

Dhaka Day by Day

Oh, That Crucial Cut!!

by Fayza Haq

It is such a pity that in apparently peaceful homes in Dhaka, one finds discontentment. This is despite the fact that one knows both sides of the picture of the couples concerned, and one fails to comprehend quite completely why divorces, separations, and prolonged visits to the wife's parental home remains necessary.

A young lady, Yasmine, originally from Naogah — who works for a firm in Purana Paltan, and has three wonderful young children — and yet she has sued her husband for a divorce. She is a gorgeous young lady, with a bachelor's degree, is expert in cooking, sewing and other household expertise. One knows for a fact that her husband, Salim, cares enormously for his children, and that they have had no basic misunderstandings. Being a woman oneself, one gets more details from the wife's side. She confides that Salim has been totally "unreliable" in the past. Yasmine had sold her jewels and sent him to work abroad. She took up a job, despite the tender age of her children. Theirs remain a "Kramer Versus Kramer" story. One wonders how it will eventually end.

Another young woman, Lubna, originally from Lucknow, but now living in Bangladesh all her life, has a perfect gentleman for a husband. He comes from a respectable and well-to-do family. His drawing room manners are excellent, one must admit, but you should ask my mother-in-law about his temper tantrums, and his needless stinginess. Lubna says, in desperation.

Lubna's face is covered with pimples, and her hair is growing rapidly grey in a marriage of six years. She has tried to get her husband a job in Dhaka, as he lives in India; but people are naturally reluctant to employ an obviously outsider in Dhaka, even in private firms. Lubna and her family struggle to bring up the two doll-like children, and are nearly going to

pieces to make both ends meet. They have consulted friends and priests as well as well-meaning family members and they advise that the separation should terminate in a divorce. What is poor Polyana-like Lubna to do? She is caught between the devil and the deep blue sea.

In yet another case in which the husband, Adnan, originally from Feni, apparently docile and undoubtedly intellectual, has proved a perfect failure as a person who should wear the pants. His children have proved to be remarkable individuals in Dhaka society, despite their youth and the struggle and strife they have had to undergo because of the father's constant absence, as they grew up. The youngest son hardly knows

the father as he was never around and visited his wife only very seldom. One would say that Adnan's wife is truly a remarkable woman for being able to bring up her family all on her own. She was married in Barisal, as a school girl and is now working in a firm in Motijheel.

When asked what tore away the man — whom she had approved of herself as a teenager, one gets a tale "full of sound and fury", signifying the layers of scar tissues in her mind; and who wants to wash one's acquaintance's dirty linen in public? Trying to analyse what the wife, Shabnam, should do next, is not an easy task. She has been a widow for five years and refuses to get married. Yet, at the age of 45, she cannot swallow sleeping pills, or do something so drastic and irremovable, and even totally pointless, in the ultimate analyses. Why create another scandal for the public eyes?

It is a pity that we have no marriage counsellors in Dhaka, as they do in other cosmopolitan cities. Simply having agony columns in newspapers and magazines, as one sees it, is not enough. Not that all marriages have a catastrophic end!



Cartoon by Sharif Hossain. The woman says, 'I bet on him'.



Jatiya Juba Sanghati leaders at a rally in front of Press Club yesterday demanding immediate release of Hussain Muhammad Ershad. — Star photo

782 arrested, 64 firearms recovered

The police in a drive throughout the country in the past 24 hours, which ended this afternoon, arrested 782 persons on various charges and recovered 64 firearms, according to a police headquarters press release here yesterday, reports BSS.

The arrested persons were taken into custody under warrants of arrest for involvement in extortion of toll, hooliganism, anti-social activities and other crimes.

The recovered arms include 17 guns, five revolvers, five pistols, 37 pipeguns and 138 rounds of ammunition.

During the drive 157 persons were arrested in Khulna range alone and 35 illegal arms and 85 rounds ammunition recovered. During the same period 287 persons were taken into custody and 12 illegal arms recovered from Chittagong range, the press release added.

