

5 districts, 209 upazilas lack libraries

By Shahzad Monju

There is no government public library in five out of 64 district headquarters of Bangladesh.

A total of 63 public libraries including the central one in Dhaka, three divisional and four branch libraries. Of them 16 are in Dhaka division, 14 in Chittagong, 16 in Khulna and 15 in Rajshahi.

The number of other general libraries situated at the districts and upazilas is 310, according to a survey report of National Book Centre (NBC) conducted from 1987 to 1990.

Fifty-nine libraries are in 59 district headquarters and the rest ones are in 259 upazilas.

The survey report includes those libraries which had fulfilled minimum conditions of space, books and standards specified by the NBC.

Five districts and 209 upazilas lack such libraries, the survey report shows.

Small libraries in various localities and communities were excluded from the survey because of their inadequate number of books, small size and limited scope of serving people.

Quite a number of schools

and colleges also have their own libraries.

Ministry of culture is responsible for general and public libraries. The ministry sanctions a grant every year for their development. A general library receive two to five thousand Taka annually as grant from the ministry.

Cultural Ministry had approved Taka 55 lakh as grant for 1990-91. The same amount was sanctioned last fiscal year.

The grant can hardly meet the libraries' demands, sources said.

Fazle Rabbi, Director of NBC, said the development of libraries is a must for promoting education and books in the country.

In 1981 a British library specialist J S Parker, appointed to investigate into the condition of libraries in the country under a contract between Bangladesh government and British Council in 1978, made some recommendations for library development of Bangladesh. Parker submitted his report to the Cultural Minister after the death of President Ziaur Rahman recommending some measures to

develop libraries, but these recommendations are yet to be implemented even after a decade.

The implementation of the recommendations by Parker is essential for development of libraries as well as book promotion, concerned authorities believe.

A reports of Bangladesh Public Service Commission in late 70s noted 'there is no public library for the literate people residing at the rural areas of the country'. The report also disclosed the average number of registered users per library in urban areas was only 15 per cent higher than those in the rural areas.

Late President Ziaur Rahman had announced a scheme of a public library-cum-auditorium at each of the then thana headquarters. In accordance with the announcement, library-cum-auditorium had been made in almost 25 thana headquarters although 100 thana headquarters had been allocated fund under the President's scheme by their local divisional development boards.

Later the total scheme had been abandoned during the anti-people government of ousted President Ershad. Most of the auditoriums are now being used as cinema hall.

Anniversary of Salehuddin's death observed

The eighth death anniversary of Barrister Syed Kamrul Islam Mohammed Salehuddin, a prominent freedom fighter and political worker was observed on Friday.

A discussion was held at the Jatiya Grantha Kendro auditorium in the city to commemorate the death anniversary. Democratic League Chief Oli Ahad presided over the discussion. Syed Sersajul Huda, Sheikh Ashraf Hossain, Tariq bin Hossain, Barrister Salehuddin's only son Syed Javed Mohammed Salehuddin, UNB Senior Reporter Sheikh Raqibuddin and Hasan Fazlul Huq spoke on the occasion.

WVA to hold luncheon on June 1

Women's Voluntary Association (WVA) will hold its 'International Luncheon' on June 1 at Hotel Sonargaon (from 11.00 am to 3.00 pm). Money raised from this luncheon will be spent for rehabilitation of the cyclone-victims of Bangladesh. WVA runs Disabled Children's Residential Centre, a Free Crippled Children's Day Clinic, two Primary Schools and two adult Literacy centres, two Family Planning Centres and other vocational projects for the underprivileged children and Women of Bangladesh.

For cards please contact WVA office, Road No. 27, House 405/A(Old), Dhanmondi. Phone: 812333, 506835, 600890, 604633, 884276, 606019.

6 car lifters arrested

By Staff Correspondent
Fatulla police on Thursday arrested six persons when they were trying to sell a stolen private car.

The car bearing number plate Dhaka Metro Da 5722 was stolen from Mirpur Eye Hospital on Wednesday. The thieves took the car to a village in Fatulla and cut it into pieces for selling in Dholakhal. They were loading the pieces of the car in a truck when police caught them red handed.

