

# Businesses should unlock ceramic export potential: adviser

Four-day Ceramic Expo Bangladesh begins in Dhaka

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Commerce Adviser Sk Bashir Uddin has urged businesses to fully tap into the country's growing ceramic industry and transform it into a stronger export-oriented sector.

He made the call while inaugurating the Ceramic Expo Bangladesh 2025 as the chief guest at the International Convention City Bashundhara in Purbachal, Dhaka yesterday, according to a press release.

More than 70 factories producing tableware, tiles, sanitary ware, and other ceramic products are currently operating in Bangladesh.

The domestic market for these items stands at around Tk 8,000 crore annually. Production and investment in the industry have surged by nearly 150 percent over the past decade.

Bangladesh now exports ceramic products to over 50 countries, earning approximately Tk 5 billion a year. Overall investment in the sector has exceeded Tk 18,000 crore, while nearly five lakh people are



Commerce Adviser Sk Bashir Uddin visits a stall after inaugurating the “Fourth Ceramic Expo 2025” at the International Convention City Bashundhara in Purbachal, Dhaka yesterday.

PHOTO: BCMEA

employed directly and indirectly.

Calling for constructive engagement from the business community, the adviser said, “Not just complaints, but come up with logical, acceptable, and realistic proposals. The government is supportive of you. We are obliged to ensure your facilities. But it must be based on fair and standard industrial conduct.”

He added that the country's shifting political landscape has made it clear that “connection-based business” will no longer be effective. “The time is now for skills, competence, and technology,” he said.

The adviser also questioned why the ceramic industry has not achieved export prominence similar to the ready-made garment

sector, which grew rapidly within a decade.

“Because we still have challenges in sustainable cost competitiveness, design innovation, logistics efficiency, productivity, and energy management. We need to identify these and move towards realistic solutions,” he added.

Organised by the Bangladesh Ceramic Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BCMEA), the four-day fair will run until November 30.

A total of 135 organisations and 300 brands from 25 countries, including Bangladesh, are participating in the expo. Around 500 international representatives and buyers from the sector are also attending.

Ceramic Expo Bangladesh 2025, one of the largest ceramic exhibitions in Asia, will feature three seminars, a job fair, business-to-business (B2B) and business-to-consumer (B2C) meetings, live demonstrations, spot orders, raffle draws, and new product launches.

The fair will remain open to visitors from 10am to 6pm daily.

# BTRC vows stable handset prices after NEIR launch

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

The telecom regulator will remain vigilant to ensure that local mobile manufacturers do not hike handset prices after the launch of the National Equipment Identity Register (NEIR), said Mahmud Hossain, commissioner of the Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission (BTRC).

He said the BTRC is already monitoring current handset prices in the market.

“It is keeping detailed records of how much each handset model costs right now, so that no one can increase prices after the NEIR launch,” he said.

Hossain spoke at a seminar titled “The Importance of the NEIR System in Ensuring the Use of Legal and Safe Handsets,” organised by the Telecom and Technology Reporters’ Network Bangladesh (TRNB) at the RAOWA Complex in Dhaka yesterday.

Asked whether NEIR would push up handset prices, he said the BTRC has lifted all restrictions on handset sales by mobile operators through provisions that allow them to sell devices in instalments by locking the device or SIMs.

He expressed hope that after NEIR is launched, manufacturers will increase production volume, which will ultimately bring down handset prices.

Brig Gen Md Aminul Hoque, director general at the BTRC, said a huge number of handsets are currently being cloned in the market.

Citing BTRC's database, he said around 50 lakh handsets are active against only five valid IMEI numbers, indicating widespread cloning.

An IMEI is a unique 15-digit identifier assigned to every mobile device, enabling regulators and operators to track, verify authenticity, block stolen phones, and ensure network access for legal handsets.

# Govt aims

FROM PAGE B1

Kamruzzaman Kamal, marketing director at PRAN-RFL Group, said while the global agro-processing market is valued at \$4 trillion, Bangladesh currently accounts for only \$1 billion, meaning the country has significant potential in this sector.

However, he noted that gaps in product variety and quality prevent many producers from meeting high international standards.

Kamal also criticised the complex regulatory process for agricultural exports, which “requires approvals from 18 different departments”, raising both costs and timelines.

He argued that a one-stop service and stronger country branding are essential, alongside improvements in quality control and internationally accredited laboratories.

Currently, he said many tests must be conducted abroad, as Bangladesh Standards and Testing Institution (BSTI) standards are not recognised globally. Ensuring quality from farm to table, he said, is critical to guaranteeing safe food.