Obituary

By Staff Correspondent

Founding President of Badamtali O Babubazar Chaul Aratdar Samity and President of Biswanabi Islamia Senior Madrasa of Narayanganj Bandar Thana Al Haj Abdul Ali Mia (70) died Wednesday in Dhaka. He was buried in Chunabura, Narayanganj.

Mia left behind wife, three sons and four daughters. His Quikhwani will be held tomorrow (Friday) after the Asr prayers at 300, Elephant Road. Another Quikhwani will be held on August 21 in Chunabura.

President and General Secretary of Badamtali O Babubazar Aratdar Samity Haji Md Selim and Haji Shahjalal respectively expressed their deep condolence over his death.

Sarwar Hossain, Director, Bangladesh Red Crescent Society, died of a heart attack at Suhrawardy Hospital yesterday. He was 62, reports BSS.

He hailed from village Labanara, Barisalpara, Barisal.

'Chunati wildlife sanctuary in danger'

By Staff Correspondent

The wildlife and nature conservation campaigners Tuesday alleged that the Chunati wildlife sanctuary in Chittagong was in danger because of some stalkers and smugglers.

Secretary General of the Wildlife Preservation and Nature Conservation Association Lutfar Rahman at a press conference at the National Press Club said that the Forestry Department totally failed in preserving the sanctuary.

A group of stalkers in June last shot four of estimated 25 elephants inside the sanctuary. One of the elephant later found dead and its tusks were taken by the stalkers, he said.

One kilogram of tusk is valued at about Taka 6,000.

He also alleged that felling of trees and killing of other animals were rampant but the forestry staff seemed ignorant about the matter.

Some 19,177-sq acre Hilly areas in Chunati, 43 miles away from Chittagong, were declared as wildlife sanctuary in 1986.

The association suggested several measures which included providing identity cards for the legal land owners in the forest areas, immediate survey to demarcate forest land, eviction of kiln and betel leaf plantation and expediting checking outside the forest routes.

Several members of the association were present at the conference.

DESA snaps 150 power lines

DESA yesterday disconnected the power lines of Teacher's Training College, Govt Laboratory High School, National Tenery (Hazaribagh) and Karim Leather (Hazaribagh) as they were defaulters, says a press release.

Earlier the DESA Electricity Court No 1 on August 11, in a drive at Dakkhingon, East Basabo, Kusumtoli under Sabujbagh thana disconnected 150 illegal power lines, instituted 14 cases and arrested 3 persons.

CU announces exam dates

CHITTAGONG, Aug 12: The University of Chittagong today announced dates of some examinations of different academic sessions, a university press release said, reports BSS.

The Master Degree final examination of the year 1989 will be held from October 17, second year BBA honours examination of 1991 on November 15 and second year honours of 1991 on December 5.

5 held with wine in Ctg

CHITTAGONG, Aug 12: A special squad of the detective branch of the Directorate of Narcotic Control here in two separate raids seized 19 litres of country-made wine and arrested five persons, reports BSS.

According to a press release of the directorate, 15 litres of the wine were recovered from under the auto-rickshaw seats at Kaptaal road while remaining four litres were found in a drinkers den at Eshan Mistrirhat.

DU exams date shifted

The second year (Hons) final examination of Dhaka University scheduled to be held from September 1 will now be held from October 17, a university source said here, reports BSS.

Other examinations including master degree and honours final year will begin in scheduled, the source added.

Singaporean envoy meets Biswas

Technical assistance assured

Bangladesh and Singapore will continue to increase trade and bilateral ties to enhance further the existing relationship between the two countries.

The outgoing High Commissioner of Singapore in Bangladesh, Michael Cheok Po Chuan said this when he called on President Abdur Rahman Biswas at Bangabhaban yesterday morning, reports BSS.

