed, which was later followed by many other flower lovers.

After 15 years, the development went on to a higher platform that multifaceted expansion of commercial and modern floriculture. I must remind you that flower is treated in Maheshpur as a cash crop like I precisely witnessed in Godkhali and young farmers have taken the trade as a challenge. Among all the flowers, Chandramallika (Chrysanthemum) has attracted most of the farmers in Shyampur village in Jhenaidah's Maheshpur.

I went to Shyampur a few days back. I could see different crops on the foggy fields. As I was entering the village, I met Jasim Mallick, a young farmer. He used to cultivate vegetables five years back but looking at greater opportunities he is now cultivating flowers.

Chandramallika is being cultivated on 20 decimals of land. Each flowering plant produces around 100 flowers in one season. The price of each flower is BDT 2.5 to 5 (USD 0.04 to 0.06). This year, the total production cost has been Tk 1,50,000 (USD 1770) and Jasim sold flowers worth Tk 1,85,000 (USD 2182). Jasim said the market is a bit

And the use of LED lighting in the open field means one more step forward and the strategy is to increase the length of the day when the light is on at night. Comfort Composite, a garment factory in Tangail's Mirzapur, took the initiative to produce dragon fruit in the same manner after seeing my documentary and the farmers in Shyampur are also applying the same strategy.

Ismail Hossain, another young farmer of the village, is cultivating chrysanthemum on his 27 decimals of land. He said by lighting the LEDs, the flower plants grow fast and bloom fast as well. And the size and colour of the flower become more beautiful. The first commercial flower farming in the area brought a message of incredible profit. Farmers in Shyampur are still cultivating marigolds. Talking to another young farmer Nazmul Hossain, I learned that he has been cultivating different varieties of flowers for the last 12 years alongside Chandramallika. In the meantime, many farmers of this region have started getting involved in chrysanthemum cultivation. Farmers said they require less fertilizer, which is another great aspect of using LED



Shykh Seraj talks with Jasim Mallick, a young flower grower from Shyampur village in Jhenaidah's Maheshpur upazila, at his Chandramallika field.

PHOTO: HRIDOYE MATI O MANUSH

down due to the outbreak of corona, but still he could make a profit of Tk 35,000 (USD 413). As you already know that Jashore is in number one position as a flower growing district, while Jhenaidah is growing stronger every day. It is a good news that flower cultivation has spread in many districts across the country. Additionally, farmers are very consciously applying modern technology and techniques at every step of their flower cultivation.

You may have seen on one of the episodes of Hridoye Mati O Manush, where I showed a story of using LED lights at a dragon fruit farm located at Xinxing, Guangdong Province in China. I was at that farm for about three hours to see how the LED lights work after the sun is set. Across the world, I have seen many such technologies, especially used in the indoors. In Pasona II in Japan, and in GreenQ, in the Netherlands, such companies have taken control of the photosynthesis process of plants using LED lighting in a completely controlled environment.

lights. These are some technological advances which are quite promising even during this bad days of coronavirus pandemic. I also talked with Sub-Assistant Agriculture Officer (SAAO) Rabiul Kabir Pallab, who is working at the field level, and he said farmers need training on modern farming technologies so that they can become more skilled.

Dear readers, farmers now work in the farming sector with extraordinary intelligence and interest. Whenever they find something new, they tend to apply it to their fields. This was quite evident in the case of these young chrysanthemum growers of Shyampur. The field officials need to communicate the farmers and learn more about the global technologies which might help flower farmers even further. Moreover, I truly expect that this farmer-friendly government would stand by the side of the flower growers of the country who fought like heroes during the COVID-19 outbreak.

Shykh Seraj is Bangladesh's pioneer development journalist. He received country's two highest civilian honours, Swadhina Puroshkar and Ekushey Padak, respectively. He is a BIDS, Ashoka and Bangla Academy Fellow. He also received highest award for agricultural journalism from the United Nations, FAO A.H. Boerma Award, Gusi Peace Prize (Philippines) and many other prestigious accolades at home and abroad. At Channel i, he's the Founder Director and Head of News. He's also Director and Host of Channel i's popular agro-documentary, Hridoye Mati O Manush.



