

Former banker turns leading farmer

Shamsul Alam makes a 60-acre orchard at his native village in Tangail

There are some people, who are moving back to their roots in the village, as the cities does not have any appeal to them anymore. This is a trend I have been observing of late and such a person is Shamsul Alam. After serving at a bank throughout his entire life, he has now returned to his home district in Tangail because he doesn't want to spend this time in the cities anymore.



Retired bank official Shamsul Alam at his lemon orchard at Madhupurchala village in Tangail.

tree. The current price of each lemon is Tk 4 (USD 0.047) on an average and he may earn Tk 8000 (USD 94.73) from a single tree in a season.

"Last year my net season income from the orchard was about Tk 22 lakh (USD 26,050)", says a happy Shamsul.

In the beginning, expenses were a bit high for dragon fruits. Making of pillars were the prime reason during his experimental effort.

Later on, he built 180 pillars and earned Tk 2 lakh (USD 2,368) from his voluntary initiative and started caring a bit more for the trees.

This season, the same number of pillars have helped him earn Tk 5 lakh (USD 5,920), which has inspired Shamsul to build another 250 new pillars to grow even more.

"I felt incredible when I sold dragon fruits worth about Tk 5 lakh this season", the successful farmer added.

Dear readers, Bangladesh is agriculturally one of the most enriched countries around the world. Our agricultural products are gradually reaching all corners of the world. It is high time to bring variety in farming and that's where the issue of diversified farming comes in. Farmers are moving more towards high value-crops with better technology and agricultural inputs.

It is really wonderful to see that once a high-ranked bank official has become such a great agro-entrepreneur.

What else could have been the best thing to do after retirement? Shamsul's soul is so connected to his roots. He enjoys his farming creativity and his return to the roots is giving him a lot of mental peace. It's not that Shamsul wanted to do this just for earning some quick money. He felt deep down from the heart, he must do it. And the last wish of Shamsul is quite extraordinary to hear-- "I want to spend my last days with the crops."

May all your wishes come true Shamsul Alam.

every day and it is the ideal time for diversified farming. Moreover, the educated mass are turning themselves into farming with high value crops.

Shamsul's orchard is such a place. Shamsul has made his dream true at his native village Modhupurchala.

Just a year ago, nothing was grown here except pineapples. The fields are slowly changing into different crops including high yielding cash crops. Lemon is most farmed here and its importance is also now in line.

Shamsul started with only a few bighas of land by planting lemon plants back in 2014 and now he has over 60 acres of land. He has different varieties of lemons in his orchard.

"Many exporters visit my orchard and advised me to expand my orchard," Shamsul shares.

"Did you export anywhere," I curiously asked.

"My lemons already reached the markets

in Dubai, Malaysia and many more countries," he gladly replied.

"I'm born once, and will die once. I don't do it for profits, but for my soul," smilingly added Shamsul.

Although, most of Shamsul's land is leased, he also has some for his own land.

The fruit orchard of retired banker Shamsul, specially the successful production of lemon and dragon fruits tell us the story of a great initiative. This is not only an example of success, rather a great inspiring story for those who keeps the passion for farming from the core of their hearts.

From planting, Shamsul monitors the growing of lemons and even packaging. He deals with domestic and international markets.

"I keep my lemon trees safe like a baby is kept in a mother's womb", says Shamsul.

Each tree produces about 1000 to 3000 lemons. Shamsul believes this season he will get at least 2000 lemons from one

Four Kishoreganj men get life term for raping child

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

A Kishoreganj court on Tuesday handed down life term imprisonment to four Kishoreganj men for raping a 12-year-old girl in 2015.

Judge Kiron Shankar Halder of Women and Children Repression Prevention Tribunal-1 in Kishoreganj also fined each convict Tk 1 lakh.

In default of the payment, each convict will have to spend two additional years in jail, said Kishoreganj Court Inspector Chowdhury Mizanuzzaman.

The convicts are Sumon, 28, son of Shahid Mia; Faruq, 30, son of Kandu Mia; Roman Mia, 26, son of Abul Kashem; and Helal, 32, son of Sonafor Mia all from Ashutiapara village in Karimganj upazila of Kishoreganj.

On charge of abducting the fourth-grade student before rape, the court sentenced each of them to 10 years imprisonment along with Tk 10,000 fine.

Each of the convicts will have to spend an additional year in jail if any one fails to pay the fine, added the court inspector.

