

## Berger experience zone inaugurated in Khulna

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Berger Paints Bangladesh yesterday opened a new “Berger Experience Zone” on Khanjahan Ali Road at Ferighat intersection in Khulna to provide one-stop painting solutions to all kinds of requirements.

“Now the people of Khulna can avail genuine, top of the line paint solutions without any hassle,” said Mohsin Habib Chowdhury, senior general manager for sales and marketing, according to a press release.

Ata E Muneer, divisional sales manager; Shabbir Ahmed, head of project, prolinks and experience zone; Sayed Shorif Russel, category manager for marketing, and Shakil M Humayun, branch manager of Khulna sales, were present.

## Bad loans surpass Tk 1 lakh crore again

FROM PAGE B1

“We have taken the decision as there is no ray of hope to realise the funds,” said Huq.

Because of the loosening of rules, the delinquent loans did not go past the Tk 1 lakh crore mark between January 2020 and August this year.

The ratio of the default loans declined to 8.12 per cent in September in contrast to 8.18 per cent in June this year. Rahman credited the disbursement of the stimulus loans of the government for the fall.

He said many borrowers were now showing reluctance to repay due to the relaxed policy, pushing up the outstanding loans.

Md Abdus Salam Azad, managing director of Janata Bank, said that the state lender had given all-out efforts in recovering NPLs.

Among all lenders, Janata Bank now faces the highest amount of default loans, amounting to Tk 13,837 crore.

The bank is expected to reschedule the default loans to the tune of Tk 3,500 crore of AnonTex Group within a week or two.

“This will help us bring down the NPLs,” said Azad.

BB data showed more than 47 per cent of the defaulted loans were with the nine state-run banks. Their collective defaulted loans increased 0.4 per cent to Tk 47,715 crore in September from three months ago.

Forty-one private banks held defaulted loans of Tk 50,743 crore, up 3.15 per cent from a quarter earlier. NPLs in nine foreign banks rose to Tk 2,691 crore in contrast to Tk 2,492 crore.

A BB official said that the majority of the NPLs had turned into bad loans, which are the worst category of the delinquent loans, towards the end of September.

The bad loans accounted for 89 per cent of the default loans in the banking sector.

As per the central bank rules, term or project loans, with a repayment tenure of more than a year, are considered as bad if borrowers don’t pay instalments for 18 months in a row.

Similarly, continuous loans, whose repayment tenure is a maximum of one year, are treated as bad when clients fail to pay any instalment for 12 straight months.

## Olympic to invest Tk25cr to expand bakery business

FROM PAGE B1

Its popular brands such as Energy Plus, Tip, and Nutty have 25 to 30 per cent shares in the domestic biscuit market. The company has also decided to develop newly purchased land at Lolati at an estimated cost of Tk 9 crore.

It will invest around Tk 8.50 crore to construct a 5-storey building with a total 73,000 square feet floor area and undertake an extension of 7,300 square feet tin shed area in its Kutubpur unit. The investment is aimed at meeting the shortage of storage space to keep raw materials, packing materials and finished goods.

It plans to invest around Tk 1.66 crore to enhance the production capacity of the corrugated carton unit at Kutubpur from 6-6.50 million cartons to 8 million cartons per month.

## Poverty rate unchanged at 20.5pc

FROM PAGE B1

“Since the GDP has expanded, production volumes increased and per capita income rose,” Mannan added.

The foreign exchange reserve is now close to \$50 billion, the planning minister said, adding that the literacy rate has reached 75.2 per cent.

According to the new base year, Bangladesh’s economy is worth Tk 34,840 billion considering product prices in FY21, up 15.7 per cent from Tk 30,111 billion as per the previous base year.

In terms of constant prices, it stood at Tk 27,939 billion in FY21, up from Tk 12,072 billion as per the old base year, a BBS document shows.

Per capita income rose to \$2,554 in FY21 as per the new calculation while it was \$2,227 previously.

## The cost of non-compliance

FROM PAGE B1

Some survived climbing to the top floor crossing the thick smoke engulfing the staircases.

The next day revealed a queue of charred bodies, hapless victims who had been trying to get to the window. Remains revealed victims trapped on the second and first floors.

Since then, the garment sector has undergone massive reforms at strengthening workplace safety and improving the standard of business operations maintaining compliance to regulations.

The 2012 fire also brought down Tuba Group, the mother company of Tazreen Fashions. Tuba Group owner Delwar Hossain was jailed for the non-compliance.

