

Indira Gandhi determined

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Commissioner for refugees, denied today to have said that conditions were satisfactory for the return of refugees to East Pakistan. Asked if the UN would guarantee the safe return of the refugees, Agan Khan said it was very difficult for the UN to give guarantee within borders of a sovereign independent state. "I can only try in a humanitarian way," he added.

Earlier, the UNHCR chief called on Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. The prime minister had explained to him the real situation in Bangladesh and the attitude of India. She had stressed the problem arising out of atrocities and butchery being perpetrated in Bangladesh which, she had stated, must be stopped to create conditions for the safe return of refugees.

SWEDEN STOPS AID TO PAKISTAN

Sweden finally decided to stop development aid to Pakistan including fertiliser projects for East Pakistan which were undertaken after Pakistan's general election in December, 1970. Apart from the economic sphere, Sweden's aid programme included family planning projects for East Pakistan. Sweden, like other Scandinavian countries,

was concentrating now on the relief work for Bangladeshi war victims.

PAKISTAN ACCEPTS THANT'S MEDIATION

The stage was now set to end the deadlock over the repatriation of former deputy high commission personnel of Indian and Pakistan, respectively from Dhaka and Kolkata. This came in the wake of Pakistan's acceptance of the good offices of the UN Secretary General U Thant who some time ago had been approached by India after Pakistan had put the Indian personnel virtually under house arrest at Dhaka.

U Thant was acting through the Swiss ambassador to India. The arrangement in Kolkata would be like this: A Swiss emissary would meet the former personnel of the Pakistan deputy high commission individually in the presence of an Indian and a Pakistani representative. The main question the Swiss emissary would ask the consulate staff was if any of the persons who had switched allegiance to Bangladesh was being held without consent.

Shamsudozza Sajen is a journalist and researcher. He can be contacted at sajen1986@gmail.com

Hope lost in debt woes

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will keep some rice for my own consumption and sell the remaining small portion to buy household necessities and meet the cost of cultivating other crops."

During this conversation, he asked whether this correspondent could arrange an interest waiver on his bank loans.

Alfaz further said one tonne of dried paddy sold at Tk 26,000 and moistured paddy at Tk 23,750, while he was harvesting last month.

Kashimpur Beel falls under Godagari upazila of Rajshahi and the 16 northern districts in the greater Rajshahi division comprise the Barind region.

According to Department of Agricultural Extension (DAE) data, out of around 44 lakh farmers in the region, 35,79,118 or over 81 percent are small and marginal farmers.

While visiting Godagari in late May, this correspondent came across farmers harvesting their crop fields. Some were cutting late sown paddy, some threshing the harvested paddy and winnowing those with locally made machines, and some weighing the paddy before transporting those in sacks. Others were drying the straws and selling those from the field.

Many farmers echoed Afzal's comments, saying their shares of the produced paddy were not sufficient for their needs despite good yields. They said it will only help them somehow survive but is never enough.

Sohel Rana, a farmer who has no land of his own, cultivated Boro on 0.5351 hectares of leased land in Sabdipur village.

He said the produce from 0.4013 hectares would be spent on paying off debts, labour and transport costs and the landowner's share. He will be able to take home little less than the yield of 0.1338 hectares, one fourth of his total leased land.

Whatever is supposed to be left after paying off everything will never be sufficient for his family's consumption all year, and he will have to depend on Aman next to survive.

Several other farmers gave similar statements and said their only thoughts were how much paddy they will be able to take home. They were trying to recover losses of paddy cultivation by selling off the straw, the price of which has increased in recent years.

The straw, which never sold above Tk 1,000 per thousand small stacks, now sells between Tk 5,000 and Tk 12,000, added the farmers.

Agriculturists say small and marginal farmers who have to borrow money for cultivation are never able to take home more than 20 percent of their paddy.

Sellers of agricultural inputs, rice mill owners and middlemen in the rice business provide loans to the farmers and they have to pay off their loans with paddy, they said.

"Most of our farmers suffer losses for their inability to afford the high expenses of Boro cultivation," said Prof Raihan Habib, agricultural economist of Bangladesh Agricultural University.

"They [small and marginal farmers] borrow and while repaying, they cannot wait with their produce for a price increase. Sometimes, they have to pay off their lenders with paddy from the field at lower prices," said Habib, who also oversees paddy farming on more than 28 hectares of the university's land in Mymensingh.