According to case statement, around 1:00am on May 12 in 2015, the child victim was returning home with two of her relatives after admitting her mother to Karimganj Upazila Health Complex.

When they reached Ashutiapara village in Karimganj upazila, the convicts waylaid them and abducted the girl after beating her two relatives.

They later took the girl to an unknown place and raped her.

On information, police rescued the girl from Ramnagar area in Karimganj and sent her to a local hospital for treatment.

Her father, a fish trader by profession, filed a case the same day with Karimganj Police Station.

Five named individuals including the convicts and five other unnamed individuals were made accused in the case for raping the child.

On November 13 that year, Officer-in-Charge of Karimganj Police Station and the case's investigation officer Bazlur Rahman submitted charge sheet against five persons.

One of the accused, Nayan, 35, was acquitted as charges brought against him were not proven.

Shykh Seraj is Bangladesh's pioneer development journalist. He received country's two highest civilian honours, Swadhinata Puroshkar and Ekushey Padak, respectively. He is an Ashoka and Bangla Academy Fellow. He also received highest award for agricultural journalism from the United Nations, FAO A.H. Boerma Award, Gusi Peace Prize (Philippines) and many other prestigious accolades at home and abroad. At Channel i, he's the Founder Director and Head of News. He's also Director and Host of Channel i's popular agro-documentary, Hridoye Mati O Manush.



PHOTO: HRIDOYE MATI O MANUSH



Large cracks, like this one at Dhumaitari of Sundarganj upazila of Gaibandha, have developed on Sundarganj-Kamarjani flood control embankment-cum-road on the western bank of the Brahmaputra river amid heavy rain during the last one month, posing threat of erosion in a large area.

Cracks develop on 30-km flood control embankment

Large ditches and cracks have developed on 30 kilometre of Sundarganj-Kamarjani flood control embankment-cum-road due to heavy downpour for the last one month, causing immense sufferings to people.

The dyke on the western bank of the Brahmaputra river is also being used as a road connecting Tarapur, Belka, Kapasia, Chandipur, Sreepur and Kanchibari unions with Sundarganj upazila headquarters. So, the road always remains busy with movement of battery-run easy-bikes, tractors and motorcycles.

Locals said the road has been in awful state as over 30 large and small ditches and cracks have developed on it, hampering smooth movement

of vehicles. Due to heavy rainfall, the cracks and ditches are widening rapidly, they said.

The situation turns worse at night when three-wheelers fell into the ditch due to reckless driving, said locals.

The dyke may collapse anytime as floodwater started engulfing the area, they said, adding that any initiative is yet to be taken to renovate the breaching points of the dyke.

Pedestrians, especially students, are the worst sufferers.

Afsana Khatun, a student of Dhumaitari Fazil Madrasa, said they have to attend their madrasa taking risk while passing through the ditches filled with water.

Al Amin, an easy bike driver under Belka union, said it now takes about three hours to

reach Sundarganj upazila bazar, whereas it was only an hour journey earlier.

Nafiu Islam Jimy, chairman of Hariput union parishad (UP), said there are 10 large cracks and ditches created from BBC turning point to Panchpeer Bazar due to heavy rainfall, but no initiative is taken to repair the ditches.

Ibrahim Khalillulah, chairman of Belka UP, said a large-scale ditch has developed at Dhumaitari point.

Upazila Engineer Mohammed Abul Mansur said although the dyke is under the jurisdiction of Water Development Board, Local Government Engineering Department is also looking after the maintenance of road, so initiative for renovation of the road will be taken soon.

PHOTO: STAR

Youth found dead

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Brahmanbaria

Police recovered the body of a young man from inside an abandoned toilet of his in-laws' house at Gilamura village under Paharpur union in Bijoynagar upazila of the district on Tuesday.

The deceased, Ramjan Sarker, 22, son of Mia Chan of the village, used to run a grocery shop at the village.

Ramjan's family members alleged that Ramjan's in-laws might have killed him and dumped the body.

"Ramjan married Taria Jannat, daughter of Abdur Rahman of the village, about one and a half years ago. Since then, Jannat had been staying at her parents' house and continuing her study," said deceased's elder brother Mizanur Rahman.

Youth to die for killing wife

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Brahmanbaria

A Brahmanbaria court yesterday sentenced a youth to death in connection with a case for killing his wife in Ashuganj upazila about two years ago.

