



Workers clean a poultry farm in Sirajganj. The district's livestock department, with the assistance of the administration, culled 1,800 fowls after a bird flu outbreak in two poultry farms in the locality. The authorities have also asked the farm owners to shut down the farms for three months.

Bird flu rattles poultry farms in Sirajganj

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sirajganj

Bird flu panic has gripped again the poultry farm owners in Sirajganj, as the avian flu was detected in two farms here last Tuesday.

Meanwhile, the market has started to experience the fallout with the prices of all kinds of chicken and egg going down.

However, the district administration and livestock department have already taken cautionary steps to protect other farms in the area from the flu, officials said.

They said bird flu was detected in two poultry farms of Akmal Hossain in Ranigram village under Sirajganj municipality on Tuesday. Around 1,800 chickens of the farms were culled on the day in presence of officials of district administration, upazila administration and livestock department.

Hossain said he has incurred a loss of around Tk 40 lakh.

Hossain and his brother Jahid said a total of 5,700 fowls of their two farms

had died from the disease within eight days between January 18 and January 25. They went to the district livestock office on January 26 and informed the doctors concerned of the matter. Later, the officials sent a few of the infected fowls of the farms to the livestock research centre in Dhaka, where doctors confirmed the flu.

Based on the research report, Sirajganj district livestock department with the assistance of district administration and upazila administration culled the rest 1,800 fowls of the farms on Tuesday and asked the farm owners to shut down the farms for three months.

They also asked the owners to clean the farm area.

Abdul Mannan, acting district livestock officer, said they have already sent letters to all upazila livestock officers for taking cautionary measures so the flu cannot spread further.

They have also asked the farms owners to keep their farms clean and hygienic.

Jahurul Islam of Jahurul Poultry Farm, Tarekul Islam of Tareque Poultry Farm, Anower Hossain of Anower Poultry Farm, Nazrul Islam of Nazrul Poultry Farm and Moynal Hossain of Moynal Poultry Farm in Ranigram village said they have already shut down their farms in the last few days. They have sold their hens to the poor villagers and in local markets at a cheap rate. They also culled some sick chicken on their own, they said.

Traders in Railway Station Market and Boro Bazar in the town said their business has marked a sharp fall.

People hardly buy chickens and eggs and the prices of different types of fowls have come down, they said.

A kg of broiler chicken was selling at Tk 80 to Tk 90 in the markets against the previous rate of Tk 115, while the price of a kg of layer chicken was Tk 95 to Tk 100 against the price of Tk 120 before.

Egg prices came down to Tk 20-Tk 22 per four pieces from the earlier price at Tk 24.

Ctg shop owners threaten strike

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Shop owners yesterday threatened to enforce a half-day strike in Chittagong on February 3, demanding eviction of hawkers from all sidewalks in the port city.

Business activities in 300 markets of Reazuddin Bazar and adjoining areas suspended for a third day as Section 144 in and around the area was in

force after violent clashes between hawkers and traders over control of their turf.

Chittagong division leaders of Bangladesh Shop Owners Association yesterday held a press conference and issued a 48-hour ultimatum for taking hawkers off the sidewalks.

They also warned of a tougher programme to meet their six-point demands.

The association's General Secretary Salamat Ali, also

president of Reazuddin Bazar Banik Samity, read out a written statement at the conference at Chittagong Press Club, joined by leaders of different city markets.

Association leaders said around 15,000 traders of over 300 markets of Reazuddin Bazar, Tamakumandi Lane and adjoining areas have become hostage to a number of hawkers who set up makeshift shops on sidewalks,

blocking the main entry to the markets.

The traders claimed that they incurred huge losses during the last two Eid festivals as the hawkers had blocked the front sides of these markets.

Officer-in-Charge of Kotwali Police Station Mohiuddin Mahmud said Section 144 was in force only to prevent the situation from going out of control.

Summit to push for WTO Doha deal, Brazil suggests

AFP, Davos, Switzerland

Brazil has suggested that world leaders meet to give a final push to long-standing negotiations for a global trade pact, World Trade Organisation chief Pascal Lamy said Saturday.

"During the course of the discussion, (Brazilian Foreign Minister) Celso Amorim put this option on the table," said the director-general of the WTO.

"Nobody said no, but we all said during the course of the discussion that if that was to happen, what remains to be done -- which is a list of 12-13 fairly technical questions -- will need to be simplified," he added.

Some 17 ministers representing countries including Australia, China

and India, as well as the European Union attended the mini-ministerial meeting on the sidelines of the World Economic Forum annual meeting in Davos.

However at least two key players were absent -- US Trade Representative Ron Kirk did not travel to Davos and China was represented by the Vice-Minister of Commerce, rather than the Minister of Commerce.

