

Speedy Trial Act to stay five more years

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The cabinet yesterday extended the Speedy Trial Act -- that deals with serious crimes such as extortion, vandalism and tender manipulation -- for another five years, till 2024.

The cabinet approved the draft of "Law and Order Disruption (Speedy Trial) (Amendment) Bill, 2019" with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in the chair, Cabinet Secretary M Shafiq Alam told journalists.

A bill was passed in 2014 to amend the law and extend it to remain effective till April 7, 2019.

The Law and Order Disruption (Speedy Trial) Act was first promulgated in 2002, by the then BNP-led government for a period of two years.



PHOTO: RAJIB RAHAIN

Be it at malls like Ameen Shopping Centre, or budget buyers' choice like Jahur Hawkers' Market, inset, the Eid shopping frenzy is yet to catch on among port city residents.

Government should procure more crops from farmers

Speakers tell seminar

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Amid growing concerns over fallen prices of paddy and other grains at the farmers' end, speakers at a seminar yesterday called upon the government to procure at least 30 percent crops, especially paddy, directly from growers at fair prices.

The government should issue "agriculture cards" to farmers, make a price list of crops, and build sufficient storage facilities -- including cold storages -- across the country to facilitate farmers, they said.

Poribesh Bachao Andolon (Poba) and Bangladesh Resource Centre for Indigenous Knowledge (Barcik) jointly arranged the seminar on "Fair price of paddy and agricultural crop: concerns and suggestions" at the capital's Jatiya Press Club.

At present, the government procures less than 10 percent of the total rice or paddy produced in the country, claimed Poba Chairman Abu Naser Khan.

If the amount was 30 to 40 percent, the government could have had higher stock, he said, adding that the government currently has the capacity of stocking about 30 lakh metric tonnes of rice.

"With higher procurement the government

could manage the market mechanism. This could also help reduce the influence of syndicates," he said.

"If we are to save Bangladesh, we must save farmers and growers," he added.

Alleging that the current National Agriculture Policy is not farmer-friendly, veteran politician Pankaj Bhattacharya said developed countries like the US and Canada provide risk and loss coverage to farmers, and similar incentives should be launched in Bangladesh.

Farmers should be able to sell as much crop as possible to avoid loss, he said, adding that knowledge about crops' quality maintenance should also be generated among farmers.

Amid the crisis faced by the farmers, some government officials and ruling party men were "staging drama" in the name of helping them, claimed Azharul Islam, vice president of Bangladesh Krishok Samiti.

They were seen busy with "photo sessions" instead of dealing with the farmers' problems, he alleged.

Farmers need to unite and wage a tough movement to overcome their problems, said Bangladesh Krishok League's central committee vice president Chhobi Biswas.

NIKO GRAFT CASE ACC allowed to argue in Khaleda's petition hearing

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday permitted the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) to become a party in the writ petition filed by BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia challenging the government notification that said the Niko corruption case trial against her will be held at a special court in Keraniganj Central Jail.

The HC bench of Justice Farah Mahbub and Justice Md Khairul Alam gave the permission following a prayer moved by ACC's lawyer Khurshid Alam Khan in this regard.

The bench also set today for holding hearing on the writ petition.

Advocate Khurshid told The Daily Star that the commission now has a scope to place arguments against the writ petition.

Barrister Moudud Ahmed and Advocate AJ Mohammad Ali appeared for Khaleda, while Attorney General Mahbubey Alam represented the state.

On May 13, the law ministry issued a gazette notification, saying trials of

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Eid shopping yet to gain momentum in Ctg

AMIR HASAN SHAHRIAR and ABDULLAH ABBAS, Ctg

The alleys of Jahur Hawkers' Market in the port city are never this quiet on the third week of Ramadan, particularly at night. The familiar sight of the market and the road in front teeming with shoppers is replaced by only a few strolling about even before midnight.

And it is not just the Hawkers' Market; the iconic Biponi Bitan (New Market), Reazuddin Bazar at Station Road, Ameen Centre at Lalkhan Bazar, Akhtaruzzaman Centre at Agrabad and most of the major markets in the city seem to be dozing off just after 11:30pm, in stark contrast to previous years.

