



Farm workers are transplanting seedlings of Aman at the seed processing farm of Bangladesh Agricultural Development Corporation. Labourers get Tk 500 for transplantation from 6 am to 2 pm daily. The photo taken on August 29. PHOTO: TITU DAS

# Dutch, Bangladeshi firms to invest 6m euros in aquaculture

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

The Dutch government has teamed up with some Bangladeshi companies to invest 6 million euros to ensure sustainable growth of Bangladesh's aquaculture sector.

The parties will establish three centres of excellence in Sylhet, Khulna, and Cox's Bazar to introduce and demonstrate different types of improved and more sustainable techniques for fish breeding and cultivation.

Moreover, research and trials with on-farm products such as feed additives, aqua specialties and antibiotic replacers will be conducted and technical assistance to fish breeders and farmers will be provided.

In addition, the partnership will upgrade an aqua feed line in Dhaka to increase the availability of domestically produced specialised fish feed.

The Dutch embassy in Bangladesh and a partnership of Dutch and Bangladeshi companies headed by Larive International BV launched the initiative yesterday, according to a press release of LightCastle



Partners.

The partnership consists of Aftab Bahumukhi Farms Ltd, Gemini Sea Food, Nutreco, Viqon, LightCastle Partners, and Larive International.

Birgitta Tazelaar, deputy director-general for international cooperation at the foreign affairs ministry of the

Netherlands, signed an agreement with Abu Luthfi Fazle Rahim Khan, managing director of Aftab Bahumukhi Farms, and Mahmud Riyad, general manager for operations at Gemini Seafood, on August 31.

The deal signing ceremony took place at Aftab Bahumukhi's head office at

Banani in the capital.

"The Dutch embassy supports the development of more sustainable agri-food value chains in Bangladesh and encourages Dutch companies to locally invest together with local stakeholders," said Anne van Leeuwen, ambassador of the Netherlands.

"We are glad that via this cooperation, we will be able to contribute to increased food security, more sustainable water usage, and strengthen the cooperation between the Dutch and Bangladeshi private sector."

Fish production rose 3 per cent year-on-year to 45 lakh tonnes in 2019-20, thanks to increased aquaculture, according to the Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock. It was 42 lakh tonnes in 2017-18.

Bangladesh's success in fish production was globally recognised, with its output from open water bodies being the world's third largest while that from closed-system aquaculture fifth.

The country is the top hilsa producing nation and the fourth-largest producer of tilapia.

## StanChart, Channel i add new categories to 'Agrow' award

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Standard Chartered and Channel i have jointly announced two new categories for this year's "Standard Chartered - Channel i Agrow Award 2022" aimed at identifying and rewarding visionaries and innovators in the agriculture sector.

Launched by Standard Chartered in 2014, this year's award marks the eighth iteration of the event and the fourth collaboration between Channel i and the bank, said a press release.

The new categories are "Best Small-Scale Farmer, Male" and "Best Small-Scale Farmer, Female".

It emphasises the efforts of farmers who have had a substantive impact on communities and the agricultural landscape, despite having relatively smaller operations.

The award will also recognise winners in categories of lifetime achievement; farmer of the year, male; farmer of the year, female; heroes for change; best journalist; jury special; best agricultural organisation in research, innovation and technology; best agricultural organisation in support and execution; and best exporter.

A cash prize will be presented to winners.

## Nahee Aluminum takes up Tk 27cr project

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Nahee Aluminum Composite Panel Ltd has decided to invest Tk 27 crore under a project to manufacture five types of products.

In a posting on the Dhaka Stock Exchange, the company said its board had decided to invest in a new project for the manufacturing and sales selling of five products: cross tee, main tee, wall angle, runner for aluminium ceiling, and UPVC ceiling.

The estimated total project cost for the new products is Tk 27 crore, while it will fetch an additional yearly revenue of about Tk 25 crore.

Shares of Nahee Aluminum were down 4.3 per cent on the DSE yesterday.

PRICES OF KEY ESSENTIALS IN DHAKA CITY			
	PRICE (SEP 1, 2022)	% CHANGES FROM A MONTH AGO	% CHANGE FROM A YEAR AGO
Fine rice	Tk 64-Tk 75	1.46 ↑	12 ↑
Coarse rice	Tk 52-Tk 56	10.2 ↑	16.13 ↑
Loose flour	Tk 50-Tk 55	28.5 ↑	66.67 ↑
Lentil	Tk 105-Tk 110	2.38 ↑	22.86 ↑
Soybean (loose)	Tk 170-Tk 177	3.27 ↑	38.8 ↑
Potato	Tk 24-Tk 30	-6.9 ↓	42.11 ↑
Onion (local)	Tk 40-Tk 45	unchanged	-2.3 ↓
Egg	Tk 36-Tk 40	-7.32 ↓	5.56 ↑
SOURCE: TCB			