## Office of the Regional Election Officer

Sylhet Region, Sylhet  
[www.ecs.gov.bd](http://www.ecs.gov.bd)

Memo No.17.07.0000.000.69.001.25-763 Date: 26 November 2025

### Invitation for Tenders

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

1	Ministry/Division	Bangladesh Election Commission
2	Agency	Bangladesh Election Commission
3	Procuring entity name	Regional Election Officer, Sylhet Region, Sylhet
4	Procuring entity code	Not applicable
5	Procuring entity district	Sylhet
6	Invitation for	Tender - Single Lot
7	Invitation Ref No.	REG/Sylhet/25-26/RD/GSG
8	Date	26.11.2025

**KEY INFORMATION**

9	Procurement method	Open Tendering Method (OTM)
---	--------------------	-----------------------------

**FUNDING INFORMATION**

10	Budget and source of funds	Revenue
11	Development partners (if applicable)	Not applicable

**PARTICULAR INFORMATION**

12	Project / programme code (if applicable)	Not applicable
13	Project/ programme name (if applicable)	Not applicable
14	Tender Package No.	1
15	Tender package name	Reconstruction of the Damaged Garage, Collapsible Gate and Steel Gate of the Regional Server Station, Sylhet
16	Tender publication date	Date: 28.11.2025
17	Tender last selling date (up to the day prior to the day of Deadline for Submission)	Date: 15.12.2025
18	Tender closing date and time	Date: 15.12.2025 Time: 12.30pm
19	Tender opening date and time	Date: 15.12.2025 Time: 1.00pm
20	Name & address of the officer(s)	Address: Office of the Regional Election Officer, Sylhet
21	Selling tender document (principal)	Office of the Regional Election Officer, Sylhet
22	Selling tender document (others)	Not applicable

No conditions apply for sale, purchase or distribution of tender documents

23	Receiving tender document	Office of the Senior District Election Officer, Sylhet
24	Opening tender document	Office of the Senior District Election Officer, Sylhet

**INFORMATION FOR TENDERER**

25	Brief eligibility and qualification of tenderer	As Per IDS
26	Brief description of works	Reconstruction of the Damaged Garage, Collapsible Gate and Steel Gate of the Regional Server Station, Sylhet
27	Brief description of physical services	Construction Work
28	Price of tender document (Tk)	1000/-

Lot No	Identification of lot	Location	Tender security amount (Tk)	Completion time in days	
29	1	Reconstruction of the Damaged Garage, Collapsible Gate and Steel Gate of the Regional Server Station, Sylhet	Sylhet	2.75%	60 days

**PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS**

30	Name of official inviting tender	Mohammad Monjurul Alam		
31	Designation of official inviting tender	Senior District Election Officer, Sylhet		
32	Address of official inviting tender	Upashar, Sylhet		
33	Contact details of official inviting tender	01550042653 02997703594 sdcsofbsr@gmail.com		
34	The Procuring Entity reserves the right to reject all the Tenders or annul the Tender proceedings.			

Mohammad Monjurul Alam  
Senior District Election Officer, Sylhet  
Email: sdcsofbsr@gmail.com  
Phone: 02997703594

GD-2574

# High NPLs creating

FROM PAGE B1

fiscal support, more effective tax administration, banking sector reforms, and comprehensive skill development to build a resilient, competitive economy.

Meanwhile, chairing the event, Zaidi Sattar, chairman of PRI, said the Real Effective Exchange Rate (REER) index - which measures price competitiveness against trading partners - has been rising since May, causing concerns for exporters.

A rising REER signals that Bangladeshi goods are becoming relatively more expensive in global markets.

“The Bangladesh Bank can no longer purchase dollars from the market to depreciate the taka; therefore, loosening import restrictions is the only viable option. This would also benefit exporters,” he added.

The central bank has been purchasing dollars from the market to rebuild foreign exchange reserves and maintain stability in the exchange rate in recent months.

Nasiruddin Ahmed, former chairman of the National Board of Revenue (NBR), called for allowing politicians to formulate tax policy and the business community, instead of bureaucrats, some of whom he believes contribute to

the problem.

He also highlighted employment and the lack of quality, job-oriented education as major national concerns that the next government must address.

Wasel Bin Shadat, research director at public-private dialogue platform Business Initiative Leading Development (BUILD), raised concerns over fairness in implementing penalties for tax-related violations.

“Compliant taxpayers are being penalised, which goes against the principle of tax justice. This is one of the main reasons why 85 percent of the economy remains informal,” he said.

Moreover, he said election manifestos across political parties fail to address the economic situation with sufficient seriousness.

AKM Atiqur Rahman, professor at North South University, said the July uprising led to the disclosure of the true scale of rising NPLs. Otherwise, he said the figures would have remained hidden, raising doubts about the economy's ability to sustain itself.

