

BORO HARVEST IN RANGPUR DIVISION

# Farmers worry over fair price

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

With Boro paddy harvesting going on in full swing, farmers from eight districts under Rangpur division are now concerned whether they would get fair price for their produce so that they can recover their cost of production.

The production cost went up significantly this season due to the recent heatwave that swept across the country.

According to the Department of Agricultural Extension in Dinajpur, Boro paddy was cultivated on around 1.74 lakh hectares of land in the district this year, while on 5.08 lakh hectares of land in five other districts in the division -- Rangpur, Nilphamari, Kurigram, Gaibandha and Lalmonirhat.

So far, four percent of the paddy has been harvested since the beginning of May and the harvesting will continue till mid-June, said DAE officials.

Visiting different areas in Dinajpur recently, this correspondent saw a large number of labourers engaged in harvesting paddy from the crop fields in Chirirbandar, Parbatipur and Nawabganj upazilas.

The farmers are trying to harvest their paddy as early as possible before the monsoon starts.

Talking to this correspondent, farmers said they got better yield than they had



expected, but the increased production cost has left them worried whether they would earn enough to recover the costs.

"Despite the hot spell and adverse weather conditions towards the end of Boro season, my paddy output on five bighas of land exceeded expectations. However, additional expenses for operating irrigation pumps and using

medicines raised the cost considerably," said Latif Mia, a farmer of Razabasara village of Dinajpur's Parbatipur upazila.

"Unless we get fair prices for our produce in the market, it will be difficult to recover the costs borne for the cultivation," he added.

Shahidul Islam, a farmer of Sadullahpur village of Mithapukur upazila of Rangpur, echoed him.

Md Hamidul Rahman, additional director of DAE in Dinajpur, said they are expecting over 8 lakh tonnes of rice

production from 1.74 lakh hectares of cultivated land in the district.

However, it seems the actual yield will exceed the target unless rain affects the paddy harvest, he added.

"Farmers had to spend more to irrigate their croplands during the heatwave, and use medicines to save the plants. As such, the production cost went up this season," said Md Reaz Uddin, deputy director of DAE in Rangpur.

He hoped that farmers would get a fair price for their produce.

## Teachers suspend work stoppage

STAR REPORT

The Bangladesh Secondary Assistant Teachers' Association has opted to suspend its planned one-hour work stoppage scheduled for today.

The association's vice president, Mohammad Yasir, confirmed the information through a press release yesterday.

The movement was originally intended as a protest against the government's decision to keep all secondary schools open on Saturdays.

Earlier, in protest of keeping schools open on Saturdays, they had announced a one-hour strike from 10:00am to 11:00am on May 11.

They said the exact duration, or the number of Saturdays for which schools will remain open, has not been clarified by the ministry. This lack of clarity has led to dissatisfaction and unrest among teachers, students, and parents.

## Fisherman dies in Bhola trawler capsized

UNB, Bhola

A fisherman died after a trawler capsized in the Meghna river after crashing into two anchored barges early yesterday, river police said.

The victim, Harun Majhi, 55, was a resident of Ward 6 under Kachia union of Bhola Sadar upazila.

Locals said Harun and his two sons went to fish in the river with the trawler early in the morning.

The trawler crashed into the barges anchored in the river when the three of them were pulling fishing nets amid tides in the Dhania Kathirmatha area of Sadar upazila around 5:30am, they said.

His two sons jumped into the river and swam ashore but Harun went missing, said Md Yunus Munshi, inspector of Bhola River Police Station.

## Three BCL men hurt in factional clash

OUR CORRESPONDENT, B'baria

At least three Chhatra League activists were injured in a factional clash in Brahmanbaria town yesterday.

The followers of district BCL organising secretary Md Mohsin Mollah and the supporters of its another organising secretary Ruhul Amin Afridi scuffled during a meeting organised by the district unit.

Housing and Public Works Minister RAM Obaidul Mukhtar Chowdhury was present during the meeting in front of Samobay Market.

Police rushed there and dispersed the activists with batons.

**PRAYER TIMING**  
MAY 11

Fazr	Zohr	Asr	Maghrib	Esha
AZAN 4-10	12-45	5-00	6-36	8-00
JAMAAT 4-45	1-15	5-15	6-40	8-30

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

# CDA's debt burden gets heavier

It borrowed total Tk 1,698cr from govt in last decade

SIFAYET ULLAH, Chattogram

With an aim to mitigate the sufferings of Chattogram residents from waterlogging and traffic congestion, as well as to facilitate tourism, the Chattogram Development Authority borrowed a total Tk 1,698 crore from the government for implementation of four projects over the past decade.

However, the agency so far managed to generate revenues from only two of those projects, since there is no scope to generate revenues from its Outer-Ring Road development and waterlogging mitigation projects.

