

CULVERT CONSTRUCTION

Bill cleared but work still incomplete

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

The contractor concerned has withdrawn the final bill but construction work of a culvert in front of the circuit house in Habiganj municipality still remains incomplete, which is a gross violation of public procurement policy.

An official of Roads and Highways Department (RHD) in Habiganj said they cleared the bill after discussing with the district administration.

According to the law, the dues will be paid upon completion of work.

During a visit to the area recently, this correspondent found that the construction work was going on.

According to the sources at RHD, as there is no proper drainage system, Habiganj Sadar Hospital, local police station, police superintendent office, zilla parishad office and circuit house get submerged in water just after a little rain in the town.

To resolve the problem, the Roads and Highway Department in the district decided to build a cross-culvert in front of the circuit house

in the town. In February this year, construction firm Md Enamul Haque Pvt. Ltd from Dhaka got the work order of around Tk 43 lakh 50 thousand for construction of the culvert. RHD set a deadline of June 25 this year to complete the construction work.

Interesting thing is that the bill was cleared on June 26 but 40 percent work still remains incomplete, said the sources.

Saddam Mia, a resident of Hospital area, said commuters on the important road have been experiencing untold sufferings due to slow progress of the culvert work.

Shiddek Mia, 45, a CNG-run auto-rickshaw driver in the area, said they face immense problem while crossing the area.

Tofazzal Sohel, general secretary of Bangladesh Paribesh Andolon, Habiganj unit, most of the areas in Habiganj town are submerged under rainwater during monsoon. To overcome the situation, the authorities concerned have taken this project.

But the construction work is too slow and the road has now become hazardous for all, he said,

adding that in this situation, drivers also charge extra three times fare.

There have also been allegation of substandard equipment being used in the construction work, said the environmental activist.

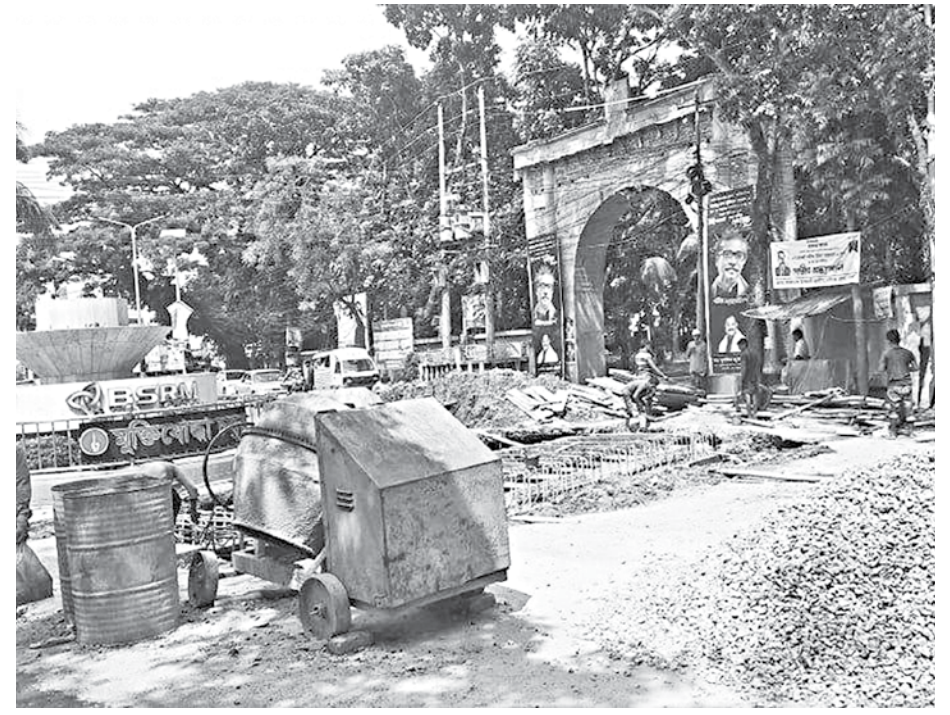
Shamim Ahmed, another resident of Hospital area, said the construction work of the culvert was going on for the last few months. Delay in the construction work mounts sufferings on thousands of townspeople.

