

Bumper Aus yield expected in Moulvibazar

MINTU DESHWARA, Moulvibazar

Farmers are expecting a bumper harvest of Aus paddy this season, for the first time in Moulvibazar in ten years.

The overall production of the crop in Sylhet division is also good.

According to Department of Agriculture Extension (DAE) in Moulvibazar, Aus has been cultivated on 56,852 hectares of land in the district this year against the target of 56,797 hectares.

The cultivation areas in 2019 and 2018 were 53,010 hectares and 49,440 hectares. This year cultivation area of Aus in the district has been more than Boro paddy, which was grown on 53,550 hectares.

Mahbubur Rahman, a farmer from Majidpur area of Rajnagar upazila in Moulvibazar, said he has cultivated Aus on five bigha of land and got 60 maunds (a maund = 40 kg) of yield.

Aus paddy has grown well this time due to favourable weather, proper use of fertilizers, pesticides and irrigation, said Mamun Mia, a farmer from Majidpur village. He expects to get 80 maunds of paddy from five bigha.

Sajed Mia of the area said he cultivated Aus paddy on 10 acres of land and got good yield.

Due to the coronavirus situation, there is

a serious crisis of labourers to harvest paddy. However, the authorities are providing the service of combine harvesters at a subsidized rate to reap paddy, much to the relief of the farmers.

Kazi Lutful Bari, DAE deputy director in Moulvibazar, said 80 percent of the paddy in the district has already been harvested, which amounts to one lakh 45 thousand 60 tonnes.

“The total production will hopefully exceed the target of 1.60 lakh tonnes. This is the first time in ten years that the district saw a bumper yield of Aus, which will be on par with Aman production,” he added.

Mazumder Md Ilias, deputy director at the Sylhet divisional office of DAE, said, 2.08 lakh hectares of land was brought under Aus cultivation in the division this year and last year it was 192,600 hectares.

This year, incentive amounting Tk 42.5 million was given to 50,000 marginal farmers for the crop in the division, he said.

Greenibash Debnath, additional director at the office, said, “We have provided all the necessary cooperation and advice to the farmers since the beginning of Aus season. The crop sees a bumper yield due to favourable weather conditions in the division this year.”



Farmers harvest Aus paddy at a field in Mojidpur area under Rajnagar upazila of Moulvibazar a few days ago.

PHOTO: MINTU DESHWARA



The concrete blocks of the dyke on the bank of the Payra river in Barguna's Amtali upazila town have been washed away, threatening the town.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

Amtali town protection dyke under erosion threat

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Patuakhali

Many concrete blocks of Amtali upazila town protection dyke on the Payra river in Barguna have collapsed into the river due to lack of repair, threatening the town.

Locals said several government and non-government offices and other establishments in the area are now under threat of erosion by the river. If the dyke is not repaired immediately, thousands of houses including some government establishments like the office of Water Development Board, food warehouse, Muktiyoddha Government Primary School, launch ghat and ferry ghat in the town may go into the river anytime. The town protection dyke has become fragile due to lack of renovation work since its construction over two decades ago.

According to the Barguna Water Development Board (WDB), WDB built the 1200-metre-long dyke on the Payra river bank from the ferry ghat area to the WDB office in Amtali municipality in 1998 to protect the town from erosion. The dyke became risky after it was hit by cyclones Sidr in 2007, Aila in 2008, Mohasen in 2013, Roanu in 2016 and the

latest Bulbul and Amphan. As a result, a number of structures including timber markets and crematoriums are now facing erosion threat.

To renovate the dyke, WDB in 2014 took a project funded by the World Bank but the contractor repaired 115 meters of the dyke, leaving the rest of the work behind. Since then the town has been facing erosion threat. Most of the blocks of the dyke went into the river in the last 22 years. Several structures collapsed into the river during the time.

