



Shishuder Jonno Foundation forms a human chain in front of Jatiya Press Club in Dhaka yesterday, cautioning political parties against the offence of using children in campaign.

PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN

Priority now on fast-growing crop varieties

Scientists say at workshop

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

Scientists at a workshop yesterday said more fast-growing varieties of crops need to be developed to meet the rising food demand in the country.

The workshop titled "Introduction to crop varieties developed by BINA and its technologies" was organised for journalists by Bangladesh Institute of Nuclear Agriculture (BINA) at its auditorium in Mymensingh city.

Around 40 journalists participated at the programme. BINA scientists said while farming land is shrinking as opposed to a growing population, research is on to develop more crops with short-duration and nutritional varieties.

Since 1978, BINA has developed a total of 103 varieties of 17 crops, they said, adding that the 16 paddy varieties they developed so far have revolutionised the country's agriculture sector over the past four decades.

The paddy varieties include zinc-enriched and aromatic rice as well as varieties that are tolerant to drought, salinity and submersion.

Now paddy is grown round the year not only in drought-prone areas, but also in flood and salinity-prone areas in the coastal belt, contributing to a stronger growth in local and national economy, the BINA scientists said.

Among others, Dr Asgar Ali Sarker, director (administration) of BINA, and Jahangir Alam, director (training) of BINA, spoke at the programme where BINA Director General Dr Biresh Kumar Goswami was the chief guest. The workshop was conducted by BINA Chief Scientific Officer Dr MA Malek and its Principal Scientific Officer Dr Shamsunnahar Begum.

4 arrested over attempted rape, extortion

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Savar

Police arrested four persons yesterday for allegedly attempting to rape a 15-year-old girl and demanding extortion from her family in Vatpara area of Savar.

The arrestees are Mofizur Rahman Shohel, 38, Mobinur Rahman, 33, Nazmul Islam, 23 and HM Atik, 44.

Quoting the family, police said around 2:30pm on Tuesday, seven people, including the four arrestees, went to their house and identified themselves as reporters of "CNN Bangla TV". They demanded Tk 50,000, in exchange for not publicising what they claimed the family's "illegal business".

As the family refused, Mofizur took the girl to another room and tried to rape her.

Hearing her scream, locals rushed in and saved her but the seven fled. Later, the family filed a case with Savar Model Police Station.

OC Abdul Awal of the police station said, "Our primary investigation found the allegations to be true. We are trying to arrest rest of the gang members."

He said there were previous allegations against the gang of harassing and extorting people through impersonation.

International

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engineers need to develop new strategies to implement construction works and mega projects.

"Apart from reducing the construction cost, engineers need to tackle the challenges of this sector to make their work more sustainable," he added. More than 100 teachers from 10 countries are taking part at the conference. The conference will end today at Radisson Blu Chattogram Bay View hotel.

Case filed

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statement, 191 men including BNP standing committee member Barrister Rafiqul Islam Mia, Jamaat leader Prof Dr Rafiqul Islam Sarker and BNP's Mirpur thana unit convener Abdul Matin equipped with pistol, machete, sticks, iron roads, hockey stick and crude bombs attacked the campaign office and vandalised it. "They attacked Harun with iron rod, aiming to kill him", the case statement read.

Police tearing off paddy

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Contacted, BNP standing committee member Amir Khasru Mahmud Chowdhury, who is contesting the polls from Chattogram-11 constituency, told The Daily Star, "How will my activists hang posters when they cannot even accompany me during campaign?"

"On December 12, they [the ruling party men] attacked us when we were conducting campaign in Madarbari area. Police, however, arrested one of my activists instead of taking action against the attackers," he claimed.

"On the same date, police picked up my chief election coordinator Md Sikander soon after an UK embassy delegation left my house after a meeting," he alleged.

Mentionable, Dr Shahadat Hossain, president of the city unit BNP, who is contesting the polls from Chattogram-9, was arrested on November 7 in Dhaka. He has been in jail since.

Maruful Hoque Chowdhury, personal secretary of Shahadat, alleged, "The ruling party men are removing our posters and banners indiscriminately. We will file a complaint to the Chief Election Commissioner soon."