The High Commissioner said that both the countries could work together for human resource development and exchange technical cooperation for their mutual benefit.

Chuan also appreciated the government's endeavour to meet the challenges of development and said that his country could assist by providing technical knowhow useful to Bangladesh.

He conveyed best wishes to President Biswas from the President of Singapore.

President Biswas expressed his gratitude to the government of Singapore for extending valuable and consistent support to Bangladesh for resolving Rohingya refugees problem.

The President said that both the countries would work together for speedy development by alleviating poverty and social hindrances.

President Biswas also hoped that the relations between the two countries would further be cemented through increasing the trade and economic cooperation.

He conveyed his warm regards to President Wee Kim Wee of Singapore.

Secretary to President Ataul Haq was present.

JCD protests killing of activists

CHITTAGONG, Aug 12: Chittagong city chapter of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) at a protest meeting here today demanded immediate arrest and exemplary punishment to the killers of Nazmul and Babul, activists of Chhatra Dal and Jubo Dal respectively, a press release said, reports BSS.

Nazmul and Babul were allegedly shot dead in a procession by activists of a rival group at Halishahar here last night. Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal blamed Bangladesh Chhatra League activists for the killing, the press release said.

The protest meeting held at Andarkilla with the city chapter convener Abu Sufyan in the chair was addressed by over a dozen Chhatra Dal leaders including city joint conveners Manzur Rahman Chowdhury, Nazimur Rahman, Muhammad Ali and law college student union general secretary Ashfaq Uddin Ahmad.

They called upon the students and the people to resist those who were out to undo democratic process through terrorism and killing.

Earlier, Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal brought out a procession protesting the killing.

Meanwhile, Chittagong city unit of Jamaat-e-Islami has condemned the killings and terrorism at Halishahar yesterday by a group of political elements.

In a joint statement here today Jamaat leaders Maulana Abu Taher and Shamsul Islam demanded immediate arrest and exemplary punishment to the miscreants.

The Jamaat leaders said the continued terrorism in Halishahar area by some elements could not be allowed to continue in the greater interest of peace and order. They called for police action at Halishahar.

Plea to make mass education programme a success

State Minister for Education Principal Mohd Yunus Khan yesterday called for boosting literacy rate in the country to help eradicate poverty and check environmental degradation, reports BSS.

The state minister was addressing a function as the chief guest marking the tree plantation programme launched by Tejgaon Polytechnic Government Girls High School in Dhaka.

Principal Khan stressed the need for planting more trees to face the adverse impact due to building of dams and changes in river courses and hoped that if the present country-wide tree plantation programme succeeded it would greatly help in protecting the ecological balance.

He laid emphasis on cooperation of all to make the mass education programme a success to remove illiteracy from the country by the year 2000. He said the teachers could play a vital role in this regard.

Earlier the state minister planted a sapling in the school premises.

OIC, UN urged to save Muslims of Bosnia

Bangladesh Khakfat Jubo Andolon Yesterday urged the international organisations, including the OIC and United Nations, to come forward for saving the Muslims of Bosnia-Herzegovina from the oppression and genocide being committed by the Serbian forces, reports BSS.

The Jubo Andolon General Secretary Mujibur Rahman Hamidi and International Affairs Secretary Rabbul Karim, in a joint statement, also called upon the Muslims to pray for the oppressed Muslims of Bosnia-Herzegovina after the Juma prayers tomorrow.

Shishu Mausami meet Aug 24

A Shishu Mausami Meet-1992, under the sponsorship of Dhaka district administration will be held here on August 24, district information sources said, reports BSS.

The meet will be held on three subjects — quest for knowledge (gyan gigyasha), extempore debate and group jari song.

Interested children and children organisations have been requested to participate in the Mausami meet.

Weather

Temperature may rise

By Staff Correspondent

Light or temporary light rain or shower is likely to occur at one or two places over the regions of Khulna, Barisal, Patuakhali, Noakhali, Chittagong, Comilla, Faridpur, and weather may remain mainly dry elsewhere over the country during the next 24 hours commencing 6:00 am today (Thursday).

