

Tk 336cr jute goods of 8 state-owned mills lie unsold

QUAZI AMANULLAH, *Khulna*

Eight state-owned Jute Mills in Khulna-Jessore industrial belt face financial crisis due to drastic fall in sale of jute products in the last six months.

Source in Khulna zonal office of Bangladesh Jute Mills Corporation (BJMC) said Jute goods worth about Tk 336 crore have remained unsold in the warehouses of the mills.

They said jute goods worth Tk 70 crore of Crescent Jute Mill, Tk 75 crore of Platinum Jute Mill, Tk 65 crore of Khalishpur Jute Mill, Tk 40 crore of Jessore Jute Industries, Tk 24 crore of Eastern Jute Mill, Tk 19 crore of Aleem Jute Mill, Tk 13 lakh of Carpeting Jute Mill and Tk 30 crore of Star Jute Mill are lying unsold in the warehouses of the mills.

Apart from the present financial condition of the eight jute mills, four major industries in Khulna are still waiting for reopening.

These are Khulna Newsprint Mill, Textile Mill, Daulatpur Jute Mill and Khulna Hardboard Mill.

The authorities concerned closed Khulna

Newsprint Mill on November 30 in 2002, leaving over 3,000 workers and employees jobless. Tk 392 crore is needed to reopen the mill as per report submitted to BCIC in August, 2009 by a nine-member committee.

Daulatpur Jute Mill was closed down on December 7 in 2009, throwing over 2,000 workers and employees out of jobs. The authorities shut down the mill on ground of severe financial crisis. The jute mill needs Tk 65 crore for reopening.

The mill is expected to reopen next month as 90 percent of its maintenance work has already been completed, claimed Project Director Monowar Hossain.

Khulna Hardboard Mill was shut down on December 15 in 2002 and reopened on September 14 in 2005. But the authorities concerned closed the mill again in July last year due to severe financial crisis, throwing nearly 300 workers and employees out of jobs.

Khulna Textile Mill was shut down on June 19 in 1993 on ground of financial crisis, leaving 1800 workers and employees jobless.



PHOTO: FOCUS BANGLA
Authorities have started dredging the Padma to maintain navigability of the river during the dry season. The photo was taken from near Paturia ferry terminal on Wednesday.

Mysterious death

OUR CORRESPONDENT,
Patuakhali

Mystery shrouded the death of SSC student Mizanur Rahman, son of Idris Pada of Sabujbagh area in the district town.

Quoting family members, police said Mizanur was reading in his room Wednesday evening while other members of the family went to a nearby residence for watching a TV programme.

Morium Begum, mother of the victim, entered the house at about 9:00pm and found the body hanging from the ceiling of the room.

Morium said earlier, some local youths forcibly brought an unidentified boy into their residence at around 5:00pm and beat him up mercilessly.

The youths then gave Mizanur death threat as he protested the assault, she added. She alleged that the gang killed her son following the incident.

Md Monirul Islam, officer in-charge of Patuakhali police station, said criminals might have strangled Mizanur and hung his body from the ceiling of the house.

Huge quantity of jatka seized from 4 launches

Current nets destroyed in two districts

STAR NATIONAL DESK

Coastguards seized around 160 maunds of jatka (hilsa fry) from four launches in Dhaleshwari River in Sadar upazila of Munshiganj yesterday morning.

Acting on a tip-off, a team of coastguards intercepted the Dhaka-bound MV Panama, MV Zahid-3, MV Tipu-2 and MV Prince of Shohag and recovered the hilsa fries. None was arrested in this connection, reports UNB.

Station Commander Ferdous Ahmed said the jatka will be sold at an auction in presence of Sadar upazila fisheries officer M.A. Azad and the money will be deposited to the government exchequer.

The government has banned catching of jatka from February 1 to May 31.

In Rajbari, a mobile court seized current nets worth Tk. 7 lakh from different areas of Goalunda upazila yesterday.

The mobile court, led by Md. Golam Zakaria, executive magistrate of Rajbari collectorate office, recovered the nets from several parts of the Padma River in separate drives, reports our Manikganj correspondent.

The mobile court burnt the seized current nets at Daulatdia launch ghat at around 2:00pm.