Although posters and banners of BNP-led alliance candidates are scarce, those of AL-led alliance candidates including

Afsarul Amin Chowdhury, MA Latif and Mohibul Hasan Chowdhury Nowfel are flooding their respective constituencies.

Afsarul, vice president of the city unit AL and candidate from Chattogram-10, said, "BNP's allegation is not true. Rather than campaigning, they are trying to question the election environment."

"They should take pictures of the places they hang posters or banners to show whether those have been removed," he added.

Chattogram Metropolitan Police Commissioner Mahbubur Rahman said they are yet to receive any formal complaint in this regard. "I don't think any police member would do such things. If someone else had done it, we would take actions upon proof."

Contacted, Divisional Commissioner Abdul Mannan, returning officer of six constituencies in the city, said it is not believable that law enforcers are removing posters and banners of BNP candidates. Those who are raising such allegations could not show any evidence, he added.

"If they can show such evidence, we will take necessary action against those responsible, whoever they may be," he added.

HC summons

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contract had ended, said Barrister Halim.

However in the same meeting, another engineer with same qualification was made a permanent employee, the lawyer added.

Yasir filed a writ petition in July challenging the termination. On July 31, HC stayed the termination and issued a rule asking the trust to explain why its decision should not be declared illegal.

Despite the stay order, the trust stopped paying his salary since May this year, the lawyer also said.

Yasir filed a contempt petition against the trust's managing director and secretary for defying the court's order.

On November 25, the bench issued a rule asking the trust to explain in 10 days why contempt of court proceedings should not be brought against them.

As they did not respond, the HC bench issued summons against the duo, the lawyer added.

Tight security

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already imposed a ban on December 31 celebrations. Holding any kind of programme in open places, even at rooftops, has been strictly prohibited."

"All bars will be closed from the night of December 30; holding of 'DJ parties' are also forbidden," he said, adding that no one will be allowed to enter the Dhaka University area without identity cards.



With winter getting colder, people rush to buy warm clothing. The photo of a busy street vendor was taken at Motijheel in Dhaka yesterday.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

JOB OPPORTUNITY

An export oriented sweater factory, is looking for a Chief Operating Officer with minimum 8 years experience in similar position. Candidates with an MBA degree and overseas experience will be preferred. Interested persons may please send their resume within December 31, 2018 to the following address or email:

Hera Sweaters Limited
Pechain, Jampur, Sonargaon, Narayanganj
Email: info@herasweaters.com

D-343

চট্টগ্রাম বন্দর কর্তৃপক্ষ
পরিচালক (ট্রাফিক) এর দপ্তর

বিজ্ঞপ্তি

নং-ডিটি/শিপ/এনসিটি/OTM/ট্রেডার/২০১৮
তারিখঃ ১৯/১২/২০১৮ইং
সূত্রঃ IFT No. DT/Ship/NCT/OTM/Tender/2018
Dated: 11/11/2018

চট্টগ্রাম বন্দরে উল্লিখিত দরপত্র পদ্ধতিতে এনসিটি বার্থে কন্টেইনার হ্যান্ডলিং এর নিমিত্তে ০৬ (ছয়) বৎসরের জন্য টার্মিনাল অপারেটর নিয়োগের লক্ষ্যে আহ্বানকৃত দরপত্র অনিবার্য কারণবশতঃ বাতিল করা হলো।

ডেপুটি ট্রাফিক ম্যানেজার (প্রশাসন)
পক্ষেঃ পরিচালক (ট্রাফিক)
চট্টগ্রাম বন্দর কর্তৃপক্ষ

জিডি-২৮৭৫

Bangladesh Shipping Corporation
"BSC Bhaban", Saltgola Road, Chittagong
Ref: 18.16.0000.373.15.065.18 Date: 19/12/2018

Invitation of Tender (LTM)

Sl No.	Tender ID	Name of the tender	Publishing date & closing date
01	COMC-019	TIME CHARTER EMPLOYMENT OF M.T. BANGLAR AGRADOOT (IOM No: 9793868) OPEN AT EX-YARD (JIANGSU NEW YANGZI SHIPBUILDING CO. LTD., JIANGSU), NEAR SHANGHAI, CHINA BASIS LAY-20-30 JANUARY, 2019	19-Dec-2018 10:00am 02-Jan-2019 02:00am
02	COMC-018	Transportation of 25,000 Mt (+/-5% Charterer's option) TSP Fertilizer from Safi, Morocco to Chittagong Port and Shirononi Ghat (Khulna) via Mongla Port, Bangladesh basis lay-can 15-20 January, 2019.	18-Dec-2018 10:00am 06-Jan-2019 02:30pm
03.	Website address	Detail information & tender document will be available in the website of www.bsc.gov.bd .	

