

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.

Office of the Regional Election Officer

Sylhet Region, Sylhet

www.ecs.gov.bd

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 address	Not applicable			
5 Procuring entity district	Sk Sylhet			
6 Invitation for	Tender - Single Lot			
7 Invitation Ref No.	REFO/Sylhet/25-26-RDGC-SGS			
8 Date	26.11.2025			
9 Procurement method	Open Tendering Method (OTM)			
10 Budget and source of funds	Revenue			
11 Development partner (if applicable)	Not applicable			
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	28.11.2025			
17 Tender last closing date (up to the day prior to the day of Deadline for Submission)	15.12.2025			
18 Tender closing date and time	15.12.2025 12:30pm			
19 Tender opening date and time	15.12.2025 1:00pm			
20 Name & address of the officer(s)	Address Office of the Regional Election Officer, Sylhet			
21 Selling tender document (principal)	Not applicable			
22 Selling tender document (others)	Not applicable			
23 No conditions apply for the purchase or distribution of tender documents				
24 -Receiving tender document	Office of the Senior District Election Officer, Sylhet			
25 -Opening tender document	Office of the Senior District Election Officer, Sylhet			
26 INFORMATION FOR TENDERER				
27 Brief eligibility and qualification of tenderer	As Per TDS			
28 Brief description of works	Reconstruction of the Damaged Garage, Collapsible Gate and Steel Gate of the Regional Server Station, Sylhet			
29 Brief description of physical services	Construction Work			
30 Price of tender document (Tk)	1000/-			
Let No.	Identification of lot	Location	Tender security amount (Tk)	Completion time in days
25 1	Reconstruction of the Damaged Garage, Collapsible Gate and Steel Gate of the Regional Server Station, Sylhet	Sylhet	2.75%	60 days
26 Name of official inviting tender	Mohammad Monjurul Alam			
27 Designation of official inviting tender	Senior District Election Officer, Sylhet			
28 Address of official inviting tender	Upazila, Sylhet			
29 Contact details of official inviting tender	0150042653 02997703594 sdeosyfb@gmail.com			
30 The Procuring Entity reserves the right to reject all the Tenders or annul the Tender proceedings.				

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 PRL, 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.

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 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.

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.

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.

বাংলাদেশ পানি উন্নয়ন বোর্ড

নির্বাচী প্রকৌশলীর দ্বারা
ময়মনসিংহ পানি উন্নয়ন বিভাগ

বাপাড়বো, ময়মনসিংহ

ফোনঃ ০২৯৯৬৬৬৫৯৮৮

E-mail: ceymensingshbwdb@gmail.com

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) (0176265528-31) (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>).

পানি-৩২৩/২০২৫-২০২৬
৫৫৩

Shameen Hasnain Mahmud
ID No. 910318002
Executive Engineer
Mymensingh WD Division
BWDB, Mymensingh

GD-2581

বাংলাদেশ সুপ্রিম কোর্ট

হাইকোর্ট বিভাগ, ঢাকা

www.supremecourt.gov.bd

উন্নত দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

ক্র. নং	পণ্য ও দরপত্র সংক্রান্ত তথ্য
১	বাংলাদেশ সুপ্রিম কোর্ট, ঢাকা
২	বাংলাদেশ সুপ্রিম কোর্ট, হাইকোর্ট বিভাগ, ঢাকা
৩	সংস্থান প্রতিষ্ঠানের নাম ও ঠিকানা
৪	সংগ্রহক প্রতিষ্ঠানের কোড
৫	প্রযোজ্য নথি
৬	বাংলাদেশ সুপ্রিম কোর্ট, হাইকোর্ট বিভাগের মাননীয় চিকিৎসা মহোরামের স্বাস্থ্যের বিভিন্ন কোর্ট, চেহারের এবং অফিসের কাজে ব্যবহারের জন্য বিভিন্ন মডেলের টেনার কার্টিজ (প্রিন্ট