



Trading Corporation of Bangladesh's Barishal unit started selling onions at different points in the city yesterday. The onions were imported from Myanmar and are going for Tk 45 per kg. The photo was taken near the district administration office.

PHOTO: TITU DAS

Big excitement for small

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Besides Taranga, a total of 130 organisations, including associate bodies of PKSF from rural areas, different public and private organisations, research and information technology institutions and service-oriented organisations set up 190 stalls at the venue.

At least 100 varieties of paddy being displayed at the stall of Bangladesh Rice Research Institute was found to be a crowd-puller.

"Besides rice, these paddy can be used to make cakes, biscuits, noodles and diversified foods," said Priyalal, an officer of plant breeding division of the institute.

Rahnuma Teethi, a second year student of City College, said he bought imitation jewellery from the stall of Niloy Foundation.

"It's not gold but beautiful to look at; such imitation is better for casual use," said a smiling Teethi.

Stall owners said these products had been made by a group of women from Maheshpur upazila under Jhenaidah.

Fair organisers said their Promoting Agricultural Commercialization and Enterprises (PACE) project has given financial and other logistic support to various organisations and individuals.

"When I was living a miserable life with my farmer husband, PACE project helped me. I have earned Tk 85,000-90,000 so far this year by cultivating dragonfruit," said Nurjahan, a resident of Tangail Sadar Upazila.

Though the fair ended yesterday, activities of PKSF continues year-round, said Managing Director Moinuddin Abdullah.

We do not want to lose

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Pankaj Bhattacharya and Association for Land Reform and Development Executive Director Shamsul Huda were present at the event.

Contacted, Assistant Commissioner (Land) of Kulaura upazila Nazratun Nayeem said, "I joined the office two months ago. I'm not fully aware of the situation. I'll get back to you soon."

Md Moniruzzaman, manager of Jhimai Tea Garden, told this correspondent to contact the company high-ups in this regard.

According to the statement, the tea garden is owned by Kedarpur Tea Company Limited. Laila Rahman Kabir is the owner of the company.

Contacted, an executive of the company, wishing anonymity, said they will get in touch with the owner regarding the issue and let the newspaper know about their version soon.

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PM to attend UN climate

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for Action". The exhibition will remain open till December 5.

The effects of climate change are becoming more and more visible and recent reports say that the effects are occurring much faster than earlier predictions, said the German embassy.

This is not only alarming for climate vulnerable countries like Bangladesh but also for all nations, and Bangladesh delegation to the COP25 has been encouraged to stand

out with ambitious demands and commitment at the conference, it said.

Environment, Forest and Climate Change Minister Md Shahab Uddin inaugurated the exhibition and also handed over prizes among winners of the photo competition.

German Ambassador to Bangladesh Peter Fahrenholtz and Chargé d' Affaires at British High Commission in Dhaka Kanbar Hossein-Bor attended the event as special guests.

Representatives from the

government, diplomatic and UN missions, bilateral agencies, civil society, academia and news media attended the event, among others.

Responding to a social media call for submission of photographs on the effects of climate change in the lives of people and environment of Bangladesh, many participants submitted their photographs.

From the submissions, 50 photos were chosen for the exhibition, of which three won the prizes.

Sufia Kamal was ahead

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the discussion at its auditorium, which is also named after the luminary.

In her speech, BMP acting President Dr Fauzia Moslem said Sufia Kamal was a progressive poet with a strong sense of social responsibility.

Rakhi Das Purkayastha, joint general secretary of BMP, said the Vienna Conference of 1993 (the World Conference on Human Rights organised by the UN) had termed women's rights as human rights, something Sufia Kamal first said in 1991, two years prior to the

conference," she claimed.

Rakhi said BMP will follow the ideals of Sufia Kamal to establish human rights in the country.

Tanusree Mallik, a researcher at the Institute of Education and Research (IER) of Dhaka University, also spoke at the event.

Barishal Divisional Shree Shree Hari Guruchand Matua temple organised a rally yesterday, celebrating Nabanna Utsab, the festival of new harvest.

PHOTO: TITU DAS

Teesta water deal will change Bangladesh-India relations

Says High Commissioner to India Muazzem Ali

OUR CORRESPONDENT, New Delhi

If the Teesta river water-sharing deal is clinched, it will dramatically change the relationship between Bangladesh and India, according to Bangladesh's High Commissioner to India Syed Muazzem Ali. He said since Bangladesh is largely agrarian, and the northern part of Bangladesh is a water-scarce region, it is important that the Teesta deal is arrived at as early as possible.

According to Muazzem Ali, both Bangladesh and India should now focus on enhancing the navigability of their common major rivers by undertaking dredging, so that they can hold more water and big ships can sail through them to use Mongla and Chattogram ports.

Interacting with members of the Press Club of India at the Indian capital on Tuesday evening, Muazzem Ali, who returns to Dhaka next month after a five-year-tenure as High Commissioner, said sharing of 54 common rivers is the biggest challenge for India-Bangladesh relations, because water is a highly emotive issue in both countries.

