

MTFE SCAM

Case filed in Dhaka 9 named, few unnamed accused for embezzling Tk 12.74 lakh

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A man has filed a case against nine named and three to four unnamed individuals for allegedly scamming him through the cyber ponzi scheme Metaverse Foreign Exchange (MTFE).

In a case filed with New Market Police Station on Sunday under the Digital Security Act, 2018 and the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, 1947, complainant Abul Kashem accuses them of embezzling Tk 12.74 lakh which he invested on the company's app between December last year and August 2, 2023.

He is a resident of Dhaka's Bhashantek area.

The named accused are Masud Al Islam, Md Saiful Islam Khan, Saidul Islam Bhuiyan, Mobashirul Ibad, Sirajum Munir, Tofail Ahmed, Habibur Rahman, and Rashedul Islam.

Police suspect that Masud, a Bangladeshi expatriate in Dubai, used to oversee MTFE's Asia region, said Sub-Inspector Abdur Rouf of New Market Police Station.

"We will gather more information about the accused following an investigation," he added.

The Criminal Investigation Department of police estimates that around five lakh people might have been scammed by the cyber ponzi scheme MTFE, losing several thousand crores of taka. MTFE is a 'so-called' Dubai-based trading company, just vanished into thin air and stopped paying investors.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 8



Drenched in sweat, workers unload sand from a cargo in Khulna's Rupsa Customs Ghat. Each worker unload about 180-200 bowls of sand and are paid Tk 3 per trip. The photo was taken yesterday. PHOTO: HABIBUR RAHMAN

GAS LEAK

Man dies, wife burnt in Ctg

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A man died and his wife suffered burn injuries in an explosion caused by a gas pipe leak at a house in Chattogram early yesterday.

The deceased was identified as Abdul Khalek, 65. His wife, Anwara Begum, 60, was admitted to Chattogram Medical College Hospital.

The incident took place in Dhupul area around 2:00 am, said CMCH police outpost In Charge Sub-Inspector Nur Alam Asheq.

Their son rushed both of them to CMCH, where Abdul Khalek died of his injuries, he added.

Sanjay Kumar Sinha, officer-in-charge of Bandar Police Station, told The Daily Star that fire service personnel visited the spot and said they found a leak in the gas pipeline.

New bean variety brings smiles to farmers in Sreemangal

MINTU DESHWARA, Moulvibazar

Traditionally, beans are cultivated during the winter. However, the SAU Bean-1 (Sikribi-1) variety, which has been developed by Sylhet Agricultural University, exhibits remarkable adaptability, allowing it to thrive even during the summer in Moulvibazar.

Now, farmers in the Dengar Ban village of Ashidron Union in the upazila are experiencing substantial benefits from cultivating this winter vegetable during the monsoon season, achieving impressive yields.

As a result of its success, the agriculture department is now eyeing to spread the Sikribi-1 seeds all over the country.

In Dengar Ban village, around 50 farmers are cultivating this variety of bean. While the Sikribi-1 variety takes some time and care to yield a good harvest, farmers may earn up to three



times the profit from cultivating this, said Masukur Rahman, Deputy Assistant Agriculture Officer of Ashidron Union.

He said the farmers who cultivated Sikribi-1 are happy with the bumper yield and good

price in the market. On average, they can pick 48 to 50 kg of beans per bigha and sell them at Tk 130 to 140 per kg.

The profit has caught the attention of other farmers in the area and, with each passing

day, more and more farmers are taking up the cultivation of this variety, he added.

Ahsan Habib, a bean grower of Dengar Ban village, said after receiving 12 seeds of the Sikribi-1 variety from the agriculture department, they cultivated it experimentally for the first time.

"We had bumper yields in the first year. So, I collected the seeds and supplied them to several interested farmers in the area for Tk 5,000."

"This year, I myself cultivated the variety in three bighas of land. Around Tk 36,000 taka has been spent on fertiliser, irrigation, pesticides, bamboo mats and care during the cultivation phase. So far, I have sold beans worth Tk 1 lakh. I hope the total sale will hit Tk 2.5 lakh. But if the market is good, it can go even higher."

Another farmer, Akbar Ali said, "This year, I have cultivated

SEE PAGE 4 COL 6

DEFAMATION CASE

Arrest warrant issued against two journos

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A Cox's Bazar court has issued arrest warrants against two journalists for failing to appear before the court in relation to a defamation case.

Kaushik Ahmed Khandakar, senior judicial magistrate of Cox's Bazar Sadar court, issued the warrant on Sunday.

The court on July 6 had summoned Dainik Bangla's former editor (in charge) Sharifuzzaman Pintu and its reporter Arifuzzaman Tuhin to appear before it on August 27.