He emphasised the urgent need for export diversification beyond RMG, warning that potential Trump-era tariffs and a REER above 6 percent are already weakening competitiveness.

# Default loans

FROM PAGE B1

Debapriya, who headed a panel on the white paper on the state of Bangladesh's economy, said the bureaucracy provided strong support to the previous government in carrying out its misappropriations.

“If we have to name two or three individuals, the head of the central bank would be among the key accused. Within this entire process, his wrongdoing is particularly serious because it was his responsibility to ensure accountability, transparency and related matters,” he said.

At the event, he lauded the role of economic reporters for uncovering issues, including loan scams during the tenure of the Awami League government ousted in August last year. Now, they can play a significant role in accelerating efforts to bring transparency and carry out reforms.

Responding to another question on the interim government's move to sign deals with foreign investors for the operation of two terminals at the Chattogram port, he said, despite the slow pace of reforms in other areas, the government moved fast here.

“In one area the government undertook no reforms at all, yet in another area it completed such a major task within 13 days,” he said. “I was stunned. This means that

if you want to, you can. Then why was it not done elsewhere?”

This means that somewhere there remains a lack of political intent, a lack of incentives, he said.

If good work is not done properly, and if stakeholder participation does not take place with transparency, then such work does not become sustainable, he said.

Moreover, among the three port agreements, one was started during the previous government, and yet, even in that case, we did not see proper transparency.

“The overall lack of transparency has given me room to doubt your intentions. As a result, you have handled the entire matter in such a way that you have created a burden for the next government.”

“What I fear is that, in the end, this may stand as a negative example when it comes to attracting foreign direct investment.”

Later at the event, Md Faruque Hossain, a former secretary and now procurement policy consultant, said the initiatives to hire a foreign operator for the Laldia terminal were taken several years ago.

So, it cannot be said that the process was completed in 13 days.

Debapriya also criticised the government for its inertia in undertaking reform in line with the recommendations of the Media Reform Commission.

## বাংলাদেশ পানি উন্নয়ন বোর্ড

নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলীর দপ্তর  
ময়মনসিংহ পানি উন্নয়ন বিভাগ  
বাপাউবো, ময়মনসিংহ  
ফোনঃ ০২৯৯৬৬৬৫৯৮৮  
E-mail: eemymensinghbwbdb@gmail.com

Memo No. T-2/537 Date: 26/11/2025

### e-Tender Notice-[Mym-02]

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

Sl. No.	Tender ID	Package No. & description	Location of the works/supply	Tender/proposal document last selling date & time	Tender/proposal closing & opening date & time
1	1181180	MYM/GOB/Ayman/Bridge-1 Construction of 20m Span Bridge over Ayman River at Payarkandi Village in Upazila- Muktagacha, District- Mymensingh under Mymensingh WD Division, BWDB, Mymensingh during the financial year 2025-26.	Muktagacha, Mymensingh	14-Dec-2025 4:00pm	15-Dec-2025 3:00pm

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 from the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through any registered bank's branches up to banking hours as stated on Tender Notice. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk ([helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd](mailto:helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd)) (01762625528-31) (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>).

পানি-৩২৩/২০২৫-২০২৬  
৫x৩

Shameem Hossain Mahmud  
ID No. 910318002  
Executive Engineer  
Mymensingh WD Division  
BWDB, Mymensingh

GD-2581

## বাংলাদেশ সুপ্রীম কোর্ট

হাইকোর্ট বিভাগ, ঢাকা  
[www.supremecourt.gov.bd](http://www.supremecourt.gov.bd)

