

EID HOME RUSH

Bottlenecks look ominous

TUHIN SHUBHRA
ADHIKARY

Eid holidaymakers could face long tailbacks at the bottlenecks on two major highways and at the ferry terminals on the Padma river.

The rush home is likely to gain momentum from tomorrow and peak on Saturday.

From Abdullahpur to Joydevpur intersection, a distance of 12km, on Dhaka-Mymensingh highway, the construction work of Bus Rapid Transit Line-3 is likely to cause jams like it did in previous years.

On Dhaka-Tangail-Rangpur highway, a 13.5km section from Elenga to Bangabandhu Bridge and a 19km section from the bridge to Hatikamrul area may witness tailbacks due to road expansion work, also like previous years.

Congestion is not uncommon at ferry terminals in Paturia and Shimulia. The Eid rush will predictably multiply the congestion.

It can be particularly worse this time as fewer ferries are running on the Shimulia-Kathalbari route to ensure the safety of Padma bridge pillars.

There are no major bottlenecks on Dhaka-Chattogram and Dhaka-Sylhet highways, but the large number of vehicles combined with possible poor traffic management could create congestions, particularly at toll plazas of bridges.

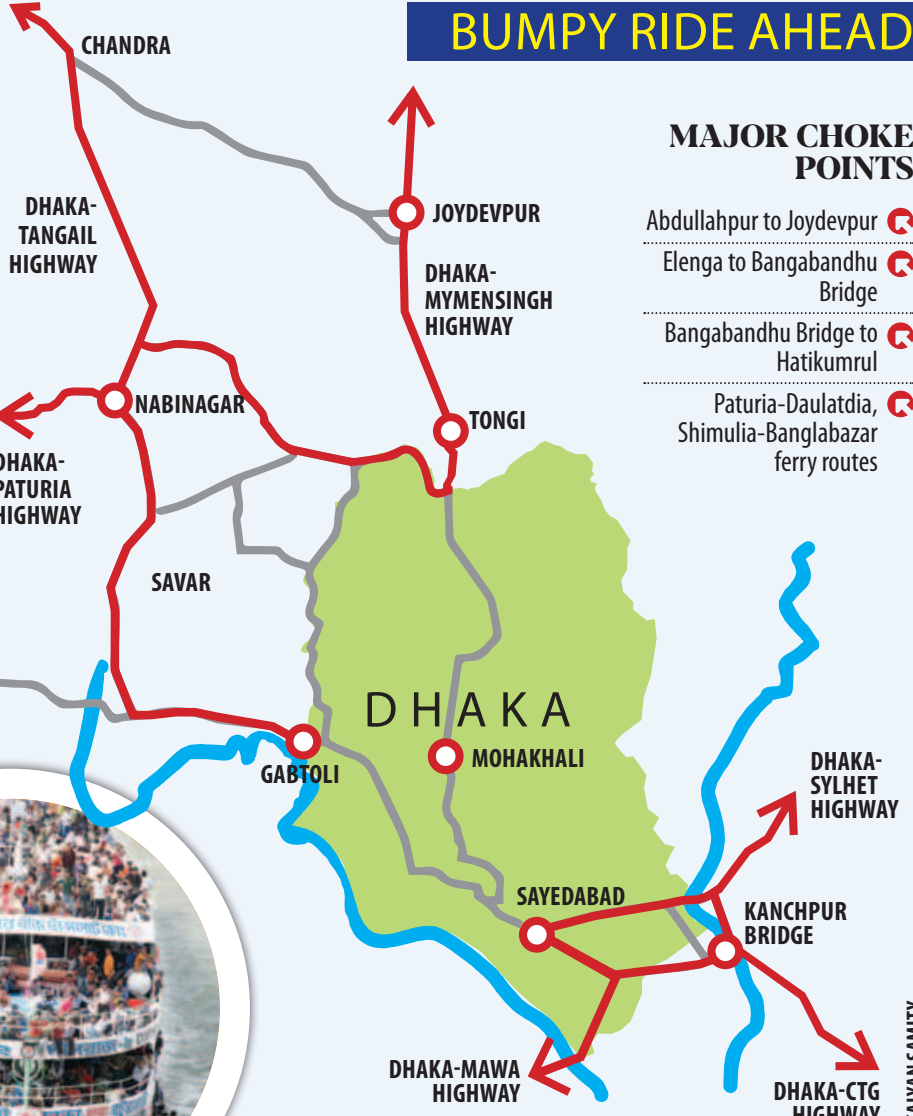
The good thing is, many people have already left Dhaka since the educational institutions closed on April 20.

Trains, especially the ones to north-western districts, are likely to face delays.

However, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will inaugurate 46 new locomotives today, which are likely to make a positive impact.

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- More than 1.2 crore people are likely to leave Dhaka before Eid
- About 30 lakh people may leave city every day in 4 days preceding Eid
- Transport system has the capacity to carry 16 lakh people daily
- Buses to carry 8 lakh, trains 1 lakh, launches 1.25 lakh, bikes 3 lakh and cars 3 lakh people each day



On an average day, some 18,000 to 20,000 vehicles use Bangabandhu bridge. The number goes up to 50,000 to 60,000 during Eid rush



SOURCE: ARI AND BANGLADESH JATRI KALYAN SAMITY

INDONESIA'S EXPORT BAN

Edible oil supply crunch has begun

MOHAMMAD SUMAN and SUKANTA HALDER

Indonesia's abrupt announcement of a palm oil export ban from tomorrow has sent refiners in Bangladesh into zealous rationing, choking the availability of cooking oil at the retail level at a time when its consumption is high.

About half of the cooking oil used in Bangladeshi kitchens is palm oil, 80 percent of which comes from Indonesia.

The blanket export ban, which comes to secure local supplies as the world's largest Muslim population prepares for feasting during the Eid-ul-Fitr holidays, is expected to be temporary, going up to three weeks at most as the consumption demand is set to normalise after the festive period, according to analysts.

And yet, refiners in Bangladesh are exploiting the situation despite ample reserves.

The country has four lakh tonnes of edible oil, according to data from the National Board of Revenue and commerce ministry.

This is enough to meet the demand for at least the next one and a half months, according to AHM Shafiquzzaman, additional secretary at the commerce ministry.

About 8.5 lakh tonnes of palm oil and 4 lakh tonnes of soybean oil have been imported in the first three and a half months of this calendar year, according to the NBR.

"This is an artificial crisis," said Shafiquzzaman.

The Daily Star visited the wholesale and retail hubs in Dhaka and Chattogram and was met with the chorus of supply crunch.

"I have had no oil in my store for the last five days," said Monir Hossain, a salesman at Jaber Store in Karwan Bazar, the largest kitchen market in the capital.

It is the same scenario all over the country, according to traders.

Over in Pabna, shopkeepers are exploiting the situation by holding back on their stock of bottled and packaged soybean oil, whose labels come stamped with a maximum retail price, reports our correspondent.

They are instead nudging customers towards loose oil, whose price has been hiked.

In Chattogram, consumers are having to pay an additional Tk 8-10 for every litre of non-bottled soybean oil.

To navigate the reduced supplies from refiners, some supermarkets have started to limit the amount of cooking oil customers can buy.

For instance, each customer can buy a maximum of RELATED STORY ON B4 SEE PAGE 2 COL 6

TENTULTALA PLAYGROUND

'Uncle, please stop the work' Childrens' pleas fall on deaf ears

WASIM BIN HABIB

Inside the concrete jungle that Dhaka city has turned into, with buildings frequently sprouting up next to each other, the Tentultala playground has been a breathing space for residents of Kalabagan for decades.

For them, this small piece of land on Kalabagan's Lake Circus Road served as more than just a playground. It is the only open recreational space, covering around one bigha of land, in the area used for social, cultural and religious activities.

It is where locals stand shoulder to shoulder to perform Eid prayers or where they comfort each other during funeral prayers. It is where occasions like Independence Day, Victory Day and International Mother Language Day were celebrated together by them all.

The middle-aged came for their daily walks, teens dribbled the ball amongst themselves, some practised their bicycle skills, while kids from nearby buildings and slums dropped by every evening to live things up further.

NEWS ANALYSIS

But this open space -- a refuge from the daily grind of life -- will no longer be available for the locals as police, despite protests and repeated calls from residents, are continuing their construction of a new building for Kalabagan Police Station.

The police officials have appeared to be so rigid with their plan to occupy the ground that they even detained Syeda Ratna, a leader of the protests to save the Tentultala, along with her 17-year-old son.

The two were released 13 hours later after police faced a barrage of criticism for the detentions.

Eminent citizens, conservationists, green organisations and rights bodies have demanded that the government keep the ground open to all and stop the construction of a police station there.

However, nothing has worked as the construction work continued even yesterday amid police security and barbed wire boundaries.

Due to rapid population growth in the

SEE PAGE 2 COL 6



Not meant for anything but a playground

Architecture Dept forwarded proposal to the ministry concerned in 1980

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Tentultala, the playground in Kalabagan on which the Dhaka Metropolitan Police is currently building a police station, was proposed to be kept as a playground by the Department of Architecture in 1980.

On the suggestion of the then Dacca Municipal Corporation, the department wrote to the Ministry of Public Works and Urban Development to develop a children's park at the Tentultala playground.

The Daily Star obtained a copy of the letter which states, "This is a private residential area, has not left any space for common facilities like children's park, playground etc. ... The local people are very much interested in keeping the area as an open area and park for small children".

On January 31 this year, Dhaka Deputy Commissioner's Office handed over the playground to DMP to construct a building for Kalabagan Police Station. For several months, local residents have been demonstrating with the demand to keep it as it is for the sake of children.

According to the Playground, Open Spaces, Gardens, and Water Bodies Conservation Act 2000, no one can change the characteristics of a playground.

Yesterday, DMP said it had all permissions needed to construct the police station on the land.

In a 14-point statement sent to media, they said the government marked the 0.2 acre for sake of "public interest" to construct the police station.

It said the land is a government property and the housing and public works ministry was its custodian. After verifying all aspects, the district administration recommended the ministry of land to acquire the land for the police station.

In the process of land acquisition, they took NOCs from Rajuk and the Department of Environment. A local lawmaker also submitted a DO (Demi Official) letter to the home minister to set up a permanent police station on the playground to

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You're missed more and more each day
A year without you is almost too much to bear.

27 ARRIL 2021
IN LOVING MEMORY OF



DEEN MOHAMMAD
1938-2021

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US vows to move ‘heaven and earth’ to arm Ukraine

Moscow cites ‘real’ risk of nuclear war

AGENCIES

The United States yesterday vowed to move “heaven and earth” to help Ukraine win its battle against Russia’s unprovoked invasion, as allies from 40 nations met to bolster Kyiv’s defence against Moscow.

The meeting called by the US at its Ramstein airbase in southwestern Germany aims “to help Ukraine win the fight against Russia’s unjust invasion and to build up Ukraine’s defences for tomorrow’s challenges”, said Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin as he opened the talks.

“Ukraine clearly believes that it can win and so does everyone here,” he added.

The US is already the biggest supplier of international military aid to Ukraine and Austin said Washington is “going to keep moving heaven and earth so that we can meet” Kyiv’s needs.

At the talks, German Defence Minister Christine Lambrecht said Berlin has agreed to give the go-ahead to the delivery of used Gepard anti-aircraft tanks to Ukraine.

Lambrecht admitted that the Bundeswehr’s weapons stocks are limited, but said it will turn to the inventory of Germany’s armaments manufacturers, reports AFP.

Ukraine has been asking for heavy artillery and tanks to repel Russian forces trying to seize complete control of its vast southern plains and the eastern region of Donbas.

The war-ravaged country accused Russia of trying to create unrest in a Moscow-backed separatist region of ex-Soviet Moldova where recent blasts have raised fears of a spillover of the Ukraine conflict.

Meanwhile, Moscow accused Nato of engaging in a proxy battle against Russia by arming Ukraine, saying this had created a serious and real risk of nuclear war.



With Eid round the corner, people buy new notes in the capital’s Gulistan yesterday. Sale of fresh notes gathers pace ahead of the religious festival as people usually give children such notes as gifts for Eid. The bundles of new notes are sold at a mark-up of up to Tk 150.

PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON

Jaishankar may bring good news: Momen

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Indian External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar, expected to arrive tomorrow on a one-day visit, might carry good news, Foreign Minister AK Abdul Momen said yesterday.

“He may bring good news and surprise us. We don’t know exactly what that is... he will give a special message...,” he told reporters at the foreign ministry.

Quoting Indian Foreign Secretary Harsha Vardhan Shringla, the Indian media on Monday reported that Jaishankar would carry an invitation letter from Indian Premier Narendra Modi for Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina to visit India.

Indian Foreign Secretary Vinay Mohan Kwatra will accompany Jaishankar.

“This is good news. Relations between India and Bangladesh are very warm. We want continuous engagement with our neighbours... I am very happy that the Indian foreign minister is coming to Bangladesh. I welcome him.”

Jaishankar will call on Hasina and then hold a meeting with Momen.

Asked what would be on the agenda, Momen said they would discuss the dates of meetings of the Joint Consultative Commission and the Joint River Commission, as well as the long pending Teesta water agreement, border killings, and India’s imposition of anti-dumping duty on Bangladesh’s jute, among others.

Momen didn’t give a direct answer to a query on whether he had any conversation with Jaishankar on the US sanctions on Rab during his visit to Washington DC in early April when the Indian foreign minister was also visiting the US capital.

Following the US sanctions on December 10 last year, Bangladesh sought India’s help for its withdrawal and got assurance from New Delhi that it would raise the issue with the US, said Momen.

Asked how right it was for Dhaka to seek New Delhi’s help over the issue, Momen said, “...We consult on various issues.”

On US Ambassador Peter Haas’ clear articulation that there is no scope for repealing sanctions on Rab without accountability, he said, “That’s ok. We have already taken some steps.”

The US spoke about accountability and Bangladesh has an in-built mechanism for that, the minister pointed out.

He made mention of the 2014 seven murder case in Narayanganj where Rab members were involved, and said a number of Rab officials were executed following a court verdict while many lost jobs and got demoted.

“Such information does not reach them [US]. Those who oppose us only talk of the killings, not its context.”

Asked if the US is satisfied with Dhaka’s explanation, Momen said, “May be not yet, but they will in the future.”

On the issue of “Chinese debt trap” that has come into discussion with regard to Sri Lanka’s financial crisis, Momen said, “We hear you [journalists] talk about the Chinese debt trap. But later we find out that the things you talk about are imaginary.”

He said Chinese loans account for only 5-6 percent of Bangladesh’s total foreign loans, while the majority of loans from multilateral organisations like World Bank and Asian Development Bank. A large chunk of bilateral loans comes from Japan.

“We are very cautious about taking loans. We don’t borrow if the loan is not beneficial.”

About the US Commission on International Religious Freedom’s annual report that expressed deep concern over “deterioration” in religious freedom in Bangladesh and other South Asian countries, he said there is no discrimination when it comes to religious groups in Bangladesh.

“There may be some incidents but the government takes action.”



S Jaishankar

Bottlenecks look ominous

FROM PAGE 1

Launch services to the southern region may also face immense pressure amid safety concerns with river traffic set to multiply ahead of Eid.

Usually, 85 to 90 launches operate from Sadarghat a day. The number could reach 210-220 during the Eid rush with 10 lakh people expected to travel by launch.

Traffic congestion on major highways and ferry terminals is common ahead of Eid when thousands of people travel to their hometowns.

With almost no Covid restrictions in place, a greater number of people are expected to leave the capital and other cities after two years of pandemic-induced lull, experts and passenger welfare associations said.

They estimated that over 1.2 crore people are likely to leave Dhaka ahead of the

Eid, which will be on May 2 or 3, said Prof Hadiuzzaman, director of accident research institute of Buet.

The shortage of transport is likely to force many to travel by vehicles that cannot legally carry people, like trucks and pickups, and on rooftops of launches and trains.

BOTTLENECKS Construction work for a dedicated bus corridor between Dhaka airport and Gazipur has been causing congestion for the last few years.

Heavy traffic may cause jams, said Suvenkar Ghosh, joint secretary of Bangladesh Bus Truck Owners Association.

The authorities opened three major flyovers on the 70km section from Joydebpur in Gazipur to Elenga in Tangail on Monday. This will, hopefully, improve traffic movement.

But road expansion works on the 190km section from Elenga to Rangpur are feared to cause choke points.

The Bangabandhu bridge is considered the gateway to 16 northern districts. Besides, vehicles heading for six southern districts also use this bridge.

On a typical day, some 18,000 to 20,000 vehicles use the bridge. Eid rush may take the numbers to 50,000-60,000, according to highway police.

Travellers and transport operators say gridlocks on the west side of the bridge affects traffic on the east side.

However, the authorities opened two lanes of the under-construction Nalka bridge yesterday. It will be an addition to the existing two-lane bridge, said Waliur Rahman, project director of the expansion work.

Besides, there is a plan

to divert some vehicles in Elenga to a bypass road to Bangabandhu bridge.

The vehicles heading towards Dhaka will be diverted to Bhuapur road from the east end of the bridge to avert congestion, he added.

“We have tried our best to give alternatives. The situation will depend on proper traffic management,” he said.

FERRY TERMINALS

On an average, 4,000 vehicles cross the Padma via the Paturia-Daulatdia route using 17 to 18 ferries every day, said Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Corporation (BIWTC) officials.

During Eid, the authorities will add two more ferries. The number of vehicles is likely to double and cause long tailbacks near the terminals.

On the Shimulia-

Kathalbari route, ferry services have been operated on a limited scale since ferries have collided with Padma bridge pillars at least four times last year.

From the usual 600-700 small vehicles on this route, the number of vehicles may range between 3,500 and 4,000 ahead of Eid, Faysal Ahmmad, manager (commerce) of BIWTC’s Shimulia office, said recently.

No decision was made as of yesterday to raise the number of ferries.

Meanwhile, Road Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader yesterday said all necessary preparations were made to ensure a smooth Eid journey for people.

Our correspondents in Munshiganj, Manikganj, Tangail and Pabna contributed to the report.

they will have to stop the work.”

On Monday, Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan at a programme in Teigaon said he had asked the city corporation and others concerned to find an alternative place for Kalabagan Police Station.

If a suitable place for the station cannot be found, a decision would be made later upon discussions, he said.

But no such move was found from organisations like the Dhaka South City Corporation.

At present, a rented building on 30 North Road is being used as the police station.

Edible oil supply crunch has begun

FROM PAGE 1

5 litres of edible oil from Shwapno’s 56 stores across the country.

“I think the edible oil crisis will be over after Eid,” said Al Mamun, senior operations manager of Shwapno’s Panthapath outlet, which sells about 200 litres of edible oil a day.

For the last few days, the store is selling 100 litres from refiners.

The refiners though maintain they are supplying oil as normal.

“We are not doing anything like that,” said Biswajit Saha, director for

corporate and regulatory affairs at City Group, a leading oil refiner and importer.

Mohammad Dabirul Islam Didar, head of finance and Accounts at Bangladesh Edible Oil Limited, which sells the Rupchanda brand soybean oil, echoed the same.

“After Eid, we will sit with the government to discuss the supply situation,” he added.

The government is taking steps to increase palm oil imports from Malaysia as an alternative to Indonesia, which is the world’s biggest

exporter of the edible oil, as well as soybean oil imports from other countries, said Shafiquezzaman, who is also the director-general of the Directorate of National Consumer Rights Protection.

Malaysia, which accounts for 31 percent of global palm oil supply, second after Indonesia’s 56 percent, is unlikely to be able to fill the gap created by Indonesia as it is facing a labour shortage.

“We have already approached India as an alternative market for sunflower oil,” he added.

each ward, there should be at least over a dozen parks and play spaces in a single ward.

The situation in Dhaka, unfortunately, is dismal.

According to the draft Detailed Area Plan, 25 out of 75 wards under Dhaka South City Corporation, and 10 out of 55 wards under Dhaka North City Corporation do not have a single park or playground.

Psychologists warn that the inadequate playgrounds and subsequent absence of physical activity negatively impacts the mental and physical growth of the children as they have no space to play and interact with friends.

Kalabagan police’s move to construct the building also goes against existing law and directives given by the High Court and city mayors.

According to the Playground, Open Spaces, Gardens, and Water Bodies Conservation Act

2000, no one can change the characteristics of a playground.

The HC in a judgment in 2014 gave a specific directive for the Deputy Commissioner’s office to take action against any encroachment on open spaces or playgrounds.

DSCC Mayor Sheikh Fazle Noor Taposh recently announced he would build a playground in every ward.

However, before he could build one, an existing one is on the verge of obliteration.

The blatant refusal to respect public demands to save the playground as it is makes us wonder if no other place could be found for building their office. Do the local children’s future and wellbeing not matter to them anymore?

Even while construction continued yesterday, children of the area watched silently from a distance. One was suddenly heard saying, “Uncle...please stop the work.”

Khaleda’s graft case hearing adjourned

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday adjourned until June 13 the hearing on charge framing against Khaleda Zia and six others in the Barapukuria coal mine graft case.

A judge of the Special Judge’s Court-2 passed the order after a petition was filed with the court seeking adjournment, Khaleda’s lawyer Masud Ahmed Talukder told The Daily Star.

Khaleda is unwell and she was exempted earlier from having to appear at the court, said the lawyer.

