



Empty beach chairs stacked up by the deserted sea beach of Kuakata. The photo was taken on Sunday, April 25.

PHOTO: SOHRAB HOSSAIN

## COVID-19 FALLOUT

# Thousands gone jobless in Kuakata

SOHRAB HOSSAIN, Patuakhali

Jobs and livelihoods of nearly 5,500 people, serving in the tourism industry based on Kuakata sea beach, country's second most popular one, became uncertain after the beach and residential hotels were made off limits to tourists on April 1.

Khan Palace, a residential hotel near the beach, had a crew of total 30 employees. The authorities sent 20 of them on paid leave after the hotel had to be closed to

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comply with government orders, intended to contain the second wave of Covid-19 pandemic.

The total of employee salaries amounts to about Tk 3 lakh, but the hotel continues to lose around one lakh taka in revenues each day due to the situation, said Russell Khan, director of the hotel.

'Somudrabari', a small hotel by the beach, pays Tk 40,000 in monthly salaries for its four-member staff. But they all had to be sent on paid leave for the same reason.

Ruman Imtiaz Tushar, owner of Ilish Park, a hotel in the area, said he had to allow paid leave for 10 of his employees,

excluding two security staffers, at his two businesses.

Kuakata Hotel Motel Owners' Association General Secretary Abdul Motaleb Sharif, also owner of Kuakata Guest House, said hotel owners have the responsibility of paying salaries to nearly 1,500 of their employees, who are currently out of work amid the ongoing restriction imposed on residential hotels in the area.

Over a thousand restaurant workers in the beach town also went out of job due to the restrictions. Besides, around 500 workers and salespeople depending on hand-woven textile industries in Rakhine village, 150 commercial beach photographers and handcraft sellers, 40 beach chair rental workers and owners, 150 speed boat operators and workers and 150 snacks and food vendors became jobless.

Most operators and drivers of motorbikes, engine-run and battery-powered auto-rickshaws and rickshaw-vans for hire are also sitting idle without passengers.

Also, restriction on fishing at the Bay of Bengal also put 2,400 local fishers and their families at risk of starvation, said Nizam Sheikh, president of 'Ashar Alo', a cooperative association of the fishers.

Contacted, Patuakhali Deputy Commissioner Matuli Islam Chowdhury said they received an allocation of Tk 20 lakh as humanitarian assistance for low-income population affected by the coronavirus pandemic from the prime minister's relief fund.

The allocation has been distributed to every upazila, where the upazila nirbahi officer concerned will take necessary steps in this regard, he added.

# Seasonal fish drying seeing bright prospect in Netrakona

Fishermen demand govt soft loans to thrive

MD AMINUL ISLAM

Hundreds of families in Netrakona haor areas have been drying fishes in traditional way and there is a bright prospect of this produce if this business is supported and properly monitored by the government, said the fishermen.

It is an ancestral profession for many families for survival and this business is profitable one as the demand of dry fishes, especially of country varieties is ever increasing, said Md Mujibur Rahman, upazila fisheries officer in Khaliyajury of Netrakona.

The families involved with this business mainly belong to fishermen families and they both catch and buy fishes to dry up. Local Dingaputa Haor, Boali Haor, Chhayer Haor, Kirtankhola Haor; and the rivers- Dhanu, Moghra, Satmadhalai and Kongsha flowing through the haor areas are the sources of fishes.

The dry fishes are mainly prepared in Boali, Ziakhara, Khaliyajury Bazar, Lepsia Bazar and Ballabpur in Khaliyajury; in Borokashia, Gaglajur, Borantor in Mohanganj upazila, and Singdha and Alokdia of adjacent Barhatta, sources said.

In September, there are huge catches of indigenous varieties offishes in the haor areas. The season is the peak hours for the fishermen to start drying up fishes. They also buy fishes to gear up their business. The season continues till February.

For drying up the fishes in traditional way, the fishermen set up bamboo platform in the open field adjacent to their houses and spread the fishes on the mats on the platforms.

The fishes on the platforms are covered with nets so that the birds, especially crows cannot eat up the dry fishes.

After drying the fishes, these are taken to local bazaars where buyers coming from different

areas of the country including Mymensingh, Sherpur, Jamalpur, Kishoreganj and Dhaka come to buy the delicacy, said the farmers.

As the dry country fishes of different varieties are very tasty, they have a good demand in Mymensingh region and outer districts for decades, said Mohsin Mia, a journalist in Khaliyajury.

Fishermen sell the fishes between Tk 200 to Tk 400 per kg according to the variety but the fishes are sold in the markets at high prices, said the journalist.

As there is no way for the poor fishermen to manage the cost to transport the fishes to different districts, so the middlemen eat up the lion's share of their profit, the journalist said.