Pointing out that there are three to four hydro-electricity projects on the Teesta in Sikkim, India where the river origins, two irrigation projects in West Bengal and one irrigation project in Bangladesh built by HM Ershad, he said the quantum of water

in the river has come down.

The Teesta deal has been pending for the last eight years due to West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee's strong opposition to it.

Muazzem Ali said the Farakka barrage project has not helped India meet the purpose for which it was built, because it has not helped the Haldia port and large ships cannot enter there due to siltation. "In fact, Farakka has led to more siltation in Haldia."

The Bangladesh envoy was asked a number of questions on a range of India-Bangladesh issues including Bangladesh-China military ties, NRC and illegal immigration.

On the NRC issue, Muazzem Ali said India has repeatedly conveyed to Bangladesh officially that it was an "internal" issue and he would not like to comment on it.

Regarding illegal immigration, he said if a Bangladeshi can afford it, they would prefer to go to the West of the Mediterranean over India.

However, he said, Bangladesh has been on the road to economic prosperity for the last ten years, and the problem of illegal immigration will cease to exist.

Replying to a question, Muazzem said the biggest achievement in India-Bangladesh ties during his tenure was signing of the bilateral land boundary agreement in 2015.

Police bust firearms den

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were hidden on the hill," said Khandakar Golam Faruk, deputy inspector general (DIG) of police for Chattogram range, at a press conference held at the district police lines.

"Following a tip-off, police went to the area to arrest Alamgir. Sensing our presence, Alamgir and his cohorts opened fire," the DIG said.

Police retaliated by firing shots, which triggered a gunfight. After a short period, they were able to arrest Alamgir from the spot but others managed to escape, he said.

"Sub-inspector Saimul Islam and two constables -- Md Kamal and Md Hamid of Raozan Police Station -- were injured during the gunfight," the DIG added.

Based on Alamgir's information, police busted the den on the hill.

Noor-e-Alam Mina, Chattogram superintendent of police, said the injured officers received primary treatment from the upazila health complex.

During primary investigation, the arrestee told police that the firearms were being used for robbing, mugging and murder. Police will try to get more details out of him, Noor-e-Alam said. A case was lodged in this connection.

Rajuk signs deal

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The Turag township will be within the catchment area of the country's maiden metro rail service, he said.

Rajuk chairman Dr Sultan Ahmed said Turag township scheme is a part of the master plan to save four Dhaka rivers, and its feasibility study will include environmental study as well.

"In case of land acquisition for the township schemes, those affected will be rehabilitated with plots and flats," said the Rajuk chairman. The feasibility study will be completed in the next one year, he said.

The Waterfront Smart City Dhaka in Keraniganj will be developed as an independent planned township by the Dhaka-Mawa highway to meet the increased residential and commercial demands, and prevent the current trend of chaotic housing and commercial development in this locality, said the officials.

Public works minister SM Rezaul Karim and chief engineer of China Road and Bridge Corporation, among others, spoke.

HC stays trial

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against Nawshaba, who is now on bail, as the court has earlier stayed the proceedings of a similar case.

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

Police filed a case under the ICT Act against Nawshaba with Uttara Pashchim Police Station on August 5. The same 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.

Barrister Jyotirmoy Barua appeared for Nawshaba.

Zareef Ahmed passes away

CITY DESK

Zareef

Ahmed, son of Hasneen Ahmed and Farruque Ahmed, born September 17, 1991, passed away on Monday (November 18).

He is survived by his loving parents, brother, grandparent and close relatives and friends, who all loved him dearly.

Though Zareef's stay in this world was short, the mark he left in the lives of everyone who knew him will remain indelible, his relatives said.

PBI gets

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brother Dr Hasan Ali Chowdhury (70), his wife Sayedatul Mahmuda Shaheen (64), brother-in-law Anas Mahmud Rezwani (59), and Maruf Reza (49), who was allegedly hired by Hasan and Mahmuda. All the arrestees have given confessional statements to a magistrate, he added.

REQUEST FOR QUOTES (RFQ) SERVICE PROVIDER

Request Quotes (RFQ) for Services

Date: 14.11.2019

Reference: JhpBD001/2019

Jhpiego is an international, non-profit health organization affiliated with The Johns Hopkins University. Jhpiego began its work in Bangladesh in 1977 by providing training to physicians and nurses in collaboration with MoH&FW. Since 2006, Jhpiego has emphasized integrated reproductive, maternal, newborn and Child health (RMNCH) and FP Programming with well-established service delivery and research components in Bangladesh and works with health experts, governments and community leaders to provide high-quality health care for their peoples. Jhpiego develops strategies to help countries care for themselves by training component health care workers, strengthening health systems and improving delivery of care as well as designs innovative, effective and low-cost health care solutions to ensure a level of care for women and their families. Jhpiego is registered with NGOAB, Gov't of Bangladesh. Jhpiego intends to find a suitably qualified service provider including:

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Deadline for submission:	17:00, 28 November 2019
Delivered to Jhpiego office address:	House-10B, (3rd floor), Road-90, Gulshan-2, Dhaka-1212.
Attention:	Md. Saidul Haque, Administrative Coordinator

Interested bidders are requested to take note of the following requirements and conditions pertaining to the above mentioned service (s):

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