

Blast attack fear grips Jhenidah wheat growers

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Jhenidah

Farmers in the district have been discouraged from cultivating wheat in the current season, fearing a severe blast attack on the croplands.

Officials of district agriculture department said they are suggesting the local growers to cultivate lentil, maize or other crops this year, instead of wheat.

According to Department of Agriculture Extension (DAE) in Jhenidah, about 8,256 hectares of land were brought under wheat farming in 2014-15 fiscal year, 10,320 hectares in 2015-16 and 3,015 hectares in 2016-17, while 2,563 hectares have been brought under cultivation in the current fiscal year.

Of the land, 120 hectares are in Kaliganj upazila, 113 hectares in Sadar, 1,940 hectares in Shailakupa, 160 hectares in Harinakundo, 750 hectares in Moheshpur and 20 hectares in Kotchandpur upazilas have been have been brought under wheat cultivation.

Arman Hossain, a farmer of Enayetpur village in Kaliganj upazila, said he cultivated wheat on 15 decimals of land compared to five decimals last year to meet his family demand, ignoring the advice of the agriculture officials.

DAE Deputy Director (DD) GM Abdur Rauf in Jhenidah said they have been motivating farmers to cultivate lentil, maize or other suitable crops on their lands instead of wheat this season as blast is a seed borne disease.

They fear that the growers may incur huge loss as the disease spreads to other crops very swiftly, he added.

"Besides, we are providing support to the farmers who are farming wheat to meet their family need," he said, adding that a new variety of BARI Wheat-33 is a blast proof seed which is currently not available.

The suggestions were made after wheat on vast tracts of land was attacked by the blast disease in some areas across the country last season.

As they apprehend blast attack once again, they were compelled to discourage the farmers from cultivating wheat this year, the DD said.

Number of buffaloes on decline

It has reduced by around half in eight districts of Rangpur division

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Nilphamari

The number of buffaloes in eight northern districts of Rangpur division has decreased drastically due to absence of an artificial insemination centre in the livestock department.

Rapid mechanisation in agriculture sector and shrinking of grazing land also contribute to the decrease, although buffalo is a popular domestic, hard working animal and a good source of milk and meat.

Divisional Livestock Office Assistant Director (AD) Mir Faruk Hossain said the number of buffaloes in the division is only 28,561, as per their census conducted last year.

Of them, 4,618 are in Rangpur district, 2,827 in Dinajpur, 3,028 in Thakurgaon, 6,997 in Panchagarh, 4,171 in Gaibandha, 3,860 in Kurigram, 2,435 in Lalmonirhat and 625 in Nilphamari, he added.

"This latest figure is almost 50 per cent less compared to the previous census conducted a couple of years ago," the AD said.

Investigation by this correspondent found that the major reason for the drastic fall is that farmers

cannot breed the animals due to scarcity of male buffaloes for natural breeding, but there is no artificial insemination centre in the area to meet the need.

Abdul Mannan, a buffalo farmer in Kundopukur village of Sadar upazila, said he gave up rearing the animals as male buffaloes for breeding purposes are scarce in the village and the local livestock department has no artificial insemination centre.

It was also found that farmers prefer to use mechanised tools for ploughing land and carrying goods, which is also another reason for the decline in the number of buffaloes.

"I use a tractor now to till land as it can plough 20 bighas of land per day, while a buffalo can plough only three to four bighas. It is also difficult to rear such animals as grazing land is shrinking," said Delwar Hossain of Goyabari village in Dimla upazila.

District Livestock Officer Shahinur Islam said farmers can be benefited by rearing buffaloes as, unlike cows, they need very little care for giving five kg to seven kg of milk per day and providing 150 kg to 200 kg of meat each.



PHOTO: STAR

A man with two buffaloes at a grazing field in Kisamoter Char of Dimla upazila under Nilphamari.

"Buffaloes live on grass, thrown away weeds, leaves of unused bushy plants and straw, and they seldom fall sick. They have a lifespan of 15 years to 18 years, and bear calves regularly," he added.

Rangpur Divisional Livestock

Office Deputy Director Mahbubur Rahman confirmed the drastic fall in the number of buffaloes in the region.

"A new government initiative, entitled "Buffalo Development and Breeding Project," is in the

offing, under which an artificial insemination centre is likely to be set up here and, at the same time, intensive research on buffalo is going on at Bangladesh Livestock Research Institute at Savar in Dhaka," he added.

Flood-ravaged Gaibandha road yet to be repaired

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gaibandha

A large section of the approach road to Anantapur bridge in Saghata upazila of the district has not been repaired since it was washed away by surging water during the last flood.

Communication through the road, as well as transportation of goods and essential commodities to the markets, has remained suspended for the people of six villages. The road connects Bonarpara Railway Station with the upazila headquarters.

