

DEFENCE BUDGET India raises spending by 13 percent

REUTERS, New Delhi

India yesterday proposed 5.94 trillion rupees (\$72.6 billion) in defence spending for the 2023-24 financial year, 13 percent up from the previous period's initial estimates, aiming to add more fighter jets and roads along its tense border with China.

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman allocated 1.63 trillion rupees for defence capital outlays - an expenditure that would include new weapons, aircraft, warships and other military hardware, as she unveiled nearly \$550 billion of total federal spending in the annual budget for 2023-24 starting in April.

She said 2.77 trillion rupees would be devoted to military salaries and benefits in 2023-24, 1.38 trillion on pensions for retired soldiers, and further amounts for miscellaneous items.

Sitharaman also revised the defence budget for the current financial year ending in March to 5.85 trillion rupees from earlier estimates of 5.25 trillion.

In the past few years, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has ramped up spending to modernise the military, while underlining his government's commitment to boosting domestic production to supply forces deployed along two contentious borders.

The total Indian defence budget, estimated at about 2% of GDP, is still lower than China's 1.45 trillion yuan (\$230 billion) in allocations for 2022.

India plans to spend near 242 billion rupees (\$3 billion) for naval fleet construction and 571.4 billion rupees (\$7 billion) for air force procurements including more aircraft, the latest budget document showed.



Striking workers attend a march, in London, Britain. Half a million workers went on strike in Britain yesterday, calling for higher wages in the largest such walkout in over a decade, closing schools and severely disrupting transport.

PHOTO: REUTERS

Bush ordered CIA to find replacement for Arafat: report

AL JAZEERA ONLINE

Former United States President George W Bush ordered the CIA to search for a replacement for Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat after the escalation of the second Intifada in 2001, the BBC said, quoting recently released British documents.

The US effort came after the failure of the Camp David negotiations in 2000 between Arafat and then-Israeli PM Ehud Barak.

When Bush was inaugurated in January 2001, the second Palestinian uprising was at its height. The Bush administration called on Arafat to stop the uprising.

After the negotiations were aborted, telephone talks were held between Bush and then-British PM Tony Blair, who, according to the talk, said Arafat was a liability.

Bush endorsed what Blair had said, then described Arafat as "weak and useless". He revealed that he had asked the CIA to search for possible successors to the Palestinian leader but said that the agency "researched the Palestinian scene thoroughly and concluded that there is no successor available".

The British documents revealed that the US secretary of state at the time, Colin Powell, did not agree with Bush's search for a replacement for Arafat.

MOSQUE BLAST 23 suspects arrested in Pakistan

AFP, Peshawar

Police in Pakistan have detained 23 people in connection to a blast at a mosque inside a police headquarters that killed 101 people, a senior official who asked not to be named said yesterday.

Authorities are also probing the possibility that people inside the compound helped to coordinate the attack, the senior provincial police official told AFP on condition of anonymity.

A suicide bomber slipped undetected into a highly sensitive compound in northwest Peshawar and detonated explosives among a row of worshippers in the compound's mosque on Monday, causing a wall to collapse and crush officers.

"We have detained people from the police line (headquarters) to get to the bottom of how the explosive material made its way in and to see if any police officials were also involved in the attack," the senior official said.

"The attacker and facilitators might have had links outside Pakistan."

He said some among the 23 detained were also from the city and nearby former tribal areas which border Afghanistan.

Trees could cut urban heatwave mortality by a third: study

AFP, Paris

Planting more trees in urban areas to lower summertime temperatures could decrease deaths directly linked to hot weather and heatwaves by a third, researchers said yesterday. Modelling found that increasing tree cover to 30 percent would shave off 0.4 degrees Celsius (0.7 degrees Fahrenheit) locally, on average, during hot summer months, they reported in The Lancet. Cities record higher temperatures than surrounding suburbs or countryside due to the so-called urban heat island effect. This extra heat is caused primarily by a lack of vegetation, exhaust from air conditioning systems, along with dark-hued asphalt and building materials that absorb and trap warmth.