During a recent visit to the area, this correspondent found that many concrete blocks of the dyke on the river bank had been washed away, threatening a number of houses including the ferry ghat, crematoriums, a government primary school, launch ghat and food warehouse.

Md Ripon, a timber trader in the municipality area, said the impact of the Sidr has increased the intensity of river erosion. As a result, the sufferings of the people in the area are increasing day by day.

Syed Md Masum of Launch ghat area said the area is under threat of erosion

as the blocks of the dyke here have been washed away.

He also demanded immediate repair of the damaged dyke to protect the town from erosion.

Matiar Rahman, mayor of Amtali municipality, said the size of the municipality is getting smaller due to erosion of the Payra river. Many establishments in the municipality area are under threat of collapse as several old concrete blocks of the dyke had been washed away.

He further said if the dyke is not renovated immediately, the government and non-government structures in the area may go into the river anytime. It is necessary to build a three-kilometer-long dyke on the bank of the river to protect the town from erosion.

The mayor urged the ministry concerned to reconstruct the dyke as soon as possible.

Barguna WDB Assistant Engineer Azizur Rahman Sujan said a project proposal has been sent to the higher authority to renovate the town protection dyke. After getting approval, the renovation work will start.

Fifth deadline missed

Delay in bridge construction work mounts sufferings on thousands of villagers

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Lalmonirhat

The construction firms have missed the deadline for fifth time to complete the construction work of a bridge on the Ratnai river at Karnapur village in Sadar upazila of the district.

The 120-metre long and eight-metre wide bridge under Local Government Engineering Department (LGED) was scheduled to complete construction in November 2018.

But it has missed five deadlines for completion in November 2018, May 2018, November 2019, May 2019 and May 2020. Till the date, 65 to 70 percent work of the bridge has been completed.

As a result, thousands of villagers of 10 villages in Mogholhat union of the upazila have been suffering a lot, said locals, adding that the villagers have to spend extra money to cross the river on boats during the rainy season.

Lalmonirhat Sadar Upazila Engineer of LGED Shah Obaidur Rahman said the contractor concerned has already missed five deadlines to

complete the construction work of the bridge. The construction work began in September 2016.

Two private firms--Surma and Abu Bakkar-- jointly obtained the work order to construct the bridge at a cost of Tk 6.2 crore, Obaidur said, adding that he has already informed the district LGED authorities about the delay of the construction work.

Farmer Hemnata Chandra Barmon, 62, of Karnapur village in the upazila, said as the bridge construction is still incomplete, they are crossing the river on boat to go to the district headquarters.

They have to spend Tk 10 as boat fare for each trip, he said.

“We suffer a lot as the construction work of the bridge is yet to be completed and we don’t know when construction work of the bridge would be completed and opened for traffic,” said the farmer.

Rahim Miah, 48, a resident of Megharam village beside the under-construction bridge, said although the contractor is delaying the construction work of the bridge,

LGED authorities are not taking any action in this regard

If the authorities concerned do not take any alternative steps, the construction work will be delayed more, causing immense sufferings to villagers, said Rahim.

Contacted, contractor of the bridge Golam Rabbani said the construction work was delayed as they had to face huge troubles during the pilling work in the river.

The construction work of the bridge would be completed by November this year, he said.

Lalmonirhat LGED Executive Engineer Ashraf Ali Khan told The Daily Star that they served notice to the contractor concerned mentioning he would be blacklisted if he failed to complete the construction work by November this year.

“If the bridge construction over the Ratnai river is not completed by November this year, we will take alternative steps”, said the executive engineer, adding that of course, department will take legal action against the contractor as per rules.



Local people cross the Ratnai river by a boat as the under-construction bridge on the river at Megharam village in Lalmonirhat Sadar upazila still remains incomplete.

PHOTO: STAR

Man found dead

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

Unidentified criminals killed a man in Rangpur's Piganj upazila and took away his rickshaw-van on Friday night.

The deceased, Safayet Akand, 40, was son of Joylaj Akand of Gaibandha's Sadullahpur upazila.