Sirajul Islam, additional director of the Rajshahi regional DAE office, said they recorded an average yield of 4.43 tonnes of rice on every hectare of land in the hard Barind region of Chapainawabganj, Rajshahi, Naogaon and Natore districts until early June, with 99.84 percent of the paddy harvested.

"When the harvest season ends by the middle of June, the yield will increase," he said.

This year, the DAE expects more than 16 lakh tonnes of rice production from the four districts and a total of 2.5 crore tonnes of Boro rice across the country.

Lawmaker stages demo

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The MP from Patuakhali-3, taking the floor during the discussion on the budget, said he went to his constituency with relief materials after the recent cyclone and he had to face the people's wrath.

"The locals do not want relief, they want a permanent solution to embankments in their coastal areas," he said.

Shahjada said other MPs of coastal areas had to deal with the similar situation.

At the end of his speech, he put the placard around his neck.

Due to cyclone Yaas, around 38 villages of coastal upazila Koyra in Khulna went under water after the flood protection embankment there was breached in at least 21 points.

The upazila suffered the similar damage during cyclones Aila, Sidr, and Amphan. Every time, hundreds of houses, fish enclosures, farmland, roads and other structures got damaged as the region became submerged.

Even though locals raised their voices on several occasions, there was no solution.

On June 1, when lawmaker of Khulna-6 Akhteruzzaman went to Dashedia area of Maharajpur union in Koyra, locals were mending an embankment. They became angry seeing the MP and at one point hurled mud at him.

US tops 600,000 Covid

FROM PAGE 12
Governor Andrew Cuomo said. "It is the national goal, and we hit it ahead of schedule. What does 70 percent mean? It means that we can now return to life as we know it."

"REOPENING DAY"
California -- the first US state to enact a stay-at-home order just under 15 months ago -- also celebrated its "reopening day" Tuesday by lifting almost all pandemic-related social distancing and capacity limits.

Bangladesh donates \$7.7m

FROM PAGE 12
long dictatorship of Omar Al-Bashir.

The US put Sudan on the list in 1993 when Bashir's regime was hosting Osama bin Laden in Khartoum.

The Bangladesh government donated Tk 65 crore, equivalent to an SDR (Special Drawing Rights) of 5.3 million, to Sudan, according to a finance ministry press release.

SDR refers to an international type of monetary reserve currency created by the IMF in 1969 as a supplement to the existing money reserves of the member countries.

Last year, following a similar IMF initiative, Bangladesh provided Tk 8.2 crore, which is equivalent to an SDR of 0.7 million, to Somalia.

Bangladesh's helping hand to Sudan comes hot on the heels of its \$250 million currency swap agreement with Sri Lanka to replenish the island nation's fast-depleting foreign reserve and ease pressure on its exchange rate.

"Before, we took on loans. Now, we have the capacity to lend." Finance Minister AHM Mustafa Kamal told reporters following a meeting of the cabinet committee on purchase yesterday.

The purpose of providing the loan to Sri Lanka was to build a relationship with the country and also get a good return, he said.

The Central Bank of Sri Lanka is expected to return the amount to Bangladesh in three months at the interest rate of LIBOR + 2 percent. If the tenure goes up to six months, the interest rate would be LIBOR + 2.5 percent.

LIBOR, the acronym for London Interbank Offer Rate, is the global reference rate for unsecured short-term borrowing in the interbank market and acts as a benchmark for short-term interest rates.

This week, the three-month LIBOR is 0.13 percent and 0.15 percent.

At present, all of Bangladesh Bank's investments pay less than 1 percent of interest.

EC director among 11 sued

FROM PAGE 12
Integrated office-2, filed the cases with Chattogram Integrated office-1 and office-2, said the ACC sources.

DAD Sharif Uddin filed the case accusing Khorshed Alam, director of the EC head office, Mahfuzul Islam, staff of Ramu upazila EC office, Rasel Barua, office assistant of Patiya upazila EC office, and Mostafa Farque, former technical expert of Chattogram EC office.

DD Shuvash lodged another case against Joyal Abedin, office assistant of Double Mooring EC office, Nur Ahmed, MLSS of Bandarban's Rowangchhari upazila EC office, Naim Uddin, data entry operator (temporary) of Teknaf, Obaidullah, and Shamsur Rahman, brokers, and Foyaz Ullah, and his wife Mahmuda Khatun, a Rohingya couple.