Saudi executions up sharply under King Salman, MBS: report

AFP, Dubai

Executions in Saudi Arabia have nearly doubled under King Salman and his son, de facto ruler Mohammed bin Salman, activist groups said on Tuesday, detailing cases of torture and other human rights violations. Capital punishment has soared from an average of 70.8 executions a year from 2010 to 2014, to 129.5 a year since King Salman took power in 2015, according to a report by Reprieve and the European Saudi Organisation for Human Rights (ESOHR). More than 1,000 death sentences have been carried out under the current leadership, the NGOs said, after verifying official announcements with investigations and interviews with lawyers, family members and activists. Saudi Arabia executed 147 people last year, the report said, a figure confirmed by an AFP tally compiled from government announcements.

ChatGPT maker fields tool for spotting AI-written text

AFP, San Francisco

Creators of a ChatGPT bot causing a stir for its ability to mimic human writing on Tuesday released a tool designed to detect when written works are authored by artificial intelligence.

The announcement came amid intense debate at schools and universities in the United States and around the world over concerns that the software can be used to assist students with assignments and help them cheat during exams.

US-based OpenAI said in a blog post Tuesday that its detection tool has been trained "to distinguish between text written by a human and text written by AIs from a variety of providers."



The bot from OpenAI, which recently received a massive cash injection from Microsoft, responds to simple prompts with reams of text inspired by data gathered on the internet.

OpenAI cautioned that its tool can make mistakes, particularly with texts containing fewer than 1,000 characters.

"While it is impossible to reliably detect all AI-written text, we believe good classifiers can inform mitigations for false claims that AI-generated text was written by a human," OpenAI said in the post.

A top French university last week forbade students from using ChatGPT to complete assignments.

The decision came shortly after word that ChatGPT had passed exams at a US law school after writing essays on topics ranging from constitutional law to taxation.

Officials in New York and other jurisdictions have forbidden its use in schools. A group of Australian universities have said they would change exam formats to banish AI tools and regard them as cheating.




JAHANGIRNAGAR UNIVERSITY

Department of Microbiology
Savar, Dhaka 1342, Bangladesh

INVITATION FOR TENDERS (IFT)

Ref No. JU/Microb/DGHS/OTM	Date: 02.02.2023		
1 Division/Ministry	Ministry of Health and Family Welfare		
2 Agency	Directorate General of Health Services		
3 Procuring Entity Name	Dr. Nafisa Azmuda, Associate Professor, Project Director, "Assessment of vaccine candidate strains.....analysis and immunogenicity studies" Project, Department of Microbiology, Jahangirnagar University, Savar, Dhaka-1342.		
4 Invitation for	Supplying, Installation, Testing & Commissioning of Laboratory Equipment, etc.		
5 Invitation Ref. No.	JU/Microb/DGHS/OTM		
6 Procurement Method	National Competitive Tender	Open Tendering Method	
7 Budget and Source of Funds	Bangladesh Govt.		
8 Project/Program Name (if applicable)	"Assessment of vaccine candidate strains for the disease 'Shigellosis' by genome-wide pathogenicity analysis and immunogenicity studies" Project		
9 Tender Package No.	Microb/DGHS/OTM-1		
10 Tender Package Name	Supplying, Installation, Testing & Commissioning of Laboratory Equipment, etc.		
	Date	Time	
11 Tender Publication Date	02.02.2023	Not applicable	
12 Tender Last Selling Date	19.02.2023	2:00 PM	
13 Tender Closing Date and Time	20.02.2023	2:00 PM	
14 Tender Opening Date and Time	20.02.2023	2:30 PM	
15 Name and Address of the office(s)	Dr. Nafisa Azmuda, Associate Professor, Project Director, "Assessment of vaccine candidate strainsanalysis and immunogenicity studies" Project, Department of Microbiology, Jahangirnagar University, Savar, Dhaka-1342.		
NO CONDITIONS APPLY FOR SALE, PURCHASE OR DISTRIBUTION OF TENDER DOCUMENTS			
16 Eligibility of Tenderer	The Tenderer shall have: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Tenderer shall have a minimum of three (03) years of overall experience in Supplying, Installation, Testing & Commissioning Laboratory Equipment, etc. The Tenderer shall have satisfactorily completed similar Goods/ works/supply/establishment of a minimum of 12,50,000.00 (Taka Twelve lakhs Fifty Thousand) under a single contract in the last three (03) years, i. e., years counting backward from the date of publication of IFT in the newspaper. Only Completion Certificate will be considered. The Tenderer shall have a minimum amount of liquid assets, working capital, or credit facility of 17,00,000.00 (Taka Seventeen Lakhs). 		
17 Brief Description of Goods or Works	Supplying, Installation, Testing & Commissioning of Laboratory Equipment, etc.		
18 Price of Tender Document (Taka)	Cash 2,000/- (Taka two thousand) non-refundable.		
19	Lot No.	Identification of Lot	Location
		Supplying, Installation, Testing & Commissioning of Laboratory Equipments, etc.	Dept. of Microbiology, Jahangirnagar University, Savar, Dhaka 1342, Bangladesh.
			Tender Security Amount (Taka)
			1,80,000.00 (Taka One lakh and Eighty Thousand BDT only).
			Completion Time in Weeks/Months
			Three (03) weeks from the date of contract signature.
20 Name of Official Inviting Tender	Dr. Nafisa Azmuda		
21 Designation of Official Inviting Tender	Project Director, "Assessment of vaccine candidate strains analysis and immunogenicity studies" Project, Department of Microbiology, Jahangirnagar University, Savar, Dhaka-1342.		
22 Address of Official Inviting Tender	Project Director, "Assessment of vaccine candidate strains analysis and immunogenicity studies" Project, Department of Microbiology, Jahangirnagar University, Savar, Dhaka-1342.		
23 Contact Details of Official Inviting Tender	Phone:+88-7791045-51, Ext.-1566	Fax: +880-2-7791052	E-mail:azmuda@juniv.edu
24	The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.		
Dr. Nafisa Azmuda Project Director & Associate Professor "Assessment of vaccine candidate strains analysis and immunogenicity studies" Project Department of Microbiology Jahangirnagar University Savar, Dhaka-1342, Bangladesh.			



গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার

নির্বাহী পরিচালকের কার্যালয়
তুলা উন্নয়ন বোর্ড
মার্কেটিং ও জিনিং শাখা
খামারবাড়ি, ফার্মগেট, ঢাকা-১২১৫।

নম্বর ১২.০৭.০০০০.১০৮.৯৯.০১৭.১৯.৮

তারিখ: ১৮ মাঘ ১৪২৯
০১ ফেব্রুয়ারি ২০২৩

বিজ্ঞপ্তি

বিষয়: তুলা উন্নয়ন বোর্ডের ক্রয়কৃত/উৎপাদিত আঁশতুলা পুনঃ (৩য় বার) বিক্রয়ের জরুরী বিজ্ঞপ্তি প্রকাশ।

এতদ্বারা আঁশতুলা টেক্সটাইল মিলস/জিনিং প্রতিষ্ঠান/তুলা আমদানীকারক/ব্যবসায়ীদের অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, তুলা উন্নয়ন বোর্ডের অধীনস্থ নিম্নলিখিত ১১টি জিনিং কেন্দ্রের গুদামে মজুদ ২০২১-২২ মৌসুমের ক্রয়কৃত/উৎপাদিত ২,০২,৫১৯.৮৩ পাউন্ড টেক্সটাইল মিলে ব্যবহার উপযোগী সমভূমি জাতের আঁশতুলা মজুদ রয়েছে। উক্ত আঁশতুলা বিক্রয়ের উদ্দেশ্যে আঁশতুলা ক্রেতাদের নিকট থেকে কতিপয় শর্ত সাপেক্ষে আবেদনপত্র আহবান করা যাচ্ছে। আবেদনপত্র নির্বাহী পরিচালক, তুলা উন্নয়ন বোর্ড, খামারবাড়ি, ফার্মগেট, ঢাকা-১২১৫ ঠিকানায় প্রতিষ্ঠান/সংস্থার নিজস্ব প্যাডে দাখিল করতে হবে।

সরকার কর্তৃক নির্ধারিত আঁশতুলার মূল্য


ক্র. নং	বেলিং/নন-বেলিং	আমেরিকান জাতের আঁশতুলা	
		পরিমাণ	মূল্য
১.	বেলিংকৃত (প্রতি বেল = ১৪০ কেজি)	আঁশতুলার মূল্য (প্রতি পাউন্ড)	৭০.১২ টাকা
		ভ্যাট (৭.৫%)	৬.৩৮ টাকা
		উৎসে কর (১০%)	৮.৫০ টাকা
		মোট (ভ্যাট ও উৎসে করসহ)	৮৫.০০ টাকা
২.	নন-বেলিংকৃত	আঁশতুলার মূল্য (প্রতি পাউন্ড)	৬৯.৩০ টাকা
		ভ্যাট (৭.৫%)	৬.৩৮ টাকা
		উৎসে কর (১০%)	৮.৪০ টাকা
		মোট (ভ্যাট ও উৎসে করসহ)	৮৪.০০ টাকা