The mobile court also arrested two fishermen - Akkas Ali, 30, and Chand Khan, 50, of Char Delondi village under Debgram union of the upazila and fined Tk. 1,000 each for catching fish illegally.

In Laxmipur, coastguard members in separate drives in Kamolganj upazila recovered one lakh meter current

nets worth Tk 57 lakh on Wednesday noon.

A team of coastguards of Matirhat camp in their drive to stop jatka fishing conducted raids in Batirghat, Chodlar Ghat, Char Shamsuddin and surrounding areas of the upazila and seized the current nets.

Later the seized nets were destroyed.

All because of bringing corruption charge

OUR CORRESPONDENT,
Khagrachhari

A female teacher of Dighinala Model Government Primary School in Dighinala upazila of the district was hospitalised as she became senseless following alleged verbal assault by headmaster of the school on Tuesday.

Headmaster Chandra Kumar Chakma hurled abuse at Geeta Chowdhury, 48, an assistant teacher of the school, at his office room on Tuesday to vent out his wrath following a recent corruption allegation made by all the seven assistant teachers of the school against the headmaster, said the colleagues of Geeta.

As Geeta fell senseless, she was rushed to Dighinala upazila health complex where the on-duty doctor referred her to Khagrachhari Adhunik Sadar Hospital in the evening, they added.

"The headmaster called me to the office room at around 2:30pm of Tuesday. As soon as I entered the room he started seriously scolding me, apparently in reaction to the corruption allegation against him. At one stage I became senseless," a tearful Geeta told this correspondent at Khagrachhari Adhunik Sadar Hospital.

She demanded exemplary punishment of the headmaster.

"Geeta became senseless due to the serious mental pressure. She needs complete rest for a week," said Sanjib Tripura, resident medical officer of Khagrachhari Adhunik Sadar Hospital.

Nilima Tripura and Sirajul Islam, assistant teachers of Dighinala Model Government Primary School, said the headmaster misbehaved not only with Geeta, but with all the teachers and tried to harass them in different ways after they submitted the corruption allegation to the district primary education office on January 9.

Contacted, headmaster Chandra Kumar Chakma denied the allegations and said Geeta was hospitalised due to her physical illness.

District Primary Education Officer Md Nurul Islam said, "The allegations against the headmaster have been primarily found true. Stern action will be taken after investigation."

Man murdered in Chuadanga

UNB, *Chuadanga*

Police recovered the body of a young man from a crop field at Peyaratala village in Jibannagar upazila yesterday morning.

The deceased was identified as Shahidul Islam, 46, son of late Delwar Hossain of the village.

Police said local people found the body in the field at about 10am and informed them.

Police suspected that criminals strangled Shahidul late at night over extra-marital affairs and left the body in the field.

Police detained Shahidul's wife Shahanaz Begum for interrogation.

10 Indian fishermen returned, 5 Bangladeshis not sent back

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Bagerhat*

Local administrations yesterday handed over the 10 Indian fishermen, rescued from the clutches of robbers in the Sundarbans on February 3, to Indian High Commission officials.

Dr Mizanur Rahman, Upazila Nirbahi Officer (UNO) said that they handed over the Indian nationals along with their trawler to RK Rakhi, protocol and welfare officer of the Indian High Commission on completion of legal procedures.

Later, the 10 fishermen returned home in the trawler.

Mihir Kumar Do, divisional officer of Sundarbans east zone said that a joint team of coastguard members and forest officials rescued the 10 Indian fishermen from a *char* on the Shela River of the Sundarbans, after a gang of robbers (Gama Bahini) left them there on February 3.

Earlier, the forest officials found the trawler, 'FB Tara Ma' in an abandoned condition at Chhapra Khali Char in the Sundarbans on January 29.

Sources said, the members of 'Gama Bahini' kidnapped the Indian fishermen along with the trawler on January 26 when

they entered the Bangladesh waters.

Mihir Kumar said the gang also attacked a group of Bangladeshi fishermen on the day while fishing in the sea.

"As the gang started firing shots on the trawler indiscriminately, some of the fishermen jumped into the sea," he said.

Later, he said, Indian fishermen rescued five of the Bangladeshi fishermen and took them to hospital.

