

## Date palm trees on the decline in Chattogram

SIFAYET ULLAH, City

The number of date palm trees fell to 2,270 from 3,719 in Chattogram's coastal areas in the last 10 years – a decline of 39 percent, according to data obtained from the forest department.

The reasons behind the decline are deforestation and natural disaster, forest officials said.

Data from the coastal forest department of Chattogram showed that there were 3,719 date palm trees in 2013.

This data is only for the coastal areas of Chattogram, the Department of Agricultural Extension (DAE) in the district doesn't have the exact number of date palm trees in the division.

During a recent visit to the Sitakunda upazila, this correspondent found Mizanur Rahman, who was collecting juice from a tree.

He told The Daily Star that due to the decline of date palm trees, farmers who formerly relied on it for their livelihood now chose other sources of income.

"We now sell raw date palm juice at Tk 40 per litre," he added.

Nurul Aber, a date farmer of Rangunia upazila, told this newspaper that he sells around 12 to 15 litres of date palm juice daily.



"Every day I earn Tk 800 to Tk 1,000," he said.

Khaled Misbahuzzaman, professor of the Institute of Forestry and Environmental Sciences at Chittagong University, said date palm is one of the most important fruit trees grown and is a good income source for farmers.

Coconut and date palm trees also protect coastal areas from disasters like cyclones or floods. "Therefore, it's

SEE PAGE 4 COL 6



Farmers installed a diesel-run shallow machine in the dried-up Teesta riverbed to irrigate their crop field at Char Gokunda village in Lalmonirhat Sadar upazila.

PHOTO: STAR

## Farmers bear the brunt of dried up Teesta

### Use of shallow machines for irrigation raising cost

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Lalmonirhat

Only a couple of weeks ago, the flow of water in Teesta river was enough to facilitate farming, but the mighty waterbody has completely dried up in many places of Lalmonirhat since then.

As a result, many farmers in different char areas of the district, who cultivate various crops on the sandy char lands, are compelled to use diesel-run shallow machines to

irrigate their croplands.

Farmers are relentlessly working to produce various types of vegetables like potatoes, pumpkins, maize, onions and chillies on the vast sandy land by the Teesta.

Farmer Rustam Ali of Char Gokunda village in Sadar upazila said he has planted potatoes and chillies on his land.

But as there is no water in Teesta, he had to set up a shallow machine on the riverbed to irrigate his potato

and chilly fields, Rustam said.

Echoing Rustam, Aziz Uddin, a farmer from the same village, added that using the machines means increased production cost.

Another farmer, Moksedul Islam of Char Bhotmari village in Kaliganj upazila, said huge amounts of water are required for potato and pumpkin cultivation.

Nazrul Islam, a farmer from Char

SEE PAGE 4 COL 4

## Section of people laundering money abroad: Quader

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Road Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader yesterday said a section of people are laundering the country's hard-earned money abroad.

"We despise them," said Quader, also general secretary of Awami League, while inaugurating the 30th council of Roads and Highways Department (RHD) Engineers' Association at RHD's auditorium in the capital.

The minister questioned the government officials' "unnecessary" foreign trips and said such trips should be discouraged. The minister urged RHD engineers to work with honesty.

He also said a fitting response will be given to BNP if it tries to resort to violence in the name of "political movement", reports UNB.

He said regulations of the Road Transport Act were published in a gazette and are being enforced.

## MUKTIJODDHA COUNCIL

### 'It cannot exclude freedom fighters' names from gazette'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday observed that Jatiya Muktiyoddha Council has no jurisdiction to cancel the gazette which includes the names of freedom fighters after scrutinising those through the committee concerned.

With the observation, the court declared illegal the decision of Jatiya Muktiyoddha Council that excluded names of 22 naval commando freedom fighters of Gaibandha's Gobindaganj from the official gazette.

The HC bench of Justice Zubayer Rahman Chowdhury and Justice Kazi Ebadath Hossain delivered the verdict after holding hearing of a writ petition filed by the 22 freedom fighters challenging the legality of Jatiya Muktiyoddha

SEE PAGE 4 COL 3



Right before heading off to work, a couple of people from the low-income group warming themselves with a fire they lit up using dried leaves yesterday morning. The prevailing dense fog, coupled with the chill, has made life difficult for all. This photo was taken in Bander area of Barishal.

PHOTO: TITU DAS

## Youth killed as truck hits bicycle

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Chapainawabganj

A youth was killed when a truck hit his bicycle in Chapainawabganj yesterday.

The accident happened around 8:45am in Chiniatala area under Gomostapur upazila, said police.

Shahin Alam, 22, of Chandona Jadupur village in Nachole upazila, was declared dead at Gomostapur Upazila Health Complex after locals took him there.