Police searching for a convict

By Staff Correspondent
Police is looking for one Manik Gazil alias Matin Gazil alias Moti (38), a convict dacoit, who escaped from Dhaka central jail during the jail riot. Moti is now engaged in robbery in the city in the guise of police. He carries fire arms and wireless set for committing the robberies.

Moti is 5 feet 6 inches tall, dark complexioned pimples on face, bald headed, a cut mark on right cheek and of good physic. Police requested anyone who whereabouts of him to report to the nearest police station.

New post card from today

Bangladesh Post Office will issue newly-printed post card of Tk 1.00 with effect from today (Saturday), reports BSS.

These post cards bear picture of Central Shaheed Minar.



Fireman J Mullen, a throttle man aboard USS Tarawa (LHA-1), gives Mrs Quayle a tour of the ship's Engineering Operating Station as Captain Wirt R Fladd and the Main Propulsion Assistant, Lt Jack Joynson look on. (U S Navy photo by Sgt Mark Schaaf, USAF).

A joyous welcome awaits US Task Force at home

Marilyn Quayle, wife of Vice President Dan Quayle, ended a two-day visit to Bangladesh on Thursday, where she assessed cyclone-damaged areas, participated in relief efforts and served as a morale-booster to the thousands of American troops assisting in humanitarian efforts, says a USIS Press release.

Mrs. Quayle visited Bangladesh at the request of President Bush and in her capacity as the Chairman of US Agency for International Development's Disaster Advisory Committee.

A devastating cyclone hit Bangladesh April 29, causing the death of more than 138,000 people and leaving hundreds of thousands of survivors inaccessible areas without food and water and at risk of serious disease.

Mrs. Quayle saw first-hand the full extent of relief operations and will give the president a comprehensive assessment of her findings, according to US diplomatic sources.

Mrs. Quayle met with Acting President Shahabuddin

Ahmed, Prime Minister Khaleida Zia, U S embassy officials and Combined Joint Task Force Operation Sea Angel officers to discuss the status of the disaster and relief efforts.

Mrs Quayle visited the cyclone-affected region in the southeastern portion of Bangladesh, where she took part in US relief efforts, including those of Operation Sea Angel, private voluntary organisations supported by USAID's office of Foreign Disaster Assistance and the Bangladesh government and military forces.

Her activities in the disaster zone have included actually delivering food and medicine to those in most desperate need in the hardest hit areas. Mrs Quayle was scheduled to participate in relief efforts in as many additional sites as possible before returning to Dhaka on Thursday.

According to U S embassy officials, Mrs Quayle insisted that no relief missions be diverted to accommodate her visit. Operation Sea An-

gel transported 430 tons of relief supplies during her two day visit, US embassy officials said.

On her return from the disaster areas to Dhaka, Quayle met with Prime Minister Begum Zia to discuss her observations on relief efforts and disaster preparedness for the future.

Quayle's visit was also seen as a morale booster for the nearly 7,000 U S servicemen and women participating in Operation Sea Angel.

On Wednesday, Quayle stayed aboard the USS Tarawa, mother ship of the Amphibious Ready Group providing helicopter and surface transport for the massive quantities of relief supplies being delivered to the survivors of the disaster.

Aboard ship, she thanked American military personnel for their extraordinarily effective humanitarian work. She assured US military personnel that the world is aware of their extraordinary humanitarian work and that a joyous welcome awaits them at home.

Relief operation continues

Army personnel are continuing their relief operations at the coastal areas alongwith the US Marine Task Force, Local Administration and other concerned agencies. Comilla Area troops distributed 15 tons of relief materials at Ushkhali and other affected places of Hatia today. They also distributed eight tons of relief goods at Moulvibazar and 30 tons at Sylhet. These were sent from Dhaka by helicopters and transport planes for the flood victims of these areas.

Navy

Bangladesh navy ships from Chittagong, Khulna and Barisal on Friday carried a large quantity of relief goods to Sandwip, Manpura, Bhola, Kutubdia and adjoining areas. Five other vessels are also being loaded with more relief goods for sending them to the affected places.