Neither Lamy nor Switzerland's President Doris Leuthard, whose country hosted the meeting, would be drawn into whether or not Brazil's suggestion was feasible.

But Leuthard said that several unresolved issues should be trimmed to just "five or six" points before political leaders should be brought in to negotiate.

"Let's first do progress on the technical work," said Leuthard.

She added that ministers present at the meeting reaffirmed their engagement in the next months.

"It is not good enough to have senior officials meet in Geneva or have a lot of bilaterals. Ministers have to be engaged and give guidance to their officials," she said.

Lamy had said in December that a March breakthrough is needed for a Doha deal to be done in 2010.

The Doha Round of negotiations for a world trade liberalisation deal began in 2001 with a focus on dismantling obstacles to trade for poor nations by striking an accord that will cut agriculture subsidies and tariffs on industrial goods.

Saarc-China trade may cross \$75b this year

Hopes FBCCI chief

STAR BUSINESS DESK

The trade between Saarc and China has witnessed considerable growth from \$13 billion in the year 2000 to \$50 billion in 2008 and is expected to surpass \$75 billion mark by the end of 2010.

This was said by Annisul Huq, the newly elected president of Saarc Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SCCI) and president of Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FBCCI), at the South Asia-Sichuan Business Seminar at Chengdu in China on Thursday.

Huq said the economic development of China could be beneficial to South Asian economies, provided compatible measures to enhance bilateral trade and investment that are taken at government level as the private sector of South Asia was ready to share economic benefits.

The Saarc chamber chief said China has emerged as a role model for developing countries and has witnessed incredible socio-economic growth and its strength can be gauged by the fact that despite global financial meltdown, the country managed to achieve 8.7 percent GDP growth in 2009.

"We must acknowledge China for its ability to produce quality goods at highly competitive price as a great facilitator to poor and middle class society of the entire world," Huq said.

For further promotion of economic cooperation he recommended that China relocate some medium sized industries to Saarc

nations in mutually interested areas.

He suggested technical and non-technical barriers in China should be removed.

"We need to promote B-2-B meetings, arrange and participate in fairs and exhibitions. We may organise Saarc trade fairs in China to make the business community in that country aware of the potentials of the Saarc region," the FBCCI chief told the seminar in China.

CHINESE TEAM MEETS FBCCI

Meanwhile in Dhaka, the visiting team of China Council for the Promotion of International Trade (CCPIT) met Bangladesh's apex trade body leaders on Thursday.

Li Guohua, vice president of Jilin sub-council of CCPIT, led the five-member business delegation, according to an FBCCI statement.

Abul Kashem Ahmed, FBCCI's acting president, presided over the meeting, also attended by its directors and representatives of different sectors.

Ahmed invited the Chinese businessmen to invest in different sectors in Bangladesh that include infrastructure development, engineering and technology, banking and insurance, education, IT and tourism.

He also urged the foreign team to import textile, cotton, PVC pipe and plastic, pharmaceuticals, readymade garments, leather, shrimp etc from Bangladesh.

Li Guohua emphasised promotion of cooperation in trade and technology between the two countries.



Monowar Hossain



Abu Kawser

New ERF execs

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Economic Reporters Forum has elected Monowar Hossain as president and Abu Kawser general secretary, says the forum in a statement yesterday.

The election took place at the forum's biennial general meeting 2010 held at the National Press Club in Dhaka on Friday.

The meeting also elected Syed Shahnewaz Karim as vice-president, Mohammad Azizur Rahman assistant general secretary and Mohammed Syful Islam finance secretary.

Badiul Alam, Kawser Rahman, Saiful Islam Dilal and Ziaul Hoq Mizan were elected members unopposed.

DAE sets boro output targets for Dinajpur, Jhenidah

UNB, Dinajpur

Department of Agriculture Extension (DAE) expects to achieve the production target of 6,46,860 tonnes of boro rice in the district this season.

Steps have been taken to ensure smooth supply of fertiliser, insecticide, diesel and uninterrupted electricity to achieve the target, DAE officials said. The supply and reserve of fertiliser are sufficient this year, which is much higher than last year.

The officials said a scheme has been taken up to bring 1,71,592 hectares of land under Boro farming in the district.

Of the total land, hybrid varieties of paddy will be cultivated on 39,503 hectares and local varieties on 1,32,089 hectares.

For this, seedbeds were made on 9,565 hectares of land, which is 1,380 hectares more than the requirement.

However, seedbeds on 117 hectares of land were damaged due to unfavourable weather, excessive fog and cold waves. Farmers have already started planting seedlings on their lands.

Deputy Commissioner M Abdul Jalil said all necessary measures have been taken to make the current boro and rabi seasons a success.

A meeting was held on Friday with the agriculture officials on the success of boro production.