The year preceding the fire, he had exported garment items worth Tk 500 crore employing over 10,000 workers in his five factories. The fire led to him losing almost all of his factories, assets and business.

Now out on bail from the High Court, he is working on sub-

contracts for the local markets running a small factory at Badda employing 125 workers.

“I am running this factory only to survive although I am hopeful that I will be able to turn around as an entrepreneur again in future as I know the business very well,” said Hossain.

Making headlines globally for the devastating fire, he has been trying to reemerge as an entrepreneur paying back bank loans and settling insurance claims worth Tk 26.46 crore.

“I am hopeful that the insurance company will settle the claim as soon as possible as a court case is going on,” said Hossain.

He said though his properties had an alleged value of more than Tk 150 crore, which was enough to pay back a Tk 100 crore bank loan, most were mortgaged with banks.

“As a result, I could not sell the assets for meeting my liquidity crisis,” Hossain told The Daily Star over the phone.

He says he wants to restart business retrofitting the Tazreen

fashions factory building, burnt and left abandoned for nine years.

Hossain opened Tazreen Fashions in 2004 and attained huge business sub-contracting from 2009 to 2011. In total, he said to have exported Tk 2,000 crore worth of garment items from the Tazreen Fashion factory.

“It will not be easy like earlier as he will have to follow the rules of business strictly and pay back bank loans,” said Shahidullah Azim, vice-president of the Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA).

The BGMEA will also scrutinise all his issues seriously if he wants to come to business after settling all his disputes, as the sector had to face a severe image crisis for the fire, he said. “If he follows the law of the land, he can come back.”

Bangladesh had to face a lot criticism due to non-compliance. However, the garment sector can now claim to have the safest workplaces in the world for the subsequent remediation, Azim said.

## Weak banks should consider mergers: adviser

FROM PAGE B1

The adviser also emphasised widening the tax net to increase government revenue as the tax to gross domestic product (GDP) ratio in Bangladesh is among the lowest in the world.

“Still though, the size of the national budget is about 10 times what it was back in 2009, when the current government assumed office,” Rahman said, adding that regular taxpayers bear the brunt of this expense as many people remain outside the tax net.

He went on to say that the Bangladesh Investment Development Authority (Bida) would provide the necessary support required to facilitate foreign direct investment through its One-Stop Service (OSS) platform from next year.

Potential clients can already avail more than 40 services from the OSS, an online platform integrating relevant government agencies to streamline the investment procedure in Bangladesh.

“However, complexities regarding certain policies of the National Board of Revenue are always raised by both foreign and domestic investors,” Rahman said.

Regarding the recent hike in fuel prices, Rahman said it was tough for the government to bear the huge amount of subsidies required to keep costs low.

And although fuel prices recently fell in the international market, the demand is rising as the global economy has reopened.

Responding to a question about the capital market, he said there was weakness in the market as 80 per cent of all investments come from retail investors and institutional investors make up the rest.

The case should be the opposite, he said, adding that the market is quite dependent on equity instead of bonds.

“We are working to improve the bond market. Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission is also sincere in this regard.”

Explaining the reasons behind remittance outflow, Rahman said local companies often hire foreign experts for senior positions due to the lack of skilled domestic workers.

And although more local experts are being employed by the garment industry, its emerging manmade fibre segment requires

foreign expertise.

But since these foreign employees spend much of their income while staying in Bangladesh, outgoing remittance does not exceed more than \$300 million per year.

Regarding developments in the health sector, Rahman said the treatment for all maladies would eventually be available in Bangladesh. In addition, local pharmaceutical companies are gearing up to manufacture Covid-19 vaccines next year.

“Beximco Pharmaceuticals will set up a dedicated facility for Covid-19 jabs within the next six weeks while Incepta Pharmaceuticals has signed a deal with Chinese companies to manufacture vaccines,” said the vice-chairman of Beximco Ltd.

Beximco is in talks with the Serum Institute of India, Pfizer, Moderna, and other global vaccine makers to manufacture Covid-19 vaccines in Bangladesh.

Vaccines will be required in the future as well since there is a possibility that the Covid-19 pandemic will continue indefinitely.

“So, local vaccine manufacturing is required,” he added.

## Gree’s 30-year journey celebrated in Bangladesh

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Electro Mart and Trade International Industries, local distributors of air conditioner manufacturer Gree, jointly organised a programme at Dhaka Club to celebrate Gree’s 30-year journey in the world market.