Air Force

Bangladesh Air Force helicopters on Friday carried a large quantity of relief goods from Dhaka to Bhola, Barisal and Manpura for distribution among the cyclone victims.

UK-Bangladesh Samity

The new England-Bangladesh Samity in the United States held a fund raising dinner recently at Watertown city in Massachusetts to help the cyclone affected people of Bangladesh. Two thousand US dollars were collected from the dinner and an additional 2,500 dollars were committed. Meanwhile, a 'Bangladesh Relief Fund' was formed at a meeting at Boston recently, with Sheikh Abdur Rahman as the convener.

Caritas

Caritas, a local NGO, in addition to their ongoing emergency relief activities for April 29 cyclone-victims, is assisting the flood victims of greater Sylhet and tornado victims of Gournadi of Barisal.

Caritas emergency relief activities amounting to Tk. 700,000 will cover 2300 flood affected families of five upazilas of greater Sylhet and Moulvibazar.

Under the emergency relief programme pressed rice, gur, rice, ors and water purifying tablets are being distributed.

Besides, Caritas has also allocated an amount of Tk. 200,000 for the May 18 tor-

Ismaili Community

Roshanally M. H. Hirji and Mohammad Bhal, on behalf of some businessmen of the Ismaili Community handed over a cheque for Taka 10 lakh to Begum Khaleida Zia for the Prime Minister's Relief Fund.

The Community earlier sent a 12-member team to Maturchar near Kutubduja with cash, food stuff, clothes and utensils for 100 families.

Insurgent held in Ctg

CHITTAGONG, May 24 : Bangladesh security forces captured an activist of the insurgents after exchanging fire with him at Rangapani Chhara of Khagrachhari Hill District today, an official sources said here, reports BSS.

Prasanta Chakma alias Tareng, said to be regional director of the insurgents, exchanged fire with the security forces from his hide-out but was ultimately captured.

Tareng, son of Babu Chakma, hails from Khedachhara of Bagachhari upazila, Khagrachhari.

FAO

Another report adds : Geston Ivan, Director Operation, FAO, today stressed the need for creating avenues for work for the cyclone and tidal surge affected people of Bangladesh.

He also emphasised gearing up of food-for-work programme for reconstruction and repair of coastal embankments to save the life and properties of Bangladesh people.

Ivan said this while he met Zonal Relief and Rehabilitation Coordinator Mokammel Huq here he said FAO would extend all possible help to Bangladesh in mitigating the sufferings of the cyclone and tidal bore with people Bangladesh.

Anniversary of Zia's death May 30

The 10th death anniversary of the founder of Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP), Shaheed President Ziaur Rahman, will be observed on May 30 in a befitting manner, according to a party press release on Friday, reports BSS.

All the party units have been requested to observe the day through hoisting the party flag at half mast, holding Quran