As such, its burden of debt has kept getting heavier over the years, leaving its officials worried about repayment of loans taken for the two non-revenue generating projects.

CDA officials have already informed the matter verbally to a state minister and higher officials concerned of the government.

The agency took around Tk 753 crore loan from the government to implement a Tk 8,626 crore project,

that began in 2017, to mitigate the port city's waterlogging woes.

As per the loan terms, CDA has to repay it with five percent interest after 20 years.

**The agency took around Tk 753 crore loan from the government to implement a Tk 8,626 crore project, that began in 2017, to mitigate the port city's waterlogging woes.**

It also borrowed Tk 388 crore loan for the Tk 3,324 crore Outer Ring Road project on the shore of the Bay of Bengal, to be repaid with five percent interest. A Tk 524 crore loan was taken at two percent interest to implement the Tk 4,298 crore Chattogram Elevated Expressway project in the port city.

Lastly, Tk 33 crore was borrowed to complete the Tk 353 crore project to construct a link road between Faujdarhat and Bayezid Bostami's

Shrine area. "We will earn revenue from the elevated expressway and link road projects as commuters will have to pay a toll to use those. However, we have no way to generate income from the two other projects," said Kazi Hasan Bin Shams, CDA's chief engineer and spokesperson.

The matter has been informed to Waseqa Ayesha Khan, state minister for finance, and some higher officials of the government.

Kazi Hasan noted that the waterlogging mitigation project deadline has been extended four times, while the Outer Ring Road project has been revised four times.

The cost of implementing the link road and expressway projects also increased twice, he added.

"Extensive delays due to lack of proper planning in implementing these projects increased costs," said Shahinul Islam Khan, a former city planner of the CDA.

The debt burden will eventually slow down the development and deprive dwellers of the benefits, he added.

## UPAZILA POLLS

# Defeated candidate held for beating winner's supporter

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Natore

Police arrested a defeated chairman candidate and his driver on the charge of beating a supporter of an elected chairman in Natore on Thursday night.

Shariful Islam Ramzan, secretary of the district Awami League, was elected chairman of Sadar Upazila Parishad with "cup-saucer" symbol on May 8.

The arrestees are Jamil Hossain Milon, a contractor and son of a local AL leader, and his driver Bashar, said Md Mizanur Rahman, officer-in-charge of Natore Sadar Police Station.

Milon and his supporters took Rubel Islam, a supporter of Ramzan, from his house to Milon's office at Taltola around 9:00pm.

At that time, Rubel was beaten there, said the OC.

On information from locals, police rushed to spot, rescued Rubel and detained Bashar. Milon, who was not available there at that time, was arrested later, said Mizanur.

Rubel's father Alam Gazi filed a case against 11 people including Milon and around 15 unnamed persons.

Meanwhile, a Natore court granted the arrestees bail when they were produced before it yesterday, said the OC.

They are investigating the incident, added the police officer.

Md Tariqul Islam, superintendent of police in Natore, said they are trying to arrest the other accused.

**University of Rajshahi**  
**Institute of Business Administration (IBA)**  
**Request for Expressions of Interest (EOI)**

Selection of a short-list of consulting firms for submission of drawing, design and other related works for Construction of 4 storied IBA Hostel in University of Rajshahi

