

Dhaka Day by Day

Economy consumerism at Odd Corners

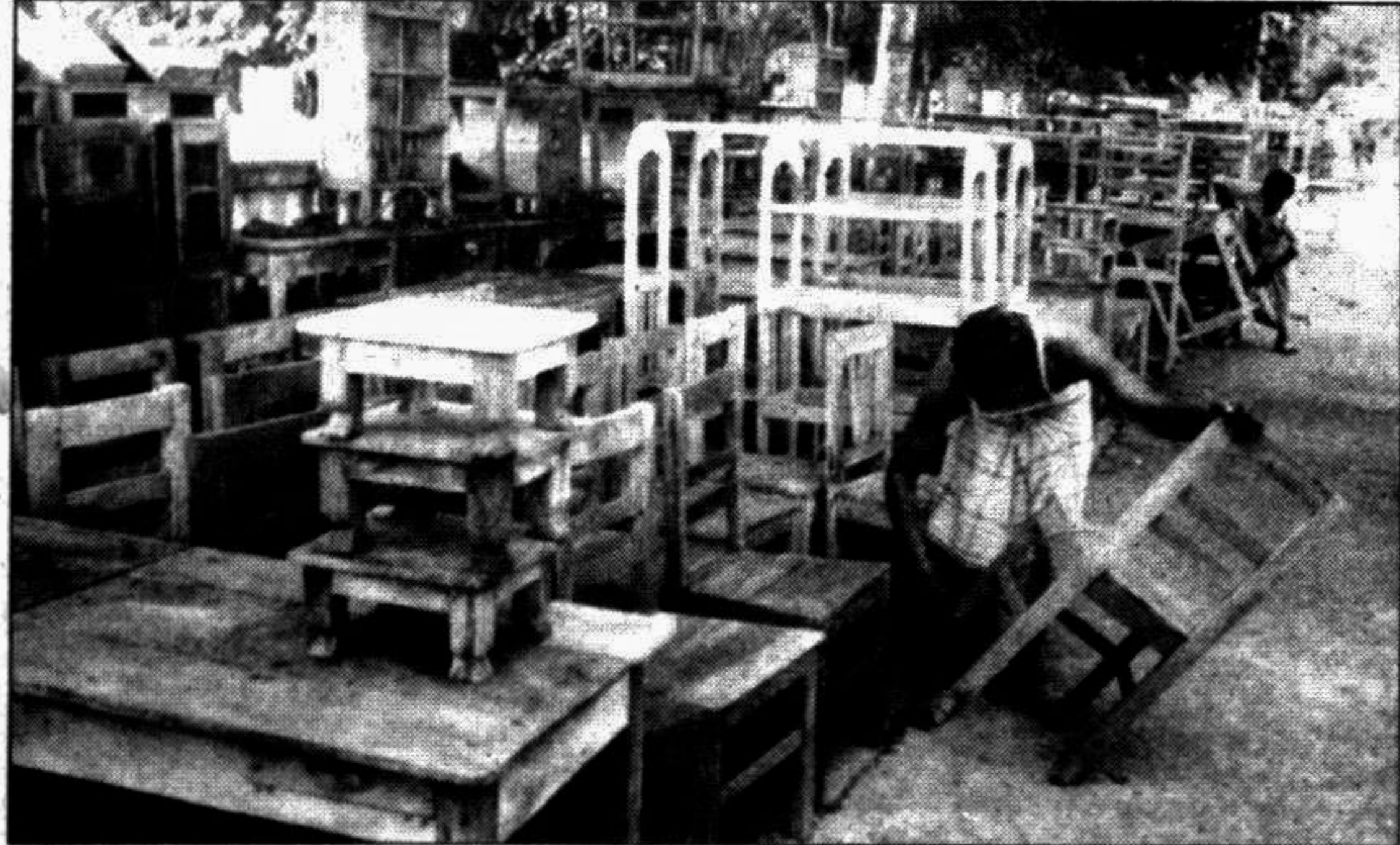
by ASM Nurunnabi

Every individual, rich or poor, normally entertains dreams for certain material needs. The rich have their ready means to fulfill them. But it is often beyond their ken to conceive that such dreams also animate the less fortunate.