Sugar mill workers observe strike

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bogura

Employees and workers of Rangpur Sugar Mill and sugarcane growers in Mahimaganj of Gaibandha's Gobindaganj upazila observed a half-day work abstention yesterday, demanding immediate reopening of the mill.

About 700 workers and employees of the mill along with a few thousand local sugarcane growers observed several protests programmes since December 2, protesting the government's decision to stop production at six state-owned sugar mills in the name of renovation.

As part of their programme, angry protesters brought out a rally and staged demonstrations in the mill area since 6:00am that continued till 12:00noon.

All the shops, business establishments and government and non-government offices remain closed during the shutdown. During their demonstration, the protesters also barricaded the rail tracks at Mahimaganj Rail Station for nearly two hours from 10:00am.

They also urged the government to resume production at the mill so that they can survive with their families.

Rangpur Sugar Mill Workers' Union President Abu Sufian said over 500 workers are not getting their salaries for the last five months.

| গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার | |
|--|---|
| বাংলাদেশ পুলিশ অধিনায়কের কার্যালয় র‍্যাপিড গ্র‍্যাকশন ব্য‍্যাটালিয়ন-৩ টিকাটুলি, ঢাকা | |
| স্মারক নং ৩৯১৯/এমটি/৩ | তারিখ: পৌষ ১৪২৭ বঙ্গাব্দ ডিসেম্বর ২০২০ খ্রিষ্টাব্দ |
| উন্মুক্ত যানবাহন নিলাম বিজ্ঞপ্তি | |
| র‍্যাব ফোর্সেস সদর দপ্তর স্মারক নং-৩৩০/৪১/অকেজে/যানবাহন/অপারেশন/১৮৩ তারিখ ১০ ডিসেম্বর ২০২০ মূলে আগামী ১৮ জানুয়ারি ২০২১ তারিখ রোজ সোমবার র‍্যাপিড গ্র‍্যাকশন ব্য‍্যাটালিয়ন-৩ (র‍্যাব-৩), টিকাটুলি, ঢাকা হতে নিশান পিকআপ ০২টি, মিস্‌সুবিসি এল ৩০০ মাইক্রোবাস ০১টি, নিশান সানি কার ০১টি, হিরো হোভা প্যাশপাস মোটরসাইকেল ০২টি, জনসন মোটরসাইকেল ০৫টি, ১২৫সিসি হিরো মোটরসাইকেল ০১টি, ৫০সিসি সিবি হোভা ০৩টি প্রকাশ্য নিলামের মাধ্যমে বিক্রয় করা হবে। নিলামের শর্তসমূহ নিম্নরূপঃ | |
| ১. মন্ত্রণালয়/বিভাগ | স্বরাষ্ট্র মন্ত্রণালয়, বাংলাদেশ পুলিশ। |
