

IRRI-Boro cultivation in full swing

Noakhali growers remain busy planting seedlings, ignoring biting cold

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Noakhali

IRRI-Boro cultivation is going on in full swing in nine upazilas of the district.

Farmers in the upazilas are passing busy time planting seedlings of IRRI-Boro paddy, ignoring the biting cold during the peak cultivation season.

The upazilas are Sadar, Chatkhil, Sonaimuri, Begumganj, Senbagh, Kabirhat, Companiganj, Subarnachar and Hatia.

Due to high prices of farm inputs, 90,000 hectares of agricultural land in the district have remained uncultivated this season.

According to the Department of Agricultural Extension (DAE), 65,950 hectares of land in the upazilas have been brought under IRRI-Boro cultivation with a production target of 3.5 lakh tonnes of paddy. Of them, hybrid paddy has been cultivated on 50,000 hectares of land.

Farmers Abdur Rahman of Lotpatia village in Chatkhil upazila, Harunur Rashid of Dutterbagh village, Nur Mohammad of Sundarpur area in the municipality, Shamsul Haque of Tatharkhil village in Sonaimuri upazila, and Abdur Rahman of Dharmapur union in Sadar upazila said

now it is the peak cultivation season of IRRI-Boro paddy. The cultivation started full swing.

They remain busy preparing the field from dawn to dusk, but there is an acute shortage of farm labourers, said the growers.

Meanwhile, IRRI-Boro cultivation is being hampered in the ongoing season in the district due to high prices of fuel oil and fertilisers. Wages of the labourers have also been increased, hampering plantation of the paddy.

If a labourer works in the field from 8:00am to 1:00pm, he charges Tk 600 to Tk 700 with lunch, said the farmers.

Meanwhile, in January, 3,519 MT of fertiliser has been allotted through six fertiliser dealers of Bangladesh Chemical Industries Corporation (BCIC) and 61 fertiliser dealers of Bangladesh Agriculture Development Corporation (BADC) in the district. Of them, urea fertiliser is 3,303 MT, TSP 942 MT, MOP 690 MT and DAP 1,052 MT.

Ayub Mahmud, deputy director of DAE in Noakhali, said if the weather remains favourable, the production target for IRRI-Boro will be achieved this year.



Rafikul tends his gourd plants at Shahpur-Ghigathi village in Jhenidah's Kaliganj upazila.

PHOTO: STAR

Rafikul shines in gourd farming

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Jhenidah

Farming has a great potential across the world nowadays and a jobless educated man of Shahpur-Ghigathi village in Kaliganj upazila sets the recent example by becoming a successful entrepreneur through gourd farming.

Rafikul Islam, 45, a former Saudi Arabia expatriate, narrated the bitter experience of his life when this correspondent visited his gourd farm recently.

Rafikul, son of late Shafi Uddin Gazi of the village, said he completed his graduation from Jhenidah's Mahtab Uddin Degree College in 1996.

At first he looked for job, but all his effort went in vain.

Failing to get a job, he took the decision not to try for a job

anymore and went to Saudi Arabia as an overseas worker in 1998.

After staying there for over nine years, he returned home in 2007, Rafikul said, adding that after returning home he purchased some land with his savings and started gourd farming on a limited scale, alongside serving as a private tutor, for a livelihood.

He expand his cultivation area in 2018, and in the first year of commercial cultivation, he earned a profit of Tk 50,000 from one bigha of land, followed by a profit of Tk 1,20,000 the following year.

Last year he cultivated gourd on three bighas of land, spending Tk 1.5 lakh, he said, adding that he sold his produce for Tk 3.1 lakh and got a profit of Tk 1.6 lakh.

Rafikul, father of a son and a daughter, said he got 15 decimals

Rafikul, father of two children, got only 15 decimals of land from his father and now owned 15 bighas of land and a two-storey house.

of land from his father and now he owned 15 bighas of land.

Alongside cultivating gourd, he grows paddy and seasonal vegetables in the rest 12 bighas of land.

Recently he built a two storey-house and living a happy and solvent life through gourd farming, Rafikul added.

Seeing his success, many local youths throng to his gourd field to have a look at the farming process.

He inspires them and gives them necessary advice about gourd farming as it is more profitable than the other traditional crops, Rafikul added.

Abdullah, a resident of Chandpara village in neighbouring Kotchandpur upazila, said Rafikul's gourd farm inspired him a lot and want to cultivate gourd in limited scale in the coming season.

Kaliganj Upazila Sub-Assistant Agriculture Officer Jahurul Islam said Rafikul is an ideal farmer and a very hard working man.

He also obtained agriculture related training from the Spices Research Centre in Bogura.



A farmer plants saplings of IRRI-Boro paddy at his field in Kulsree village of Noakhali's Chatkhil upazila.

PHOTO: STAR

Man killed, 6 injured in clash over land dispute

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Lalmonirhat

A man was killed and six others severely injured in a clash between two groups of villagers over occupying a piece of disputed land in Kurigram's Phulbari upazila on Sunday.

The deceased, Bakinur Islam, 36, was son of Selim Miah of Bhangamor village in the upazila.

The injured are Zahurul Haque, 37, Khalil Uddin, 61, Azimuddin Miah, 44, Belal Hossain 52, Aminur Islam, 33, and Mizanur Rahman, 28.

Of them, conditions of Zahurul and Khalil, admitted at Kurigram General

Hospital, are stated to be crucial.

Quoting locals, police said Selim has been cultivating his two acres of land in Khonchabari area for long, but recently Sahidul claimed the ownership of the land.

As a sequel, Sahidul and his men obstructed Selim and his followers when they went to the land for harvesting mustard on Sunday noon, triggering a clash between the two groups that left at least seven people from both sides injured.