Commemorative stamps

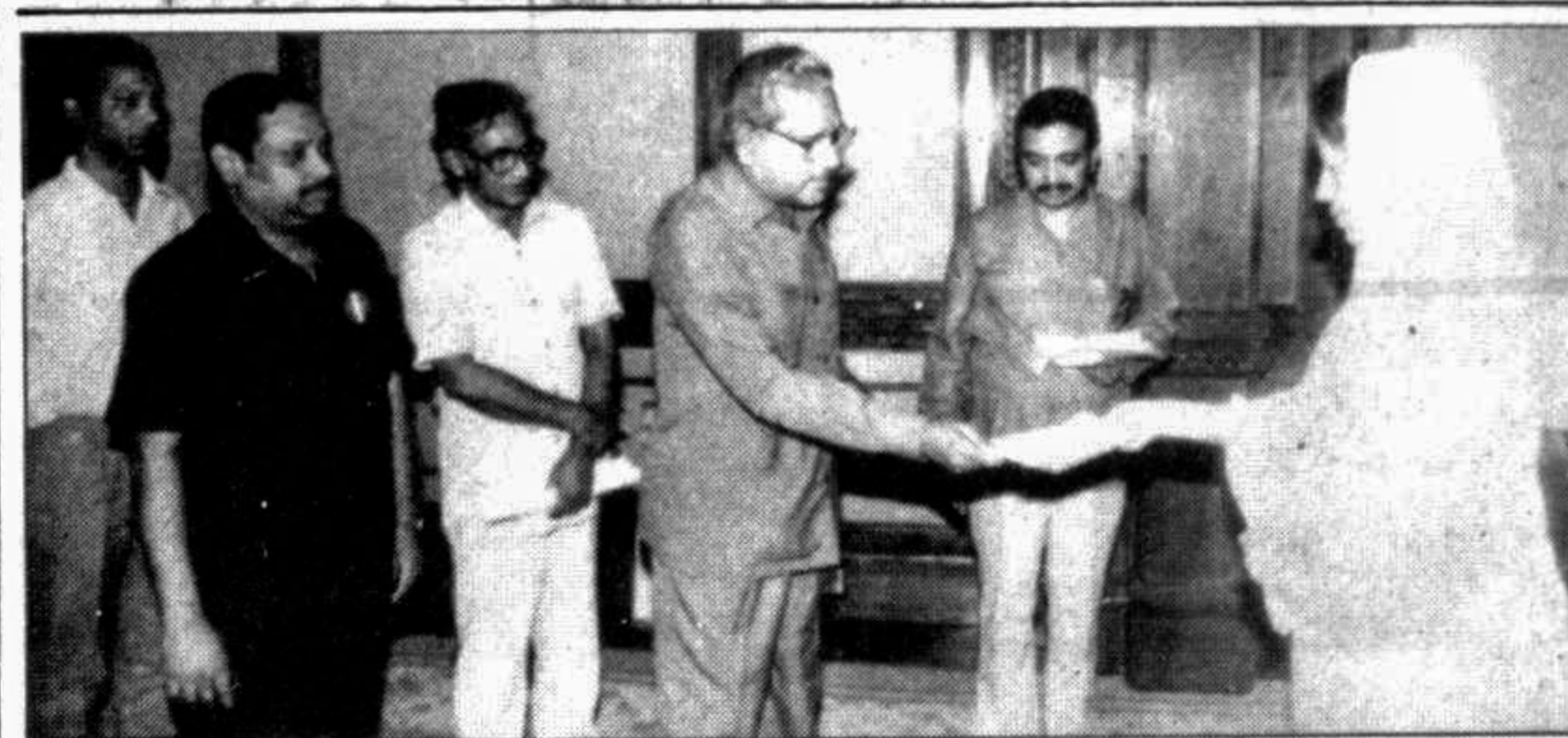
Bangladesh Post Office will issue a set of commemorative postage stamps of denomination poisha 50 and Taka 2 and a souvenir sheet (overprint) valued Tk. 10 on 30th May, 1991 on the occasion of the 10th death anniversary of President Ziaur Rahman, reports BSS.

khwani, milad mahfil and discussion meetings. All concerned have been urged to provide succour to the distressed people of cyclone and flood affected areas instead of destitute feeding.

The central programmes will include hoisting of the party flag at half mast on the party's central office in Dhaka. Ziarat at the mazar of the late President, Quran khwani and milad mahfil will be held at 9 am on the day.

A discussion will be held at the Shilpakala Academy on the day at 4 pm under the auspices of Jatiyatabadi Samajik Sangskritik Sangstha.

All the banks and file and well-wishers have been requested to take part in all the programmes of the death anniversary, the press release added.



Shipping Minister M K Anwar handing over a cheque for one day's salary of officers and employees of BIWTA to Begum Khaleida Zia, Secretary of the Ministry and Acting Chairman of BIWTA is seen in picture.



Uttara Bank Officers Association donating huge relief goods to the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society for Cyclone and flood affected people.

BDRCS relief work with US Task Force on

Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS) continued its relief work for the cyclone affected people in cooperation with the 'Operation Sea Angel' of the US Task Force, reports BSS.

The Society despatches relief goods to Chittagong by C-130 transport plane of the Task Force for onward shipment to the affected areas of Sandwip, Hatia and Kutubdia by helicopters and amphibious vehicle. A BDRCS source said since May 17 the society sent three hundred tonnes of relief goods for distribution among the affected people.