With a slogan “Change the Future with Gree”, the companies also announced a discount on “Green Season Opening Offer-2022”, says a press release.

“The Gree brand will be able to meet up to 80 per cent of air conditioner demand in near future by introducing newly environment-friendly technology,” said Md Nurun Newaz Selim, chairman of both concerns.

Md Nurul Amin, managing director of both concerns, Md Nurussafa Mazumder and Md Nurul Afer, deputy managing directors, and Mohammed Sazzad-Un-Newaz and Md Nurul Azim, directors, were present.

Gree currently offers air curtains, coolers and purifiers and water dispensers in the Bangladesh market.

## Top taxpayers to be honoured today

FROM PAGE B1

Finance Minister AHM Mustafa Kamal is expected to honour the highest taxpayers at the event in Dhaka.

The NBR started recognising top taxpayers in 2010-11, beginning with the top taxpayers in two categories -- individuals and companies. It aimed to motivate people to pay tax regularly in the country which has a tax-GDP ratio of less than 10 per cent, the lowest in South Asia.

At present, 3.5 per cent of the total population of around 17 crore are registered taxpayers and 2 per cent file returns of their income regularly.

**Government of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh**

Local Government Engineering Department  
Office of the Executive Engineer  
District: Manikganj  
[www.lged.gov.bd](http://www.lged.gov.bd)

“শেখ হাসিনার মূলনীতি গ্রাম শহরের উন্নতি”

Date: 23/11/2021

Memo No. 46.02.5600.000.07.001.21-3200

**Invitation for Tender (Works)**  
**e-Tender Notice No.12/2021-2022**

e-Tenders are invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of the following packages.

SL No.	Tender ID & Package No.	Name of works	Tender method	Tender proposal document last selling & submission date and time
1	626488 DDIRWSP/Manikganj/ Sadar/21-22/BR-01	Construction of 16.00m Long RCC Girder Bridge on Manikganj Bangladesh Hat - Tili - Kolia - Sonka - Nagarpur GC Road at Ch. 6000.00m under Upazila: Sadar, District: Manikganj. (Road ID No. 356462001)	OTM	<b>08-December-2021, 16:00 &amp; 09-December-2021 16:00</b>
2	626489 DDIRWSP/Manikganj/ Sadar/21-22/BR-02	Construction of 18.00m Long RCC Girder Bridge on Dhaka Aricha NHW at Nayadingi - Katigram GC Road (Sadar UZ Portion) at Ch. 760.00m under Upazila: Sadar, District: Manikganj. (Road ID No. 356462003)		

These are online tenders where only e-Tenders will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. 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 branch. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk ([helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd](mailto:helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd)).

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GD-2145

**Government of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh**

Office of the Divisional Electrical Engineer  
Bangladesh Railway, Dhaka

e-Tender Notice No. 54.01.0000.212.07.267.21-22/02

Date: 23.11.2021

**Invitation for e-Tender**

e-Tender is invited in National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of following works, details are given below:

SI No.	Tender ID	Package No.	Description of works	Tender document last selling date & time	Tender closing & opening date & time
1.	631642	eGP WED-04/21-22:	At Dhaka: Decorative lighting arrangement at Rail Bhaban, Railway Admin & Control Building, Dhaka Railway station, Sylhet Railway station under Dhaka Division for fifteen night on 16-12-2021 Victory Day.	09-Dec-2021 09:00	09-Dec-2021 12:00

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 System Portal have to be deposited online through any registered banks branches up to one hour before tender last selling time.

Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk ([helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd](mailto:helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd)).

Md. Ariful Islam  
Divisional Electrical Engineer  
Bangladesh Railway, Dhaka

S(21)(316)  
GD-2144

## To Kaus Mia, paying tax is a responsibility

FROM PAGE B1

Kaus started out in Narayanganj. Soon, he moved to Old Dhaka where he expanded to 40 types of businesses at one time.

Although he is known for his jarda businesses, it has not been his main activity. He began making jarda in 1988

“My main business was stationery,” he told The Daily Star in an interview recently.

The businessman, the proprietor of Kaus Chemical Works, has been paying taxes since 1958.

“I pay tax because it is a good thing to do. How will the state bear its expenses if we don’t pay tax?”

What is more, Kaus has never paid lower than the tax due. Instead, he has paid higher taxes than the actual amount on many occasions so that taxmen can’t raise questions about him, and the reputation and goodwill of his family remains clean.