This piece of writing tries to look at the problem faced by those on the brink of unsteady means in the matter of procurement of certain essential items of furniture. They need a cot to sleep on, a couple of chairs or stools for occasional rest, a cloth rack to hang their clothes on, and a cup-board to keep their sundry things. They may also sometimes need a table for its manifold use. The problem is how to procure these things at a price suited to their lean purse.

as essential for a home as some items of furniture are, even if it available at a cheap price. Yet there are some people who cherish the dream without having the means to fulfil it, to own a carpet to make their homes more presentable. For them opportunities exist in this city to own a carpet, though it is not new.

If you chance to pass along the road along the Segun Bagicha area, you may come across a class of non-descript artists whose speciality consists in refurbishing old carpets with freshly painted colours. When they remain engaged in their jobs, they present pictures of studies in extreme concentration with their brush and pots of paints. Particularly when an old carpet was originally ornamented with a mosaic of colours, their concentration seems



Sidewalk furniture for those who can't afford expensive ones. — Star photo

There is perhaps an answer in this city. On the long stretch of pavement stretching from the gate of the Dhaka College to the extremity of the Teachers Training College, a chain of low-cost furniture-sellers dominate the scene. They are all made of low-quality wood, which, when given a shine with a coat of varnish, look fairly attractive to the less sophisticated. These side-walk furniture sellers offer a wide range of their wares. The crucial point, however, for the buyers is to command an adequate bargaining ability. If you are wanting in this respect, the shrewd sellers are likely to fleece you.

Related to the matter of cheap furniture is the one of cheap carpet. True, a carpet is not

to reach the highest point, to avoid overrunning of colours across specific areas. When a particular work is finished, the refurbished old carpet may acquire a tolerably presentable appearance, which may appeal to customers out to make a buy on the cheap. Judging by the large number of such sellers in this area, it may be presumed that the volume of their trade is not negligible.

Since the urbanites in straightened circumstances have slender hope of furnishing their home with new things carrying high price tags, these furniture shops and carpet dealers on side-walks offer some hope of fulfilling their cherished dream.

DU postpones exams

The examinations of Dhaka University under the course system which are scheduled to be held today and Monday (December 8 and 9) has been postponed due to some unavoidable circumstances, a university press release said in Dhaka Saturday night, reports BSS.

Fresh dates in the examinations will be announced soon. Other examinations scheduled to be held from December 10 will be held as usual, the press release added.

Italian proposal to modernise police force

The Italian Ambassador, Claudio Pacifico, called on Home Minister Abdul Matin Chowdhury, at his office in Dhaka Saturday, reports BSS.

They discussed matters of mutual interest. The Italian Ambassador gave a proposal for modernising Bangladesh Police force particularly to provide training of field level police personnel in Italy.

Turkish envoy meets Oli Ahmad

The Turkish Ambassador to Bangladesh Ahmet Ermisroglu called on the Communications Minister Col. (Retd.) Oli Ahmad at his office in Dhaka Saturday, reports UNB.

They discussed matters of mutual interest. State Minister for Communications Fazlur Rahman and Secretary of Railways Division Nurul Momen Khan were present during the meeting.

Chehlum

Chehlum of social worker and philanthropist Egbalunnessa Khanum proprietress M/S Fabric House, Dhaka New Market, will be held today (Sunday) at her residence at 45/1, Al-Amin Road, Green Road, Dhaka, after Asr prayer, says a press release.



Chhatra League (S-A) brought out a procession in the city on Saturday demanding unconditional release of Juba League leader Liakat. — Star photo

Only 93 cases reported thru' govt in 200 years

37 pc prostitutes suffering from venereal diseases

Medical experts at a workshop in the city Saturday expressed concern at the total absence of any national mechanism for reporting the incidence of venereal diseases, reports BSS.

They said that for the last 200 years, incidences of 93 diseases, were being reported through the government diseases reporting mechanism. But the reports don't include incidences of sexually transmitted diseases, they stated.

The objectives of the week-long workshop on "Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STD)" are to develop a surveillance system in high risk areas and prepare a plan of action for prevention and control of STD in Bangladesh.

