CONTRACT: 01955588835, 01401101404, 01908838867

HOUSE #01, ROAD#14, SECTOR#12 UTTARA, DHAKA-1230

Quader for building

'bridge of amity' in

country's politics Staff Correspondent:

Awami League (AL) General Secretary and

Road Transport and

er in the country's divided politics. "A wall is being developed in the country's

divided politics instead of

building a bridge. A bridge of amity will have to be

built breaking this invio-lable wall," he said while inaugurating the annual

general meeting (AGM) of

Bangladesh Abhinai Shilpi Sangha at Kaligang in

Gazipur. He said the ruling

party is not creating any barrier to the political pro-

grammes, including road

march of BNP, rather it is holding different pro-

grammes to ensure the

safety and security of the

League is in power for 14 years and as the ruling party, it has the responsi-

bility to ensure safety and security of the life and property of the people, he added. Shilpi Sangha pres-

ident Ahsan Habb chaired the event while artistes

Mamunur Rashid, Tarique

Khan,

Dolly

Aminul

Shahidul Alam Sachhu

Chowdhury addressed it, among see page-2

Awami

Dilara

Zahur,

Haque

countrymen.

Anam

Jaman,

# Courtesy meeting of the Prime Minister's Protocol Officer with the newly elected President

#### **Special Correspondent:**

Honorable Prime Minister's Protocol Officer met with the elected President Mohammad Sahabuddin. Abu Zafar Raju. The meeting was held

at noon on Saturday (February dition and thanked him for giv-18) at the newly elected presing him time. His Excellency the dent's residence. At this time, the President inquired about the fam-Protocol Officer greeted the ily and general affairs of Abu President with flowers and Zafar Raju and exchanged inforinquired about his physical con- mation.

### Wazed Miah will remain alive forever through his ideals, values and works: Speaker

#### **Staff Correspondent:** Jatiya Sangsad (JS) Speaker Dr Shirin Sharmin

Chaudhury yesterday said that world famous nuclear scientist late Dr MA Wazed Miah will remain alive forever through his ideals, values and works. "Dr Wazed Miah has left the mark of merit everywhere throughout his education and career. Hailing from remote area Pirganj, he gained international reputation and contributed to nuclear science with his honesty, dedication and efficiency going beyond the borders," she said. The Speaker made the remarks while speaking at a discussion and book unveiling ceremony at the Jatiya Press Club (JPC) here, marking the 81st birth anniversary of Dr Wazed, said a press release. Dr MA Wazed Miah Memorial Foundation organized the function where the book titled 'Bishista Paramanu Bigghani Dr MA Wazed Miah'r Karmamay Jibon', which highlighted his eventful life, was unwrapped.Convener of the discussion and book unveiling ceremony Abul Kalam Azad presided over the function while Prime Minister's former Information Advisor Iqbal Sobhan Chowdhury spoke as the chief discussant.Prime Minister's Special Assistant Dr Shaheed Hossain virtually addressed the event while Bangladesh Atomic Energy Commission (BAEC) Chairman Dr Ashoke Kumar Paul, JPC President Farida Yeasmin, Pirganj (Rangpur) Samiti President and Additional Secretary of the Education Ministry ANM Al Feroze spoke as special guests. Since Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman wanted to utilize the potentials of meritorious youths, Dr Sharmin said, Dr Wazed drew attention of Bangabandhu with his marks of talent in the education as well as political association. Noting that the eventful life of Dr Wazed has been manifested in the newly launched book appropriately in a lucid language, she thanked the writer and publisher of the research-based book.PhD researcher of Rajshahi University Asaduzzaman wrote the book while owner of Agami See page-2 the book while owner of Agami



## No commodity shortage in Ramadan: Razzaque

#### **Staff Correspondent:**

Agriculture Minister and Awami League (AL) Presidium Member Dr Md Abdur Razzaque yesterday said there will be no shortage of essential commodities in the country during the upcoming holy month of Ramadan."The holy month of Ramadan is approaching. The government is taking all-out preparations. There will be no shortage of daily essentials during the Ramadan," he said while speaking at a reunion programme at of the district. Razzaque said the people ury we need. We should take others' needs and living standard see page-2 will bring Sheikh Hasina back to power in and living standard

the next election to continue the trend of ongoing development. Noting that there is no ground under the feet of BNP and they couldn't create political instability, he said, "The current government will not collapse rather continue in office. In the next election, the people will elect AL again with a huge margin. So, Sheikh Hasina will lead the country in the coming days as well". Urging the students not to earn wealth illegally and not to lead luxurious life, the minister said, "We have Paiska High School in Dhanbari upazila to think about how much money and lux-

#### Adani shock for \$3.1 trillion India stock market is ebbing fast

Signs are fast emerging that investors in Indian stocks are moving beyond the Adani Group's woes. Local money managers are bullish on the outlook for the year ahead and overseas funds are starting to trickle back into the \$3.1 trillion equity market.A key share benchmark is climbing back toward an all-time high after retreating for a second month in January, when a scathing report on billionaire Gautam Adani's empire by US short seller Hindenburg Research shook sentiment across the broader market. Fund managers see India's main equity indexes both ending the year higher than current levels, according to a Bloomberg News survey, as strong domestic demand boosts corporate earnings.

"There is an Adani issue, and there is the Indian market: they are separate," said Rakhi Prasad, an investment manager at Alder Capital in Mumbai. The Adani selloff isn't an India issue because the governance standards of many Indian companies are on par with global ones, while similar problems can be found in many other countries, she said.

The slump in 10 Adani companies that has now wiped off more than \$130 billion from their combined market value may end up being a brief stumbling ►see page-2

# Earthquake toll tops 45,000 as many still missing in flattened apartments

in the earthquake that struck Turkey and around the world on Friday performed

Syria, and the toll is expected to soar with some 264,000 apartments in Turkey destroyed and many still missing in the ern disaster.

country's worst mod-

neighbouring Syria has reported more than hours following

5,800 deaths. Syria's toll has not changed for More than 45,000 people have been killed days, according to a Reuters report. Mosques

> absentee funeral prayers for the dead in Turkey and Syria, many of whom could not receive full burial rites given the enormity of the disaster. While many international rescue teams have left the vast quake zone, domestic teams continued to search through

the quake hit, three survivors were dug out flattened buildings on Saturday hoping to from the rubble in Turkey on Friday. The find more survivors who defied the odds. death toll in Turkey stands at 39,672, while Experts say most rescues occur in the 24

# PM to open Kalshi flyover today

**Staff Correspondent:** 

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will inaugurate Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader yesterday said a 'bridge of amity' will have to be built breaking the barrier that is getting highthe 2.34km Mirpur-Kalshi flyover for vehicular movement at a func-tion at Kalshi intersection adjoining Balur ground in the city at 10am today.LGRD and Cooperatives Minister Md Tazul Islam, Dhaka north city Mayor Md Atiqul Islam, Chief of Army Staff General SM

