

Dealers raise urea price in peak aman season

STAR COUNTRY DESK

Fertiliser dealers in Dinajpur and Kurigram districts are allegedly charging higher than the government rate for urea during the peak aman cultivation season.

The government fixed Tk 800 for each 50kg urea bag but farmers in 12 upazilas of Dinajpur have to pay additional Tk 80 to 120 for each bag, reports our Dinajpur correspondent.

This year the Department of Agriculture Extension (DAE) has set a target to bring 2.5 lakh hectares of land in Dinajpur district under aman farming.

The target is likely to exceed when the aman seedling sowing ends in mid

September, DAE officials said, adding that they appointed 163 fertiliser dealers for smooth supply of urea to the farmers across the district.

But farmers in different upazilas of the district alleged that dealers are charging extra money for the fertiliser.

"I purchased 15kg of urea from Katla Bazar on Saturday, which cost me Tk 300. But the actual price should be Tk 240," said Md Abdus Sattar, a farmer of Daudpur village under Katla union of Birampur upazila of Dinajpur.

Rawshan Parvez, another farmer of the same village, said the dealers charged him Tk 920 for a bag of urea.

"As I wanted to know the

reason for charging high price, they said urea supply shortfall in the upazila and transport cost added to the price," he said.

The dealers do not give vouchers for the additional charge, alleged the farmers.

Md Mozammel Haque, a urea dealer of Chirirbandar upazila in Dinajpur, refuted the allegation of taking additional charge.

He, however, said some sub-dealers in rural areas are allegedly charging extra money for their transport expense.

Md Abdul Hannan, deputy director of DAE in Dinajpur, said, "There is no reason for urea shortage in the district this season. Officials are strongly monitoring the

distribution and marketing of the fertiliser in the district. It has to be sold as per the government's fixed rate."

Our Kurigram Correspondent reports: Farmers in the district have to buy urea for additional prices.

Earlier this season, farmers had to irrigate their lands to cultivate T-aman paddy as there was much less than usual rain. Following rainfall during the last few days, farmers are now busy to put in the land.

"I bought a 50kg bag of urea for Tk 800 some days ago, now it has to be bought for Tk 900," said Zaman, 52, a farmer of Panthapara village of Omar Majid union under Rajarhat upazila.

Fertiliser trader Bimal Chandra of Kathalbari Bazar in Kurigram Sadar upazila said, "We are getting two to five kg less in per 50kg bag of urea. And so, we are selling urea at Tk 18 per kg to adjust the cost."

Golam Mostafa, general secretary of the district fertiliser dealers' association, said, "There is enough stock of urea in the district. But the bags of the imported urea from China contain less than the stipulated weight. So, the retail traders sell it for a bit higher prices."

Local DAE officials said dealers have already received 60 per cent of the 6,335 tonnes of urea allocated for the district for the running month.

Protip Kumar Mondal, deputy director of DAE in the district, said, "We will take action if anyone takes extra charge for urea."



PHOTO: STAR

A farmer sprays urea on his aman field at Azimpur village in Biral upazila under Dinajpur district. Like many others, he had to purchase the input for higher than the government fixed price as it is peak cultivation season.

SNIPPETS

Two shot by BSF

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sathirha

Two Bangladeshi cattle traders were shot as Indian Border Security Force (BSF) opened fire on them at Kushkhali frontier in Sadar upazila of the district early yesterday. They are Ziaur Rahman Mollah, 26, son of Atiaur Rahman Mollah of Choigharia village of Kaliani and Siddiquar Rahman. They were taken to Khulna Medical College Hospital. Kushkhali Union Parishad Chairman Abu Raihan said, a group of Bangladeshi cattle traders crossed the border on Saturday to bring cattle. As they were returning to Bangladeshi territory, BSF from Khalisha Camp opened fire on them at around 4:30am yesterday injuring the two. Fellow cattle traders brought them to the Bangladesh territory.