Of the other accused, BNP leaders Altaf Hossain Chowdhury, Amir Khasru Mahmud Chowdhury and Khondaker Mosharraf Hossain were absent in the court, while two others were present.

On February 26, 2008, the Anti-Corruption Commission filed the case with Shahbagh Police Station, accusing 16 people including Khaleda and 10 of her former cabinet colleagues over misappropriating Tk 159 crore.

The ACC pressed charges against the accused on October 5 that year.

ASI stabbed by suspect’s wife

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barishal

An assistant sub-inspector of police was stabbed by the wife of a murder suspect in Bakerganj upazila of Barishal on Monday evening.

ASI Krishna Mitra was stabbed by Kulsum Begum when he went to her house in Bhatshala area to arrest her husband.

Kulsum was arrested and charged with attempted murder.

The injured officer, currently being treated at a hospital, said four other policemen who were with him at the time caught and disarmed the woman.

Sagar-Runi murder

probe gets 88th time

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday asked Rab to submit by June 7 the probe report in a case filed over the murders of journalist couple Sagar Sarowar and Meherun Runi.

Dhaka Metropolitan Magistrate Debdash Chandra Adhikary passed the order after the Rab officer investigating the case failed to submit the report for 88th time yesterday.

Sagar, news editor at Maasranga TV, and his wife Runi, a senior reporter at ATN Bangla, were killed in the early hours of February 11, 2012 in their flat at the capital’s West Razabazar.

4 killed by suicide bomber in Pakistan

AFP, Karachi

A woman suicide bomber from a Pakistan separatist group killed four people, including three Chinese nationals, in an attack on a minibus carrying staff from the Confucius Institute at Karachi University yesterday.

The Baloch Liberation Army -- one of several groups fighting for independence in Pakistan’s biggest province -- claimed responsibility, saying it was the first suicide attack by a woman assailant.



With human-hauliers taking up at least a third of the space, the road underneath Mayor Hanif flyover remains congested almost all the time. Even though there's a police box just nearby, the authorities seemed to have turned a blind eye to the situation. This photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN



Passing of a luminary
Prof Mohammad Shafi no more

DU CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka University's fisheries department was established in 1998. However, there was not enough space to hold classes with all the students. Classes used to be held at other departments till the department's founding chair Prof Mohammad Shafi took an initiative, solely on his own.

The DU authorities allotted money for a two-storey building, the construction of which was halted for 15 years after building the first floor. Prof Shafi thought that the building would soon fall inadequate to accommodate students or facilities like computer or research laboratories.

To finish the construction of the building, he gave the department Tk 70 lakh, out of his own pocket.

Such was his passion and conviction.

The venerated professor breathed his last yesterday

SEE PAGE 4 COL 6

Extorting money, trading arms right from jail

Using phones, incarcerated criminals controlling gang activities

MOHAMMAD JAMIL KHAN

It costs Tk 100 to make a three-minute phone call from jail anytime. That's not all. For the right amount – Tk 5,000 to 7,000 – any inmate can use a smartphone inside their cell for the whole night.

An inmate, who came out of jail in mid-March of this year, disclosed the rates to The Daily Star. He was in prison in a fraud case for around six months.

According to the findings of police's intelligence agency, many criminals and arms dealers have been running their extortion activities and illicit business right from jail.

For instance, Md Idul, leader of "Idul gang", who is now in Kashimpur high-security jail, is managing his extortion activities from there with the help of his associates.

A police high official, who has been keeping an eye on criminal groups over a decade, said Idul has been maintaining his syndicate using some associates, two of whom were identified as Gaza Selim and Arif Hasan.

In the latest, Idul's associates have extorted around Tk 2 lakh from a cable operator in the capital's Tikatuli, the official told this correspondent.

From jail, Idul has been communicating using the phone

number 01757599024.

In the app "Truecaller", the number showed the name "Eidul Vai", but it was found switched off when this correspondent tried

if any complaint is found to be true. We have strict vigilance and monitoring of any criminal activity, and no extortion has been reported to police yet," he

- » A 3-minute call from jail costs Tk 100
- » For using phone for whole night, Tk 5,000-7,000
- » CTTC found gang activities by analysing phone communication
- » Officially, inmates are only allowed to communicate for 10 minutes on phone per week

to contact yesterday.

Another of Idul's associates, Saidul, used to extort makeshift shops around Rajdhani Super Market, according to police and local sources.

Talking to this newspaper, a local Jubo League leader of Motijheel area said Idul's associates also extort makeshift shops in Motijheel. "Besides, his men also used to collect money from different contractors in Motijheel."

Asked about it, Shah Iltekhar Ahmed, deputy commissioner of Wari Division police, suggested communicating with police if anyone becomes a victim of any type of extortion.

"Stern action will be taken

SEE PAGE 4 COL 6



Once a member of the illegal arms syndicate is arrested, his family members take over the trade. We are carrying out drives to arrest the absconding members of the syndicate.

Ahamedul Islam
ADC of CTTC

NATIONAL BUDGET Allocate 10pc for the health sector: speakers

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Despite significant achievements in the health sector, Bangladesh is still lagging behind its neighbours in terms of the health budget. The country must allocate 10 percent of the budget to put an end to out-of-pocket expenditure for health services, said speakers in a webinar yesterday.

They came up with the suggestion at the event titled "National Dialogue on Health Budget" organised by Unnayan Samannay and Bangladesh Health Watch, ahead of setting the new national budget in June.

Dr Atiur Rahman, chairperson of Unnayan Samannay, in his keynote presentation, said the percentage of allocation is revolving around five percent, even in the "post-Covid-19" period. Bangladesh spends 2.5 percent of its GDP on health, the lowest in South Asia.

"We propose the allocation be at least 10 percent of the budget, and the expenditure capacity of the development budget must be enhanced. On average, half of the development budget remains unused," he said.

Referring to a Bangladesh Statistical Bureau survey, the former Bangladesh Bank governor said when they looked into the survey, the inadequacy of allocation was obvious.

"In a survey done in 2016, 12 percent of sick or injured patients didn't get any health service. It's 17 percent in remote areas, while in four cities, it's 23 percent. Only 17 percent of out-patients went

- RECOMMENDATIONS
- » Decentralise healthcare system
 - » Boost allocation for primary healthcare by 30pc
 - » Ensure 25pc allocation of health budget for medicine
 - » Bring remote areas under healthcare

to government facilities, while 43 percent of in-patients resorted to non-governmental facilities for treatment," he said.

He suggested boosting allocation for primary healthcare by 30 percent, as a large percentage of people avail of the service.

"Out-of-pocket expenditure will significantly go down if 25 percent allocation of the total health budget is ensured [for drugs]," he suggested.

Given the global and internal challenges facing the national economy, he said it would not be right to cut the health budget.

AFM Ruhul Haque, former health minister and lawmaker of the Awami League, said the health ministry cannot spend the allocated budget, as it was not taught how to do so. It needs to get trained for better expenditure.

Those who work with the health economy must come to cadre service, and decentralisation

SEE PAGE 4 COL 6



A man tries out a cap (tupi) at a shop, holding up a mirror to see if it's the one that he'll get for Eid. With the festival just a few days away, people are rushing to finish their last-minute purchases. This photo was taken near Baitul Mukarram National Mosque in Dhaka yesterday.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN


Khairuzzaman seeks safety of his life Writes to Human Rights Commission of Malaysia

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT


Former Bangladesh High Commissioner to Malaysia, M Khairuzzaman, has appealed to Human Rights Commission of Malaysia, seeking safety of his life, arguing that Bangladesh government is making fresh attempts to bring him back home and punish him for no reason.

"Mr Khairuzzaman is afraid that the Bangladesh government is trying to take him back. He thinks he will be punished for no reason if he is taken to Bangladesh, and thus appealed for our help," Jerald Joseph, commissioner of Malaysia's Human Rights

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Bangladesh Land Port Authority
TCB Bhaban (5th Floor)
Kawran Bazar, Dhaka-1215
Memo No. 18.15.0000.023.14.138.21-418
Dated: 25/04/2022



e-Tender Notice

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 of following Package from the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through and registered bank's branches.

Sl. No.	Name of work	Tender ID	Last date & time of submission documents	Tender/proposal opening date & time
1.	Construction of Building, Toilet Complex, Main Gate and Gate House under the Project "Construction of Cargo Vehicle Terminal at Benapole Land Port".	675849	24.05.2022 14:00pm	24/05/2022 15:30pm
2.	Construction, Installation, Testing and Commissioning 100 MT Digital System Road Vehicle Weighbridge Scales at Cargo Vehicle Terminal in Benapole Land Port, Jashore.	689169	25.05.2022 15:00pm	25/05/2022 16:00pm
3.	Construction of Watch tower and External Electrification for the Project "Construction of Cargo Vehicle Terminal at Benapole Land Port".	681473	24.05.2022 12:00pm	24/05/2022 14:30pm

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

Md. Mostafa Kamal Mazumder
Member (Admin & Finance)
&
Project Director (Additional Secretary)
'Construction of Cargo Vehicle Terminal at Benapole Land Port' Project
Phone: 02-55013955

GD-852



বাংলাদেশ শিশু হাসপাতাল ও ইনস্টিটিউট
(সাবেক ঢাকা শিশু হাসপাতাল)
শেরেবাংলা নগর, ঢাকা-১২০৭



সংশোধনী বিজ্ঞপ্তি
এতদ্বারা সংশ্লিষ্ট সকলের অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাইতেছে যে, গত ২৫/০৪/২০২২ইং তারিখে বাংলাদেশ শিশু হাসপাতাল ও ইনস্টিটিউট এর “দৈনিক গণমুক্তি” এবং “The Daily Star” পত্রিকায় একটি নোটিশ প্রকাশিত হয়। উক্ত নোটিশে নিম্নে উল্লেখিত তথ্যাদি/শর্তাবলী সংশোধন ও সংযোজন করা হইল।

সংশোধিত শর্তাবলীঃ

পূর্বের শর্তাবলী		নতুন শর্তাবলী	
08.	Last date and time for submission of application Documents 05/05/2022 and 12:00pm	08.	Last date and time for submission of application Documents 12/05/2022 and 12:00pm

পরিচালক
GD-855 বাংলাদেশ শিশু হাসপাতাল ও ইনস্টিটিউট

Five killed
FROM PAGE 5
Habibur Rahman (21), a student of Shyamoly Polytechnic Institute, was killed after his bike collided with a vehicle.
Meanwhile, two people were killed and another was injured in a road accident on Dhaka-Khulna Highway in Mechordia area under Madhukhali upazila in Faridpur.
The deceased were identified as Rubia Begum (55) and Kamal Sheikh (65).
Quoting locals, Kingkon Kumar Biswas, Karimpur Highway Police Station OC, said, “The accident took place when a Dhaka-bound bus hit a rickshaw-van, the three were on, from behind. Police seized the bus but the driver managed to flee, said the OC.

First death anniversary of Habiba Begum
STAFF CORRESPONDENT
Today marks the first death anniversary of Habiba Begum, mother of journalist MA Bakir, a member of Dhaka Reporter's Unity and Dhaka Union of Journalists.
After battling cancer for nine months, she passed away last year at a hospital in Moghbazar. She was buried in the Azimpur graveyard.
She left behind her husband, two sons and two daughters. Bakir requested all to pray for the salvation of the departed soul.



Extorting money, trading arms
FROM PAGE 3
He was found using three phone numbers – 01608668491, 01919512089 and 01829859120.
Using these numbers, he communicated with his associates and one of his associates' relative on March 24, March 18 and March 12. This newspaper found all the numbers switched off.
During the phone conversations, Ali Akbar mentioned “Dhanabi”, the niece of illegal arms dealer Lal Tan Pankhoa in Rangamati.
Lal Tan, head of Saichal Pankhoa community in Rangamati, was also arrested with Akbar. Akbar asked his associates to collect something from Dhanabi, said an official of CTTC, quoting analysis details.
“We are now analysing the communication details and locating Akbar's other associates,” said the official, requesting anonymity.
Akbar was mainly responsible for smuggling 9mm pistols and AK-47 rifles from a hill district and delivering those to one Hossain, the official said. Akbar has a network of around a dozen people, including a Rohingya from a Cox's Bazar camp, for running the illegal trade.
Ahamedul Islam, additional deputy commissioner of CTTC, said, “Once a member of the illegal arms syndicate is arrested, his family members take over the trade. We are carrying out drives to arrest the absconding members of the syndicate.”
The Daily Star tried to communicate with the inspector general of prisons, but he did not respond.
Abdul Jalil, senior jail superintendent of Kashimpur high security jail, told this newspaper yesterday that there is no scope of using phones from jail.” About the police findings, Jalil suggested informing the jail authority.
“We only allow inmates to communicate with their relatives for 10 minutes using mobile phones once in a week, as specified by the government, and our staff remain present during conversations,” he added.

Passing of a luminary
FROM PAGE 3
He was laid to rest at Mirpur Martyred Intellectuals' Graveyard.
DU VC Prof Md Akhtaruzzaman expressed deep shock at the death.
Prof Shafi was a pioneer of fisheries research. He has written five research books, a biography and 70 published journal articles.
He was appointed as a supernumerary professor at DU's fisheries department and later served as an honorary professor.
Born on July 22, 1939 at Bogura's Santahar, he set up the “Abdul Latif Student Scholarship Welfare Fund” at Santahar BP School, and “Amena Khatun Female Student Welfare Fund” in Ahsanullah Institution.
He also founded “Professor Mohammad Shafi Trust Fund Fellowship”, for the toppers of the fisheries department, at both BSc and MSc levels at DU.

Allocate 10pc for the health
FROM PAGE 3
country's health services are curative, while they should be preventative.
He suggested bringing changes in community-health services at the grassroots.
Binayak Sen, director general of Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies, suggested pockets of remote areas be identified to bring them under healthcare facilities.




EXPORT IMPORT BANK OF BANGLADESH LIMITED
GENERAL SERVICES DIVISION, HEAD OFFICE
SYMPHONY, Plot # SE(F):9, Road # 142
Gulshan Avenue, Dhaka-1212, Phone: 55045547

Tender Notice for Supplying Cleaner, Security Guard & Gardener
Sealed price quotations are hereby invited from the bona fide & experienced firms/suppliers for supplying Cleaner, Security Guard & Gardener for EXIM Tower. The intending firms/suppliers must have previous experience with Bank, multinational company, corporate organization etc.
Tender Schedule for supplying the above items may collect from General Services Division, Head Office, Dhaka during office hours as per following time frame:

SI No	Particulars	Tender Schedule Available on office Hour & Submission date	Schedule Price (Non refundable)	Earnest Money will be asked (Refundable)
1.	Cleaner	Up to 12.05.2022	Tk. 1000/- on PO/DD	Tk. 1,00,000.00
2.	Security Guard	Up to 12.05.2022	Tk. 1000/- on PO/DD	Tk. 1,00,000.00
3.	Gardener	Up to 12.05.2022	Tk. 1000/- on PO/DD	Tk. 1,00,000.00

For assessing the area of EXIM Tower, a visit will be made on May 10, 2022 at 11.00 am sharply.
The quotation along with details company profile, experience certificate, rate/price and earnest money as specified in the respective tender schedule are to be dropped in the tender Box kept at General Services Division, Head Office, Dhaka as on due date.
Bank reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the quotations without assigning any reason whatsoever and not bound to accept the lowest quotation.
Kazi Nesar Uddin Ahamed
Senior Vice President
General Services Division



AB Bank

PRICE SENSITIVE INFORMATION
The Board of Directors of AB Bank Limited (ABBL) in its 732nd Meeting held on **April 26, 2022 (Tuesday)** made the following decisions:
1. Adopted Annual Audited Financial Statements for the year 2021 and holding 40th Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Bank:
The Board declared the following financial indicators of the Bank (ABBL) in compliance with Regulation no. 19 of Dhaka Stock Exchange (Listing) Regulations 2015 and Chittagong Stock Exchange (Listing) Regulations 2015.

Financial Highlights	AB Bank Limited (Consolidated)		AB Bank Limited (Solo)	
	2021	2020	2021	2020
Taka in Crore				
Profit Before Tax & Provision (PBTP)	662.02	665.22	613.29	646.70
Profit After Tax (PAT)	71.68	39.43	64.14	39.14
Net Asset Value (NAV)	2,556.43	2,567.72	2,430.74	2,448.69
Amount in Taka				
Earnings Per Share (EPS)	0.86	0.47	0.77	0.47
Net Operating Cash Flow Per Share (NOCFPS)	3.04	(4.39)	3.60	(4.58)
Net Asset Value Per Share (NAVPS)	30.59	30.72	29.08	29.30

Board also considered and approved the Audited Financial Statements for the year ended December 31, 2021 and recommended below:
A. Cash Dividend: 2%
B. Stock Dividend: 3%

- a) Bonus shares have been declared to increase the Paid-up Capital of the Bank and the retained amount will be used to strengthen the capital base which will help the Bank to increase business capacity.
- b) Bonus shares is declared out of current year's profit.
- c) Bonus shares is not declared from capital reserve or revaluation reserve or any unrealized gain or out of profit earned to incorporation of the company or through reducing paid up capital or through doing anything so that the post dividend retained earnings become negative or debit balance.

The Board also decided to hold the 40th Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Bank as per below schedule:

Record Date	May 24, 2022 (Tuesday)
Day, Date & Time of AGM	Wednesday, July 06, 2022 at 11:30 am
Venue of AGM	Hybrid system: Physical presence and by using Digital Platform i) Meeting venue: Pan Pacific Sonargaon, Dhaka ii) Web-link for joining AGM through digital platform will be notified later on

Dated: Dhaka, April 26, 2022
By Order of the Board
AB Bank Limited
The Skymark, 18 Gulshan Avenue, Gulshan-1, Dhaka-1212
www.abbl.com
Sd/-
Md. Jasim Uddin, ACS
Company Secretary (In-Charge)

Khairuzzaman
FROM PAGE 3
Commission, told this correspondent on phone yesterday.
K h a i r u z z a m a n alleged that he is facing a corruption case back in Bangladesh, and it was filed with ulterior motives, he said.
Joseph said the commission would engage with the Malaysian government and other actors to make sure that Khairuzzaman is not deported to Bangladesh and that his safety is ensured.
The appeal came two weeks after Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) filed a case, accusing Khairuzzaman of amassing over Tk 1.58 crore during his tenure as high commissioner to Malaysia from September 2007 to February 2009.
According to the case filed on April 13, he misappropriated the said amount in the name of various expenditures, including purchase of household items, travel, maintenance, fuel, house rent, medical bill, postage, AC repairs, telephone, children's air passage, etc.
Khairuzzaman, who was an accused in a jail killing case of 1975, was acquitted by the lower court in 2004. The acquittal was upheld by the High Court and Appellate Division.
In 2007, he was appointed high commissioner to Malaysia. The Awami League government recalled him in 2009, but he did not come back in fear of persecution and has since been living in Malaysia with refugee status.
Malaysian Immigration Department had arrested him on February 9 this year.
Malaysian Home Minister Hamzah Zainudin then said the arrest was made after a request from Bangladesh.
He was released after five days following a legal case.

Danish crown
FROM PAGE 5
the nature at the camp.
She also met residents of Ukhlya's Rajapalang union. Refugee, Relief and Repatriation Commissioner Shah Rezwan Hayat welcomed the princess upon her arrival at the camp. She is scheduled to visit Satkhira today to meet the climate-vulnerable people.

Another haor
FROM PAGE 5
superintendent engineer of WDB in Sunamganj, said, “We are now trying to block the entry of water, so that the water level in the haor does not increase.”
Bimol Chandra Ghosh, deputy director of DAE in Sunamganj, said, “It will take two more days before the haor floods completely and submerges the remaining paddy in 500 hectares. Twenty combine harvesters and hundreds of people are working there to save the harvest.”
“We are hopeful that we will be able to save most of them [paddy],” he added.




Save the Children


Save the Children is the world's leading, independent organisation for children
Invitation for Tender
Save the Children International (SCI) is hereby inviting the tender from interested manufacturers/ authorized dealers/ experienced and bona fide vendors for Suchana Final Evaluation.
For details please see the ITT schedule, which is available on <http://procurement.scibd.info/> under tender notification. Downloaded copy is acceptable for tender participation.

Description, Submission Time & Date:				
SL	Name of IFT	Reference No.	Pre-Tender Meeting Schedule and Place	Last date of Tender Submission
1	Suchana Final Evaluation as per ToR	IFT/SCI/BDCO/ FY- 22/(Manual)/06	3:00 PM (BST) on May 12, 2022 https://zoom.us/j/9843493551?pwd=cE1BbHY4LlNBZWY1djdjO3dzNzRkdz09	2:30 PM (BST) on May 30, 2022

Special Instruction: a) All activities in connection with the said procurement of Goods/Services will be guided as per the SCI's Procurement Policies. b) If it is not possible to receive & open the tender on the scheduled date for any unavoidable circumstances, the same will be received and opened on the following working date at same time and same place.
Senior Manager, Procurement & Supply Chain



Bangladesh Industrial Technical Assistance Center (BITAC)
Ministry of Industries
Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
116(kha), Tejgaon Industrial Area, Dhaka-1208
Website: <http://www.bitac.gov.bd>
Ref No. 36.06.2692.026.37.028.22/ Date: 13 Boishakh, 1429 Bn.
26 April, 2022 En.



e-Tender Notice (OTM)
Following tenders are invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<https://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of goods details in the table.