“Money is not the ultimate thing; it is the honour that matters,” he said earlier this year.

When people ask him why he is so passionate about paying taxes, he replies, “I pay tax as I make a profit.”

“None can be rich by evading taxes. If you evade, it is a mistake. If you make a profit, paying tax is a good thing.”

He describes young businessmen as the future of the country.

“They will take the country forward,” added Kaus, whose family was recognised as the Kar Bahadur (tax icon) in the fiscal year of 2016-17.

“He is unparalleled,” said NBR Chairman Abu Hena Md Rahmatul Muneem at an event in March.

“I hope the mentality and yearn to pay taxes and his sense of responsibility will be instilled into other taxpayers, and they will pay taxes regularly to strengthen the economy of the country.”

## Steel, cement producers log higher profits as sales rocket

FROM PAGE B4

He credited strengthening digital footprint, maximising the market outreach by further getting closer to end customers, relaunching of Supercrete, one of its flagship brands, and driving seamless cost effectiveness programmes for the strong results.

“In addition, our new product launches are highly successful.”

Backed by the steady economic development, rapid urbanisation, public infrastructure projects, and the growth of the real estate sector, Bangladesh’s cement industry has grown at 11.5 per cent annually in the last decade.

There are 37 active cement factories in the country with a combined annual production capacity of 58 million tonnes against a demand of 33 million tonnes.

**Office of the Registrar**  
**Jashore University of Science and Technology**  
Jashore-7408, Bangladesh

তারিখঃ ২৩/১১/২০২১খ্রি:

শ্রীঃ নং-১৮০৮/১০০২/রাজঃ জনবল (নিয়োগ বিজ্ঞপ্তি)/পার্ট-৬/১-৩২০৯

**নিয়োগ বিজ্ঞপ্তি**

যশোর বিজ্ঞান ও প্রযুক্তি বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের নিম্নোক্ত পদগুলো পূরণের নিমিত্তে বর্ণিত শর্তসাপেক্ষে বাংলাদেশের স্থায়ী নাগরিকদের নিকট হতে দরখাস্ত আহ্বান করা যাচ্ছে।