Shafiuddin Ahmed, Dhaka-16 lawmaker Kalshi intersection to Kalshi Road. Md Elias Uddin Mollah, Local Government Division Secretary Muhammad Ibrahim are expected to join the inaugural ceremony, among others.
Under the Road Widening and
Development from ECB Square to Mirpur and Construction of Flyover on Kalshi Circle Project, the 2335 meter long flyover has been built and a 3.70 km stretch of road from the ECB square to Kalshi has been widened. January 9, 2018, the project got the ECNEC's approval.DNCC and Bangladesh Army (24 Engineer Construction Brigade) implemented the Systematic, and say out says. The project size expected to ease travel among the areas of Mirpur, DOHS, Pallabi, Kalshi, Mahakhali, Banani, Uttara and Airport.

around Taka 1,012 crore. According to the project

details, the flyover looks like an English alphabet 'Y'. The previously four lane roads have been widened to six lanes in view to ease passenger commute. The main fourlane flyover runs from ECB square towards Kalshi and Mirpur Mirpur DOHS, while a two-lane ramp descends from

According to Dhaka North City Corporation (DNCC) public relations office, the project also includes extension of a PC girder bridge, construction of two foot over-bridges, a public toilet, two police boxes, a 7.40 kilometer RCC drain and saucer drain, a 1755 meter RCC pipe drain, retaining wall, 3383 meter communication duct, 800000 linear meter sand compaction pile, separate cycle lane, and six bus bays. The project

#### Over one million babies in Cumilla to be fed Vitamin A Plus capsules

Staff Correspondent

A total of 10,03,500 children under-five age group babies will feed in seventeen upazilas of the district including Cumilla city corporation with Vitamin A Plus capsules(blue and red colour) on February 20 in the National Vitamin A Plus Campaign 2023.

Civil surgeon of the district Dr. Nasima Akter told this information to BSS this afternoon.

The campaign will be conducted under the auspices of the Public Health National ▶see page-2 end of 2024, and Kamalapur by

### opened for commuters

Staff Correspondent

The Uttara Centre station of the country's first-ever metro rail service was declared open to commuters on Saturday.

The station doors were opened for passenger movement from 8am this morning (18 February). This is the fourth station currently in operation.

According to project officials, the rest of the stations will be opened in phases within the next month. Meanwhile, Mirpur-10 station is set to be opened on 1 March.

The Uttara to Agargaon segment of the nation's first metro rail was made accessible to the general public on 29 December 2022.

On 25 January, the authorities opened Mirpur's Pallabi Station, nearly one month after the inauguration of the metro rail service in Dhaka.

Currently, commuters are using Uttara North Station to Pallabi, Pallabi to Uttara, and Agargaon to Pallabi routes. The government has fixed Tk30 for Uttara North Station

to Pallabi, Pallabi to Uttara and Agargaon to Pallabi. According to Dhaka Mass Transit Company Limited (DMTCL), the rail operation till Motijhee may start by the ►see page-2



### **Great Martyr's Day and International Mother** Language Day are celebrated on 21st February

Staff Correspondent:

On the occasion of '21st February Great Martyrs' Day and International Mother Language Day', a discussion "Language-based Nationalist Movement and Freedom Struggle" was held at Abdus Salam Hall of the National Press Club this afternoon. President of the organization (Acting) Prof. Dr. Joint General Secretary Kazi Rehan Sobhan gave the welcome address under the chairmanship of AMS Arefin Siddique and moderated by Joint General Secretary Matiur Rahman Laltur. Prof. Dr. participated in the discussion. Habibur Rahman, Vice-Chancellor, Duet and Presidium member, Bangabandhu Parishad, Prof. Dr. Mahbubur Rahman, former Vice-Chancellor, Bangabandhu Agricultural University, Professor Dr. Kamrul Hasan Khan, Former Vice-Chancellor, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University and Presidium Member, Bangabandhu Parishad, Professor ABM Farooq, General Secretary, Bangabandhu Parishad, Writer and Columnist and Presidium Member of Bangabandhu Parishad Ajit Kumar Sarkar, Professor Dr. Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib

Medical University Vice-Chancellor. Sharfuddin Ahmed, Disaster and Relief Affairs Secretary Sakhawat Islam Dhaka Khokon, Metropolitan Bangabandhu Parishad General Secretary Sardar Mahmudul Hasan Rubel and others. Author columnist Ajit Kumar Sarkar said, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman was a great Bengali nationalist leader. He led the strike on March 11, 1948 demanding Bangla as the national language. Dr. Kamrul Hasan Khan said, the new generation should know our glorious history. On May 7, 1954, Pakistan will have two state languages, Bengali and Urdu. It became a constitutional law in the Parliament of Pakistan in 1956. On February 23, 1948, Dhirendranath Dutt raised the demand for Bangla as the national language in the Constituent Assembly of Pakistan. Dr. Sharfuddin said, our desired freedom has come through the language movement. Today is being celebrated as International Mother Language Day in all countries of the world. In the President's speech, Professor AMS Arefin Siddique said that Bangabandhu was a language warrior, language fight-▶see page-2 er and promoter

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স্বাধীনতা বিরোধীদের কর্তৃক অস্থিতিশীল



Ramadan supplies

# Govt faces difficulty in sugar procurement

Staff Correspondent

Hectic government search for procuring sugar locally yields not much due to lower bidding than

lion card-holder families under the state-run Trading Corporation of Bangladesh or TCB is being disrupted as it is not possible to buy the

required amount of sugar as per the target, the

refiners are reluctant to sell sugar to TCB. They propose higher price of the product as per production cost, an official said.

When contacted, TCB chairman Brigadier-General Md. Ariful Hassan said, "We are facing some problem to collect sugar for the ongoing sale drive of the state agency. But we are trying to procure necessary sugar for the upcoming Ramadan.'

He expressed the hope that they will be able to supply as per requirement.

There is a provision for preparing office cost estimate by the designated committee concerned before floating tender/proposal in the case of procurement of goods, according to Rule 16 (5A) of the Public Procurement Rules 2008.

The official estimated cost is determined by considering the price fixed by the government during purchase of oil and sugar. The tender-evaluation committee has to ensure whether the lowest bid price is consistent with the official estimat-

Currently, higher-price proposal for locally sourced sugar is being received than the biding price fixed by the government.

Besides, such item is selling at much higher price in domestic markets than the rate set by the government. So, it is not possible to purchase sugar as per the estimate prepared on the basis of the price set by the government.

