

Amon yield falls short of target by 3,000 tonnes in Pabna

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

Production of Amon paddy in Pabna this year has been estimated at around 13,000 tonnes less than the target.

The yield would be around 1.10 lakh tonnes against the target of 1.23,370 metric tonnes, sources in Agriculture Extension Department (AED) said.

The Amon yield in the just concluded season 22,000 tonnes less than last year's production, the AED officials told this correspondent.

Despite increase in the area under Amon cultivation this year, the yield decreased mainly due to successive floods and less use of fertilizer caused by its lesser supply in the district, they said. To recover the crop loss in Amon season, farmers are now all out to go for Irri-Boro cultivation, but that also will not be easy due to shortfall of fertilizer, officials and farmers said.

DAE officials said they fixed a target to bring about 46,555 hect-

ares under Amon cultivation to produce 1,23,370 tonnes of paddy. But farmers exceeded the target, covering around 47,179 hectares this year before the first onslaught of flood.

The two consecutive floods damaged at least 9,000 hectares of Amon fields. After the first flood receded, Amon seedlings were transplanted in most lands, barring worst affected 880 hectares as water remained stagnant on those. After the floods, a total of 46,300 hectares were brought under Amon cultivation but it was late, the officials said.

Amon harvest is almost over and now farmers are preparing lands for Irri-Boro, they said.

Last year, Amon was cultivated on 46,555 hectares in the district and the yield was over 1,32,550 tonnes. Officials said last year's yield was about 2.84 tonnes per hectare, which was far less this year.

The average yield per hectare was around two tonnes this year.

"The two consecutive floods damaged Amon crops this year.

When we restored fields after the first flood, the second spell of flooding began", said Abdul Jalil Bishwas of Malanchi village in Pabna Sadar upazila.

"After recession of floodwater we did not get sufficient fertilizer that causes the fall in production," he said.

"I got 4-5 maunds from each bigha this year against 9-10 maunds last year", the farmer said.

"The floods caused havoc to Amon crop in the district this year", said Pabna AED deputy director Md. Akhtarul Afgan.

AED sources said a target has been fixed to bring 64,700 hectares under Irri-Boro cultivation this year to produce 2.55 lakh tones of paddy.

The officials said they apprehend short supply of fertilizer during the Rabi season. At least 41,000 tonnes will be needed in the district but we have supply of 35,000 tonnes, said an official. "We have asked for more 6,000 tonnes", he said.

It forces monitor rice markets in Khulna

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Joint forces Friday evening started investigation in rice wholesale markets in Khulna and Daulatdia and talked with traders and wholesalers about rise in rice prices.

There are allegations that a section of wholesalers and rice mill owners have created an artificial crisis by hoarding to raise the prices.

On Friday night, joint forces visited some rice godowns in the city and at Daulatpur and found huge stocks of rice there.

It is learnt from sources in Khulna Metropolitan Police that most of godown owners in the city including ten in Daulatpur have gone into hiding keeping their godowns under lock and key hearing joint forces' operation.

There has so far been no indication of decline in rice prices in Khulna.

Retailers of Khulna kitchen markets accused importers, godown owners and rice mill owners of hoarding huge quantities of rice and paddy at secret places in Khulna also in their own godowns in northern districts.

Some retailers on condition of anonymity expressed their inability to decrease prices under pressure, saying they bought rice at Tk 30 per kg only a week back. "We can not incur loss after investing huge money in the business", one retailer said.

Commanding officer of Rapid Action Battalion-6, Lt Col Mezbah Haque, said they have started operations in city to track down hoarders.

DEATH IN POLICE CUSTODY

Sajid's father cries for justice

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gaibandha

Father of a youth, who was allegedly murdered in police custody here over two years ago, has demanded speedy trial of the case and exemplary punishment to the killers.

Abdur Rouf, father of Sajedur Rahman Sajid demanded this while addressing a press conference at Gaibandha Press Club yesterday.

He lamented saying there was no headway to two cases filed by convener of Gaibandha Nagarik Committee in this regard earlier. Rouf disclosed that only two police personnel out of 12 others involved in the murder case were suspended while others are still in active police service.

While narrating the story, Rouf said police arrested his meritorious son Sajid from Gaibandha railway station implicating him in a false case on May 18, 2006. Sajid remained in police custody for two days when police tortured him to death on May 21, he said. Police, instead of handing over the body to him, hurriedly buried him under strict police guard, he said.

Terming the incident as a suicide, Noor Alam, the then officer-in-charge (OC) of Gaibandha police station filed an unnatural death case, Sajid's father said. The autopsy report said Sajid was strangled, Rouf said. Contradicting the report, the OC gave a final report, victim's father said.



Sajedur Rahman Sajid

Earlier, the elder brother of the victim, Abdul Majed Sarker and Aminul Islam Golap, Convener of Gaibandha Nagarik Committee filed two separate cases on June 11, 2006 accusing 12 cops.

The Nagarik Committee, on several occasions, demanded fresh investigation into the incident by the Criminal Investigation Department (CID).

