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Depression crosses coastal belt

By Staff Correspondent

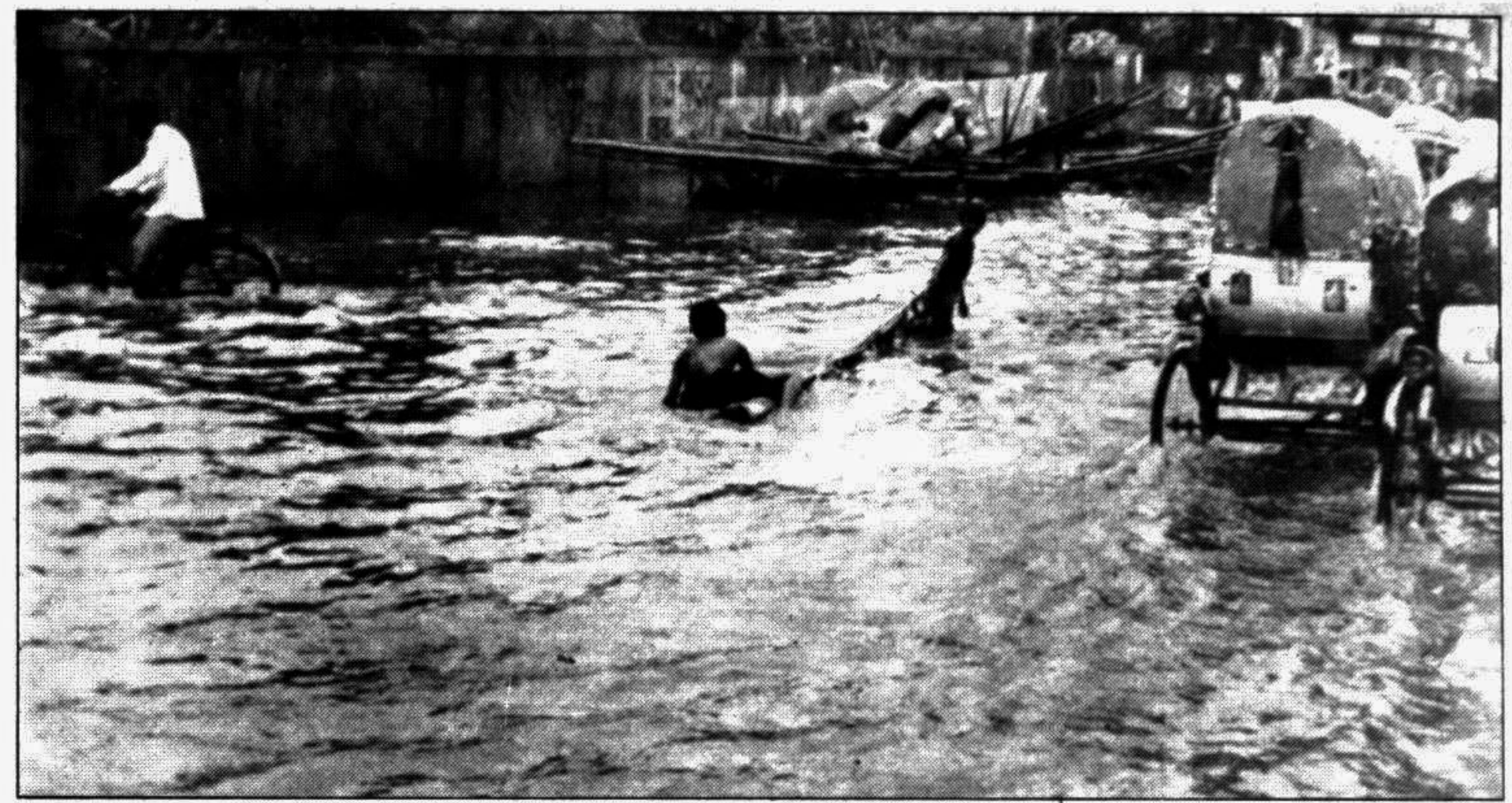
The Bay depression which caused extensive rainfall all over Bangladesh during the last two days, crossed the Khulna-Patuakhali coasts in the early hours of today.

The depression that formed on Saturday had a maximum sustained wind of 40 kph within 45 kms of the depression centre. The wind speed was rising to 48 kph in gusts and squalls.

Under the influence of the depression, low-lying areas of the districts of Patuakhali, Barguna, Bagerhat, Bhola, Pirojpur, Barisal, Noakhali, Laxmipur, Chandpur, Feni, Chittagong, Cox's Bazar, Hatiya, Sandwip and the offshore islands and chars were mildly battered by stormy wind and inundated by a tidal surge of one to two feet above the normal level.