DAD Sharif Uddin told The Daily Star, "During an investigation in 2019, ACC found that 55,310 persons including several Rohingya people had been illegally included in voter list using the official laptops of EC."

"During the primary probe, ACC also found an official laptop of EC had remained missing for long. While the incident started investigating, ACC found seven designated laptops of EC were also missing. Though


the incident was very sensitive, there was no frantic effort by the then EC officials to recover those devices but three cases were filed in this regard from 2009 to 2014," he added.

The laptops went missing during the tenure of Khorshed Alam in Chattogram according to the case statement filed by ACC.

"However, EC head office had formed a probe committee headed by Khorshed Alam to investigate how Rohingya notorious robber Nur Alam, who was killed in a gunfight in Teknaf in 2019, managed Bangladeshi NID which was recovered after his death," said DAD Sharif.

The ACC official said, "While probing Rohingya Nur Alam's NID card incident, Khorshed Alam technically avoided the issue of missing Laptops and submitted his report before commission without mentioning the name of EC staffers who were responsible for stolen laptops."

But while probing, ACC found that Rohingya Nur Alam's data had been uploaded to the EC's server from a missing laptop. DAD Sharif said "As the missing incident took place in the tenure of Khorshed, he tried to save himself and the other accused to avoid their responsibilities that time in his report."



নিরাপদ খাদ্য নিশ্চিত করার পাঁচ উপায়ঃ

- পরিষ্কার-পরিচ্ছন্নতা বজায় রাখা
- কাঁচা ও রান্না করা খাবার আলাদা রাখা
- সঠিক তাপমাত্রায় রান্না করা
- খাদ্যদ্রব্য মজুদ ও সংরক্ষণ
- নিরাপদ পানি ব্যবহার করা

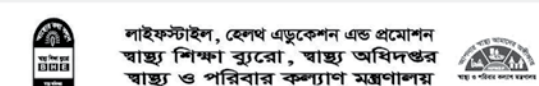
যেসব কারণে খাদ্যে অনিরাপদ হয়ঃ

- ক্ষতিকারক ব্যাকটেরিয়া, ভাইরাস ও পরজীবী
- রাসায়নিক উপাদান যেমন; কীটনাশক ও পরিষ্কার করার উপাদান
- ধাতব উপাদান যেমন: সিসা, তামা ও পারদ
- বিষাক্ত উদ্ভিদ যেমন: ব্যাঙের ছাতা
- বিষাক্ত মাছ বা শামুক

অনিরাপদ খাদ্য যাদের জন্য ঝুঁকিপূর্ণঃ

অনিরাপদ খাবার গ্রহণের ফলে যে কোনো বয়সী মানুষের শারীরিক নানা জটিলতা সৃষ্টি হতে পারে এবং তা ত্বরান্বিত হতে পারে মৃত্যুর ঝুঁকি পর্যন্ত। তারপরও বিশেষজ্ঞগণ নিম্নোক্ত নির্দিষ্ট কয়েকটি শ্রেণির মানুষকে অধিক ঝুঁকিপূর্ণ হিসেবে চিহ্নিত করেছেন:

- শিশু, যাদের বয়স ৫ বছরের নিচে
- গর্ভবতী নারী
- প্রবীণ ব্যক্তি
- যাদের রোগ প্রতিরোধ ক্ষমতা কম
- যারা জটিল ও দুরারোগ্য রোগে ভুগছেন



Wife asks him to be returned

FROM PAGE 12
Talking to journalists at Dhaka Reporters' Unity yesterday, she also sought the prime minister's intervention in tracing his husband and three others.

At the press conference, Sabikunnahar said that her husband was innocent and did not belong to any political party.

"Yet, if he commits any crime, please show him arrested and try him under the existing law... But I just want to know his whereabouts," she appealed.

She also said, "At least, let us know where and how he is now. I request all of you to help us."

Sabikunnahar said they sent letters to the Prime Ministers' Office and Rab headquarters in this regard.


Adnan, his driver, and two companions have been missing since June 10. They were returning to Dhaka from Rangpur on that

day. Sabikunnahar said, "My husband was on his way to Dhaka and told me that two motorcycles were following him and asked me to pray for his safe return...but we did not find him anymore."

The family earlier said they could communicate last with Adnan over WhatsApp when he shared his location that showed he was in Dhaka's Gabtoli at that time.

When Adnan's wife was speaking at the press conference, his followers formed a human chain in front of the Dhaka Reporters' Unity.