Sponsored by the Directorate of Health Services and World Health Organisation (WHO), the workshop is being held at the National Institute of Preventive and Social

Medicine (NIPSOM) at Mahakhali in Dhaka.

There are about 12 venereal diseases prevalent in the country including syphilis and gonorrhoea. These diseases could make a woman sterile and cause miscarriage and child deformation, the physicians said.

The venereal diseases could also make a man sterile, impotent and cause delayed paralysis, they said. They however said that treatment of venereal diseases was very simple and could be cured by using proper antibiotics.

Speaking at the workshop Dr Enamul Karim, a senior scientist of the Institute of Epidemiology Disease Control Research (IEDCR) at Mahakhali, reported that 37 per cent prostitutes in the brothels of Dhaka and Narayanganj were suffering from STD.

He said during the same period they had conducted another study on 500 inmates of vagrant homes at Rayer Bazar, Mirpur and Puvall and 58 per cent of them were found to have STD.

Dr Karim said that there is a provision for the inmates of the brothels of Dhaka and Narayanganj to have health checks and get annual check-ups under the supervision of the respective municipal authorities but he regretted that these provisions were seldom exploited.

The workshop participants expressed concern at growing incidences of STD at the brothels at Jessore and Mongla Port. The former is used as a transit point for international traffic of prostitutes and the latter is used mainly by the foreign navigators and seamen. In both the cases, there was a high risk of transmitting AIDS to Bangladesh, they observed.

They said that due to lack of any reporting mechanism and unwillingness of the patients of venereal diseases to give contact history or report, no national statistics on the incidence of venereal diseases was available.

Regarding diagnosis of STD, they said the doctors at the upazila level were unable to do that properly as these diseases

Workshop postponed

The inaugural function of the international workshop on techno-economic feasibility of food irradiation jointly organised by International Consultative Group on Food Irradiation (ICGFI), Bangladesh Atomic Energy Commission (BAEC) and Gammatech Ltd, due to be held on December 8 at the Atomic Energy Research Establishment (AERE), Savar has been postponed due to unavoidable circumstances, according to a press release, reports BSS.

Call to consolidate sovereignty

Minister for Social Welfare and Women Affairs Tariqul Islam called upon all irrespective of any political affiliation to imbue the present and future generations with the spirit and zeal of historical liberation war so as to consolidate our hard-earned independence and sovereignty, reports BSS.

He was addressing a rally of all political parties and socio-cultural organisations arranged in Jessore Saturday at the "bijoy stambha" to mark the 20th anniversary of liberation of Jessore district from Pakistan occupation army.

Jessore was the first district which was liberated from the then occupation army on this historic day of December 7, 1971.

Local MP Roushan Ali presided over the inaugural session of 10 day programme, organised to observe the memorable day.

Social Welfare Minister said that time had come to be united again with the enthusiasm and sacrifice of the liberation war to uproot violence and lawlessness from the society for greater national cause.

Congratulation

Born to Mr. Saleh Mahmud and Mrs. Shopna Mahmud, Their first loving child on 6th December, a healthy girl weighing 7lbs. Mother and child doing fine. — Colleagues in The Daily Star

Policy to ensure drugs at village level soon

Health and Family Welfare Minister Chowdhury Kamal ibne Yusuf Saturday said the government is committed to formulating a balanced and effective drug policy to ensure availability of essential drugs at the village level, reports UNB.

He urged the pharmaceutical chemists to come up with guidelines for a suitable drug policy which the government could implement for the welfare of the people.

The Health Minister was speaking as chief guest at the publication ceremony of the Quarterly Pharmaceutical

Journal of the Society for Pharmaceutical Chemists at BCCI auditorium in Dhaka Saturday morning.

Chowdhury called on the experts involved in manufacturing, quality control and distribution of drugs to ensure stable supply of medicines to the people at nominal price.

He also sought cooperation to attain the goal of "health for all by the year 2000."