Areef Billah Adil Chowdhury, president and managing director of Bank Asia Ltd, and Kazi Alamgir, managing director of Bangladesh Development Bank Ltd, exchange signed documents of an agreement over remittance service at the latter's head office in Dhaka on Wednesday. PHOTO: BDBL



Shahed Rahmani, chairman of shariah supervisory committee of Shahjalal Islami Bank, presides over the bank's 72nd shariah supervisory committee meeting at its corporate head office in Dhaka yesterday. Mohammed Younus, chairman of the bank, Mohiuddin Ahmed, vice-chairman, M Shahidul Islam, managing director, and Abdul Aziz, additional managing director, were present. PHOTO: SHAHJALAL ISLAMI BANK



Syed Mahbubur Rahman, managing director of Mutual Trust Bank, cuts a cake to inaugurate the bank's customer service week at its Rangpur branch in Rangpur recently. Md Ahsan Adelur Rahman, member of parliament from Nilphamari-4 constituency, Rais Uddin Ahmad, deputy managing director of the bank, and Sharmin Ahmed, head of service quality, were present. PHOTO: MTB

## Bangladesh Development Bank, Bank Asia sign deal

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Bangladesh Development Bank and Bank Asia have signed an agreement to provide remittance services as a sub-agent of Western Union.

Kazi Alamgir, managing director of Bangladesh Development Bank, and Areef Billah Adil Chowdhury,

president and managing director of Bank Asia, signed the agreement at the latter's head office in Dhaka on Wednesday, said a press release.

Noor Elahi, country manager of Western Union, Paritosh Sarker, general manager of the BDBL, and high officials of the two lenders were also present.

## Eurozone unemployment at historic low

AFP, Brussels, Belgium

Unemployment in the eurozone stood at its lowest recorded level in July, 6.6 per cent of the active population, the EU statistics agency announced Thursday.

The proportion of job hunters in the single currency bloc was reported at the same level in April, May and June, but Eurostat has since revised its figures slightly.

Eurozone unemployment has

fallen from 7.7 per cent a year ago, with an estimated 12.96 million out of work in the full 27-nation EU.

In the EU as a whole, including countries that have not adopted the euro, June unemployment stood at 6.0 per cent, also a slight drop after a revision.

Youth unemployment, job seekers under 25, ticked down slightly between June and July, to 14 per cent in the EU and 14.2 per cent in the eurozone.

## Stocks' rally continues

FROM PAGE B4

Eastern Housing, Sonargaon Textiles, Metro Spinning, and Ratanpur Steel Re-Rolling Mills all gained more than 9 per cent.

Beach Hatchery suffered the highest fall, giving up 4.78 per cent, while Nahee Aluminum Composite Panel was down 4.37 per cent.

Nurani Dyeing & Sweater, National Tea Company, Aman Feed, and Union Capital shed more than 3 per cent.

Bangladesh Export Import Company was the most-traded stock on the day, with its shares worth Tk 124 crore changing hands.

Eastern Housing, Orion Infusion, Orion Pharma, National Polymer Industries, and LafargeHolcim

Bangladesh also saw significant turnover.

The Caspi, the all-share price index of the Chittagong Stock Exchange (CSE), soared 150 points, or 0.79 per cent, to end the week at 19,156, the rise for the sixth consecutive day.

On the bourse in the port city, 150 securities went up, 106 fell, and 55 saw no price movement.

Turnover stood at Tk 65 crore, down from Tk 70.69 crore a session ago. With yesterday's rise, the DSE capped a winning week.

The market opened the week on an upbeat note and the momentum sustained till the end.

The DSEX added 153.5 points in the five sessions. Average turnover rose 37.22 per cent from a week ago.



Khondoker Nayeemul Kabir, additional managing director of NCC Bank, and Md Jaker Hossain, director of the small and medium enterprises and special programmes department of the Bangladesh Bank (BB), exchanged signed documents of an agreement on term loans at 7 per cent interest under a refinancing scheme of Tk 25,000 crore for the cottage, micro, small and medium enterprises at the latter's head office in Motijheel, Dhaka recently. Abdur Rouf Talukder, governor of the BB, Abu Farah Md Nasser, deputy governor, Md Obaidul Hoque, executive director, and Md Solaiman-Al-Raji, vice-president of NCC Bank, were present. PHOTO: NCC BANK



Md Jaker Hossain, director of the small and medium enterprises and special programmes department of the Bangladesh Bank (BB), and Md Monzur Mofiz, managing director of One Bank, exchange signed documents of an agreement on term loans at 7 per cent interest under a refinancing scheme of Tk 25,000 crore for the cottage, micro, small and medium enterprises at the former's head office in Motijheel, Dhaka recently. Abdur Rouf Talukder, governor of the BB, Abu Farah Md Nasser, deputy governor, and Kamrul Ahsan, head of SME of One Bank, were present. PHOTO: ONE BANK