

NEWSIN  
brief

Tax burden excessive: Fakhrul

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP Secretary General MirzaFakhrul Islam Alamgir yesterday alleged that the government had paved the path of "picking people's pocket" by imposing an excessive burden of tax on them through the proposed budget for fiscal 2017-2018.

He was also critical of the 15 percent uniform VAT.

"We are entangled in a tax network. The government will pick people's pocket and will fill its own by imposing the VAT," he told a programme, organised by Zia SmritiPathagar at the party's Nayapaltan central office in the capital.

Appeal for help

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Patuakhali

Five-month-old Md Abdullah, son of Abdur Rahman and Muslima Begum of Natun Bazar area in Patuakhali town, is suffering from congenital heart disease.

Abdullah was born with a hole in his heart. Now, he needs to be taken to Dr Devi Shetty in India for proper treatment which will cost at least Tk 6 lakh, said Rahman, quoting doctors who treated the baby in the capital.

So, the father, who is currently jobless, requested all to come forward to help the baby.

Financial assistance can be sent to Md Kamrul Islam, account no: 11697, Islami Bank Ltd, Patuakhali Branch. Cell no: 01740590145.

Lightning kills six in five districts

CITY DESK

Six people including a university student were killed by lightning in five districts on Thursday.

Harun Hasnat, 20, a law student of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Science and Technology University and resident of Faridpur, was killed as a thunderbolt struck him when he went outside his campus on Thursday evening.

In Barguna, farmer Nasha Akon, 55, was killed while fishing, in Amtali upazila, yesterday. In the same upazila, electrician Rasel Gazi was killed while fishing Thursday night. In Chapainawabganj, Mohammad Rafique, 55, died when he went out to bring back his cattle Thursday evening.

In Pangsha of Rajbari, Ghadai Joarder, 30, was killed while bathing in the Gorai river in the afternoon. In Panchagarh's Debiganj, Ruksana Khatun, 35, was killed by a strike at her home Thursday night.

Not for mobile

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has been proposed from existing 5 percent, industry insiders said, adding that this was a clear contradiction that might disrupt government's planned digitisation process.

However, Zunaid Ahmed Palak, state minister for ICT, said this could create a short time problem. A solution is coming as finance minister also recommended cutting customs duty on materials for assembling the handsets, he said.

"Within a few years, we will be able to use handsets produced by us; then, cheap handsets will be available in the country," added Palak.

However, Ahsan H Mansur, executive director of Policy Research Institute, said telecommunication is the most productive sector that shouldn't be hampered. "Let them grow first, revenue will come next."

Meanwhile, both mobile phone operators and importers feared incremental customs duty on import of mobile handsets might impact the industry and ultimately government's digitisation process.

Importers said the impact of new customs duty will be felt within a week.

TIM Nurul Kabir, secretary general of the Association of Mobile Telecom Operators of Bangladesh, said, "We are frustrated at the taxation proposal, which will be an obstacle to digitisation."

Ruhul Alam Al Mahbub Manik, president of Bangladesh Mobile Phone Importers Association, said they are also interested to establish mobile assembling plants. But it takes more than a year to establish a plant and an increase in duty will penalise end users.



Employees working on scrapped electric batteries on the yard of Geli Industrial Company Ltd in Sreepur municipality, Gazipur, recently. According to locals, this factory recycles old and dead batteries and emits harmful substances like lead and spreads strong smells. Several people exposed to the nearby environment have complained of breathing problems, stomach ache, and blurry visions, they said. A week ago, a few students and a teacher of the adjacent Kewa Government Primary School fell sick and vomited, said head teacher Ruma Yeasmin. There were environmental impacts on trees and cropland as well, locals said, adding they demanded relocation of the factory several times, but to no avail. A deputy director of the Department of Environment in Gazipur, Sonia Sultana, said the factory did not have environmental clearance. The factory authorities declined to speak to the newspaper.

PHOTO: ABU BAKAR SIDDIQUE

## Boost for digital projects

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customs duty on imported software.

In the budget document, the finance minister said when they took office, export earnings were only a few million. In 2014, it crossed \$445 million.

It crossed more than \$700 million last year, said the industry leaders. "We have targeted to hit \$5 billion landmark in export earnings by 2021 and the allocation and taxation policies will help us achieve the goal before our estimated target," said Zunaid Ahmed Palak, state minister for ICT, in a press conference yesterday about the proposed budget.

Like previous years, the finance minister also presented a separate book on the country's digitisation issues named "Advancement towards Digital Bangladesh: Situation 2017" on Thursday, where he said in 2008 internet penetration was 2.67 percent in the country, which increased to 41.52 percent as of February.

"The government is planning to increase internet penetration hundred percent by 2020...", said the finance minister.

To achieve the digitisation target, the government has already provided free internet to 6,600 madrasas and established 3,172 computer labs in the educational institutions.

To speed up service delivery, 265 public office opened Facebook pages to receive complaints and share innovation. Some offices have YouTube channels as well for sharing ideas and information, said Muhith.

The proposed budget allocation for ICT reaches Tk 3,974 crore from Tk 1,835. The division has spent all the money of their current allocation -- Palak termed it their success.

The budget also proposed including eight new sectors for tax holiday: software or application customisation, website development, website hosting, digital data analytics, software test lab services, overseas medical transcription, robotics process outsourcing and cyber security services.

