

# ‘Equality and equity’

Demand speakers for female tea workers

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

Planning and budgeting should be done by keeping gender in mind to ensure equality and equity for the country's women tea-garden workers, said speakers at a webinar yesterday.

The webinar “Multi stakeholders’ consultation on Gender Responsive Planning and Budgeting (GRPBB) and social protection of tea garden workers” was jointly organised by ILO, UNFPA, Unicef and UN Women.

Incorporating findings and recommendations from two workshops held on December 20 last year and March 11 this year, the event was held with participation from civil society organisations (CSO) and the government.

UN Women Bangladesh Head of Agency Gitanjali Singh addressed the welcome speech, while UN joint programme coordinator Alexius Chicham delivered an overview of the programme.

Tapati Saha, programme analyst of Women’s Economic

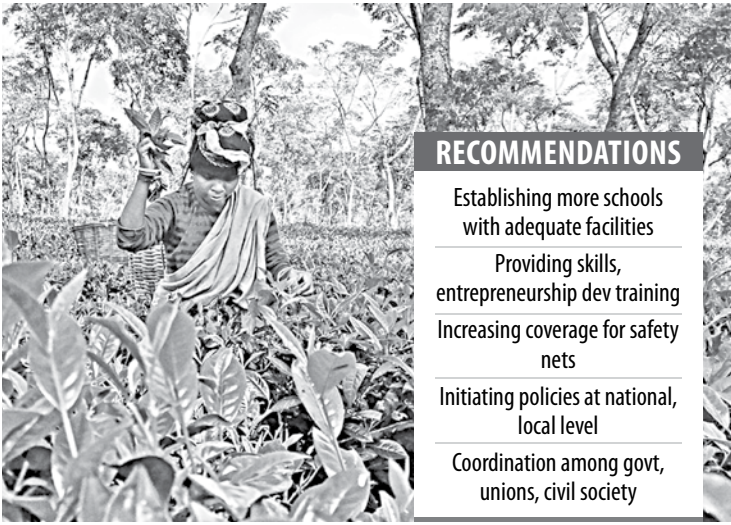
Empowerment Programme at UN Women, hosted the event.

In Saha’s presentation, key findings and recommendations of the workshops were presented. She said working women in Sylhet’s tea gardens are facing issues centring on health and hygiene, including problems regarding maternity and childcare, long working hours under extreme weather conditions, and lack of Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) facilities in the garden.

They are also suffering due to gender discrimination, patriarchal customs and attitude, and are being deprived of decision-making activities.

She said the workshops brought out recommendations like more schools with adequate facilities, skills and entrepreneurship development training for youths, and increased coverage of safety nets.

The recommendations also advocated for policies at national and local level, and partnership and coordination among government sectors, Bangladesh



FILE PHOTO

Tea Association (BTA), Bangladesh Cha Sramik Union (BCSU) and CSOs.

Nilufer Ahmed Karim, national consultant of ILO, said gender-responsive budget refers to spending adequately based on women and men’s needs. It ensures women’s empowerment, advancements and rights in cross-

cutting issues.

It also ensures women’s contribution in the development process, and can help them come out of poverty, which will ensure equity and equality for both men and women, she said.

It was organised under the joint programme “Enhancing social protection for female tea garden

workers and their families in Sylhet Division, Bangladesh” and was supported by the Sustainable Development Goals Fund.

Prof Bazlul H Khondker and Prof Sayema Haque Bidisha of Dhaka University’s Department of Economics, and Ferdousi Sultana Begum, gender and social protection expert and international team leader of Asian Development Bank, were present as panelists.

Ferdousi Begum, deputy secretary (budget and audit) of the Ministry of Women and Children Affairs, and Md Nayeab Ali, deputy secretary of the Ministry of Social Affairs, attended as panelists from the government.

During the open discussion, Tahsin Choudhury, convener of the labour and welfare sub-committee of BTA, and Ram Bhajan Kairi, general secretary of BCSU, spoke about different issues.

The webinar concluded with remarks from UNRCO rights adviser Huma Khan, followed by Gitanjali Singh.

## VIOLENCE, SEDITION CASES 74 BNP activists get anticipatory bail

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday granted anticipatory bail till September 26 to total 74 BNP leaders and activists including former state minister Aman Ullah Aman and former Rajshahi city mayor Mizanur Rahman Minu in two cases.

Aman Ullah, Tabitha Awal and 68 others obtained bail in a case filed on charges of assaulting and injuring police personnel and damaging property in a clash when BNP placed wreaths at the grave of party founder Ziaur Rahman in Dhaka’s Chandrima Udyan on August 17.

Mizanur Rahman and three others got bail in a seditious case filed on March 16 for “making a hint that another incident like 1975 could occur”, their lawyer Md Ruhul Quddus Kazal told The Daily Star.