The Met office forecasts day temperature is likely to rise by one to two degree Celsius over the country while rainfall activities may increase.

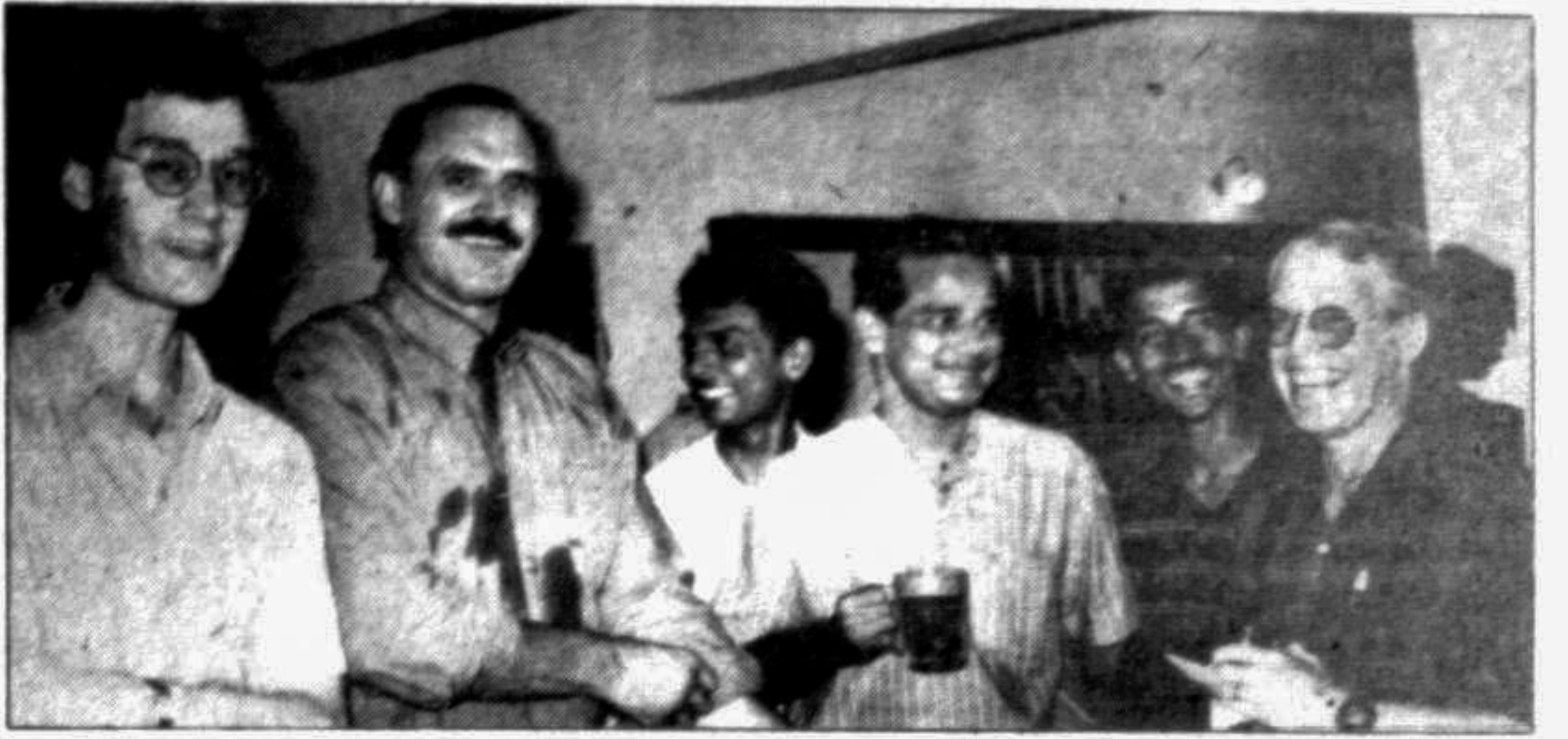
Few northeastern areas of the country experienced rainfall yesterday (Wednesday). Rainfall recorded in 12 hours from 6:00 am to 6:00 pm in these areas were: Dinajpur 46mm, Rangpur 15mm and Bogra 3mm.