কেন্দ্র ভিত্তিক মজুদ আঁশতুলার পরিমাণ

ক্র. নং	কেন্দ্রের নাম	আমেরিকান জাতের আঁশতুলার পরিমাণ	
		বেলিংকৃত (পাউন্ড)	নন-বেলিংকৃত (পাউন্ড)
১	তুলা গবেষণা কেন্দ্র, শ্রীপুর, পাজীপুর	৫৭০৪৪.৬৪	--
২	পীরগঞ্জ জিনিং কেন্দ্র, পীরগঞ্জ, রংপুর	৭৭৩৮.২২	--
৩	তুলা গবেষণা কেন্দ্র, মহিগঞ্জ, রংপুর	১০২৩৬.৩২	--
৪	শেরপুর জিনিং কেন্দ্র, শেরপুর, বগুড়া	৭৬০৭.০৪	--
৫	তুলা গবেষণা কেন্দ্র, সদরপুর, দিনাজপুর	২৭৭১৬.৪৮	--
৬	মেহেরপুর জিনিং কেন্দ্র, মেহেরপুর	১৫৬৭২.৮৬	--
৭	বিকরগাছা জিনিং কেন্দ্র, যশোর	১৫১৯৭.৮১	--
৮	তুলা গবেষণা কেন্দ্র, জগদীপুর, যশোর	৫০৮৭৫.৩৫	--
৯	বাঘাতিপাড়া জিনিং কেন্দ্র, নাটোর	--	৭,৬৭০.৭৫
১০	পা. তুলা গ. উপ-কেন্দ্র, বেইহা, বান্দরবান	--	২,২৫৭.২৭
১১	পা. তুলা গ. উপ-কেন্দ্র মাটিরাঙ্গা, খাগড়াছড়ি	--	২০৩.০৯

সর্বমোট = ১,৯২,৩৮৮.৭২ ১০,১৩১.১১

এ বিজ্ঞপ্তি প্রকাশের প্রথম প্রকাশের দিন থেকে পরবর্তী ০৭(সাত) কার্যদিবস পর্যন্ত আঁশতুলা বরাদ্দের আবেদনপত্র গ্রহণ করা হবে। আবেদনকারীর সংখ্যা অধিক হলে আগে আসলে আগে পাবেন ভিত্তিতে আঁশতুলা বরাদ্দ করা হবে। আবেদনকারী যে পরিমাণ আঁশতুলা ক্রয় করতে ইচ্ছুক তার মোট মূল্যের ৫% অর্থ অগ্রিম হিসেবে নির্বাহী পরিচালক, তুলা উন্নয়ন বোর্ড, খামারবাড়ি, ঢাকা-এর অনুকূলে ব্যাংক ড্রাফট/পে-অর্ডার আকারে আবেদনপত্রের সাথে জমা দিতে হবে। অন্যথায় আবেদনপত্র বিবেচনা করা হবে না। নিলামে প্রাপ্ত আঁশতুলা ক্রয়কারী তুলা উন্নয়ন বোর্ডের ১১টি জিনিং কেন্দ্রের গুদামে সংশ্লিষ্ট আঁশতুলা (বেলিং ও নন-বেলিংকৃত) নিজ খরচে পরিবহন করবেন। আঁশতুলা বরাদ্দের অন্যান্য শর্তাবলী নির্বাহী পরিচালক, তুলা উন্নয়ন বোর্ড, খামারবাড়ি, ঢাকা এর কার্যালয়ের মার্কেটিং ও জিনিং শাখা হতে বিজ্ঞপ্তি প্রকাশের দিন থেকে ০৭(সাত) দিন পর্যন্ত অফিস চলাকালীন সময়ে জানা যাবে।



১-২-২০২৩
ড. মো: ফখরে আলম ইবনে তাবির
নির্বাহী পরিচালক (চলতি দায়িত্ব)
ফোন: ৫৫০২৮৩৫৫
ইমেইল: ed@cdb.gov.bd

জিডি-১৬৬