The HC asked the accused BNP men to surrender to the trial courts concerned by September 26 in the cases.

The HC bench of Justice Md Habibul Gani and Justice Md Riaz Uddin Khan granted the bail after hearing several separate petitions filed by the accused BNP leaders and activists.

The accused appeared before the HC bench for bail. AM Mahbub Uddin Khokon, another lawyer for the accused, said the HC granted them bail on the grounds that there are no specific allegations against them and the cases were filed from mala fide intention to politically harass them.

Lawyer AJ Mohammad Ali appeared for Mizanur Rahman Minu and three others in the seditious case filed with a Rajshahi court.

## Three killed as truck hits auto-rickshaw

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

Three people were killed after a truck hit a battery-run auto-rickshaw carrying them in Sirajganj yesterday.

The accident occurred on Bangabandhu bridge-Hatikumrul highway at Pachlia Bazar in Ullapara upazila, said police.

The deceased were identified as Md Hayder Ali (60), Md Shahadat Hossain (50), and Md Islam Hossain (30). All of them hailed from Pachlia village.

Hatikumrul Highway Police Station Officer-in-Charge Md Sajahan Ali said the victims were crossing Pachlia Bazar by the auto-rickshaw around 6am when a speeding truck rammed the vehicle, leaving them dead on the spot.

The truck driver managed to flee with the vehicle. Police were trying to detain the trucker and seize the vehicle.

## A day’s rain

FROM PAGE 3

In fact, a major portion of the road from Muradpur to Sholoshahar Gate 2 went under water in the morning. Commuters, especially office goers, had to suffer as a consequence.

Some motorised vehicles were seen getting stuck in water and go out of order. Finding no alternative, passengers had to get down and plod through the knee-deep water. This posed serious problems for office goers, who had to go to work with dirty and wet clothes.

Tanima Akter of Uzir Ali Shah Bylane at Rahattarpool KB Aman Ali Road, pointed fingers at the city corporation. “The drains get stuck as city corporation staffers don’t clean them regularly.”

“Besides, canals are all filled up with domestic and plastic wastes,” she added.

Contacted, Morshedul Alam Chowdhury, deputy chief conservancy officer of Chattogram City Corporation, said they clean the drains and canals on regular a basis, but some people throw household wastes and plastic items in those making their job difficult.

To address the situation, Chattogram Development Authority has been implementing a mega project in the city since 2017.

Project Director Lt Col Shah Ali said, “We are installing tidal regulators in five main canals in the city. The installation work is expected to be completed by September. We hope city dwellers will be relieved of waterlogging to a great extent from the next rainy season.”

Meanwhile, a man named Saleh Ahmed, a vegetable trader living in Chawkbazar, has gone missing after he fell into a roadside drain at Muradpur intersection, while he was walking through waist-deep water.

Seeing the around 55-year-old falling into the drain, locals called 999, said Fire Service sources.

On information, divers from Fire Service and Civil Defence rushed to the spot and tried to rescue him, but could not do so till 9pm, when this report was filed.

## Thousands

FROM PAGE 3

The religious affairs ministry has published a list of 247 agencies that will be allowed to arrange for Umrah from Bangladesh, the ministry’s secretary Nurul Islam told a webinar on Sunday.

Meanwhile, Arab News yesterday reported that Saudi Arabia on Tuesday approved two more Covid-19 vaccines -- Sinovac and Sinopharm.

The report, however, did not mention whether intended Umrah pilgrims outside Saudi Arabia will be eligible to perform the holy ritual, if they are inoculated with the two vaccines.

Contacted, Nurul Islam yesterday said they were yet to know anything regarding this officially.

The report did mention that the Saudi Ministry of Health said those who were fully inoculated with Sinopharm or Sinovac can be accepted into Saudi Arabia, provided they receive a booster shot of a vaccine approved in the Middle Eastern country.

The HAAB president also said uncertainty still exists over the issue as booster dose has not yet been introduced in Bangladesh.

Before this announcement, there were four vaccines approved for use in Saudi Arabia: Oxford-AstraZeneca, Pfizer-BioNTech, Johnson and Johnson’s Janssen, and Moderna, the Arab News report said.

## Dengue claims

FROM PAGE 3

He said breeding grounds were created at educational institutions which remained closed this year due to the pandemic.

He suggested residents to use insecticides or kerosene if they cannot clean rooftop gardens regularly.

The minister said they are working to form an Integrated Vector Management Cell to keep people safe from mosquito borne diseases.

He said they have already made insecticides available in the market, and allowed businesses to import them. This is a marked improvement from the earlier system, under which only one company could import insecticide, said the minister.