Locals of Latmithipur village spotted Safayet's body at a paddy field yesterday morning and informed the police, who recovered it and sent it to Rangpur Medical College Hospital for autopsy.

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তত্ত্বাবধায়কের কার্যালয়
২৫০ শয্যা বিশিষ্ট বঙ্গমাতা শেখ ফজিলাতুন্নেছা মুজিব জেনারেল হাসপাতাল, সিরাজগঞ্জ
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তারিখ: ১০/০৮/২০২০খ্রিঃ

স্মারক নং-জেনারেল হাসপাতাল/সিরাজ/দরপত্র/২০২০-২০২১/১২৯৩

দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

২৫০ শয্যা বিশিষ্ট বঙ্গমাতা শেখ ফজিলাতুন্নেছা মুজিব জেনারেল হাসপাতাল, সিরাজগঞ্জ এর ২০২০-২০২১ অর্থ বৎসরের ভর্তি রোগীদের পদ্ম, ট্রান্স ও সীল (অফিস টেনশনারী) ও অন্যান্য মনিয়ারী, হাসপাতালে ভর্তি রোগীদের মাল্য কপড় ও অন্যান্য কপড় যোগাই এর নিমিত্ত প্রকৃত কাংশটী/রিজদার প্রতিষ্ঠানের নিউট হইতে পিএ/২০০৬ ও সিএ/২০০৮ এবং সরঞ্জামিত পিএ/২০০৯ অনুসারী দরপত্র আহবান করা যাউক।

ক্রমিক নং	প্রতিষ্ঠানের নাম	দরপত্রের বিবরণ	তহব্বালের মূল্য	বাস্তবের টাকার	দরপত্র খোলার স্থান
০১	২৫০ শয্যা বিশিষ্ট বঙ্গমাতা শেখ ফজিলাতুন্নেছা মুজিব জেনারেল হাসপাতাল, সিরাজগঞ্জ	পদ্ম	৭৫০/-	২,১৫,০০০/-	২৫০ শয্যা বিশিষ্ট বঙ্গমাতা শেখ ফজিলাতুন্নেছা মুজিব জেনারেল হাসপাতাল, সিরাজগঞ্জ
০২	ঐ	ট্রান্স ও সীল (অফিস টেনশনারী) ও অন্যান্য মনিয়ারী	৪০০/-	৩৫,০০০/-	১৯/০৯/২০২০ দুপুর ১.০০ ঘটিকা।
০৩	ঐ	কপড় বোলাই	৪০০/-	৪০,০০০/-	

১৩ : অনিন্দার কারণে দরপত্রের কার্যে পরিবর্তন করা যাইবে।
১৪ : পিএ/২০০৬ ও সিএ/২০০৮ ও সিএ/২০০৯ পিএ/২০০৬ এবং দরপত্র সিটিউলসের শর্তাবলী অনুসারে বাস্তব গৃহীত হইবে।
১৫ : দরপত্রের বাস্তবের টাকার যে কোন অংশই বাস্তবের বিধি, শর্তাবলী অনুসারে নিষেধকরকারীকে অনুমোদন দান করিতে হইবে।
১৬ : দরপত্রের কার্যে যে কোন দরপত্র প্রকৃতকালে কবর ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করেন। দরপত্র মূল্যায়ন করিবার সিদ্ধান্তই চূড়ান্ত বলিয়া গণ্য হইবে।
১৭ : দরপত্র খোলার তারিখে দরপত্র উন্মুক্তকরণ করিবার কার্যে দরপত্র খোলা হইবে। পরবর্তীতে দরপত্র মূল্যায়ন করিবার দরপত্রের বিষয়ে সিদ্ধান্ত গ্রহণ করিতেন।
১৮ : দরপত্রের অন্যান্য শর্তাবলী দরপত্র অংশীদার উল্লেখ করা হইয়াছে।

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তারিখ-১২৫৮