

# Indian cattle smuggling on before Eid-ul-Azha

Local cattle farmers worried as smuggled animals, mostly old and ailing, are sold for cheaper prices

EAM ASADUZZAMAN, Nilphamari

Smuggled Indian cattle are being taken to local markets in large numbers in Nilphamari's Dimla upazila and adjacent areas for sale as sacrificial animals before Eid-ul-Azha.

The smugglers bring cattle at night through the bordering river Teesta where patrol by law enforcers of the two countries is slack due to odd geographical conditions.

A few days ago, Dimla police detained nine smuggled cattle and arrested seven smugglers from Dangarhat area.

Border Guard Bangladesh often launches drive against the smugglers and detain Indian cattle but the smugglers become active again, taking the advantage of loopholes.

An investigation by this correspondent found that Bangladeshi cattle smugglers in collaboration with their Indian associates bring the animals from the other side of the border to Teesta shoal Jhar Singheswar of Purbo Satnai union in Dimla upazila of Nilphamari.

At night they push the cattle into the Teesta and engage some poor villagers for good amounts to steer the herds of cattle to the Bangladesh territory through the waterway.

On an average, 200 to 300 cattle are smuggled in this way, locals said, adding that

after arrival of the animals at Jhar Singheswar, those are counted in presence of a section of local influential people, ruling party leaders and dishonest members of law enforcement agencies.

Smugglers pay Tk 20 thousand for each

pair to manage various quarters for safe passage of the cattle to different areas.

A veteran BNP leader of Purbo Satnai union, who recently joined the ruling Awami League (AL), acts as mediator for distribution of the money while a close relative of an influential AL leader controls the entire process, said locals on condition of anonymity.

A section of dishonest lessees of adjacent cattle markets provide the smugglers 'purchase receipt' to brand the animals as Bangladeshi ones.

People who protest the illegal act are harassed in different ways as smugglers enjoy the blessings of influential quarters, said Jahanara Begum, a social activist of Balapara village.

"Old Indian cattle are sold in markets at lower prices, which leads to price fall of the healthy animals reared in our farms. It is a threat to the development of local livestock," said Sumon Islam of Dakkhin Titpara village, who rears around 100 cattle in his farm.

Ramjan Ali, a small cattle farmer of Gayabari village, said many people like him might leave commercial cattle rearing if Indian animals occupy local markets. District Livestock Officer Monakka Ali said there are more than enough cattle in the district and so, there is no need to bring Indian cattle, which are sometimes found to be affected with severe infectious diseases.

Contacted, Mofizuddin Sheikh, officer in charge of Dimla Police Station, said, "Cattle smuggling has dropped noticeably as we have intensified 24-hour patrolling in the smuggling routes."



Workers lay bricks along the Akhaura-Chandura road in Brahmanbaria's Bijoy Nagar upazila recently. Inset, a mixture of earth, sand and brick chips of exceedingly low grade is piled up on a side, apparently for using as bitumen macadam surface on the road.

PHOTO: STAR

ROAD REPAIR IN BIJOYNAGAR UPAZILA

## Dirt now LGED contractors' component of choice!

MASUK HRIDOV, Brahmanbaria

Civil engineering contractors in Bijoy Nagar upazila have been using earth and substandard bricks to repair a vital road that connects Akhaura land port with at least three nearby upazilas.

But the contractors are having a field day with the Tk 20.92-crore project as officials of the supervising authority, Local Government Engineering Department (LGED), have been deviously distancing themselves from the work site, alleged locals.

The 17.5-kilometre-long stretch of the road being repaired lies between Chandura bus stand and Singarbeel Bazar on Akhaura-Chandura road -- the only means of communications for residents of 10 unions in Bijoy Nagar upazila.

It is also used by residents of Bijoy Nagar and Akhaura upazilas of Brahmanbaria and Madhabpur upazila of Habiganj to communicate with the Akhaura land port. A large number of trucks carrying stones from Sylhet division use this road to reach the land port.

Moreover, communications between the headquarters of Bijoy Nagar upazila and Brahmanbaria district are conducted via this road.

Despite its significance in the region, the

contractors have been using a mixture of exceedingly low-grade brick chips, earth and a negligible amount of sand to lay bitumen macadam surface on the road, the locals said.

