

## Budget to attach priority to marketing of farm products

Says finance adviser

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Finance Adviser Mirza Azizul Islam yesterday assured that a good chunk of budgetary allocation in the next budget would go for the development of marketing of agricultural products to ensure fair prices for farmers.

He said since transportation is one of the major components in marketing of agricultural products, a good amount of money will be allocated for the development of transportation so that the farmers can bring their produce to the market at a cheaper cost.

Azizul Islam was speaking at the seminar on 'Agri Budget, Budget for Farmers' at the auditorium of National Economic Council (NEC) of Planning Ministry, organised by Channeli, a television channel.

He said the farmers' cooperatives for marketing their products could ensure fair prices for them.

"In the next budget, if necessary, I may increase the amount of endowment fund for agro-research. In the current budget, almost all Tk 350 crore, allocated for agro-



Almost all of Tk 350 crore, allocated for agro-research, remains unutilised.

\*\*\*\*\*

Introduction of tax holiday facility for the poultry industry in the next budget is under active consideration.

research, remain unutilised," he said.

The finance adviser said introduction of tax holiday facility for the poultry industry in the next budget has been under his active consideration, as the sector incurred a huge loss due to recent bird flu, adding that the duty on import of some poultry related items has already been withdrawn.

TV personality Shykh Seraj moderated the seminar, participated by economists, editors of different national dailies and agriculturists, among others.

Agriculture Adviser CS Karim and Special Assistant to Chief Adviser in ministry of fisheries and livestock Manik Lal Samaddar also spoke.

CS Karim said there is no reason to feel self-complacent for the current bumper boro harvest, adding that the country should not only dependent on rice production, but should also produce other crops for a sustainable food security.

"We are trying to provide subsidy to the farmers directly, as the subsidy money some-

times gets misused by different agencies and people," Karim said, adding that the wholesale prices of agricultural produce should be increased for the interest of the farmers.

Manik Lal Samaddar said he has already recommended for setting up a separate price-monitoring cell for the poultry industries.

"I have scheduled meetings to sit with the banks and poultry sector people on 14 and 15 May to discuss different issues related to poultry sector," Samaddar said.

Economist Muzaffer Ahmed said introduction of distribution channels for the farmers would work better in gaining fair prices.

"Curriculum of agri educational institutes should be formulated with the aim to contribute more in agricultural sector," he said.

Earlier at the seminar, Shykh Seraj submitted a set of recommendations to the finance adviser for the development of the agricultural sector and farmers.

He is scheduled to submit the proposal, which identifies five sectors, to Chief Adviser Dr Fakhruddin Ahmed today.

Citigroup senior official due today



Ivo Distelbrink, managing director and regional sales head for Treasury and Trade Solutions for Citi Global Transaction Services (GTS) in Asia including Japan, arrives in Dhaka today on a three-day visit, says press release.

During this visit, he is scheduled to meet major clients of the bank in Dhaka and Chittagong and attend new product launching ceremony and client events. He will also review Citi's business expansion plans for treasury and trade solutions in Bangladesh.

Prior to his current position, Distelbrink was head of GTS for Citi in China. Before China, Ivo was the CEO and Head of Corporate Banking for Citibank NA in New Zealand.

## Adviser says no sloth in manpower export

UNB, Dhaka

"Our 7-point strategy in this regard is being implemented. New labour markets are being located with stress on welfare of the workers. For

instance, I've just returned from Oman where the market has opened up again after 12 years and a memorandum of understanding (MoU) has been

signed that will protect our workers' interests," Iftekhar said.

The adviser observed that the signing of yet such an agreement with the UAE has helped expand our market greatly. "Today, on average 800-1000 workers are going there everyday."

"The remittances are also increasing. The amount has already exceeded US \$ 3 billion in the first four months. Again, at this rate, we could look at

US\$ 10 billion in this regard by the year-end," he said.

"We also feel there's a need to upgrade skills to respond to changing demands, and our 37 Technical Training Centres (TTCs) are gearing up themselves to that end," the adviser stated.

He also said the problems of exploitation and harassment are also being addressed by our missions abroad who were given strict instructions to emphasise and ensure welfare of the workers.