On information, police rushed to the hospital and took all the rescued fishermen into custody. They later filed two criminal cases against them.

The Bangladeshi fishermen are Zakir Hossain Khan of Swarankhola upazila in Bagerhat, Golam Mostafa and Nurul Islam of Mathbaria upazila in Pirojpur, Bishnu Prasad and Hiru Khan of Patharghata upazila in Barguna district. They were admitted to a hospital in South 24 Pargana of India with critical bullet wounds on January 26.

Barguna District Trawler Owners' Association president Golam Mostafa Chowdhury urged the government to take immediate steps to ensure release of the five Bangladeshi fishermen.

VACANCY NOTICE



United Nations Development Programme in Bangladesh announces a vacancy for the position of **Advocacy and Communications Analyst (Service Contract, SB-4 Level)** with "Comprehensive Disaster Management Programme (CDMP), Phase-II" project.

The duration of the Service Contract is one year initially, subject to renewal on an annual basis upon satisfactory performance and availability of funds.

For details of the Job Description and instructions to apply for the above position, please visit our website: <http://www.undp.org.bd/jobs>. Applications should be received no later than on **Saturday, 25 February, 2012.**

Only short-listed candidates will be contacted. Female candidates are encouraged to apply.

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

Emergency 2007 Cyclone Recovery and Restoration Project, Bangladesh (Component A)

Invitation for Bids for Procurement of Live Animals and Goat sheds

Credit No. 4507 – BD, Project ID No. UTF/BGD/040/BGD, Bid Package No.4G10.L and 1G29.L

The People's Republic of Bangladesh has received financing from the World Bank toward the cost of the Emergency 2007 Cyclone Recovery and Restoration Project and it intends to apply part of the proceeds toward payments under the contract for the Procurement of goods against different Livestock packages. The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the supply of Live Animals and Structures for Goat sheds. Bidders having a minimum of 3 (three) years of experience in the supply of the tendered items/similar items are only encouraged to participate. The delivery period is between 8 (eight) weeks and 24 (twenty four) weeks from the date of the Notification of the Award.

Bidding will be conducted through the national competitive bidding procedures as specified in the World Bank's *Guidelines: Procurement under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits*, (current edition), and is open to all eligible bidders as defined in the guidelines.

Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information and inspect the bidding documents from the ECRRP office of FAO Representation in Bangladesh (Hs. # 27, Rd. # 9/A, Apt. # A -1, Dhanmondi R/A, Dhaka – 1209, Telephone 8130758/104) during office hours i.e. 08:00 to 16:30 Hrs. A complete set of bidding documents for each package in English may be purchased by the interested bidders from the ECRRP office of FAO on the submission of a written application to the address below and upon payment of a non-refundable fee as mentioned below. The method of payment for the tender documents will be in cash against a written receipt. All bids must be accompanied by a bid security for an amount mentioned below.

Package No.	Item	Quantity/ Nos.	Bid Security (Tk.)	Price of Bid Document (Tk.)
4G10.L	Live Animals (Dairy Cows)	207 Nos.	175,000.00	1000.00
1G29.L	Structure for Goat Sheds	4000 Nos.	325,000.00	1500.00

Bids shall be delivered to the address below by 14:00 Hrs. on 05 March 2012. They will be opened immediately thereafter, in the presence of bidder's representatives, who choose to attend, at the address below. Late bids will be rejected.

FAO Representation in Bangladesh
House # 37, Road # 8
Dhanmondi, Dhaka-1205
Tel: 880-2-8118015
Fax: 8802-2-811 3446

The publishing of this notice and the receipt of bids does not commit FAO in any way to any party.



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Vacancy Notice



United Nations Development Programme in Bangladesh announces a vacancy for the post of **Project Officer** under Service Contract for the **Judicial Strengthening Project. The project duration is until December 2014**

The duration of the Service Contract is one year initially, subject to renewal on an annual basis upon satisfactory performance and availability of funds

For details of the Terms of Reference and instructions to apply, please visit our website: <http://www.undp.org.bd/jobs>. Applications should be submitted no later than 17:00 pm, **Saturday, 25 February 2012.**

Only short-listed candidates will be contacted.
Female candidates are strongly encouraged to apply.