During the last flood, surging water washed away a 30-foot long stretch of the approach road and created a large ditch.

"I cannot cross the breached road, so my daily earning has come down and I cannot maintain my family," said

Rafiqul Mia, a rickshaw-van puller.

It has become difficult to carry agriculture products to market and the people have to travel a long way for selling and procuring agriculture products and essential items, said farmer Amjad Hossain.

The relief and disaster management ministry constructed Anantapur bridge at a cost of Tk 22 lakh over the canal in the last fiscal year. Just after completion of the bridge, floodwater engulfed the area and the approach road on the western side collapsed.

Kachua Union Parishad Chairman Mahbubur Rahman said he has been instructed to do earth filling of the broken section of the approach road.

Upazila Project Implementation Officer Mithun Kundu said the chairman concerned was asked to start the work of the broken part of the road.



PHOTO: STAR

A large number of locals join a human chain in front of Satkhira Press Club yesterday demanding effective steps to restore navigability of the Shalta river flowing through Satkhira and Khulna districts.

ATTACK ON HINDUS Rangpur engineer on remand

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

A Rangpur court yesterday granted a seven-day remand for a sub-assistant engineer of Rangpur Zila Parishad, in a case for attacking Hindus in Sadar upazila over a Facebook post on November 10.

Fazlar Rahman, a resident of Rangpur city, is the prime accused in the case. He went into hiding immediately after the incident.

Police arrested Fazlar from Shyamoli in Dhaka on December 21.

Senior Judicial Magistrate's Court gave the order when Fazlar was produced before it with a 10-day remand prayer in the case.

Titu Chandra Roy, 42, son of Khagen Chandra Roy of Thakurpara village in the upazila allegedly gave the post in his Facebook page in mid-October.

Local grocer Md Razu Mia filed a case, accusing Titu, with Gangachara Police Station on November 6. Titu is now in Rangpur jail.

On November 10, hundreds of people gathered at Sholeya Shah Bazar to stage demonstration against the Facebook post of Titu Chandra Roy.

Suddenly, the protesters attacked houses of the Hindus at Thakurpara village. They damaged, torched and looted 20 houses. A man was also killed during the attack.

Sub-Inspector Rezaul Islam of Rangpur Sadar Police Station and SI Rafiqul Islam of Gangachara Police Station filed separate cases, accusing Fazlar and 2,000 unidentified people.

Hundred percent safe deliveries in Nilphamari FWCs

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Nilphamari

Hundred percent of the deliveries, which were conducted in 59 Family Welfare Centres (FWCs) in Nilphamari, were done safely.

In the last four months, as many as 3,433 safe deliveries had been done in the FWCs under the health department in the district.

Speakers told the journalists at an orientation meeting organised by Lutheran Aid to Medicine in Bangladesh (LAMB), a non-governmental organisation, under the project titled 'Strengthening health outcomes for women and children' yesterday.

Besides, 1,129 expectant mothers were taken to different upazila health complexes or district hospitals from June to October by battery-run auto-rickshaws, owned by the FWCs.

Biplobi Rani Dey Roy, communications specialist at LAMB, said it is a clear instance of development in health sector, especially for the women and children.

Presided over by senior journalist Md Nurul Islam, correspondents of different print and electronic media joined the programme.

This positive outcome was possible as a community health worker (CHW) is always active to motivate pregnant women to receive antenatal care (ANC), she further added.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Ministry of Liberation War Affairs
Paribahan Pool Bhaban
Secretariat Link Road, Dhaka-1000