WHO Consultant Dr S K Roy, WHO representative in Bangladesh Dr A N A Abeyesundere and President of the Society Md Aman Ullah

Tender Notice

Sealed Tenders are invited by M/S. Royal Towels (pvt) Limited from bonafide and reputed suppliers/manufacturers belonging to Asian Development Bank Member Countries in triplicate, for supply of brand new complete range of machinery and equipments for an export oriented Terry Towel manufacturing unit to be financed by Rupali Bank Limited. Tender schedule may be obtained from the address as given below during office hours (from 10 A.M. to 5 P.M.) on cash payment of Tk. 250.00 (Taka two hundred fifty) only (non-refundable).

Tender schedule may also be purchased from Rupali Bank Limited, Rupali Sadan Branch, Dhaka by depositing Tk. 250.00 (Taka two hundred fifty) only (non-refundable) in current account of the company maintained with the said Branch.

No tender schedule will be sold on date of opening of tenders. Tenders in sealed covers addressed to the undersigned are to be dropped in the tender box kept in the office of the undersigned upto 12.30 P.M. in presence of the Tenderers, if any.

Incomplete and conditional tender will not be considered. The company reserves the right not to accept the lowest Tender and also to reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.

Managing Director
M/S. Royal Towels (pvt.) Limited
24/1, Kabi Jashimuddin Road,
Kamalapur, Dhaka

COVERED SPACE AVAILABLE FOR RENT

Location : Tejgoan Industrial Area, Dhaka.

Description : 15,000 Sq. ft tin shed and 10,000 Sq. ft. R. C. Roof

Commencement of Rent : 1st JANUARY 1992

Utilities : Electricity (40 K. V. A & Can be enhanced), Gas, Water, Phone.

Only scheduled Banks, Foreign Embassy, NGO'S, UN Organisations, & Multi-national Companies, may apply with details & purpose of use.

Contact: Phones : 408438, 401514

TV Sunday

5-00 Opening announcement. Al-Quran. Programme summary

5-10 News in Bangla

5-20 Recitation from the Bible

5-30 Programme on Mother

6-00 Educational programme: Can you do it

6-30 Sports programme

7-05 Tagore's songs

8-00 News in Bangla

8-30 Prabaha

9-00 Drama series : Oahn

10-00 News in English

10-30 Dialogue

11-30 Khabar/The news

11-45 Close down

What's on today

Kamrul Hassan Oitijhya Parishad
The Patua, Kamrul Hassan Oitijhya Parishad has organised a discussion in the capital today (Sunday) to celebrate the 70th anniversary of birth of the late artist Kamrul Hassan. Poet Sufia Kamal will attend the function as the chief guest while Shawkat Osman, Fais Ahmed, Katyum Chowdhury and Hashem Khan will take part in the discussion at the Public Library Auditorium in the evening. Prof Kabir Chowdhury will preside. The function will be rounded off with a musical soiree by eminent artists.

Rotary Club of Dhanmondi
The 27th regular weekly meeting of the Rotary Club of Dhanmondi will be held today (Sunday) at 6-30 pm at Hotel Purbani. Today's programme is 'Ladies' Night' to be followed by cultural programme.

Lions Club of Dhaka Buriganga
The regular meeting of the Lions Club of Dhaka Buriganga will be held today (Sunday) at 5-30 pm at Hotel Sheraton. All members have been requested to attend it.

. . . . and tomorrow

Bangla Theatre
Bangla Theatre will hold a press conference at Swadhinata Bhaban, Matijheel, tomorrow (Monday) to mark the 20th anniversary of the country's war of independence.

Begum Rokeya Day
Nari Grantha Prabartana will organise a meeting and publish a book in observance of the "Rokeya Day" tomorrow (Monday) at the organisation premises.

Publication ceremony
A discussion meeting will be held at 3-30 pm at the Bisshya Shahittya Kendro tomorrow (Monday) on the occasion of the publication ceremony of "Yakshi and some more yearnings", a book of poems by professor Syed Saifullah. Professor Kabir Chowdhury will attend the function as chief guest while Prof Motinul Islam, Chairman of the Department of Management, Dhaka University will preside.

Begum Rokeya's death anniversary
Naripakkha will observe the anniversary of birth and death of Begum Rokeya through a function at 3-30 pm at the Public Library premises tomorrow (Monday). The programme include reading session of the works of Begum Rokeya and self composed writings of others.

Weather

Dry spell to continue

By Staff Correspondent

Met office forecast Saturday that dry weather is likely to prevail across the country during the next 24 hours till 6 pm Sunday.