1. Ministry/Division	Education / University Grants Commission of Bangladesh/
2. Agency	Rajshahi University
3. Procuring Entity Name	Institute Of Business Administration( IBA)
4. Procuring Entity Code	N/A
5. Procuring Entity District	Rajshahi
6. Expression of interest for	Construction of 4-Storied IBA Hostel in University of Rajshahi
7. EOI Ref No.	RU/P.D/2017-2018/001
8. Date	12-05-2024
<b>Key Information</b>	
9. Procurement Method	Quality and Cost Based Selection (QCBS)
<b>Funding Information</b>	
10. Budget and Source of Funds	OWN
11. EOI Closing Date, Time & Place	27-05-2024 Time: 12.10PM, Treasurer Office, University of Rajshahi.
12. EOI Opening Date, Time & Place	27-05-2024 Time: 12.10PM, Treasurer Office, University of Rajshahi.
<b>Information for Application</b>	
13. Brief Description of Assignment	The overall objective of the services shall cover but not limited to the following scope. a) Completion of Survey Works, Subsoil Investigation, after approval of the plan from Client Detail Architectural Drawing & Design, Detail Structural Drawing & Design, 3D Architectural View, BOQ(Bill of Quantity), Estimate & Schedule, Detail Electrical and Plumbing design, Tender Documents, Supervision (if required) etc. b) Submission of all reports and drawing in printed form at least SIX( 06) set along with soft copy( CAD FILE).
14. Experience, Resources and Delivery Capacity Required	This is a project of utmost importance to develop Institute of Business Administration (IBA) to an international standard on in every aspect. Bidder must have adequate technical ability, human resources etc., as such following are defined as minimum eligibility criteria: 1. Interested consultant are invited to provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the services( brochure, description of similar assignment, experience in similar operating conditions availability of appropriate professional qualification and experience among staff etc.) 2. Minimum 10 years experience in the business as a registered company/entity in Bangladesh. 3. Registered entity with Register of joint stock and companies (RJSC) in Bangladesh. Must submit Current Trade license, Income tax and VAT certificate. 4. Needs to have full time experienced human resource in Drawing, Design and other related works in connection to multi storied and high rise buildings. A complete list is to be submitted with necessary CV. (Company/Firms must have IAB registered Architect and IEB Registered Engineer) 5. A complete list of accomplished works during last 5 years is to be submitted along with details contract address of the project. A short list of consultants will be prepared upon evaluation of EOI's of the eligible applicants and "Request for Proposal" document will be issued in their favor. A Consultant will be selected using the Quality and Cost Based Selection (QCBS) method.
15. Other Details (if applicable)	The firm(s) may form joint-venture, association or consortium (JVAC) to enhance their qualification, but should mention whether the Association is in the form of joint venture. In the case of joint-venture, all firms/entities shall be jointly and severally liable for the entire consultant's obligations under the contract. It is preferable to limit the total number of firm including their associate to maximum of two. Special Instruction: The Proposal in two set(1 Original+1 Duplicate) shall be submitted in sealed envelope.
<b>16. Procuring Entity Details</b>	
Name of Official Inviting Expressions of Interest	Professor Zeenat Ara Begum
Designation of Official Inviting Expressions of Interest	Director, Institute of Business Administration (IBA), University of Rajshahi, Motihar, Rajshahi
Address of Official Inviting Expressions of Interest	Institute of Business Administration (IBA), University of Rajshahi, Motihar, Rajshahi- 6205. E-mail: director.iba@ru.ac.bd
Contact details of Official inviting Expressions of Interest	02588864167, 01540093677
<b>17. Special Condition</b>	
a. The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject any and all EOI's made in response to this invitation without assigning any reasons whatever. b. Consultant will be selected in accordance with the Public Procurement Act(PPA)-2006 and Public Procurement Rules (PPR)-2008 and latest amendment public procurement issued by GOB. c. If any Company/ Firm produce false/fabricated papers along with EOL, the related EOI will be treated as cancelled. d. Any EOI after the closing time will not be accepted. e. EOI shall submitted in sealed envelope, all supporting papers and bio-data authenticated and signed by appropriate person, delivered to Treasurer Office, University of Rajshahi. f. Interested consultant firm may obtain further information at the address below during normal office hours.	

09.05.2024  
Professor. Zeenat Ara Begum  
Director  
Institute of Business Administration (IBA )  
University of Rajshahi  
Motihar, Rajshahi

GD-766

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh  
Roads and Highways Department  
Office of the Additional Chief Engineer  
Sylhet Zone, Sylhet.  
☎ 0821-726755  
E-mail: acesylrhd@gmail.com

Memo No. 35.01.9162.010.07.976145.24-2177 Date:08/05/2024

**e-Tender Notice (NCT, OSTETM)**

e-Tender have been invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://eprocure.gov.bd>) for the following procurements:

Tender Proposal ID No.	Tender Proposal Package No.	Name of Work	Tender/Proposal Document last selling/ downloading Date and Time:	Tender/Proposal Closing/ Opening Date and Time	Tender/Proposal Opening Date and Time.
976145	e-GP-15/DEV/ACE/SZ/SUN/2023-2024	Rehabilitation Re-construction/Improvement by Earth Work, Widening of Existing Flexible Pavement, Strengthening, Construction of Rigid Pavement, Bus Bay, Intersection, RCC Drain, Concrete Slope Protection with CC Block, Sign Signal, Road Marking etc. work at 1st Km to 10th Km (Ch: 0+000 to Ch: 10+000) of Pagla-Jagannathpur-Raniganj-Aushkandi Road (R-241) under Road Division, Sunamganj of Road Zone Sylhet during the year 2023-2024 (Package # WP-01)	09 Jun, 2024 16:00	10-Jun-2024 14:00	10-Jun-2024 14:00

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 of above package from the national e-GP Portal have to be deposited online through any registered bank branch. The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders without assigning any cause. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP helpdesk ([helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd](mailto:helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd)).

(Md. Fazle Rabbe)  
ID : 005379  
Additional Chief Engineer (CC) RHD  
Road Zone, Sylhet

GD-765