Judge Mohammad Shafiu Azam of Brahmanbaria Women and Children Repression Prevention Tribunal handed down the verdict in absence of convict Ariful Haque Rony, 32, who has been absconding since securing bail in the case on November 29, 2018, Public Prosecutor SM Yousuf said.

According to the case statement, Rony strangled his three-month pregnant wife Kamrun Nahar Turna to death and concealed the body in a rooftop abandoned water tank on 24 April, 2017.

The following day, Turna's father Maziful Haque filed a case with Ashuganj

Police Station accusing Rony and after investigation police later submitted the charge sheet against the lone accused in August the same year.

Later, police detained Rony, who gave his confessional statement under Section 164 before the court, but he came out of jail in 2018 and had been absconding since then.

In his complaint Maziful mentioned that Rony lured his only daughter Turna, who completed her masters from Eden College in the capital, and tactfully married her in 2012.

Since then, Rony, son of Maziful's younger brother Aminul Haque, often used to torture Turna for her father's property as she was the lone nominee of the property and failing to grab it Rony strangled Turna to death on 24 April, 2017.

Cowshed torched, 6 cattle killed

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

At least six cattle were roasted alive as criminals torched a cowshed in Bochaganj upazila early yesterday.

Owner of the cowshed Latifur Rahman said he woke up from sleep around 1:30am and found his cowshed on fire.

Three cows and three goats were killed in the fire. Another cow sustained severe burn injuries.

Locals then doused the flame, said Latifur.

On information, Upazila Nirbahari Officer Md Fakhru Hasan and police visited the spot.

Officer-in-Charge Abdur Rouf of Bochaganj Police Station said they were trying to arrest the culprits.

50 primary schools flooded in Sunamganj's Tahirpur

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

Academic activities at 50 government primary schools in Tahirpur upazila of Sunamganj remain suspended as the institutions went under flood waters at least two to three days back.

In addition, water has started to enter in 10 to 11 more primary schools in the upazila.

Balijuri, Naya Hati, Manjargaon, Balijuri West Para, Barakhala, Patari, Anwarpur, Dakkhinkul, Mahtabpur, Lakkhipur, Gazipur, Patargaon, Sonapur and Pirojpur government primary schools are affected the most by the flooding.

With Tanguar Haor continuing to swell, the flood situation in Tahirpur may not improve soon, said Abu Sayed, assistant education officer of Tahirpur upazila.

Enamul Haque, headteacher of Naya Hati Government Primary School, said operations of the school



Inundated Sohona Government Primary School in Tahirpur.

came to a halt as flood waters have been entering the school building.

Though still open officially, they stopped holding classes in the waterlogged building, he added.

Torrential rain over the last two days has caused the floods and two kilometres of Sunamganj-Tahirpur road is also inundated with flood waters, said Tahirpur Upazila Parishad Chairman Karuna Sindu Chowdhury.

বিনা টিকেটে রেল ভ্রমণ থেকে বিরত থাকুন
দুর্ঘটনা এড়াতে রেলের ক্রিপ ও যন্ত্রাংশ চুরি রোধে এগিয়ে আসুন

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার
বিভাগীয় প্রকৌশলী-২ এর দপ্তর
বাংলাদেশ রেলওয়ে, চট্টগ্রাম
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নং-ডিইএন-২/সিটিজি/২০১৮-১৯/৩২৫৮১২১/৩০৮-৩০৫/৯৯ তারিখ: ০৮-০৭-২০১৯খিঃ

ই-জিপি টেন্ডার নোটিশ

বিভাগীয় প্রকৌশলী-২, বাংলাদেশ রেলওয়ে, চট্টগ্রাম কর্তৃক National Electronic Government Procurement Portal (https://www.eprocure.gov.bd) এ নিম্নোক্তভাবে সংশোধন করা হলো:

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S(19) (191)
GD-1213

ডরন কান্তি বালা
বিভাগীয় প্রকৌশলী-২
বাংলাদেশ রেলওয়ে, চট্টগ্রাম

বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংক
মতিঝিল অফিস
ঢাকা
দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংক স্টাফ ক্যান্টিন পরিচালনা এবং কর্মকর্তা কর্মচারীদেরকে নির্ধারিত মূল্য ও মেনু অনুযায়ী খাবার পরিবেশনের জন্য চুক্তিভিত্তিক ক্যাটারার নিয়োগের দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