Suggesting Dhaka Cantonment Board, Civil Aviation Authority, and Bangladesh Railway to monitor their anti-mosquito drives, the minister said they will be held responsible if Aedes mosquito larvae are found inside their restricted areas.

Tazul said they have informed public and private hospitals to provide information to city corporations regarding dengue patients so that effective measures to contain Aedes mosquitoes can be enacted immediately.

Among others, DNCC mayor Md Atiqul Islam, DSCC mayor Sheikh Fazle Noor Taposh, and Gazipur City Corporation mayor Jahangir Alam were present at the meeting.

## Sky is the limit

FROM PAGE 3

and a second edition was published in February 2021 with more details. Both editions have been translated into nine languages. His book is also available on Amazon and other European websites.

“Many countries around the world have been researching this structural concept since the book was published. Multi-storied buildings have already been built in Qatar and India using this concept. Bangladesh, a country with a growing population, can also use it to construct buildings from 30 stories and above. This will save both land space and cost,” Alam said.

Engr Anwar Hossain Akon, former chairman of the Institute of Engineers, Bangladesh (IEB) Qatar Chapter, told The Daily Star, “The construction of a one-kilometer-tall building was just a fantasy. But now it is a matter of pride for us that a Bangladeshi has shown the way for 3,282 feet high buildings.”

## Is ACC above the law?

FROM PAGE 3

Board’s executive engineer Mominur Rahman and assistant engineer Zahirul Islam from a corruption case.

ACC filed the case against them after they were caught red handed with bribe-money on July 26, 2018.

In the short verdict, the HC scrapped the court order and cleared the trial court concerned to resume trial proceedings against Mominur and Zahirul.

In the full text of the verdict released on Tuesday, the HC bench directed the trial court to proceed with the case and conclude its trial as early as possible -- preferably within one year from the date of receiving this judgment and order.

“Nowadays, we see in various news media including electronic and print media that ACC is busy with

Dr Golam Mostafa, former president of the Engineers’ Association (IEB) and current chairman of Dhaka Wasa, said, “Feroz Alam’s book is not only on the list of the best structural engineering books of all time but it is also being read by engineers in different countries.”

“It is a breakthrough concept in the construction of multi-storey buildings. However, it is sad to say that he has not yet gotten proper recognition in the country.”

Dr Shafiq Bari, a professor of civil engineering at Buet, opined, “Alam’s innovative parallel shear walls theory will also be useful to the construction of 20-50 storied buildings.”

Born on June 29, 1964, in Rangpur in a family dominated by physicians, Alam however had a keen interest in mathematics from his childhood. He has graduated from the Institute of Engineers (IEB) with a degree in civil engineering in 1991 and MSc in civil engineering from USA in 2013.

recovering money than strengthening the legal procedures in major corruption cases as a result of which accused persons are getting advantages in their defence.”

“Money recovery is not the duty of ACC as the law has not given them such power. The money recovery may be a prima facie presumption that the accused/person embezzled or laundered the money.”

“It cannot be gainsaid that there is an ample opportunity for ACC to take speedy legal action/s against them,” the HC judges said.

The HC bench said the functions of the commission have been briefly narrated in the ACC Act, 2004 and in the ACC Rules, 2007.

“The role of ACC has been defined in the statute itself and it cannot exercise any power which is not

## Open resident mission in Bangladesh

Momen asks South African counterpart

BSS, Dhaka

Foreign Minister Abdul Momen has urged South Africa to consider opening its resident mission in Dhaka.

Momen, who is in South Africa on an official visit, said this at a bilateral meeting with his counterpart Naledi M Pandor in Pretoria on Tuesday, said a press release yesterday. Pandor assured that they may initially establish a diplomatic representation of their country in Bangladesh.

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### INVITATION FOR TENDER I CALENDAR & DIARY 2022 I

**Pubali Bank Limited**, a leading largest Private Commercial Bank is hereby inviting sealed tenders from First Class Printing Organization who can submit bids for any or all of the following products. However, as per the conditions, the tender for the said work has to be submitted in a separate envelope:

1. A) **Printing, Binding and Supply of Wall Calendar and Envelope for the year 2022.**
- B) **Printing, Binding and Supply of Desk Calendar (with envelope) for the year 2022.**
2. **Printing, Binding and Supply of Diary (including Box) for the year 2022.**

The schedule containing detailed information regarding printing and supply can be collected from the Bank's **Public Relations Cell** (Head Office, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor) during office hours from **29 August 2021 to 09 September 2021**. Tenders have to be submitted in the tender box kept in the **Establishment Division** (Head Office, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor) by 11.00 am on Sunday **12 September 2021** and tenders will be opened in front of the tenderers (if anyone is present) at 11.30 am on the same day.

