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Read CSA
before
commenting,
says Momen

Govt fixes egg, onion, potato prices

Experts sceptical if move
would be effective in
bringing down prices

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

In a first, the government yesterday fixed the prices of eggs, onions and potatoes in its bid to contain the runaway food inflation, which hit a 12-year-high last month.

In August, food inflation soared 278 basis points to 12.54 percent -- the highest since October 2011 -- with the price spiral more pronounced in rural areas, according to data published by the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics on Sunday.

	RETAIL PRICE Tk 12.5-13 per piece
	GOVT-FIXED PRICE Tk 12 per piece
	RETAIL PRICE Tk 45-50 per kg
	GOVT-FIXED PRICE Tk 35-36 per kg
	RETAIL PRICE Tk 80-90 per kg
	GOVT-FIXED PRICE Tk 64-65 per kg

Subsequently, the agriculture ministry fixed the prices of the three items, whose prices have remained elevated in recent weeks, under provision four of the Krishi Biponon Ain 2021. The commerce ministry will implement the new prices, said Wahida Akter, agriculture secretary.

The retail price of an egg, which shot up last month, has been fixed at Tk 12, while onion, whose price has spiralled following India's announcement last month to impose a 40 percent export duty on it, will sell for Tk 64-65 per kilogram.

The price of potato, a staple, has been fixed at Tk 35-36 a kg.

The egg price was fixed after analysing the average prices in the past six months, which was about Tk 14, Commerce Minister Tipu Munshi said while announcing the prices.

The agriculture secretary assessed the prices of onions and fixed a "logical" retail price, he added.

"The initiative is good but there is doubt about its effectiveness," said Ghulam Rahman, president of the Consumers Association of Bangladesh.

He went on to urge the government to monitor the market effectively.

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Fire rips through Krishi Market

Over 200 shops gutted; short circuit or burning mosquito coil might have caused it: firefighters

SHAHEEN MOLLAH, MUNTAKIM SAAD and SAJJAD HOSSAIN

A fire ripped through Mohammadpur Krishi Market early yesterday, burning down groceries and other goods worth several crore in over 200 shops.

Several hundred people will count massive losses or lose their jobs, shop owners said.

The one storey building with corrugated iron roof is on a list of risky kitchen markets in the capital, according to firefighters.

Dhaka North City Corporation CEO Selim Reza said 217 shops had been damaged.

Salim Ullah Solu, president of the shop owners' association, said over 250 shops were severely damaged, adding that many of these shops had goods worth Tk 25-30 lakh.

He and several other shop owners said the fire was first seen near a bakery on one side of the market around 3:40am.

It seems the fire was caused either by a faulty electric wire or a mosquito

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coil, Lt Col Md Tajul Islam, director at Fire Service and Civil Defence, told reporters at the scene.

Since there is no water body close to the market that doesn't have fire safety equipment, firefighters had to partially rely on water provided by Dhaka Wasa and Bangladesh Navy to put out the flames.

Tajul said the shop owners were earlier notified multiple times about the risk they were in and several awareness campaigns had been conducted there.

The fire spread really fast, collapsing the iron roofs and leaving a trail of devastation. After five hours of effort, 17 fire engines brought the fire under control around 9:25am, officials said.

By 4:00am, the shop owners began to arrive at the scene hearing about the fire. They could do little but watch the towering flames engulf the entire kitchen market that also houses many clothing shops and a few jewellery stores.

Muhammad Hossain, a leader of the local traders' association, said just

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CASE UNDER ICT ACT
Odhikar's
Adilur, Elan
jailed for 2yrs

COURT CORRESPONDENT



O d h i k a r
S e c r e t a r y
A d i l u r
R a h m a n
K h a n
a n d
D i r e c t o r
A S M
A d i l u r
N a s i r u d d i n
Elan have been sentenced to two years in prison in a case filed for running "a distorted report and doctored images" about the May 5-6, 2013, police action on a Hefajat-e-Islam rally in Motijheel.

A Dhaka court yesterday delivered the verdict in the case lodged under the Information and Communications Technology (ICT) Act.

It cancelled their bail and ordered them to be sent to jail with conviction warrants. Adil and Elan were in the courtroom.

The court also fined

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EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT
Deeply concerned over rights situation in Bangladesh

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

The European Parliament yesterday adopted a resolution expressing deep concern at the "deteriorating human rights situation" in Bangladesh and called on the government to restore a safe and enabling environment for NGOs, human rights defenders, activists, and religious minorities.

The resolution -- Human rights situation in Bangladesh, notably the case of Odhikar -- insisted that Bangladesh upholds "the country's international commitments, particularly under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights".

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THE THIRD VIEW
Our new CJ's call to fight graft is urgent, crucial and enthusing

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SL set up India final

AFP, Colombo

Kusal Mendis' 91 and an unbeaten 49 by Charith Asalanka helped Sri Lanka edged out Pakistan by two wickets in a last-ball thriller of the Asia Cup yesterday to set up a final clash with India.

Chasing a DLS revised target of 252 in the 42-overs-a-side contest in Colombo, Sri Lanka needed eight from the final over and achieved the target with Asalanka's winning hit on the last ball at 1.07 am local time.

A raucous home crowd rejoiced but the result broke the heart of millions of fans awaiting an India-Pakistan final in the 50-over tournament, a prelude to the upcoming ODI World Cup.

The left-handed Asalanka held his nerve despite Shaheen Shah Afridi's two wickets in two balls in the penultimate over and the first four balls from Zaman Khan giving away just two runs and a wicket in the 42nd over.

Mendis set up victory with a 100-run third-

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Namaz e Janaza & Milad Mahfil
Mafizur Rahman



Ex-Secretary Mafizur Rahman (CSP) passed away on 9th September at his Gulshan residence (Inna Lillahi wa inna ilayhi raji'un). He is survived by his wife, two daughters, two sons, five grandchildren and a host of admirers and friends.

His Namaz e Janaza will be held on Friday, 15th September 2023 baad Jummah, at Azad Masjid, Gulshan, Dhaka. His family would appreciate your attendance in joining them in prayers for his departed soul.

A Milad and Dua Mahfil will be held baad Asar prayer on Saturday, September 16th 2023 at the Lake Breeze - Ground Floor, House No 34, Road Number 104, Gulshan-2, Dhaka.



A nail-biting affair decided in the last delivery saw Sri Lanka reach the Asia Cup final as they ultimately won the battle of nerves against Pakistan to earn a two-wicket victory in a Super Four match at the R. Premadasa Stadium in Colombo yesterday.

PHOTO: AFP