The TCB has planned to conduct sales drive on the occasion of Ramadan from March selling some key essentials like soybean oil, sugar, gram, dates and lentils at subsidised rates.

One family can buy a maximum of one-kilogram sugar, two kgs of lentils, two litres of soybean oil and one-kg gram and one-kg dates from the TCB sales points. The TCB has already floated tenders for procuring edible oil, sugar and lentils from the local and international sources.

On the local market, sugar prices already have skyrocketed amid a supply ▶see page-2



### Local markets more profitable than foreign ones: FBCCI President

Commerce and Industries (FBCCI) President Md Jashim Uddin has said that the profit made by selling products in the local market can be comparatively greater than what is earned from western markets.

"The apparel product we sell in the American market for \$5 can be sold for Tk2,000 in the domestic market. Therefore, utmost importance should be given to markets inside the country," said Jashim Uddin on Saturday at a press conference held in Hotel Intercontinental, Dhaka.

Addressing the common complaints that production quality and compliance are compromised in the case of the domestic market which is much bigger than its counterpart, he said FBCCI is working to fix the issue.

The FBCCI president believes that the centre of attention should be placed on finding import substitutes rather than exports.

"If we can increase our focus on import substitutes rather than exports, it will save foreign currency while leading the country to advance faster towards a trillion-dollar GDP," he noted.

Regarding foreign investment, Jashim Uddin said, "All the multinational companies that have invested in the country are doing good business as there is a big consumer market here. A long-term investment is needed in our country which in my opinion is a good place for foreign investment."

When asked about the ongoing discussion on raising interest rates to control inflation, Jasim Uddin said, "There is no guarantee that

the inflation rate will drop with changes in Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of interest rate. Since the current inflation is caused by supply disruption and price hikes in the global market, it will eventually come down with the decline in the prices of raw

> Suggesting to control inflation by adjusting the existing tax rates where raw materials have to be imported at higher prices, he said, "Investments must be increased to achieve a trillion-dollar GDP. In this situation, it will not be right to increase the interest rate."

> The event today was focused on organising a three-day business summit from 11 March on the occasion of FBCCI's 50th founding anniversary.

FBCCI, for the first time, will award successful entrepreneurs and businessmen on the occasion of its foundation anniversary. The FBCCI president said both the two programs will be inaugurated by Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

Jasim Uddin said, "We had a \$90 billion economy in 2008, which has now reached \$470 billion today. We are going to organise a three-day Bangladesh Business Summit from 11-13 March to accelerate the country's economic growth."

The summit will hold three plenary sessions, 13 parallel sessions, and multiple open discussions with traders, investors, analysts and policymakers to talk through the country's trade and investment opportunities, obstacles and ways to overcome them.

"Ministers from 12 to 15 countries will participate in this international conference. Besides, representatives ▶see page-2

### The sale of sugar at subsidized price to 10 mildue to lower biding price than the market rate, the How harmful is plastic to living things?

Md.Arif:

Plastic is a synthetic material that has been widely used for various purposes since the 1950s. However, its long-lasting nature has turned into a problem for the environment and living things. Plastic

pollution affects various ecosystems, such

as oceans, rivers, and land, and has a neg-

ative impact on a wide range of species,

including humans. Marine life is particu-

larly affected by plastic pollution. Plastic

debris in the ocean is mistaken for food

by many marine animals, leading to the

ingestion of plastic, which can cause

physical harm, such as blockages in the

jacked-up market prices, sources said, stocking

The sweetener will be rationed to 10-million

families under TCB operations ahead of the

upcoming holy fasting month of Ramadan, as the

Domestic sugar refiners are not willing to bid

as the rate fixed by government is much lower

than current market rates, says a source with good

essential is beyond the reach of commoners.

knowledge about tricks of the trade.

worry about Ramadan binge.

digestive system, and chemical harm, due to the release of toxic substances into seals, and turtles are among the species most affected by plastic ingestion. Additionally, plastic can entangle marine

TCB said in a letter to the commerce ministry.

More than 10,000 or 11,000 metric tonnes of

The state trading agency has sought necessary

It is looking for sugar as mad to operate its

Ramadan drive for the 10 million families. But

instructions from the commerce ministry to over-

come the situation immediately.

sugar would be needed to operate the drive of

TCB for the month of fasting and religious festi-

animals, leading to suffocation, starvation, or amputation. For example, plastic bags can look like jellyfish to sea turtles, which are their natural prey.In addition to the physical harm caused by plastic, it also has a chemical impact on marine life. Plastic contains toxic additives, such as phthalates and bisphenol A (BPA), which can leach out and contaminate the

surrounding water and organisms. These substances can disrupt the endocrine system of animals and lead to reproductive problems, developmental issues, and other health problems.Plastic pollution also has consequences for the food chain and human health. The accumulation of plastic and toxic substances in the bodies of marine animals can even-

tually reach ▶see page-2 'We are selfsufficient in food due to country's development'

Staff Correspondent

Development programme representative of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's constituency and Former Secretary Md Shahid Ullah Khandaker said there is no such place in the country where development of the incumbent government has not taken place. The whole country saw massive development during the tenure of present government headed by Prime Minister ►see page-2

## People of all religions enjoy equal rights in Bangladesh: Sujan

Staff Correspondent

Railways Minister Advocate Nurul Islam Sujon has said the incumbent government has been working for the welfare of the people of all religious faiths living in the country.

"We've been establishing Bangladesh as a non-communal country. Here all people have equal rights. All citizens practice their respective religions freely and peacefully, a right guaranteed by the Constitution of Bangladesh," he said these at a discussion on the occasion of the 158th birth anniversary of Ray Saheb Takur Panchanon Barma held on the ground of Paralbari in Debiganj upazila of the district on Friday as the

Dr Bashonta Kumar Roy, former President of Bangladesh Kattrio Samittee, Upazila nirbahi officer(UNO) of Debiganj Golam Ferdous, central Jubo League member and minister's son Barrister Nahian Navid Koushik, among others, spoke it.