Abducted woman found killed

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

An elderly woman, allegedly abducted four days ago, was found dead in Bhangarpur area of Habiganj-Sayestaganj Highway in Sadar upazila of Habiganj district on Saturday evening. Deceased Alom Chan Bibi, 52, was wife of Amir Uddin of Haripur area in Sadar upazila of the district. Informed by locals, police recovered the body of Chan Bibi from a pond around 7pm, police said, adding Chan might have been strangled. The woman remained missing from the village since Tuesday morning, said the victim's son Nasir Uddin.

Housewife 'commits suicide'

OUR CORRESPONDENT, BENAPOLE, JESSORE

A housewife allegedly committed suicide by taking poison following a family feud at Rajapur village in Jhikargachha upazila on Saturday night. The deceased was identified as Fatema Khatun, 18, wife of Firoz Hossain, of the village. Police said, Firoz Hossain used to torture Sabina for dowry after their marriage one and half years back.

Bullet-hit body recovered

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

Police recovered the bullet-hit body of an unidentified man from beside Dhaka-Tangail highway in Mirzapur upazila yesterday. Being informed by locals, a police team rushed to Rashid Deohata area in the morning and found the body of the man, aged about 40, lying along the road and a shotgun beside him. The law enforcers suspected that the man was shot dead at some other place and later his body was dumped beside the highway.

'Missing' college boy found murdered

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Jamalpur

The body of a college student, who went missing on Saturday afternoon, was found in the Brahmaputra River in Sadar upazila yesterday.

The deceased, Azharul Islam Hridoy, 22, son of Faruq Ahmed Ratan of Joyrampur village in the upazila, was a BBA student of Government Ashek Mahmud College in the town.

Family members said Hridoy went out of their house at around 4:00pm on Saturday. As he did not return home until 8:00pm, they started looking for him.

Some locals told the family members that they saw Hridoy along with his cousin Nishat and friend Konok of the same village in Banarpura area at around

4:30pm on Saturday.

Since family members put pressure on the duo to know Hridoy's whereabouts, they said that he drowned in the river near Banarpura area.

Being informed by the victim's family, police went to the village and detained Nishat and Konok early yesterday.

On the basis of their statements, police along with locals went to Banarpura area and recovered Hridoy's body from the river at around 5:00pm yesterday.

The body bore injury marks in the face, said Sub-Inspector Rafique, who led the search operation. The body was sent to Jamalpur General Hospital morgue for autopsy.

Police said they will take legal steps after getting autopsy report.