This correspondent during a recent visit to the area found truth in the allegation made by the locals. When the issue of substandard materials being used in the work was pointed out to a supervisor of Moitri Builders, one of the contractor firms, he neither denied nor agreed to the allegation. "What's being used is what you see," he said callously.

Babul Aktar, a former vice-chairman of Bijoy Nagar Upazila Parishad, said he even made a written complaint about the quality of work to the then upazila nirbahi officer (UNO) Meher Nigar.

Despite using this road every day to and from Brahmanbaria district headquarters, the chairman of Bijoy Nagar Upazila Parishad never raised objection to the shoddy work. As such, there is still no one to supervise the work and the contractors are still using the worst quality of bricks in the repair work, he said frustratingly.

Satgaon village resident Amrit Lal Saha said, "Nobody ever noticed any LGED official supervising the repair work of the road. Evidently, the contractors are working in any

way to obtain their heart's desire."

They are also not complying with the 70:30 brick chips and sand ratio, set for construction of roads with bitumen macadam surfaces, he added.

Asked what steps were taken after she received the written complaint about the substandard repair work of the road, Meher Nigar, the former UNO who is currently working as secretary to Brahmanbaria Zila Parishad, said upon receipt of the complaint, she had paid a visit to the site and warned the contractors of stern action if they use substandard material in the repair work.

Contacted, the serving Bijoy Nagar UNO, KM Yasir Arafat, said in the few weeks since he joined the new workplace, he did not receive any formal complaint regarding the use of low-grade material in the repair work of the road.

However, after finding out that slow pace of the work has been causing great inconvenience to locals, he has asked the contractors to expedite the work, he also said.

Jamal Uddin, engineer of LGED in Bijoy Nagar, did not answer his cell phone this Wednesday when this correspondent made several attempts to reach him for his comment over the accusations. A text message sent to the same number also remained unanswered.



Indian cattle recently seized by Border Guard Bangladesh are kept at a place of Purbo Satnai village in Dimla upazila of Nilphamari, prior to auction through legal procedures.

FILE PHOTO: STAR

ER		ইস্টার্ন রিফাইনারী লিমিটেড	
Eastern Refinery Limited		(A Subsidiary of Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation, North Patenga, Chattogram-4000)	
Invitation for National Tender			
1	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Power, Energy and Mineral Resources/Energy and Mineral Resources Division.	
2	Agency	Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation.	
3	Procuring entity name	Eastern Refinery Limited (ERL).	
4	Procuring entity district	Chattogram.	
5	Invitation for & Invitation Ref. No.	Extension of fire garage at the east side of existing fire station & renovation of existing fire station wash room Ref. No. ER/Civil-22/2019-2020	
KEY INFORMATION			
6	Procurement method	National One Stage Two Envelope Tendering Method.	
FUNDING INFORMATION			
7	Budget and source of funds	Eastern Refinery Limited.	
PARTICULAR INFORMATION			
8	Tender Package No.	ER/TNC-01/2020-2021	
9	Tender publication date	30 July 2020	
10	Tender last selling date	18 August 2020, 15:00 Hrs.	
11	Tender closing date and time	19 August 2020, 12:00 Hrs.	
12	Name & address of the office(s):	Selling tender document (principal) Manager (Accounts), ERL, North Patenga, Chattogram-4000, Bangladesh. Receiving tender document Office of the Asst. General Manager (C&P), Eastern Refinery Limited, North Patenga, Chattogram. Opening tender document Office of the Deputy General Manager (Development)/ERL Board Room, Eastern Refinery Limited, North Patenga, Chattogram.	
INFORMATION FOR TENDERER			
13	Brief eligibility and qualification of tenderer	First class experienced civil contractor and successfully completed large construction works within the last (05) years in govt./semi-govt/ autonomous organization, with a single W/O value of at least Tk 10,00,000.00 (ten lac) & as per Tender Data Sheet (Section-2) (Year will be calculated from tender publication date to backward).	
14	Brief description of works	Price of tender document	Tender opening date and time
Extension of fire garage at the east side of existing fire station & renovation of existing fire station wash room Ref. No. ER/Civil-22/2019-2020		Tk 500 (five hundred) only (non-refundable)	19 August 2020, 12:10 Hrs
15	SI No.	Identification of tender	Location
01	ER/C-22/2019-2020	Inside ERL	
		Tender security	Completion time in days/ weeks/ months
		Tk 40,000.00 (forty thousand) either in the form of Bank Draft or in the form of an irrevocable unconditional Bank Guarantee issued by any scheduled bank of Bangladesh, in the format (Form PW3-6), without any alteration, furnished in Section 5: Tender and Contract Forms.	120 (one hundred twenty) days from the date of getting Hot/Cold permission from safety department of ERL.
PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS			
16	Name of official inviting tender	Ahmad Fazle Rabbi.	
17	Designation of official inviting tender	Manager (Construction).	
18	Address of official inviting tender	Eastern Refinery Limited, North Patenga, Chattogram, Bangladesh.	
19	Contact details of official inviting tender	Tele No. 88-031-2501261-67, Ext-441, Fax: 88-031-2501269. E-mail: md-office@erl.com.bd Website: www.erl.gov.bd www.erl.com.bd	
20	a) The procuring entity reserves the right to reject all the tenders or annul the tender proceedings. b) If it is not possible to receive/open the tender on the scheduled date for any unavoidable circumstances, the same will be received/ opened on the next working day at the same time and same venue. Contact: 01912250632/01675255742.		
GD-1211		Ahmad Fazle Rabbi Manager (Construction)	