Tender ID No.	Package No.	Description of goods	Last selling & time	Closing date & time	Opening date & time
690280	BITAC.PUR.202 1-22 GR-32 Lot-01	Procurement of Ultrasonic Flaw Detector Machine.	24-5-2022 11:59pm	25-5-2022 12:00pm	25-5-2022 12:00pm
690281	BITAC.PUR.202 1-22 GR-32 Lot-03	Procurement of Vertical Milling Machine.	24-5-2022 11:59pm	25-5-2022 12:00pm	25-5-2022 12:00pm
690282	BITAC.PUR.202 1-22 GR-32 Lot-04	Procurement of Screw Type Injection Moulding Machine.	24-5-2022 11:59pm	25-5-2022 12:00pm	25-5-2022 12:00pm
690283	BITAC.PUR.202 1-22 GR-32 Lot-02	Procurement of C-Type Mechanical power press machine.	24-5-2022 11:59pm	25-5-2022 12:00pm	25-5-2022 12:00pm
690284	BITAC.PUR.202 1-22 GR-32 Lot-05	Procurement of Universal U2 Cutter Grinding Machine.	24-5-2022 11:59pm	25-5-2022 12:00pm	25-5-2022 12:00pm

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 e-GP System Portal (<https://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 branches.
Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP helpdesk (helpdesk: <https://www.eprocure.gov.bd>).
The procurement entity reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders.
Md. Tofayel Hossain Khan
Purchase Officer
BITAC, Dhaka
for Director General
Phone: 02-55030055
E-mail: purchasedhaka@bitac.gov.bd
GD-849

No gas for 48 hours in Savar from 10:00pm on Eid day

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Savar

Gas supply to all customers in Savar will remain suspended for 48 hours -- from 10:00pm on Eid day.

Titas Gas Transmission and Distribution Company Limited has decided to suspend gas supply to repair the transmission lines, according to officials.

Abu Sadat Mohammad Sayem, managing engineer of Titas Gas in Savar, confirmed the development.

He said the supply of gas to all types of customers would be halted for 48 hours. There will be less pressure in all areas during the Eid.

Taking everything into account, the mentioned time and date have been selected for transmission line repair, he added.

He further said a notice has been issued in this regard.

Meanwhile, Mohammad Abdur Rahim, managing engineer of Titas Gas in Manikganj, said the same situation will prevail in Manikganj and Dhamrai as well for the repair work.

PRAYER TIMING

APRIL 27

Fazr	Zohr	Asr	Maghrib	Esha
AZAN 4-08	12-45	4-45	6-29	8-00
JAMAAT 4-18	1-15	5-00	6-39	8-30

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

SEHRI, IFTAR TIMING

RAMADAN	APRIL	SEHRI	IFTAR
25	27		6:29
26	28	4:02	6:29
27	29	4:01	6:30



Farmers claimed that almost half the paddy in 5,220 hectares of land is at risk, as that much harvested paddy was gathered in Halir haor, waiting to be transported.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

Another haor inundated after dyke breach

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

After Chhayar Haor in Sunamganj's Derai upazila, Halir Haor in Jamalganj upazila is next in line to be submerged, as the dyke in Ahsanmara area in the upazila got damaged on Monday night.

The Department of Agriculture Extension (DAE) claimed that only paddy on 500 hectares out of 5,220 hectares is at risk, but most of them will be harvested before the haor is completely flooded.

However, farmers claimed that almost half the paddy of 5,220 hectares is at risk, as that much harvested paddy was

gathered in the haor, waiting to be transported.

"My 350-mound harvested paddy was stacked in the haor and washed away in a few hours, after the dyke broke and water from Boulai river entered," said Mohibur Rahman, a farmer.

Sobun Nesa, an elderly farmer, said, "All of my harvest in four-bigha land has been washed away. I don't know what to feed my family."

Farmers said the rice variant BRRI-29 is mostly harvested in the haor, which takes longer than BRRI-28, and they just started harvesting and stacking the paddy in the haor.

They claimed that the negligence of Water Development Board and the Project Implementation Committee (PIC) was behind their loss, as they did not listen when farmers informed them of the deteriorated condition of the dyke.

This correspondent could not contact PIC's president Mohibur Rahman, as his contact number was found switched off.

Jamalganj UNO Bishwajit Deb said, "For more than 20 days, water was entering through the mud-made dyke, which became weaker and developed many holes."

Prabir Kumar Goshwami, a

SEE PAGE 4 COL 5



All of my harvest in 4-bigha land has been washed away. I don't know what to feed my family now.

Farmer
Sobun Nesa

Five killed in road accidents

STAR REPORT

At least five people were killed in road accidents in Chattogram and Faridpur yesterday.

In Chattogram, Isa Ruhul (38) and Daud Hasan (38) were killed in front of Public Health Engineering Office on Rangamati-Chattogram Road when their motorbike collided with a CNG-run auto-rickshaw.

ASP Mahmuda Begum of Rangamati police said the two were declared dead at a city hospital.

The deceased used to work for an intelligence agency, she added. In another accident in front of the port city's Double Mooring Police Station,

SEE PAGE 4 COL 4

Danish crown princess visits Rohingya camp

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Cox's Bazar

Crown Princess Mary Elizabeth of Denmark visited the displaced people of the Rohingya community at Kutupalang Rohingya camp in Cox's Bazar's Ukhiya yesterday.

During her visit, she talked to community leaders, who shared the sufferings and oppression brought upon them by the Myanmar army.

The crown princess also observed a tree plantation initiative taken by Danish Refugee Council (DRC) to prevent hill sliding and protect

SEE PAGE 4 COL 5



Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Chief Engineer
Health Engineering Department (HED)
Ministry of Health & Family Welfare
105-106, Motijheel, C/A, Dhaka-1000
www.hed.gov.bd

Memo No. 45.02.0000.001.14.008.22-85 Dated: 26/04/2022

e-Tender Notice

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

Sl No.	e-Tender ID No.	Package No.	Description of work	Last date & time of selling tender document	Tender closing date & time
1.	662192	WD-1.11/DPP-SSKMCH-GOB-HED	Remaining work of Construction of Nursing College-Academic Building, Hostel Building, Principal Quarter, Teachers Quarter, Staff Quarter etc. under the Project named Establishment of Sheikh Sayera Khatun Medical College, Medical College Hospital and Nursing College, Gopalganj (2nd Revised)	24-05-2022 17:00	25-05-2022 15:00

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 Bank's branches.

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

Brigadier General Bashir Ahmed, ndc, psc
Chief Engineer
E-mail: tedhga@yahoo.com

GD-857

Drive to protect Ichamati resumes

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

An eviction drive to demolish illegal establishments on the banks of Ichamati river resumed yesterday after getting clearance from the High Court.

The HC on Sunday ordered the eviction of illegal establishments set up by 43 influential persons in four moujas. It also dismissed the petition seeking rectification of the verdict.

"After getting the order, we have started the drive from Singa mouja," said Md Mosharaf Hossain, assistant director (land and revenue) of the Water Development Board.

"We resumed the drive several times but were stopped because of the HC stay orders following the petition by the grabbers," said Mosharaf.

Earlier, the eviction and dredging work in Ichamati began on March 15 last year but were halted after the grabbers filed petitions against the drive.

WDB has already identified over 1,100 illegal structures on both sides of the river, owing to a Buet study.

RCC to turn organic waste into compost

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

Rajshahi City Corporation is considering the possibility of manufacturing compost from the city's organic waste, a plan that has been long overdue due to a lack of funds.

ACI Agribusiness recently offered RCC to volunteer in arranging funds for the project and procure the produced compost at a low cost.

RCC will ask ACI Agribusiness and Probha Aurora, a social entrepreneur, to set up a pilot plant for a year's trial next month, said Sheikh Md Mamun, RCC chief conservancy officer. The city corporation deals with some 300 tonnes of waste daily. Some 80 percent of the wastes are organic, capable of generating around 50 tonnes of compost.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Govt. Sundarban Adarsha College
231, Khan Jahan Ali Road, Khulna
Website: www.gsac.edu.bd

Memo No. GSAC/Goods/CEDP/2021-2022/G-11/132 Date: 26/04/2022

e-Tender Notice 03/2021-2022

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

Sl. No.	Tender ID No.	Name of works	Last date and time of tender security submission	Tender closing date & time
1.	691927	Supply and Installation of 50 KVA Diesel Generator & 2 Ton Air Conditioner (AC) of Govt. Sundarban Adarsha College, Khulna	19-May-2022 13:00	19-May-2022 14:00

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 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 **18-May-2022 4.00pm**.

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

Professor Masuda Sultana-9111
Principal
Govt. Sundarban Adarsha College, Khulna
Phone: 02477721915
E-mail: govt.sundarban.ac@gmail.com

GD-859

Government of the people's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Executive Engineer,
Dhaka PWD Division-IV, 15 Abdul Gani Road, Dhaka
Phone No: (02)-223388778 Fax-(02)- 223388778.

e-Tender Notice (OTM)

E-Tender is invited in the National e-GP Portal (<https://www.eprocure.gov.bd/>) for the procurement of the following works:

Sl No.	Tender ID	Invitation Reference Number (IFT No.)	Last Selling Date & Time	Closing and Opening Date & Time
1	690400	247/F/D-IV/V of 2021-2022	17-May-2022 14:00	18-May-2022 15:00
2	691562	242/D-IV/R of 2021-2022	09-May-2022 14:00	09-May-2022 15:00
3	691581	214/D-IV/V of 2021-2022	09-May-2022 14:00	09-May-2022 15:00
4	691602	206/D-IV/R of 2021-2022	09-May-2022 14:00	09-May-2022 15:00
5	691621	254/D-IV/V1 of 2021-2022	09-May-2022 14:00	09-May-2022 15:00
6	691631	255/App/D-IV/R of 2021-2022	09-May-2022 14:00	09-May-2022 15:00
7	691913	256/D-IV/R of 2021-2022	17-May-2022 14:00	18-May-2022 15:00
8	691976	257/F/D-IV/V1 of 2021-2022	09-May-2022 14:00	09-May-2022 15:00
9	691999	258/F/D-IV/V1 of 2021-2022	09-May-2022 14:00	09-May-2022 15:00
10	690372	250/D-IV/V of 2021-2022	09-May-2022 14:00	09-May-2022 15:00
11	689649	251/D-IV/R of 2021-2022	09-May-2022 14:00	09-May-2022 15:00

This is an online Tender, where e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit Tender registration in the e-GP System Portal (<https://www.eprocure.gov.bd/>) is required. This notice is also available in www.pwd.gov.bd.

The fees for downloading the e-Tender documents from the National e-GP system Portal have to be deposited online through any e-GP registered bank's branches up to date & time mentioned in respective Tender. Further information and guideline are available in the National e-GP Portal and from e-GP helpdesk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd)

Md. Mahabubur Rahman
Executive Engineer
Dhaka PWD Division-IV, Dhaka

GD-856

Chittagong Dry Dock Limited
Bangladesh Navy
East Patenga, Chattogram, Bangladesh
Phone: +88(031)2501117, Mobile: +8801769744452
Fax: +880-31-2501123, F-mail: commerce@cddl.gov.bd, Website: www.cddl.gov.bd
23.02.1565.341.53.006.22.168 Dated: 26 April 2022

Invitation for Open Tender

01.	Procuring entity name	Chittagong Dry Dock Ltd.
02.	Invitation for	Purchase of High Pressure water Jet Blasting (Hydro Blasting) Machine-01 Set. Note: Detail Technical Specifications Mentioned on Schedule
03.	Invitation Reference No.	23.02.1565.341.53.006.22.169 Date: 26 April 2022
04.	Procuring method	Open tender.
05.	Submission of tender documents	02 (two) envelopes submission to be followed. Financial documents in 01 (one) envelope and Technical documents in other envelope. Both the envelopes to be sealed in covering envelope.
06.	Budget & source of funds	Own finance of Chittagong Dry Dock Ltd.
07.	Tender last selling date (office time only)	26 April 2022 to 14 June 2022 at 12.00pm.
08.	Tender closing date and time	14 June 2022 at 12.15pm.
09.	Tender opening date & time	14 June 2022 at 12.30pm.
10.	Name and address of the office(s) for selling, receiving and opening of tender documents:	a. Selling tender document (1) Cash Section, Accounts Department, Chittagong Dry Dock Ltd, Bangladesh Navy, East Patenga, Chattogram. b. Receiving tender document Purchase & Commerce Department, Chittagong Dry Dock Ltd. c. Opening tender document (1) Chittagong Dry Dock Ltd, Bangladesh Navy, East Patenga, Chattogram. (2) Tenderers' and their authorized representatives are allowed to attend.
11.	Price of tender document	2,000 (two thousand) Tk (non-refundable).
12.	Contact details	Mobile: +8801769744452, E-mail: commerce@cddl.gov.bd Fax: 880-31-2501123
13.	Special instructions	The procuring entity reserves the right to reject all or any tenders prior to acceptance without showing any reason.

Head of Commerce Department
For Managing Director

GD-853

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Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Local Government Engineering Department
Office of the Upazila Engineer
Chowhali, Sirajgonj
www.lged.gov.bd

শেখ হাসিনার মূলনীতি
এম শহরের উন্নতি

Memo No. 46.02.8827.000.07.001.21.241 Date: 26.04.2022

e-Tender Notice-03/202-22

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

Sl No.	ID Reference/Package No.	Name of work	Tender document last selling date and time	Tender closing date and time
01.	APP ID: 180936 e-Tender/PEDP4/SRJ/ CHO/2021-22/W2.03511. TID: 669458	Construction of classroom Kurki Moddha Para Govt. Primary School under PEDP-4.	24-May-2022 Time: 04:00pm	25-May-2022 Time: 02:00pm

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 1:00pm, Date: 25 May/2020. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

Md. Shakhawat Hossain
Upazila Engineer
Upazila: Chowhali, District: Sirajgonj
E-mail: ue.chowhali@lged.gov.bd

GD-848

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of Executive Engineer
Education Engineering Department
Netrokona

Memo No. 37.07.7200.008.07.002(44/45).21-1860 Date: 26/03/2022

e-Tender Notice No. 44/2021-2022

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of the following works under EED Netrokona as mentioned below:

SL No.	Package No.	Name of works	Tendering method	Tender ID	Last date and time of selling documents	Tender closing date/time	Tender opening date/time
1	WD-B	Repair & Renovation Works at Shohid Smriti College under Mohongonj Upazila Netrokona District.	OTM	691617	11/05/2022 15:00	12/05/2022 13:00	12/05/2022 13:00

e-Tender Notice No. 45/2021-2022

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of the following works under EED Netrokona as mentioned below:

SL No.	Package No.	Name of works	Tendering method	Tender ID	Last date and time of selling documents	Tender closing date/time	Tender opening date/time
1	WD-1/ 2018-19	Construction of Sub Assistant Engineer Office Cum Rest House under Durgapur Upazila Netrokona District.	OTM	691616	11/05/2022 15:00	12/05/2022 13:00	12/05/2022 13:00
	WD-3/ 2019-20	Construction of Shohid Minir at Durgapur Govt. Girls High School under Durgapur Upazila Netrokona District (2019-2020).	OTM	691629	11/05/2022 15:00	12/05/2022 13:00	12/05/2022 13:00

This is an online tender where only e-GP Tender will be acceptable in the National e-GP System 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. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tender(s) without assigning any reason whatsoever.

Monzurul Alam Sharif
Executive Engineer
Education Engineering Department
Netrokona
Email: ee_net@eedmoe.gov.bd

GD-850

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার
স্থানীয় সরকার প্রকৌশল অধিদপ্তর
নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলীর কার্যালয়
জামালপুর
www.lged.gov.bd

উন্নয়নের গণতন্ত্র
শেখ হাসিনার মূলমন্ত্র

স্মারক নং-৬৪.০২.৩৯০০.০০০.০৭.০০১.২১-১০৬৮ তারিখঃ ২৫/০৪/২০২২ইং

নিয়োগ বিজ্ঞপ্তি

এতদ্বারা শেখ হাসিনা সাংস্কৃতিক পল্লী জামালপুর এর জন্য নিম্নলিখিত অস্থায়ী পদসমূহে বাংলাদেশের প্রকৃত নাগরিকদের নিকট হতে দরখাস্ত আহবান করা যাচ্ছে।

ক্রঃ নং	পদের নাম	পদ সংখ্যা	সর্বসাকুল্যে মাসিক বেতন (জনপ্রতি)	সর্বোচ্চ বয়সসীমা	শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতা ও অভিজ্ঞতা
১	মহাব্যবস্থাপক	০১	৪০০০০.০০	৪৫ বছর	স্নাতক বা সমমানের ডিগ্রী এবং অনুরূপ পদে কমপক্ষে ০৫ (পাঁচ) বছরের চাকুরীর অভিজ্ঞতা থাকতে হবে।
২	সহকারী মহাব্যবস্থাপক	০২	৩০০০০.০০	৩৫ বছর	বীকৃত বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় হইতে স্নাতক বা সমমানের ডিগ্রী।
৩	উপ-সহকারী প্রকৌশলী (তড়িৎ)	০১	৩০০০০.০০	৩৫ বছর	তড়িৎ প্রকৌশলে ডিপ্লোমা ডিগ্রী।
৪	উপ-সহকারী প্রকৌশলী (যান্ত্রিক)	০১	৩০০০০.০০	৩৫ বছর	যন্ত্র প্রকৌশলে ডিপ্লোমা ডিগ্রী।
৫	হিসাবরক্ষক	০১	২০০০০.০০	৩৫ বছর	বীকৃত বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় হইতে বাণিজ্য বিভাগে স্নাতক বা সমমানের ডিগ্রী।
৬	কেয়ার টেকার/মার্কেট সুপারভাইজার	০১	১৫০০০.০০	৩৫ বছর	বীকৃত বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় হইতে স্নাতক বা সমমানের ডিগ্রী।
৭	কাউন্টার মাস্টার	০২	১৫০০০.০০	৩৫ বছর	উচ্চ মাধ্যমিক সার্টিফিকেট বা সমমানের পরীক্ষায় উত্তীর্ণ।
৮	অফিস সহায়ক/রিসিপিশনিষ্ট	০৪	১২০০০.০০	৩৫ বছর	উচ্চ মাধ্যমিক সার্টিফিকেট বা সমমানের পরীক্ষায় উত্তীর্ণ।
৯	নিরাপত্তা প্রহরী	১৫	১২০০০.০০	৩৫ বছর	অষ্টম শ্রেণী বা জুনিয়র স্কুল সার্টিফিকেট পরীক্ষায় উত্তীর্ণ।
১০	সুইপার	০৪	১০০০০.০০	৩৫ বছর	পঞ্চম শ্রেণী বা প্রাথমিক সমাপনী পরীক্ষায় উত্তীর্ণ।

আবেদনের শর্তাবলীঃ
আবেদনপত্রে প্রার্থীর নাম, পিতা ও মাতার নাম, স্থায়ী ও বর্তমান ঠিকানা (মোবাইল/ফোন নম্বর উল্লেখসহ), জন্ম তারিখ, নিজ জেলা, শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতা, জাতীয় পরিচয়পত্রের অথবা জন্ম নিবন্ধন সনদের নম্বর, অভিজ্ঞতা উল্লেখপূর্বক তারিখ ও স্বাক্ষরসহ নিম্নলিখিত কাগজপত্রাদি সংযুক্ত করতে হবে।
(ক) সদ্য তোলা ১০ (তিন) কপি পোর্ট সাইজের সত্যায়িত রসিদ ছবি। (খ) জাতীয় পরিচয়পত্র এবং জন্ম নিবন্ধনের সত্যায়িত ফটোকপি (গ) শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতা ও অভিজ্ঞতার সনদপত্রের সত্যায়িত ফটোকপি (ঘ) প্রার্থীর নিজ স্থায়ী ঠিকানার চৌরমাণ/মেয়র প্রদত্ত কর্তৃক নাগরিকত্ব সনদপত্র (ঙ) সরকারী/বেসরকারী/আধা-সরকারী ও স্বায়ত্তশাসিত সংস্থায় চাকুরীরত প্রার্থীদেরকে যথাযথ কর্তৃপক্ষের মাধ্যমে আবেদন করতে হবে (চ) লিখিত ও মৌখিক পরীক্ষায় অংশগ্রহণের জন্য কোন প্রকার টিএ/ডিএ প্রদান করা হবে না। মৌখিক পরীক্ষার সময় সকল সনদপত্রের মূলকপি প্রদর্শন করতে হবে (ছ) সভাপতি ও সদস্য সচিব "শেখ হাসিনা সাংস্কৃতিক পল্লী" যৌথ হিসাব জামালপুর এর অন্তর্ভুক্ত ক্রেতার (ক্রমিক ১ হইতে ৫ পর্যন্ত) ৫০০/- (পাঁচশত) ও ক্রমিক ৬ হইতে ১০ পর্যন্ত ৩০০/- (তিনশত) টাকার (অফেরতযোগ্য) ব্যাংক ড্রাফট/পে-অর্ডার সংযুক্ত করতে হবে। (জ) খামের উপরে পদের নাম স্পষ্টাক্ষরে উল্লেখ করতে হবে। (ঝ) অসম্পূর্ণ/ত্রুটিপূর্ণ আবেদনপত্র বা নির্ধারিত সময়ের পরে প্রাপ্ত আবেদনপত্র সরাসরি বাতিল বলে গণ্য হবে। (এং) আবেদনপত্র আগামী ৩০/০৫/২০২২ইং তারিখ বিকাল ৫.০০ ঘটিকার মধ্যে এলজিইডি ভবন, জামালপুর এর সংস্থাপন শাখার উচ্চমান সহকারী নিকট জমা প্রদান করতে হবে। (ট) কর্তৃপক্ষ যে কোন অথবা সকল আবেদনপত্র গ্রহণ বা বাতিলের ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করেন এবং প্রার্থী নির্বাচনের ক্ষেত্রে কর্তৃপক্ষের সিদ্ধান্তই চূড়ান্ত বলে গণ্য হবে।

নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলী
স্থানীয় সরকার প্রকৌশল অধিদপ্তর
জামালপুর
Email: xen.jamalpur@lged.gov.bd

জিডি-৮৬০

Bangladesh-China Friendship Exhibition Center Project
Export Promotion Bureau
TCB Building (15th Floor)
01, Kawran Bazar, Dhaka

Invitation for Expression of Interest
For
Appointment of Architectural and Engineering Consulting Firm

Scaled Expressions of Interest (EOI) are hereby invited from reputed and well experienced consulting firms for Appointment of a Consultancy Firm for Architectural and Engineering Design and Supervision for construction of new Infrastructures of Bangabandhu Bangladesh-China Friendship Exhibition Center (BBCFEC) at Purbachal New Town, Rugganj, Narayanganj as per terms and conditions stated below:

1	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Commerce
2	Agency Name	Export Promotion Bureau (EPB)
3	Procuring EntityName	Bangladesh China Friendship Exhibition Center Project, Export Promotion Bureau
4	Procuring Entity District	Dhaka
5	Request for Expression of Interest for Selection of	Architectural and Engineering Consulting Firm for Architectural and Engineering Design and Supervision for construction of new Infrastructures of BBCFEC
6	Title of Service	Consulting Services for Architectural and Engineering Design and Supervision of construction works for new Infrastructures of BBCFEC at Purbachal New Town, Rugganj, Narayanganj
7	EOI Ref No/Memo No	26.02.0000.006.14.075.18(2nd Part)/1436
8	Date	26.04.2022
KEY INFORMATION		
9	Procurement sub-Method	Quality and Cost Based Selection (QCBS) Method
FUNDING INFORMATION		
10	Source of Funds	Export Promotion Bureau
11	Development Partners	China
PARTICULAR INFORMATION		
12	Project / Programme Code	MOF Code (I-Base Code): 224004100
13	Project / Program Name	Appointment of Consultancy Firm for Consulting Services for Architectural and Engineering Design and Supervision for construction works of new Infrastructures for BBCFEC at Purbachal New Town, Rugganj, Narayanganj.
14	EOI Closing Date and Time	Date : 26 May, 2022. Time : 2:30 PM
INFORMATION FOR APPLICANT		
15	Brief Description of Assignment	Providing Consultancy Services for construction of new infrastructures of Bangabandhu Bangladesh-China Friendship Exhibition Center(BBCFEC) like construction of New Exhibition halls of total area of about 2,00,000 (two lacs) square feet (SFT), 02(Two) layered under ground (Basement) car parking structures for about 1,600 (One thousand and six hundred) cars/vehicles, 12 to 15 storied Residential Hotel for 300 (three hundred) rooms with foundation structure of 20(twenty) stories, Auditorium building for about 1,500 (one thousand five hundred) seat capacity with modern facilities, Dormitory, Management office building, Ware House and related other infrastructures and facilities. For construction and establishment of those new installations/infrastructures and facilities, the consultant shall provide all types of Architectural and Engineering services like conducting sub-soil investigations, Conducting all types of surveys including topographic survey, Preparation of Concept design, Preliminary Master Plan, Final Master Plan, Architectural Design, all types of Structural Designs, Other Ancillary designs like Sanitary and plumbing designs, Water treatment plant designs, Water drainage system design, Sewage drainage system design, Sewage treatment plant design, Rain water harvesting system design, Electrical Works Design, Mechanical Works Design, Electro-Mechanical Designs, Solar electric system design, HVAC System Design, Fire fighting & Life Safety Design, Interior Decoration system Design, Landscaping Design, Design Documentation, Design Development, Design Modification, Item wise detailed designs, Item wise Cost Estimation, Construction Documentation, Working Drawings, Designs for networking and for building automation system, Framing of construction programs, Program Analysis, Providing assistance to the Project Authority in preparations of all types of Tender Documents for selection of contractors, Preparation of all Technical Specifications, BOQs, Price Schedules, Assistance in Construction Management and Monitoring, Risk Identification and Mitigation, Conducting full time Supervision by own competent and expert manpowers for monitoring of all works including Construction Works, Quality Maintain and Assurance, Assistance in Preparation of RDPP, Assistance in payment of bills to contractors, Certification for Bills, Support for Management of Contracts, Assistance in achieving Statutory Approvals and Certificates, Completion Certification, Handing Over etc. The nature of the main building may be of composite structure, in which the under ground car parking infrastructure, new exhibition halls, management office space, residential hotel etc may lie within the same integrated structure. Regarding these matters, necessary information and specifications have been mentioned in detail in the prepared Terms of Reference (TOR). The hard copy of TOR is available in the office of the undersigned and that may be collected from the office. That will also be available in the Website of EPB. For collection the TOR, the applicant may visit the said website. The address of the said website is http://www.epb.gov.bd
16	Eligibility, Qualification, Experience, Resources and Service Delivery Capacity	The EOI should include: a. Submission of Brochure of the firm summarizing the firm(s) facilities and areas of expertise; b. Descriptions and details of performed similar assignments c. Availability of appropriate experience and professional qualifications among applicant's staff and adequate resources to carry out the assignment; d. Evidences of managerial strength and financial capacity of the firm (s). e. The firm should have experience of framing architectural and engineering design and conducting supervision of construction works of at least of a building of total floor area of not less than of 1,50,000 (one lac fifty thousand) Square Feet (SFT) by a single contract in the last 10 years. f. The firm should have experience of framing architectural and engineering design and conducting supervision of construction works of at least of a building of 12 (twelve) storied. g. The firm should have experience of framing architectural and engineering design and conducting supervision of construction works of at least of a building with asite area of not less than 20(Twenty) Kathas (14,400 Sft) land by a single contract in the last 10 years. h. The firm should have experience of framing architectural and engineering design and conducting supervision of construction works of building with consultancy fee of not less than of Tk. 1,50,00,000(one crore fifty lac) by a single contract in the last 10 years. i. Evidences of legal right and capacities to perform the said services (e.g. updated trade license, Incorporation certificate, TIN certificate, VAT certificate, BIN Certificate, membership of relevant forum/body, bank solvency certificate, experience certificates etc). j. Evidences that the firm has experiences of at least 12(Twelve) years in framing of architectural and engineering designs as well as experience of supervision of construction works of infrastructures of the said nature.
17	Duration of the Service	Total duration of the contract may be of about 05 years consisting of 03 terms e.g. 06 months for conducting survey, sub-soil investigations, feasibility studies, framing Plans, Designs, Drawings, estimation, reporting etc; 12 months for other preparatory works and 42 months for Supervision of construction and other related works of the project)
18	Location of Construction Works	Sector 04, Purbachal New Town, Rugganj, Narayanganj.
19	Expected Commencement & Completion date of Contract	01 September, 2022 and 31st August, 2027.
20	Other information and details	1. The interested firm(s) may be an individual firm or may be a Joint Venture firm or a Consortium or an Association (JVCA). To enhance capacity the Joint Venture firm, Consortium or Association (JVCA) might have been formed by national and international firms of same nature. Total number of firms in the Joint Venture, Consortium or Association (JVCA) shall not be more than 3 (three) and the lead firm must be a Bangladeshi firm. 2. The lead firm must have experiences in framing of architectural and engineering designs as well as experience of supervision of construction works of infrastructures of the said nature. 3. 02 (two) sets of EOI (1 original + 1 copy) filled in the prescribed format with supporting documents must be submitted at or before 2:30 PM on 26 May, 2022 in sealed envelopes, marked with "EOI for Consulting Services for Architectural and Engineering Design and Supervision for construction works of new Infrastructures of BBCFEC to the office of the signatory. Delayed submission of application shall not be allowed. 4. The application shall be submitted in prescribed format and that format is available in this office as well as will be available in the Website of Export Promotion Bureau (EPB). The website address is http://www.epb.gov.bd 5. Experiences on similar nature of works specially experience on design and supervision on construction works of residential hotel will be given preference. 6. Conditions, mentioned in the TOR must be followed by the consulting firm.
21	Name of Official Inviting EOI	Mohammad Rezaul Karim
22	Designation of Official Inviting EOI	Project Director (Additional Secretary)
23	Address of Official Inviting Application	Office of the Project Director of the Bangladesh China Friendship Exhibition Center Project, Export Promotion Bureau, TCB Building (15th Floor), 01, Kawran Bazar, Dhaka
24	Contact details of Official Inviting EOI	Telephone no: 02-55013884, 01718532976. E-mail Address : rezatax65@yahoo.com
25	The Procuring entity reserves the right to reject any or all Applications	

(Mohammad Rezaul Karim)
Project Director (Additional Secretary)
Bangladesh-China Friendship Exhibition Center Project, Export Promotion Bureau
1, Karwan Bazar, TCB Bhaban (14th Floor), Dhaka-1215.
Phone: 02-55013884, 01718532976, Fax: 880-2-9119531, E-mail : rezatax65@yahoo.com

GD-847

UN to vote on justification of veto use

AFP, United Nations

The 193 members of the United Nations General Assembly were to vote yesterday on a resolution that would require the five permanent members of the Security Council to justify their use of the veto in future.

Directly targeting the United States, China, Russia, France and the United Kingdom -- who are the only holders of the veto right -- the measure would "make them pay a higher political price" when they opt to use their veto to strike down a Security Council resolution, said a source.

But it is not yet clear if the reform would push the five permanent members to use the veto less.

First proposed more than two years ago, the measure provides for the General Assembly to be convened within 10 working days after a permanent member uses a veto "to hold a debate on the situation as to which the veto was cast," according to the text.

Around sixty countries have joined Liechtenstein in co-sponsoring the reform, including the United States .



This picture taken on Monday and released yesterday shows vehicles carrying missiles during a military parade to celebrate the 90th anniversary of the founding of the Korean People's Revolutionary Army at Kim Il Sung Square in Pyongyang. North Korea will rapidly accelerate the development of its nuclear arsenal, leader Kim Jong Un said while overseeing the vast military parade.

PHOTO: AFP

World's oldest person eyes new record

AFP, Toulon

France's Sister Andre, believed to have become the oldest person alive this week at the age of 118, yesterday said she would now like to beat the record of oldest person ever. "People say that work kills, for me work kept me alive, I kept working until I was 108," the Catholic nun told reporters yesterday in the tea-room of the hospice where she lives in the Mediterranean city Toulon. Sister Andre has a record to beat in mind: that of Jeanne Calment, who died in 1997 in Arles, southern France, aged 122 -- the oldest confirmed age reached by any human being so far.



Humanity in 'spiral of self-destruction': UN

AFP, Geneva

Humanity is suffering from a "broken perception of risk", spurring us into activities and behaviours that cause climate change and a surging number of disasters around the globe, the UN warned yesterday.

In a fresh report, the UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, or UNDRR, found that between 350 and 500 medium- to large-scale disasters took place globally every year over the past two decades.

That is five times more than the average during the three preceding decades, it said.

And amid the changing climate, the

report estimated that by 2030, we will be experiencing 560 disasters around the world every year -- or 1.5 disasters every day on average.

Ignoring the towering risks we face "is setting humanity on a spiral of self-destruction," UN Deputy Secretary-General Amina Mohammed warned in the statement.

Ignoring risks has come at a high price. Disasters around the world have cost roughly \$170 billion each year over the past decade, the report found.

But most of that is incurred in lower-income countries, which on average lose one percent of their national GDP to disasters each year, compared to just 0.1 to 0.2 percent in wealthier nations.

Dhaka College No one to be homeless

FROM PAGE 12

As we follow the academic procedure, it take some time to start the investigation.

"As no students are present in college hostels, we may extend the investigation period if the probe body appeals to us," added the acting principal.

Meanwhile, the High Court yesterday directed 14 local BNP leaders and activists to surrender before the lower court concerned in six weeks in connection with two cases filed over the clashes in New Market area.

The bench of Justice Mustafa Zaman Islam and Justice Md Salim passed orders following three petitions filed by the accused seeking bail in the cases filed over obstructing police in their duties.

FROM PAGE 12

Hasina, also the Awami League president, said she didn't know whether such a housing initiative was taken in any other country in the world.

"To me, power is to serve the people and work for the people. So, today I've been working so that not a single person remains homeless or shelter-less in Bangladesh."

The PM asked her party leaders and activists to follow the ideology of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman to bring smiles on the faces of unhappy people.

In an oblique reference to the recent claim by TIB that spending on Covid vaccination lacked

transparency, Hasina said it would not be enough to count the prices of vaccines only, rather all expenditures of the vaccination programme should be counted.

"If you add all costs, you will get accurate information and know how many thousand crore taka was spent for it," she said, adding that the government vaccinated people free of cost.

Referring to the resurgence in Covid-19 in different countries, she asked all to remain cautious and follow the health protocol.

Md Tofazzel Hossain Miah, senior secretary at the Prime Minister's Office, conducted the house distribution function.

Taking steps

FROM PAGE 12

The TIB said the main purpose of its research is to ensure accountability and transparency in the government's activities regarding Covid-19.

Speaking at the press conference at his ministry on Monday, Health Minister Zahid Maleque said he included the cost of free Covid vaccines in the expenditure and that's why he had mentioned that the government had spent Tk 40,000 crore for the vaccination programme.

The TIB statement said, "We don't understand on what basis the price of free vaccines is added and shown as expenditure. The TIB hopes the health ministry will provide detailed information on the procurement and distribution of vaccines."

Questioning the research method, the health minister at the press conference said the sample size was too small.

In response, the graft watchdog said they carried out the research scientifically.

"Every information was verified from different sources. Therefore, there is no scope to term the research incorrect."

The TIB also said they would take steps to hold a meeting with the health minister, with consent from him, to discuss the disagreed issues.

Academic

FROM PAGE 12


However, no order was passed.

MINISTRY'S RESPONSE
Belayet Hossain Talukdar, additional secretary (development) of secondary and higher education division (SHED) at the education ministry, said they did not release money as the university authorities failed to produce a Development Project Proposal (DPP) for the land acquisition.

"For some technical issue, we could not release money. The university should approach in a planned way. We will not give money for land in an isolated way," he said, adding that the VC could have taken their support for preparing DPP.

On the other hand, CSTU VC said the land ministry got approval from the Prime Minister's Office to transfer the ownership of the proposed land to the SHED last July and the land acquisition was awaiting fund release.

"The land acquisition process was in an advanced stage. What was the necessity of DPP?" he said.



Civil Aviation Authority of Bangladesh
Office of the Executive Engineer
E/M Division-2, Kurmitola, Dhaka-1229

File No. 30.31.2600.413.03.016.22/

Date: /04/2022

e-Tender Notice


e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>). Package information is available in tender notice under e-GP System Portal. 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. Detailed name of work, Tender ID and closing date & time are as follows.

Sl No.	Name of work	Tender ID	Opening and closing date & time
1	O & M of E/M works and services at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport, Dhaka during the year 2020-2021 (S:H: Procurement of consumable materials for runway lighting system at HSI)	689315	10-May-2022 12:00
2	Providing & Installation of AC units at different office rooms, classrooms and other related works for CATC at HSI.	685153	10-May-2022 12:00
3	Supply of Electrical fan, Exhaust fan etc. for CAAB Residential Area & offices.	689537	10-May-2022 12:00
4	Rewriting & Fitting Fixture Light, Fan, Switch, Socket, SDB & MDB etc. other related works at H-4(30-units) Building at Kurmitola residential area.	687410	10-May-2022 12:00
5	Providing & Installation of light fan, switch socket at Mojzid inside Ansar Barak beside E/M Division-3 service cable i/c others related E/M Works at HSI.	684489	10-May-2022 12:00
6	Providing & laying of power cable i/c related works for mast lighting system at HSI.	684485	10-May-2022 12:00
7	Providing & laying of IC-4x70 sq.mm alternative power cable for BFCC, Cargo & Old HQ pumps in/c related other works HSI.	687297	10-May-2022 12:00
8	Rewiring and replacement of electrical fitting/fixing i/c other related works for 1250 KVA Substation and different pump house & Kurmitola R/A at HSI, Code-100.	687379	10-May-2022 12:00
9	Supply Installation Testing & Commissioning of 2x50 HP Submersible pump motor set i/c related works for old HQ Reserve tank to Main water supply pipe line at HSI.	683580	10-May-2022 12:00
10	Unseen/Emergency works under E/M Division-2 (Replacement Service cable, MDB i/c E/M WORKS of U-type (101-108)(109-116)(117-124) 24 Units at Kurmitola Residential Area)	683367	10-May-2022 12:00

Further information and guidelines is available in the e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk.

নং-৩০.৩১.০০০০.০৫১.১৮.০০১.২২/১৫২
তারিখঃ ২৫/০৪/২০২২খ্রিঃ
জিডি-৮৪৫

Md. Shafiqul Islam
Executive Engineer (E/M) (C.C)
E/M Division-2, CAAB, Dhaka



PUBALI BANK LIMITED
REGISTERED OFFICE
26 Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka-1000, Bangladesh

NOTICE OF THE 39TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given to all concern that the **39th Annual General Meeting (AGM)** of **Pubali Bank Limited** will be held on **Tuesday, 31 May 2022 at 10.30 AM (Dhaka Time)** using **Hybrid System i.e. at Pubali Bank Auditorium, Head Office, 26 Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka** with physical presence and also virtually through the link <http://www.pubalibangla.com/AGM2022> by using digital platform to transact the following businesses:

AGENDA

Ordinary Businesses:

- To receive, consider and adopt the Audited Financial Statements for the year ended 31st December 2021 and Reports of the Directors and Auditors thereon.
- To declare Dividend for the year ended 31 December 2021 as recommended by the Board of Directors.
- To confirm the appointment of the Independent Director.
- To appoint/re-appoint Auditors of the Bank for the year 2022 and to fix their remuneration.
- To appoint/re-appoint Corporate Governance Compliance Auditor for the year 2022 and to fix their remuneration.
- To elect / re-elect Directors.

All the honorable members/shareholders of Pubali Bank Ltd. are requested kindly to make it convenient to attend the meeting physically or virtually in time.

