

# Farmers at a fix with bumper potato yield

32 lakh MT produced against last year's 1.46 lakh MT in 8 northern dists: AED officials training farmers in indigenous preservation method

EAM ASADUZZAMAN, Nilphamari

A bumper potato production in eight northern districts has compelled farmers to preserve the item in their indigenous methods as the total output far surpassed the capacity of cold storages.

Officials of Agriculture Extension Department (AED) are also helping and training farmers to preserve potato at homes.

"Many of them (farmers) have started taking potato as a substitute for rice", AED Deputy Director in Rangpur Noor Mohammad told this correspondent.

AED officials estimated that about 32, 00,000 tonnes of potato have been produced in 1,78,114 hectares in eight northern districts against last year's 1,46,000 tonnes from 1,06,400 hectares. This year's target was to bring 1,12,200 hectares under potato cultivation.

The production this year is 220 per cent more than that of last year, Noor Mohammad said. The total yield is worth about Tk 3,400 crore at the rate of Tk 900 per 84 kg bag.

He said space constraint in cold storages is a great problem now. Farmers are trying to overcome the problem by adopting indigenous preservation methods.

This region has emerged as the biggest potato producing area of the country, superseding Munshiganj and Bogra.

Rangpur region of AED comprises Rangpur, Dinajpur, Nilphamari, Gaibandha, Kurigram, Lalmonirhat, Thakurgaon and Panchagarh districts.

Noor Homammad said the weather was very favourable for potato cultivation this year and



With potato production in eight northern districts already outpacing the capacity of cold storages, a large number of bags containing the vegetable are kept on roadsides. The photo was taken from Jaldhaka in Nilphamari district yesterday.

diseases were rare. Less than one per cent of potato fields up. "We are miking in villages, specially late blight in January, mainly due to severe cold."

Agriculture officials said there are 54 cold storages in eight northern districts having a total capacity to store 4,32,600 tonnes, which is only 13.5 per cent of the total production.

Every day, farmers are taking hundreds of bags of potatoes to different cold storage but return disappointed as there is no space.

Owner of Mukta Himagar in Jaldhaka, Sayed Ali, said he has

capacity to store one lakh bags, which has already been filled up. "We are miking in villages, specially late blight in January, mainly due to severe cold."

Farmer Mizanur Rahman of Itakhola village in Nilphamari Sadar upazila said he cultivated potato on 24 bighas.

By making earnest request to the manager of a cold storage, he got space for only 100 bags, while he harvested over 900 bags. He sold 500 bags at a rate of Tk 900 per bag and preserved the rest 300 bags in local process at his house, Rahman said.

Farmers said about Tk 15,000 was spent for one bigha and the produced potato is now being sold at around Tk 32,000.

This correspondent during visits to a number of farmers' houses saw they were preserving potato in their own way, which keeps the vegetable intact for 5-6 months, they said.

AED additional director Kazi Nazimuddin said that they have initiated special training programs for farmers in different upazilas in the region to train them to preserve potatoes in local methods.

## Demonstration for fertiliser in Jessore

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Over five hundred farmers of Darajhat union under Bagharpara upazila in Jessore district demonstrated in front of Upazila Nirbahi Officer's (UNO) office protesting severe crisis of urea fertiliser on Sunday.

Police later dispersed the protesters. The farmers brought out a procession yesterday noon to press home their demand for fertiliser. They also faced interference by police.

Farmers are suffering from want of urea in the Boro season while there are allegations that a section of dealers are selling the fertiliser in the black market by creating artificial crisis in connivance with a section of staff of Upazila Agriculture Office.

Meanwhile, over a thousand farmers went to dealer Shadhan Kundu at Baniakhali Bazaar in Dumuria upazila on Sunday for urea. But a tense situation was created as the dealer could not meet their demand. Later, security forces tackled the situation.

Dumuria UNO Md Shahjahan Ali said 3,500 tonnes of urea fertiliser are needed for the farmers of the upazila in this season but he has so far got only 456 tonnes.

## 3rd Ruet convocation today

RU Correspondent

The third convocation of Rajshahi University of Engineering and Technology (Ruet) will be held today to give certificates to the graduates from 1996-97 to 2002-2003 sessions.