Deputy Commissioner of Patuakhali told The Daily Star over telephone that there was nothing alarming in the district. "But we alerted all concerned," he said.

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Waterlogging due to heavy showers often paralyzes normal city life. And it happened so yesterday also when intermittent rainfall marked by downpour continued throughout the day. But draining out the water seems to be nobody's headache. — Star photo

Khaleda leaves for Harare today More active role for C'wealth aimed at

By Staff Correspondent

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia leaves Dhaka tonight for Harare via Jeddah as head of the Bangladesh delegation to the week-long 11th Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) beginning Wednesday.

Begum Zia will perform Umrah in Mecca on Tuesday before leaving for Harare, the capital of Zimbabwe.

This is for the first time that Begum Zia will attend an international conference as the head of a democratically elected government. She will be one of the five Commonwealth leaders to reply to the address of welcome by Robert Mugabe, president of the host country, Zimbabwe.

The main thrust of the conference will be on a concerted attempt by the Heads of Government to chalk out a more active and dynamic role for the Commonwealth in the 1990s and beyond.

The Prime Minister's entourage will include Foreign Minister ASM Mustafizur Rahman, Parliament Members Begum Raushan Elahi, Ahsanul Huq Mollah and Sardar Sahawat Hossain Bakul, Foreign Secretary Reaz Rahman and Bangladesh High Commissioners in London and Harare.

The summit will take place at the magnificent Harare International Conference Centre down Samora Machel Avenue, the capital's main thoroughfare.

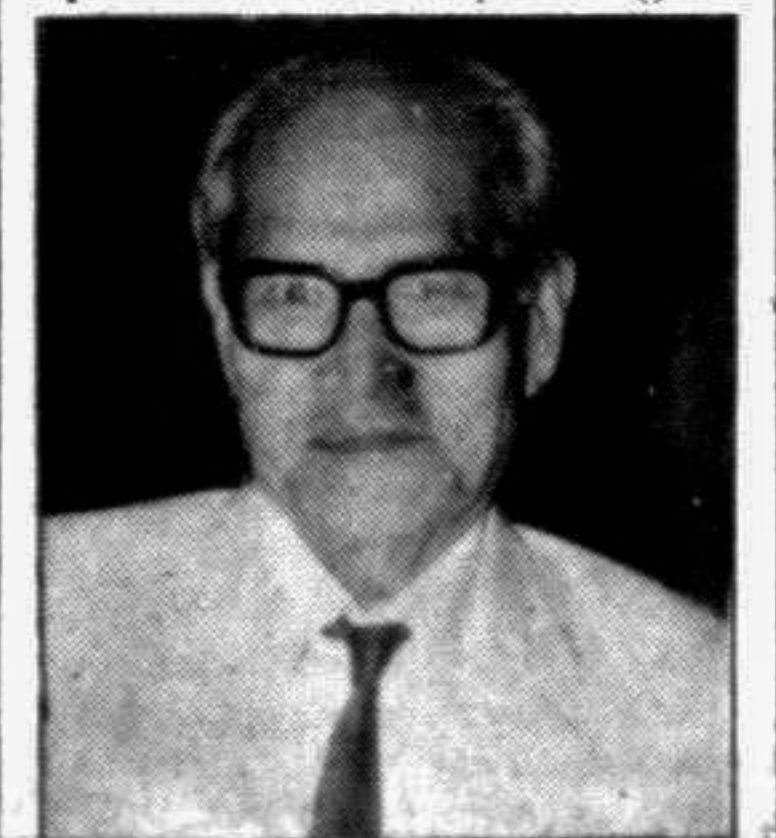
Coinciding with the summit will be an official visit to

Panni elected Deputy Speaker uncontested

By Staff Correspondent

Humayun Khan Panni, a BNP MP from Tangail, was unanimously elected Deputy Speaker of the Jatiya Sangsad (Parliament) Sunday.

The name of Panni was proposed by Deputy Leader of



Panni: Looking forward with experience

Opposition protests saying silent famine is prevailing Bills to raise remuneration of President, Ministers, MPs placed

By Staff Correspondent

Four bills seeking to increase the remuneration, allowances and privileges of Members of Parliament, the President, the Prime Minister, Ministers, State Ministers and Deputy Ministers were introduced in the Parliament Sunday.

Opposition bench members Sheikh Fazlul Karim Selim, Suranjit Sengupta, Tofael Ahmed and Motia Chowdhury spoke in opposition to the bills on the ground that enhancement of remuneration would not be proper now because the people particularly those of the northern districts were suffering a silent famine.

They also argued that this would lead to further inflationary pressure to the disadvantage of the people.