See the bank's website for details:

**<https://www.pubalibangla.com/tender.asp>**

- Public Relations Officer

**MD's Secretariat (Public Relations Cell), Head Office, 26 Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka.**

**গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার**

নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলীর কার্যালয়

সড়ক ও জনপথ অধিদপ্তর

সড়ক বিভাগ, সিলেট

স্মারক নং-৩৫.০১.৯১৬২.৪৭৩.০০.০০০.২১-২৭৮৬

তারিখঃ ২৫/০৮/২০২১

**সীমিত দরপত্র পদ্ধতিতে (LTM) ঠিকাদার তালিকাভুক্ত বিজ্ঞপ্তি (সংশোধিত)**

এতদ্বারা সংশ্লিষ্ট সকলের অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, সড়ক বিভাগ, সিলেট কর্তৃক পাবলিক প্রকিউরমেন্ট বিধিমালা-২০০৮ এর আলোকে সড়ক ও জনপথ অধিদপ্তরের পরিচালন (রাজস্ব) বাজেটের আওতায় সীমিত দরপত্র পদ্ধতিতে (LTM) ঠিকাদার তালিকাভুক্ত বিজ্ঞপ্তিতে আবেদনপত্র (ডকুমেন্ট) সংগ্রহ ও জমা প্রদান করার তারিখ ও সময় নিম্নোক্তভাবে সংশোধন করা হইল।

ক্রমিক	বর্ণনা	:	প্রকাশিত	সংশোধিত
০১।	আবেদনপত্র (ডকুমেন্ট) সংগ্রহ ও জমা প্রদান করার তারিখ ও সময়	:	৩০/০৮/২০২১ ইং খ্রীষ্টাব্দ তারিখ বিকাল ৫.০০ পর্যন্ত।	০২/০৯/২০২১ ইং খ্রীষ্টাব্দ তারিখ বিকাল ৫.০০ পর্যন্ত।

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সড়ক ও জনপথ অধিদপ্তর

সড়ক বিভাগ, সিলেট

টেলিফোনঃ ০৮২১-৭১৬৩৩৯

ই-মেইলঃ [eesyl@rhd.gov.bd](mailto:eesyl@rhd.gov.bd)

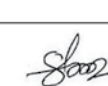
জিডি-১৫২১

**Solidaridad**  
Network Asia

**Invitation for National Open Tender**

Sealed Tenders are hereby invited from the eligible Tenderers for the following tender as defined in the tender documents of mentioned items as per terms and conditions stated below.

Project Name	SaFaL-II, Smart Farming for Improved Market Opportunities of Sustainable Food, Fostering Inclusivity and Sustainable Trade in Textile Supply Chain of Bangladesh.
Invitation reference No	<b>SNA/DAC/PR/8.21.56-60</b>
Prerequisite of Tenderer	The tenderer must submit the updated Trade Licence, BIN,VAT registration certificate, TIN certificate. The tenderer must submit the updated Bank Solvency Certificate in favor of specific organization/vendors name. The tenderer must submit related previous work experience document.
Invitation to Tender for the Provision of (Group-A/B/C/D/E/F)	Group-A <b>Laptop, Scanner, Printer,Multimedia Projector ,Online UPS, Microsoft Office</b> ( Detail Specifications in the tender schedule -Annexure) Group-B <b>Digital Photocopier Machine with printer &amp; scanner</b> (Detail Specifications in the tender schedule -Annexure) Group-C <b>Digital Camera</b> ( Detail Specifications in the tender schedule -Annexure) Group-D <b>Portable Projector, Wifi Router, Telephone Set</b> ( Detail Specifications in the Tender schedule -Annexure) Group-E <b>Tablet/Tab</b> ( Detail Specifications in the tender schedule -Annexure) Group-F <b>Motorcycle</b> ( Detail Specifications in the Tender schedule -Annexure)
Date, Time & Place for Collecting Tender Documents	From 26th August-2021 to 6th September 2021, tender schedule available from 10 AM to 4.30 PM at Apartment # A1, Merrydale, 1st Floor, House # 32, Road # 10A, Dhanmondi, Dhaka-1209
Tender Documents Submission & Closing Date & Time	Tender Documents can be submitted from 26th August onwards till 12PM and will be closed on 6th September at 4.30 PM
Tender Opening Date & Time & Place	<b>Tenders will be opened on 7th September 2021 at 2.30 PM, and due to Covid -19, we are requesting all individual tenderers to attend a tender opening meeting on ZOOM, please provide your email ID for sharing ZOOM meeting link.</b> The tenderers can participate in single or multiple groups and all items should be included as per group.
Others Terms and Conditions	The Solidaridad shall reserve the right to accept or cancel the tender schedule at any time without prior notice.

  
Muhammad Shakil Anwar  
Country Operation Officer