

Savar's Swanirvor Dhamsona UP sets unique example

The Union Parishad installs biogas plants at the houses of six farmers free of cost under a project; beneficiaries say their living standard improved

AKLAKUR RAHMAN AKASH, Savar

Lovely Begum of Nalam Borotek area under Swanirvor Dhamsona Union Parishad in Savar, used to cook meals for her five-member family in a traditional stove fueled by firewood.

"Tears and difficulty to breathe were inevitable while cooking in the traditional stove due to profuse smoke emanated by it," she said.

But those days are gone, now she happily cooks in biogas stove installed free of cost by the union parishad. Unlike the traditional woodfired stoves, the biogas stove is smoke-free.

The initiative taken by Saiful Islam, the chairman of Swanirvor Dhamsona

Union Parishad, to provide biogas plants among the poor farmers who rear cows and cultivate vegetables and crops, has changed the lifestyle of at least six housewives like Lovely Begum.

Under the Local Governance Support Project-3 (LGSP-3), the Union Parishad has already installed biogas plants at the houses of at least six farmers in two phases. In the first phase, the UP built three biogas plants with an expenditure of Tk 1.5 lakh and in the second phase, the rest of three such plants were built at the cost of Tk 1.8 lakh.

During a recent visit to Lovely Begum's house, this correspondent found that she was cooking rice at her

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kitchen with a biogas stove.

With a smile on her face, Lovely, wife of farmer Joyanal Abedin, said, "We have been rearing three cows at our house for a long time but cow dung was of no use. Now, we can use cow dung in the biogas plant and the gas is being used for cooking meals and the manure is also being used as fertilizer on our farmland."

"The biogas plant has been very beneficial for us and it has improved the quality of our life," she added.

Amir Uddin, another farmer of the same area who was given the biogas plant, said that he has cultivated several species of vegetables on his 30 decimals of farmland this year using the residue of the biogas plant.

"I am expecting a good yield of vegetables this year and hopefully will be able to sell after meeting the demand of the family," he added.

Hafiz Uddin, another resident of the same area, said setting up biogas plants free of cost is a good initiative of the

Union Parishad.

It will be good if more biogas plants are provided among other farmers, he also said.

Saiful Islam, chairman of Swanirvor Dhamsona Union Parishad, said "Although our area is an industrial one, there are many poor farmers. To improve the living standards of the poor farmers, initiatives have been taken to provide them with biogas plants as they can reduce the cost of cooking and the dependence on chemical fertilizers in the farming."

In the first two phases, a total of six farmers have been given biogas plants and now many more farmers are wanting to have a biogas plant at their houses, Saiful Islam added.

"As far as I know, this is the first time a Union Parishad has provided biogas plants among marginal farmers. I hope every union should replicate the project to improve the living standard of the farmers," UP Chairman Saiful Islam also said.

25 venomous snakes seized

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Patuakhali

The forest department in a drive seized at least 25 venomous snakes from the house of a snake charmer in Rangabali upazila on Wednesday.

During the drive, the forest department caught Nuru Mia, under the Bangladesh Wildlife Conservation and Security Act, for keeping so many deadly snakes in his possession.

Later, Nuru was strictly warned and released when he apologized for his wrongdoing.

The country's Wildlife Protection Act prohibits trapping, killing and trading of any animals.

Mohammad Shoaib Khan, bit officer at Rangabali Forest Department, said according to information provided by Ahmed Ruman, a member of Animal Lovers of Patuakhali, they raided Nuru's house and seized the venomous snakes from his possession.

The seized snakes, all cobras, were later released in local Gahinkhali Reserved Forest the same evening, he said.

Contacted, Divisional Forest Officer Abdullah Al Mamun said, members of Animal Lovers of Patuakhali, a voluntary organisation, will receive training on snake conservation.

Earlier, they received various trainings on wildlife conservation in Dhaka.