A large number of Hindu communities were present at the

### Veteran politician passed away

On January 29 at 4 am, Rangpur Awami League leader,

Atiqur Rahman Atiq Special Representative||

well-known friend of the public, Vir Mukti Joddha, passed away at the age of 72 while undergoing treatment at Rangpur Medical College Hospital. Elias Ahmed. He was a lifelong soldier of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and a close companion of Honorable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. He was buried in the Shalban Mistripara graveyard of the metropolis after the third Janaza in Rangpur's Kailash Ranjan High School grounds. Late Ed. Ilyas Ahmed's co-chairwoman Zilla Mahila Awami League Vice-President Umm Ruhani Kokila told Daily Ganakanth's Special Correspondent that poverty had repeatedly struck her since the Zilla Parishad elections. I talked about treatment in a private hospital but he is in financial trouble and it is not possible to bear the cost of advanced treatment. His long-time workplace Rangpur court premises and political workplace in Betpatish Bangladesh Awami League office in his funeral prayers, the large presence of people from different walks of life proves that he was a beloved leader of the people. Late Ed Ilyach Ahmed got involved in Chhatra League politics in 1967. In 1970, he was elected VP of Rangpur College Student Council. Later, as the leader of Rangpur Mahukuma Chhatra League, the district Raised the flag of independence of Bangladesh in front of the administrator's office. In 1971, he took official part in the liberation war. Later, when the Jubo League was formed, he became the General Secretary of the Rangpur Jubo League and later held the post of President of the Jubo League. After August 15, 1975, he was subjected to torture including various assault cases. On May 17, 1981, a few years after Sheikh Hasina took charge of the party in the country, Ed Saheb became the general secretary of the district Awami League. He ▶see page-2



### **Business registration** to get costlier

Staff Correspondent

The Office of the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies and Firms moves to increase different fees against the services it provides to public and private companies, joint ventures and societies, officials familiar with the matter told The

The Registrar of Joint **Stock Companies and** Firms moves to increase fees for 34 types of services up to six times, while those for 21 services are set to remain unchanged.

Business Standard.

The fees for 34 types of services are proposed to increase two to six times, while those for 21 services are set to remain unchanged. The fees of three services will be withdrawn, according to a draft placed at a meeting of the agency expand its

on 12 February with Commerce Secretary Tapan Kanti Ghosh in the

The company registration fee might go up six times as the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies and Firms has proposed an increase from the existing Tk1,000 to Tk7,000. The fee for changing a firm's name or address may also double from Tk200 if the proposals are

"Although our operating costs have increased substantially, most of our service fees have not seen any revision over the past decade. So, we are now moving to increase the fees," Sheikh Shoebul Alam, registrar at the Office of the Registrar of the Joint Stock Companies and Firms, told TBS.

"A draft of fees has been prepared. It is yet to be finalised," he added.

Echoing Shoebul Alam, a commerce ministry official, wishing to remain unnamed, told TBS that the hikes in fees are being considered so that the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies and Firms can meet the increased operational cost and ▶see page-2

২১ শে ফেব্রুয়ারী মহান শহীদ দিবস ও আন্তর্জাতিক মাতৃভাষা দিবস এর ভাষা আন্দোলনের সকল শহীদদের প্রতি গভীর শ্রদ্ধাঞ্জলী মোঃ বেদারুল ইসলাম অধ্যক্ষ মান্দা মমিন শাহানা

সরকারি ডিগ্রি কলেজ

মান্দা, নওগা।

#### Quader for building

others. About the country's cultural activities, he said dramas in Bangladesh are far better in term of quality, acting and dialogue than those in India's West Bengal. The government of Sheikh Hasina scrapped the black law to flourish the cultural activities in the country, he added.

#### Over one million

Nutrition Services under the Ministry of Health and Family Planning with UNICEF assistance.

Dr. Nasima Akter said we have completed all preparations

to make the national vitamin "A" plus campaign success. The civil surgeon narrated the importance of continuation of Vitamin A supplementation for the under-five babies to prevent mal-nutritional blindness, especially night blindness bitot's spots and corneal lesions.

"Immunization of the under-five babies with Vitamin A Plus capsules is crucial for strengthening their immune system and disease resistance capacity for healthier growth," she

She also said 9,864 health workers and volunteers will provide Vitamin A Plus capsules at 4,932 centres in seventeen upazilas including Cumilla City Corporation on Monday next from 8 am to 4pm.

#### Metro rail Uttara

2025.By December 2024, metro rail will start operation from Agargaon to Kamalapur route with 24 trains.

No commodity
into our consideration".Former Students' Forum President of the school Golam Samdani, former students of the school Square Hospital Director Dr Sanwar Hossain, businessman Fazlul Karim Bachchu and Engineer Azizur Rahman, Dhanbari Upazila Parishad Chairman Harunar Rashid Hira and Upazila Nirbahi Officer (UNO) Aslam Hossain spoke at the function, among others. About 20,000 former and incumbent students of the 75-year-old school joined the function.Later, the agriculture minister distributed stipends and bicycles among 350 ethnic minority group students under the Development Assistance for Special Area Programme at Madhupur Upazila in the district.Besides, Razzaque inaugurated a three-day book fair there, marking the International Mother Language Day.

#### Wazed Miah will

Prakashani Osman Gani published it. Along with the day based programmes, the speaker urged the foundation to come forward with various initiatives to build a science oriented youth society and provide various assistances including stipends to poor and underprivileged students in Pirganj.BFUJ-Bangladesh Federal Union of Journalists President Omar Faruque, TV Today Chief Editor Monjurul Ahsan Bulbul, JPC General Secretary Shyamal Dutta, Dhaka Union of Journalists (DUJ) former president Quddus Afrad, Bangabandhu Nuclear Scientist Council President Dr AKM Fazle Kibria, BAEC Chief Scientific Officer Dr AFM Mizanur Rahman and Central President of Dr MA Wazed Miah Memorial Foundation AKM Farhadul Kabir as well as writer and publisher of the book were present at the programme, among others.On February 16 in 1942, the nuclear scientist Dr MA Wazed Miah, affectionately called as 'Sudha Miah', was born in a respectable Muslim family of Laldighee Fatehpur village in Pirganj upazila of Rangpur.He breathed his last in Dhaka on May 9, 2009 at the age of 67 and was buried at their family graveyard in his native village Laldighee Fatehpur at Pirganj upazila.

#### Adani shock for \$3.1

block in India's growth story, as the government targets the fastest expansion among the world's major economies. Indeed, the scrutiny the nation's corporate governance scene The Plastic Problem: What We Can Do to Reduce Plastic has faced since the Hindenburg report may end up being a Waste" long-term positive rather than its own "Lehman moment,"

"I have become more bullish," said veteran emerging-markets investor Mark Mobius, the co-founder of Mobius Capital Partners. "India now has attracted international attention and investors will realize that the Adani case is an aberration."

Mobius said he is looking to buy technology, infrastructure and healthcare stocks. He told Bloomberg late last month that he plans to put more money into India as the "long-term

future of the market is great," and the investor retreat as a result of the Hindenburg report "is an Adani problem."

Hindenburg published a report on 24 Jan accusing the Adani group of share manipulation and fraud — charges the conglomerate has repeatedly denied.

#### Local markets

of large companies from different countries of the world will also participate," Jasim Uddin added.