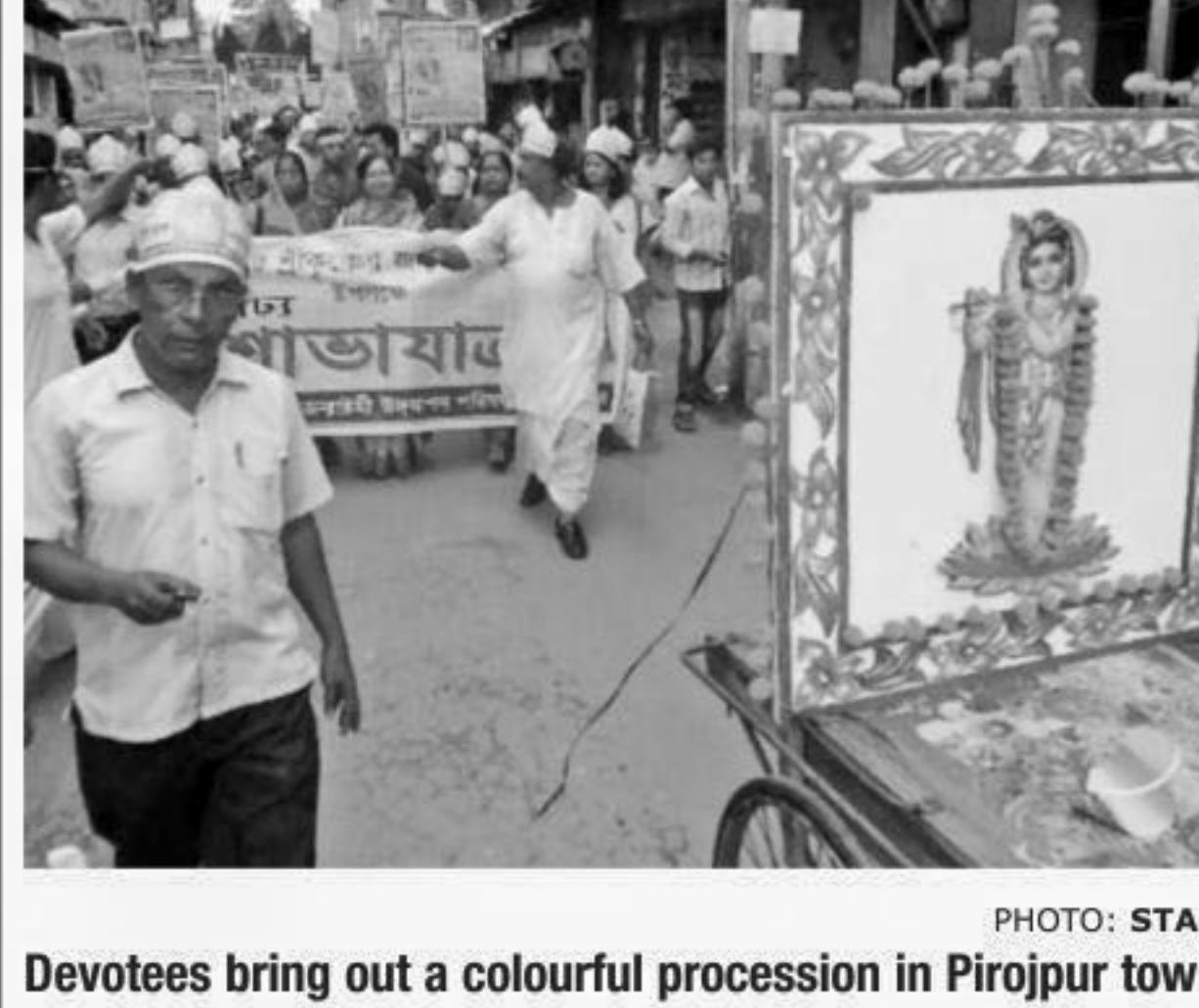


PHOTO: STAR

Devotees bring out a colourful procession in Pirojpur town yesterday marking Janmastami, the birthday of Hindu deity Sri Krishna. Similar programmes were held in different areas of the country as the community celebrated the occasion with religious enthusiasm and fervour.

Request for Proposal

Conducting Training on Human Trafficking for Law Enforcement Officials and Public Prosecutors

Reference: RFP-BD-2014-046

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Bangladesh seeks Proposals from interested firms/companies for Conducting Training on Human Trafficking for Law Enforcement Officials and Public Prosecutors.

All interested firms/companies may download the Bidding documents (RFP) from <http://www.bd.undp.org/content/bangladesh/en/home/operations/procurement/>

Submission of Proposal: The envelope should state the tender subject mentioned above and the Proposals must be submitted as per the instructions specified in the RFP document by the deadline mentioned below to the Registry, UNDP Bangladesh, IDB Bhaban (12th Floor), Begum Rokeya Sharani, Agargaon, Dhaka-1207.

A pre-bid meeting will be conducted at UNDP, IDB Bhaban, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar on 24th August 2014 at 11:00 AM local time.

The deadline for submission of Proposals is Wednesday, 3rd September 2014, 04:30PM local time.

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PHOTO: STAR

Erosion by the Dudhkumar River threatens Sonahat bridge in Bhurungamari upazila under Kurigram district.

Two students, kid drown

STAR COUNTRY DESK

Two students and a three-year-old boy drowned in Kishoreganj, Sylhet and Sunamganj districts yesterday.

Sahadat Hossain, 18, an HSC second-year student at Rajuk Uttara Model College in the capital, drowned in Dhonu River in Karimganj upazila of Kishoreganj yesterday, reports our correspondent.

Sahadat was son of Nur Hossain of Noakhali.

Police said, Sahadat along with some of his friends came to visit their friend Ziaur Rahman Emon at Guzadia village in the upazila.

They said the boy drowned after being driven by strong current in the river while he was bathing along with his friends yesterday.

Our staff correspondent in Sylhet reports, a schoolboy drowned in a water body in Ratargul forest, a natural tourist spot in Gowainghat upazila yesterday.

