

আপনার সংসার গুছিয়ে দিচ্ছি আমরা। এসআইবিএল ইসলামিক কনজুমার ফাইন্যান্স।

আপনার সংসার সোজানোর আসবাবপত্র, শিফা সামগ্রী, ইলেক্ট্রনিক ও অন্যান্য গ্যেজাপত্য কেনার সুন্দর সমাধান দিচ্ছি আমরা।

• ফ্রি অনলাইন সেবা
যে কোন প্রয়োজনে ০৯৬৯২০০৯২২

Star BUSINESS

DHAKA MONDAY NOVEMBER 14, 2016, KARTIK 30, 1423 BS

Hilsa joins queue for GI registration

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

A process has been initiated to get popular fish hilsa registered as a geographical indication (GI) product of Bangladesh.

GI is a name or sign used on certain products to certify that they possess certain qualities because they are made as per traditional methods or enjoy a certain reputation due to their geographical origin.

The Department of Fisheries (DoF) yesterday applied to the authorities to protect the rights of the delicious fish that is found in major rivers and the Bay of Bengal almost across the year.

The fisheries department sought to register the national fish as 'Hilsa BD' in its application to the Department of Patents, Designs and Trademarks (DPDT) under the industries ministry.

The government has taken steps to protect the intellectual property rights of goods, including GI products, Md Mosharraf Hossain Bhuiyan, senior secretary of the industries ministry, said in a statement.

"We will now examine the application to see whether it is right in line with the law and rules," said Md Sanowar Hossain, registrar of DPDT.

The department will publish a journal for registering hilsa fish as a GI product under the GI law that was passed in 2013. Rules were framed in 2015 to implement the law.

After the publication of the journal, the DPDT will wait for two months to see whether there is any objection to registering the fish as a GI product of Bangladesh.

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Crab export on the rise

SOHEL PARVEZ

Crab has emerged as a potential export earner thanks to its high demand in East and Southeast Asian countries and increased farming in the coastal belts of Bangladesh, sector operators said.

Bangladesh shipped crabs worth \$23.82 million in 2015-16, which was \$7.2 million in 2010-11, according to Export Promotion Bureau.

"We mainly export crabs to China where there is high demand for crabs," said Shafiqul Alam, proprietor of ZF Trade International, an exporter.

During July-October of the current fiscal year, shipment rose 28 percent year-on-year to \$3.5 million, EPB data shows.

Fisheries officials said Bangladesh exports mud crabs that are grown mainly in the southern districts such as Satkhira, Khulna and Bagerhat, along with shrimp.

Officials and stakeholders said many shrimp farmers have started fattening crabs inside their shrimp enclosures to boost earnings.

"The risk of disease is low in crab farming while its market value is good," said Binay Kumar Chakraborty, project

director of a Tk 22-crore scheme of crab and eel fish culture and research at the Department of Fisheries (DoF).

Officials said farmers now fatten crab fingerlings that are caught from rivers near the sea, particularly from the Sundarbans area.



As excessive catches from natural sources may affect biodiversity, cultivating fries in hatcheries has become important, according to DoF officials.

Under the project, the DoF plans to establish a hatchery so that farmers can get crab fries and increase farming for exports as its local demand is low.

Chakraborty said the demand for crabs is high in the Southeast Asian region.

Apart from the main destination China, crabs are also exported to Hong Kong, Taiwan and Malaysia.

Bangladesh exports about 1,200 tonnes of crabs a year.

Alam of ZF Trade International said local exporters have been shipping crabs for the last couple of decades.

"It is a non-traditional item. Very few people in Bangladesh eat it," he said, adding that an area has been developed at Uttara in Dhaka for shipping live crabs by air to various destinations.

He said the demand for mud crabs is high abroad.

"Bangladesh has good potential as it has a long coastal belt to grow crabs. Crabs are widely available during winter," said Alam, citing that the 1.3 billion population of China offers huge prospects.

"The more we grow, the more we will be able to export."

The sector faces some challenges. "We can't send crabs to many destinations. Besides we don't always get space in flights," Alam said.

He demanded government incentives to increase crab exports citing that India provides cash support.

Crabs are grown in many countries in South and Southeast Asia including India, with Myanmar joining the trade of late.

DataSoft opens first IoT lab

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

DataSoft Systems Bangladesh yesterday opened a state-of-the-art IoT lab at its new office in Shyamoli in Dhaka.

ICT State Minister Zunaïd Ahmed Palak inaugurated the country's first internet of things or IoT lab, where about 300 engineers will sign up for a four-month course on IoT systems.

At the event, the state minister declared DataSoft as the country's new private hi-tech park that will give the company a push to go into further innovations.

"In principle, I accept DataSoft's request to allow it to run as a private hi-tech. But they have to apply officially to complete the formalities," said Palak.

US Ambassador to Bangladesh Marcia Bernicat and industry experts were also present at the event.

Palak also accepted DataSoft's request to allocate it a space of 20,000 square feet at Bangabandhu Hi-Tech City.

As a private hi-tech park, the DataSoft office will get special tax benefits with uninterrupted power supply.

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Novoair to fly to Kolkata from Dec

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Private carrier Novoair is set to spread its wings to its second international destination -- Kolkata -- from next month.

The airline will operate four flights a week from Dhaka to Kolkata. The airline had kicked off its maiden international flight on the Dhaka-Yangon route a year ago.

"We followed a go-slow policy in expanding our international operations. There are many competitors on the international routes and we didn't want to expand our coverage in a hurry," Mofizur Rahman, managing director of Novoair, said at a press briefing in Dhaka yesterday to announce the airline's expansion.

Novoair, which started operations in 2013, is also focusing on successfully running its domestic routes.

The promotional fare on a two-way Dhaka-Kolkata ticket including taxes and surcharges will start from Tk 9,999, said Rahman.

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On October 1, 2016 Apollo Hospitals Dhaka was awarded the 2016 Best International Hospital Award for Bangladesh. During 2016, the International Healthcare Commission conducted performance review ratings of all private hospitals in Bangladesh. Apollo Hospitals Dhaka scored the highest points of any private hospital in Bangladesh.

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