

## Govt could not control rice price

**Agri minister says it happened despite highest stock**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government could not control rice price although it had the highest ever rice stock and record production of Aush, Aman and Boro varieties, said Agriculture Minister Abdur Razzaque.

In a note of frustration, he made the comments in a press briefing at the Secretariat. Before the press meet, he held a meeting on how to increase paddy production with the use of high-yielding inbred and super hybrid rice varieties.

The agriculture minister said the government is preparing a roadmap to increase rice production in the next two years as the country is still struggling to contain the staple food's price.

A disappointed Razzaque said the price of rice is increasing even at the time of ongoing Aman season and "nobanno".

"So it is time that we increase rice production to keep the price within the reach of low-income people," he said.

The government has also taken time-bound and specific plans to increase Aush, Aman and Boro rice production in the next season, he said.

The minister blamed the increasing prices of commodities in the international market for the high price of rice in the country.

## US won't slap further sanction

**Says Shahriar Alam**

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

There is no possibility of expansion of the US sanctions against Rab either in the US or elsewhere, said State Minister for Foreign Affairs Shahriar Alam yesterday.

"The US will not impose any further sanctions. This will also not have any impacts elsewhere. I don't see any possibility because we have had good engagement since December 10 and got a very positive response," he told journalists at the foreign ministry.

Asked if he got any assurance as such, he said, "No, I cannot say anything that's classified."

Shahriar Alam said there was no active support to the sanction from other countries or agencies. The accusation that Rab was used for repressing political opposition is also not right at all because many of those killed were found Awami League activists.

"We will legally and diplomatically challenge the sanction. We will engage our friends. We have many strengths to tell them," Shahriar Alam said.

The US imposed sanctions on Rab and seven of its current and former top officials for human rights violations, specifically extrajudicial killings and enforced disappearances.



**A boat-turned-dredger near a trimmed down bank of Chengerkhak river in Chamaurakandi area of Sylhet sadar upazila yesterday. Right under the nose of the administration, illegal sand traders continue to raze the river banks to make hefty profits for themselves. Locals said the river devours fresh cultivable land every year mainly due to the mindless plundering.**

PHOTO: SHEIKH NASIR

## US troop boost fuels tensions in Europe

**Says Moscow; Erdogan in Ukraine as the bloc pushes to defuse crisis**

AFP, Kyiv

The deployment of additional United States troops in Eastern Europe is escalating tensions in the region, the Kremlin said yesterday, after Washington said it would send 3,000 extra troops to Poland and Romania.

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, meanwhile, landed in Kyiv in an effort to mediate the crisis with Russia, as EU leaders stepped up outreach to the Kremlin to defuse fears Moscow could invade Ukraine.

As Moscow refuses to pull back over 100,000 troops from Ukraine's borders, the leaders of European powerhouses Germany and France said they were eyeing possible visits to Russian President Vladimir Putin in Moscow.

French President Emmanuel Macron was set to hold his third phone call in a week with Putin later yesterday and also talk to Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky.

Western powers have been engaged in intense diplomatic efforts -- coupled with the threat of sanctions against Putin's inner circle -- to deter any further attack on ex-Soviet Ukraine, despite strenuous denials from Moscow.

Erdogan is looking to pursue his own diplomatic track when he meets Zelensky, by leveraging his special relations with Putin and strong support for Kyiv to set up a three-way summit.

But his attempts to host peace talks between Putin and Zelensky have been stymied by Kremlin anger over Nato member Turkey's supply of combat drones to Kyiv.

Amid the diplomatic flurry, Washington angered Moscow by announcing the new troop deployments to two of Nato's eastern members.

"As long as (President Vladimir Putin) is acting aggressively, we are going to make sure we reassure our Nato allies in eastern Europe that we're there," President Joe Biden said Wednesday.

The Kremlin urged the US to "stop escalating tensions" after Deputy Foreign Minister Alexander Grushko warned the "destructive" move would make it harder for a compromise between the two sides.

Pentagon spokesman John Kirby stressed the US troop movements were to demonstrate commitment to the Nato alliance, and that no US soldiers would be sent to fight in Ukraine.