Dated: Dhaka
26 April 2022

By order of the Board of Directors
sd/-
Zahid Ahsan
Deputy Managing Director &
Company Secretary

NOTES:

- The members whose names will appear on the Members/Depository Register as on the **"Record Date"** i.e. **Sunday, 08 May 2022** are eligible to attend/participate and vote in the 39th Annual General Meeting (AGM) and also entitle to receive dividend.
- Pursuant to BSEC's Order Nos. SEC/SRMIC/94-231/25, BSEC/CMRRCD/2009-193/08 and SEC/SRMIC/94-231/91 dated 08 July 2020, 10 March 2021 and 31 March 2021 respectively, the Annual General Meeting will be conducted using Hybrid System i.e. at **Pubali Bank Auditorium, Head Office, 26 Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka** with physical presence and also virtually through the link <http://www.pubalibangla.com/AGM2022> by using digital platform
- As per Companies Act 1994 under Regulation 79, 80 and 81 of schedule- I and as per article no. 90 & 91 of the Bank's Articles of Association, one- third of the directors need to retire every year and they will be eligible for re-election. Under this circumstances, the honorable directors (a) Mr. Monzurur Rahman (b) Mr. M. Kabiruzzaman Yaqub (c) Mr. Azizur Rahman and (d) Ms. Rana Laila Hafiz will retire in the 39th Annual General Meeting and they are eligible for re-election.
- A Member entitled to attend and vote at the Annual General Meeting may appoint a **Proxy** to attend and vote in his/her stead. He / she shall have to submit his / her **proxy form**, duly filled in, signed and stamped (along with other necessary papers, if any) through online after successful completion of Registration or Paper based Manual form in the **Share Department, 3rd floor, Registered Office, 26 Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka** of the Bank no later than 48 hours before commencement of the Annual General Meeting i.e. **Sunday, 29 May 2022 up to 10.30 AM**.
- An entitled member who wants to attend the meeting and cast his/her vote physically has to submit his/her duly filled and signed registration form to the registration counter at Registered Office of **Pubali Bank Limited, Credit Conference Room, 5th Floor, 26 Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka** of the Bank. Then an OTP (One Time Password) will be sent to his/her mobile number and email address mentioned in the registration form. By using the OTP, he/she will be able to attend in the meeting physically in the AGM venue (Pubali Bank Auditorium, 13th floor, Head Office, 26 Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka) and exercise his/her voting right through ballot paper (at Registered Office of **Pubali Bank Limited, Credit Conference Room, 5th Floor, 26 Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka** of the Bank). Time for physical registration will be **Tuesday, 31 May 2022 from 8.00 AM** to before closure of the Meeting and time for physical voting will be **Tuesday, 31 May 2022 from 10.30 AM** to before closure of the Meeting.
- An entitled member who wants to attend the meeting virtually by using digital platform and cast his/her vote through online has to go to the link: www.pubalibangla.com/AGM2022 for login to the system. After putting his/her 16 digit BO ID/folio ID, an OTP (One Time Password) will be sent to his/her registered mobile number and email address (as per CDBL data). By using the OTP, he/she will be able to attend and cast his/her vote through online. Time for online registration and e-voting will be **Monday, 30 May 2022 from 8.00 AM** to before closure of the Meeting on **Tuesday, 31 May 2022**.
- A valid **proxy holder** may attend the meeting virtually through link: www.pubalibangla.com/AGM2022 by using digital platform or physically in the AGM venue (Pubali Bank Auditorium, 13th floor, Head Office, 26 Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka) and may cast his/her vote through online (link: <http://www.pubalibangla.com/AGM2022>) from **Monday, 30 May 2022 at 8.00 AM** to before closure of the Meeting on **Tuesday, 31 May 2022** or paper ballot (at Registered Office of **Pubali Bank Limited, Credit Conference Room, 5th Floor, 26 Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka** of the Bank) from **Tuesday, 31 May 2022 at 10.30 AM** to before closure of the Meeting.
- The last date of submission of nomination paper through link www.pubalibangla.com/AGM2022 or manually at Board Division for election of Directors is **22 May 2022 up to 5.00 PM**. Scrutiny of nomination papers will be completed on **24 May 2022** and will be published the eligible candidates list in the Notice Board of the Bank's Registered Office, 26 Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka by the Chief Election Commissioner and also in the bank's website by **5.00 PM**. Last date of withdrawal of nomination paper through email to "chiefelectioncommissioner@pubalibankbd.com" or paper based manually on **25 May 2022 up to 5.00 PM** and list of names of final candidates to be published in the Notice Board of the Bank's Registered Office, 26 Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka by the Chief Election Commissioner and also in the bank's website on **25 May 2022 after 5.00 PM**.
- Nomination form, Registration Form and Proxy Form will be available in the Bank's website www.pubalibangla.com
- All the online related activities are available in the link: www.pubalibangla.com/AGM2022
- Pursuant to the Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) Notification No. BSEC/CMRRCD/2006-158/208/Admin/81 dated 20 June 2018, the soft copy of the Annual Report 2021 will be sent to the email addresses of the Members available in their Beneficial Owner (BO) accounts maintained with the Depository. The Members are requested to update their email addresses through their respective Depository Participant (DP). The soft copy of the Annual Report 2021 will also be available on the Investor Relations section of the Bank's website at: www.pubalibangla.com.
- Honorable Shareholders are requested to update their Mailing Address, Bank Account no., Branch Routing no., Signature, Mobile Number and other related information through Depository Participant (DP) of their BO Account before record date i.e before 08 May 2022.**
- Hon'ble Shareholders under BO are requested to update their respective BO Accounts with 12 Digits Taxpayer's Identification Number (e-TIN) through Depository Participant (DP) and Hon'ble Shareholders under Folio are requested to provide their e-TIN Certificate to Share Department of the Registered Office before record date i.e before 08 May 2022, failing which Income Tax at Source will be deducted from payable Dividend @ 15% (Fifteen Percent) instead of @ 10% (Ten Percent) as per amended under section 54 of IT Ordinance 1984.**
- Merchant Banks and depository participant (DPs) are requested to email the soft copy of their margin clients list (in MS Excel format) as on 'Record Date' at boardpbl@pubalibankbd.com within **30 May 2022** for facilitating payment of Cash Dividend.
- The Board of Directors has recommended **M/s MABS & J Partners Chartered Accountants** to appoint and **M/s A. Qasem & Co. Chartered Accountants** to re-appoint as auditor of the bank for the year 2022.
- The Board of Directors has recommended **M/s Mohammad Sanaullah & Associates, Chartered Secretaries & Management Consultants** to re-appoint as Corporate Governance Compliance Auditor of the bank for the year 2022.

Payment of Dividend:

- Cash Dividend amount will be credited to the respective bank account of the shareholder through BEFTN.

Why are police disregarding the home minister’s assurance?

Save Tentultala playground, pay heed to public demand

WE are at a loss as to why police were still carrying on the construction work of Kalabagan police station in the city’s Tentultala playground, even though the home minister said he had asked the city corporation and others concerned to find an alternative place for the police station. Our reporters found that the construction work was going on in the presence of dozens of police personnel ignoring the widespread protests on and off social media.

Open spaces in Dhaka are becoming rarer and rarer by the day. We often blame youngsters for becoming addicted to digital devices, and fault them for their predilection for remaining indoors, whereas we cannot provide them with adequate facilities to work out or play outdoors. Over the last couple of decades in particular, Dhaka city has become bereft of playgrounds. Most public spaces have been given away to real estate owners and builders for the construction of shopping malls or housing complexes, caring little for the need for open space. And except for some older educational institutions, most new schools have little to no space for outdoor activities in their premises.

It is against this grim background that the Tentultala situation has been unfolding. Local residents, the media and distinguished citizens have been asking the authorities repeatedly to rescind their decision and leave the playground for the locals to use for outdoor activities. Now, even after months of protests by the locals, and despite the home minister’s instruction to find an alternative site for the establishment, why are the police still bent on using this spot?

We wonder why the eyes of the administration almost always zeroes in on such spots. We agree that a properly organised police station is needed in the Kalabagan area. But we also believe that time has come to consider new plans for building new police stations.

We also believe that the police acted in a highhanded fashion when it picked up a protester and her young son for streaming footage of the construction work inside the playground on Facebook on Sunday. They were released after 12 hours of being locked up. Expressing one’s concern and dissent in whatever legal platform available is a fundamental right, which the police grossly violated. We call upon the administration to halt work on the Tentultala playground in view of the home minister’s assurance, and find a suitable alternative quickly. We also urge the law enforcement authorities to remember that their mandate is to serve the citizens of the country, not make adversaries out of them.

Make people aware of fortified foods

Provide them to the poor at reasonable prices

WHILE the need to consume fortified foods to address the issue of micronutrient deficiency is recognised worldwide, it is really unfortunate that people living in the poverty-stricken regions of Bangladesh, such as parts of Rangpur and Nilphamari districts, don’t have access to fortified foods—nor are they aware of it. According to a study by the International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research, Bangladesh (icddr,b), only 41 percent of respondents had heard about fortified foods. Another 37 percent of respondents faced difficulty in buying these micronutrient-rich foods, while 40 percent could not buy them at all. This is because of the drastic fall in their income during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Food fortification is one of the most cost-effective strategies to increase the regular intake of micronutrients. Under this process, one or more micronutrients such as vitamins and minerals are incorporated into food items to improve their nutritional qualities. Such foods are necessary to meet the nutritional needs of people, particularly the low income households who cannot afford to buy nutrient-rich foods.

Anaemia, which is caused by iron deficiency, is one of the biggest public health concerns in Bangladesh, but it can be fought with iron-rich fortified foods. Micronutrient deficiency causes many other health conditions such as malnutrition, multiple infections, chronic diseases, poor health and well-being, impaired learning, poor mental health, etc. This is particularly dangerous for pregnant women and children.

Although the government has undertaken many programmes to improve the nutritional status of vulnerable populations, there are still many shortcomings in the interventions. While the government was able to make people aware of and popularise the need to take iodised salt, it could not do so in case of other micronutrient-rich foods such as rice and edible oil. The icddr,b survey found that almost all the respondents knowingly consumed iodised salt and knew that packaged salts are iodised.

The question is: If people can be made aware of iodised salt, why can’t they be made aware of nutrient-rich edible oil, rice and other foods? We think a massive awareness campaign is needed to make these food items popular among people. Most importantly, they must be made affordable to all. Since the government is selling essential food items at subsidised prices at different OMS (Open Market Sales) points across the country, it should include fortified rice and edible oil in their supplies. In addition, it should freely distribute these food items under its social safety net programmes to enhance the nutritional well-being of disadvantaged citizens.

What enables this vulgar display of power?



Nahaly Nafisa Khan
is a sub editor at the Metro desk of The Daily Star.

NAHALY NAFISA KHAN

I often think about all the times our kids took to the streets to ask for something—justice for their friends who were killed in road crashes or raped and brutally murdered. All they were doing were demanding road safety or an end to the culture of impunity enjoyed by the perpetrators. Each time, the authorities turned a blind eye to such protests. At times, their voices were simply ignored, while at others they were silenced with violence.

But imagine something as harmless as asking for the protection of a playground. How can that land a parent and her minor child in jail—and without proper grounds and an arrest warrant? Where does this vulgar urge to flaunt power stem from?

That is exactly what happened with Syeda Ratna, coordinator of Tentultala Math Rakkhya Andolon, and her 17-year-old son, who were detained on Sunday morning when they went live on Facebook to show Kalabagan police building a wall on the playground, while a group of kids accompanied by their parents were also protesting the act. When contacted, Sharif Mohammad Faruquzzaman, assistant commissioner of Dhaka Metropolitan Police (New Market zone), said the two were picked up for “obstructing police from discharging their duties.”

Tentultala playground has been in the discussion for several months now, after the Dhaka deputy commissioner’s office handed over the playground land to the DMP on January 31 this year to construct a new establishment for Kalabagan police station. The one bigha land has been a playground, an Eidgah, and a place for namaz-e-janaza for over 50 years now. Locals, naturally, refused to give up the playground and for several months, they’ve been demonstrating against the DMP’s move to take possession of the land. It is in the continuation of the ongoing protests that when Ratna saw the walls going up around the playground, she decided to inform her fellow protesters of the turn of events, using the most viable tool at hand—social media.

After 13 hours of negotiations and arguments, Ratna’s teenage son was finally let go at around 10:30pm on Sunday, while Ratna was freed upon signing a bond that said she would not involve herself with any demonstration over the matter. How can a law enforcement agency curtail a citizen’s right to protest and make demands on their authorities in such a manner?

More questions remain, even after they are freed.

A video recording went viral after the



▲
VISUAL:
TEENI AND TUNI

Police, as we have been taught all our lives, are “friends” of the people. Public servants, they are called. How exactly are they serving the public if they make unlawful arrests to instigate fear among citizens, to restrain a peaceful protest by children? How can we trust them to save us when they turn into perpetrators themselves?

fellow protesters of Ratna and journalists went to the police station after the mother-son duo were detained. When asked if the on-duty officer knew how old the boy was, he said, “We cannot always confirm their age by simply looking at them.”

And yet, without any confirmation, without any offence, they detained him.

When those present at the police station asked the on-duty officer if they had issued

Kalabagan and Kathalbagan), there is a proposal to keep sufficient open space for the area. According to the law to conserve playgrounds, open spaces, parks and water bodies, no one can change the characteristics of a playground. Environmental activists say the place has been used as a playground for a long time and changing its characteristics will be illegal.

an arrest warrant before detaining Ratna and her son, he said, “We don’t always need a warrant.”

According to Section 54 (1) of the Code of Criminal Procedure, there are nine instances where a law enforcement official can detain an individual without a warrant. A peaceful protest or documentation of an event might not, in our definition, fall under any of these clauses. But somehow, to our law enforcers, it was an act of “obstructing a police officer while in the execution of his duty.” A crime so horrendous that a protester can be taken into custody without a warrant.

Police, as we have been taught all our lives, are “friends” of the people. Public servants, they are called. How exactly are they serving the public if they make unlawful arrests to instigate fear among citizens, to restrain a peaceful protest by children? How can we trust them to save us when they turn into perpetrators themselves?

And most importantly, from where do they get this notion that instigating fear among law-abiding citizens through an ugly display of power can get things done their way? When did they become this unaccountable?

Construction work is still being carried on at the playground, even after Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan said he had asked the city corporation and others concerned to find an alternative place for Kalabagan police station.

In the proposed Detailed Area Plan (DAP) of Dhaka, Tentultala playground is not earmarked as a playground. But in Sub-Zone 17 (Dhanmondi, Zigatola,

In 2014, the High Court directed the DC office to take action against any encroachment of open spaces or playgrounds in Dhaka. The office, too, remains silent when it comes to the Tentultala playground.

How many times have the authorities banned or proposed a ban on social media or gaming apps to stop our kids from going “astray”? How many times have they urged on “healthier” modes of entertainment for the teens?

And when they are asking for just that—a mere playground—why are they being taken away and stuffed into jail?

Why, amid many protests, all the provisions for a playground in place, and most importantly, after the home minister’s reassurance, is the construction still going on? What does this say about our law enforcers? That they will not leave any chance to proudly showcase their vehement power, even when it comes to a playground for children?

With each passing day, our right to dissent and raise our voices is being curtailed. There’s something so challenging—or dare I say “anti-establishment”—about a group of kids and their parents asking to protect their local playground that they need to be detained.

Resisting this culture of unaccountability is a timely need. And when I look at the picture of Ratna and her son upon their release—the sheer love and indomitable spirit with which they came through—I can sense an air of resistance. Yes, sir, you do need a warrant. No, you cannot detain a minor, and neither can you stop the protests. Try us.

Time to Focus on the Global Goal on Adaptation



POLITICS OF
CLIMATE CHANGE

Dr Saleemul Huq
is the director of the International Centre for Climate Change and Development (ICCCAD) at the Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB).

SALEEMUL HUQ

DURING the negotiations that led to the historic Paris Agreement at the 21st UN Climate Change Conference (COP21) in 2015, the climate vulnerable countries argued for and succeeded in getting the global goal on mitigation of staying below two degrees Celsius—and if possible, below 1.5 degrees Celsius. This was indeed a remarkable achievement for the vulnerable countries at that time.

At the same time, the vulnerable developing countries, led by the African Group of Negotiators (AGN), also argued for having a Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA). This was achieved through Article 7 of the Paris Agreement.

However, unlike mitigation, where a simple temperature goal was possible, there was no such simple goal for adaptation stated, as it is context-specific and difficult to aggregate to a global level. Hence an agreement was reached that there would be further discussion on defining the GGA over time.

Unfortunately, over the last few years, there has not been much progress—until last year at COP26 in Glasgow, UK, where the Glasgow-Sharm el Sheikh work programme on GGA was established to achieve an agreement on the definition and parameters of the GGA by COP28

Each developed country should allocate half its funds for adaptation, and clearly report where the funds are going and through which channels. There should also be a neutral independent body under the UN to monitor these fund flows.

in Dubai in 2023. This work programme will be launched by inviting submissions from all the countries on what they would like to see in the GGA, to be submitted to the Secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) by the end of this month.

Bangladesh is preparing its submission, and I am taking this opportunity to offer some thoughts for their consideration.

First, we need to acknowledge that agreeing on the GGA is quite complex and by no means easy, as there are different ways to develop such a goal that are not compatible with each other. Hence, it is quite likely that we may end up having several different goals for different aspects of adaptation to climate change.

The main dichotomy in approaches is whether to take a top-down approach, like we did for mitigation, or a bottom-up approach, which may be more appropriate for adaptation. In the end, I believe we will need to agree to a combination of both approaches for the final GGA.

My first recommendation will be a top-down approach to providing finance for adaptation in the developing countries by the developed countries—the latter have already agreed to provide USD 100 billion a year for both mitigation and adaptation measures. However, so far the developed countries have failed to provide the full amount, and they only allocated 20 percent of their funding to support adaptation, while 80 percent went to support mitigation.

So the first goal should be to have half of the funding to be channelled towards adaptation efforts, and that should be prioritised for the most vulnerable communities in the most vulnerable

developing countries. Each developed country should allocate half its funds for adaptation, and clearly report where the funds are going and through which channels. There should also be a neutral independent body under the UN to monitor these fund flows.

The second, more bottom-up approach, that I would recommend is the building of adaptive capacity of the most vulnerable communities in every country, since adaptation is now happening in both poor and rich countries. This requires a focus on Locally Led Adaptation (LLA), where Bangladesh is an accepted world leader and can help develop the metrics and methods for implementing and monitoring progress towards the global goal over time.

My third and final recommendation is to emphasise the need for a monitoring, evaluation and learning (MEL) approach to develop the methodology of both implementation and evaluation of progress as adaptation is quintessentially a learning-by-doing process.

I would also like to point out the importance of the global stocktake of progress of the Paris Agreement, which will take place in 2023, and it is essential to have some way to take into account the progress on adaptation—particularly the GGA. Failing to agree on the GGA in time will mean that the global stocktake will not be able to include adaptation, which will be a major setback.

So, Bangladesh has the opportunity to play a significant role in negotiating how we should determine the approaches to agreeing upon the GGA in the next two years, and also play a leading role in monitoring progress over time.

Bangladesh, Pakistan and Sri Lanka: A Comparative Anatomy



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SOUTH Asia has been one of the fastest growing regions in the modern world, driven mostly by India, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, and Pakistan. However, Sri Lanka is now facing the worst political and economic crisis since its independence, and Imran Khan has been removed as the prime minister of Pakistan. The turmoil in these countries has led many to question whether Bangladesh, riding high on the wave of economic development, will suffer an impact of these crises. But the trajectory of these countries has differed in important ways, which implies that the challenges of Bangladesh are different. Let me explain how.

One thing that has been of concern is the debt-GDP ratio. Both Sri Lanka and Pakistan's national debt (percent of GDP) has been considerably higher than that of Bangladesh. In 2011, according to the World Development Indicators (WDI), Sri Lanka's national debt was around 70 percent of the country's GDP. In 2021, the figure shot up to above 100 percent as the economic crisis deepened. Pakistan's national debt (percent of GDP) has increased from around 60 percent to 87 percent during the same time period. On the other hand, Bangladesh has significantly lower national debt, hovering around 40 percent of its GDP in 2021. However, countries like the US and Japan have also had persistently high debt-GDP ratios.

There are other concurrent trends that make high debt-GDP ratio a cause for concern. One is the total foreign exchange reserves of a country. While the total reserves of Bangladesh have been increasing steadily over time, the trend for both Sri Lanka and Pakistan has been volatile. In February 2022, Sri Lanka's foreign exchange reserves fell to about USD 2.3 billion. Moreover, Bangladesh's total reserves—as percentage of external debt—stood at about 63.7 percent in 2020. The

corresponding figures for Sri Lanka and Pakistan were approximately only 10 percent and 15.9 percent, respectively. Traditionally, foreign exchange reserves have been seen as a source of emergency funds to pay for imports in the event of an economic crisis. Bangladesh's reserves at the moment can pay for nine months' worth of imports, while



for Pakistan and Sri Lanka, the figure is considerably lower, about four months and three months, respectively.

The debt-GDP ratio is problematic when the average interest rate to be paid for the loans of a country falls below its GDP growth rate. Deficit financing shifts the burden of paying off loans from current to future generations. If deficit financing leads to higher growth, purchasing power and standard of living, then this burden is minimised as the future generation's ability to pay increases. Thus, deficit financing coupled with stable growth as well as improvement in other development indicators should not be a cause for too

much concern, which is the case for Bangladesh, but not for Sri Lanka or Pakistan.

Furthermore, Bangladesh's GDP had steadily attained faster growth rate (starting from around 6.5 percent in 2011 and increasing to nearly eight percent in 2019), while Sri Lanka's growth rate, starting from a high of around nine

contributing to the crisis in Sri Lanka, a sudden ban on import of chemical fertilisers and other agrochemicals a year ago to focus on organic-only agriculture decimated the country's agricultural production and led to a soaring inflation driven by food prices. However, the shift to organic farming has been on the cards for some time in the country. What mattered was the sudden nature of the policy, and a failure to understand the farmers' ability to adapt with the changes the policy would entail. Verité Research, a Colombo-based analysis firm, found in a survey that only about 10 percent of Sri Lankan farmers cultivated without chemical fertilisers. These findings imply that such a ban on import of chemical fertilisers, no matter how well-intentioned (such as to alleviate health related concerns and to reduce spending on import to ease pressure on dwindling foreign reserves), were doomed to fail.

My final thoughts on this discussion are these: Bangladesh is in no danger of an imminent crisis like Sri Lanka or Pakistan. The trajectory, and indeed even the starting point of Bangladesh is drastically different. Compared to Bangladesh, Sri Lanka had a historically higher life expectancy, education attainment and also performed better in some other socioeconomic indicators. More importantly, the motivation for and the dynamic developments that lead to new policies are vital, more so in this age of intertwined economies and global trade patterns. Even if policies are targeted towards increasing welfare, one has to keep in mind the dynamics of the economy, the ability of its citizens to adapt, and the international geopolitical climate. So far, Bangladesh has been managing all these well, as shown by the steady performance in major macroeconomic indicators.

An economic and political crisis, I suspect, will be preceded by sustained poor performance in significant areas, and there will be warning signs, such as declining export earnings, unforeseen increase in import spending, fiscal deficit, reduced remittance, etc. It is up to our policymakers, economists and experts from other fields to be able to notice and act on these omens if and when they occur.

▲
People shout slogans following a clash between police and protesters near the president's residence during a protest amid the country's economic crisis, in Colombo, Sri Lanka on April 3, 2022.