If the government helps the fishermen, they will get a fair price of their produce. They are involved in this profession for decades but there is no change in their lives due to the absence of a proper marketing system, said the fishermen.

Ashrafal Kabir, senior fisheries officer in Netrakona's Mohanganj said the farmers are advised to produce quality dry fishes in hygienic atmosphere.

If the farmers could use dryer machines in tinshed house, they could be able to dry fishes in many folds, accelerating their business, said the official.

Around 300 metric tonnes of dry fishes of different species like puti, chingri, shol, boal, batashi, tengra, chanda and other species are produced in Khaliyajury, Mohanganj and a part of Barhatta every year, said the official.

Talking to this correspondent, Moti Barman of Gaglajur village said he has been involved with the profession since his boyhood.

"I have so far prepared 350 maund of chayapashutki this season. The demand is four times higher but I could not meet the rest of the

demand due to financial crisis", said a 55-year-old Moti.

Over the profit, the fishermen said the profit depends on the weather condition of the year. If the farmers can harvest a good boro production, the business sees a better way as dry fishes have also a good demand in Netrakona, said Moti.

Billal Hossain, 65, of Dewkhan village said though it was not his ancestral profession but he has been involved with this for 14 years.

Actually, the people involved with this profession are poor and have to depend on money from local middlemen and they enjoy the maximum profit, said Billal, a father of three children.

Many have to take loan from different non-government organizations (NGOs) to support the family and the business and it deprives them of a good profit, said a 55-year-old Banu Begum of Borantor.

If the government provides loan on soft interest and easy terms, the farmers can make a good profit every year, said the fishermen.

Hundreds of women are also involved in cutting and cleaning fishes and they earn Tk 40,000 to Tk 50,000 per season (six months), said the fishermen.

MdShahjahan Kabir, senior assistant director of Department of Fisheries in Netrakona said over 1200 families are involved in making dry fish in Mohanganj, Khaliyajury, Kendua, Barhatta, Madan, Kalmakanda and Purbadhala in the district.

We are planning to support the fishermen with facilities of cold storage, dryer machines and sheds so that they can get benefited. Asked if they have any plan to give soft loans to the fishermen, the official said they are considering the matter seriously.



A farmer drying up fish in Barhatta upazila of Netrakona.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Bangladesh Police  
Central Police Hospital  
Rajarbag, Dhaka.

## Invitation for Tender

Sealed tender are hereby invited from the Suppliers/Local Agents Vehicles in their official pad for the purchase of the following items for the Project of "Modernization of Existing Police Hospital's" for the year 2020-21.

1.	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Home Affairs.		
2.	Agency	Central Police Hospital, Rajarbag, Dhaka		
3.	Procuring Entity Name	Project Director, Bangladesh Police, Central Police Hospital, Dhaka.		
4.	Invitation for	Ambulance.		
5.	Invitation Ref No	MEPH/Tender-Vehicle/20-21/1460		
6.	Date	29/04/2021		
<b>KEY INFORMATION</b>				
7.	Procurement Method	Open Tendering Method (OTM)		
<b>FUNDING INFORMATION</b>				
8.	Budget and Source of Funds	ADP Budget		
<b>PARTICULAR INFORMATION</b>				
9.	Tender Publication Date	03/05/2021 & 04/05/2021.		
10.	Tender Last Selling Date	16/05/2021.		
11.	Tender Closing Date and Time	At 12.00 Noon on 17/05/21.		
12.	Tender Opening Date and Time	12.30 pm on 17/05/2021.		
<b>Name &amp; Address of the office(s)</b>				
Selling Tender Document		Office of the Project Director, Central Police Hospital, Rajarbag, Dhaka		
Receiving Tender Document		Office of the Project Director, Central Police Hospital, Rajarbag, Dhaka		
Opening Tender Document		Office of the Project Director, Central Police Hospital, Rajarbag, Dhaka		
Place / Date / Time of Pre-Tender Meeting (Bidder must present for avoiding any future hassle of ensure quality Product).		Office of the Project Director	Date	Time
		Central Police Hospital, Rajarbag, Dhaka	09/05/2021	11.00
<b>INFORMATION FOR TENDERER</b>				
15.	Eligibility of Tenderer	(1) Up-to-date Trade license (2) Up to date Income tax certificate (3) VAT Registration Certificate and (4) Other documents described in tender document.		
<b>Brief Description of Goods</b>				
16.	Sl. No	Name	Price of Tender Document	Tender Security in Taka
				Completion time in Days
1.		Ambulance	Tk. 1000.00	13,00,000/-
				90 Days Form the date of work order
<b>PROCUREMENT DETAILS</b>				
17.	Name of Official Inviting Tender	Dr. Md. Emdadul Haque		
18.	Designation of Official Inviting Tender	Superintendent of Police & Deputy Project Director		
19.	Address of Official Inviting Tender	Central Police Hospital, Rajarbag, Dhaka		
20.	Contract details of official inviting the tender	Tel 88-02-8312075 Fax 88-02-9342297		
21.	Special Instructions-			
a) No Tender will be received after the deadline for submission.				
b) The Procuring Entity reserves the right to reject all tenders or annul the tender proceeding.				
c) Bangladesh police will establish framework agreement wish the successful tenderer for supply of goods.				