Lovely Begum of Swanirvor Dhamsona Union Parishad in Savar is seen at her kitchen cooking with a biogas stove provided free of cost by the UP in a bid to improve the living standard of marginal farmers. Below, her husband farmer Joyanal Abedin is seen busy working at the mixing house of the biogas plant. The photos were taken recently.

PHOTO: STAR

VACANT RADIOLOGIST POSTS IN UPAZILAS

3 ultrasound machines dead already, 5 still collecting dust

SUZIT KUMAR DAS, Faridpur

At least three out of eight ultrasound machines, which had been lying idle for years at different government health complexes in eight upazilas of Faridpur, have gone out of order.

The equipment stopped working as those could not be run or maintained routinely for a long period of time due to unavailability of necessary workforce, according to the civil

Patients who need sonogram reports are paying as high as Tk 800 for a report from private diagnostic centres, whereas they would pay only Tk 220 for the same report at government medical facilities.



Without providing any radiologist to operate it, this expensive ultrasound machine -- installed at Faridpur's Modhukhali Upazila Health Complex -- is only collecting dust for years and awaiting its disintegration from decay.

PHOTO: SUZIT KUMAR DAS

surgeon's office in Faridpur.

The three ultrasound machines that already went out of order are at Bhanga, Nagarkanda and Sadarpur upazila health complexes.

The five of the equipment that are decaying without use are at Faridpur General Hospital and at upazila health complexes in Boalmari, Saltha, Alfadanga and Modhukhali.

Abdus Salam, health and family planning officer in Modhukhali upazila, said, "We've got an expensive ultrasound machine. It was installed on December 19, 2016. But it has been sitting idle for long due to a lack of trained operators and doctors."

In a monthly report to the office of the civil surgeon, request had been made to fill the vacant post of a radiologist in the upazila, he said, adding that no steps, however, were taken in this regard yet.

In Bhanga upazila, Health and

Family Planning Officer Mohsin Uddin Fakir said the ultrasound machine at the health complex stopped working a long time ago.

Iftakhar Azad, health and family planning officer in Saltha and in-charge of Nagarkanda Upazila Health Complex, said, "The ultrasound machine at Nagarkanda Upazila Health Complex has remained out of use for long due to manpower shortage. We got a new ultrasound machine for Saltha Upazila Health Complex recently, but its services cannot be rendered without any radiologist."

The situation is no different at Faridpur General Hospital, located in the district town of Faridpur, where the post of radiologist has remained vacant for two years.

As a result, the ultrasound machine at the hospital could not be used in the last two years, said Ganesh Kumar Agarwala, resident medical officer at the hospital.

Patients who need sonogram reports are paying as high as Tk 800 for a report from private diagnostic centres, whereas they would pay only Tk 220 for the same report at government medical facilities, he also said.

Contacted, Faridpur Civil Surgeon Siddiqur Rahman said, "Expensive equipment is being sent to different hospitals without ensuring necessary manpower. Consequently, people are being deprived of proper services from the equipment as those are going out of order without any use."

Written requests for filling radiologist positions at the upazila health complexes were sent to the higher authorities several times, but to no avail, he added.



Publication for hiring international/national firm to perform the "Customized Services to RMGs and PFIs" in the SREUP Project

Consulting Services for the Customized Services to RMGs and PFIs (Firm) [Package No. BB-S2]

Deadline: 17 November, 2021 at 15.00 hrs BST (Bangladesh Standard Time)

Country: Bangladesh

Ref.-No.: 201667013 / 201670108

BB Procurement No.: BBS2-2021

Pre-qualification

Ref.: International, open consulting tender for the Program to Support Safety Retrofits and Environmental Upgrades in the Bangladeshi Ready-Made Garments (RMG) Sector (SREUP)

Tenderer: Bangladesh Bank, Dhaka, Bangladesh

Project Measures:

The Project Executing Agency (PEA) means Bangladesh Bank aims to facilitate soft loans through the Participatory Financial Institutions (PFIs) to qualified RMG (Ready-Made Garments) companies for safety retrofits (fire, electricity & building structure) by implementing the Corrective Action Plans (CAPs) as well as Environmental & Social (E&S) up gradation referring to labor and working conditions including occupational health and safety. Therefore, the PEA intends to hire an International/National Consulting Firm having joint venture or operational associates with Bangladeshi/international consulting firms with similar operational experience to support the PEA for project implementation.