The meeting emphasised necessary steps to generate 300-megawatt electricity from each of the two units in Boropukuria coal-fired power plant to ensure smooth power supply for irrigation.

Currently, the two units are generating 250 megawatts each.

The chief engineer of the power plant said necessary measures have been taken to keep the units operative during the boro season.

Presentation of
RAK Ceramics (Bangladesh) Ltd.
Forthcoming IPO under the book building method

Khater Massaad, third from right, chairman of RAK Ceramics (Bangladesh) Ltd, poses at the company's projection meeting on its forthcoming IPO under the book building method, in Dhaka yesterday. (Story on B1)

এটলাস বাংলাদেশ লিমিটেড
(বাংলাদেশ ইস্পাত ও প্রকৌশল কর্পোরেশন এর একটি প্রতিষ্ঠান)
২৬৫-২৬৭, টংগী শিল্প এলাকা, গাজীপুর

হেলমেট ক্রয়ের পুনঃ টেন্ডার বিজ্ঞপ্তি

ব্যবস্থাপনা পরিচালক, এটলাস বাংলাদেশ লি., টংগী শিল্প এলাকা, গাজীপুর কর্তৃক প্রকৃত ব্যবসায়ী / প্রকল্পসমূহ / সরবরাহকারী প্রতিষ্ঠানের নিকট হইতে নিম্নে বর্ণিত মটরসাইকেল আরোহীর হেলমেট সরবরাহের জন্য সীলমোহরকৃত খামে পুনঃ দরপত্র আহবান করা যাইতেছেঃ

টেন্ডার নম্বর ও তারিখ	মালামালের বিবরণ	পরিমাণ	জামানতের টাকা (ফেরতযোগ্য)	টেন্ডার সিডিউলের মূল্য (অক্রেতযোগ্য)	টেন্ডার বাস্তব বন্ধ এবং খোলার তারিখ ও সময়
এবিএল/ক্র/২৪০/১০ তারিখ-৩০-০১-১০ খ্রিঃ	মটরসাইকেল আরোহীর জন্য হেলমেট (উন্নতমানের, নমুনা মোতাবেক)	২০০০ টি	উদ্ধৃত মূল্যের ১% হারে।	প্রতিসেট ২০০/= টাকা	১৫-০২-২০১০ খ্রিঃ তারিখ দুপুর ১২.০০ ঘটিকায় বন্ধ এবং একই দিন দুপুর ১২.১৫ মিনিটে খোলা হইবে।

- এটলাস বাংলাদেশ লিমিটেড এর হিসাব বিভাগের ক্যাশ শাখা এবং বাংলাদেশ ইস্পাত ও প্রকৌশল কর্পোরেশন, "বিএসইসি ভবন", ১০২, কাজী নজরুল ইসলাম এভিনিউ, কাওরান বাজার, ঢাকা-১২১৫ এর হিসাব বিভাগের ক্যাশ শাখা হইতে অফিস চলাকালীন সময়ে নগদ মূল্যে টেন্ডার সিডিউল ক্রয় করা যাইবে।
- টেন্ডার খোলার দিন কোন সিডিউল বিক্রয় করা হইবে না।
- এটলাস বাংলাদেশ লিমিটেড এবং বাংলাদেশ ইস্পাত ও প্রকৌশল কর্পোরেশন এর ক্রয় বিভাগে রক্ষিত টেন্ডার বাস্তব দরপত্র ফেলিতে হইবে এবং দরদাতাদের উপস্থিতিতে (যদি কেহ উপস্থিত থাকেন) উপরে উল্লেখিত সময়ে টেন্ডার বাস্তব খোলা হইবে।
- অনিবার্য কারণ বশতঃ টেন্ডার গ্রহণের দিন অফিস বন্ধ থাকিলে পরবর্তী কার্যদিবসে একই সময়ে উভয় অফিসে টেন্ডার গ্রহণ ও খোলা হইবে।
- কর্তৃপক্ষ কোন কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতিরেকেই যে কোন বা সকল দরপত্র গ্রহণ বা বাতিল করার ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করেন।

(কাজী ফারুকুজ্জামান)
উপ-মহাব্যবস্থাপক (ক্রয়)
ব্যবস্থাপনা পরিচালকের পক্ষে।
ফোনঃ ৯৮০২৩২৭।

Guest: Mr. Alamgir Kabir, FCA, Chairman, Board of Directors
Presided By: Mr. Mahbulul Alam, Managing Director
Date: Wednesday, January 27, 2010
Venue: Bangladesh International Conference Centre, Dhaka

Alamgir Kabir, chairman of Southeast Bank Ltd, attends the bank's business policy and managers conference 2010, in Dhaka recently. Mahbulul Alam, managing director, is also seen.