But that is unlikely to assuage Putin, who has accused the United States and Nato of seeking to "contain" Russia by placing troops and strategic arms on its border.

Putin has left the door open to talks, saying he was studying Western proposals set out last month in response to Russia's demands, and that he hoped for a "solution."

But in a call with British Prime Minister Boris Johnson on Wednesday, he noted "the unwillingness of Nato to adequately respond to the well-founded Russian concerns".

The Kremlin also claimed it had China's support in the standoff -- backing that would be demonstrated when Putin meets President Xi Jinping in Beijing today at the opening of the Olympics.

## Pandemic end

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opportunity to take control of the transmission", he stressed.

He cautioned that the optimistic scenario would only hold true if countries continued their vaccination campaigns and intensified surveillance to detect new variants.

He also urged health authorities to protect risk groups and to promote individual responsibility, such as social distancing and mask wearing.

With the contagious Omicron, infections have surged across the WHO's European region, which comprises 53 countries, including some in central Asia.

Some 12 million new cases were registered last week in the region, according to the WHO, the highest level since the start of the pandemic.

But faced with a lower level of hospitalisations than in previous waves,

several European countries, including France, Ireland and the United Kingdom, have announced the lifting or a considerable reduction of restrictions, despite record or very high cases.

Speaking on the eve of World Cancer Day, Kluge also expressed concern over the "catastrophic impact" the pandemic has had on cancer care around the world.

In the last three months of 2021, cancer screenings and treatments were disrupted by five to 50 percent in all countries surveyed, he said.

"The situation has improved since the first quarter of last year," he said.

"But the knock-on effect of this disruption will be felt for years."

He urged Europe's healthcare authorities to take advantage of the expected seasonal Covid lull to reduce backlogs in chronic care services.

## Cleanest in Madaripur

FROM PAGE 1

secretary of the Bangladesh Paribesh Andolon, told The Daily Star.

"Had it been there, they would have been brought to book for their failure and exposing the whole nation to high levels of air pollution."

People's participation must be ensured in air quality monitoring mechanisms, he said, while calling for amendments to the environment law so that people can go to court for suffering from environmental hazards.

"And foreign companies working in development projects must comply with the environmental guidelines," Jamil added.

Air pollution affects the plants and wildlife, disturbing the ecological balance, said Mohammad Zashim Uddin, a professor at Dhaka University's botany department.

"We must take the crisis seriously to find a solution," he added.

The study also provided short-, mid- and long-term recommendations for mitigating the crisis.

Short-term actions include sprinkling water every two to three hours by Wasa and city corporations, ensuring construction materials are covered with tarpaulin, using suction trucks to remove dust, shutting down brick kilns

and getting rid of unfit vehicles from the roads.

Mid-term actions comprise planting trees, initiating separate lanes for bicycles, conserving waterbodies and coordination among service providing agencies.

Long-term solutions include enacting the Clean Air Act, increasing the budgetary allocation for environment, forest and climate change ministry, setting up an air monitoring station and real-time air quality displays to provide timely air quality data for citizens, improving the traffic system and initiating environment cadre service.

## A dream cut short

FROM PAGE 12

mourned his death on social media.

Mehedi Mazumder, Hasan Siam's neighbour and a port staffer, told The Daily Star, "Siam was a jolly and innocent man. He would always keep himself busy with his vlogs, cycling and other work. It's hard to accept his sudden demise."

Siam's father Abdul Awal

was also a port employee and passed away two and a half years ago.

A student of Collegiate School, he completed his graduation from International Islamic University in Chattogram and later joined the port as a worker in 2019.

He is survived by a sister, apart from his wife and mother.

Siam's brother-in-law Shamsuzzaman said, "His mother has totally broken down after the incident. Just before it happened, he had called his wife to ask what to bring for home. He never returned himself."

Siam's namaz-e-janaza was held at Chattogram Port administrative building at around 10:00am yesterday.

## Now a lioness dies at Gazipur

FROM PAGE 1

was found dead around 1:00pm.

A postmortem would be conducted on the animal's body under the supervision of the veterinary surgeon of the park, said CCF Amir Hossain.

The lioness was brought to the park in 2013, he

added.

He, however, could not confirm the numbers of lions and lioness in the safari park.