## Woman killed over family feud

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bandarban

A housewife was killed allegedly by her husband over family feud at Purbo Bolipara in Khagrachhari's Ramgarh upazila on Tuesday.

The deceased, Rasheda Aktar, was wife of Omar Faruq. Police said they arrested Omar for his alleged involvement in the murder.

Omar, who was also injured during the incident, is now undergoing treatment under police custody.

## 3 drown in 2 districts

STAR COUNTRY DESK

Three people, including two of a family, drowned in different upazilas of Pabna and Kurigram on Wednesday and the day before.

Our Pabna correspondent reported that, two people, including a boy, drowned in the Padma river under Sujanagar upazila on Tuesday afternoon.

The deceased are Rabbi Hasan, 23, and his nephew Lion Hossain, 12, of Laxmipur village.

Police said the duo went to take bath in the mighty Padma river near their houses and went missing due to strong current.

Later, villagers spotted their bodies floating in the river and recovered those.

Away in Kurigram, an elderly man drowned in the Brahmaputra river in Chilmari upazila on Wednesday, reports our Lalmonirhat correspondent.

The victim, Mohsin Ali, a farmer, was son of Abdul Aziz of Ramna Baparipara village.

Locals said Mohsin and his son slipped into the river while fishing with nets. Though Mohsin's son managed to swim ashore, but the former drowned due to heavy current.



Erosion by the Jamuna has taken a serious turn, devouring many houses in Pashkha Majhail area in Tangail's Nagarpur upazila in the last few days.

PHOTO: STAR

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh  
Year Round Fruit Production for Nutrition Improvement (2<sup>nd</sup> Revised) Project  
Department of Agricultural Extension (DAE)  
Khamarbari, Farmgate, Dhaka-1215  
[www.dae.gov.bd](http://www.dae.gov.bd)

Memo: 12.01.0000.000.99(19).09.2020-213

e-Tender Notice  
Tender Notice No. 02/2020-21  
Open Tender Method (OTM)

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP system portal ([www.eprocure.gov.bd](http://www.eprocure.gov.bd)) for the procurement of the following item:

SL No	Tender ID	Package No.	Name of the work	Last date & time of Document purchase	Last date & time of Tender Submission	Opening date & time
01	481532	YRFP/GD-17	Procurement of Coffee Grafts/Seedlings	20-08-2020 5.00 PM	23-08-2020 01.00 PM	23-08-2020 01.00 PM

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 ([www.eprocure.gov.bd](http://www.eprocure.gov.bd)) is mandatory.

The fees for downloading the e-Tender Documents from the National e-GP system portal have to be deposited on line through any registered Bank's branches.

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)).

The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all Tenders/Proposals without showing any cause.

29.07.2020  
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GD-1210