Meanwhile, Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan, at a programme in Gazipur, said they heard about the disappearance of Adnan and that the law enforcers were looking into the matter with importance.



Bangladesh University of Engineering & Technology

Dhaka-1000

e-Tender Notice


CE/Tender Notice No. 16/20-21(73-85)/E-520 (30) Date: 16 June 2021
e-Tender is invited and published in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for following procurement.

Tender/Re-Tender ID	Tender name	Tender document last selling/ downloading date and time	Closing & opening date & time
568357	Laying Underground uPVC Pipe for Soil & Water Line at Back Side of 30 No. Building	01-Jul-2021 15:00	04-Jul-2021 14:00
584593	French Polishing, Distemping & Enamel Painting Works at Chemistry, Physics, Chemical & PMRE Department.	01-Jul-2021 15:00	04-Jul-2021 14:10
584603	Removing Partition Wall of OAB Room No. 206 SEM Lab.	01-Jul-2021 15:00	04-Jul-2021 14:20
584614	Floor Tiles Works of Chemistry Department Seminar Room, Chemical Department Office Room and Pvc Wall Paneling Work at Chemical Department Office Room.	01-Jul-2021 15:00	04-Jul-2021 14:30
584620	Building installation work; Construction work; Electrical installation work; Installation work; Plumbing and sanitary works; Fencing, railing and safety equipment installation work; Mechanical installations;	01-Jul-2021 15:00	04-Jul-2021 14:40
586159	Supplying Reading Table and False Ceiling For Chemistry Department Seminar Room & 219 (B) No. Lab.	01-Jul-2021 15:00	04-Jul-2021 14:50
586168	Supply & Installation of Electric Renovation Works at Nazrul Islam Hall's Common Room, TV Room and Kitchen Room in BUET.	01-Jul-2021 15:00	04-Jul-2021 15:00
586975	Construction of Car Washing Area at the East side of 48 No. Building at Dhakeswari R/A.	01-Jul-2021 15:00	04-Jul-2021 15:10
587097	Construction of Semi-Pucca for 'D' Block.	01-Jul-2021 15:00	04-Jul-2021 15:20
587782	Supply & Installation of Underground Cable Laying from Kazi Nazrul Islam Hall Sub-Station to SSH and Ahsan Ullah Hall at BUET.	01-Jul-2021 15:00	04-Jul-2021 15:30
587843	Supply and Installation of Networking and CCTV System at the Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering for Graduate Student Research Room No. EEE 141, EEE 919, EEE 927, EEE 1039, EEE 1140 and Biomedical Signals, Instrumentation and Measurements Laboratory at BUET.	01-Jul-2021 15:00	04-Jul-2021 15:40
587980	Renovation of Electrical Works at the Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering, BUET.	01-Jul-2021 15:00	04-Jul-2021 15:50
588411	Supply and Installation of Air Conditioning System at the Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering, BUET.	01-Jul-2021 15:00	04-Jul-2021 16:00

This is an online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required. The fees for downloading the e-Tender documents from the National e-GP Portal have to deposited online through any registered banks branches. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

Engr. Md. Nurul Momen
Chief Engineer

GD- 1219




বাংলাদেশ কৃষি গবেষণা ইনস্টিটিউট

Bangladesh Agricultural Research Institute

সংগ্রহ ও ভান্ডার শাখা

জয়দেবপুর, গাজীপুর।



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Memo no: PN: GD-03/7893 Date: 13 June 2021

e-GP: Tender Notice No.40(2020-2021)

e-Tender is invited in the e-GP system Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of the following goods. Details are given below:


SI No	Package no.	Tender ID & Ref No	Description of goods	Tender Documents Last selling (Date & Time)	Tender Closing date & Time	Tender Opening date & Time
1.	PN: GD-03	586873 & IRN: 576	Chemicals and Reagents 131 items	27.06.2021 12:00	27.06.2021 12:30	27.06.2021 12:30

The interested persons/firm may visit the website www.eprocure.gov.bd to get the details of the tender.

This is an online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the national e-GP portal and no offline/hard copy will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, Registration in the National e-GP system portal is required.


Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP system portal and e-GP Help Desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

Project Name : "Strengthening of Spices Crop Research in Bangladesh Project."