PHOTO: REUTERS

percent in 2011, steadily declined, and when the pandemic hit in 2020, its economy significantly shrank, whereas Bangladesh was still able to sustain positive growth rate (around 3.5 percent in 2020). Pakistan was also steadily growing, albeit at a lower rate than Bangladesh, until the pandemic struck and their economy shrank too.

The important takeaway is to observe the dynamic trends of the indicators across these three countries. The striking feature of Bangladesh's trajectory is sustained improvement, while volatility and decline mark the trends in Sri Lanka and Pakistan. Next, for one of the proximate factors

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দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

২০১৯, ২০২০ ও ২০২১ সালের জাতীয় পল্লী উন্নয়ন পদক প্রদানের জন্য নিম্নলিখিত পদক সংগ্রহের লক্ষ্যে সুপ্রতিষ্ঠিত ও সুখ্যাতি সম্পন্ন জুয়েলারী/স্বর্ণ-রৌপ্য ব্যবসায়ী/স্বর্ণকার-এর নিকট থেকে সীলমোহরকৃত খামে দরপত্র আহবান করা যাচ্ছে।

ক) স্বর্ণ পদক (খাঁটি সোনা): ২২কার্যেট মানের ৩০(ত্রিশ)টি স্বর্ণ পদক প্রতিটি ১০(দশ) গ্রাম ওজন বিশিষ্ট পদক; প্রতিটির ব্যাস ৪.৫ সেন্টিমিটার।

খ) **শর্তাবলীঃ**

০১। প্রতিটি পদক পল্লী উন্নয়ন ও সমবায় বিভাগ কর্তৃক নির্ধারিত নমুনা অনুযায়ী শোভন আকারে (কাসকেট) বায়ে (নমুনা নিম্নস্বাক্ষরকারীর নিকট হতে অনুমোদন করিয়ে নিতে হবে) সরবরাহ করতে হবে।

০২। আগ্রহী প্রতিষ্ঠানকে **আগামী ২৬/০৫/২০২২ খ্রিঃ (০৬ জ্যৈষ্ঠ, ১৪২৯ বঙ্গাব্দ) তারিখ অপরাহ্ন ১২.০০ ঘটিকার মধ্যে** পল্লী উন্নয়ন ও সমবায় বিভাগের ২০৫ নং কক্ষের সম্মুখে (ভবন নং-৭, ৩য় তলা, বাংলাদেশ সচিবালয়, ঢাকা) রক্ষিত দরপত্র বায়ে অথবা “পল্লী ভবন” ৫-কাতরান বাজার, বিহারভিবি ঢাকায় রক্ষিত দরপত্র বায়ে সীলমোহরকৃত দরপত্র জমা দিতে হবে। ঐ দিনই বেলা ০২.০০ ঘটিকায় উপস্থিত দরদাতাদের সম্মুখে (যদি কেউ উপস্থিত থাকেন) দরপত্র খোলা হবে। কোন অবস্থাতেই নির্ধারিত তারিখ ও সময় এর পর কোন দরপত্র গৃহীত হবে না।

০৩। কার্যাদেশ দেয়ার ৩০(ত্রিশ) দিনের মধ্যে পদকসমূহ সরবরাহ করতে হবে।

০৪। নির্ধারিত দরদাতাকে কার্যাদেশ পাওয়ার ০৭(সাত) দিনের মধ্যে নমুনা পদক স্পেসিফিকেশন মোতাবেক) দাখিল করতে হবে এবং অনুমোদিত হলে তার কার্যাদেশ নিম্নস্বাক্ষরকারীর অফিস হতে নিশ্চিত করা হবে।

০৫। পদকের স্পেসিফিকেশন ও ডিজাইন নিম্নস্বাক্ষরকারীর অফিসে রাখা হবে।

০৬। দরদাতা প্রতিষ্ঠানকে আবশ্যিকভাবে হালনাগাদ ট্রেড লাইসেন্স, ব্যাংক সলভেন্সী সার্টিফিকেট, আয়কর সনদ, ভ্যাট রেজিস্ট্রেশন সার্টিফিকেটসহ যাবতীয় কাগজপত্র ১ম শ্রেণির গেজেটেড কর্মকর্তা দ্বারা সত্যায়নপূর্বক দরপত্রের সাথে দাখিল করতে হবে।

০৭। পদকের গায়ে নমুনা মোতাবেক ডিজাইন করতে হবে এবং পৃথকভাবে “জাতীয় পল্লী উন্নয়ন পদক ২০১৯”, “জাতীয় পল্লী উন্নয়ন পদক ২০২০” ও “জাতীয় পল্লী উন্নয়ন পদক ২০২১” খোদাই করে লিখতে হবে। এ ছাড়া পদক সরবরাহকারী প্রতিষ্ঠানের নামান্বিত সীলমোহর থাকতে হবে।

০৮। প্রত্যেক দরপত্রের সাথে উল্লিখিত উদ্ভূত দরের ৩% ভাণ্ড (ফেরত যোগ্য) আর্নেস্টম্যানি/পে-অর্ডার অথবা ব্যাংক ড্রাফ্ট-এর আকারে পল্লী উন্নয়ন ও সমবায় বিভাগের অনুকূলে জমা দিতে হবে।

০৯। স্বর্ণ পদকগুলো ২২ কার্যেট মানের ও প্রতিটি ১০(দশ) গ্রাম ওজনের পদক এ মর্মে সরবরাহকারী কর্তৃক প্রত্যয়ন দিতে হবে।

১০। পদকসমূহের মান যাচাই করার জন্য বাংলাদেশ পরমাণুশক্তি কেন্দ্রে রাসায়নিক উপায়ে খাঁটিত্ব ও ওজন পরীক্ষা করা হবে।

১১। পরমাণুশক্তি কেন্দ্র, ঢাকায় রাসায়নিক উপায়ে পদকের খাঁটিত্ব পরীক্ষা ও ওজন পরিমাপের জন্য পরমাণুশক্তি কেন্দ্র-কে দেয় ফি এবং প্রয়োজন হলে পুনঃ পরীক্ষার ফি (পরমাণুশক্তি কেন্দ্র কর্তৃক নির্ধারিত) সংশ্লিষ্ট সরবরাহকারী প্রতিষ্ঠানকে বহন করতে হবে (উল্লেখ্য, পরমাণুশক্তি কেন্দ্র দ্বারা ৩০(ত্রিশ)টি স্বর্ণ পদক পরীক্ষা করানো হবে এবং একটি স্বর্ণ পদক সরবরাহকারী প্রতিষ্ঠানকে পরবর্তীতে ফেরত প্রদান করা হবে)।

১২। পদক সরবরাহকারী প্রতিষ্ঠানকে এ মর্মে প্রত্যয়নপত্র প্রদান করে অঙ্গীকার করতে হবে যে, যদি কোন পদকপ্রাপ্ত ব্যক্তি কোন সময় উক্ত পদক বিক্রি করতে চান তাহলে তাকে সে দিনের প্রচলিত বাজার দর মোতাবেক স্বর্ণের মূল্য প্রদান করতে সরবরাহকারী প্রতিষ্ঠান বাধ্য থাকবেন।

১৩। কোন কারণে কার্যাদেশ প্রাপ্ত প্রতিষ্ঠান যদি নির্ধারিত সময়ের ভেতর পদক সরবরাহ করতে ব্যর্থ হয় বা দেরী করে অথবা পদকের খাঁটিত্ব পরীক্ষায় ডেজাল প্রমাণিত হয়, তাহলে বিধি মোতাবেক প্রতিষ্ঠানটির বিরুদ্ধে শাস্তিমূলক ব্যবস্থা গৃহীত হবে- যেমন কার্যাদেশ বাতিল, আর্নেস্টম্যানি বাজেয়াপ্ত করা, প্রতিষ্ঠানটিকে ব্র্যান্ডলিটকরণ,পল্লী উন্নয়ন ও সমবায় বিভাগকে উপযুক্ত ক্ষতিপূরণ প্রদান ইত্যাদি।

১৪। পদকের সংখ্যা হ্রাস/বৃদ্ধি হতে পারে।

১৫। দরপত্র দলিলাদি বিক্রয়কারী অফিসের নাম ও ঠিকানা (পল্লী উন্নয়ন ও সমবায় বিভাগ, প্রতিষ্ঠান শাখা-২, ভবন নং-৭, কক্ষ নং-২০৫, ৩য় তলা, বাংলাদেশ সচিবালয়, ঢাকা, ফোনঃ ২২৩৩৫৪০০৩) এবং বিহারভিবি পল্লী ভবন, ৫-কাতরান বাজার, ঢাকা।

১৬। দরপত্র দলিল বিক্রির শেষ তারিখ ও সময়: ২২/০৫/২০২২ খ্রিষ্টাব্দ, সকাল ৯.০০ ঘটিকা হতে বিকাল ৩.০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত।

১৭। দরপত্র সিডিউল বিক্রয় মূল্য ২,০০০/= (দুইহাজার) টাকা।

১৮। কর্তৃপক্ষ কোন কারণে উল্লেখ্য ছাড়াই যে কোন দরপত্র গ্রহণ বা বাতিল করার ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করেন।

২৬/০৪/২০২২

(মোঃ শামসুল আলম)

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দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

২০১৯, ২০২০ ও ২০২১ সালের জাতীয় পল্লী উন্নয়ন পদক প্রদানের জন্য নিম্নলিখিত পদক সংগ্রহের লক্ষ্যে সুপ্রতিষ্ঠিত ও সুখ্যাতি সম্পন্ন জুয়েলারী/স্বর্ণ-রৌপ্য ব্যবসায়ী/স্বর্ণকার-এর নিকট থেকে সীলমোহরকৃত খামে দরপত্র আহবান করা যাচ্ছে।

ক) স্বর্ণ পদক (খাঁটি সোনা): ২২কার্যেট মানের ৩০(ত্রিশ)টি স্বর্ণ পদক প্রতিটি ১০(দশ) গ্রাম ওজন বিশিষ্ট পদক; প্রতিটির ব্যাস ৪.৫ সেন্টিমিটার।

খ) **শর্তাবলীঃ**

০১। প্রতিটি পদক পল্লী উন্নয়ন ও সমবায় বিভাগ কর্তৃক নির্ধারিত নমুনা অনুযায়ী শোভন আকারে (কাসকেট) বায়ে (নমুনা নিম্নস্বাক্ষরকারীর নিকট হতে অনুমোদন করিয়ে নিতে হবে) সরবরাহ করতে হবে।

০২। আগ্রহী প্রতিষ্ঠানকে **আগামী ২৬/০৫/২০২২ খ্রিঃ (০৬ জ্যৈষ্ঠ, ১৪২৯ বঙ্গাব্দ) তারিখ অপরাহ্ন ১২.০০ ঘটিকার মধ্যে** পল্লী উন্নয়ন ও সমবায় বিভাগের ২০৫ নং কক্ষের সম্মুখে (ভবন নং-৭, ৩য় তলা, বাংলাদেশ সচিবালয়, ঢাকা) রক্ষিত দরপত্র বায়ে অথবা “পল্লী ভবন” ৫-কাতরান বাজার, বিহারভিবি ঢাকায় রক্ষিত দরপত্র বায়ে সীলমোহরকৃত দরপত্র জমা দিতে হবে। ঐ দিনই বেলা ০২.০০ ঘটিকায় উপস্থিত দরদাতাদের সম্মুখে (যদি কেউ উপস্থিত থাকেন) দরপত্র খোলা হবে। কোন অবস্থাতেই নির্ধারিত তারিখ ও সময় এর পর কোন দরপত্র গৃহীত হবে না।

০৩। কার্যাদেশ দেয়ার ৩০(ত্রিশ) দিনের মধ্যে পদকসমূহ সরবরাহ করতে হবে।

০৪। নির্ধারিত দরদাতাকে কার্যাদেশ পাওয়ার ০৭(সাত) দিনের মধ্যে নমুনা পদক স্পেসিফিকেশন মোতাবেক) দাখিল করতে হবে এবং অনুমোদিত হলে তার কার্যাদেশ নিম্নস্বাক্ষরকারীর অফিস হতে নিশ্চিত করা হবে।

০৫। পদকের স্পেসিফিকেশন ও ডিজাইন নিম্নস্বাক্ষরকারীর অফিসে রাখা হবে।

০৬। দরদাতা প্রতিষ্ঠানকে আবশ্যিকভাবে হালনাগাদ ট্রেড লাইসেন্স, ব্যাংক সলভেন্সী সার্টিফিকেট, আয়কর সনদ, ভ্যাট রেজিস্ট্রেশন সার্টিফিকেটসহ যাবতীয় কাগজপত্র ১ম শ্রেণির গেজেটেড কর্মকর্তা দ্বারা সত্যায়নপূর্বক দরপত্রের সাথে দাখিল করতে হবে।

০৭। পদকের গায়ে নমুনা মোতাবেক ডিজাইন করতে হবে এবং পৃথকভাবে “জাতীয় পল্লী উন্নয়ন পদক ২০১৯”, “জাতীয় পল্লী উন্নয়ন পদক ২০২০” ও “জাতীয় পল্লী উন্নয়ন পদক ২০২১” খোদাই করে লিখতে হবে। এ ছাড়া পদক সরবরাহকারী প্রতিষ্ঠানের নামান্বিত সীলমোহর থাকতে হবে।

০৮। প্রত্যেক দরপত্রের সাথে উল্লিখিত উদ্ভূত দরের ৩% ভাণ্ড (ফেরত যোগ্য) আর্নেস্টম্যানি/পে-অর্ডার অথবা ব্যাংক ড্রাফ্ট-এর আকারে পল্লী উন্নয়ন ও সমবায় বিভাগের অনুকূলে জমা দিতে হবে।

০৯। স্বর্ণ পদকগুলো ২২ কার্যেট মানের ও প্রতিটি ১০(দশ) গ্রাম ওজনের পদক এ মর্মে সরবরাহকারী কর্তৃক প্রত্যয়ন দিতে হবে।

১০। পদকসমূহের মান যাচাই করার জন্য বাংলাদেশ পরমাণুশক্তি কেন্দ্রে রাসায়নিক উপায়ে খাঁটিত্ব ও ওজন পরীক্ষা করা হবে।

১১। পরমাণুশক্তি কেন্দ্র, ঢাকায় রাসায়নিক উপায়ে পদকের খাঁটিত্ব পরীক্ষা ও ওজন পরিমাপের জন্য পরমাণুশক্তি কেন্দ্র-কে দেয় ফি এবং প্রয়োজন হলে পুনঃ পরীক্ষার ফি (পরমাণুশক্তি কেন্দ্র কর্তৃক নির্ধারিত) সংশ্লিষ্ট সরবরাহকারী প্রতিষ্ঠানকে বহন করতে হবে (উল্লেখ্য, পরমাণুশক্তি কেন্দ্র দ্বারা ৩০(ত্রিশ)টি স্বর্ণ পদক পরীক্ষা করানো হবে এবং একটি স্বর্ণ পদক সরবরাহকারী প্রতিষ্ঠানকে পরবর্তীতে ফেরত প্রদান করা হবে)।

১২। পদক সরবরাহকারী প্রতিষ্ঠানকে এ মর্মে প্রত্যয়নপত্র প্রদান করে অঙ্গীকার করতে হবে যে, যদি কোন পদকপ্রাপ্ত ব্যক্তি কোন সময় উক্ত পদক বিক্রি করতে চান তাহলে তাকে সে দিনের প্রচলিত বাজার দর মোতাবেক স্বর্ণের মূল্য প্রদান করতে সরবরাহকারী প্রতিষ্ঠান বাধ্য থাকবেন।

১৩। কোন কারণে কার্যাদেশ প্রাপ্ত প্রতিষ্ঠান যদি নির্ধারিত সময়ের ভেতর পদক সরবরাহ করতে ব্যর্থ হয় বা দেরী করে অথবা পদকের খাঁটিত্ব পরীক্ষায় ডেজাল প্রমাণিত হয়, তাহলে বিধি মোতাবেক প্রতিষ্ঠানটির বিরুদ্ধে শাস্তিমূলক ব্যবস্থা গৃহীত হবে- যেমন কার্যাদেশ বাতিল, আর্নেস্টম্যানি বাজেয়াপ্ত করা, প্রতিষ্ঠানটিকে ব্র্যান্ডলিটকরণ,পল্লী উন্নয়ন ও সমবায় বিভাগকে উপযুক্ত ক্ষতিপূরণ প্রদান ইত্যাদি।

১৪। পদকের সংখ্যা হ্রাস/বৃদ্ধি হতে পারে।

১৫। দরপত্র দলিলাদি বিক্রয়কারী অফিসের নাম ও ঠিকানা (পল্লী উন্নয়ন ও সমবায় বিভাগ, প্রতিষ্ঠান শাখা-২, ভবন নং-৭, কক্ষ নং-২০৫, ৩য় তলা, বাংলাদেশ সচিবালয়, ঢাকা, ফোনঃ ২২৩৩৫৪০০৩) এবং বিহারভিবি পল্লী ভবন, ৫-কাতরান বাজার, ঢাকা।

১৬। দরপত্র দলিল বিক্রির শেষ তারিখ ও সময়: ২২/০৫/২০২২ খ্রিষ্টাব্দ, সকাল ৯.০০ ঘটিকা হতে বিকাল ৩.০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত।

১৭। দরপত্র সিডিউল বিক্রয় মূল্য ২,০০০/= (দুইহাজার) টাকা।

১৮। কর্তৃপক্ষ কোন কারণে উল্লেখ্য ছাড়াই যে কোন দরপত্র গ্রহণ বা বাতিল করার ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করেন।

২৬/০৪/২০২২

(মোঃ শামসুল আলম)

উপসচিব

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স্থানীয় সরকার, পল্লী উন্নয়ন ও সমবায় মন্ত্রণালয়

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বঙ্গবন্ধুর দর্শন

সমবায় উন্নয়ন

তারিখ: ১৩ বৈশাখ ১৪২৯ বঙ্গাব্দ

২৬/০৪/২০২২ খ্রিষ্টাব্দ

দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

২০১৯, ২০২০ ও ২০২১ সালের জাতীয় পল্লী উন্নয়ন পদক প্রদানের জন্য নিম্নলিখিত পদক সংগ্রহের লক্ষ্যে সুপ্রতিষ্ঠিত ও সুখ্যাতি সম্পন্ন জুয়েলারী/স্বর্ণ-রৌপ্য ব্যবসায়ী/স্বর্ণকার-এর নিকট থেকে সীলমোহরকৃত খামে দরপত্র আহবান করা যাচ্ছে।

ক) স্বর্ণ পদক (খাঁটি সোনা): ২২কার্যেট মানের ৩০(ত্রিশ)টি স্বর্ণ পদক প্রতিটি ১০(দশ) গ্রাম ওজন বিশিষ্ট পদক; প্রতিটির ব্যাস ৪.৫ সেন্টিমিটার।

খ) **শর্তাবলীঃ**

০১। প্রতিটি পদক পল্লী উন্নয়ন ও সমবায় বিভাগ কর্তৃক নির্ধারিত নমুনা অনুযায়ী শোভন আকারে (কাসকেট) বায়ে (নমুনা নিম্নস্বাক্ষরকারীর নিকট হতে অনুমোদন করিয়ে নিতে হবে) সরবরাহ করতে হবে।

০২। আগ্রহী প্রতিষ্ঠানকে **আগামী ২৬/০৫/২০২২ খ্রিঃ (০৬ জ্যৈষ্ঠ, ১৪২৯ বঙ্গাব্দ) তারিখ অপরাহ্ন ১২.০০ ঘটিকার মধ্যে** পল্লী উন্নয়ন ও সমবায় বিভাগের ২০৫ নং কক্ষের সম্মুখে (ভবন নং-৭, ৩য় তলা, বাংলাদেশ সচিবালয়, ঢাকা) রক্ষিত দরপত্র বায়ে অথবা “পল্লী ভবন” ৫-কাতরান বাজার, বিহারভিবি ঢাকায় রক্ষিত দরপত্র বায়ে সীলমোহরকৃত দরপত্র জমা দিতে হবে। ঐ দিনই বেলা ০২.০০ ঘটিকায় উপস্থিত দরদাতাদের সম্মুখে (যদি কেউ উপস্থিত থাকেন) দরপত্র খোলা হবে। কোন অবস্থাতেই নির্ধারিত তারিখ ও সময় এর পর কোন দরপত্র গৃহীত হবে না।

০৩। কার্যাদেশ দেয়ার ৩০(ত্রিশ) দিনের মধ্যে পদকসমূহ সরবরাহ করতে হবে।

০৪। নির্ধারিত দরদাতাকে কার্যাদেশ পাওয়ার ০৭(সাত) দিনের মধ্যে নমুনা পদক স্পেসিফিকেশন মোতাবেক) দাখিল করতে হবে এবং অনুমোদিত হলে তার কার্যাদেশ নিম্নস্বাক্ষরকারীর অফিস হতে নিশ্চিত করা হবে।