Capt. Md Mozibur Rahman
General Manager (Chartering)
Phone: 031-728269
E-mail: gm-chi@bsc.gov.bd

GD-2873

Dire consequences

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"We'll consider later under which authority you're [the government] currently ruling the country, but what you're doing now is contrary to the constitution," Dr Kamal said.

"I have never seen such misrule. If anyone calls this 'good governance', I'd say they're lying," he added.

Speaking as chief guest at the programme, Dr Kamal urged the Election Commission (EC) to ensure people's voting rights and to use its rightful authority to resist the government if it bars the commission's duties.

He also urged the current government and the ruling party men to stop enjoying state benefits, alleging that their entitlement has crossed all limits.

About judiciary, Dr Kamal said the phrase "independence of judiciary" sounds ideal, but it will not be materialised if the stakeholders of the judicial system – judges, lawyers and the government – do not believe it in their hearts.

The Bar Association's President Zainul Abedin, Begum Rokeya University Vice-Chancellor Nazmul Ahsan Kalimullah and BHRF Chairman Mohammad Shahjahan, among others, also spoke at the discussion.

Better deals

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immediately takes measures to rehabilitate and reintegrate migrants affected by the brokers' fraudulence or abused by employers.

The ministry's Additional Secretary Aminul Islam said Bangladesh may not be as economically powerful as those of the labour-recruiting nations, but it cannot allow the Bangladeshi workers abroad to be abused. "We need to have strong MoUs and their effective implementation," he said.

Debate for Democracy Chairman Hassan Ahamed Chowdhury Kiron stressed the need for training in demand-driven skills for those migrating abroad.

Brothers killed in landslide

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

Two siblings were killed in a landslide in Maijgaon village of Fenchiganj upazila in Sylhet district yesterday.

The deceased are Shahin Miah, 8, and his younger brother Fahim Miah, 4, sons of Malaysia expatriate Liaquat Ali, said police quoting locals.

The bodies were found around 10:00am under the mud of a nearby hill, said OC Abul Bashar Md Badruzzaman of Fenchiganj Police Station. The children went missing after they went out to play in the morning, the OC added.

The bodies were sent to a local hospital for autopsy.

Frequent hill cutting raised the risk of landslides in many areas of the upazila, said Ayesha Haque, upazila nirbahi officer of Fenchiganj, adding that locals have been asked to stay out of the risky areas.

A probe committee has been formed to investigate the matter and take necessary action, she added.

RFP Ref. No.: LRPS- BAN-2018-9144429

Request for Proposal (RFP): Provision of services for establishment of MIS system and maintenance

UNICEF-Bangladesh is inviting interested companies with a strong record and credibility of providing the above required service. To receive the detailed scope of work and procedure to submit the bid response, please email to "supplybangladesh@unicef.org"

The deadline to submit proposal is **Thursday, 10 January 2019 by 11:00 am.**

Please note UNICEF does not charge any fee at any stage of solicitation process.

