



Farmer Atul Chandra Roy from Sadar upazila in Lalmonirhat works at a bitter gourd field in Sreepur village under Sunsuri district of Nepal. PHOTO: COLLECTED

Lalmonirhat farmer takes expertise to Nepal

S DILIP ROY with ANDREW EAGLE

Farmer Atul Chandra Roy, 33, from Dakkhin Durakuti village in Lalmonirhat Sadar upazila's Mogholhat union never imagined he would become an international trainer. But last year, far from the alluvial fields of North Bengal that he is used to, Atul went to share his farming knowledge with colleagues in Nepal.

"I have farmed vegetables since I was in class one," says Atul, who was unable to study beyond his Secondary School Certificate due to family circumstances. "For the last decade I have produced vegetable seeds, in particular of bitter gourd, chilli, tomato and brinjal." Atul and his family sell the seeds harvested from their eight bighas of land and an additional four bighas they lease, to a seed company. For his farming expertise Atul has gained quite a reputation.

Following noteworthy farming success again in 2015, Atul was hired

by the Bangladeshi seed company that buys his produce to travel to Nepal for three months, from September to November last year, to demonstrate high yield vegetable farming practices.

According to the seed company, Atul was tasked with farming, together with local farmers, high yield tomato, bitter gourd, brinjal and papaya on fifty acres of land in Haripur, Sreepur and Birganj villages of Sunsuri district of Nepal, around 600 kilometres from Kathmandu.

"Nepalese farmers are hardworking and honest," says Atul, "but they don't know how to produce high yield vegetable yields. The land we worked with in Nepal is very fertile and suitable for bumper vegetable harvests but they only use general farming techniques. I've been teaching them high yield farming."

"The new skills we learnt from Atul to produce high yield vegetable crops will benefit us a lot," says Nepalese farmer Satis Mehta, 55, from Haripur village over phone. He said previously

they had only been able to achieve general yields from their fields.

"We used to get only twenty percent result from vegetables," says another Nepalese farmer Promodh Mehta, 48, from Sreepur village. "We didn't know how to make the most of our land. From our Bangladeshi farmer friend we gained experience and skill. It will bring good fortune to us."

Lalmonirhat district's branch manager of the seed company, Shahidur Rahman, says Atul was chosen for his experience in producing high yield vegetables. "Our aim is to provide training to Nepalese farming in order that they can produce high yield vegetable seeds for the Nepalese market."

Back at home, Atul's parents, neighbours and indeed most of the inhabitants of his remote village are proud of his efforts in helping Nepalese farmers. His experience is quite the talk of Dakkhin Durakuti.

85 held on border while coming from India

3 girls rescued from traffickers in Jessore

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Benapole

Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) arrested 85 people when they were entering Bangladesh from India through Putkhali border illegally while three teenage girls were rescued from human traffickers at Rudrapur border in Jessore.

The arrestees are 16 children, 29 women and 40 men. They hail from different areas of Chittagong, Satkhira and Khulna.

They went to India for getting jobs and stayed in Delhi at different times, said police.

Md Abdul Jalil, company commander of BGB-21 Battalion, said on secret information, the border guards raided the area yesterday morning and arrested them.

However, the human traffickers managed to flee the scene, he said.

A case was filed in this connection, said Moniruzaman Monir, sub-inspector of Benapole Port Police Station.

Meanwhile, BGB men rescued three teenage girls from Rudrapur border in Sharsha upazila of Jessore on Monday while they were being trafficked to India.

The victims, aged about 14 to 15, hail from different areas of Brahmanbaria, Mymensingh and Comilla.

However, none was arrested in this connection, said Lt Col Arifur Rahman, commanding officer of the battalion.

Man to die for murder

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Manikganj

A court here yesterday sentenced a man to death for killing his wife in 2007.

The convict is Alamgir Hossain of Kalidaspur village under Bagha upazila of Rajshahi. He was tried in absentia.

According to the prosecution, Mamta Begum of Singair upazila in Manikganj was killed by Alamgir following a family feud at her house on April in 2007.

Mamta Begum's mother Anesa Begum later filed a murder case with Singair Police Station, accusing Alamgir.