The deceased, Nazim Uddin, 14, was a Class VIII student at Jalalabad Cantonment Public School and College.

Nazim, along with his other friends were roving round a water body in the forest around 11:30am. Later, he went missing.

After sometime, he was rescued from the water body and rushed to Sylhet MAG Osmani Medical College Hospital, where the doctors declared him dead around 1:30pm.

In Sunamganj, a three-year-old boy drowned in a ditch near his house at Maddhya Tahirpur village in Tahirpur upazila yesterday, reports Moulvibazar correspondent.

The deceased, Hushiar Mia, 3, son of Tapos Mia of the village, fell in the water body while he was playing near it around 2:30pm.

Following it, another group of devotees,

Erosion threatens Sonahat bridge in Kurigram

52 houses of a village devoured in two days

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kurigram

Erosion by the Dudhkumar River has taken a serious turn, threatening collapse of Sonahat Bridge anytime in Bango Sonahat union in Bhurungamari upazila.

Following onrush of water from upstream in the last two weeks, the river swelled and within a span of two days from Saturday, devoured at least 52 dwellings of Jatrapur union parishad.

In Jatrapur union under Sadar upazila, around 450 families have lost their homesteads due to the erosion by the Brahmaputra River.

About one kilometre of the river embankment from Farajipara to Garuhara village has already been devoured in

and at least 60 more dwellings at the village are in serious threat of erosion, said locals.

People in the area urged the local administration several times to take steps to save the connecting road. On August 16, they suspended vehicular movement on the bridge for around three hours to press home their demand.

Abdul Kader, Acting Executive Engineer of the WDB, said they were dumping sand bags to save the bridge from possible collapses.

To protect the two and half kilometre area from erosion we had placed a project proposal of Tk 14.8 cores to the ministry concerned. However, we got only Tk 30 lakh, the WDB official said.

ISSUE OF PRAYERS FOR BANGABANDHU

Jamaat men attack devotees at mosque in Rangpur

STAR COUNTRY DESK

Police arrested five leaders and activists of Bangladesh Jamaat-e-Islami in Rangpur and Barisal districts yesterday and the day before.

In Rangpur, police arrested two Jamaat men on Saturday on charge of their alleged involvement in attacking devotees at Pawtana Haat Jame Mosque in Pirojpur upazila after Juma prayers on Friday night in this connection.

In the case he also mentioned name of 12 leaders and activists of BNP and Jamaat-Shibir, including the arrestees.

Later, police raided different areas and arrested Md Abdul Awal and Md Mottalib Hossain.

In Barisal, Muladi police yesterday arrested three leaders and activists of Jamaat-e-Islami Bangladesh including municipality Jamaat secretary Abul Hossain alias Babul Master, reports our correspondent.

Md. Alauddin, officer in-charge at Muladi Police Station, said they arrested them from the residence of Maulana Golam Azam at Hosnabad village.

Police arrested them when they were holding a secret meeting to plan subversive activities, he added.

বাংলাদেশ বিদ্যুৎ উন্নয়ন বোর্ড

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Date: 14/08/2014

"বিদ্যুৎ সশ্রান্তি বাতি ব্যবহার করুন"

Subject:- Amendment # 1 of BPDB's International Tender Enquiry No. Pur-249/2013-14/Rev.(CF), Dated: 24/06/2014 for Procurement of Transformer Oil

The subject tender is amended as follows:-

Sl. No.	Tender enquiry No. & date	Item of original tender notice	Existing as	Amended as
01.	Pur-249/2013-14/Rev.(CF) Date: 24/06/2014	(Tender Notice Sl No. 17) Tender selling date	19/08/2014	01/09/2014
		Tender Notice Sl No. 18) Tender closing date and time	20/08/2014 at 11.00am (Tender receive any day before 21/08/2014 during office hour)	02/09/2014 at 11.00am (Tender receive any day before 21/08/2014 during office hour)
		(Tender Notice Sl No. 19) Tender opening date and time	20/08/2014 at 11.30am	02/09/2014 at 11.30am

All other terms & conditions of the aforesaid tender shall remain unchanged.