



Women farmers harvest grapes after successfully cultivating them for the first time in the Barind region's red soil. Although yields were low last year, bunches now hang across the one-bigha orchard, with full harvesting expected in a few days. The photo was taken at Chaitanyapur village in Godagari upazila, Rajshahi yesterday.

A bamboo bridge their only lifeline

Over 100 villagers rely on the fragile structure in Sreemangal

MINTU DESHWARA, Moulvibazar

With no permanent bridge over the canal in Bilaser Par village of Ashidron union in Sreemangal, more than 100 residents have been forced to rely on a fragile bamboo structure for daily movement.

The temporary bridge is the only link for people living on one side of the village. Women, children, elderly people and school students risk their safety every day while crossing it, villagers said.

Local resident Afir Uddin said they have repeatedly demanded a permanent bridge, but no effective steps have been taken despite years of assurances from elected representatives.

The narrow bamboo structure, built on a few poles over the canal, has become increasingly unstable. Villagers fear that even a minor misstep could lead to a serious accident.

Residents said they built the bridge themselves by collecting money and

buying bamboo. It requires frequent repairs after every monsoon. During heavy rains, rising canal water often disrupts communication almost entirely, leaving the community isolated.



Contacted, Sreemangal UNO Ziaur Rahman said the administration had already inspected the site.

"A proposal for constructing a bridge has been sent to the ministry. The work will begin once approval is granted," he added.

Farmer killed 'by rivals' in Magura

OUR CORRESPONDENT,
Benapole

A farmer was killed allegedly by his rivals in Magura yesterday following a dispute over establishing supremacy.

The deceased was identified as Akbar Mondol, 55, of the Mashalia village in Sreepur upazila.

According to locals, Akbar Mondol had long been at odds with one Abdur Rashid in the area.

When he went to work in the field yesterday morning, rivals allegedly attacked him with sharp weapons and beat him, leaving him critically injured.

Family members later rescued him and took him to Sreepur Upazila Health Complex, where doctors declared him dead.

Officer-in-Charge Wali Mia of Sreepur Police Station said they are trying to arrest those involved.

Qawmi teachers Ensure budget justice

FROM PAGE 4

enactment of a blasphemy law, with death penalty as the maximum punishment.

On Qawmi education, it demanded legal recognition of its distinct identity and specialised character, saying Qawmi madrasas should not be brought under mainstream education in a way that could affect their independence.

The council called for Shariah courts in every district to deal with Muslims' personal matters, including marriage, divorce, guardianship, inheritance and waqf property.

It also demanded one-third representation of Qawmi scholars in the education commission and NCTB, tax exemption for religious donations, diplomatic support for persecuted Muslims, and a ban on Qadianis and Hizbut Tawhid activities.

FROM PAGE 3

For more than 52 lakh people from indigenous communities, the survey sought an allocation of Tk 9,115 crore.

It also called for a specialised community-based census to update ethnic statistics, funding for a separate land commission for plain land indigenous communities, and at least Tk 1,000 crore to rehabilitate willing settlers from the CHT to the plains.

For youth development, the report proposed an allocation of Tk 61,805 crore, prioritising human resource development, vocational education, digital skills, mental health support, entrepreneurship training, and safe migration opportunities.

To address the plight of over 1.33 crore urban poor, it recommended Tk 23,177 crore to finance long-term housing projects on non-

agricultural government khas land, introduce low-interest housing loans, and expand tailored social safety net programmes.

The report also urged the government to allocate Tk 2,16,318 crore for land, agriculture, and waterbody reforms, saying the allocation would directly affect nearly 12.5 crore people.

Speakers urged the government to establish a permanent National Land and Agricultural Reform Commission, set up a dedicated monitoring cell, and intensify the recovery of khas land and waterbodies.

They said structural changes in livelihoods would not be possible without such reforms.

Journalist Sohrab Hasan said the state has a highly limited connection with marginalised communities, although a large section of the population belongs to

these groups.

He called for equitable distribution of revenue based on fairness and justice.

Senior journalist Abu Sayeed Khan called for decentralising budget management, saying budget justice can only be ensured if lawmakers truly represent their regional and marginalised constituents.

Man recounts

FROM PAGE 3

"I saw blood and a number of people collapsing on the road," he told the tribunal.

He said he immediately took the injured child to two hospitals in Uttara, but Jabir could not be admitted due to a lack of ICU facilities. A third hospital later declared him dead.

Kabir demanded exemplary punishment for those responsible for the killing.



ESSENTIAL DRUGS COMPANY LIMITED
395-397, Tejgaon Industrial Area
Dhaka-1208

Corrigendum for Procurement of Different Type of Vehicle

Corrigendum to our Tender Notice No. EDCL(Dhaka)/PUR/PT/2026/155 dated 10/05/2026 for Supply of different type Vehicle with Registration for EDCL, Dhaka, Bogura and Khulna Factory in the following manner:

1. The above tender will be dropped and opened on 15/06/2026 instead of 10/06/2026.

2. All the Vehicles will be Brand New

3. Model, Brand and Manufacturer: Bidder will mention (Details as per Tender Schedule and URS)

All any other terms & conditions against the above tender will remain unchanged.

Note: The above Tender was published earlier in the Daily Star and the Daily Ittefaq on 11/05/2026.