After examining evidence and witnesses, Judge of District and Sessions Judge's Court Mizanur Rahman found Alamgir guilty and pronounced the verdict.

Public Prosecutor advocate Abdus Salam defended the state side while advocate Madhob Saha and advocate Ataur Rahman fought for the accused.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Ministry of Primary and Mass Education
Directorate of Primary Education
Third Primary Education Development Program (PEDP-3)
Section 2, Mirpur, Dhaka-1216
www.dpe.gov.bd

Memo No. 38.01.0000.005.07.519.16-1273

Date: 09 January, 2017

Request for Expression of Interest for Selection of an IT Based Financial Management Consultant (Junior National Consultant)

The Directorate of Primary Education (DPE) has received public funds from the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh (GOB) and funds from ADB, IDA, DFID, CIDA, EU, SIDA, JICA, AUSAID, UNICEF towards the cost of the Third Primary Education Development Program (PEDP-3) and intends to apply part of the proceeds of these funds (excluding IDA) to cover eligible payments under the contract for consultancy service as IT Based Financial Management (FM) Junior Consultant.

The Main Tasks: The specialist will- Assist DPE to generate Interim Financial Report (IFR) with the help of Controller General of Accounts (CGA) as per the Development Partner's (DPs) requirements and including Annual Fiduciary Review (AFR) and Quarterly Fiduciary Review (QFR). He (she) will analyze and design financial reports, chart of accounts and financial statement for the DPE's Computerized Accounting System and suggest FPD, DPE for further development of the system on the basis of the existing software. He (she) will assist FPD, DPE to develop need-based training manuals and conduct training to key staffs of MoPME/DPE/LGED/DPHE/Accounts Officers including both DPE Head Office and Field level offices for Financial Management & Web-based Computerized Accounting System; He (she) will assist FPD, DPE to provide training to key staff during implementation and generation of financial reports and Statement of Expenditure (SOE) at field units and to monitor "Advances" following Web-Based Computerized Accounting software both at Head Office and Field Offices; Identify needs and further changes and customizations to the software to suit with the cost centers and DPE/MoPME's needs with expenditure monitoring of the Primary Education to assist FAPAD audit including assist to prepare financial statement, audit statement and Broad Sheet (BS) reply at Head Office. He (she) will assist the FPD key personnel to produce monthly, quarterly, semi-annual and report from the computerized system to prepare Withdrawal Applications and keep liaison with the relevant agencies including the CGA, Ministry of Finance (MoF), Economic Relations Division (ERD) and Bangladesh Bank for certification of the financial reports. He (she) will also assist DPE to prepare relevant documents and make coordination with the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) for the audit of the annual financial statements with reviewing the status of implementation of agreed Financial Management (FM) Actions of PEDP-3 for providing support in implementation of various events, like workshops, meetings, trainings etc as required and will assist DPE to maintain liaison with the Development Partners on these activities from time to time.

Qualification and experience: The IT Based Financial Management Consultant should have the following qualifications: Advanced University degree (Master degree or equivalent) major in Accounting/Accounting & Information Systems/Finance together with 4 years' Graduation degree in the same field. Preference will be given to ACCA/CIMA (Part qualified) professional level candidate with minimum 04 (four) years' experience on Financial Management Consultancy in Primary Education Sector. The applicant should have basic knowledge about data based management system and networking with experience in Web Based Public Accounting System, Financial & Reporting Analysis, Design, Development, Commissioning and Implementation at central and field level. The applicant should have knowledge on Public Accounts and Budget Management of Bangladesh Government align with Directorate of Primary Education (DPE) for preparing IFR, settling audit observations and issues like Audit, AFR, QFR, IPSAS, IAS, IFRS and iBAS. He (she) should have skills in computer operation including excellent knowledge of English language (listening, speaking, reading and writing) with proven experience in Budgetary Management Framework, Budgetary Control, MTBF, DPP/RDPP, FAPAD Audit & audit settlement, ADP, AOP. The applicant should have proven knowledge in submitting W/A to DPs, multi-donor disbursement analysis with adequate experience in dealing with ADB/World Bank reporting requirements, disbursement procedures and submission of withdrawal applications of Development Partners.

