



A farmer harvesting boro paddy in Habiganj.

PHOTO: STAR

BORO CULTIVATION

Yields high, prices low

MINTU DESHWARA, from Habiganj

Muhibur Rahman of Noapara village under Ajmeriganj upazila of Habiganj cultivated Boro paddy on his eight acres of land this season with high hopes.

He spent Tk 50,750 per acre for the cultivation, including the cost of seeds, fertilisers, and irrigation. His hard work saw a bumper harvest of more than 70 maunds of paddy per acre, putting a smile to his face.

However, once he took his harvest to market, the prevailing low price of paddy took away his joy and left him amid uncertainty.

"I got a price of Tk 730-750 per maund for my paddy. Last year, it was between Tk 850-900. How are we going to survive and keep cultivating if the price drops despite higher production costs?" he asked.

Farmers Miha Mia, Hosen Mia and a dozen others of the same upazila echoed him.

Paddy cultivation in the upazila exceeded the target for this season, according to sources at the upazila

agriculture department.

Farmers said they paid Tk 7,000-8,000 per acre for harvester machines. Some even took loans to meet such production and harvesting costs. Now they are worried whether they could cut any profit due to the low price.

The government's purchase of paddy from farmers started from May 7 in Habiganj district.

"Paddy cultivated in the low-lying, haor areas in the upazila has been harvested completely. Field workers of the upazila agriculture department are monitoring the haor areas regularly," said Lutfe Al Mueez, agriculture officer of Ajmeriganj upazila.

"The government has fixed the fair price of paddy to purchase directly from farmers. There are 38 harvester machines in the upazila. We have asked for those to be used to harvest the farmers' paddy at the right price," he added.

According to the Department of Agricultural Extension in Habiganj, Boro paddy was cultivated in a total

1,23,737 hectares of land in the district this year, with a target of 5,20,650 tonnes.

In Ajmeriganj upazila, farmers cultivated Boro paddy on 14,625 hectares of land.

"About 95 percent of paddy cultivated in haor areas has been harvested. A total of 14,760 tonnes of paddy will be purchased from the district by the government," said Chai Twai Pru Marma, food controller of Habiganj district.

Pijush Chakraborty, president of the district's citizens' platform, said, "The government purchases around 18-20 percent of paddy produced in Habiganj every year, while the rest of the paddy has to be sold to middlemen."

"If the government fixes the price of paddy at wholesale level in the beginning of Baishakh, then the farmers will get a fair price for their paddy. Otherwise, they have to sell paddy at a low price of Tk 700-800 per maund, while being held hostage to the middlemen against their will," he added.

Leather sector stymied by mismanagement

Speakers tell conference

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh's economy could greatly benefit if the leather industry is revived and reaches its full potential, said speakers at a programme yesterday.

The leather sector has huge potential to contribute significantly to export growth. However, mismanagement and environmental issues in tanneries are currently holding it back, speakers added.

The comments came at a press conference organised by Solidar Suisse, OSHE Foundation, and Prokriti O Jibon Foundation at the capital's Channel i Studio.

OSHE Foundation's Chairperson Saki Rezwana said the period ahead of Eid-ul-Azha is the perfect time to collect raw leather, as over half the annual demand is met during this festival.

"During Eid, raw leather is collected and salted – a process that increases water usage in tanneries," she said. "The central treatment plant has a liquid waste capacity of 25,000-30,000 cubic meters. But during Eid, 40,000-50,000 cubic meters of waste has to be discharged."

As a result, the excess untreated liquid waste pollutes the environment, with chromium-laced water entering streets and causing public disruption and health hazards, Rezwana added.

She said through the project on workers' rights, health, and improved industry position, they are addressing that issue.

Ishrat Shabnam, programme manager at EU Delegation to Bangladesh, said the leather sector is very promising, but not remotely close to the US \$10-20 billion export potential, due to lack of certifications which ensure social and environmental compliance. This project will help factories get certified.

Aman Ullah, country director of Solidar Suisse, said the tannery industry's poor performance is due to lack of knowledge about its environmental impacts. "Our lack of awareness and technology are damaging nature," he said.

"This industry could have moved our country forward, but is lagging due to mismanagement. If this sector improves, the economy will be in a better position," said Muqeed Majumdar Babu, Chairman of Prokriti O Jibon Foundation.

