

Khadijatul discharged from one DSA case

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A court yesterday discharged Jagannath University student Khadijatul Kubra from one of the two Digital Security Act cases she was accused in.

The other case was postponed for hearing till February 29.

Dhaka Cyber Tribunal judge AM Zulfiqar Hayat passed the order.

However, she was not discharged from the case because the court deemed her not guilty. Rather, the judge stated that she was being dismissed from one case because two cases concerning one incident cannot run simultaneously.

The bench officer confirmed this with The Daily Star.

Khadija was accused in two cases filed by Kalabagan and New Market police on October 11 and October 19, 2020, respectively.

The court dismissed the Kalabagan case, while the other is up for hearing.

Khadija suffered over 14 months of jail in the DSA cases and finally walked out of jail on November 20, 2023, after securing bail from the Supreme Court.

She was denied bail a total of seven times, according to her family.

The student was sued at the age of 17 for hosting a Facebook webinar where a guest speaker, Delwar Hossain, a retired army officer, made contentious remarks.

Delwar, an expatriate, was also accused in these cases.



Due to encroachment and pollution, Gulatola canal in Khulna's Dumuria upazila is struggling to survive.

PHOTO: HABIBUR RAHMAN

Time running out for Gulatola

Encroachment, pollution killing the canal

DIPANKAR ROY, Khulna

Permanent concrete structures being constructed by encroaching parts of Gulatola canal and dumping of solid wastes is putting the final nails in the coffin of the waterbody.

The two-kilometre-long canal in Khulna's Dumuria upazila, which flows through Mirzapur village, used to be a lifeline for farmers by providing water for irrigation to around 5,000 acres of arable lands.

It also used to connect with Basjatra canal and Koiya river, while serving as a channel to drain out rainwater during monsoon.

However, the canal is now awaiting its demise. Once 150 feet wide, the canal is now only around 20-30 feet wide in most places.

Around 400 residents of Madhobkati, Gutudia, Ghona, Anvita, Salua, Rangpur, Beel-Dakatia, Ramkrishnapur, and Hasanpur villages under Dumuria upazila

depend on the canal for different reasons, including agriculture, domestic use, and transportation.

Farmers from at least 12 villages around the canal are facing a water shortage during irrigation season. Meanwhile, hundreds of bighas of paddy fields go under rainwater during monsoon as the canal can no longer drain out excess water.

"The canal is in a critical condition. Household garbage is being dumped into it regularly, while local influential people have been shrinking the waterbody by occupying its banks illegally and building structures," said Debashis Mondal, a local union parishad member.

"Some officials of Bangladesh Water Development Board visited the canal a few months ago, but no step has been taken," he added.

Ganash Chandra Mondal, a local farmer said, "I used to carry my paddy on a boat through the canal. But for the last couple of years, it

is no longer possible due to lack of navigability. Now I have to spend over Tk 2,000 to carry the goods using a van or cart."

Over the last five years or so, paddy fields are regularly getting inundated with rainwater during monsoon for 15-25 days, said Binoy Krishna Bachar of Sajiyara village.

Echoing the same, Debbroto Mondal of Rangpur village said, "My four bighas of fish enclosures got submerged last year as rainwater could not drain out through the canal."

"Due to the canal's present condition, the fate of over 1,500 fish enclosures located around Beel-Dakatia area now hangs in the balance," he added.

Gazi Md Humayun Kabir Bulu, chairman of Dumuria upazila parishad, said, "We want the canal to be revived through excavation after proper survey. The illegal encroachers must also be evicted."

School and cyclone shelter, all under one roof

Earthen classrooms transform into a three-storey building

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Cox's Bazar

Gone are the days of despair for students of Bogachotor Government Primary School. Yesterday, they moved from their earthen classrooms with tin-shed roofs to a three-storey building — a move that brought smiles on the faces of little ones.

For years, students like Tasmin Akhter dealt with unbearable summer heat and inundated classrooms during monsoon in the makeshift structures which they called school. But those struggles are officially a thing of the past.

Tasmin, a fifth grader, couldn't contain her joy. "We won't have to suffer in the heat anymore," she said. "And rainy days won't disrupt our studies."

The new building represents more

than just brick and mortar. It will also serve as a shelter during natural disasters like cyclones.

Reed Aeschliman, mission director of USAID, and Md Kamrul Hasan, secretary of the ministry of disaster management, jointly inaugurated the new multi-purpose disaster shelter and school building in Cox's Bazar.

The new facility is one of 25 multi-purpose disaster shelters built in Cox's Bazar and Bandarban districts under a \$13 million USAID-funded project implemented by CARE Bangladesh, Save the Children, GRAUS, and local construction partners.