০৫। পদকের স্পেসিফিকেশন ও ডিজাইন নিম্নস্বাক্ষরকারীর অফিসে রাখা হবে।

০৬। দরদাতা প্রতিষ্ঠানকে আবশ্যিকভাবে হালনাগাদ ট্রেড লাইসেন্স, ব্যাংক সলভেন্সী সার্টিফিকেট, আয়কর সনদ, ভ্যাট রেজিস্ট্রেশন সার্টিফিকেটসহ যাবতীয় কাগজপত্র ১ম শ্রেণির গেজেটেড কর্মকর্তা দ্বারা সত্যায়নপূর্বক দরপত্রের সাথে দাখিল করতে হবে।

০৭। পদকের গায়ে নমুনা মোতাবেক ডিজাইন করতে হবে এবং পৃথকভাবে “জাতীয় পল্লী উন্নয়ন পদক ২০১৯”, “জাতীয় পল্লী উন্নয়ন পদক ২০২০” ও “জাতীয় পল্লী উন্নয়ন পদক ২০২১” খোদাই করে লিখতে হবে। এ ছাড়া পদক সরবরাহকারী প্রতিষ্ঠানের নামান্বিত সীলমোহর থাকতে হবে।

০৮। প্রত্যেক দরপত্রের সাথে উল্লিখিত উদ্ভূত দরের ৩% ভাণ্ড (ফেরত যোগ্য) আর্নেস্টম্যানি/পে-অর্ডার অথবা ব্যাংক ড্রাফ্ট-এর আকারে পল্লী উন্নয়ন ও সমবায় বিভাগের অনুকূলে জমা দিতে হবে।

০৯। স্বর্ণ পদকগুলো ২২ কার্যেট মানের ও প্রতিটি ১০(দশ) গ্রাম ওজনের পদক এ মর্মে সরবরাহকারী কর্তৃক প্রত্যয়ন দিতে হবে।

১০। পদকসমূহের মান যাচাই করার জন্য বাংলাদেশ পরমাণুশক্তি কেন্দ্রে রাসায়নিক উপায়ে খাঁটিত্ব ও ওজন পরীক্ষা করা হবে।

১১। পরমাণুশক্তি কেন্দ্র, ঢাকায় রাসায়নিক উপায়ে পদকের খাঁটিত্ব পরীক্ষা ও ওজন পরিমাপের জন্য পরমাণুশক্তি কেন্দ্র-কে দেয় ফি এবং প্রয়োজন হলে পুনঃ পরীক্ষার ফি (পরমাণুশক্তি কেন্দ্র কর্তৃক নির্ধারিত) সংশ্লিষ্ট সরবরাহকারী প্রতিষ্ঠানকে বহন করতে হবে (উল্লেখ্য, পরমাণুশক্তি কেন্দ্র দ্বারা ৩০(ত্রিশ)টি স্বর্ণ পদক পরীক্ষা করানো হবে এবং একটি স্বর্ণ পদক সরবরাহকারী প্রতিষ্ঠানকে পরবর্তীতে ফেরত প্রদান করা হবে)।

১২। পদক সরবরাহকারী প্রতিষ্ঠানকে এ মর্মে প্রত্যয়নপত্র প্রদান করে অঙ্গীকার করতে হবে যে, যদি কোন পদকপ্রাপ্ত ব্যক্তি কোন সময় উক্ত পদক বিক্রি করতে চান তাহলে তাকে সে দিনের প্রচলিত বাজার দর মোতাবেক স্বর্ণের মূল্য প্রদান করতে সরবরাহকারী প্রতিষ্ঠান বাধ্য থাকবেন।

১৩। কোন কারণে কার্যাদেশ প্রাপ্ত প্রতিষ্ঠান যদি নির্ধারিত সময়ের ভেতর পদক সরবরাহ করতে ব্যর্থ হয় বা দেরী করে অথবা পদকের খাঁটিত্ব পরীক্ষায় ডেজাল প্রমাণিত হয়, তাহলে বিধি মোতাবেক প্রতিষ্ঠানটির বিরুদ্ধে শাস্তিমূলক ব্যবস্থা গৃহীত হবে- যেমন কার্যাদেশ বাতিল, আর্নেস্টম্যানি বাজেয়াপ্ত করা, প্রতিষ্ঠানটিকে ব্র্যান্ডলিটকরণ,পল্লী উন্নয়ন ও সমবায় বিভাগকে উপযুক্ত ক্ষতিপূরণ প্রদান ইত্যাদি।

১৪। পদকের সংখ্যা হ্রাস/বৃদ্ধি হতে পারে।

১৫। দরপত্র দলিলাদি বিক্রয়কারী অফিসের নাম ও ঠিকানা (পল্লী উন্নয়ন ও সমবায় বিভাগ, প্রতিষ্ঠান শাখা-২, ভবন নং-৭, কক্ষ নং-২০৫, ৩য় তলা, বাংলাদেশ সচিবালয়, ঢাকা, ফোনঃ ২২৩৩৫৪০০৩) এবং বিহারভিবি পল্লী ভবন, ৫-কাতরান বাজার, ঢাকা।

১৬। দরপত্র দলিল বিক্রির শেষ তারিখ ও সময়: ২২/০৫/২০২২ খ্রিষ্টাব্দ, সকাল ৯.০০ ঘটিকা হতে বিকাল ৩.০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত।

১৭। দরপত্র সিডিউল বিক্রয় মূল্য ২,০০০/= (দুইহাজার) টাকা।

১৮। কর্তৃপক্ষ কোন কারণে উল্লেখ্য ছাড়াই যে কোন দরপত্র গ্রহণ বা বাতিল করার ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করেন।

২৬/০৪/২০২২

(মোঃ শামসুল আলম)

উপসচিব

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বঙ্গবন্ধুর দর্শন

সমবায় উন্নয়ন

তারিখ: ১৩ বৈশাখ ১৪২৯ বঙ্গাব্দ

২৬/০৪/২০২২ খ্রিষ্টাব্দ

দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

২০১৯, ২০২০ ও ২০২১ সালের জাতীয় পল্লী উন্নয়ন পদক প্রদানের জন্য নিম্নলিখিত পদক সংগ্রহের লক্ষ্যে সুপ্রতিষ্ঠিত ও সুখ্যাতি সম্পন্ন জুয়েলারী/স্বর্ণ-রৌপ্য ব্যবসায়ী/স্বর্ণকার-এর নিকট থেকে সীলমোহরকৃত খামে দরপত্র আহবান করা যাচ্ছে।

ক) স্বর্ণ পদক (খাঁটি সোনা): ২২কার্যেট মানের ৩০(ত্রিশ)টি স্বর্ণ পদক প্রতিটি ১০(দশ) গ্রাম ওজন বিশিষ্ট পদক; প্রতিটির ব্যাস ৪.৫ সেন্টিমিটার।

খ) **শর্তাবলীঃ**

০১। প্রতিটি পদক পল্লী উন্নয়ন ও সমবায় বিভাগ কর্তৃক নির্ধারিত নমুনা অনুযায়ী শোভন আকারে (কাসকেট) বায়ে (নমুনা নিম্নস্বাক্ষরকারীর নিকট হতে অনুমোদন করিয়ে নিতে হবে) সরবরাহ করতে হবে।

০২। আগ্রহী প্রতিষ্ঠানকে **আগামী ২৬/০৫/২০২২ খ্রিঃ (০৬ জ্যৈষ্ঠ, ১৪২৯ বঙ্গাব্দ) তারিখ অপরাহ্ন ১২.০০ ঘটিকার মধ্যে** পল্লী উন্নয়ন ও সমবায় বিভাগের ২০৫ নং কক্ষের সম্মুখে (ভবন নং-৭, ৩য় তলা, বাংলাদেশ সচিবালয়, ঢাকা) রক্ষিত দরপত্র বায়ে অথবা “পল্লী ভবন” ৫-কাতরান বাজার, বিহারভিবি ঢাকায় রক্ষিত দরপত্র বায়ে সীলমোহরকৃত দরপত্র জমা দিতে হবে। ঐ দিনই বেলা ০২.০০ ঘটিকায় উপস্থিত দরদাতাদের সম্মুখে (যদি কেউ উপস্থিত থাকেন) দরপত্র খোলা হবে। কোন অবস্থাতেই নির্ধারিত তারিখ ও সময় এর পর কোন দরপত্র গৃহীত হবে না।

০৩। কার্যাদেশ দেয়ার ৩০(ত্রিশ) দিনের মধ্যে পদকসমূহ সরবরাহ করতে হবে।

০৪। নির্ধারিত দরদাতাকে কার্যাদেশ পাওয়ার ০৭(সাত) দিনের মধ্যে নমুনা পদক স্পেসিফিকেশন মোতাবেক) দাখিল করতে হবে এবং অনুমোদিত হলে তার কার্যাদেশ নিম্নস্বাক্ষরকারীর অফিস হতে নিশ্চিত করা হবে।

০৫। পদকের স্পেসিফিকেশন ও ডিজাইন নিম্নস্বাক্ষরকারীর অফিসে রাখা হবে।

০৬। দরদাতা প্রতিষ্ঠানকে আবশ্যিকভাবে হালনাগাদ ট্রেড লাইসেন্স, ব্যাংক সলভেন্সী সার্টিফিকেট, আয়কর সনদ, ভ্যাট রেজিস্ট্রেশন সার্টিফিকেটসহ যাবতীয় কাগজপত্র ১ম শ্রেণির গেজেটেড কর্মকর্তা দ্বারা সত্যায়নপূর্বক দরপত্রের সাথে দাখিল করতে হবে।

০৭। পদকের গায়ে নমুনা মোতাবেক ডিজাইন করতে হবে এবং পৃথকভাবে “জাতীয় পল্লী উন্নয়ন পদক ২০১৯”, “জাতীয় পল্লী উন্নয়ন পদক ২০২০” ও “জাতীয় পল্লী উন্নয়ন পদক ২০২১” খোদাই করে লিখতে হবে। এ ছাড়া পদক সরবরাহকারী প্রতিষ্ঠানের নামান্বিত সীলমোহর থাকতে হবে।

০৮। প্রত্যেক দরপত্রের সাথে উল্লিখিত উদ্ভূত দরের ৩% ভাণ্ড (ফেরত যোগ্য) আর্নেস্টম্যানি/পে-অর্ডার অথবা ব্যাংক ড্রাফ্ট-এর আকারে পল্লী উন্নয়ন ও সমবায় বিভাগের অনুকূলে জমা দিতে হবে।

০৯। স্বর্ণ পদকগুলো ২২ কার্যেট মানের ও প্রতিটি ১০(দশ) গ্রাম ওজনের পদক এ মর্মে সরবরাহকারী কর্তৃক প্রত্যয়ন দিতে হবে।

১০। পদকসমূহের মান যাচাই করার জন্য বাংলাদেশ পরমাণুশক্তি কেন্দ্রে রাসায়নিক উপায়ে খাঁটিত্ব ও ওজন পরীক্ষা করা হবে।

১১। পরমাণুশক্তি কেন্দ্র, ঢাকায় রাসায়নিক উপায়ে পদকের খাঁটিত্ব পরীক্ষা ও ওজন পরিমাপের জন্য পরমাণুশক্তি কেন্দ্র-কে দেয় ফি এবং প্রয়োজন হলে পুনঃ পরীক্ষার ফি (পরমাণুশক্তি কেন্দ্র কর্তৃক নির্ধারিত) সংশ্লিষ্ট সরবরাহকারী প্রতিষ্ঠানকে বহন করতে হবে (উল্লেখ্য, পরমাণুশক্তি কেন্দ্র দ্বারা ৩০(ত্রিশ)টি স্বর্ণ পদক পরীক্ষা করানো হবে এবং একটি স্বর্ণ পদক সরবরাহকারী প্রতিষ্ঠানকে পরবর্তীতে ফেরত প্রদান করা হবে)।

১২। পদক সরবরাহকারী প্রতিষ্ঠানকে এ মর্মে প্রত্যয়নপত্র প্রদান করে অঙ্গীকার করতে হবে যে, যদি কোন পদকপ্রাপ্ত ব্যক্তি কোন সময় উক্ত পদক বিক্রি করতে চান তাহলে তাকে সে দিনের প্রচলিত বাজার দর মোতাবেক স্বর্ণের মূল্য প্রদান করতে সরবরাহকারী প্রতিষ্ঠান বাধ্য থাকবেন।

১৩। কোন কারণে কার্যাদেশ প্রাপ্ত প্রতিষ্ঠান যদি নির্ধারিত সময়ের ভেতর পদক সরবরাহ করতে ব্যর্থ হয় বা দেরী করে অথবা পদকের খাঁটিত্ব পরীক্ষায় ডেজাল প্রমাণিত হয়, তাহলে বিধি মোতাবেক প্রতিষ্ঠানটির বিরুদ্ধে শাস্তিমূলক ব্যবস্থা গৃহীত হবে- যেমন কার্যাদেশ বাতিল, আর্নেস্টম্যানি বাজেয়াপ্ত করা, প্রতিষ্ঠানটিকে ব্র্যান্ডলিটকরণ,পল্লী উন্নয়ন ও সমবায় বিভাগকে উপযুক্ত ক্ষতিপূরণ প্রদান ইত্যাদি।

১৪। পদকের সংখ্যা হ্রাস/বৃদ্ধি হতে পারে।

১৫। দরপত্র দলিলাদি বিক্রয়কারী অফিসের নাম ও ঠিকানা (পল্লী উন্নয়ন ও সমবায় বিভাগ, প্রতিষ্ঠান শাখা-২, ভবন নং-৭, কক্ষ নং-২০৫, ৩য় তলা, বাংলাদেশ সচিবালয়, ঢাকা, ফোনঃ ২২৩৩৫৪০০৩) এবং বিহারভিবি পল্লী ভবন, ৫-কাতরান বাজার, ঢাকা।

১৬। দরপত্র দলিল বিক্রির শেষ তারিখ ও সময়: ২২/০৫/২০২২ খ্রিষ্টাব্দ, সকাল ৯.০০ ঘটিকা হতে বিকাল ৩.০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত।

১৭। দরপত্র সিডিউল বিক্রয় মূল্য ২,০০০/= (দুইহাজার) টাকা।

১৮। কর্তৃপক্ষ কোন কারণে উল্লেখ্য ছাড়াই যে কোন দরপত্র গ্রহণ বা বাতিল করার ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করেন।

২৬/০৪/২০২২

(মোঃ শামসুল আলম)

উপসচিব

GD-846

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার

স্থানীয় সরকার, পল্লী উন্নয়



Unleashing the Potential of Agriculture Microinsurance Market in Bangladesh: Prospects and Challenges

Financial Institutions Division (FID) in association with the Insurance Development and Regulatory Authority (IDRA) and the Embassy of Switzerland in Bangladesh organised a workshop titled ‘Unleashing the Potential of Agriculture Microinsurance Market in Bangladesh: Prospects and Challenges’ on April 6, 2022. Here we publish a summary of the discussion. The session was moderated by Maksuma Akhter Banu, Deputy Secretary of the Financial Institutions Division.

Mujibul Hasan Cezanne, Country Director, Swisscontact Bangladesh

On behalf of Swisscontact Bangladesh and Bangladesh Microinsurance Market Development Programme, I would like to thank the Embassy of Switzerland for giving us the mandate to conduct and manage the two studies. I would also like to express my sincere gratitude to the Financial Institutions Division and IDRA for their overall cooperation and guidance in carrying out the studies.



We need to ensure cooperation and collaboration between various stakeholders so that the sector may reach its full potential.

Microinsurance can, directly and indirectly, be related to several SDGs. It is also deeply entwined with the government's Vision 2041 which focuses on, among other things, the resilience of crop and livestock production system in the face of climate change. The microinsurance sector is still in a nascent stage but it has huge potential. We need to ensure cooperation and collaboration between various stakeholders so that the sector may reach its full potential.

Syeda Zinia Rashid, PhD, Senior Programme Officer, Embassy of Switzerland in Bangladesh

Switzerland has a strong niche in the agricultural sector of Bangladesh. As a long-standing development partner of the Bangladesh government, Switzerland has been contributing to many development areas including agriculture. Bangladesh is prone to climate change impacts and disaster risks, and the challenges are increasing day by day. Here also Switzerland is committed to support the farmers' community in cooperation



Switzerland is committed to support the farmers' community in cooperation with the Bangladesh government so that the resilience of the farmers and all other relevant stakeholders can be improved.

with the Bangladesh government so that the resilience of the farmers and all other relevant stakeholders can be improved.

Tim Gamper, International Consultant & Lead for the Study

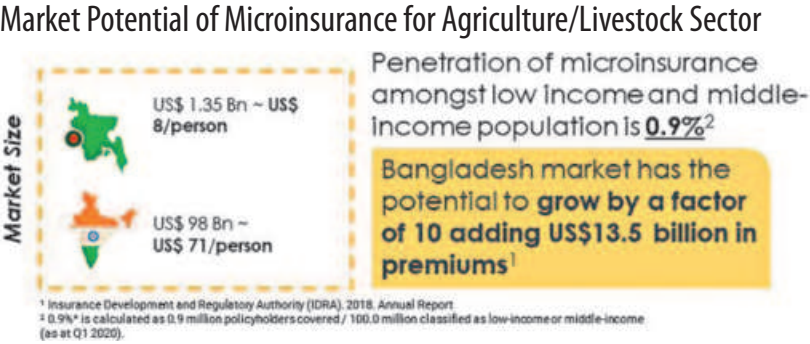
The study titled 'Unleashing the potential of agriculture microinsurance market in Bangladesh: Prospects and challenges' covers four areas: Bangladesh's microinsurance market system, challenges and constraints to growth, potential microinsurance subsector analysis and proposed



There is a dire need for partnership between the public sector, private sector and development partners to make microinsurance projects successful in Bangladesh.

microinsurance sector strategy.

The key message I want to share with you is that there is a dire need for partnership between the public sector, private sector and development partners to make microinsurance projects successful in Bangladesh.



Denis Garand, International Expert on Microinsurance

Microinsurance helps low income and poor people manage their risks. The premium level of microinsurance should not be more than 10 days' income of the client.



The way forward includes improving actuarial skills, investment in technology, exploring new partnerships and emerging frontiers, developing a clear microinsurance regulatory framework and strengthening inter-ministerial cooperation.

Microinsurance is aligned with the Bangladesh government's priority plans such as Bangladesh Delta Plan 2100, Perspective Plan (2021-2041) and 8th Five-Year Plan.

In Bangladesh, the current per capita expenditure on insurance is USD 8 per person while in India it is USD 71 per person. So, there is considerable scope to develop the insurance market in Bangladesh. The Philippines has made extraordinary accomplishments by bringing 30 percent of its population under microinsurance in only 20 years. This should be an indicator for how far Bangladesh can also develop its microinsurance market.

The market potential for crop insurance in Bangladesh is USD 549 million while for livestock it is USD 74 million. Approximately 7.8 percent of SMEs are owned by women. These figures show that there is a clear market for microinsurance in Bangladesh.

However, there are some challenges when it comes to capitalising on this market. The

PROBLEMS	SOLUTIONS
<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Absence of a microinsurance regulatory framework and consumer protection law	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Development of Micro-Insurance Policy, Agriculture Insurance Policy, Livestock Insurance Policy➤ Facilitate policy dialogues, anchored by FID, with relevant government agencies and regulators
<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Absence of a functioning support service market for demand-driven product development	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Facilitate the development of a support service market (data provider, actuarial services, insurance services) that enables innovative products tailored to the need of the customers➤ Develop the reinsurance capacity (skills and technology) of SBC➤ Advocate with FID, BIA, and NBR to waive/minimize 15% VAT on agriculture insurance premium
<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Low demand for agriculture insurance amongst the target groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Support market actors, such as IDRA, insurance companies, aggregators, agro-input companies, to conduct campaigns, literacy programs, marketing activities
<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Limited distribution mechanism for agriculture insurance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Advocate with MRA and IDRA for developing favorable regulations that allow innovation in distribution with new distribution partners
<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Weak Claims Management Implementation Processes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Facilitate insurance companies to integrate automated claim settlement and payout system➤ Facilitate linkage among local service providers and MFS/aggregators and support insurance companies to adopt flexible options for claim settlement (e.g., cattle post-mortem)

supply side challenges for insurance companies in Bangladesh are limited market demand information, product development, technology service provisions, delivery channels, actuarial skills, and concerns regarding commercial viability. The demand side challenges are lack of trust, poor client value proposition, liquidity constraints in premium payment and delay in payment of claims.

The way forward includes improving actuarial skills, investment in technology, exploring new partnerships and emerging frontiers, developing a clear microinsurance regulatory framework and strengthening inter-ministerial cooperation.

Elias Omondi, International Expert on Agriculture Insurance Policy

A significant portion of the agricultural market in Bangladesh is underinsured, leaving them exposed to risks and unable to manage and recover from them. For example, production losses of major crops due to natural disasters are on average equivalent to 6.4 percent of the national crop production. Currently, insurance penetration in Bangladesh is below 1 percent. If we support the agricultural space, we can easily increase insurance penetration in Bangladesh.

We should focus on product development. We need to first figure out how to design the products, with the target audience in mind.



We need to develop a guideline or roadmap that clearly sets out where we want to go as an industry.

Supervisory guidance on the development of agriculture insurance product is necessary, and here a collaboration between the industry and the regulatory body should be ensured.

Distribution is another key element that needs focus. Since the farmers in Bangladesh are on the lowest part of the pyramid, we must use alternative channels of distribution to reach them.