Requested Services: The Scope of Work will include both support to RMG companies and to PFIs:

- provide support and guidance to strengthen E&S risk awareness and management based on the existing ESMS of each PFI in line with the SREUP PMU.
- advice and support RMG companies regarding E&S compliance and implementing the subproject investments to facilitate the financing and investment process.

Required Expertise: The Consultant presenting a proposal is expected

- to prove international experience of at least 5 years for similar assignments;
- to apply acknowledged expertise in E&S risk management and the implementation of ESMS issues in Financial Intermediaries (FIs) as well as expertise/track-record in undertaking ESDD for FIs based on the application of World Bank ESS 9;
- to have local expertise in Bangladesh or in the region; joint venture with company from the region/Bangladesh is possible;
- to include local competent staff fluent in Bengali language as well as staff competent in English language;
- Knowledge of the Bangladesh banking and financial market is an asset.

Ideally, the Consultant will provide 3 experts covering the focus of the assignment, for example:

- Team Leader to Support RMG Companies and PFI's
- Management Support Consultant
- Environmental, Social Support Consultant

Other Details:

1. Procurement Method: Quality and Cost Based Selection (QCBS), Time Based

2. Prequalification documents and all supporting documents shall be written in English. Documents originally written in other than English should be translated into English and attached to the copy of original duly attested by competent authority.

3. The prequalification of experienced Consultants is subject to the regulations contained in the "Guidelines for the Procurement of Consulting Services, Works, Goods, Plant and Non-Consulting Services in Financial Cooperation with Partner Countries" (see www.kfw-entwicklungsbank.de).

4. They have to work from present in Bangladesh.

5. The contract will be awarded to an independent Consultant (preferably a JV between a Bangladeshi consultancy and an international consultancy) firm with proven experience with WB ESS9 and the textiles industry and a minimum annual turnover of EUR 1.0 million.

6. This publication is available at Bangladesh Bank website: www.bb.org.bd, and at GTAI website: www.gtai.de

7. Documents comprising the application, as well as all correspondence documents/forms relating to the Application are available on the complete PQ Documents.

Please contact the Project Director (PD) by email to receive the complete PQ Documents: abdul.mannan@bb.org.bd and must with a Carbon Copy (CC) to the tender agent: Ben Klai: sk.procure@gmx.de.

Sd/-
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মুজিববর্ষের অঙ্গীকার
দেশী পণ্যের ব্যবহার

DCP: 48/2021-3271
Date: 14/10/2021

ব্যাবসায়িক ও আর্থিক সেবা পেতে হয়রানির শিকার হলে কিংবা কোনো
অভিযোগ থাকলে ১৬২৩৬ নম্বরে ফোন করুন।

GD- 1849

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Local Government Engineering Department
Office of the Executive Engineer
District: Joypurhat
www.lged.gov.bd

Memo No. 46.02.3800.403.07.002.18-1439 Date: 13-10-2021

e-Tender Notice No. 06/2021-2022

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of works below under LGED, District: Joypurhat.

SL No.	Tender ID No.	Package No.	Tender documents last selling date & time	Tender closing date & time	Procurement method
01	615964	FDR/Joy/21-22/UNR/W-08	15-Nov-2021; 17.00	16-Nov-2021; 13.00	OSTETM
02	618621	FDR/Joy/21-22/UNR/W-07	01-Nov-2021; 17.00	02-Nov-2021; 13.00	LTM
03	618622	IRIDP-3/JOY/SDW-18	01-Nov-2021; 17.00	02-Nov-2021; 13.00	LTM

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 System Portal have to be deposited online through any registered bank's branches up to specified date and time mentioned in the e-GP System.

Further information and guideline are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP helpdesk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

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GD-1844