The three-storied shelter can protect up to 500 people during cyclones, floods and other disasters. The shelter also features a first aid room with a hospital bed, a wheelchair-accessible

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Students of Bogachotor Govt Primary School will no longer have to attend classes at tin-shed classrooms, inset, or have their studies disrupted due to waterlogging, thanks to the newly-constructed three-storey structure.

PHOTO: STAR



PRAYER TIMING

JANUARY 29

Fajr	Zohr	Asr	Maghrib	Esha
AZAN 5:35	12:45	4:15	5:46	7:15
JAMAAT 6:10	1:15	4:30	5:50	7:45

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Land Administration Training Centre
Ministry of Land

277/5/A, Shaheed Janani Jahanara Imam Sarani
Nilkhet, Katabon Dhal, Dhaka-1205
www.latc.gov.bd

Memo No. 31.04.0000.000.07.003.2023-189

Date: 28/01/2024

Invitation for Tender Open Tender Method e-Tender Notice No.

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of following goods, details are given below:

SL.	Tender ID	Package No.	Name of work	Tender last selling date & time	Tender opening & closing date & time
1	942056	01	Procurement of Books for trainee	13-Feb-2024 Time 16:00	14 Feb-2024 Time 11.30

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, e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd) also interested persons can communicate with the undersigned during office hours.

Khan A. Sobur Khan
Assistant Director (Development & Service)
Land Administration Training Centre
Dhaka-1205
Phone: 58610596

GD- 146

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Ministry of Power, Energy and Mineral Resources
Geological Survey of Bangladesh (GSB)

153, Pioneer Road, Segunbagicha
Dhaka-1000

Tender Notice No. 28.05.0000.231.07.014.23.98

Date: 28.01.2024

e-Tender Notice

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

SL. No.	Tender	Name of goods	Tender last selling date time	Tender closing/opening date & time	Procurement method
01.	937794	Supply of smart library software services and related services	13.02.2024, 13.00	14.02.2024, 10.30	OTM (NCT)
02.	939642	Supply of different chemicals and related services	19.02.2024, 12.30	20.02.2024, 11.20	LTM (NCT)
03.	940960	Supply or wire line cable and related services	19.02.2024, 13.45	20.02.2024, 10.30	LTM (NCT)
04.	940990	Supply of 1000M/2000M winch speed controller BOX and related services	19.02.2024, 13.17	20.02.2024, 11.30	LTM (NCT)
05.	941100	Supply of printing annual reports and related services	22.02.2024, 10.30	20.02.2024, 12.45	LTM (NCT)

for any information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd) no offline/hard copies will be accepted.

Minhajul Abedin Shakik
Assistant Director (Procurement)
For Director General
G.S.B., Dhaka
Phone: 48314810

GD- 143

35 more Covid cases in 24hrs

UNB, Dhaka

Bangladesh reported 35 more Covid-19 cases in 24 hours till yesterday morning.

With the new numbers, the country's total Covid-19 caseload rose to 2,046,998, according to the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS).

The official death toll from the disease remained unchanged at 29,481 as no new fatalities were reported during this period.

The daily case test positivity rate stood at 8.06 percent as 434 samples were tested, said the DGHS.

The recovery and death rates remained unchanged at 98.41 percent and 1.44 percent, respectively.

25 more hospitalised with dengue

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Twenty-five dengue patients were hospitalised in the last 24 hours till yesterday morning.

The total number of dengue cases this year rose to 1,006 with the new patients, according to DGHS.

The total number of deaths this year is 14 so far. A total of 135 dengue patients are still undergoing treatment at different hospitals across the country.

Among the total cases, 857 dengue patients have already been released.

Last year, the country witnessed 1705 dengue-related deaths and a total of 321,179 reported cases.



BANGLADESH KRISHI BANK
Head Office
Krishi Bank Bhabon
83-85, Motijheel Commercial Area, Dhaka-1000.
Alternative Delivery Channel Management Department

Request for Expression of Interest (EOI)