Night temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country excepting 1-2 degree Celsius rise over the regions of Chittagong, Noakhali, Barisal, Patuakhali and Khulna. It also said. Country's lowest 10 degree Celsius temperature on Saturday was recorded at Srimangal.

Sunset at Dhaka on Sunday at 5-12 pm and sunrise Monday at 6-30 am.

Temperature and humidity recorded on Saturday at important cities and towns were:

Town/Cities	Temperature in degree Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	9 am	6 pm
Dhaka	26.6	15.4	77	62
Chittagong	26.3	15.0	86	66
Rajshahi	26.1	13.0	86	86
Khulna	25.8	13.0	86	79
Bhola	27.0	13.5	90	94
Paridpur	26.1	13.2	80	70
Sylhet	27.5	14.0	67	60
Srimangal	27.0	10.0	84	65
Cox's Bazar	26.0	14.0	81	82
Rangpur	25.0	13.4	73	73
Bogra	25.0	13.1	78	69

It's new just for you

The Daily Star is pleased to introduce a new column where individuals and organisations can publish Birthday and Anniversary Greetings, Congratulatory and Condolence Messages, Get-Well/Good-Luck Wishes, Birth/Death Announcements, In Memoriam, etc. at nominal charges.

For booking details, please contact :
Advertisement Manager
Phone : 246023-4, 863035

Tender Notice
Tender Notice No. 4 of 1991-92

Groupwise separate sealed Tenders are hereby invited for (1) Re-Excavation of Baniakola Khal from its off-take at Chhatni to 3 vents Regulator at Baragacha near N. S. College from Metrage 0.00 to Metrage 2100.00 and Metrage 2128.00 to Metrage 4960.00 Group- "A" (2) Re-Excavation of Basudevpur Khal from its off take at Banurbhag to out-fall at Basudevpur Railway Bridge opening from Metrage 0.00 to Metrage 3300.00 Group - "B" in Upazila Natore Dist. Natore in connection with Darnai Project during the year 1991-92. The estimated amount for Group- "A" is Tk. 1,36,071/- and for Group- "B" is Tk. 2,26,253/- only and earnest money is Tk. 3405/- and Tk. 5660/- only respectively.

The Tender will be received on 17-12-91, 18-12-91 and up to 12-00 hours of 19-12-91 and will be opened at 12-30 hours of 19-12-91. Enlisted "D" class contractors of BWDB for 1991-92 are only eligible for submitting tenders. Tender documents and detailed informations will be available in Pubali Bank Ltd. Chalan Beel Project, Pay Booth, Natore, Pubali Bank Ltd. New Market Branch, Rajshahi, Pubali Bank Ltd. Sericulture Branch, Serail, Rajshahi, Agrani Bank, Naogaon and Agrani Bank, Nawabgonj Branch, Nawabgonj, and Sonali Bank, WAPDA Building Branch, Motijheel C.A. Dhaka during banking hours on all working days up to 18-12-91.

PANI-262/91-92
DFP (G) 14611-3/12
G-1040

Executive Engineer,
Natore Water Dev. Division,
BWDB, Natore.

BCIC International Tender Notice

Managing Director, Chittagong Chemical Complex, Barabkund, Chittagong invites sealed quotation for supply of following materials.

Sl. No.	Name of Materials	Tender No	Terms of delivery	Opening Date	Source of Finance
1	Cold Rolled M.S. Sheet	CCC/IMP-12.00 122/91-92	C&F(C) Ctg. basis.	15.1.92	Under any suitable source of Fund/Credit.
2	Cold Rolled M.S. Sheet	CCC/IMP-11.00 121/91-92	Do	15.1.92	Do

Tender documents available at Tk.100/- per set from BCIC Head Office, Dhaka, BCIC Branch Office, 6, Agrabad C/A, Chittagong and CCC, Barabkund, Chittagong. Tenders along with 1% Earnest Money of the total quoted value will be received up to 2.30 PM on the above mentioned date and will be opened thereafter. No late Tender will be accepted and no tender schedule will be sold on the opening date.

BCIC-1074-3/12
DFP(BA) 9825-3/12
G-1039