The Members of Parliament (Remuneration and Allowances) (Amendment) Bill seeks to increase the monthly remuneration of MPs from Taka 3,000 to Taka 6,000; transport allowance from Taka 500 to Taka 1,000; and amount insured for life from Taka three lakh to Taka five lakh.

The Bill also proposes to place a discretionary fund of Taka 75,000 at the disposal of each MP for each year.

The President's (Remuneration and Privileges) (Amendment) Bill seeks to enhance the President's monthly remuneration from Taka 10,000 to Taka 15,000 and the amount insured for life from Taka ten lakh to Taka 15 lakh.

The Prime Minister's (Remuneration and Privileges) (Amendment) Bill proposes to enhance the remuneration of Prime Minister from Taka

DU tense as rivals ready to combat

By DU Correspondent

Tension was prevailing on the Dhaka University campus Sunday following Saturday's exchange of gunfire between supporters of the Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) and the Chhatra League (S-A).

Both student groups were ready in their respective strongholds with lethal weapons to combat each other.

A large number of armed outsiders were found moving freely in the Mohsin Hall, Suryasen Hall, Jasmuddin Hall, Zahurul Huq Hall, S M Hall and Jagannath Hall areas, campus sources said.

General students were fearing a more severe armed clash between the two groups.

A large number of resident students, have left their halls to spend puja vacation in their respective home districts and this has turned the halls into

Test relief: JS suspends application of amended rules

The Jatiya Sangsad Sunday night decided to suspend for three days the application of the recently amended rules omitting involvement of the MPs in the preparation and execution of test relief schemes, reports BBS.

A total of 13 MPs from opposition benches moved privilege motions against the amendment of the rules which had withdrawn the participation of the Members of Parliament, including the women MPs in the preparation of test relief projects.

As speaker Shaikh Razaq Ali told the members that the motions would be examined in the privilege committee and the report would come back to the House in time, a number of opposition MPs including the

Salvage operation from November 20 vessels still remain sunken

From Nurul Alam

CHITTAGONG, Oct 13: Salvage of the vessels that sank in and around the Chittagong Port channel in the April 29 cyclone will start by mid-November.

The Chittagong Port Authority will shortly sign an agreement with the Dutch government providing for 10 million Dutch guilders assistance for the salvage operation, port authority Chairman Akhtar Kamal told The Daily Star Sunday.

According to port survey report, about 20 ships owned by Bangladesh Navy, some foreign companies and the port authority remained sunken which could not be salvaged in

Biswas's call to work for institutionalising democracy

President Abdur Rahman Biswas Sunday called for all-out efforts to expedite the process of institutionalising democracy through pursuing development activities, reports BSS.

He was addressing a delegation of Jatiyatabadi Shramik Dal who called on him at his residence to congratulate him on his assuming the office of the President of the country.

Biswas referred to the problems being confronted by the nation and said planned developed efforts under a stable government could help solve them.

He said the present government elected through free

I am back to Bench to keep commitment: Shahabuddin

Chief Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed Sunday said that he had returned to his present post of Chief Justice to keep his commitment he gave to the nation while accepting the responsibility of the Acting President at a very crucial juncture of the nation, reports BSS.

He was addressing a recep-

Notice

In view of numerous complaints from our patrons and advertisers about not receiving their complimentary copies regularly, we have decided to suspend the service for a period of two weeks from 16 October 1991. Meanwhile we hope to evolve a system which will ensure proper delivery.

We regret the inconvenience and request the sympathetic understanding of our valued patrons and advertisers.

-Managing Editor

NEWS BRIEFS

Razzak calls on Hasina
 Speaker Sheikh Razzak Ali made a courtesy call on Opposition Leader and Awami League Chief Sheikh Hasina Sunday at her Sangsad Bhaban office. During their hour-long meeting they discussed ways to make the present parliament more effective, reports UNB.

Massive repair work soon, says Mayor 75 pc city roads damaged

By Asiuzzaman

Seventy-five per cent of 2232 km roads of the capital are either partially or totally damaged — which needs about Taka 100 crore for repair, Dhaka City Corporation sources said.

More than 35 kms of the damaged roads are unusable.

No major repair work was done during the past three years which worsened the condition of the city roads.

The Dhaka City Corporation Mayor Mirza Abbas when contacted told The Daily Star Saturday that some initial fund has been allotted for the repair.

"We have already begun repair work. We are waiting for a fair weather to start the work in a massive scale". Initially a fund of Taka 30 crores has been sanctioned including Taka 15 crores special allotment by the Prime Minister, he said.

Tenders involving Taka 20 crore have already been floated.

He maintained that water stagnation on the roads due to faulty drainage system was one of the major causes of damage and late monsoon heavy rains this year quickened the process.