1	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Finance/Financial Institutions Division.
2	Agency	Autonomous Bodies and Other Institutions.
3	Procuring Entity Name :	Bangladesh Krishi Bank, Head Office, 83-85 Motijheel Commercial Area, Dhaka.
4	Procuring Entity Code	Not used at present.
5	Procuring Entity District	Head Office, Dhaka.
6	Expression of Interest for :	Selection of a Solution Provider for Development, Implement, Commissioning, Maintenance and Operation of Digital Banking integrated with Mobile Application for Bangladesh Krishi Bank (BKB).
7	EOI Ref No and Date	BKB/HO/ADC/62(A/PPS)/2023-2024/176, Dated 28-01-2024.
KEY INFORMATION		
8	Procurement Method	Quality & Cost Based Selection (QCBS).
FUNDING INFORMATION		
9	Budget and Source of Funds	Bangladesh Krishi Bank.
10	Development Partners (if applicable)	N/A
PARTICULAR INFORMATION		
11	Project/ Programme Code	N/A
12	Project/ Programme Name	N/A
13	EOI Submission Date and Time	Upto 14-02-2024 at 4.00 PM.
14	EOI Opening Date and Time	14-02-2024 at 4.30 PM.
15	EOI Dropping Place	Alternative Delivery Channel Management Department, Bangladesh Krishi Bank, Head Office(3 rd Floor), 83-85 Motijheel C/A, Dhaka-1000.
16	Time period of Service	Approximately 05(five) years initially, which may be extended.
INFORMATION FOR APPLICANT		
17	Brief Description of Assignment	Planning, Designing, Developing and Integration of a user friendly and device independent "Digital Banking integrated with Mobile Application" with Bank's Core Banking Solution (CBS) considering following objectives: a) The Solution Provider has to develop a Digital Banking integrated with Mobile Application (Android & iOS) considering Person to Person (P2P), Person to Merchant (P2M) Payment & Fund transfer activities etc. b) The application should have the benefit of services like Basic Banking (Deposits, Loans), Cards management, NPSB Fund transfer, E-commerce activities, Mobile phone top-up, Education Fee payment, Utility bill payment, Customer service request and requisition, Promotion, alert and news facilities for farmers/customers etc. c) The application should have the provision for transferring fund/ payment through MFS (Mobile Financial Service) like, bKash, ROCKET, NAGAD and other similar MFS. d) The Solution Provider has to develop the application by ensuring all types of Digital security measures as per the applicable guidelines of Bangladesh Bank and (or) BCC (Bangladesh Computer Council). e) The Solution Provider may propose an audible and time befitting brand name of the solution to be used in Bangladesh Krishi Bank.
18.	Experience, Resources & Delivery Capacity Required	a) The Solution Provider must have at least 5(five) years overall experience in software development and minimum 03(three) years specific experience for development and maintenance of banking solution or mobile application in financial institutions. b) The Solution Provider will submit Company Profile/ Brochures, List of minimum 15 Technical Expert/Software Engineer with CVs, Staff Position, Project timeframe with Technical details and Implementation plan. c) Should remain all the facilities like Project Planning, Deployment, Quality Assurance, Change Management, and Training for the proposed application and workforce in field for service delivery. d) The Solution Provider will propose the required Hardware sizing, NOS & RDBMS, Connectivity and other related issues with rough cost for the Solution. e) The Solution Provider will submit evidence of minimum Tk. 05.0(Five) Crore of liquid asset or credit facility from any schedule Bank of Bangladesh. f) A copy of Notification of Award for supplying ICT related Services of minimum amounting to Tk. 1.00(One) Crore under a single contract in the last 5(five) years.
Experience and Resources Required for selecting Prospective Bidders/ Qualifying Criteria for Short Listing		
19	Other Details	a) An entity or its subsidiary who, for the purpose of supplying mobile application software, previously signed an agreement with Bangladesh Krishi Bank but the agreement eventually was cancelled due to failure of the entity to serve the purpose need not submit EOI again. b) Experience of deployment e-KYC in any financial institution will be given preference. c) Proven evidence regarding Membership of BASIS. d) Interested companies have to submit a projection of Fund Flow statement showing all types of Expenses (fixed i.e. Hardware sizing, Software, NOS, RDBMS, Connectivity, CBS integration and other related works, operational, Maintenance, Marketing & any other costs) for minimum 05(five) years. e) Updated Trade license, VAT registration and tax payment certificate of last year. f) Latest audited Financial Statements. g) A short list of the interested Solution Provider will be made on the basis of submitted information and physical verification. h) Solution should have the operational capability to handle 02 million customers consisting of transaction monitoring and maintenance system with administrative panel. i) Interested companies should have similar solution currently in operation into at least 02(two) banks in Bangladesh.
PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS		
20	Name of Official Inviting EOI	Md. Farid Hasan
21	Designation of Official Inviting EOI	Deputy General Manager (Additional Charge)
22	Address of Official Inviting EOI	Alternative Delivery Channel Management Department, Bangladesh Krishi Bank, Head Office, 83-85 Motijheel C/A, Dhaka-1000.
23	Contact details of Official Inviting EOI	Tel. No. +88-02-9513691 E-mail: dgmad@krishibank.org.bd
24	The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all EOIs without assigning any reason whatsoever.	

Sd/-
Md. Farid Hasan
Deputy General Manager
(Additional charge)

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