General Manager (cc)
Procurement Department
For: Managing Director.

5"x4"

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Prime Minister's Office
Bangladesh Investment Development Authority
Investment Promotion Wing
Biniyog Bhaban
Plot: E-6/B, Agargaon, Sher-E-Banglanagar, Dhaka-1207
www.bida.gov.bd

Memo No: 03.08.2680.212.99.018.26-67

Date: 18.05.2026

Request for Expression of Interest (REOI)

01.	Ministry/Division	:	Prime Minister's Office								
02.	Agency	:	Bangladesh Investment Development Authority (BIDA).								
03.	Procuring Entity Name	:	Bangladesh Investment Development Authority (BIDA).								
04.	Procuring Entity Code	:	-								
05.	Procuring Entity District	:	Dhaka								
06.	Expression of Interest for Selection of	:	Consulting Firm (National)								
07.	Title of Service	:	Hiring a National Consulting Firm to design and set up BIDA Overseas Office and to Recruit Consultants in Guangzhou, China								
08.	EOI Ref. (Package) No.	:	03.08.2680.212.99.018.26-67								
09.	EOI Publication Date	:	19th May 2026								
10.	KEY INFORMATION										
11.	Procurement method	:	Fixed Budget Selection (FBS)								
12.	FUNDING INFORMATION										
13.	Budget and Source of Fund	:	GOB (Revenue)								
14.	Development Partners	:	N/A								
15.	PARTICULAR INFORMATION										
16.	Project/Profile Name	:	Consulting Firm for Establishment of BIDA Overseas Office and Recruitment of Consultants in Guangzhou, China								
17.	EOI Closing Date and Time	:	4 th June 2026; Time: 02:00 PM								
18.	Publication Date	:	19 th May 2026								
19.	INFORMATION FOR APPLICANT										
20.	Brief Description of the Assignment	:	The Bangladesh Investment Development Authority (BIDA), under the Prime Minister's Office, is the principal agency for promoting and facilitating private investment in Bangladesh. As part of this global outreach strategy, BIDA intends to establish an overseas representative office in Guangzhou, China. This office will serve as a strategic hub for lead generation, investor relationship management, and market intelligence gathering within the People's Republic of China. To execute this, BIDA requires the services of a highly experienced National Consulting Firm to manage the end-to-end setup and to hire professional and experienced consultants without involving any foreign currency outflow from the government. The assignment will be implemented in accordance with the Public Procurement Act 2006 and Public Procurement Rules 2025. All payments under the contract shall be made in Bangladeshi Taka (BDT)								
21.	Experience, Resources and Delivery Capacity Required	:	The consulting firm: - Must have a minimum of 05 (five) years of proven experience in international recruitment, overseas staffing, business consultancy, or related services, preferably in China, with strong knowledge of the Chinese labor and regulatory framework and established networks within Chinese business communities, chambers, or industry associations. - Must submit documentary evidence of business operations, assignments, or project experience in overseas (preferably China). - Must have experience in conducting similar assignments including recruitment or engagement of overseas consultants/experts. - Shall submit audited financial statements for the last 03 (three) years demonstrating an average annual turnover of at least BDT 5.00 (Five) crore. - The firm must have minimum liquid assets of BDT 1.25 (One Crore and Twenty Five lakh Taka). Supporting documents must be issued within 03 (three) months prior to the EOI submission date. - The firm shall possess adequate institutional capacity and qualified human resources including overseas staff and consultants to manage international recruitment and related procurement activities. - Must submit a brochure of the company outlining the activities & experience. - Must submit updated Legal Trade license, VAT Registration Certificate, Valid TIN Certificate, Voter ID Card of authorized person								
22.	Others Details (if applicable)	:	N/A								
23.	Association with Foreign firm	:	N/A								
24.	The assignment will have to be completed in a single phase. The tentative start and completion deadline, reporting obligation will be specified in the TOR.										
25.	EOI Detail Information	:	<table><tr><th>Ref No</th><th>Phasing of Services</th><th>Start Date</th><th>Completion Date</th></tr><tr><td></td><td>12 months (single phase)</td><td>August' 26 (tentative)</td><td>July' 27 (tentative)</td></tr></table>	Ref No	Phasing of Services	Start Date	Completion Date		12 months (single phase)	August' 26 (tentative)	July' 27 (tentative)
Ref No	Phasing of Services	Start Date	Completion Date								
	12 months (single phase)	August' 26 (tentative)	July' 27 (tentative)								
26.	Procuring Entity Details										
27.	Name of Official Inviting EOI	:	Shah Nusrat Jahan								
28.	Designation of Official Inviting EOI	:	Director (Deputy Secretary)								
29.	Address of Official Inviting EOI	:	Level 05, Room: 506 Biniyog Bhaban Plot# E-6/B, Agargaon Sher-e-Bangla Nagar Dhaka-1207, Bangladesh								
30.	Contact details of Official Inviting EOI	:	Cell: +8801711-992999 E-mail: dir.cl2@bida.gov.bd								
31.	The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all EOI/ Proposals										


18/05/2026

Shah Nusrat Jahan
Director (Deputy Secretary)- Country Liason 2&4
Investment Promotion Wing
Bangladesh Investment Development Authority
Biniyog Bhaban, Agargaon, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka
E-mail: dir.cl2@bida.gov.bd

GD-1157