President Prof Iajuddin Ahmed, also the chancellor of the universities, will be present as the chief guest at the convocation ceremony and distribute certificates among the graduates.

He will also hand over gold medals to the first class first position holders in different departments.

Prof Dr Mozaffar Hossain, a former vice chancellor of Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology, will deliver the convocation speech while eminent educationists, intellectuals, engineers and civil society members will be present on the occasion.

## AUG 17 JMB BLASTS IN SATKHIRA 4 more PWs testify in court

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Satkhira

Four more prosecution witnesses in the five August 17 serial blast cases gave statements before a court here yesterday in presence of 11 out of 19 charge sheeted accused.

Trail of the cases resumed yesterday amid tight security. The cases in Satkhira are being tried three years after the countrywide blasts done by JMB (Jamaatul Mujahideen, Bangladesh) in 2005.

Judge Mahbubul Alam of Additional Sessions Judge's court recorded statements of the four prosecution witnesses. The hearing will resume tomorrow.

The witnesses who testified yesterday were Azibar Rahman, Shawkat Ali, Tariqul Islam and Khoda Baksa. Trial of the cases began on February 14 with deposition of complainants Sub-inspector (SI) Jasim Uddin, SI Abu Taher and SI Hazrat Ali of Satkhira Sadar police station.

Earlier, the court recorded statements of 14 other prosecution wit-

nesses on February 14, 17, 18, 26 and 27. They included First Class Magistrate Saidur Rahman, Rokonzaman, Abdul Gaffar, Mizanur Rahman, Sub Inspector (SI) AK Nazibul Islam, SI Abu Taher, Habibur Rahman, SI Saiful Islam, SI Jasim Uddin, SI Hazrat Ali, Shahidul Islam, Rejaul Islam, Mofazzel Hossain, Ruhul Amin, Rejaul Islam, Saiful Islam, Shahidul Islam and Mofazzel Hossain and the lone eyewitness of the incident pick pocket Rawshan Ali.

Charge sheeted accused Nasir uddin Dafadar, Monowar Hossain Ujjal, Maniruzzaman Munna, Nur Ali Member, Anisur Rahman Khokon, Gias Uddin, Mahbubur Rahman Liton, Billal Hossain, Asadul Haque, Ismail alias Habibur and Rakib Hasan alias Rusel alias Hafez Mahmud alias Mahmud were on the dock.

Five other charge sheeted accused, absconding since the incident, are Montaz alias Momtaz, Abul Khair, Fakar Uddin, Nayeem and Syed alias Asaduzzaman.

## MONEY RECEIPT FORGERY IN MANIKGANJ

### Bank official among 5 held

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Manikganj

Police arrested five people including a Sonali Bank official for alleged involvement with money receipt forgery for passport making and seized fake money receipts of the bank, stamps, and other fake papers and materials on Sunday and early yesterday.

The arrestees are -- Sonali bank Manikganj branch cashier Subal Kumer Sutradhar, its night guard Nazrul Islam, Hassan Ahmed, a driver of DC office, Iqbal Hossain and Razzak, Superintendent of Police (SP) Sheikh Muhammad Maruf Hasan said.

Manikganj Passport Officer Chowdhury Samia Yasmin found the same scroll numbers in 17 money

receipts that were submitted to the office on Sunday. She informed Deputy Commissioner Ataur Rahman who called police and got Hasan arrested on the spot. With the confessional statement of Hassan, police arrested Iqbal from his house at South Sewta in Manikganj town and seized fake money receipts of banks, stamps and other fake papers.

Police also arrested Razzak from his house at Ghior, Nazrul Islam from his house at Uttar Kaunnara in Satura upazila in Manikganj district and Subal Kumer Sutradhar from his house at Kayetpur in Dhamrai.

A probe committee headed by ADC Mosleh Uddin has been formed to investigate the matter. They will submit report within 72 hours from Monday.



## Tributes paid to Bazlur Rahman

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

Several prominent journalists of the country at a memorial meeting held in Jamalpur paid rich tributes to journalist Bazlur Rahman, former Editor of The Daily Sangbad.