Fintech can play a very important role here, as it can provide a whole new way of delivering products to customers. But we must make sure that it is something that farmers are willing to adapt to.

We have to increase affordability of agricultural insurance products. Otherwise, it would be pointless to create a product. We should reduce tax and VAT on agricultural insurance products.

We need to develop a guideline or roadmap that clearly sets out where we want to go as an industry. This will help us chart our plans and figure out how we will promote agriculture microinsurance and push for it in the market. We can bundle insurance products with credit to facilitate promotion and distribution. Sustainable insurance is the key to mitigating the risk farmers face due to climate change related disasters. However, at the same time, we should also take care of the climate and nature.

Syed Shahriyar Ahsan, Managing Director, Sadharan Bima Corporation

The total number of households in Bangladesh is around 2.87 crore—of which 1.52 crore households are dependent on agriculture. Although we have done a lot of work around general insurance, the agriculture insurance sector remains neglected.



We must also ensure that the insurance premium is kept low and that it is VAT free.

If we cannot ensure agriculture insurance for our farmers and bring agricultural losses under insurance coverage, we will not be able to achieve sustainable development in the agriculture sector.

Currently, Sadharan Bima Corporation in collaboration with Swisscontact and Syngenta Foundation is issuing weather index-based crop insurance policies in the northern region of the country. Having such insurance will allow farmers to avoid loss and damage from disasters, and they will not have to worry about paying off the loans. We must also ensure that the insurance



The process of claiming insurance should be made easier

lives of the marginal communities. Microinsurance for the agriculture sector in Bangladesh needs to be carefully designed, with products that are based on the needs of the farmers. The process of claiming insurance should be made easier.

Sheikh Kabir Hossain, President, Bangladesh Insurance Association

Agriculture is one of our most important sectors. In the past, it was a major income source for the country and its people. However, this field has now fallen behind due to various natural calamities as well as neglect. But now, we must revitalise this sector.

Both the private and public sectors need to come forward and work together to design



Both the private and public sectors need to come forward and work together to design insurance products that can be of use to the farmers.

insurance products that can be of use to the farmers. The VAT and tax on agriculture insurance should be kept at the minimum level. Private companies should subsidise these insurance schemes.

Dr M Mosharraf Hossain, Chairman, Insurance Development and Regulatory Authority

We, as insurance companies, must come forward with quality insurance products for agriculture sector to save our farmers from the perils caused by climate change and disasters. We have to bundle our products to bring in multiple elements together so that people feel encouraged to purchase them. Bundling features such as timely



We have to bundle our products to bring in multiple elements together so that people feel encouraged to purchase them.

payouts, zero interest rate, loan coverage, etc., can ensure the maximum reach of agriculture insurance. We also have to reduce the tax burden on agriculture insurance products.

Sheikh Mohammad Salim Ullah, Secretary, Financial Institutions Division, Ministry of Finance

Bangladesh, despite having many constraints, has made substantial progress in reducing poverty, accelerating the pace of socio-economic development, and achieving the targets of SDGs. The prudent policy of our government, combined with the resilience of our people, has been the key to our success. I urge all the insurance companies to adopt digitisation in their insurance management systems, not only for their business, but for the overall economic growth of the country.



There should be a clear policy guideline for microinsurance as well as for agriculture insurance.

There should be a clear policy guideline for microinsurance as well as for agriculture insurance. In order to bring visible change in the industry, I request my colleagues from IDRA to take the lead in developing the necessary policy framework. Additionally, I would recommend that insurance companies should start working in rural areas alongside their existing markets.

I also urge the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries to promote microinsurance in the livestock and fishery industry.

Abdullah Harun Pasha, Additional Secretary, Financial Institutions Division

I think we have conducted a very successful workshop today where we have focused on the various aspects of microinsurance for the agriculture sector. We are grateful to the Swiss government for extending their support to us. I believe that Bangladesh will continue to make progress and by



While at present the market penetration of insurance is quite low, I believe it too will grow gradually, and by 2041 the market penetration for insurance will be around 6 to 10 percent.

2041, we will become a fully developed nation. While at present the market penetration of insurance is quite low, I believe it too will grow gradually, and by 2041 the market penetration for insurance will be around 6 to 10 percent.



Sheikh Jamal Dhanmondi Club players celebrate after clinching the Dhaka Premier League title for the first time since the tournament gained List A status in 2013 yesterday. An unbeaten run-a-ball 81 from Nurul Hasan Sohan helped Sheikh Jamal beat Abahani by four wickets at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur to confirm the title with one match in hand.

PHOTO: FIROZ AHMED

Nurul credits team environment after maiden DPL title

SPORTS REPORTER

Nurul Hasan Sohan raised his bat after scoring the winning runs with a nicely-timed aerial shot through long-off. Nurul was beaming with confidence, his heroic knock under pressure was evidence of his ability to take on pressure situations. Sheikh Jamal Dhanmondi had been able to get the edge over opponents during tight games this season and team effort counted as they clinched their first Dhaka Premier League title since the tournament gained List A status. Abahani's top-order did not click as much as they would have liked before a late onslaught from Jaker Ali (47*) and Mohammad Saifuddin (44*) saw them reach 229 for six. Sheikh Jamal needed to win this match in order to seize the title yesterday and escape a do-or-die last match against Legends of Rugganj. But when experienced batters such as Imrul Kayes and Mushfiqur departed cheaply, they found themselves at 78 for five. From that point on, Nurul stitched together a 72-run sixth-wicket stand first with Parvez Rasool to bring his side back into the game before an 82-run seventh-wicket

stand off just 52 deliveries with Ziaur Rahman clinched the game and the title. Nurul's form in the Super League has been dreamlike with scores of 72, 132 not out, 71 before he got his side out of a tough situation against Abahani yesterday with a dazzling 81. Nurul picked his zones well, showing good authority in his power-hitting skills and this time he made it count. "We were very confident. Playing for Sheikh Jamal for five years now and credit to the dressing room environment, which was created through the toil and suffering of the last few years. Building a side and the environment takes time and I think we have one of the best dressing room environments in domestic cricket. I was very confident this time and since an opportunity came, I wanted to do something for

the team," Nurul said. His form may also help his cause with the national team in need of someone who can play big shots at the death. "It's important to build on this and make a habit of playing such knocks here and I will try to improve my game day by day." Legends of Rugganj blew aside Gazi Group with a massive 196-run victory at BKSP. Sabbir Rahman struck an 83-ball 90 before Shakib Al Hasan raised a storm with the third-fastest DPL fifty off 21 deliveries during a 26-ball 59 as Rugganj reached 293 for nine. Chirag Jani got a flier as Gazi were skittled out for just 97. Prime Bank sealed an easy win in the other match at BKSP, defeating Rugganj Tigers by 10 wickets with openers Tamim Iqbal and Anamul Haque remaining unbeaten on 109 and 112 respectively.



Anamul reaches 1k-run landmark

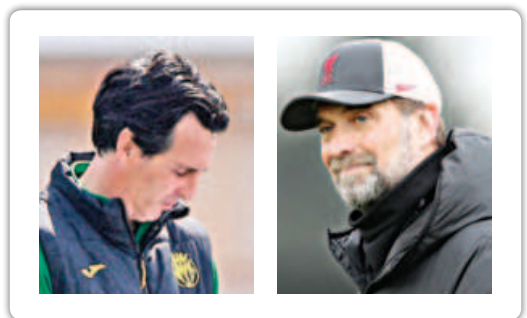
SPORTS REPORTER

Anamul Haque continued his brilliant form and became the first player to score 1000 runs in the Dhaka Premier League (DPL) since the tournament gained List A status in 2013. The right-handed opener reached the feat on his way to a magnificent unbeaten ton that helped Prime Bank Cricket Club thrash Rugganj Tigers Cricket Club by 10 wickets in their Super League clash at the BKSP-4 ground yesterday. The 29-year-old in the previous game surpassed Saif Hasan's record for most runs scored in a single season since the tournament gained List A status. Saif scored 814 runs for Prime Doleshwar in 2019. Anamul, who needed 70 to achieve the feat, did it in style as he eventually remained unbeaten on 112 runs off 84 balls, striking eleven fours and six maximums. It was Anamul's third century in the tournament. He also struck eight fifties and has already amassed 1042 runs in 14 games with one more game to go. Before the tournament gained List A status, Kenya's Steve Tikolo held the record for most runs in a season for his 1227 runs in 16 innings for Mohammedan Sporting Club back in 2001. Anamul yesterday was aptly supported by the Tigers' ODI skipper Tamim Iqbal, who also scored an unbeaten hundred. It was Tamim's 20th List A ton – most by a Bangladeshi. The dashing left-hander also became the first Bangladeshi batter to reach 10000 runs in List A cricket on his way to an unbeaten 109.

'Villarreal's journey does not have to end'

AGENCIES

Seeking to pull off another remarkable Champions League upset, Villarreal travel to Anfield for the first leg of their semi-final with Liverpool on Wednesday night. Villarreal knocked out Juventus in the last 16 and Bayern Munich in the quarters, two clubs that together own twice as many European Cups – eight – as Villarreal have wins in the knock-out stage. The Yellow Submarine sit seventh in La Liga but have a knack for upsetting Europe's biggest teams, after also prevailing against Arsenal and Manchester United to win the Europa League last year. "We're playing the favourites but we want to be us and to play on the front foot," said Villarreal coach Unai Emery. "The journey does not have to end, we want to be in charge, to create chances. "In normal conditions they are superior to us but we have our own ideas, individually and as a team, to allow us to compete." Emery said Villarreal will no longer be an unknown force to Liverpool after their victories over Juve and Bayern. "The surprise factor decreases," he said. "That was more important against Juve and Bayern but it won't be the case now. Liverpool



know that we are here because we have been able to compete. For us, that means the challenge is greater." Meanwhile, Liverpool manager Juergen Klopp also promised to not make the same mistake Bayern and Juventus might have made earlier. "There might have been a slight advantage (for Villarreal) where Juve or Bayern might have underestimated them but that won't happen with us. They want to be part of the final but it's the same importance for us," Klopp told reporters ahead of the game at Anfield on Wednesday. Liverpool last featured in this stage of the competition three years ago, against Barcelona, and Klopp said that home support, which helped them turn around a 3-0 deficit from the first leg in 2019, would be crucial. "We need a similar atmosphere and a big performance. I need to be on top of my game, so do the boys, that is fine. If a semi-final in this competition would be easy, something would be really wrong. I can't wait for it, to be honest," he said. "There are moments when we will suffer and I know that. We don't need to get nervous but we can make them suffer too."

North-West Power Generation Company Ltd.
ISO 9001:2015, ISO 14001:2015 & ISO 45001:2018 Certified
(An Enterprise of Bangladesh Power Development Board)

Office of the Chief Engineer
Sirajganj Power Station, NWPGL
Soydabad, Sirajganj

Ref: 27.28.8878.001.18.002.21.344 Date: 26/04/2022

e-Tender Notice (OTM)

The following e-Tenders have been invited in the National e-GP System Portal (www.eprocure.gov.bd):

Sl. No.	Tender ID	Brief Description of Tender	Publication Date	Last Selling Date & Time	Opening Date
1	685640	Carrying of Liquid Fuel (HSD) and Related Services by Road Transportation for Sirajganj Power Station, Soydabad, Sirajganj.	26/04/2022	25/05/2022, 03:30 PM	26/05/2022
2	691414	Supply, Installation and Testing of Fire Detection and Fire Suppression System Equipment.	26/04/2022	02/06/2022 10:00 AM	02/06/2022

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 (www.eprocure.gov.bd) is required. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and e-GP Help Desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

Engr. Md. Harun Rashid
Chief Engineer
Sirajganj Power Station
NWPGL, Soydabad, Sirajganj
Contact No.: +8801755630001

Islami Bank Bangladesh Limited
Based on Islamic Shari'ah

Board & Company Affairs Wing
Share & Bond Division
Head Office
63 Dilkusha C/A (5th Floor), Dhaka

Price sensitive disclosure
relating to Quarterly Un-Audited Financial Statements
of the Bank for the 1st Quarter ended 31st March 2022

This is for kind information of all concerned that the Board of Directors of Islami Bank Bangladesh Limited in its 310th Meeting held on 26th April, 2022 for consideration/adoption of Quarterly Un-Audited Financial Statements of the Bank for the 1st quarter ended 31st March 2022 through virtual platform at **02.15 P.M.** took the following Price Sensitive decisions :

Sl. No.	Particulars	31.03.2022		31.03.2021	
		Solo (Taka)	Consolidated (Taka)	Solo (Taka)	Consolidated (Taka)
01	Net Asset Value (NAV)	Tk. 65,320,692,157	Tk. 66,636,847,814	Tk. 62,250,255,907	Tk. 63,328,549,935
02	Net Asset Value (NAV) Per Share (Tk.)	Tk. 40.57	Tk. 41.39	Tk. 38.66	Tk. 39.33
		01 Jan 2022 to 31 March 2022		01 Jan 2021 to 31 March 2021	
		Solo (Taka)	Consolidated (Taka)	Solo (Taka)	Consolidated (Taka)
03	Net Profit After Tax	Tk. 686,036,744	Tk. 836,785,330	Tk. 650,142,759	Tk. 731,373,835
04	Earnings per Share (EPS) (Tk.)	Tk. 0.43	Tk. 0.52	Tk. 0.40	Tk. 0.45
05	Net Operating Cash Flow per Share (NOCFPS) (Tk.)	Tk. 23.47	Tk. 24.22	Tk. 33.33	Tk. 33.71

* The Net Operating Cash Flow Per Share (NOCFPS) on solo basis has significantly decreased by Tk. 9.86 than that of previous period mainly due to net cash outflows against investment to customers Tk. 15,780 million, others assets Tk. 108 million, other liabilities Tk. 989 million and less deposits mobilization from customer Tk. 17,161 million as well as positive net cash inflows from net operating activities Tk. 316 million and placement from other banks Tk. 16,358 million during the period from 1st January 2022 to 31st March 2022.

N.B.: Details on the matter will also be available in the Bank's website: www.islamibankbd.com

Date: Dhaka, 26th April, 2022.

By Order of the Board
Sd/-
(J Q M Habibullah, FCS)
DMD & Company Secretary

www.islamibankbd.com



Building a stronger and safer nation for 70 years
Our victories are for the people



HIGHEST SELLING CEMENT for more than **15 years**



No one to be homeless in Bangladesh

Says PM while giving homes to 33,000 families



UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday pledged to ensure houses for all homeless people in the country. "We have been able to ensure electricity for 100 percent people. Now 100 percent [homeless] people will get houses. None will remain landless and shelter-less in Bangladesh," she said.

The premier was addressing a programme marking the handover of about 33,000 government-built homes to another batch of extremely poor families as her Eid gift under the third phase of the Ashrayan-2 project. She joined the event from the Gono Bhavan virtually.

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Tigress Joya drinking from a stream of water in a reservoir at Chattogram Zoo to quench her thirst in the unbearable summer heat yesterday. Several other animals at the zoo were seen jumping into their pools to cool down.

PHOTO: RAJIB RAIHAN

NEW MARKET CLASHES Dhaka College finally forms probe body

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Dhaka College authority finally formed a committee yesterday to verify whether their students were involved in clashes in the New Market area a week ago.

The move comes days after police's Detective Branch already made headway into identifying the attackers who assaulted and hacked 19-year-old Nahid Mia to death.

According to detectives, most of the attackers were Dhaka College students and affiliated with Chhatra League.

Five cases have so far been filed regarding the clashes, which left two people killed and at least 50 injured, including journalists, students and cops. The cases are now under investigation.

ATM Mainul Hossain, acting principle of Dhaka College, told The Daily Star yesterday that they formed a three-member committee, headed by Prof Akhil Chandra Biswas, head of mathematics department.

The two other members are: Md Saheen Uddin, associate professor of physics and Md Faruk Ahmed, assistant professor of Islamic history.

The committee was asked to submit its report within five working days, he said.

Asked about the delay in starting the investigation, Mainul said the police investigation was not their concern.

"We have formed the committee as per academic rule.

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It's religious terrorism

Says tribunal about murder attempt on Prof Zafar Iqbal, sentences attacker to life

DWOHA CHOWDHURY, Sylhet

The attack on Prof Muhammed Zafar Iqbal is "religious terrorism" to silence those who speaks and writes about freethinking, progressiveness, science, and religious superstitions.

Judge Muhammad Nurul Amin Biplob of the Anti-Terrorism Special Tribunal in Sylhet made the observation yesterday while handing life imprisonment to prime accused Md Foyzul Hasan for the attempted murder of the professor on March 3, 2018.

The tribunal also sentenced Foyzul's associate Md Sohag Miah to four years and fined the two Tk 20,000 and Tk 5,000.

The four other accused were acquitted.

Zafar Iqbal, an eminent author and educationist, was stabbed in the head by Foyzul on stage during a programme at Shahjalal University of Science and Technology (SUST).

Caught red-handed by students and teachers, Foyzul was handed over to police.

SUST Registrar Mohd Ishfaquul Hossain filed the case with Jalalabad Police Station under the Anti-Terrorism Act on the night of March 3.

After investigation, police submitted the charge sheet to the metropolitan magistrate court on May 6, 2018, accusing Foyzul and five others.

The four other accused were: Foyzul's father

Hafez Maulana Atiqur Rahman, mother Minara Begum, uncle Fozlur Rahman and brother Enamul Hasan.

The tribunal in its observation said Foyzul drew inspiration from radical sermons of Mufti Jashimuddin Rahmani about militancy and extremist ideology.

"It was not proved that Foyzul was involved in any local and international terrorist organisation. But he became motivated to indulge in terrorist activities by reading radical articles and books and listening to sermons of extremist speakers....

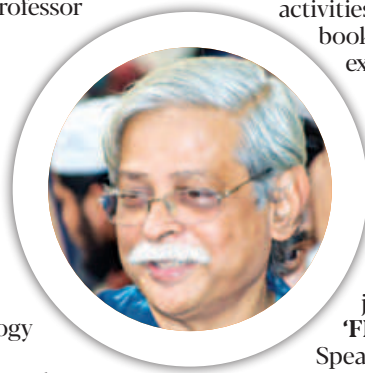
"Such an attack on an eminent writer and teacher, who is vocal about dissenting thoughts and stands by the victims of extremists, is unacceptable as expressing opinions freely, tolerance, and progressiveness are key indicators of civilization," the judge said.

'FEEL PITY FOR FOYZUL'

Speaking to The Daily Star yesterday after the delivery of the judgment, Zafar Iqbal said, "I'm not angry with him [Foyzul]. But I pity the youths like him who believe that if they do this kind of activity, they will go to heaven."

He said he was angry at those who mislead Foyzul.

"He has been sentenced under the existing law because he committed a crime. But I don't have any grudge against him."



A woman callously tries to cross Manik Mia Avenue, one of the busiest streets in the capital, between two buses yesterday. Such jaywalking ignoring risks to one's safety often causes fatal accidents.

PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

Taking steps on findings will be more effective

Says TIB after gov't bins its Covid report

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Transparency International Bangladesh yesterday said it was working to establish good governance and prevent corruption and there was no scope to bring allegations of damaging the country's image against it.

"Instead of terming the TIB's report incorrect and intentional, taking measures on the report's findings would play a more effective role in controlling the pandemic," said the graft watchdog in a statement in response to the health minister's rejection of its recent report.

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CHANDPUR TECH CAMPUS

Academic activities may not start this year

MAHBUBUR RAHMAN KHAN

The hope of starting academic activities at Chandpur Science and Technology University on the proposed land is dashed again as the deadline for depositing compensation for land acquisition is over.

There was a legal binding of depositing money to the Land Acquisition Fund of Chandpur Deputy Commissioner's office within 120 working days.

The DC office confirmed no money was deposited till yesterday – the deadline for deposit.

Though the land acquisition process remains stalled over alleged price manipulation by some local ruling party activists, the university authorities were hopeful of beginning academic sessions this year with the buildings on the proposed land.

Meanwhile, the senior metropolitan special judge's court issued a travel ban on Chandpur's Laxmipur Union Chairman Selim Khan who was allegedly involved in price manipulation of the land.

"We hoped to begin academic activities but the unreleased of money has made things complicated for us," said CSTU Vice-Chancellor Nasim Akhtar.

The alleged deception was unearthed by the Chandpur district administration which found that 63.549 acres of land in Laxmipur Mouza no-115, selected for the university, were heavily overpriced.

The Chandpur Deputy Commissioner's office began the CSTU land acquisition in May 2021.

The DC office estimates that at the artificially hiked rate, the government would have to pay about Tk 553 crore when the actual price of the land is about Tk 193.90 crore.

In an order on November 4, the Chandpur DC office had asked the university authorities to release about Tk 193.90 crore as compensation for land acquisition by 120 working days.

"If the estimated money is not deposited by the said time, the land acquisition case will be cancelled automatically," reads the order.

Talking to The Daily Star, Chandpur Deputy Commissioner Anjana Khan Mojilish said they did not get the estimated compensation.

Asked whether the acquisition will be cancelled, she said they are waiting for a decision from the High Court as a writ is pending.

Challenging the DC office's estimation, Selim Khan and others filed petitions before the High Court which after a hearing fixed April 20 for order.

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NOTICE

Dear readers, the Chattogram page will be published tomorrow instead of today.