Contractor Zahirul Islam Ruhel said construction work of the culvert was being delayed due to coronavirus outbreak. The work would be completed very soon.

Contacted, Mizanur Rahman Mizan, mayor of Habiganj municipality, said "I don't know anything about withdrawal of the bill."

Habiganj RHD Executive Engineer Md Sajib Ahmed said the bill was cleared after discussing with the district administration.

Deputy Commissioner Md Kamrul Islam said the issue of withdrawal of the final bill is an internal matter of the Roads and Highways Department.



The bill has been cleared but construction work of a culvert in front of the circuit house in Habiganj town still remains incomplete, causing immense sufferings to commuters.

PHOTO: STAR

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh	
Health Services Division Ministry of Health and Family Welfare Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka www.hsd.gov.bd	
Invitation for Tender	
Sl. No.	
1.	Ministry : Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.
2.	Division : Health Services Division.
3.	Agency : Health Services Division, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.
4.	Procuring entity name : Health Services Division, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.
5.	Procuring entity code : Not used at present.
6.	Procuring entity district : Dhaka.
7.	Invitation for : Tender.
8.	Invitation Ref. No. : 45.00.0000.138.78.001.20.827
9.	Date : 01/10/2020.
KEY INFORMATION	
10.	Procurement method : Open Tendering Method (OTM)- Local.
FUNDING INFORMATION	
11.	Budget and source of funds : Revenue/GOB.
12.	Development partner (if applicable) : Not applicable.
PARTICULAR INFORMATION	
13.	Project/programme code (if applicable) : Not applicable.
14.	Project/programme name (if applicable) : Not applicable.
15.	Tender package No. : Tender For (1) Stationery (Package-1); (2) Toner of Printer, Photocopy and Fax Machine (Package-2); (3) Laptop, Computer and Printer (Package-3).
16.	Tender package name : Packages-1 Stationery Packages-2 and Toner of Printer, Photocopy and Fax Machine Packages-3 Laptop, Computer and Printer
17.	Invitation for Tender Ref. No. : 45.00.0000.138.78.001.20.827
18.	Tender publication date : 04/10/2020
19.	Tender last selling date : 25/10/2020
20.	Tender closing date and time : 27/10/2020, 01:00pm.
21.	Tender opening date and time : 27/10/2020, 02:30pm.
22.	Name & address of the office(s) : Address(s)
23.	Selling tender document (principal) : Deputy Secretary, Administration-2 Branch.
24.	Office : Room # 220, Building # 3 (2nd Floor), Health Services Division, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka-1000.
25.	Selling tender document (others) : Do.
26.	Receiving tender document : Do.
27.	Opening tender document : Do.
INFORMATION FOR TENDERER	
28.	Eligibility of tenderer : The tenderer shall have at least 2 (two) years' relevant experience with- i. Trade licence ii. TIN certificate of least validity financial year 2019-2020. iii. Income tax certificate. iv. VAT registration certificate. v. Bank solvency certificate. vi. Undertaking of not being blacklisted in any government/autonomous department.
29.	Brief description of goods : Packages-1 Stationery Packages-2 and Toner of Printer, Photocopy and Fax Machine Packages-3 Laptop, Computer and Printer
30.	Brief description of related service : Related services.
31.	Tender document price for each package : Tk 1,000.00
32.	Tender security : Packages-1 Tk 50,000.00 Packages-2 and Tk 30,000.00 Packages-3 Tk 30,000.00
PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS	
33.	Name of official inviting tender : Jakia Pervin.
34.	Designation of official inviting tender : Deputy Secretary (Administration-2).
35.	Address of official inviting tender : Room # 220, Building # 3 (2nd Floor), Health Services Division, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka-1000.
36.	Contact details of official inviting tender : +8802-9540721
37.	The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all tenders or annul the tender proceedings.
 01.10.2020 Jakia Pervin Deputy Secretary (Administration-2) Health Services Division Ministry of Health and Family Welfare	

GD-1571

ONION PRODUCTION

DAE in north launches programme aiming self sufficiency

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Nilphamari

The Department of Agricultural Extension (DAE) in Rangpur region has launched an intensive programme in five northern districts to boost onion production in the upcoming season.