FBCCI President further noted that a Best of Bangladesh Expo will be organised alongside the Business Summit. The potential sectors of the country (i.e. textiles, agro-processed food, leather, ceramics, and jute) will be presented to the foreign investors in this exhibition.

To participate in the summit, interested delegates would need to register through bdbusinesssummit.com. For foreign delegates, the registration fee is \$500, NRB \$300, Bangladeshi \$400 and FBCCI general members \$200.

#### Govt faces

crunch in Dhaka with traders seeing no way out of the problems they see, including a shortage of dollars for import and an increase in gas price.

Bangladesh Sugar Refiners Association (BSRA) with the consent of commerce ministry on January 26, 2023 revised sugar's maximum retail price (MRP) up to Tk 107 in loose state and Tk 112 in packet per kg. The association of refiners -- who overwhelmingly dominate the local market following virtual debacle of the domestic sugar mills -- imported raw sugar and refined. They last hiked the prices by Tk 8.0 a kg to Tk 102 and Tk 108 respectively on November 17, 2022. Currently, the sugar price is much higher on the retail market, even though the government fixed the maximum retail price of the essential to control the price spiral.

There is huge shortage of sugar on the market. No packet sugar is available at shops -- apparently as part of a ploy to avoid writing the MRP on the packet. The essential in loose form is still selling at Tk 120/135 at groceries

The annual demand for sugar in Bangladesh is 2.5 million tonnes. The local mills produce only 100,000 tonnes and the rest is imported.

On average, 0.11 million (1.1 lakh) tonnes of sugar are required per month. During Ramadan, the demand surges to more than 0.3 million tonnes.

#### How harmful

humans who consume seafood. This can lead to the ingestion of plastic particles and toxic chemicals, which can have negative impacts on human health, such as endocrine disruption and the increase of certain types of cancer.On land, plastic pollution affects wildlife and their habitats. Plastic litter can entangle and kill birds, mammals, and reptiles. It can also affect the feeding and nesting habits of wildlife, as well as their ability to move freely. In addition, plastic litter can break down into microplastics, which can contaminate the soil and groundwater, affecting plants and other organisms that depend on these resources. The impact of plastic on the environment is not limited to its direct effects on living things. Plastic also contributes to climate change by releasing greenhouse gases during its production and disposal. In addition, plastic waste often ends up in landfills, where it can take hundreds of years to decompose, releasing methane, a potent greenhouse gas, as it decomposes.In conclusion, plastic is harmful to living things and the environment in many ways. Plastic pollution affects marine and terrestrial ecosystems and a wide range of species, including humans. The ingestion of plastic and toxic substances can lead to physical harm, endocrine disruption, and other health problems. Plastic also contributes to climate change and has long-lasting effects on the environment. It is crucial to reduce plastic use and improve waste management practices to mitigate the negative impacts of plastic on the environment and

The plastic problem is one of the most pressing environmental issues of our time. Plastic waste not only affects the natural world, but also poses a threat to human health and wildlife. However, there are several steps we can take to reduce plastic waste:

Reduce plastic use: One of the most effective ways to reduce plastic waste is to simply use less plastic. Avoid single-use plastics such as straws, water bottles, and grocery bags, and opt for reusable alternatives instead.

ment.

Government of The People's Republic of Bangladesh Office of The Executive Engineer PWD Division, Brahmanbaria Phone: 02-334430293, Fax-02-334430251 e-Mail: ee\_bbari@pwd.gov.bd

Memo No: 2475

Date: 16/02/2023

#### e-Tender Notice(OTM,NCT)

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (http://www.eprocure.gov.bd) for the procurement of following works given bellow:

SL No	Tender ID No.	Name of Works	Last Selling date Date & Time	Closing/Opening Date & Time
1.	786374	Supply and Installation of Air-Cooler, Wall Bracket Fan, Switch, Socket, Geyser & others electrical repair and Maintenance works in the 2nd floor of the learned Chief Judicial Magistrate Khaskamra in the Brahmanbaria District Chief Judicial Magistrate Court Building.	05-Mar-2023 13:00	06-Mar-2023 12:40
2	786371	Fogger machine for Public works office, Change of Fan, Light on 3rd floor west side of Officers quarter Shravana with Installation of Geyser & electrical repair work on east side of quarter Vishakha in Brahmanbaria District.	05-Mar-2023 12:00	06-Mar-2023 12:15
3	786351	Cleaning jungle, repair and painting work of main gate adjacent to the boundary wall of Pairtala government quarter in Brahmanbaria district. FY 2022-2023	05-Mar-2023 13:26	06-Mar-2023 12:30
4	785677	Civil sanitary repair works of DC residence in Brahmanbaria district. FY 2022-2023	05-Mar-2023 15:00	06-Mar-2023 12:00

This is an online tender, where only e-Tenderers 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. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System portal and from e-GP help desk

(email: helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd)

PWD Division, Brahmanbaria

Recycle: Make sure to recycle as much plastic as possible. This helps to reduce the amount of plastic waste that ends up in landfills and the natural environment. Check with your local waste man-

agement company to find

out what types of plastic

they accept for recycling. Support environmentallyfriendly companies: Choose to buy products from companies that use sustainable and environmentally-friendly packaging, and those that have a good track record for responsible waste manage-

Advocate for change: Talk to friends and family about the plastic problem, and advocate for change at the local and national level. Encourage businesses and governments to adopt policies that reduce plastic waste, such as plastic bag bans or extended producer responsibility programs.

Clean up: Participate in beach and park cleanups, and help remove plastic waste from the natural environment. By taking these steps, we can all play a role in reducing plastic waste and creating a healthier, more sustainable world.
We are self-

Hasina. Irrespective of any specific region, she (the premier) considered the development of all sector of the entire country. But in the past, those who were the heads of the governments only developed their respective regions.

He made the remarks as a chief guest at a rally of farmers and distribution of agricultural materials under Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's announced uncultivated fallow land and simultaneous cultivation programme at Dharabashail Bazar in Kotalipara of Gopalganj on Friday

He further said, "The agricultural sector witnessed massive development during the regime of the present government. As a result, we have become self-sufficient in food. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina instructed that not even an inch of land can be left uncultivated. Following her instruction, we are working to bring uncultivated lands under cultivation."

Upazila Nirbahi Officer Ferdous Wahid presided over the farmer's gathering while Deputy Director of Department of Agriculture Extension (DAE) in Gopalganj Abdul Quader Sardar, Project Director of floating bed vegetable and spice cultivation project Dr. Bijay Krishna Biswas, Project Director of the uncultivated waste land project Md. Akram Hossain Chowdhury, Upazila Awami League General Secretary Aynal Hossain Sheikh, Upazila Agriculture Officer Nitul Roy, and Upazila Parishad Vice Chairman Lakshmi Sarkar were present, among others, on the occasion.