Duration of the assignment: The assignment will be a 5 months assignment under a time based contract from 1 February 2017 up to 30 June 2017.

The Director (Finance), DPE now invites eligible applicants to express their interest in providing the services. Interested Consultants are invited to provide information indicating that he/she is qualified to perform the services in accordance with the ADB's CV format available at Finance and Procurement Division, Directorate of Primary Education (DPE), Section-2, Mirpur, Dhaka-1216. The Consultant will be selected using the Individual Consultants Selection (ICS) method in accordance with ADB's Guidelines on the use of Consultants (2010).

Interested Applicants may obtain further Information (TOR) from the address below during normal office hours and ADB's website: www.cms.adb.org and DPE's website: www.dpe.gov.bd.

Expressions of Interest with complete CV shall be submitted on or before 4.00pm of 17 January, 2017, in sealed envelope to Director (Finance), Directorate of Primary Education (DPE), Section-2, Mirpur, Dhaka-1216 and be clearly marked "Request for Expression of Interest for Selection of an IT Based Financial Management Consultant (Junior National Consultant)" or can be submitted through www.cms.adb.org.

The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject any or all EOIs received without assigning any reason thereof.

FM Enamul Hoque
Director (Finance), DPE

KALPANA CHAKMA ABDUCTION CASE Next hearing Mar 22

A CORRESPONDENT, Rangamati

A Rangamati court yesterday fixed March 22 for the next hearing on no-confidence petition in sensational Kalpana Chakma abduction case.

The court of Chief Judicial Magistrate Kazi Mohammad Mohsin also fixed the same date for the hearing on another petition filed by Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust (BLAST) seeking judicial inquiry in the abduction case.

Jewel Dewan, the plaintiff's lawyer and coordinator of BLAST's Rangamati unit, said he was very disappointed by the repeated deferral of the date in the case, adding that they will have to wait until the next hearing on March 22.

Criminals torch 11 houses

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Thakurgaon

Criminals on Monday night torched at least 11 makeshift houses erected on a disputed land at Boirchuna Jagannathpur village in Pirganj upazila on Friday.

Quoting local people, police said one Tariqul Islam and his son-in-law Ekramul Haque bought 169 decimals of land at the village in 2006 and later grew a mango orchard there.

Since buying the land, they have been contesting a case with the government

over the ownership of 133 decimals.

Suddenly on Friday night, eight local landless families erected 11 makeshift houses on the 133 decimals of land, claiming it as khas land, Officer-in-Charge Mohammad Amiruzzaman of Pirganj Police Station said.

Later, in a bid to re-establish their possession on the land, a group led by Tariqul's caretaker Marfat Ali vandalised the houses around 7:30pm on Monday and set those afire.

On information, a fire fighting unit from Pirganj Fire Station went to the spot and doused the blaze, the OC added.

Govt to ask Myanmar

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The delegation will also hold talks with Foreign Minister AH Mahmood Ali at 1:30pm at the state guesthouse Padma. Foreign Secretary Md Shahidul Haque and other high officials from different ministries will attend the meeting.

During the talks, Dhaka will make it clear that Rohingyas are citizens of Myanmar and that it is Myanmar's responsibility to resolve the problems in Rakhine state. Bangladesh will also ask Myanmar to take back all registered and unregistered Rohingyas living in Bangladesh for many years, sources said.

The delegation will be reminded of the past agreements signed between the two countries, including the one in 1992, when Myanmar agreed to take back the Rohingyas and also admitted that Rohingyas are legally the citizens of Myanmar, they added.

Myanmar did not issue any clear message about the topic of discussion, but its presidential spokesman Zaw Htay said on Monday that the team would "discuss the situation on the border".

At least 65,000 Muslim Rohingyas have fled northwestern Myanmar for Bangladesh since October to escape a "counter-insurgency operation" by the military. Some 22,000 entered Bangladesh in the last one week alone, international media reported on Monday, quoting the UN relief agency.

A foreign ministry official said Bangladesh wanted a solution to the Rohingya issue and had already expressed readiness to engage with Myanmar to discuss the process and modalities of repatriation of Myanmar nationals.

On December 29, the foreign ministry summoned the Myanmar Ambassador in Dhaka Myo Myint Than and demanded an early repatriation of all Myanmar nationals living in Bangladesh.