OC Mahbubur Rahman of Gomostapur Police Station, said the accident occurred while Shahin was going to Rohonpur on his bicycle from his village home. Police recovered his body and sent it to a local hospital morgue for autopsy, he said.

## GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH

Office of the Additional Chief Engineer, RHD

Khulna Zone, Sarak Bhaban, Boyra, Khulna.

Phone : 02477701378

Email- acekhu@rhd.gov.bd

### e-Tender Notice (Re-Tender)

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

Tender Notice & ID No.	Name of Work	Last Selling, Closing, Opening & Security Submission Date & Time
e-GP/06/PMP-BC/ACE Khu/2022-23 (Re-Tender) (ID No- 773425)	Construction of 44.02m (1x42.68m) Long PC Girder (Atharobaki Bridge) at 12th Km (Ch: 11-718.50m) of Tarakhada-Mollahat Road (Z-7045), Re-Construction of 34.880m (1x33.54m) Long PC Girder (Dhalir Khanda Bridge) at 22nd Km (Ch: 21-449.50m) & Re-Construction of 44.02m (1x42.68m) Long PC Girder (Dattermet Bridge) at 25th Km (Ch: 24+674.50m) of Morelgoni (Care Bazar)-Mongla Road (Z-7701) under PMP (Major-Bridge-Culvert) under Road Division, Bagerhat.	<b>Last Selling Date &amp; Time:</b> 22-01-2023, Up to 4:00 PM  <b>Closing, Opening Date &amp; Time:</b> 23-01-2023 At 12:30 PM  <b>Security Submission Date &amp; Time:</b> 23-01-2023 Up to 12:00 PM

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 required in the National e-GP System Portal ([www.eprocure.gov.bd](http://www.eprocure.gov.bd)).

The fees for downloading the e-Tender Document from the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through any registered Bank branches up to above mentioned date & time. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk ([helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd](mailto:helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd)).

04.01.2023

(Syed Aslam Ali)

ID No. 001049

Additional Chief Engineer, RHD  
Road Zone, Khulna.

GD-25

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh  
Wage Earners' Welfare Board  
Recovery and Advancement of Informal Sector Employment (RAISE):  
Reintegration of Returning Migrants  
Prabashi Kallayan Bhaban  
71-72 Eskaton Garden, Ramna, Dhaka-1000.  
[www.wewb.gov.bd](http://www.wewb.gov.bd)

No. 49.04.0000.022.00.057.2023-05 Date: 05.01.2023

### e-Tender Notice-05

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

SI	Package No. & Tender ID	Name of Scheme	Tendering Method	Last Selling Date & Last Submission Date of Documents
01	GD-09 & 734859	Supplying of Computer, Laptop, Printer, UPS and Scanner for PMU in Dhaka.	OTM (NCT)	24-Jan-2023 13:00 & 24-Jan-2023 15:00
02	GD-09(A) & 734862	Supplying of Computer, Printer, UPS and Scanner for PMU at Welfare Center of 30 Districts.	OTM (NCT)	24-Jan-2023 13:00 & 24-Jan-2023 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.

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

(Md. Abdul Wadud)  
Project Director  
Phone: +8802 55138261  
Email: [pdraise6841@gmail.com](mailto:pdraise6841@gmail.com)

GD-28

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh  
Local Government Engineering Department  
Office of the Executive Engineer  
District: Shariatpur  
[www.lged.gov.bd](http://www.lged.gov.bd)

Memo No. 46.02.8600.000.07.001.22-56 Date: 04-01-2023

### e-Tender Notice No. 20/2022-2023/Tender (OTM)

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

SI No.	Tender/ Proposal ID	Name of Scheme with Package No.	Last selling date and time of tender documents	Last date and time for submission tender
1	773127	WD-28 Construction of 4-Storey PHCC building at Uttar Baluchara south side of former Mayor Gias Uddin Pahar's House in 5 No. Ward under Shariatpur Municipality, District: Shariatpur.	08-Feb-2023 16:00	09-Feb-2023 12:00
2	773128	WD-20 Construction of Nagar Matrisadan CRHCC building of Ward No. 6 of Shariatpur Municipality under LGED at District Shariatpur.	08-Feb-2023 16:00	09-Feb-2023 12:00

This is an online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required. The fees for downloading the e-Tender documents from the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through any registered bank's branches up to 16:00 on 08 Feb-2023.

Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk ([helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd](mailto:helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd)) and also for e-mail: [xen.shariatpur@lged.gov.bd](mailto:xen.shariatpur@lged.gov.bd) or call to: 02478815310.

Md. Shahjahan Foraji  
Executive Engineer  
Tel: 02478815310  
E-mail: [xen.shariatpur@lged.gov.bd](mailto:xen.shariatpur@lged.gov.bd)

GD-30