| ২. নিলামকারী প্রতিষ্ঠানের নাম | অধিনায়কের কার্যালয়, র‍্যাপিড গ্র‍্যাকশন ব্য‍্যাটালিয়ন-৩, টিকাটুলি, ঢাকা। |
| ৩. সংগ্রাহক সত্তা | অধিনায়ক, র‍্যাপিড গ্র‍্যাকশন ব্য‍্যাটালিয়ন-৩, টিকাটুলি, ঢাকা। |
| ৪. দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি স্মারক নং ও তারিখ | স্মারক নং ৩৯১৯/এমটি/৩/তারিখ: ২৫ ডিসেম্বর ২০২০। |
| ৫. বিষয় | পিকআপ ০২টি, মাইক্রোবাস ০১টি, প্রাইভেট কার ০১টি, মটরসাইকেল ১১টি প্রকাশ্য নিলাম। |
| ৬. জামানত/ব্যাংক ড্র‍্যাফট | অধিনায়ক, র‍্যাপিড গ্র‍্যাকশন ব্য‍্যাটালিয়ন-৩, টিকাটুলি, ঢাকা বরাবর ১০,০০০/- (দশ হাজার) টাকার ব্যাংক ড্র‍্যাফট (ফেরতযোগ্য) জমা প্রদান সাপেক্ষে নিলামে অংশগ্রহণ করা যাবে। |
| ৭. দরপত্র তফসিলের (সিডিউল) মূল্য এবং দরপত্র বিক্রয়ের সময়সীমা | দরপত্র তফসিলের মূল্য ১০০০/- (এক হাজার) টাকা (অফেরতযোগ্য) র‍্যাব-৩, টিকাটুলি, ঢাকা এমটি শাখা হতে আগামী ২৫ ডিসেম্বর ২০২০ হতে ১৪ জানুয়ারি ২০২১ তারিখ পর্যন্ত অফিস চলাকালীন সময় সিডিউল ক্রয় করা যাবে। |
| ৮. জামানত/ব্যাংক ড্র‍্যাফট জমা/গ্রহণ এবং দরপত্র খোলার তারিখ সময় | আগামী ১৮ জানুয়ারি ২০২১ তারিখ সময় ১২:০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত ব্য‍্যাটালিয়ন সদরে গ্রহণ করা হবে এবং ঐ দিনই ১২:৩০ ঘটিকায় দরপত্র খোলা হবে। |
| ৯. দরপত্র মূল্যায়ন (টিইসি) এর তারিখ ও সময় | ২১ জানুয়ারি ২০২১ (১২:৩০ ঘটিকা)। |
| ১০. নিলামযোগ্য মালামাল প্রদর্শন | নিলামযোগ্য মালামাল প্রদর্শনপূর্বক ব্যাংক ড্র‍্যাফট করা যাবে। |
| ১১. নিলাম মূল্য | বিআরটিএ কর্তৃক নির্ধারিত মূল্যের অধিক মূল্য ব্য‍্যাতিত মালামাল নিলামযোগ্য হবে না। |
| ১২. অন্যান্য শর্ত | i. দি পাবলিক প্রকিউরমেন্ট বিধি ২০০৮ ও সংশোধনী ২০১০ মোতাবেক নিলাম কার্য পরিচালিত হবে। ii. সর্বোচ্চ দরদাতার নিকট নিলামকৃত দ্রব্যাদি হস্তান্তর করা হবে। সরকারি বিধি মোতাবেক ক্রেতা ৭.৫% ভ্যাট এবং ৫% আয়কর পরিশোধকরতঃ নিলামযোগ্য মালামাল সংগ্রহ করতে পারবেন। iii. নিলামের দিন হতে সর্বোচ্চ ০৭ (সাত) দিনের মধ্যে নিলামকৃত মালামাল সংগ্রহ করতে হবে। iv. কর্তৃপক্ষ কোন কারণ দর্শানো ব্য‍্যতিরেকে নিলামের সকল কার্যক্রম বাতিল করার ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করেন। |
| র‍্যাবুল হাসান, পিএসসি লেঃ কর্নেল পরিচালক র‍্যাব-৩, ঢাকা ফোনঃ ৯৫১৪৩৩১ | |