(Md. Younus Ali)
Deputy Director (In-Charge)
On behalf of Director General

GD- 1222



বেনাপোল পৌরসভা কার্যালয়

বেনাপোল, যশোর

স্মারক সংখ্যাঃ বেনা/পৌর/ইজারা/২০২১/১০২ তারিখঃ ১৬/০৬/২০২১ইং

০৮টি গণশৌচাগার ইজারা দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

এতদ্বারা সর্বসাধারণের অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, যশোর জেলাধীন বেনাপোল পৌরসভার নিম্নবর্ণিত ০৮টি গণশৌচাগার একত্রে একটি প্রাইভেট কোম্পানি বা ইজারাদার দ্বারা সম্পূর্ণ অস্থায়ী ভিত্তিতে পরিচালনার লক্ষ্যে ১৫ জুলাই ২০২১ইং থেকে ১৫ জুলাই ২০২৪ইং পর্যন্ত ৩৬ (ছত্রিশ) মাসের জন্য ইজারা প্রদানের নিমিত্তে সীলমোহরযুক্ত বামে দরপত্র আহ্বান করা যাচ্ছে। দরপত্র ফরম দরপত্র দাখিলের নির্দিষ্ট তারিখের পূর্বদিন পর্যন্ত (বন্ধের দিন ব্যতীত) অফিস চলাকালীন সময়ে নির্ধারিত মূল্যে (অফিসত্যাগ) জেলা প্রশাসক, যশোর, পুলিশ সুপার, যশোর, উপজেলা নির্বাহী অফিসারের কার্যালয়, শার্শা, সহকারী কমিশনার (ভূমি), শার্শা, যশোর, বেনাপোল পোর্ট থানা, বেনাপোল, যশোর, সোনালী ব্যাংক, শার্শা শাখা, যশোর ও নিম্নস্বাক্ষরকারীর কার্যালয় হতে সংগ্রহ করা যাবে। দরপত্র নির্ধারিত তারিখে সকাল ৯-০০টা হতে বেলা ১-০০টা পর্যন্ত জেলা প্রশাসক, যশোর ও নিম্নস্বাক্ষরকারীর কার্যালয়ে রক্ষিত টেন্ডার বাগে গ্রহণ করা হবে এবং ঐ দিনই বেলা ৩-০০টার উপস্থিত দরদাতাদের সামনে (যদি কেহ উপস্থিত থাকেন) নিম্নস্বাক্ষরকারীর সভা কক্ষে খোলা হবে। দরপত্রদাতাকে দরপত্রে উদ্বৃত্ত বাসারিক ইজারা মূল্যের ৩০% বিডি/সিডি/পে-অর্ডার আকারে (যে কোন তফসীলসহ ব্যাংক হতে) মেয়র, বেনাপোল পৌরসভার অনুকূলে দরপত্রের সাথে সংযুক্ত করিতে হবে। দরপত্রদাতাকে গৃহীত দরপত্রের মেয় দরের উপর ১৫% ভাট ও ৫% অধীম আয়করের অর্থ ০৭ (সাত) দিনের মধ্যে সংশ্লিষ্ট বাতে ট্রেজারী চালানোর মাধ্যমে জমা দিতে হবে। এজন্য আলাদাভাবে কোন বিজ্ঞপ্তি জারি করা হবে না। কর্তৃপক্ষ কোন কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতিরেকেই যেকোন দরপত্র গ্রহণ বা বাতিলের ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করেন। টেন্ডার সফলতা বিস্তারিত তথ্য অফিস চলাকালীন সময়ে নিম্নস্বাক্ষরকারীর অফিস হতে জানা যাবে।

ক্যালেন্ডার

০৮টি গণশৌচাগারের নাম ও দরপত্র দাখিলের সময়সূচি

ক্রম নং	গণশৌচাগারের নাম	দরপত্র দাখিলের তারিখ	টেন্ডার ফরমের মূল্য	সরকারি সন্মত বাসারিক সর্বনিম্ন ইজারা মূল্য
১.	১) আমাড়াখালী গেট ১ ২) আমাড়াখালী গেট ২ ৩) কাপড়পুকুর বাজার ৪) ট্রাক টার্মিনাল ৫) রেল স্টেশন ৬) বড় আঁচড়া ১ (ট্রাক টার্মিনাল) ৭) বড় আঁচড়া ২ (ডেক পোস্ট) ৮) মাইক্রো স্ট্যাড	১১/০৭/২০২১	৫০০/-	৫০,০০০/-

মোঃ আশরাফুল আলম পিটন
মেয়র
বেনাপোল পৌরসভা
বেনাপোল, যশোর

জিডি-১২২৪