The presence of undocumented Myanmar nationals has long been a sticking point between the two countries, with Bangladesh having repeatedly asked for repatriation of an estimated 300,000 to 500,000 that have been living illegally. This is in addition to some 32,000 registered Rohingya people living in the country for over two decades.

Amid international outcry, Director General Kyaw Zaya of Myanmar's Ministry of Foreign Affairs on December 30 told Reuters that they would take back only 2,415 of its citizens from Bangladesh.

Myanmar authorities have been maintaining this number since 2010 but never started the process to take back those verified even before 2006.

As part of mounting international pressure on Myanmar, the member states of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) will come together in Kuala Lumpur on January 19 to discuss possible remedies to the situation of the Rohingya Muslims in Myanmar.

Bangladesh will voice its concern and place its proposals at the meeting.

বিসিএসআইআর (সাইল ল্যাবরেটরি) উদ্ভাবিত স্বল্প মূল্যের সনাক্তকরণ কিটস দিয়ে এখন ঘরে বসেই পরীক্ষা করে নিতে পারেন খাদ্য দ্রব্যে মেশানো ফরমালিন

মাছে ফরমালিন সনাক্তকরণ দ্রব্য

ব্যবহার পদ্ধতি:
মাছে ফরমালিন সনাক্তকরণ কিট বক্সের ভিতরে পরীক্ষার জন্য তিনটি দ্রবন, একটি ড্রপার, তিনটি গ্লাস টিউব এবং একটি ব্যবহারবিধি সরবরাহ করা হয়েছে। ফরমালিন পরীক্ষার জন্য মাছটিকে অল্প পানি দিয়ে ভালো করে ধুয়ে নিতে হবে। ড্রপারের সাহায্যে ২ ড্রপার (২.৫মি.লি.) মাছ খোয়া পানি একটি টিউবে নিয়ে পর্যায়ক্রমে ৩০ সেকেন্ড অন্তর দ্রবন-১, দ্রবন-২ এবং দ্রবন-৩ থেকে ১৫ ফোঁটা করে দিতে হবে। তৃতীয় দ্রবন দেওয়ার পরে যদি টিউবের পানির রং পরিবর্তিত হয়ে গোলাপি অথবা লাল রং হয় তাহলে বুঝতে হবে মাছে ফরমালিন আছে। আর যদি রং অপরিবর্তিত থাকে তাহলে বুঝতে হবে মাছে ফরমালিন নেই। একটি কিট বক্স ঘারা প্রায় ৩০ টি নমুনা পরীক্ষা করা যায় এবং নির্ণয় মাত্রা ৫ পিপিএম।

মূল্যঃ ২৫০ টাকা

প্রতিস্থানঃ পরিচালকের দপ্তর, আইএফএসটি, বিসিএসআইআর, ঢাকা।

দুধে ফরমালিন সনাক্তকরণ কিট:

ব্যবহার পদ্ধতি:
দুধে ফরমালিন সনাক্তকরণ দ্রবন বক্সের ভিতরে পরীক্ষার জন্য একটি দ্রবন ও একটি চামচ এবং বক্সের গায়ে ব্যবহারবিধি সরবরাহ করা হয়েছে। ফরমালিন পরীক্ষার জন্য এক চামচ দুধ নিয়ে ৪-৫ ফোঁটা দ্রবন দিয়ে কিছুক্ষণ (৪-৫) মিনিট অপেক্ষার পর যদি দুধের রং পরিবর্তিত হয়ে বক্সের গায়ে চিহ্নিত বেগুনী রং ধারণ করে তাহলে বুঝতে হবে দুধে ফরমালিন আছে। আর যদি রং বেগুনী না হয় তাহলে বুঝতে হবে দুধে ফরমালিন নেই। একটি কিট বক্স ঘারা প্রায় ৫০ টি নমুনা পরীক্ষা করা যায় এবং নির্ণয় মাত্রা ৫ পিপিএম।

মূল্যঃ ১০০ টাকা

প্রতিস্থানঃ পরিচালকের দপ্তর, আইএফএসটি, বিসিএসআইআর, ঢাকা।