The society air lifted 47.3 tonnes of foodstuffs to Kutubdia and 97.7 tonnes to Banskhali Tuesday. The C-130 transport plane carried 23 tonnes of relief goods to Chittagong from Dhaka



German Ambassador Dr Karl-Heinz Scholtyssek and Adhikari, Director of Christian Commission for Development in Bangladesh, sending off the first three trucks with emergency relief goods financed by the German government and distributed by the Christian Commission for Development.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Deputy Commissioner, Comilla
Court of the General Certificate Officer

AUCTION NOTICE

Certificate Case No 108/86-87
Sonali Bank, Comilla Branch, Comilla
Certificate holder

—versus—
M/s. Sahida Rice and Ata Mills, Proprietor: Mr. Abdul Gafur, Pashchim Gaon, Upazila-Laksam, Dist-Comilla.... Certificate debtors

This is notified for general information that in view of realising claimed amount of Tk 9,67,487/- (Taka nine lacs sixty seven thousand four hundred eighty seven) only as on 31.12.90 plus interest and other expenditures related till recovery, the properties as mentioned in the following schedule of the aforesaid certificate debtors, will be sold through open auction on 1.7.91 at 11 am in the court of the undersigned. Persons intending to take part in the auction may contact the office of the undersigned/Sonali Bank, Comilla Branch to know detailed terms and conditions of the auction. The highest bidder will have to pay 25% of the quoted value in Cash or Pay Order/DD as soon as accepting bid and the rest amount will have to pay within 15 (fifteen) days of accepting auction. Possession will be handed over to the successful bidder by the court. The court/bank management reserves the right to accept/reject highest bid without showing any reason.

SCHEDULE

A) District Comilla, Upazila-Laksam, Mouza-Pashchim Gaon, Khatian No-562/1, 562/2 Plot No-385, 388, 389, 386 and 387 measuring 12 decimal including building situated on it.

B)

1. Speeder machine (Rice mill) 1 no
2. Electric motor 3 nos
3. With line shaft fan 20ft
4. Rice cleaning fan

SB/PR/16/123/91 Rita Sen
DFF (BA) 4120-19/5 General Certificate Officer,
G-129 Comilla.

Government of Bangladesh
Office of the Executive Engineer, RHD
Comilla Road Divn., Comilla

SHORT NOTICE

INVITING TENDERS

1. Tender Notice No : 108/E.E. RHD, Road Divn. Comilla of 1990-91.
2. Name of work : Repairing the potholes, depression, undulation and providing premixed bituminous seal coat over damaged surface at 5th KM(P), 6th, 7th, 8th and 9th KM of Lalmai-Barura-Jagathpur Road under Comilla Road Divn during the year 1990-91.
3. Name of office of availability of tender document : Office of the undersigned/ Executive Engineer, RHD, Road Divn., Sylhet/M. Bazar/ Sunamgonj /Planning and Programming, Dhaka and S.D.Es Office under this Divn. C i g . Z o n e . Chittagong/Superintending Engineer, RHD Sylhet Road Circle, Sylhet/Project Control, Sarak Bhaban, Ramna, Dhaka and Office of the undersigned.
4. Name of offices to receive tender bids : Addl. Chief Engineer, RHD, C i g . Z o n e . Chittagong/Superintending Engineer, RHD Sylhet Road Circle, Sylhet/Project Control, Sarak Bhaban, Ramna, Dhaka and Office of the undersigned.
5. Time allowed : 60 (sixty) days from the date of issue of work order.
6. Last date of selling of tender : 29.5.91 during office hours.
7. Last date of receive of tender : 12.30. P.M. of 30.5.91.
8. Date & time of opening of tender bids : 12.45 P.M. of 30.5.91.
9. Estimated cost : Tk 10,31,593/-
10. Earnest money : Tk. 20,632/-
11. Eligibility of contractor : A to D general category of RHD.

Syed Sakhawat Hossain
Executive Engineer, RHD
Comilla Road Divn., Comilla.

DFF(G) 6061-22/5
G-145

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ফোনঃ পিএবিএসঃ ২৪৬০২৩-৪, ৮৬৩০০৫