#### Veteran politician

has been organizing the Rangpur party from that position for almost two decades. After 2011, he served as vice president of district Awami League and later as senior vice president. A Apart from leading the Rangpur Lawyers' Association, he became known as a leader of the masses from the forefront of various social and cultural organizations. According to party sources, freedom fighter Ed Ilyach Ahmed is always on the streets Worked as a combat soldier. Not only that, he was a lifelong soldier of Mujib Sainik and a trusted close companion of Sheikh Hasina. Even after his death, he will always be alive as a symbol of consciousness to the leaders and workers of Awami League.

#### Business registration

services. Business insiders, however, said the initiative will increase the burden on entrepreneurs to start new businesses. The expansion of the formal sector can be hampered,

"Costs of doing business in Bangladesh are already high as entrepreneurs are forced to spend money on many unnecessary things beyond the formal costs – and this hampers the growth of businesses," said Abul Kashem Khan, former chairperson of Business Initiative Leading Development, also known as BUILD.

"Moreover, the decision of raising service fees of the Registrar of the Joint Stock Companies and Firms at the moment of ongoing economic crisis will create further pressure on entrepreneurs," he told TBS.

"Rather, all the service fees of the registrar, particularly for new entrepreneurs, should be withdrawn if the government wants expansion of the formal economy. Also, the fees should be rational for existing business people," added Abul Kashem Khan, also a former president of the Dhaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

Most of the existing service fees of the registrar were previously revised in 2013 and a few were in 2016, officials said and noted that the number of registered companies in the country reached 2.70 lakh at the end of the fiscal 2021-22 with a gradual rise over the time.

The registrar, however, does not have enough office space to preserve documents of the large number of companies, they said, adding they also need higher revenue for service expansion, particularly for maintaining online servers.

Service seekers, on the other hand, often complain that they are forced to pay extra beyond the fixed fees and face hassles at the registrar's office. When asked about the matter, Registrar Sheikh Shoebul Alam said, "A customer may complain of not getting the service as per his convenience or desire, but we are serving the customers with our maximum

which our officials work extra hours. People do not face has-

He noted that they are now emphasising automation.

Proposed hikes in other key services

The Registrar of Joint Stock Companies and Firms has proposed fee increases for opening or closing a branch to Tk400 from Tk200, and dissolution of a firm to Tk1,000 from Tk500. Fixing any error will cost Tk400, which is now Tk200.

The fees will double to Tk20,000 for society registration and Tk2,000 for obtaining name clearance certificate.

The agency also proposed to include a new service fee in the case of the failure of any company shareholder to be present at the registrar's office during the transfer of his shares. The fee will be Tk10,000 to Tk25,000 in that case, which will compensate for the cost of the commission constituted by the registrar to go to the shareholder and complete the share

Earthquake toll an earthquake. Hakan Yasinoglu, in his 40s, was rescued in the southern province of Hatay, 278 hours after the 7.8-magnitude earthquake struck in the dead of night on February 6, the Istanbul Fire Brigade said. Earlier, Osman Halebiye, 14, and Mustafa Avci, 34, were saved in Turkey's historic city of Antakya, known in ancient times as Antioch. As Avci was carried away, he was put on a video call with his parents, who showed him his newborn baby.

"I had completely lost all hope. This is a true miracle. They gave me my son back. I saw the wreckage and I thought nobody could be saved alive from there," his father said.

An exhausted Avci was later reunited with his wife Bilge and daughter Almile at a hospital in Mersin.

Aid organisations say the survivors will need help for months to come with so much crucial infrastructure

In neighbouring Syria, already shattered by more than a decade of civil war, the bulk of fatalities have been in the northwest, an area controlled by insurgents who are at war with President Bashar al-Assad - a conflict that has complicated efforts to aid people affected by the earthquake.

The sides clashed overnight for the first time since the disaster, with government forces shelling the outskirts of Atareb, a rebel-held town badly hit by the earthquake, the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights reported on Friday.

#### Great Martyr's Day

of Bengali nationalism. Today we are a proud nation that UNESCO has recognized February 21 as Mother Language Day and it is being celebrated in all countries of the world. Professor ABM Farooq said that many nations in the world have become developed and prosperous and civilized nations today by practicing and studying knowledge and science through mother tongue. Bangla is the spoken language of 60 million people in the world today. The position of Bengali language is fifth in the world. Our history of struggle has been praised even by the United Nations. But we have indifference towards Bengali language. Even though the law of giving High Court verdict in Bengal has passed 11 years, it is still not effective. The present government is distributing free books in their own languages ??to the minority communities and is making an important contribution to the development of the mother tongue. Professor Dr. Mahbubur Rahman said, Bangabandhu gave directions, advised and led the language movement. Bangabandhu served jail time in the language movement, but the new generation is said to have not contributed much to the language movement of Bangabandhu.

Professor Dr. Habibur Rahman said, language and religion are the tools to keep any ethnic group or country weak and to run the regime for a long time. Even after so many years we have not been able to establish Bengali as our medium of education. English language should be practiced, but not at the expense of Bengali language. He opined that we must give importance to our own language and the developed countries of the world have achieved success through education through their moth-"Daily tasks are being completed on a daily basis, for er tongue.Bangabandhu Parishad Joint Finance Secretary Md. Noor Uddin Chowdhury, Executive Member Ibne Hossain Zaman, Tarek Imtiaz Khan and others were also present in the event.

#### GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER EDUCATION ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

DHAKA

Memo No.-XEN/EED/DHAKA/740

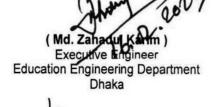
Date: 16-02-2023

#### e-Tender Notice: 26/2022-2023 (Open Tendering Method)

e-Tender is hereby invited in the National e-GP System Portal (http://www.eprocure.gov.bd) for the procurement of works/goods mentioned below:

SL No.	Tender ID	Name of woks	Online Tender Publishing Date (On/After)	Online Tender Opening & Closing (Date & Time)
01.	789958	Vertical Extension of Existing Academic Building 1st floor, 2nd floor & 3rd floor in/c. Sanitary water supply & electrification works to Chunkutia Girls High School at Keraniganj Upazilla, Dhaka District.	16-Feb-2023	Please visit Tender Notice in e-GP Website
02	789959	Vertical Extension of Existing Academic Building 1st floor, 2nd floor & 3rd floor in/c. Sanitary water supply & electrification works to Teghoria High School at Keraniganj Upazilla, Dhaka District.	16-Feb-2023	

- This is an online Tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies
- 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 following Package from the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through any registered Banks branches.
- Further information and guidelines are available in the Procuring Entity Office, National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).