With one of the biggest religious festivals of the country only 10 days away, even Teri Bazar -- the biggest wholesale market and the retailer of all types of clothes in the city -- is yet to see proper flow of traders and Eid customers.

Md Sagir, president of Biponi Bitan Merchants' Welfare Association said usually the shopping rush used to begin

after tarawih prayer and continued till sehri, but this year customers are returning home before midnight.

"Many of them might have completed shopping before Ramadan sensing an escalation in price. But they wouldn't be getting the dresses of latest design this way," said an unsure Sagir.

On the other hand, Mohammad Yousuf, president of Ameen Centre Traders' Association, said the popularisation of online shopping and decentralisation of markets were the reasons for the low turnout.

"Earlier, people from outside the city also used to come here for shopping. As a lot of markets have opened in the upazilas, customers now tend to shop there. Besides, many customers now prefer to order online, which has actually been a big worry for us," said Yousuf.

However, the scenario at Mimi Super Market, Afmi Plaza, Sanmar Ocean City and outlets of fashion brand Aarong were

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Nawshaba charged under ICT Act

COURT CORRESPONDENT

Police have pressed charge against actress Quazi Nawshaba Ahmed in a case filed under the Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Act, for allegedly spreading rumours on social media during last year's student protests for safe roads.

Shawkat Ali Sarkar, an inspector of Counter Terrorism and Transnational Crime Unit (CTTC) and also the investigation officer of the case, on May 15 submitted the charge sheet against Nawshaba to the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's Court of Dhaka.

The news of submitting the charge sheet was published yesterday.

In the charge sheet, the investigation officer said the charge brought against Nawshaba of "creating anarchy and confuse people" was primarily proven. So, she should be brought under trial.

Nawshaba was detained from Dhaka's Uttara on August 4 last year for allegedly spreading rumours on social media regarding the student movement.

The next day she was placed on a four-day remand.

On August 10, she was again granted a two-day remand for further quizzing.

On August 23, she was granted bail considering her health condition.

After walking out on bail, she thanked Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

In a Facebook post, she thanked the premier for "giving her the opportunity to celebrate Eid-ul-Azha with her family, especially with her daughter Prakriti."



Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Ministry of Education
Secondary and Higher Education Division
Directorate of Secondary and Higher Education
Secondary Education Sector Investment Program (SESIP)
www.sesip.gov.bd



Invitation for Bids for Goods (International)