সূত্র নং-কল্যাণ ৫৩(প)/২০১৯-১৪০৩ তারিখঃ ০৮-০৭-২০১৯

মতিঝিলস্থ বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংকের বিদ্যমান স্টাফ ক্যান্টিন নির্ধারিত মেনু অনুযায়ী খাবার (সকালের চা-নাস্তা, দুপুরের খাবার এবং বৈকালিক চা-নাস্তা ইত্যাদি) তৈরি করে ব্যাংকের কর্মকর্তা/কর্মচারীদেরকে পরিবেশনের নিমিত্তে নিম্নবর্ণিত যোগ্যতা ও অভিজ্ঞতাসম্পন্ন প্রকৃত ক্যাটারার/হোটেল ব্যবসায়ীদের নিকট হতে সীলমোহরকৃত দরপত্র আহবান করা যাচ্ছেঃ-

১।	সেবা গ্রহণকারী প্রতিষ্ঠান	৪।	বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংক, মতিঝিল, ঢাকা।
২।	দরপত্র পদ্ধতি	৫।	উন্মুক্ত।
৩।	দরপত্র দলিল বিক্রির শেষ তারিখ ও সময়	৬।	৩০-০৭-২০১৯ইং তারিখ অফিস চলাকালীন সময়।
৪।	দরপত্র দাখিলের শেষ তারিখ ও সময়	৭।	৩১-০৭-২০১৯ইং তারিখ দুপুর ২.০০টা পর্যন্ত।
৫।	দরপত্র খোলার তারিখ ও সময়	৮।	৩১-০৭-২০১৯ইং তারিখ দুপুর ২.১৫টা।
৬।	দরপত্র দলিল বিক্রয়কারী অফিস	৯।	কল্যাণ শাখা, বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংক, মতিঝিল অফিস, ঢাকা (১ম সংলগ্নী ভবনের ৩য় তলা)। আইপি-১১-২২৭০৭ মোবাইলঃ ০১৭১১-১০১৯৭০।
৭।	দরপত্র গ্রহণকারী অফিস	১০।	উপমহাব্যবস্থাপক (প্রশা-৪) এর শাখা, ১ম সংলগ্নী ভবন (৩য় তলা), বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংক, মতিঝিল, ঢাকা।
৮।	দরপত্র খোলার স্থান	১১।	ঐ
৯।	দরদাতার যোগ্যতা	১২।	দরপত্র সিডিউন্ডে উল্লেখিত শর্তাবলী সহ ক্যান্টিন/ক্যাফেটারিয়া/ হোটেল চালানোর কাজে কমপক্ষে ০৫ (পাঁচ) বৎসরের বাতাব অভিজ্ঞতা থাকতে হবে।
১০।	সেবা/কাজের বিবরণ		মতিঝিলস্থ বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংক স্টাফ ক্যান্টিন পরিচালনা এবং নির্ধারিত মূল্য ও মেনু অনুযায়ী কর্মকর্তা/কর্মচারীদেরকে খাবার পরিবেশন করা।
১১।	দরপত্র দলিলের মূল্য		নগদ ২,০০০/- (টাকা দুই হাজার মাত্র) অফেরতযোগ্য।
১২।	দরপত্র জামানত		টাঃ ৫০,০০০/- (টাকা পঞ্চাশ হাজার মাত্র) যা যা মহাব্যবস্থাপক, বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংক, মতিঝিল, ঢাকা এর অনুকূলে পে-অর্ডার/ব্যাংক ড্রাফট আকারে (সেরতযোগ্য) দরপত্রের সাথে জমা দিতে হবে।

ব্যাংক কর্তৃপক্ষ কোন প্রকার কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতিরেকে যে কোন দরপত্র গ্রহণ/বাতিল বা সল্লা দরপত্র বাতিল করার ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করে।

ব্যাংকিং ও আর্থিক সেবা পেতে হইরানির শিকার হলে কিংবা কোন অভিযোগ থাকলে ১৬২৩৬ নম্বরে কোন করুন।

জিপিপিঃ ৪৮/২০১৯-২০৪১
তারিখঃ ০৮-০৭-২০১৯
জিঃ-১২০৬

মোঃ আলাউ হোসেন চৌধুরী
মহাব্যবস্থাপক