Invitation for Tender

Mamo Number-48.00.0000.005.017.23.17-394			Date: 26/12/2017	
01	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Liberation War Affairs.		
02	Procuring entity district	Dhaka		
03	Procurement method	Open Tendering Method.		
04	Tender number, description of work & price of document (non-refundable)	Tender No.	Description of Work	Price of tender document (Taka)
		48.00.0000.005.07.08.17-394	Supply of Liberation War Honour Crest	4000/- (four thousand) only
05	Source of funds	GOB		
06	Work completion period	Within 15 days from the date of contract signing.		
07	Eligibility of tenderer	Reputed firms having 5 (five) years experience in Crest making and supply. 1) Up-to-date trade license, 2) Current income tax certificate, 3) VAT registration and 4) Other requirements described in the Standard tender document (PG-3).		
08	Tender security amount	The amount of the tender security shall be 3% of quoted total amount.		
09	Place of tender selling	Ministry of Liberation War Affairs, 6th Floor, Room No-713, Paribahan Pool Bhaban, Secretariat Link Road, Dhaka-1000.		
10	Time and date of tender selling	Tender documents will be available between 0900hrs & 1500hrs on all working days from 1st January, 2018 to 28th January 2018.		
11	Place of tender submission	Ministry of Liberation War Affairs, 6th Floor, Room No-713, Paribahan Pool Bhaban, Secretariat Link Road, Dhaka-1000.		
12	Last date and time of tender submission	29th January 2018 at 1400hrs.		
13	Time and date of tender opening	29th January 2018 at 1430hrs. (In presence of tenderer if present).		
14	Place of tender opening	Ministry of Liberation War Affairs, 5th Floor, Room No-604/A, Paribahan Pool Bhaban, Secretariat Link Road, Dhaka-1000.		
15	Name of official inviting tender	Md. Rafiqul Islam.		
16	Designation of official inviting tender	Assistant Secretary (Development).		
17	Address of official inviting tender	Ministry of Liberation War Affairs, 6th Floor, Room No-713, Paribahan Pool Bhaban, Secretariat Link Road, Dhaka-1000.		
18	Special instructions	a. No tender document will be sold on the last date of tender submission. b. The procuring entity reserves the right accept or reject all tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever. c. Detail specification of the materials, description of work and other relevant information are available in the tender document. d. If the tender cannot be received in the tender due to any unavoidable circumstance or holiday(s) on scheduled date and time, the same shall be received and opened on the subsequent working day at the same venue and time. e. The procurement will be performed according to the Public Procurement Act-2006 and Public Procurement Regulation-2008.		
19	The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject any/all tenders.			
		Md. Rafiqul Islam Assistant Secretary (Development) Phone: 9578647		

GD-2848

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার	
পরিকল্পনা কমিশন	
সাধারণ অর্থনীতি বিভাগ	
‘শ্রেণিক্ত পরিকল্পনা (২০১০-২০২১) এর মধ্যবর্তী মূল্যায়ন এবং বাংলাদেশ বৃপকল্প ২০৪১ প্রণয়ন’ প্রকল্প	
ব্লক-১৪, শেরে বাংলা নগর, ঢাকা	
উন্মুক্ত দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি	
সাধারণ অর্থনীতি বিভাগের আওতায় বাস্তবায়নধীন ‘শ্রেণিক্ত পরিকল্পনা (২০১০-২০২১) এর মধ্যবর্তী মূল্যায়ন এবং বাংলাদেশ বৃপকল্প ২০৪১ প্রণয়ন’ প্রকল্পের আওতায় ১টি মাইক্রোবাস ও ১টি সেভান কার ভাড়ায় সংগ্রহের নিমিত্ত দরপত্র আহ্বান করা যাচ্ছেঃ	
১.	মন্ত্রণালয়/বিভাগ
২.	এজেন্সী
৩.	সংগ্রাহক সভা
৪.	যে কাজের জন্য দরপত্র
৫.	দরপত্রের সূত্র নং ও তারিখ
৬.	সংগ্রহ পদ্ধতি
৭.	বাজেট ও তহবিল সূত্র
৮.	দরপত্র প্রকাশের তারিখ
৯.	টেন্ডার ডকুমেন্ট বিক্রয়ের সর্বশেষ তারিখ পর্যন্ত
১০.	দরপত্র দাখিলের সর্বশেষ তারিখ ও সময়
১১.	দরপত্র দাখিলের স্থান
১২.	দরপত্র উন্মুক্তকরণের তারিখ ও সময়
১৩.	দরপত্র উন্মুক্তকরণের স্থান
১৪.	দরপত্রের মেয়াদকাল
১৫.	দরপত্র বিক্রয়কারী দপ্তর
১৬.	দরপত্রের মূল্য
১৭.	দরপত্র আহ্বানকারী কর্মকর্তার নাম, পদবী, ঠিকানা ও ফোন নম্বর
১৮.	কাজের সময়কাল
১৯.	টেন্ডার সিকিউরিটি
২০.	দরদাতার যোগ্যতা
২১.	এ দরপত্র The Public Procurement Act, 2006 & The Public Procurement Rules, 2008 (সংশোধিত) বিধিমালা অনুযায়ী পরিচালিত হবে এবং কোন কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতিরেকে সংগ্রাহক সভা এ নোটিশ বাতিল বা পরিবর্তন বা যে কোন বা সকল দরপত্র গ্রহণ/প্রত্যাখ্যান/বাতিল করার ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করেন।
ফিরোজা বেগম প্রকল্প পরিচালক (২০১০-২০২১) এর মধ্যবর্তী মূল্যায়ন এবং বাংলাদেশ বৃপকল্প ২০৪১ প্রণয়ন’ প্রকল্প সাধারণ অর্থনীতি বিভাগ ব্লক-১৪, শেরে বাংলা নগর, ঢাকা	
জিডি-২৮৪০	