Held at Jamalpur Public Library auditorium on Sunday, the memorial meeting was presided by AAK Mahmudul Hasan Dara, a veteran journalist of greater Mymensingh.

The Daily Star Editor Mahfuz Anam was present as chief guest while Jatiya Press Club President Shawkat Mahmud was present as special guest. The Daily Sangbad Senior Assistant Editor Md Muniruzzaman was the main speaker.

Speakers said a journalist like Bazlur Rahman is the need of the hour. They said Bazlur Rahman was a journalist of high profile but he led a very simple life. One of his great qualities was that he could easily mix with common people, they said.

Among others, former lawmakers of Jamalpur Shah Newaz and Rezaul Karim Hira, ex-chairman of Jamalpur municipality Md Faysur Rahman and veteran freedom fighter Mahbubur Rahman Ansari addressed.



**Karnaphuli Export Processing Zone**  
North Patenga, Chittagong-4204

No. KEPZ/Engg/02/2004/19

Date: March 12, 2008

## Tender Notice No- 18/2007-2008

Sealed tenders are hereby invited from the eligible contractor for the following works as per terms & conditions stated below:

1	Ministry/Division	Chief Adviser's Office (BEPZA Governor's Board Secretariat).
2	Agency	Bangladesh Export Processing Zones Authority (BEPZA).
3	Procuring entity name	BEPZA.
4	Procuring entity code	N/A.
5	Procuring entity district	Dhaka.
6	Invitation for	Tender for works for multiple lot.
7	Invitation Ref No	18/2007-2008.
8	Date	March 12, 2008.

**KEY INFORMATION**  
9 Procurement method Open tendering method.

**FUNDING INFORMATION**  
10 Budget and source of funds N/A.  
11 Development partners (if applicable) N/A.

<b>PARTICULAR INFORMATION</b>	
12 Project/programme code (if applicable)	N/A
13 Project/programme name (if applicable)	N/A
14 Tender package No	N/A
15 Tender package name	N/A
16 Tender publication date	On or before March 17, 2008
17 Tender last selling date	April 15, 2008 during office hour
18 Tender closing date and time	April 16, 2008 at 12:00noon.
19 Tender opening date and time	April 17, 2008 at 12:30pm

20 Name & address of the office(s)  
Selling tender document (Principal) Accounts Section, BEPZA, BEPZA Complex, 19/D, Road No. 6, Dhanmodi, Dhaka-1205.

Selling tender document (others)  
1. Accounts Section, Chittagong EPZ, South Halishahar, Chittagong.  
2. Accounts Section, Dhaka EPZ, Ganakbari, Savar, Dhaka.  
3. Accounts Section, Comilla EPZ, Comilla.  
4. Accounts Section, Kamaphuli EPZ, North Patenga, Chittagong.  
5. Accounts Section, Adamjee EPZ.

Receiving tender document  
1. General Manager (Maintenance), BEPZA, Dhaka.  
2. Project Engineer (in-charge), Kamaphuli EPZ, North Patenga, Chittagong.

Opening tender document  
Project Engineer (in-charge), Kamaphuli EPZ.

21 Place/date/time of pre-tender meeting N/A.

**INFORMATION FOR TENDERER**

22 Eligibility of tenderer	The company must have successful completion experience of similar works.
Similar works experience	As per tender schedule
Liquid assets/credit facilities	As per tender schedule
Average annual turnover	As per tender schedule
Bid capacity	As per tender schedule
Black listed/debarred bidders	Black listed/debarred bidder from any govt./semi govt./autonomous organization will be considered as ineligible to participate in the tender.

Other documents  
a. Trade license  
b. Income tax certificate (TIN)  
c. Ten digit VAT Registration Certificate  
d. Experience certificate issued by an officer having rank & status not below the rank of Executive Engineer of a govt./semi-govt./autonomous bodies and head of the reputed private/multinational organization in a single work order which covers minimum 50% of the quoted amount within last 5 years.  
e. Bank statement(s) or certificate(s) amounting not less than 50% of the quoted amount in support of liquid assets or credit facilities.  
f. Statement on average annual turnover for last 5 years supported by relevant certificate(s) and other necessary documents.  
g. Rate analysis for each item to be quoted.  
h. Undertaking in the prescribed format relating to blacklisting/debarment in any govt./semi-govt./autonomous body.