Later, CID took up the case, investigated the case filed by the OC and submitted a report on August 16, 2007.

CID accused five people, namely, Noor Alam, OC, Abu Yousuf, investigation officer, Fahima Begum, on-duty officer, Mizanur Rahman and Dulal Chandra, constables, for torturing Sajid to death in police custody.



Monument to the victims of January 6, 1972 mine blasts at freedom fighters' transit camp on the premises of Maharaja Girizanath High School in Dinajpur.

Dinajpur 'mine blast tragedy' day today

Hundreds of FFs killed on this day in 1972

KONGKON KARMAKER, Dinajpur

Today the people of Dinajpur will remember the tragic death of hundreds of freedom fighters and common people in mine explosions at a freedom fighters transit camp, set up at Maharaja Girizanath High School ground.

Some seven hundred people might have been killed during the incident on January 6, 1972, Dinajpur Freedom Fighters Welfare Association sources said.

Marking the incident, the 6th January Smriti Parishad of Dinajpur built a monument with their own initiative at the school ground with a list of 158 martyred freedom fighters and every year they observe the day with placing floral wreaths.

After the December 16 final victory, the freedom fighters belonging to erstwhile Sectors 6 and 7 of EBR set up a transit camp at the Maharaja Girizanath High School ground to gather up the freedom fighters of Dinajpur, Thakurgaon, Panchagarh and Joypurhat.

The freedom fighters under the supervision of Captain Sharier, the

in-charge of the transit camp, started searching out hidden explosives and ammunition left by surrendered Pakistani soldiers.

The recovered explosives including mines, anti-tank mines, jumping mines and mortars were piled up at the school ground.

On January 6, 1972, the freedom fighters were unloading explosives from two trucks when accidentally a landmine exploded. A number of blasts that followed turned the area into debris and scattered the human limbs spread in all directions.

The people from neighbouring areas rushed to the spot and put all their efforts to save the survivors but most of them could not be saved due to inadequate treatment facilities in the post war situation, said Md AK Azad, a witness to the incident who took part in the rescue operation.

Over a hundred freedom fighters were buried at Chehelgazi under Dinajpur Sadar upazila in state honour while bodies of many others were taken away by the family members.

Dinajpur people have urged the government to take initiative for officially preserving the memory of the tragic incident.

12 'JMB-3' marked bombs recovered

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kishoreganj

Twelve remote control bombs inscribed with 'JMB-3' and eight strong power gels which were allegedly belonging to Jama'atul Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB) were recovered at Akhrabazar of the town yesterday.

As locals were catching fish at a pond on PTI South Road at Akhrabazar, a bomb-like material was found at a fishing net, police and locals said, adding that 12 bombs and eight power gels were subsequently found from the pond.

Kishoreganj Superintendent of Police (SP) Mijanur Rahman, Sadar Police Station Officer-in-Charge, Abu Md Fazlul Karim went to the spot and put the bombs and gels in a bucket full of water.

"JMB-3" was inscribed in all of the 12 bombs, SP Mizan said.

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DEPARTMENT: COMMERCIAL

MANAGER - MARKETING: Incumbent will be base at Dhaka but should be prepared to accept mobility. Responsible for actively developing sales, building and promoting customer's contacts, negotiation and execution of the sales activities to achieve the sales targets.

Requirements:

- B.Sc. degree in Chemical or Civil Engineering and/or MBA in Marketing.
- 10 years work experience in the Commercial field.
- Excellent communication & negotiation skills.
- Good knowledge of the Product and Industry (Few years experience in the Cement is preferred).
- Expertise in Brand management knowledge on segmenting, targeting customers and positioning products.

DEPARTMENT: PLANT

ENGINEER - INSTRUMENTATION & CONTROL: The person will be responsible for maintaining all instrumentation, control and PLC systems and associated auxiliaries of the entire plant. He will report to the Manager - Instrumentation & Control.

Requirements:

- Bachelor degree in Engineering (Electrical and Electronics).
- 3-4 years experience in instrumentation & control system in a process industry.
- Should have excellent knowledge of instrumentation and control systems (including PLCs, DCS) weigh feeders, UPS, Gas analyzers, various transmitters, variable speed AC drives, UPS used in process industry and good knowledge of safety.
- Knowledge of maintenance electrical equipment like switch gears; AC motors & transformers, etc. will be an advantage.

INSPECTOR - MECHANICAL: The person will be a member of the predictive maintenance team and will report to the Senior Engineer - Inspection.

Requirements:

- Diploma in mechanical engineering.
- 4-5 years experience in any process industry
- Hands on experience of CBM (Condition Based Monitoring) of plant equipment such as vibration analysis, Dynamic Balancing, NDT (Non Destructive Test), Use of handy inspection tools.
- Experience of CMMS (Computer Based Maintenance System).
- Preventive and Predictive maintenance technique of plant equipment.