The organisations will hold a "National High-Level Dialogue for Greening the Tannery and Leather Sector in Bangladesh" in the capital tomorrow, under a project funded by the European Union titled "Building a Sustainable Leather Industry Sector in Bangladesh".

Govt to cover RMG

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Convention No 121 (C-121) requires countries to define industrial accidents, including the conditions under which a commuting accident is considered to be an industrial accident, said the press release. "Adapting this measure brings the Bangladesh EIS one-step in closer alignment with the requirements outlined in C-121," it added.

The press release said that occupational diseases are yet to be covered in the scheme, but it is in process. International brands voluntarily contribute to the fund of this scheme, which is limited to workers in export-oriented RMG factories.

According to the EIS website, the families of a total 18 deceased have been

supported with over Tk 16 lakh since the inception of the programme.

Besides, over Tk 10 lakh has been paid out to 12 cases of permanent disability.

"Since June 21, 2022, the EIS Pilot has been compensating injured workers and the dependents of deceased workers in the ready-made garments sector for work-related accidents. With this inclusion of commuting accidents, the initiative is expected to provide enhanced protection to workers and improve industrial relations, which are often disrupted by accidents involving workers on their way to or from work," said Tuomo Poutiainen, ILO's country director for Bangladesh.

Alarming failures

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Ahmed Ali Dakhil Madrasa has 14 students, and Bogura Dakhil Madrasa has 15 students.

Furthermore, only one student passed from each of the following madrasas – Khondokar Nurunnahar Dakhil, Udhuna Dakhil, and Haji Abed Ali Women Memorial Dakhil madrasas. Asifur Rahman, superintendent of Bogura Dakhil Madrasa, said majority of students enrolled in the Dakhil curriculum hail from remote areas, often showing a tendency to skip classes, while their families display a lack of seriousness regarding their education.

Prof Tapan Kumar Sarker, chairman of Dhaka education board and president of the inter-education board coordination committee,

said when institutions have 100 percent failure rates, the government usually issues showcase notices, and if satisfactory reasons are not provided, the institutions are shut down.

He added that last year, the Dhaka board closed four schools and merged their students into nearby ones.

However, Education Minister Mohibul Hassan Chowdhury said, "Taking action against these schools cannot be a solution. Instead, we need to explore alternatives to address the underlying issues behind the failure. If we take action against these schools, only the students will suffer."

(Our correspondents from Pabna, Dinajpur, Bogura, and Patuakhali contributed to this report.)

Recruiting militants

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in Boalmari of Faridpur while meeting with Hujji leader Rauf. Mashur received military and combat training at Rauf's madrasa in Mymensingh from 2002-2023.

In 2013, he was again arrested with grenades along with other Hujji

leaders in Jhalakathi and was sentenced to four and a half years in jail, said Harun.

From 2021, Mashur spent two years at the KNF hideout in Bandarban.

Meanwhile, Habibur, who worked under Rana

at the insurance company, was a new recruit for the outfit. Rana was preparing

to send him to Bandarban.

According to officials, Jama'atul Ansar was formed with the released and fugitive members of the Hujji, Ansar al-Islam, and Jamaatul Mujahideen.

With the latest arrests, 49 members of Jama'atul Ansar have been caught by law enforcers.

It is burdening countries

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smooth and timely support to Direct Access Entities (DAEs) and National Designated Authorities (NDAs) during accreditation, project planning, and resource mobilisation phases, it reads.

Overall, the ownership of vulnerable countries is severely undermined by GCF, it also said, adding that GCF initiatives for national-level engagement are negligible.

"Bypassing country priorities and defying its targets, GCF allocates more funds for mitigation than adaptation and prioritises loans over grants. This imposes additional debt repayment burdens on already overburdened climate-vulnerable

countries, which are contradictory to the 'polluters-pay principle,'" reads the study.

The study provided 15 recommendations for GCF and stakeholders concerned.

It also came up with eight recommendations for Bangladesh government and relevant stakeholders, which included increasing NDA's technical capacity.

The workforce should be recruited from individuals with relevant knowledge and experience in climate change and GCF, the study recommended.

A permanent and specific position for officials concerned in NDA's organogram should be created to manage GCF activities, and the government

should increase grants and technical support to improve the capacity of national organisations to enhance direct access to GCF, the study suggests.