The programme is aimed at ultimately attaining self sufficiency in onion production in the country, according to DAE officials in Rangpur.

The programme is in response to the recent surge in prices of onion, a popular cooking ingredient in the country, following a ban on its export, imposed by India, they also said.

Rafiqul Islam, sub assistant agriculture officer of DAE in Rangpur, said in districts of Rangpur, Gaibandha, Kurigram, Lalmonirhat and Nilphamari, the DAE has set a target for producing 1.5 lakh tonnes of onion on 9,470 hectares of land this year, as opposed to 67.6 thousand tonnes produced on 6,142 hectares of land last year.

Moreover, aside from providing assistance in cultivating traditional onion seed varieties including Taherpuri and Faridpuri, the DAE is

also distributing newer high-yielding varieties such as Bari-6, Bari-3 and Bari-1.

Many non-governmental organisations are also distributing imported high breed varieties of onion seeds, he added.

"Since we no longer can be dependent on imports [of onion], we have launched a massive program to inspire farmers in cultivating the newly introduced summer variety of onion along with the traditional winter varieties," said Mesbahur Rahman, a DAE horticulture specialist for Rangpur region.

A good number of farmers in the region responded well and they have cultivated the summer variety for the first time this year.

Through the cultivation of the summer and winter varieties, the annual onion production is likely to double -- a step toward reaching self sufficiency in its production, he added.

Farmer Bodiuzzaman, from Kursha village in Taraganj upazila of Rangpur, predominantly grows onion among other crops.

He said he made Tk 40 thousand against the production cost of only Tk 10 thousand last year, when he reaped a harvest of 1.34 tonnes of onion from one bigha of land.

Another seasoned onion grower, Khirod Roy, from Bhabaniganj village in Nilphamari Sadar upazila, said onion farmers often suffer losses due to fall in onion prices in March and April, the months when the produce is harvested.

"The government should ban import of onion during the harvest period to ensure stability of onion prices at the market."

Mohammad Moniruzzaman, additional director (Rangpur region) of DAE, said around 25 to 30 percent of onion gets rotten due to failure of following proper preservation techniques at farmers' end.

In order to prevent the wastage, the DAE is planning on launching a project, under which they would train farmers on how to make specialised onion storage facilities at their own houses, using available resources.

"We will arrange motivational and training programmes as well as provide technology and quality seeds to encourage farmers in cultivating profitable crops, particularly onion. This way, we will achieve self sufficiency in onion production, like we already did in the case of rice and meat production," he also said.



Workers tend to an onion field in Kisamoter Char area of Dimla upazila in Nilphamari.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

Free medical camp at Tangail PTC

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

A free medical camp was organized at Police Training Centre (PTC) in Mohera area of the town yesterday.

Tangail PTC arranged the day-long medical camp, maintaining social distance, where nearly 500 poor and distressed patients from Mohera and its adjacent areas took free advices from doctors and received free medicines as well.

Dr Sheikh Mohammad Monirul Islam, a senior physician at Rajarbagh Central Police Hospital in Dhaka, and Dr Chand Sultana, Dr Aisha Siddika, Dr Kabir Uddin from the Health Directorate, and DR Safia Akter, medical officer at Tangail PTC provided necessary advices to the patients.

Additional Superintendent of Police (administration) at Tangail PTC Sheikh Razibul Hasan said they will organize such medical camp once in every month.

Worker electrocuted

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pirojpur

A construction worker died from electrocution and four other co-workers sustained injuries while working at an under construction site of Local Government Engineering Department (LGED) in Bhandaria upazila yesterday.

The deceased, Shariful Islam Babu, 30, was son of Mansur Ali of Asim village in Mymensingh's Fulbaria upazila. Injured Delwar, 34, Nayon, 24, Masud, 18, and Motaleb, 32, took treatment at Bhandaria Upazila Health Complex.

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