### উন্মুক্ত দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

ক্রঃ নং	পণ্য ও দরপত্র সংক্রান্ত তথ্যাদি
১	মন্ত্রণালয়/বিভাগ
২	প্রতিষ্ঠান
৩	সংগ্রাহক প্রতিষ্ঠানের নাম ও ঠিকানা
৪	সংগ্রাহক প্রতিষ্ঠানের কোড
৫	সংগ্রাহক প্রতিষ্ঠানের জেলা
৬	দরপত্র আহবানের বিষয়
৭	দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি নম্বর
৮	নথি নং
৯	ক্রয় পদ্ধতি
১০	পণ্য সংগ্রহ পদ্ধতি
১১	বাজেট ও তহবিলের উৎস
১২	উদয়ন সহযোগী (প্রযোজ্য ক্ষেত্রে)
১৩	প্রকল্প/প্রোগ্রাম কোড
১৪	প্রকল্প/প্রোগ্রাম এর নাম
১৫	দরপত্র প্রক্রিয়ার নাম
১৬	দরপত্র প্রকাশের তারিখ
১৭	দরপত্র দলিল বিতরণ
১৮	দরপত্র দলিল দাখিলের স্থান
১৯	দরপত্র বিতরণের শেষ তারিখ
২০	দরপত্র দলিল দাখিলের সময়ে তারিখ ও সময়
২১	দরপত্র উন্মুক্তকরণের তারিখ, সময় ও স্থান
২২	দরপত্র আহবানকারী প্রতিষ্ঠানের নাম ও ঠিকানা
২৩	পণ্য ও সেবার সংক্ষিপ্ত বিবরণ
২৪	দরপত্রদাতাগণের যোগাযোগ
২৫	দরপত্র দলিলের মূল্য
২৬	একক লট
২৭	দরপত্র আহবানকারী কর্মকর্তার নাম
২৮	দরপত্র আহবানকারী কর্মকর্তার পদবী
২৯	দরপত্র আহবানকারী কর্মকর্তার ঠিকানা
৩০	দরপত্র আহবানকারীর সহিত যোগাযোগের মাধ্যম
৩১	দরপত্র আহবানকারী কর্তৃপক্ষ কোন কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতিরেকে কোন দরপত্র গ্রহণ অথবা বাতিল করার পূর্ব ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করেন।

যথাযথ কর্তৃপক্ষের স্বাক্ষরক্রমে

২৬.১১.২০২৫  
মেফতাহুল জাভান  
সহকারী রেজিস্ট্রার (অর্থ)  
বাংলাদেশ সুপ্রীম কোর্ট  
হাইকোর্ট বিভাগ, ঢাকা

GD-2515

## গণ-প্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার

প্রধান প্রকৌশলী (পূর্ব) এর কার্যালয়  
বাংলাদেশ রেলওয়ে,  
সিআরবি, চট্টগ্রাম-৪০০০।  
ই-জিপি টেন্ডার নোটিশ

ফোন: +৮৮০০১২৮০৬১২, ই-মেইল: [cee@railway.gov.bd](mailto:cee@railway.gov.bd)

নং-সিই/ই-জিপি/০২/২০২৫-২৬; তারিখ: ২৬.১১.২০২৫ খ্রি।

প্রধান প্রকৌশলী (পূর্ব), বাংলাদেশ রেলওয়ে, কর্তৃক National Electronic Government Procurement Portal (<https://www.eprocure.gov.bd/>) এ নিম্নোল্লিখিত দরপত্র আহবান করা হয়েছে :

ক্রঃ নং	টেন্ডার রেফারেন্স নং	Tender আইডি নং	ক্রয়ের ধরন ও কাজের নাম	দরপত্র পদ্ধতি	দরপত্র দাখিলের তারিখ ও শেষ সময়
১.	xenpne/least/e-tender/25-26/06	1175988	Works: At Kamalapur ICD, Dhaka Reconstruction of broken/ damage heavy duty pavement at ICD for the period of 01 (One) year.	OTM (NC)	18-Dec-2025 12:00 PM
২.	xenpne/least/e-tender/25-26/07	1175628	Works: At Kamalapur Railway Station Area. Sinking and installation of 01 no. deep Tube well including construction of pump house with toilet and septic tank (10 users) and laying necessary pipe line on turnkey basis as per Drawing.	OTM (NC)	18-Dec-2025 12:00 PM
৩.	xenpne/least/e-tender/25-26/11	1176163	Works: At Kamalapur ICD: Reconstruction of Heavy Duty Pavement R.C.C Road with others related work etc at ICD Delivery Gate to Atishdiponkar Road as per drawing.	OTM (NC)	18-Dec-2025 12:00 PM
৪.	xenpne/least/e-tender/25-26/13	1179398	Works: At CRB (Agent Hill). Construction of Water treatment plant with necessary equipment as per approved drawing.	OTM (NC)	18-Dec-2025 12:00 PM

বিঃদ্রঃ

১. তমুদ্রায় ই-জিপি সিস্টেমে নির্ধারিত eligibility শর্তাবলী পূরণকারী দরদাতাগণ সরাসরি অংশগ্রহণ করতে পারবেন।
২. দরপত্রের অংশগ্রহণের জন্য দরপত্র দলিল ও দরপত্র জামানত বাবদ অর্থ নির্ধারিত ব্যাংকে জমা করতে হবে।

এস (২৫) (১০৪)

মোহাম্মদ মুহাম্মাদুল হক  
নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলী (পি এড ডি) (পূর্ব)  
পক্ষে-প্রধান প্রকৌশলী (পূর্ব)  
বাংলাদেশ রেলওয়ে, চট্টগ্রাম।

GD-2579