Besides road repair, drainage system would be improved in the areas most vulnerable to water logging, he added.

He said that digging of roads for telephone, WASA, sewerage and gas lines also damaged roads. Although the departments concerned take permission from the city corporation for road cutting and pay for their repair, sometimes they remain unrepaired for long time. The corporation is trying to evolve a system of doing the underground and surface worker of such service lines simultaneously through better co-ordination among the departments.

Mirza Abbas said that the anomalies by the autocratic rulers for nine years made the crisis of the city corporation acute. "I visited several damaged roads but bills of their previous repair works remained unpaid." "I am in a fix how can I pay those bills which are not less than some crores of taka," he said.

"I am hopeful that the roads which are in a pitiable condition will come in a good shape within a couple of months," he said.

Roads in 49 areas in the capital were in very bad condition which included Chankharpul, Bakshibazar, Nilkhet, Jigatala, Tongi Diversion Road, Azimpur, Joykali Mandir, Firebrigade, Argona, Samoli, Taltoia, Mirpur, Magbazar, Gulshan, Airport, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, North South Road, Dholakhal, Sayedabad and Jatirbari.

ট্রেডিং কর্পোরেশন অব বাংলাদেশ
 ঢাকা

ঢাকা শহরে প্রতি কেজি ৭.০০ টাকা এবং চট্টগ্রাম ও খুলনায় ৬.২০ টাকা দরে লবণ বিক্রি।

জনসাধারণের অবশিষ্ট জন্ম আনানো যাচ্ছে যে, টিসিবি কর্তৃক ১ (এক) লক্ষ মে/টন লবণ আমদানীর ব্যবস্থা করা হয়েছে। এর মধ্যে ২০ (বিংশ) হাজার টন লবণ ইতিমধ্যেই দেশে এসে পৌঁছেছে।

এই লবণ ঢাকা, খুলনা এবং চট্টগ্রাম কেন্দ্র থেকে টিসিবি'র ডিলারদের মাধ্যমে দেশের সর্বত্র বিতরণের জন্য ৬,৪২৬ জন ডিলারকে বরাদ্দপত্র প্রদান করা হয়েছে। দেশের প্রতিটি জেলা, উপজেলায় টিসিবি'র ডিলার নিয়োজিত আছে। তাছাড়া বরাদ্দকৃত লবণ উত্তোলন করে জেলা প্রশাসককে অর্পিত করে নিম্ন নিম্ন এলাকায় নির্ধারিত মূল্যে সাধারণ ক্রেতাদের মধ্যে বিক্রি করবেন। ডিলারগণ এই লবণ খুচরা বাজারে প্রতি কেজি সর্বোচ্চ ৭.০০ (সাত) টাকা মূল্যে বিক্রয় করবেন। যে সকল বরাদ্দ গ্রাণ ডিলারগণ এখনও বরাদ্দের অনুকূলে টাকা জমা দেননি, তাদেরকে অবশিষ্ট টাকা জমা প্রদান করে "আগে আসলে আগে পাবেন" ভিত্তিতে মাল উত্তোলন করতে নির্দেশ প্রদান করা হচ্ছে।

এ ছাড়া ঢাকা ও নারায়ণগঞ্জ মেট্রো এলাকার ৫০টি সোকান হতে লাল সালু টার্পিয়ে এই লবণ খুচরা প্রতি কেজি ৭.০০ (সাত) টাকা দরে বিক্রয়ের ব্যবস্থা নেয়া হয়েছে। এ সকল সোকানের নাম ০৯-১০-৯১ ইং তারিখে সৈনিক ইত্তেফাক এবং সৈনিক খবরের কলামে প্রকাশিত হয়েছে। অনুরূপভাবে, খুলনা ও চট্টগ্রাম মেট্রো এলাকারও বাকসমূহে ১৪ (চৌদ্দ) জন এবং ২৫ (পঁচিশ) জন ডিলার লাল সালু টার্পিয়ে প্রতি কেজি ৬.২০ (ষয়) টাকা বিক্রয় করবেন। এই সকল ডিলারদের নাম স্থানীয় পরিদপ্তর প্রকাশের ব্যবস্থা নেয়া হয়েছে।

এ সম্পর্কে কোন প্রশ্ন বা অভিযোগ থাকলে ঢাকার টেলিফোন নং-৮১১৫১৯, ৩১১৮০৫, ৩২৫৭০৪, ২৩৮০৩৩ ও ৩২৫০০৬। ২২১৬ চট্টগ্রামে টেলিফোন নং- ৫০৪৬০৬ এবং খুলনায় টেলিফোন নং- ৬০৭৫০-তে যোগাযোগ করতে অনুরোধ করা হোল।

—টিসিবি কর্তৃপক্ষ

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