He mentioned that action is also being taken by the Task Force and other law enforcing agencies.

"We may not be able to resolve all problems, but with the help of all concerned, I believe, we can improve the lot of our workers in many ways," he said.



Rokia Afzal Rahman, president of Bangladesh Federation of Women Entrepreneurs (BFWF), and Ashfaque ur Rahman, managing director of Novartis (Bangladesh) Limited, exchange documents after signing a memorandum of understanding in Dhaka yesterday. The deal was signed to launch a programme called 'We-CARE (Cardiac Awareness & Routine Examination for health)-Health' to increase awareness about female health care, with special emphasis on heart related diseases.

## Tk11.74cr rise in PDB revenue

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

March of this year the board collected a total of Tk 413.97 crore in revenue.

The distribution loss of PDB has declined to 15.30 percent in March from 1.61 percent in the same period of 2007, the press statements said.

A total of Tk 3958 crore has been collected in revenue dur-

ing nine months of the current fiscal, according to PDB sources. Of the total amount, Tk 1869.77 crore has come from its six distributing zones, Tk 855 crore from Dhaka Electric Supply Authority (DESA) and Tk 420.4 crore from Dhaka Electric Supply Company (DESCO).

### REMITTANCE SERVICE

## Social Investment Bank signs deal with US firm

Social Investment Bank Ltd has recently signed a remittance agreement with US-based money transfer company Placid Express in USA, under which Bangladeshi expatriates in the USA will be able to send their money home through the branches of the bank.

AMM Farhad, executive vice president and head of Global Business Department of the bank, and Mohammed

Haroun Rashid, vice president at the group headquarters of Placid Express in USA, signed the deal, says a press release.

Abdul Awal Patwary, chairman, KM Ashaduzzaman, managing director, and Abu Sadek Md Sohel, deputy managing director of the bank, and other senior officials from both the sides were also present at the signing ceremony.

AMM Farhad, executive vice president and head of Global Business Department of the bank, and Mohammed



CSR Centre Trust and United News of Bangladesh (UNB) recently signed a memorandum of understanding to cooperate each other in promoting corporate responsibility (CSR) among business and industrial enterprises in the country. (From L-R) Farooq Sobhan, president of Bangladesh Enterprise Institute and chairman of the Board of Trustees of CSR Centre, Shahamin S Zaman, chief executive officer of CSR Centre, and Enayetullah Khan, editor-in-chief of UNB, are seen after signing the deal.

### MIDAS training on starting business from May 25

MIDAS (Micro Industries Development Assistance and Services) is going to arrange a five-day training course titled 'Start Your Own Business' from May 25 in Dhaka.

The course has been designed on a German model called competency-based economies through formation of enterprise (CEFE), says a press release.

The model has been successfully implemented in more than 50 countries in Asia, Africa, South America and Europe.

The course will enable the participants to identify and select viable business project, prepare bankable business plan covering management, marketing and production aspects, analyse profit and loss of potential business ventures.

### Bank Asia donates microbus for mobile hospital

UNB, Dhaka

Bank Asia has donated a microbus to Birsreshtha Motiur Rahman Foundation, a non-profit organization, for running its mobile hospital to provide emergency medical services to the poor patients.

Syed Anisul Huq, president and managing director of the bank, handed over the key of the microbus to Mili Rahman, widow of Birsreshtha Motiur Rahman and director of the foundation, at a function in the premises of the bank's Scotia Branch at Karwan Bazar yesterday.

Bank Asia, as part of its corporate social responsibility, conducts social activities including eye operations of visually challenged children.

## নিয়োগ বিজ্ঞপ্তি

বাংলাদেশ চা বোর্ড Small Holding Tea Cultivation in Chittagong Hill Tracts শীর্ষক প্রকল্পের অধীনে সম্পূর্ণ অঙ্গীয় বিভিন্ন পদের বিপরীত নিয়োগ দানের জন্য প্রকৃত বালোংদোনি নির্বাচিতদের নিকট হতে সরবারত অবস্থান কর্যে যাচ্ছে।