## Good news for Bangladesh RMG as Western brands reopen business in Russia

**Business Desk** 

According to a Swiss study, despite widespread outrage over Moscow's war in Ükraine, few Western companies deserted the country, the AFP reports.

Talking with The Business Standard, a leading fabrics manufacturing company's executive director seeking anonymity, said, "They have business with two

Russian brands Gloria Jeans and O'Stin [Austin] - for a long time, which is continuing till now."
Brands like ZZX,
H&M and Inditex have launched new business offices in Dubai under new names to circumvent the political pressure. "Those new companies are also doing business with us. They source fabrics from and import goods through third countries like Turkey. They have been doing business

through third coun-

tries for a long time, but currently it has become very strict due to the EU's position against Russia," the top textile official added.

In March 2022, several Russian banks were excluded from the SWIFT (Society for Worldwide Interbank Financial Telecommunication) system, which made it difficult for Russian exporters to secure payments. On the other hand, major retailers and brands announced that they were leaving the Russian market.

As a result, Bangladeshi exporters face difficulties getting their payments on time. Some exporters received their payments from third countries like Turkey or in Chinese currency through other third countries.

According to the Export Promotion Bureau (EPB), apparel exports to Turkey and the United Arab Emirates increased to \$117.43 million with over 83% growth and \$155.35 million with over 22.28% growth respectively between July -December in FY23 over the same period

Bangladesh exported \$665.32 million worth of goods to Russia in FY21, of which, \$607 million came from apparel and textile exports, according to EPB.



47.06% to \$180.64 million by July -December in FY23 compared to the same period last year.Md Shahidul Islam, managing director of Rupa Group, which had business in the Russian market till last year, said, "Currently, we have no business in this market. Due to the ongoing war, it has become quite risky.

"My buyers had paid all dues, which was halted due to this war," added Shahidul. Before the war, the company exported half a million dollars worth of sweaters to Russia each month.

Young 4 Ever Textiles Ltd Managing Director Rajiv Chowdhury said, "Currently, I have no business in this market even though alternative routes are available.'

There are some new routes open to doing business with Russia, he said, adding, "I know some of our exporters have continued their business through Dubai and

Despite having interest from buyers, Rajiv thinks that doing business through an alternative route will be risky for him, as he received two-and-a-half months of delayed payments when the Russia-Ukraine war broke in February last year. Bangladesh Textile Mills Association President Mohammad Ali Khokon said,

'Those Russian chain stores that shut down due to the war are reopening under differbrand names. Demand is not falling, which is good news as we want our fabrics and apparel to be sold.

'We are now seeing that the global political situation is slowly improving. So even though 2023 is not starting out well, we believe it will get better by the end of the vear," he added.

Only 8.5% of Western companies left Russia Researchers at the University of St Gallen and the IMD Institute in Lausanne have delved into how many companies based in the

European Union (EU) and in G7 countries have divested from Russia since its fullscale invasion of Ukraine began last February. Their findings reveal "a very limited retreat of EU and G7 firms from Russia, [and] challenge the narrative that there is a vast exodus of Western firms leaving the market," said the St Gallen University in a statement, AFP reports. "In effect, many firms headquartered in these nations have resisted pressures from governments, the media, and NGOs to leave Russia since the invasion of Ukraine." The study published last month

Network (SSRN) — a publisher of "pre-print" studies not subjected to scientific peer review — showed that less than 10% of EU and G7 companies with Russian subsidiaries had divested them. When Moscow launched its invasion,

by the online Social Science Research

### Widen tax gap between listed, non-listed firms

**Business Desk** 

Capital market operators yesterday urged for widening the gap in tax rates between listed and non-listed companies in order to encourage more firms to float shares in the stock market, which they said would eventually increase overall revenue collection and improve corporate governance.

At present, the tax rate for listed and non-listed companies is 20 per cent and 27.5 per cent respectively, indicating a gap of 7.5 percentage points.

A couple of years ago, the gap in tax rates between listed and non-listed companies in the stock market was 10 percentage points, said M Shaifur Rahman Mazumdar, managing director of the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE). "Our proposal is to spread the difference of corporate tax rates between listed and unlisted companies at 12.5 per cent," he said while placing the proposal on behalf of the DSE to the National Board of Revenue (NBR) at its headquarters in Agargoan, Dhaka.

The NBR organised the meeting to note the views and recommendations of various stakeholders, including businesses, as a part of its preparation to frame tax proposals for fiscal year 2022-23 beginning from July.

Chaired by NBR Chairman Abu Hena Md Rahmatul Muneem, bankers and insurance companies also placed tax proposals apart from the stock market stakeholders at the discussion.

The DSE demanded a 5 percentage points cut in the tax rate for listed companies to 15 per cent for the next fiscal

The DSE said only 354 companies are listed with the bourse while thousands of companies remain out of the capital market and depend on the banking sector for finance even though the capital market could be a big source of funds for them.

Only 10 corporate bonds are listed. The market capitalisation to gross domestic product is 19 per cent whereas the ratio is much higher in India. He said companies do not show interest in raising funds from the public by

floating shares as the gap between tax rates is low.

"Specific tax strategy is needed for qualitative development of the capital market," he said while also demanding tax incentives to prop up the bond

Md Riyad Matin, secretary general of the Bangladesh Merchant Bankers Association, said overall tax collection will increase if more companies get listed with the stock exchange.

Corporate governance will increase as well, he added.

At the discussion, the Chittagong Stock Exchange urged the NBR to lift the tax on dividends, saying that it becomes double taxation as a company pays tax on its income before giving dividends to shareholders.

It also said the tax on dividend income may be considered as final tax liability. the Meanwhile, Bangladesh Association of Banks (BAB) wanted the NBR to cut corporate tax to increase the capacity of banks and support credit growth.

In its proposal, the BAB also appealed the tax authority to consider 1 per cent loan loss provisioning as allowable expenditure.

In a separate proposal, the Bangladesh Insurance Association (BIA) demanded removal of 5 per cent gain tax on the earnings of life insurance policyhold-

As a result of the tax, the number of life insurance policyholders is declining, the BIA said in its proposal for fiscal year 2023-24.

The gain tax should be removed on small policyholders, he added.

To encourage health insurance, the trade body of insurers also urged the NBR to exempt the 15 per cent value added tax on health insurance premiums. NBR Chairman Muneem said domestic revenue collection has to be increased to attain self-reliance in financing the country's expenditure.

"We will not have to beg for help from others once we are self-reliant. So, there is no alternative to increasing revenue collection," he added.



### 1,200 global apparel machinery, tech solution providers to join Dhaka expo

Business Desk

Local textile and garment manufacturers will get an opportunity to meet with their global suppliers of the latest technology and machinery under one umbrella as a four-day exhibition kicks off on 15 February in Dhaka.