EXECUTIVE - COMMUNITY RELATION: The incumbent will be responsible for maintaining community relations and lead community developments for Project Affected People (PAP) and others in the vicinity as per guideline and Stakeholders requirements.

Requirements:

- The candidate should have Masters Degree in any field.
- 3/5 years working experience in Project or Community Development related field.
- Good communication and interpersonal skill.
- Project monitor and evaluation skill.
- Basic computer knowledge (MS Office)

If you meet the requirements, please send your application along with a recent passport size photo to the following address within 20 January 2008. Please mention on the envelope the position you are applying for. You can also email your application at recruitment@bd.lafarge.com.

Human Resources Department, Lafarge Surma Cement Ltd.,
House 35, Road 24, Gulshan 3, Dhaka 1212, Bangladesh.
Only short-listed candidates will be called for an interview

INTERNATIONAL RE-TENDER NOTICE

1	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Health & Family Welfare				
2	Agency	ICDDR,B				
3	Procuring Entity Name	Executive Director, ICDDR,B				
4	Procuring Entity District	Dhaka				
5	Invitation for	Import of Materials for Vertical Extension and Renovation of Research and Hospital Building, ICDDR,B, Mohakhali, Dhaka.				
6	Invitation Ref No & Date	Memo No. ICDDR,B/Mohakhali/Procurement/07/042 Date: 18.03.07				
7	Procurement Method	Open Tendering Method (PPR-2003)				
8	Budget and Source of Funds	IDA through RPA (GoB)				
9	Project (if applicable)	Vertical Extension and Renovation of Research and Hospital Building – ICDDR,B Dhaka, Bangladesh				
10	Tender Package Number & Name	Package No.2: Lot-1: Gypsum Board Lot-2: G.I. Frame, C-stud & U-truc. Lot-3: Door Closer and Door Lock Lot-4: Fire Resisting Door Lot-5: Glass Lot-6: Tiles Lot-7: Sanitary Goods				
11	Mode of Payment	Through Letter of Credit (L/C)				
12	Tender Publication Date	06 January, 2008				
13	Tender Last Selling Date	10 February, 2008				
14	Tender Closing Date and Time	11 February, 2008		Time: 11:00 Hours		
15	Tender Opening Date and Time	11 February, 2008		Time: 11:30 Hours		
16	Name & Address of the office(s)	Address Treasury Unit, 2 nd floor, Hospital Building, ICDDR,B, Mohakhali, Dhaka. - Selling Tender Document Procurement & Materials Office, ICDDR,B, Mohakhali, Dhaka. - Receiving Tender Document Procurement & Materials Office, ICDDR,B, Mohakhali, Dhaka. - Opening Tender Document				
17	Eligibility of Tenderer	(i) The tenderers shall be Manufacturers / Sole Agents / Sole Distributors from eligible source countries. (ii) All prices shall be on C&F Chittagong by sea freight basis (Cost of items and freight to be specified) (iii) Tenderers / Suppliers abroad shall have a minimum 02 (two) years of specific experience in the supply of similar importable goods / materials to Bangladesh or in any country in Asia. (iv) Tenderer, if local agent / distributor may submit price quotation on behalf of their respective vendor abroad, supported by Proforma Invoice. Successful bidder, in case of local agent / distributor must submit "indent" having valid registration for opening L/C infavour of their Principal abroad by the purchaser. (v) Tenderers may submit price quotation either for individual lot or for any combination of lots and prices quoted shall correspond to 100% of the items and quantities specified for each lot				
18	Identification of Lots, Tender Security, Completion Time and Price of Tender Document					
	Lot No.	Identification	Location	Tender Security Amount in BDT or equivalent foreign currency (by Pay Order / Bank Guarantee)	Completion Time	Price of Tender Document (in cash)
	Lot-1	Gypsum Board	ICDDR,B	Lot-1 Tk. 42,000.00	90 (ninety) days from date of opening of L/C.	BDT. 3000.00 or US\$ 43.00
	Lot-2	G.I. Frame, C-stud & U-truc.	68, Shaheed Tajuddin	Lot-2 Tk. 40,000.00		
	Lot-3	Door Closer and Door Lock	Ahamed Sharani	Lot-3 Tk. 08,000.00		
	Lot-4	Fire Resisting Door	Mohakhali,	Lot-4 Tk. 36,000.00		
	Lot-5	Glass	Dhaka-1212	Lot-5 Tk. 14,000.00		
	Lot-6	Tiles	Bangladesh	Lot-6 Tk. 1,16,000.00		
	Lot-7	Sanitary Goods		Lot-7 Tk. 32,000.00		
19	Name of Official Inviting Tender		M. Alam			
20	Designation of Official Inviting Tender		Controller, Procurement & Materials, ICDDR,B, Mohakhali, Dhaka, Bangladesh.			
21	Address of Official Inviting Tender		Mohakhali, Dhaka, Bangladesh			
22	Contact details of Official Inviting Tender		Tel: (8802)8860523-32	Fax: (8802)9860620	e.mail malam@icddr.org	
23	The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all tenders.					

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