Of the injured, Bakinur succumbed to his injuries while undergoing treatment at Kurigram General Hospital the same night.

Jubo League leader stabbed

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

Criminals stabbed a local Jubo League leader in Kulaura municipality area on Sunday night.

Critically injured Moinul Islam Sabuj, 35, general secretary of Kulaura upazila unit Jubo League, is now undergoing treatment at Sylhet MAG Osmani Medical College Hospital.

Injured Sabuj's elder brother Aminul Islam filed a case with Kulaura Police Station accusing six people, including Kamrul Hasan, 40, joint general secretary of the organization, and several others unnamed.

Officer in Charge of Kulaura Police Station Binoy Bhushan Roy said criminals riding on two motorcycles waylaid Sabuj while he was going to Uchlapara area on a rickshaw.

The gang stabbed Sabuj indiscriminately with sharp weapons and fled the scene hurriedly, leaving him critical injured.



Over a hundred good-laden trucks are seen stranded on the road leading to the Paturia terminal in Manikganj as ferry service remained suspended for over 10 hours from 11:45pm on Sunday due to poor visibility caused by dense fog.

PHOTO: STAR

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Executive Engineer, RHD
Road Division, Natore
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E-mail: eenat@rhd.gov.bd

Memo No. 120 Date: 17/01/2021

e-Tender Notice

This is an online tender, where only e-Tenders will be accepted in e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, please register on e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>). e-Tenders are invited in e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) by Executive Engineer, RHD, Road Division, Natore.

e-GP Tender ID	Name of work	Tender document last selling/downloading date and time	Last date and time for tender security submission	Tender closing date and time
537062	Repair of Damaged Pavement by Aggregate Base Type-II, Carpeting & Seal Coat at 8th(p), 9th(p), 10th(p) & 11th(p)km of Bonpara-Gopalpur-Lalpur (Z-6014) Road under Road Division, Natore during the year 2020-2021	31-Jan-2021 17:00	01-Feb-2021 10:50	01-Feb-2021 11:00
537061	Repair of Existing Pavement by HBB, Base Type-II, Carpeting, Potholes Repair, Sealcoat and Construction of New HBB works at 6th(p) & 7th(p)km of Ahmedpur-Baraigram-Gurudaspur Road (Z-6015) under Road Division, Natore during the year 2020-2021	31-Jan-2021 17:00	01-Feb-2021 10:50	01-Feb-2021 11:10
537060	Repair of Damaged Pavement by Aggregate Base Type-II, Carpeting & Sealcoat at 6th(P), 7th(P), 8th(P) & 9th(P) km of Walla-Dayarampur-Sonapur-Sangkarbagherhat-Natore (Z-6011) Road under RHD, Road Division, Natore during the year 2020-2021.	31-Jan-2021 17:00	01-Feb-2021 10:50	01-Feb-2021 11:20
537059	Repair of Pavement by Base Type-II, Carpeting & Sealcoat Work at 1st(P) 5th(P), 6th(P) & 9th(P) KM of Natore (Dalsorok)-Biladahore-Gurudaspur Road (Z-5211) under Road Division, Natore during the year 2020-2021.	31-Jan-2021 17:00	01-Feb-2021 10:50	01-Feb-2021 11:30

Accepted tenders will be opened online immediately after closing time.

Abdur Rahim
ID No. 602227
Executive Engineer (C.C), RHD
Road Division, Natore

GD-116

Eastern Cables Limited
North Patenga, Chattogram, Bangladesh

Invitation for International Tender Notice (OTM) for following items

01.	Ministry	Ministry of Industries.				
02.	Name of Agency	Bangladesh Steel & Engineering Corporation, Dhaka.				
03.	Procuring entity name	Eastern Cables Limited, North Patenga, Chattogram.				
04.	S/L	Name of procurement	Reference No. & date	Cost of tender documents	Tender security	Tender receiving and opening date and time
	4.1	A) Steel Strips, Size: 16x0.3mm, Quantity- 3M.T B) Steel Strips, Size: 16x0.5mm, Quantity- 3M.T	EC/PUR/F-269 dated: 18.01.2021	Taka 700.00	USD 410.00	Date: 18.02.2021 Receiving on 11.30am Opening on 11.45am
	4.2	Gum Cotton Tape, Thickness: 0.24mm (Apprx.) Weight: 150gm/mm ² (Apprx.) Quantity- 01 (One) M.T	EC/PUR/F-270 dated: 18.01.2021	Taka 700.00	USD 285.00	
	4.3	Copper Tape, Size: 15x0.1mm Quantity: 01(One) M.T	EC/PUR/F-271 dated: 18.01.2021	Taka 700.00	USD 283.00	
	4.4	Pigment (Blue), Quantity- 200 Kgs.	EC/PUR/F-277 dated: 18.01.2021	Taka 500.00	USD 100.00	
05.	Budget and source of funds	Own.				
06.	Tender last selling date	Dated: 17.02.2021.				
07.	Selling of tender documents	1. Cash Section, Controller of Accounts, BSEC Bhaban, Dhaka-1215. 2. Cash Section, Head of Accounts, ECL, Chattogram.				
08.	Place of receiving & opening tender document	Eastern Cables Limited Share Office, BSEC Bhaban (4th Floor), 102, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Dhaka-1215, Bangladesh.				
09.	Eligibility of tenderer	As per tender documents.				
10.	Brief description of goods	As per tender documents specification.				
11.	Location of delivery and appointment	CFR@ Chattogram.				
12.	Name of official inviting tender	Head of Purchase Department.				
13.	Designation of official inviting tender	Deputy Chief Engineer (Mechanical).				
14.	Address of official inviting tender	Eastern Cables Limited, Patenga, Chattogram.				

Nirupom Singha
Deputy Chief Engineer
Head of Purchase Department

GD-120