1	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Education, Secondary and Higher Education Division
2	Agency	Directorate of Secondary and Higher Education
3	Procuring Entity Name	Program Director, Secondary Education Sector Investment Program (SESIP)
4	Procuring Entity Code	Not Applicable
5	Procuring Entity District	Dhaka
6	Invitation for	Procurement of Goods
7	Invitation Ref No	DSHE/SESIP/SPSU/1-439/PVIP(GD-50/b)/2019/314
8	Date	23 May 2019
9	KEY INFORMATION	OTM/ International Competitive Bidding (ICB)
10	Budget and Source of Funds	Development, and GOB and Project Aid
11	Development Partners	Asian Development Bank
12	PARTICULAR INFORMATION	
13	Program Code	5026
14	Program Name	Secondary Education Sector Investment Program (SESIP), Tranche 2
15	Tender Package No.	GD-50b
16	Tender Package Name	Procurement of Equipment for Implementation of Pre-vocational and Vocational Programme (PVIP) for five Trades (Civil Construction, Dress Making, Food Processing, Refrigeration and Air Conditioning, and Plumbing)
17	Tender Publication Date	28/05/2019
18	Tender Last Selling Date	10/07/2019
19	Date	14:00 Hours BST
20	Tender Opening Date and Time	11/07/2019
21	Tender Submission Date and Time	14:30 Hours BST
22	Name & Address of the office(s)	Address
- Selling Tender Document (Principal)	Office of the Joint Program Director Secondary Education Sector Investment Program (SESIP) Shikha Bhaban, 2nd Block, 16 Abdul Gani Road, Dhaka-1000, Bangladesh	
Selling Tender Document (Others)	None	
23	NO CONDITIONS APPLY FOR SALE, PURCHASE OR DISTRIBUTION OF TENDER DOCUMENTS	
-Receiving Tender Document	Office of the Joint Program Director Secondary Education Sector Investment Program (SESIP) Shikha Bhaban, 2nd Block, 16 Abdul Gani Road-1000. Floor/Room number: 5th Floor / Room No. 601, Dhaka-1000, Bangladesh	
-Opening Tender Document	Shikha Bhaban, 2nd Block, Floor/Room number: 5th Floor / Room No. 605, 16 Abdul Gani Road, Dhaka-1000, Bangladesh	
Place/Date/Time of Pre-Tender Meeting (Optional)	Date	Shikha Bhaban, 2nd Block, Floor/Room number: 5th Floor / Room No. 605, 16 Abdul Gani Road, Dhaka-1000, Bangladesh
24	INFORMATION FOR TENDERER	
25	Brief Eligibility and Qualification of Tenderer	
26	Lot 1	Average annual turnover as the total payments received by the Bidder for contracts completed or under execution over the last three (3) years shall not be less than USD 1.0 million or equivalent amount.
27	Lot 2	Successful completion as main supplier within the last Five (5) years, of at least one (01) contract valued at USD 0.23 million or equivalent amount with nature, and complexity similar to the scope of supply described in the Tender Document.
28	Lot 3	Others as mentioned in the Tender Document.
29	Lot 4	Average annual turnover as the total payments received by the Bidder for contracts completed or under execution over the last three (3) years shall not be less than USD 7.0 million or equivalent amount.
30	Lot 5	Successful completion as main supplier within the last Five (5) years, of at least one (01) contract valued at USD 1.8 million or equivalent amount with nature, and complexity similar to the scope of supply described in the Tender Document.
31	Office Information	
32	Name of Official Inviting Tender	Md. Abu Sayed SK
33	Designation of Official Inviting Tender	Joint Program Director Secondary Education Sector Investment Program
34	Address of Official Inviting Tender	Shikha Bhaban, 2nd Block, Floor/Room number: 5th Floor / Room No. 601 16 Abdul Gani Road Dhaka-1000, Bangladesh
35	Contact details of Official Inviting Tender	Phone: +88-02-9553712
36	The Procuring Entity reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the bids without assigning any reason	Fax: +88-02-9586585
37		E-mail: jpd.sesip@gmail.com

GD-1006	6.0 million or equivalent amount.
Lot 3	Successful completion as main supplier within the last Five (5) years, of at least one (01) contract valued at USD 1.6 million or equivalent amount with nature, and complexity similar to the scope of supply described in the Tender Document.
Lot 4	Others as mentioned in the Tender Document.
Lot 5	Average annual turnover as the total payments received by the Bidder for contracts completed or under execution over the last three (3) years shall not be less than USD 7.0 million or equivalent amount.
Brief Description of Goods	Successful completion as main supplier within the last Five (5) years, of at least one (01) contract valued at USD 1.8 million or equivalent amount with nature, and complexity similar to the scope of supply described in the Tender Document.
23	Procurement of Equipment for Implementation of Pre-vocational and Vocational Programme (PVIP) for five Trades (Civil Construction, Dress Making, Food Processing, Refrigeration and Air Conditioning, and Plumbing)
24	Lot 1: PVIP Equipment for Civil Construction Lot 2: PVIP Equipment for Dress Making Lot 3: PVIP Equipment for Food Processing and Preservation Lot 4: PVIP Equipment for Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Lot 5: PVIP Equipment for Plumbing and Pipe Fittings
25	Transportation of Goods to the Final Destination, Installation and other related services mentioned in the bidding documents.
26	BDT 4,000 (Taka Four Thousand) or USD 50 (US Dollar Fifty) per lot, non-refundable in the form of Treasury Chalan (Code No. 1-2531-0000-2681) from Bangladesh Bank/Sonali Bank, or Bank draft/Pay order from any Scheduled Bank of Bangladesh in favor of the Program Director, SESIP.
27	Identification of Lot
28	Location as per List
29	Tender Security Amount in USD or equivalent amount in any freely convertible currency
30	Completion Time in Months
31	Signature of Md. Abu Sayed SK
32	Md. Abu Sayed SK (Additional Secretary)
33	Joint Program Director
34	Secondary Education Sector Investment Program

Md. Abu Sayed SK (Additional Secretary)
Joint Program Director
Secondary Education Sector Investment Program