Discussing the study, TIB Executive Director Iftekharruzzaman said GCF's performance is disappointing and discriminatory.

"GCF was founded to financially support climate-vulnerable countries. Instead, it is now preferring international development organisations, depriving the most climate-affected countries," he said.

"After finding corruption in some of UNDP's GCF projects, it pledged to take steps against the institution. Instead, GCF renewed its accreditation," he added.

আহসানিয়া মিশন মেডিকেল কলেজ

ঢাকা আহসানিয়া মিশন এর একটি অঙ্গ প্রতিষ্ঠান ও
আহসানিয়া মিশন ক্যান্সার এন্ড রেডিয়েশন থেরাপি সেন্টার এর একটি সহযোগী প্রতিষ্ঠান

নিয়োগ বিজ্ঞপ্তি

আহসানিয়া মিশন মেডিকেল কলেজ (এএমএমসি) এর নিম্নবর্ণিত পদে নিয়োগের নিমিত্তে বাংলাদেশী নাগরিকদের নিম্নে উল্লিখিত পদে নিয়োগ করা যাবে।

পদের নাম	যোগ্যতা ও অভিজ্ঞতা	বেতন স্কেল
অধ্যক্ষ	বাংলাদেশ মেডিকেল এন্ড ডেন্টাল কাউন্সিল কর্তৃক নির্ধারিত শিক্ষাপত্র যোগ্যতা ও সর্বশ্রেষ্ঠ বিষয়ে এক্সিপিএস/এমডি/এমএস/এমফিল ডিগ্রি সহ অধ্যক্ষ, উপাধ্যক্ষ বা সমমানের পদে কমপক্ষে ০৫ (পাঁচ) বৎসরের শিক্ষকতার অভিজ্ঞতা ও ১০ (দশ) টি গবেষণা মূলক প্রকাশনা (রিএমডিএসি কর্তৃক স্বীকৃত) থাকতে হবে।	জাতীয় বেতন স্কেল ও কলেজ কর্তৃপক্ষের বিন্যাস নীতিমালার ভিত্তিতে আলোচনা সাপেক্ষে।

উপরোক্ত পদের বিপরীতে অগ্রাধিকারের সদ্যাতোলা দুই কপি পাসপোর্ট সাইজের রঙীন ছবি, জীবনবৃত্তান্ত, সকল শিক্ষাপত্র যোগ্যতার সনদপত্র, অভিজ্ঞতার সনদপত্র ও জাতীয়তার সনদপত্রসহ প্রার্থীগণকে আগামী ৩০/০৫/২০২৪ ইং তারিখের মধ্যে চেয়ারম্যান, গভর্নিং বডি, আহসানিয়া মিশন মেডিকেল কলেজ বরাবর নিম্ন বর্ণিত ঠিকানায় ডাকযোগে বা সরাসরি অথবা ই-মেইলে আবেদনপত্র পাঠানোর জন্য অনুরোধ করা হলো।

কর্তৃপক্ষ কলেজের যাবতীয় বিজ্ঞপ্তির যে কোন শর্ত পিছলি বা বাতিল করতে পারবে।

প্লেসেং, বেড়িবাঁধ সংলগ্ন, সেক্টর#১০, উত্তরা, ঢাকা-১২৩০
(ইজতেমা মাঠের পশ্চিম পাশে, কামারপাড়া সংলগ্ন)

চেয়ারম্যান, গভর্নিং বডি
আহসানিয়া মিশন মেডিকেল কলেজ

E-mail: ahsania.ammc@gmail.com

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Executive Engineer, RHD
Road Division, Sirajganj.
Tel: 02588831039, Fax No-02588830242
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Invitation for e-Tendering

Invitation Reference No.	Memo No: 35.01.8800.471.07.001.24- 2175(7)	Date: 14/05/2024
Tender ID	Work description	Publication Date & Time
983382	Construction of 25.30 m long Foot over Bridge at Ch.136+310 (BSCIC bus stand) of Dhaka (Mirpur)- Uthali-Paturia- Notakhola-Khashinathpur- Bogra- Rangpur- Beldangha-Banglabanda Road (N 5) under Sirajganj Road Division during the year 2023-2024.	14-May-2024 16:00 Hrs
		29-May-2024 14:00 Hrs

This is an online tender where only e-tenders will be accepted in e-GP Portal and no offline and hard copy will be accepted. To submit e-Tender please register on the National e-GP system Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required. The fees for downloading the e-Tender Documents from the National e-GP System portal have to be deposited online through any registered Bank's Branches for 29.05.2024 Up to 13:00 Hrs. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd) (+8809609112233, +8801762625528-31)

(Md. Abul Kalam Azad)
Identity No-601994
Executive Engineer, RHD
Road Division, Sirajganj.