Meanwhile, a five-member probe committee, formed by the environment ministry on Wednesday, is now working to ascertain the cause of the deaths of

the zebras and the tiger.

The committee has been asked to submit its investigation report to the ministry in 10 working days.

Also, three top officials of the safari park were removed from their posts over negligence of duty as per recommendations of a committee.

## Rohingya youth held at Ctg passport office

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Officials at Chattogram passport office yesterday handed a Rohingya man to police for attempting to get a Bangladeshi passport.

Arman, 19, of Balukhali Refugee Camp in Cox's Bazar, applied for a passport with forged documents and introduced himself as a resident of Sandwip, officials said.

## Rape accused arrested

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

A Habiganj court yesterday sent a man to jail in a case filed over the gang rape of woman after Rab arrested him the capital.

Didarul Hossain, 22, is the second accused in the case, a Rab spokesperson said.

On January 15, a woman was abducted and gang-raped by four men when she was returning from work in Madhabpur.

## DU teacher gets bail in DSA case

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday granted anticipatory bail to law professor Sheikh Hafizur Rahman Karzon of Dhaka University for eight weeks in a case filed under the Digital Security Act.

The HC also asked Prof Karzon to surrender before the Cyber Tribunal in Dhaka in eight weeks.

Amit Bhowmik, general secretary of Bangladesh Hindu Jubo Parishad, filed the case with Shahbagh Police Station on August 1 last year over what Karzon said was satire post on Facebook.

## Mohasin was swindled out

## of Tk 5.1 crore

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Businessman Abu Mohasin Khan who died by suicide in his Dhanmondi apartment on Wednesday night left a note saying that he was swindled out of Tk 5.1 crore by several individuals, said police.

He also mentioned in the note that those who took his money had threatened to frame him in cases, police said.

Mohasin, the father-in-law of actor Riaz, shot himself in the head on Facebook live around 9:00pm on Wednesday.

Abdullah Al Masum, assistant commissioner (Dhanmondi) of Dhaka Metropolitan Police, said police were looking into whether someone abetted the suicide.

Meanwhile, the High Court yesterday directed the authorities concerned to remove the video and images of the incident from the electronic and social media in six hours.

# গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার

বাংলাদেশ চলচ্চিত্র ও টেলিভিশন ইনস্টিটিউট

তথ্য ও সম্প্রচার মন্ত্রণালয়

(অস্থায়ী কার্যালয়ঃ জাতীয় গণমাধ্যম ইনস্টিটিউট

১২৫/এ, দারুস সালাম, এ. ডব্লিউ. চৌধুরী রোড, ঢাকা-১২১৬)

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নং-বাচটেই-২৪৪/প্রশা/দরপত্র/২০১৬/অংশ-৪/১৮-২৮৮

তারিখঃ ০২ ফেব্রুয়ারি ২০২২

## উন্মুক্ত দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

বাংলাদেশ চলচ্চিত্র ও টেলিভিশন ইনস্টিটিউটে প্রশাসন ও প্রশিক্ষণ কাজে ব্যবহারের লক্ষ্যে কম্পিউটার, প্রিন্টার ও স্ক্যানার সরবরাহের জন্য খ্যাতনামা প্রস্তুতকারী/সরবরাহকারী প্রতিষ্ঠানের নিকট হতে নিম্নবর্ণিত সীলগালাকৃত খামে দরপত্র আহ্বান করা যাচ্ছে।