23 Brief description of goods or works Construction, operation and maintenance of central effluent treatment plant.

24 Brief description of related services N/A.

25 Tender document price Tk 2000.00

**PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS**

Sl No	Lot No	Identification of lot	Location	Tender security amount (in Tk)	Completion time
26	1	Construction, operation and maintenance of central effluent treatment plant at Kamaphuli EPZ, North Patenga, Chittagong	Kamaphuli EPZ North Patenga, Chittagong-4204	5,00,000.00	18 (eighteen) months

**PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS**

27	Name of official inviting tender
28	Designation of official inviting tender
29	Address of official inviting tender
30	Contact details of official inviting tender
31	The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all tenders.

GD-1262  
Mohammad Anamul Haque  
Project Engineer (In-charge)  
Phone: 031-741100

## Formalities bar schooling in CHT

Devasish Roy says

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangamati

Barrister Devasish Roy, special assistant to the chief adviser (CA) of the caretaker government, said the process of schools' inclusion in monthly pay order (MPO) and teachers' recruitment system should be made simpler to ease schooling in Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT).

Devasish Roy, who is in charge of ministries of CHT affairs and environment and forests, was addressing the annual prize giving ceremony as chief guest at Rani Doyamoyee High School ground in Rangamati hill town yesterday.

The existing system as well as rules of education is somewhat hindering the overall development of primary and higher education in CHT, he said, adding that advancement of education in whole CHT is less than plain land and children in the region are lagging behind.

A primary or a high school now must have 220 students and be included under NRTC for registration and inclusion in the monthly payment order (MPO). The rule should be relaxed and teachers recruiting system should be made easy.

## Students vow to fight corruption

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kushtia

Students of different schools at a meeting held yesterday in Khoksa upazila town took vow to remain vigilant against corruption so that they can keep themselves away from all kinds of corrupt practices.

Khoksa Upazila Corruption Resistance Committee (CRC) organized the meeting titled, 'Consciousness of Future Nation Builders to Protect Corruption.' Held at Khoksa Pilot High School hall room, the meeting was chaired by Khoksa Upazila Corruption Resistance Committee president Fazlul Haque.

Students expressed their determination to resist corruption at any cost even though their parents or near ones are involved in corruption. They also promised to ask their friends to raise voice against corruption.

Among others, former vice-principal of Khoksa College Rabindranath Biswas, Ohiduzzaman, Advocate Ashraf Ali, schoolteacher Matiur Rahman, Samima Akter Banu and Khoksa Press Club general secretary Monirul Islam addressed.

Students from different schools in the upazila took part in the meeting.

## 3 outlaws held, 6 firearms seized

STAR NATIONAL DESK

Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) on Sunday arrested a regional leader of outlawed 'Purba Banglar Communist Party' (PBCP red flag) and recovered six firearms following his information.

Our Pabna Correspondent reports: A team from Rab-1 at Uttara camp led by Major Masud Parvej and ASP Tanvir Arafat arrested Md Hares Sarder, a resident of village Balughata in Ataikula upazila in Pabna, from Joydebpur intersection in Gazipur district on Sunday, Rab said.

Following information extracted from him, the team raided village Dhanuaghata in Faridpur upazila in Pabna early yesterday and recovered a Chinese revolver, an SBBL gun made in Belgium, two Burmese shutter gun and two local made shutter guns.

Our Kushtia Correspondent

adds: Judicial Magistrate's Court in Chuadanga yesterday granted five-day remand to two outlaws who were arrested on charge of extortion the previous night.

Police arrested Kased and Murad, cadres of Communist Judhoo, a when they were receiving Tk 20,000 extorted from a village doctor.

## Grameen Kalyan observes Kidney Day

STAR NATIONAL DESK

Grameen Kalyan (GK), a peer organization of Grameen family, arranged a rally in Sinagar upazila in Manikganj marking the World Kidney Day on Thursday, says a press release.

GK Managing Director Sheikh Abdud Daiyan led the rally.