ক্রঃ নং	পদের নাম, পদসংখ্যা ও স্কেল	সর্বোচ্চ বয়স	শর্তাবলী
০১	বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় প্রকৌশলী (প্রধান প্রকৌশলী), ০১টি স্থায়ী পদ, বেতন স্কেলঃ ৫৬০০০-৭৪৪০০/-	৫০ বছর	আবেদনকারীকে বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের নির্ধারিত আবেদন ফরমে প্রয়োজনীয় সকল কাগজপত্রসহ ০২ সেট আবেদন রেজিস্ট্রার, যশোর বিজ্ঞান ও প্রযুক্তি বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়, যশোর-৭৪০৮ সরাবরে আগামী ২১/১২/২০২১খ্রি: তারিখ অফিস চলাকালীন সময়ের মধ্যে পৌঁছাতে হবে। রেজিস্ট্রার, যশোর এবং কার্যালয় অথবা বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের ওয়েব সাইটঃ <a href="http://www.just.edu.bd">www.just.edu.bd</a> হতে আবেদন ফরম ও যোগ্যতার বিস্তারিত বিবরণ সহায় করা যাবে। প্রার্থীকে আবেদনপত্রের সাথে নিম্নলিখিত কাগজপত্রের ছায়াছবি সংযুক্ত করতে হবে- (ক) শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতা, অভিজ্ঞতা (যদি থাকে), প্রশিক্ষণ সংক্রান্ত ও অন্যান্য সকল প্রকার মূল্যায়নিক সনদপত্র ও নম্বরপত্র (খ) সদ্য তোলা পাসপোর্ট সাইজের ০৩ কপি ছবি (গ) জাতীয় পরিচয় পত্র (ঘ) নিজ নিজ এলাকার ইউনিয়ন পরিষদের চেয়ারম্যান/পৌর মেয়র/গ্রাম্য কাউন্সিলর প্রদত্ত নাগরিকত্ব সনদপত্র। বয়স গণনা করলে ক্ষেত্রে গড় ২৫/০৩/২০২০খ্রি: তারিখ হিসাব করতে হবে। চাকুরীতে নিয়োজিত প্রার্থীদের যথাযথ কর্তৃপক্ষের মাধ্যমে আবেদন করতে হবে। জটিল/বিসংস্পর্শ এবং বিধিগত প্রাপ্ত আবেদনপত্র (নির্ধারিত সময়ের পর) গ্রহণ করা হবে না।
০২	উপ-প্রধান প্রকৌশলী, ০১টি স্থায়ী পদ, (পুনঃবিজ্ঞপ্তি), (যোগ্য প্রার্থীর অগ্রাধিকার ক্ষেত্রে উক্ত পদের বিপরীতে সহকারী প্রকৌশলী (বিদ্যুৎ) নিয়োগ দেয়া হবে) বেতন স্কেলঃ ৪৩০০০-৬৬৮৫০/-	৪৫ বছর	দরখাস্তের সাথে “রেজিস্ট্রার, যশোর বিজ্ঞান ও প্রযুক্তি বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়” এর অনুমোদিত অফিসিাল ফর্ম এবং বৈধ নম্বর সহায় করা হবে। জটিল/বিসংস্পর্শ এবং বিধিগত প্রাপ্ত আবেদনপত্র (নির্ধারিত সময়ের পর) গ্রহণ করা হবে না।
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০৪	সহকারী পরিচালক (পরিচালনা, উন্নয়ন ও পূর্ত), ০১টি স্থায়ী পদ, বেতন স্কেলঃ ২৯০০০-৬৬৮৫০/-	৩৫ বছর	দরখাস্তের সাথে “রেজিস্ট্রার, যশোর বিজ্ঞান ও প্রযুক্তি বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়” এর অনুমোদিত অফিসিাল ফর্ম এবং বৈধ নম্বর সহায় করা হবে। জটিল/বিসংস্পর্শ এবং বিধিগত প্রাপ্ত আবেদনপত্র (নির্ধারিত সময়ের পর) গ্রহণ করা হবে না।
০৫	মেডিকেল অফিসার, ০১টি স্থায়ী পদ, বেতন স্কেলঃ ২২০০০-৫৩০৬০/-	৩০ বছর	দরখাস্তের সাথে “রেজিস্ট্রার, যশোর বিজ্ঞান ও প্রযুক্তি বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়” এর অনুমোদিত অফিসিাল ফর্ম এবং বৈধ নম্বর সহায় করা হবে। জটিল/বিসংস্পর্শ এবং বিধিগত প্রাপ্ত আবেদনপত্র (নির্ধারিত সময়ের পর) গ্রহণ করা হবে না।
০৬	সহকারী প্রকৌশলী (বিদ্যুৎ), ০১টি অস্থায়ী পদ (উপ-প্রধান প্রকৌশলী পদের বিপরীতে) বেতন স্কেলঃ ২২০০০-৫৩০৬০/-	৩০ বছর	দরখাস্তের সাথে “রেজিস্ট্রার, যশোর বিজ্ঞান ও প্রযুক্তি বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়” এর অনুমোদিত অফিসিাল ফর্ম এবং বৈধ নম্বর সহায় করা হবে। জটিল/বিসংস্পর্শ এবং বিধিগত প্রাপ্ত আবেদনপত্র (নির্ধারিত সময়ের পর) গ্রহণ করা হবে না।
০৭	ল্যাব এটেন্ডেন্ট, সিসিসি ইন্সটিটিউট, ০১টি স্থায়ী পদ, বেতন স্কেলঃ ৮০০০-২১০৬০/-	৩০ বছর	দরখাস্তের সাথে “রেজিস্ট্রার, যশোর বিজ্ঞান ও প্রযুক্তি বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়” এর অনুমোদিত অফিসিাল ফর্ম এবং বৈধ নম্বর সহায় করা হবে। জটিল/বিসংস্পর্শ এবং বিধিগত প্রাপ্ত আবেদনপত্র (নির্ধারিত সময়ের পর) গ্রহণ করা হবে না।

সেমিঃ/১০৪৫ ইঞ্চি সাইজের দুইটি সেরাম কাম আবেদনপত্রের সাথে সাহায্যজনক করতে হবে।  
বিস্তৃত স্মারক নং- ১৮০৮/১০০২/রাজঃ জনবল (নিয়োগ বিজ্ঞপ্তি)/পার্ট-৬/১৯-১৫৮, তারিখঃ ১০/০৩/২০২০খ্রি: মোতাবেক প্রচারিত নিয়োগ বিজ্ঞপ্তিতে যারা উপ-প্রধান প্রকৌশলী পদে আবেদন করেছেন তাদের পুনরায় আবেদন করার প্রয়োজন নাই।

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