(Dr. Md. Emdadul Haque)

Superintendent of Police & Deputy Project Director  
For- Project Director  
"Modernization of Existing Police Hospitals"  
Central Police Hospital  
Bangladesh Police, Rajarbag, Dhaka  
Phone-8312075 Fax-9342297

GD-873



**Bangladesh Bank**

Information Systems Development and Support Department  
Head Office, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka-1000  
Website: www.bb.org.bd

Proposal No. ISDSD(SERVICES)-12(89)/2021

## Invitation for Tenders

GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH

1	Ministry/Division	Not applicable.
2	Agency	Not applicable.
3	Procuring entity name	Bangladesh Bank.
4	Procuring entity code	Not used at present.
5	Procuring entity district	Dhaka.
6	Invitation for	The Procurement of Supply, Installation and Commissioning of UPS Module for Bangladesh Bank.
7	Invitation Ref. No.	ISDSD(SERVICES)-12(89)/2021
8	Date	03 May 2021.

### KEY INFORMATION

9 Procurement method Open Tendering Method.

### FUNDING INFORMATION

10 Budget and source of funds Own source.  
11 Development partners (if applicable) Not applicable.

### PARTICULAR INFORMATION

12	Project/programme code (if applicable)	
13	Project/programme name (if applicable)	
14	Tender package No.	ISDSD(SERVICES)-12(89)/2021
15	Tender package name	Supply, Installation and Commissioning of UPS Module for Bangladesh Bank.
		<b>Date</b> <b>Time</b>
16	Tender publication date	03 May 2021
17	Tender last selling date	Not applicable
		<b>Date</b> <b>Time</b>
18	Tender closing date and time	23 May 2021 03:00pm
19	Tender opening date and time	23 May 2021 03:15pm
20	Name & address of the office(s)	Address

### NO CONDITIONS APPLY FOR SALE, PURCHASE OR DISTRIBUTION OF TENDER DOCUMENTS

-Receiving tender document	BB e-Tender System (etender.bb.org.bd) and one hard copy document.	
-Opening tender document	Information Systems Development and Support Department (ISDSD), Bangladesh Bank, 28th Floor, Head Office, Motijheel, Dhaka.	
21 Place/date/time of Pre-tender meeting (optional)	Date	Time
	Not applicable.	

### INFORMATION FOR TENDERER

22	Brief eligibility and qualification of tenderer	Tenderers having five (5) years overall business experience and minimum specific experience as Supplier in supply of delivery of goods of at least ONE contract of similar nature, complexity and methods/technology completed over a period of five (5) years. Evidence of Work Order, Work Completion Certificate mentioning amount, item list, date etc. are required.		
23	Brief description of goods	Supply, Installation and Commissioning of UPS Module for Bangladesh Bank.		
24	Brief description of related services	03 (three) years OEM provided warranty & support with local supplier support & maintenance.		
25	Price of tender document (Tk)	Not applicable.		
		Lot No.	Identification of lot	Location
		1	Information Technology items	ISDSD
				Tender security amount (Tk)
				1,50,000.00
				Completion time in weeks/months
				12 weeks

### PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS

26	Name of official inviting tender	Md. Amir Hossain Pathan.
27	Designation of official inviting tender	Systems Manager.
28	Address of official inviting tender	Information Systems Development and Support Department, Bangladesh Bank, Head Office, Motijheel, Dhaka.
29	Contact details of official inviting tender	9530101 9530481 amir.pathan@bb.org.bd
30	The procuring entity reserves the right to reject all tenders or annul the tender proceedings.	

ব্যক্তিগত ও আর্থিক সেবা পেতে হয়ারানির শিকার হলে কিংবা কোনো অভিযোগ থাকলে ১৬২৩৬ নম্বরে কোন করণ।

সূত্র নং- ডিসিপিঃ ৪৮/২০২১-১৪২৬  
তারিখঃ ০২/০৫/২০২১  
GD-875

sd/-

Md. Amir Hossain Pathan

Systems Manager

Phone: 9530101, E-mail: amir.pathan@bb.org.bd