১.	মন্ত্রণালয়/বিভাগ	:	তথ্য ও সম্প্রচার মন্ত্রণালয়।
২.	সম্প্রদায়িক সংস্থার নাম	:	বাংলাদেশ চলচ্চিত্র ও টেলিভিশন ইনস্টিটিউট, ঢাকা।
৩.	বিজ্ঞপ্তি সূত্র নং ও তারিখ	:	নং-বাচটেই-২৪৪/প্রশা/দরপত্র/২০১৬/অংশ-৪/ ফেব্রুয়ারি ২০২২ তারিখঃ
৪.	কি জন্য আহ্বান করা হচ্ছে	:	কম্পিউটার, প্রিন্টার, ও স্ক্যানার ক্রয়।
৫.	সমগ্র পদ্ধতি	:	উন্মুক্ত দরপত্র পদ্ধতি (OTM)
৬.	বাজেট এবং অর্থের উৎস	:	রাজস্ব খাত (জিওবি)।
৭.	দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি প্রকাশের তারিখ	:	০৫ ফেব্রুয়ারি ২০২২, শনিবার বা তার পূর্বে।
৮.	দরপত্র বিক্রয়ের শেষ তারিখ	:	২০ ফেব্রুয়ারি ২০২২, রবিবার, বিকাল ৪:৩০টা।
৯.	দরপত্র গ্রহণের শেষ তারিখ ও সময়	:	০৩ মার্চ ২০২২, বুধস্পতিবার, বিকাল ৪:০০টা।
১০.	দরপত্র প্রাপ্তি, জমা ও খোলার স্থান	:	বাংলাদেশ চলচ্চিত্র ও টেলিভিশন ইনস্টিটিউট, ১২৫/এ, দারুস সালাম, এ. ডব্লিউ. চৌধুরী রোড, ঢাকা-১২১৬।
১১.	দরপত্র খোলার তারিখ ও সময়	:	০৩ মার্চ ২০২২, বুধস্পতিবার, বিকাল ৪:১৫টা।
১২.	দরপত্রদাতার যোগ্যতা	:	(১) সর্বশ্রেষ্ঠ কাজে ও (তিন) বছরের বাস্তব অভিজ্ঞতা। (২) দরপত্র দলিলে বর্ণিত অন্যান্য শর্তাদি পূরণে সক্ষম।

১৩.	লটারি বিবরণ	দরপত্র সিডিউলের মূল্য (অফেরতযোগ্য)	দরপত্র জামানতের পরিমাণ (ফেরতযোগ্য)	দরপত্র জামানত দাখিলের নিয়মাবলী	সরবরাহের মেয়াদকাল
	কম্পিউটার, প্রিন্টার ও স্ক্যানার	১০০০/-	১০,০০০/-	বাংলাদেশের যে কোন সিডিউল ব্যাংক হতে পে-অর্ডার/ব্যাংক ড্রাক্ট আকারে 'বাংলাদেশ চলচ্চিত্র ও টেলিভিশন ইনস্টিটিউট' এর অনুকূলে দাখিল করতে হবে।	সর্বশ্রেষ্ঠ সিডিউল মোতাবেক

১৪.	দরপত্র আহ্বানকারী প্রতিষ্ঠানের নাম	:	বাংলাদেশ চলচ্চিত্র ও টেলিভিশন ইনস্টিটিউট, ঢাকা।
১৫.	দরপত্র আহ্বানকারী কর্মকর্তার পদবী	:	প্রধান নির্বাহী।
১৬.	দরপত্র আহ্বানকারী কর্মকর্তার ঠিকানা	:	বাংলাদেশ চলচ্চিত্র ও টেলিভিশন ইনস্টিটিউট, ১২৫/এ, দারুস সালাম, এ. ডব্লিউ. চৌধুরী রোড, ঢাকা-১২১৬।
১৭.	দরপত্র আহ্বানকারী কর্মকর্তার যোগাযোগ ঠিকানা	:	ফোনঃ ০২-৫৫০৭৯৩৪০, ফ্যাক্সঃ ০২-৫৫০৭৯৩৪৫, ই-মেইলঃ <a href="mailto:bctibd2013@gmail.com">bctibd2013@gmail.com</a>

১৮.	বিশেষ নির্দেশাবলীঃ (১) এই ক্রয় কার্যক্রম 'The Public Procurement Act-2006' ও 'The Public Procurement Regulation-2008' মোতাবেক পরিচালিত হবে। (২) কোন কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতিরেকে কর্তৃপক্ষ যে কোন/সকল দরপত্র সম্পূর্ণ বা আংশিক গ্রহণ বা বাতিল করার ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করেন।		
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(স্বাক্ষরিত)  
০২/০২/২০২২

মোঃ আবুল কালাম আজাদ —

প্রধান নির্বাহী

জিডি-২০৮

ফোনঃ ০২-৫৫০৭৯৩৪০