ক্রমিক পদের নাম পদের সংখ্যা সর্বসাধারণ বেতন

১. সম্প্রসারণ কর্মসূচী ১ (একটি) সর্বসাধারণ বেতন: অন্যর্থ ৩৫ বছর ১১,৫০০/-

২. মাঠ সহকারী ১ (একটি) সর্বসাধারণ বেতন: অন্যর্থ ৬,৭২৫/- ৩০ বছর

৩. গাড়ি চালক ২ (দুই) সর্বসাধারণ বেতন: ৫,৮৫০/- ৩০ বছর

শর্তব্যসূচী

১. দ্রব্যবাহী পদের নামান্তর নাম, পিতৃর, মাতৃর, শাস্তির নাম, হাতী টিকানা, বর্তমান ঠিকানা, জন্ম তারিখ, বয়স (২০/০৫/০৮ইং তারিখে), শিক্ষাগত যোগাযোগ, অভিজ্ঞতা, জাতীয়তা, ধর্ম ইত্যাদি স্বীকৃতভাবে স্বাক্ষর কর্তব্য হবে।

২. শিক্ষাগত যোগাযোগ মূল সদস্যপত্র সভাপতিত ষাট্যালিপি আবেদনের সাহিত সহিত স্বীকৃত কর্তব্য হবে। চূড়ান্ত প্রযোক্তা সময় মূল সদস্যপত্র সম্পর্ক আন্তর্ভুক্ত কর্তব্য হবে।

৩. চূড়ান্ত প্রযোক্তা সময় মূল সদস্যপত্র সভাপতিত ষাট্যালিপি ইন টিচানা ইল ট্রাইটিং বাংলাদেশ চা বোর্ড, ১১১-১১২, বারেজিন সড়ক, নাসিরাবাদ, চট্টগ্রাম-ই-ই টিকানা আবাসী/০৫/০৮ইং তারিখের মধ্যে অফিস বালোংদোনি সময়ে দাখিল কর্তব্য হবে। উক্ত তারিখের পর কোন আবেদনপত্র অহল করা হবে।

৪. চূড়ান্ত প্রযোক্তা সময় মূল সদস্যপত্র সভাপতিত ষাট্যালিপি ইন টিচানা ইল ট্রাইটিং বাংলাদেশ চা বোর্ড, ১১১-১১২, বারেজিন সড়ক, নাসিরাবাদ, চট্টগ্রাম-ই-ই টিকানা আবাসী/০৫/০৮ইং তারিখের মধ্যে অফিস বালোংদোনি সময়ে দাখিল কর্তব্য হবে।

৫. এই বিভিন্ন পদের কার্যক্রম পরীক্ষা গ্রহণ কর্তব্য হবে। একাধিক পদের কার্যক্রম পরীক্ষা গ্রহণ কর্তব্য হবে।

৬. একাধিক পদের কার্যক্রম পরীক্ষা গ্রহণ কর্তব্য হবে।

৭. এই বিভিন্ন পদের কার্যক্রম পরীক্ষা গ্রহণ কর্তব্য হবে।

৮. এই বিভিন্ন পদের কার্যক্রম পরীক্ষা গ্রহণ কর্তব্য হবে।

৯. এই বিভিন্ন পদের কার্যক্রম পরীক্ষা গ্রহণ কর্তব্য হবে।

১০. এই বিভিন্ন পদের কার্যক্রম পরীক্ষা গ্রহণ কর্তব্য হবে।

১১. এই বিভিন্ন পদের কার্যক্রম পরীক্ষা গ্রহণ কর্তব্য হবে।

১২. যে কোন প্রকার তদবিরত/সুপারিশ গ্রহণ কর্তব্য হবে।

প্রকল্প পরিচালক

শল হোস্টিং কালাটিভেশন ইন টিচানা ইল ট্রাইটিং

সদস্য (গবেষণা ও উন্নয়ন)

বাংলাদেশ চা বোর্ড

ফোন নং ০৩১-৬৪১৪২২৫

### সাতাহার পৌরসভা কার্যালয়

সাতাহার, বগুড়া

তারিখ: ০৮-০৫-২০০৮

### দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

নং-০৩/২০০৭-২০০৮

স্বারক নং-সাধারণকোঠা: ১০৫১/২০০৮

দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

নং-০৩/২০০৭