ঢাকা পাওয়ার ডিস্ট্রিবিউশন কোম্পানী লিমিটেড  
DHAKA POWER DISTRIBUTION COMPANY LIMITED  
(An Enterprise of the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh)

Reference No. DPDC/CS-13/KFW/07-08/730

Date: 16.03.2008

### Procurement Notice: Bangladesh- Consulting services

**Country:** Bangladesh  
**Reference No.:** BMZ-Nr. 2006 65 869  
**Submission deadline:** 07.05.2008 at 12.00 hours Bangladesh Standard Time (BST)  
**Project Name:** Energy Efficiency Program II  
**Tender Procedure:** International competitive bidding for Consulting Services including a Postqualification Procedure  
**Project Executing Agency:** Dhaka Power Distribution Company Limited (DPDC) 11<sup>th</sup> floor, Biddut Bhaban, I Abdul Gani Road, Raman, Dhaka. Telephone: +880-2-9569394; Fax: +880-2-9566338; E-Mail: [dtddpc@yahoo.com](mailto:dtddpc@yahoo.com)  
**Tender Agent:** Interbusiness Consulting & Services GmbH, Weinheimerstr.62, 68309 Mannheim, Germany. Tel. + 49-621-7284630 or 31; Tel. + 49-621-7284632; E-mail: [ibusinesses@t-online.de](mailto:ibusinesses@t-online.de)  
**Financing:** KfW Development Bank

KfW on behalf of the Dhaka Power Distribution Company (DPDC), the Project-Executing Agency (PEA), hereby invites qualified independent consultants to submit a tender in accordance with a Public international competitive bidding, following a post-qualification procedure, for Consulting Services required.

**Project measures:**  
The efforts in the sector re-organization and the improvement of the HV power distribution shall be further strengthened within DPDC. The Energy Efficiency Program II, a part of which is being financed by the FC of the German Government includes the following main components:

- New 132kV/33 kV GIS substation at Lalbagh and Madartak.
- Conversion of the 132/33 kV transformer station in Dhanmodi into a regular 132 kV/33 kV GIS substation.
- Construction of some 170 km 132 kV and 33 kV underground cable systems.
- Construction of some 5 km 132 kV overhead transmission line on 4-circuit Tower including a river crossing. (500m approx.).

**Request Consulting Services:**  
Consulting Services are required for the project preparation and site supervision of the implementation measures comprising services will mainly include the following:  
- assistance of DPDC in contracting of supplies and civil works,  
- site supervision of project implementation of all parts of the program,  
- factory inspections and testing including factory acceptances,  
- Assistance in testing, commissioning and acceptance of all supplies, erection and civil works on the sites, handing over of the plant.  
- cost control,  
- production of all necessary reports.

The conditions of the tender follow the KfW's "Guidelines for Assignment of Consultants in Financial Cooperation with Developing Countries", copy of which is available on KfW's web-site: [http://www.kfw-entwicklungsbank.de/DE\\_Home/Service/Online\\_Bibliothek/PDF-Dokumente\\_Richtlinien/Consultingrichtlinie\\_E\\_11\\_2006.pdf](http://www.kfw-entwicklungsbank.de/DE_Home/Service/Online_Bibliothek/PDF-Dokumente_Richtlinien/Consultingrichtlinie_E_11_2006.pdf).

It is foreseen to award the services to an independent Consultant experienced in the energy-sector and the region with a minimum annual turnover of 8 million Euro.

Interested bidders may obtain the full set Tender documents in electronic format free of charge from the Project Executing Agency as from 17<sup>th</sup> of March, 2008 to 30<sup>th</sup> April, 2008.

The Consulting Services Documents must be submitted on 7th May 2008, 12:00 hours BST under the same name for which the Consulting Services Documents have been applied for the address below:

Interested parties/bidders may obtain further information from the Project Executing Agency (DPDC).

Dhaka Power Distribution Company Limited (DPDC)  
11<sup>th</sup> floor, Biddut Bhaban, I Abdul Gani Road, Raman, Dhaka.  
Telephone: +880-2-9569394; Fax: +880-2-9566338;  
E-Mail: [dtddpc@yahoo.com](mailto:dtddpc@yahoo.com)

Company Secretary, DPDC