Office Space Rent

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বানিজ্যিক স্পেস আবশ্যক

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আমেরিকার বিখ্যাত ফাস্ট ফুড চেইন বার্গার কিং এর জন্য ঢাকা মেট্রোপলিটন এলাকা, চট্টগ্রাম ও কক্সবাজারে দীর্ঘমেয়াদী সময়ের জন্য স্পেস ভাড়া/ক্রয় করতে ইচ্ছুক। বিস্তারিত নিম্নে উল্লেখ করা হলঃ

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Time Extension for Expression of Interest (EOI) for Turnkey Pharmaceutical Project

Original Published Date The Prothom Alo & The Daily Star on 20 May 2017

Details of Amendment

Date and Time for availability of documents: Up to June 19, 2017 between 8:30am to 3:00pm. EOI Submission Date & Time: 20 June 2017 by 12.00pm EOI Opening Date & Time: 20 June 2017 at 12.30pm

All other terms and conditions will remain unchanged.

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উন্নয়নের গণতন্ত্র শেখ হাসিনার মূলমন্ত্র

Memo No: LGED/XEN/SIRAJ/Tender/2017/1255 Date: 30/05/2017

e-IFT No: 33/16-17

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the Tender ID No.: 105619, 105620, 105621, 105622, 105623 and 105624.

This is an online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted.

To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required.

The fees for downloading the e-Tender documents from the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through any registered bank's branches for up to 12:00 noon on 21-06-2017.

Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk ([helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd](mailto:helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd)).

Executive Engineer LGED, Sirajganj Tel: 0751-62207

GD-1155 Email: [xen.serajganj@lged.gov.bd](mailto:xen.serajganj@lged.gov.bd)

Vice Chancellor

One of the leading Private University in Bangladesh invites application for the position of Vice Chancellor

Qualifications: The eligible candidate for the position will be a Professor and must have a graduate and post graduate degree with all first class (or equivalent) or with a PhD from international recognized university with excellent academic attainments.

Experience: Candidate should have a minimum 20 years of academic, research and administrative experiences, including a minimum 10 years of teaching experience in recognized universities. Experience as VC / PVC or equivalent will be an advantage. Experience of Public Private University, designing academic and administrative strategic and operational planning and having an active portfolio of professional affiliations will be treated as additional qualifications.

The BOT reserves the right to relax the requisite qualifications in the case of exceptionally suitable candidate. Expression of interest from qualified candidates, with a complete CV and all relevant documents, should be reach the following email address within 10 (ten) days from the published of the advertisement.

Please send the application with complete CV reflecting academic results to E-mail: [jobsinfo07@gmail.com](mailto:jobsinfo07@gmail.com) Application Deadline: 12 June 2017

Bangladesh Election Commission

Election Commission Secretariat Nirbachan Bhaban, Agargaon, Dhaka www.ecs.gov.bd

Tender for Goods (Single Lot)

Ref. No: 17.00.0000.057.71.002.16-65 Dated: 01/06/2017

KEY INFORMATION

1 Procurement method/document Open Tender Method (OTM), National.

FUNDING INFORMATION

2 Source of funds Revenue Budget (Government).

PARTICULAR INFORMATION

3 Tender Package No. ECS17\_VPN

4 Tender package name Setup and Maintenance of Data Connectivity with VPN through Wireless Modem.

5 Tender publication date 01/06/2017

6 Tender last selling date 19/06/2017

7 Tender closing date and time 20/06/2017 at 1:30pm.

8 Tender opening date and time 20/06/2017 at 2:00pm.

9 Name and Address of the office(s)

Selling tender document Maintenance Engineer, Room-1003, Election Commission Secretariat, Nirbachan Bhaban, Agargaon, Dhaka.

Receiving tender document Maintenance Engineer, Room-1003, Election Commission Secretariat, Nirbachan Bhaban, Agargaon, Dhaka.

Opening tender document Senior Maintenance Engineer, Room-607, Election Commission Secretariat, Nirbachan Bhaban, Agargaon, Dhaka.

10 Place for pre-tender meeting Conference Room, Election Commission Secretariat.

11 Date/time for pre-tender meeting 12/06/2017 at 11:30am.

INFORMATION FOR TENDERER

12 Eligibility of tenderer Tenderer Fulfilling the conditions lying in the tender document.

13 Brief description of goods Setup and Maintenance of Data Connectivity with VPN through Wireless Modem.

14 Brief description of related services Setup and Maintenance of Data Connectivity with VPN through Wireless Modem.

15 Tender document price Taka 1000/- (one thousand only)

16 Lot No. Identification Location Tender security amount in Taka Completion time in weeks

1 Setup and Maintenance of Data Connectivity with VPN through Wireless Modem Dhaka 2,90,000 (two lac ninety thousand only) The VPN connectivity must be established within 1 (one) week

PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS

17 Name of official inviting tender Md. Ikbal Zavid

18 Designation of official inviting tender Maintenance Engineer

19 Address of official inviting tender Maintenance Engineer, Room-1003, Election Commission Secretariat, Nirbachan Bhaban, Agargaon, Dhaka

20 Tender Tel: 55007535, E-mail: [ikbalcse@yahoo.com](mailto:ikbalcse@yahoo.com)

The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all tenders.

GD-1173