The two journalists were summoned by the court after Shafiullah Shafi, former correspondent for Jugantor and Boishakhi TV, filed a defamation case of Tk 100 crore against Pintu and Tuhin. The case was in relation to a report published by Dainik Bangla on January 6 titled "None of Bodhi's relatives in list of 255", where Shafi's name was mentioned.

Shafi filed the defamation cause on January 10. Taking the case into its cognisance, the court ordered the officer in charge (OC) of Cox's Bazar Detective Brach (DB) to investigate the case and submit a report.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 8

Youth beaten to death in Cumilla

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Cumilla

A youth was beaten to death on suspicion of stealing a mobile phone in Cumilla Sadar upazila on Sunday.

The deceased was identified as Mohammad Babu Alam, 20, of Annanagar in Chandina upazila.

Confirming the death, Additional Superintendent of Police (Cumilla Sadar Circle) Kamran Hossain said there were injury marks on the hands, back, head, and other parts of the body. "We are trying to arrest the people responsible for the incident," the police official said.

Quoting locals, police said a guard named Nahid along with some other persons caught Babu and beat him arbitrarily when he was fleeing after stealing a mobile set from the labour shed of an under-construction building.

When his condition deteriorated, they took him to Cumilla Medical College Hospital, where doctors declared him dead, police said.

Shafiqul, a staff of CMCH's emergency department, said a man brought the body to the hospital around 11:30 am.

"But he was leaving the hospital without giving any details. Then, I caught him and handed him over to the police camp at the hospital," he said.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 5

Election Commission Secretariat			
Identification System for Enhance Access to Services (IDEA) Project (2nd Phase)			
Nirbachon Commission Bhaban (8th Floor)			
Agargaon, Dhaka			
Invitation for Tender (Re-Tender)			
1.	Ministry/Division	Bangladesh Election Commission.	
2.	Agency	Election Commission Secretariat.	
3.	Procuring entity name	Project Director, Identification System for Enhance Access to Services (IDEA) Project (2nd Phase).	
4.	Procuring entity district	Dhaka.	
5.	Invitation for	NCS-3, "Office/Support Services (Data Entry Operators under Dhaka and Faridpur Region) for the Project Office Operations".	
6.	Invitation for tenders Ref. & date	17.14.0000.240.07.136.2023/2633, Dated: 28 August 2023.	
KEY INFORMATION			
7.	Procurement method	Open Tender Method (OTM).	
8.	Budget & source of fund	GoB (Development).	
PARTICULAR INFORMATION			
9.	Project/program code	224331200.	
10.	Project name	Identification System for Enhance Access to Services (IDEA) Project (2nd Phase).	
11.	Tender package No.	NCS-3.	
12.	Tender package name	Office/Support Services (Data Entry Operators under Dhaka and Faridpur Region) for the Project Office Operations.	
		Date	Time
13.	Tender publication date	29 August 2023	
14.	Tender selling last date	13 September 2023	04:00pm
15.	Tender pre-bid meeting date	7 September 2023	03:00pm
16.	Tender closing date & time	14 September 2023	12:00pm
17.	Tender opening date & time	14 September 2023	12:30pm
18.	Name of address of the office	Assistant Director (Finance), Room No. 818, Nirbachon Bhaban (8th Floor), Agargaon, Dhaka-1207.	
19.	Selling tender documents (principal)	Dhaka-1207.	
No condition apply for sale, purchase or distribution of tender documents.			
20.	Receiving tender documents	Identification System for Enhance Access to Services (IDEA) Project (2nd Phase).	
21.	Opening tender documents	Election Commission Secretariat, Nirbachon Bhaban (8th Floor), Room No. 721, Agargaon, Dhaka-1207.	
22.	Pre-tender documents	Agargaon, Dhaka-1207.	
INFORMATION FOR PRE-TENDERER			
23.	Eligibility of tenderer	1. Tenderers shall have the legal capacity to enter into the contract under the applicable law. 2. Tenderers shall enroll in the relevant professional or trade organisations registered in Bangladesh. 3. Tenderers shall have to fulfill its obligation/obligations to pay taxes under the provision of laws and regulations of Bangladesh. 4. Detail information has been provided in the tender document.	
24.	Brief description of services	Office/Support Services (Data Entry Operators under Dhaka and Faridpur Region) for the Project Office Operations.	
25.	Price of tender document (BDT)	BDT. 2,500.00 (Two thousand five hundred only) non-refundable.	
26.	Package No.	Identification of package	Tender security
	NCS-3	Office/Support Services (Data Entry Operators under Dhaka and Faridpur Region) for the Project Office Operations.	BDT. 19,00,000.00 (Nineteen lac only)
			Completion time in weeks/months
			26 (Twenty-six) month or end the project which comes earlier
PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS			
27.	Name of official inviting tender	Brigadier General Abul Hasnat Mohammad Sayem.	
28.	Designation of official inviting tender	Project Director, IDEA Project (2nd Phase), Election Commission Secretariat, Nirbachon Commission Bhaban (8th Floor), Agargaon, Dhaka-1207.	
29.	Address of inviting tender	Phone: +8802-55007494, E-mail: pd.idea2bd@gmail.com	
30.	Contact details of official inviting		
31.	The procuring entity reserves the right to reject all tenders or annul the tender proceedings.		
Brigadier General Abul Hasnat Mohammad Sayem Project Director IDEA Project (2nd Phase) Election Commission Secretariat, Dhaka-1207			