www.unicef.org.bd

for every child

বাংলা একাডেমি বাঙালি জাতিসত্তা ও বুদ্ধিবৃত্তিক উৎকর্ষের প্রতীক

বাংলা একাডেমি
৩ কাজী নজরুল ইসলাম এভিনিউ, ঢাকা ১০০০

বিজ্ঞপ্তি

অমর একুশে গ্রন্থমেলা ২০১৯

স্থান : বাংলা একাডেমি প্রাঙ্গণ ও সোহরাওয়ার্দী উদ্যান

অমর একুশে গ্রন্থমেলা ২০১৯-এ অংশগ্রহণ করতে আগ্রহী প্রকৃত প্রকাশনা প্রতিষ্ঠানকে স্টলের আবেদন জমা দেয়ার জন্য অনুরোধ করা হচ্ছে। আবেদনপত্র অনলাইনে www.ba21bookfair.com -এই ওয়েবসাইটে পূরণ করা যাবে। পুরনো (গতবারের বইমেলায় অংশগ্রহণকারী) যেসব প্রকাশনা প্রতিষ্ঠান গতবারের আকারের (১, ২, ৩ ও ৪ ইউনিট স্টল বা প্যাভিলিয়ন) স্টল পেতে আগ্রহী তারা আবেদনপত্রের সঙ্গে ভাড়া বাবদ ব্যাংকে টাকা জমার রশিদ ও হালনাগাদ অন্যান্য কাগজ/দলিল আপলোড করবেন। যারা স্টলের ইউনিট বৃদ্ধি করতে আগ্রহী তাদের জানুয়ারি-ডিসেম্বর ২০১৮-এর মধ্যে প্রকাশিত কমপক্ষে ২৫টি নতুন বই একাডেমিতে জমা দিতে হবে। গ্রন্থমেলা পরিচালনা কমিটি বাছাই-যাচাই শেষে স্টলের ইউনিট বৃদ্ধির ব্যাপারে সিদ্ধান্ত গ্রহণ করবে। স্টলের ইউনিট বাড়তে আগ্রহী প্রকাশনা প্রতিষ্ঠানগুলোকে আবেদনপত্রের সঙ্গে গতবার বরাদ্দকৃত ইউনিটের ভাড়া বাবদ টাকা ব্যাংকে জমার রশিদ ও অন্যান্য কাগজ/দলিল আপলোড করতে হবে। স্টলের আকার বৃদ্ধির আবেদন গৃহীত হলে বর্ধিত ইউনিটের ভাড়া পরে জমা দিতে হবে।

যারা নতুন আবেদন করবেন তারা অনলাইনে আবেদনপত্র জমা দিতে পারবেন। নতুন আবেদনকারীকে হালনাগাদ প্রয়োজনীয় অন্যান্য কাগজ/দলিল-সহ জানুয়ারি-ডিসেম্বর ২০১৮-এর মধ্যে প্রকাশিত কমপক্ষে ২০টি মানসম্মত বই একাডেমিতে জমা দিতে হবে। বইয়ের মান ও অন্যান্য কাগজ/দলিল যাচাই শেষে স্টল বরাদ্দের ব্যাপারে গ্রন্থমেলা পরিচালনা কমিটি সিদ্ধান্ত গ্রহণ করবে।

অনলাইনে আবেদনপত্র জমা দিতে অপারাগ প্রতিষ্ঠানসমূহ একাডেমির ড. মুহম্মদ এনামুল হক ভবনে সরাসরি আবেদনপত্র জমা দিতে পারবে।

অনলাইনে বা সরাসরি তথ্যফরম, বই (প্রযোজ্য ক্ষেত্রে), আবেদনপত্র এবং অন্যান্য কাগজ/দলিল ২৩-২৬শে ডিসেম্বর ২০১৮-এর মধ্যে জমা দেওয়া যাবে। এরপর কোনো তথ্যফরম বা আবেদনপত্র গ্রহণ করা হবে না। ভাড়া ও অন্যান্য খাত বাবদ প্রদেয় টাকা অগ্রাধী ব্যাংক লিমিটেডের যেকোনো অনলাইন শাখা থেকে অগ্রাধী ব্যাংক লিঃ বাংলা একাডেমি শাখা, "বাংলা একাডেমি ভাষা সাহিত্যের গবেষণা ও উন্নয়ন" শীর্ষক চলতি হিসাব নম্বর ০২০০০০২৫৮৩৬৮৩-তে জমা দিতে হবে।

অংশগ্রহণকারী সকলকে অমর একুশে গ্রন্থমেলা ২০১৯-এর নীতিমালা ও নিয়মাবলি মেনে চলতে হবে। নীতিমালা ও নিয়মাবলি ওয়েবসাইটে থেকে সংগ্রহ করা যাবে।

ড. জালাল আহমেদ
সদস্য-সচিব

অমর একুশে গ্রন্থমেলা পরিচালনা কমিটি ২০১৯
বাংলা একাডেমি, ঢাকা ১০০০

GD- 2874