GD- 784

Turn child

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age of children protected under the welfare policy for domestic workers from 14 to 18.

ShamsulHuda, executive director of the Association for Land Reform and Development, on behalf of the group, also called for prompt enforcement of the court's 2017 directive to establish monitoring cells nationwide to safeguard the rights of domestic workers.

Two students

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Later, Sammaul supported me. Then they became angry and pushed us."

When asked, Nayeem declined to comment on the matter.

Cuet student welfare director Rezaul Karim said, "We will take action after investigating the incident."

PRAYER TIMING
MAY 15

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

NOTICE
NOTICE UNDER SECTION 289 OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1994
FOR RESOLUTION TO WIND UP VOLUNTARILY

In the matter of
L'Oréal Bangladesh Limited

At an Extra-ordinary General Meeting of the shareholders of L'Oréal Bangladesh Limited having registered office at Crystal Palace, 3rd Floor, House # SE (D) 22, Road # 140, Gulshan South Avenue, Gulshan-1, Dhaka-1212, Bangladesh duly convened and held on 8th May 2024, it has been resolved that L'Oréal Bangladesh Limited has been put into members voluntarily winding up as on 8th May 2024. Mr. M Mehedi Hasan, Partner of Rahman Rahman Huq, Chartered Accountants (a member firm of KPMG International) of 9 & 5 Mohakhali C/A, Dhaka-1212 Bangladesh, has been appointed as the Liquidator of the Company with effect from 9th May 2024.

All concerned are therefore requested to contact henceforth with the Liquidator in respect of any affairs of the Company.

M Mehedi Hasan
Liquidator
Rahman Rahman Huq
Chartered Accountants
9 & 5 Mohakhali C/A, Dhaka-1212.

Solidaridad

Invitation for National Open Tender

We are inviting sealed tenders from eligible bidders for the following items, as outlined in the tender documents. Please review the terms and conditions below before submitting your tender.

Project Name	HSBCO & P2PO		
Invitation reference No	SNA/NKH/PR/04.24.024		
Prerequisite of Tenderer	The bidder is required to provide the latest versions of their Trade License, Proof of Submission of Return (PSR), as well as their BIN, TIN, and VAT registration certificates.		
	Please ensure that the bidder provides an updated bank solvency certificate in the name of the specific organization/vendor.		
Invitation to Tender for the Provision of Item : (A +B+C +D)	The bidder is required to provide documents showing relevant past work experience certificate.		
	A	Grain Moisture Meter	24" Padelstand Fan
		Exhaust Fan	Tarpaulin
		Digital Weight Scale -150 kg	Fire extinguisher
	B	Signboard- Steel frame, 3'x4', PVC black media print- design and print.	
	Signboard-Steel frame, PVC print, 3'x7'design and print.		
	Financial Literacy knowledge materials printing-4 pager with folding in middle-design and print		
	Knowledge materials odesign and print.		
	Poster printing for IVR. design and print.		
C	Motorized van.		
D	Yellow paint for Hub.	Rod (ton).	Cement (50kg bag).
Date, Time & Place for Collecting Tender Documents	From 15th May 2024 to 26th May 2024, the tender schedule is available from 10 AM to 4.30 PM at Apartment # A1, Merrydale, 1st Floor, House # 32, Road # 10A, Dhanmondi, Dhaka-1209.		
Tender Closing Date and Time	The tender will be closed on 26th May 2024, at 12.30 PM.		
Tender Opening Date & Time & Place	The tender will be opened on 26th May 2024, at 2.30 PM, at Apartment # A1, Merrydale, 1st Floor, House # 32, Road # 10A, Dhanmondi, Dhaka-1209.		
Others Terms and Conditions	Bidders can choose to submit bids either for entire groups or for individual groups, but it's crucial to ensure that all items within the selected group are quoted accordingly. Solidaridad reserves the right to accept or cancel all tender /proposals at its discretion, with or without prior notice.		

Muhammad Shakil Anwar
Country Operation Officer