BANGLADESH ELECTION COMMISSION				
Identification System for Enhancing Access to Services (IDEA) Project (2nd Phase)				
Nirbachan Bhaban (Floor-8)				
Agargaon, Dhaka-1207.				
Invitation for Re-Tenders				
GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH				
1	Ministry/Division	Bangladesh Election Commission		
2	Agency	Election Commission Secretariat		
3	Procuring Entity Name	Bangladesh Election Commission represented by Project Director, Identification System for Enhancing Access to Services (IDEA) Project (2nd Phase)		
4	Procuring Entity District	Dhaka		
5	Invitation for	Office/Support Services (Data Entry Operator under Comilla and Chattogram region) for the Project Office Operations.		
6	Invitation Ref. No. & Date	17.14.0000.240.07.134.2023-2629 Dated: 28 August 2023		
KEY INFORMATION				
7	Procurement Method	Open Tendering Method (OTM)		
FUNDING INFORMATION				
8	Budget and Source of Funds	GoB (Development Budget)		
PARTICULAR INFORMATION				
9	Project / Program Code (if applicable)	224331200		
10	Project Name (if applicable)	Identification System for Enhancing Access to Services (IDEA) Project (2nd Phase)		
11	Tender Package No.	NCS-6		
12	Tender Package Name	Office/Support Services (Data Entry Operator under Comilla and Chattogram region) for the Project Office Operations.		
		Date	Time	
13	Tender Publication Date	29 August 2023		
14	Pre-Tender Meeting Date and Time	05 September 2023	11:30 A.M.	
15	Tender Last Selling Date and Time	12 September 2023	04:00 P.M.	
16	Tender Closing Date and Time	13 September 2023	11:30 A.M.	
17	Tender Opening Date and Time	13 September 2023	12:00 P.M.	
18	Name & Address of the office(s)	Address		
	Selling Tender Document (Principal)	Assistant Director (Finance), IDEA Project (2nd Phase), Room No. 818, Nirbachan Bhaban, Agargaon, Dhaka-1207.		
NO CONDITIONS APPLY FOR SALE, PURCHASE OR DISTRIBUTION OF TENDER DOCUMENTS				
19	Receiving Tender Document	Conference Room No. 721, IDEA Project (2nd Phase), Nirbachan Bhaban (Floor-7), Agargaon, Dhaka-1207.		
20	Opening Tender Document			
21	Pre-Tender Meeting			
INFORMATION FOR TENDERER				
22	Eligibility of Tenderer	1. Tender shall have the legal capacity to enter into the contract under the applicable law. 2. Tenderers shall be enrolled in the relevant professional or trade organizations registered in Bangladesh. 3. Tenderers shall have to fulfill its obligation/obligations to pay taxes under the provisions of laws and regulations of Bangladesh. 4. Detail information has been provided in the tender document.		
23	Brief Description of Services	Office/Support Services (Data Entry Operator under Comilla and Chattogram region) for the Project Office Operations.		
24	Price of Tender Document (Tk.)	BDT 3000.00 (Two thousand Five Hundred only) Non-refundable.		
25	Package No.	Identification of Package	Location	Tender Security Amount (Tk)
	NCS-6	Office/Support Services (Data Entry Operator under Comilla and Chattogram region) for the Project Office	Dhaka	30,00,000.00 (Twenty Two Lac)
				Completion Time in Weeks
				26 months or end of the Project which come earlier from the date of signing contract.
PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS				
26	Name of Official Inviting Tender	Brigadier General Abul Hasnat Muhammad Sayem		
27	Designation of Official Inviting Tender	Project Director		
28	Address of Official Inviting Tender	Identification System for Enhancing Access to Services (IDEA) Project (2nd Phase), Nirbachan Bhaban (Floor-8), Agargaon, Dhaka-1207.		
29	Contact details of Official Inviting Tender	Telephone: 00-88-02-55007594; e-mail address: pd.idea2.bd@gmail.com		
30	The Procuring Entity reserves the right to reject all the Tenders or Cancel the Tender proceedings.			
Abul Hasnat Muhammad Sayem Brigadier General Project Director				

GD- 1307