GD-2065



Forty-eight-year-old Gen Bala Boshya of Purba Basuli village is among the 410 landless beneficiaries in Dinajpur's Khansama upazila who is going to receive a brick-built house as a gift from Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. The construction of the houses for the landless ultra-poor families started in November this year and expected to be completed by January next year.

PHOTO: STAR

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Directorate General of Family Planning

Logistics & Supply Unit

6, Kawran Bazar, Dhaka-1215

Invitation for Re-Tender (Goods)

ছেলে হোক, মেয়ে হোক
দুটি সন্তানই যথেষ্ট

Memo No. DGFP/L&S-3/Implant (2 Stick)/2020-21/123/159

Date: 24/12/2020

| | | |
|---------------------------------|---|--|
| 1 | Ministry/Division | Medical Education & Family Welfare Division |
| 2 | Agency | Directorate General of Family Planning |
| 3 | Procuring Entity Name | Director (Logistics and Supply) and Line Director (Procurement, Storage and Supply Management) |
| 4 | Procuring Entity Code | Not used at present |
| 5 | Procuring Entity District | Dhaka |
| 6 | Invitation for | Procurement of 3,00,000 Sets Implant (2 Stick) |
| 7 | Invitation Ref No | DGFP/L&S-3/Implant (2 Stick)/2020-21/123/159 |
| 8 | Date | 24/12/2020 |
| KEY INFORMATION | | |
| 9 | Procurement Method | Open Tender Method (ICT) |
| FUNDING INFORMATION | | |
| 10 | Budget and Source of Funds | RPA (GOB) and GOB (Dev.) |
| 11 | Development Partner (if applicable) | International Development Association (IDA) |
| PARTICULAR INFORMATION | | |
| 12 | Project/ Programme Code (if applicable) | - |
| 13 | Project/ Programme Name (if applicable) | 4 th Health, Population & Nutrition Sector Programme (HPNSP) |
| 14 | Tender Package No. | CC/GD-35 |
| 15 | Tender Package Name | Procurement of 300000 Sets Implant (2 Stick) |
| | Date | |
| 16 | Tender Publication Date | 24/12/2020 |
| 17 | Tender Last Selling Date | 27/01/2021 |
| | Date | Time |
| 18 | Tender Closing Date and Time | 28/01/2021 12:00 PM |
| 19 | Tender Opening Date and Time | 28/01/2021 12:15 PM. |
| 20 | Name & Address of the Office(s) | Address |
| | -Selling Tender Document (Principal) | Office of the Director (Logistics and Supply) and Line Director (Procurement, Storage and Supply Management), Logistics & Supply Unit (5 th floor), Directorate General of Family Planning, 6, Kawran Bazar, Dhaka-1215 |
| | Selling Tender Document (Others) | Office of the Additional Director (Drugs & Stores) Central Warehouse, Directorate General of Family Planning, Nandipara (Uttargaon) Trimohoni, Union-Nasirabad, Thana- Khilgaon, Dhaka, Bangladesh |
| | Receiving Tender Document | Conference Room of the Director (Logistics & Supply) Logistics & Supply Unit (5th Floor), Directorate General of Family Planning, 6, Kawran Bazar, Dhaka-1215. |
| | Opening Tender Document | Directorate General of Family Planning, 6, Kawran Bazar, Dhaka-1215. |
| 21 | Place/Date/Time of Pre-Tender Meeting | Pre-Tender meeting shall be held at the Conference Room, Room No. 15, Logistics & Supply unit, Directorate General of Family Planning, 6, Kawran bazar, Dhaka-1215 Date: 06/01/2021 & Time: 11.00 AM. |
| INFORMATION FOR TENDERER | | |
| 22 | Eligibility of Tenderer | As mentioned in the tender document |
| 23 | Brief Description of Goods | Procurement of 300000 Sets Implant (2 Stick) |
| 24 | Brief Description of Related Services | Not Applicable |
| 25 | Price of Tender Document (Tk.) | Taka 8000/- (Taka Eight thousand) only, non-refundable. Mode of payment should be made by Treasury Chalan from Bangladesh Bank/ Somali Bank Code no: 1-7481-0000-2366 in favor of Director General, Directorate General of Family Planning, 6, Karwan Bazar, Dhaka-1215. Original copy of the Treasury Chalan must be online verification/certified (CTR) by the concerned accounts' office. |
| 26 | Lot/ Item No. | Single |
| | Identific ation of items | 300000 Sets Implant (2 Stick) |
| | Location | Central Warehouse (rented), Family Planning, Nondipara (Uttargaon) Trimohoni, Union-Nasirabad, Thana- Khilgaon, Dhaka. |
| | Tender Security Amount | BDT 45,00,000.00 (Taka Forty Five Lakh) or USD 53,000.00 (Fifty Three Thousand US Dollar) |
| | Completion Time in Weeks/Months | Delivery of the entire quantity of goods shall have to be completed within 16 weeks from the date of opening of the Letter of Credit (L/C) for goods to be supplied from abroad or from the date of signing of the contract for goods to be supplied from within Bangladesh. |
| PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS | | |
| 27 | Name of Official Inviting Tender | Ratna Talukder |
| 28 | Designation of Official Inviting Tender | Director (Logistics and Supply) and Line Director (Procurement, Storage and Supply Management) |
| 29 | Address of Official Inviting Tender | Logistics & Supply Unit (5 th floor), Directorate General of Family Planning 6, Kawran Bazar, Dhaka-1215. |
| 30 | Contact details of Official Inviting Tender | Tel. & Fax No: 88-02- 55012349 E-mail: dirsdgfp@gmail.com |
| 31 | The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all tenders. | |

GD-2058

২৪/১২/২০২০
(Ratna Talukder)
Director (Logistics and Supply) &
Line Director (PSSM-FP)
Directorate General of Family Planning
Phone: 55012349