"About 1,200 global machinery and technology solution provider brands from 35 countries will display advanced technologies, cutting-edge solutions, and the latest trends of the industries at 1,600 booths," said Mohammad Ali Khokon, president of the Bangladesh Textile Mills Association (BTMA), at a press conference at a city hotel on

The BTMA, Yorkers Trade and Marketing Service Co Ltd and Chan Chao International Co Ltd will jointly organise the Dhaka International Textile and Garments Machinery Exhibition (DTG-2023) at the International Convention Bashundhara. The 17th edition of the DTG is taking place after a break of three years due to the Covid-19 pandemic.Judy Wang, president of Yorkers Trade and Marketing Service Co Ltd and chief executive officer of Chan Chao International Co Ltd, was present at the event. This year, the DTG will exhibit comprehensively covering equipment, material, and accessories needed in different stages of the textile and garment industrial chains, including spinning, weaving, knitting, dyeing, printing, finishing, and garment manufacturing segments. The exhibition, which is expected to be inaugurated by the prime minister's private industry

and investment adviser Salman F Rahman, will be open to the public from 12:00pm to 8pm daily until 18 February. According to Mohammad Ali Khokon, the government recently increased gas prices in order to ensure uninterrupted supply to the industry, but the situation has not yet improved. "We have no information about any improvement in the supply of gas, although the government wants to import LNG," he added. The BTMEA president also expressed his concern over the uncertainties that loom large over the potential for new investments worth about \$4 billion in the country's primary textile sector due to the gas and electricity crises.

He further said that a part of those already took place in 2022 and is in production, and the rest are in the pipeline. "There is a doubt whether the potential investments will take place without ensuring an uninterrupted supply of quality gas and electricity," he added. If the government could have ensured the required infrastructure and energy, the investment amount might be increased more as the government is going to establish 100 economic zones, said the BTMA president. Khokon demanded that the government complete the development of at least 10 special economic zones for the primary textile sector on a priority basis so that entrepreneurs could set up non-cotton based yarn and fabric mills in the area. The demand for artificial fibre-based garments has been increasing at a faster pace in the global market, and the share of non-cotton-based apparel would exceed 70% within two or three years, the BTMA president said.

#### Global electrical goods' expo begins in Dhaka on March 9 Business Desk

Mohammad Aftab Jabed, president of Bangladesh Electrical Merchandise Manufacturers Association, announces the time schedule of the seventh of edition International Electric Expo Bangladesh 2023 at a press conference at the Dhaka Reporters' Unity in the capital today. Photo: Collected The seventh edition of International Electric Expo Bangladesh 2023 will begin in Dhaka on March 9 with an aim of increasing export of products electrical manufactured in the country.

The Bangladesh Electrical Merchandise Manufacturers Association (BEMMA) and event management agency Wem Bangladesh Ltd will jointly organise the three-day fair at International Convention Centre Bashundhara.

Some 40 foreign representatives and 80 exhibitors will occupy 120 stalls of 150 brands in the fair.

Mohammad Aftab Jabed, president of BEMMA, disclosed the information at a press conference at the Dhaka Reporters Unity today.

International electric product manufacturers from Nepal, Bhutan, Indonesia, United Emirates, Arab Vietnam, Thailand and Malaysia will display their products in the fair, he said. The participants and buyers will also get the opportunity to sit for business to business meetings in the exhibition.

### Remittance in February

### More than 688 crore rupees are coming every day

Business Desk

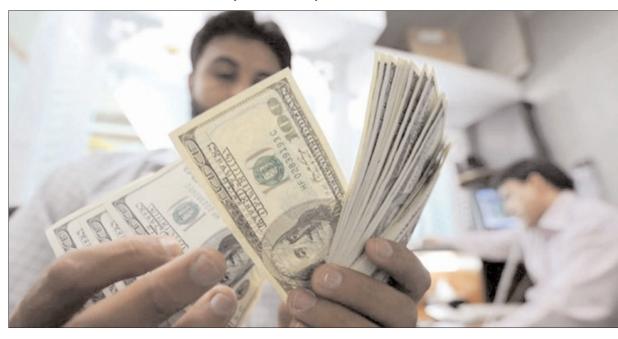
In the context of the Russia-Ukraine war after the corona epidemic, the sound of economic recession is getting louder around the world. It has also affected Bangladesh. Day by day there is a severe dollar crisis in the country's market. In order to solve this crisis, Bangladesh Bank has taken various steps besides discouraging the import of high-end products. Dollar support is constantly being protances came in at 169 million dol-

The same trend of remittance

flow is flowing in this month of February as well. In the first 10 days of this month, remittances of 64 million 30 million dollars have arrived. Which is a daily average of 6 crore 43 lakh dollars or more than 688 crore rupees. If this trend continues, remittances will exceed \$1.8 billion in 28 days in February. This informa-

63.1 million dollars. In the previnels. Two religious festivals are ahead (Eidul Fitr and Eidul Adha). Remittance flow will increase around these two festivals.

> According to central bank data, remittances reached two billion dollars consecutively in the first two months (July and August) of the 2022-23 financial year. The following month, September, it stopped at the house of 1.5 billion dollars for five consecutive months. In the first month of the current finan-



vided from foreign exchange reserves to meet the crisis. Basically, the central bank is providing this support from the reserve to meet the urgent import expenses. Still the dollar crisis is not over.

However, the remittance flow has started to return to a positive trend amid the ongoing dollar crisis. In the first month of this year, Bangladeshi expatriates in different countries of the world sent remittances of 195 million 88 million dollars to the country. Which is more than 20 thousand 959 crores in Bangladeshi currency (as 107 taka per dollar). According to that, the average daily remittances are more than tion is known from the latest report of Bangladesh Bank.

On the other hand, the central bank has sold more than 850 million dollars from reserves in the seven months (July-January) of 2022-23 financial year to reduce the dollar crisis. In the history of the country, such amount of dollars has not been sold from the reserve even in the entire finan-

cial year in the past. A senior official of the relevant department of Bangladesh Bank told Jago News that expatriates are being encouraged to send remittances through legitimate channels. Incentives on remittances have also been increased. It has now started to increase remittances through legal chan-

cial year, remittances came in at \$209.63 million, in August it was \$203.69 million. In the first two months of the financial year, remittances came in at two billion dollars.

After that, the remittance flow began to decrease from September. Which comes to around one and a half billion monthly. Last September came 153 million 96 million US dollars, in October 152 million 55 million dollars, in November 159 million 47 million dollars, in December about 170 million dollars or 169 million 96 million US dollars. And in the month of January, the remittance came to 195 million 88 million US dol-