The maximum temperature of 36.0 degree Celsius was reported from Comilla and Rajshahi yesterday and the minimum of 25.0 degree was reported from Rangamati.

The sun sets today at 6.33 pm and rises tomorrow at 5.34 am.

The maximum and the minimum temperature and humidity of some major cities and towns of the country yesterday were:

Cities/Towns	Temperature in Degree Celsius		Humidity in Percentage	
	Max	Min	9 am	6 pm
Dhaka	35.2	26.5	71	67
Chittagong	33.4	25.5	78	67
Rajshahi	36.0	27.0	-	70
Khulna	35.0	26.7	-	-
Barisal	34.3	26.2	84	76
Cox's Bazar	33.5	26.0	72	-
Sylhet	35.2	26.0	74	56
Dinajpur	33.6	26.0	98	67



Robert Hilton, Information Officer, USIS (left) hosted a reception in honour of the participants in the Photo Journalists' Workshop sponsored jointly by the USIS and the Press Institute of Bangladesh (PIB) and conducted by Daniel D Morrison, noted US photo journalist. Also present at the reception was M Michael Korff, Public Affairs Officer, USIS. — Star photo

Spurious medicine recovered in city

The Directorate of Drug Administration has recovered some spurious medicine from a pharmacy at Mitford Road here yesterday, reports BSS.

Acting on a tip off, the Drug Administration officials searched Messrs Mahmud Medical Hall at Amir Medicine Market on Mitford Road on August 9 and recovered the spurious medicines namely Gaojal powder in 1068 files and 1,15,000 Sodamint tablets.

1 more suspect held in Ratan's killing

KHULNA, Aug 12: Detective Police today arrested another person suspected of being involved in the murder of Comrade Ratan Sen, reports UNB.

The accused Zakir Hossain (35), a next door neighbour of Ratan Sen, was picked up by police this morning from village Dumur under Rupsa thana.

With Zakir, the number of persons arrested in connection with the killing of Ratan stood at 3 so far.

Ratan was killed in the town on July 31.



Sumi stands 2nd among girls

Taslima Sultana Sumi of Fajzunnessa Government Girls High School stood second among the girl students and ninth in the combined merit list in the SSC Examination this year from Comilla board, says a press release.

She obtained a total of 887 with distinctions in Bengali, English, Mathematics, Geography, Islamiat, General Science and Higher Mathematics.

She also obtained primary and junior scholarships in the talentpool. Eldest among two daughters and a son of Md. Shamsul Alam and Ferdousj Alam, Sumi studied eight hours regularly under the guidance of house-tutors.

Sumi wants to be an architect in future.

Flood response study report by this month

The draft final report of the flood response study would be completed by the end of the current month, Bangladesh Flood Plan Coordination Organisation (BFPCO) said yesterday.

The flood response study, meant for better understanding of how individuals and communities in flood vulnerable areas respond to floods, was undertaken to prepare the flood action plan, BFPCO sources told BSS.

The study would document the existing flood proofing measures practised in Bangladesh and would identify possible new or improved approaches to flood proofing.

Four main objectives of the study, they said, would be to assess the existing flood response practices of people living in the flood plains, assess the likely impacts of embankments and compartments on flood response activities, evaluate flood responsiveness at selected sites in different agro-ecological zones on the flood plain zones and to suggest improved mechanisms of flood responsiveness and prepare the guidelines on enhancing effective flood response and the criteria for use in the planning, design and operation of flood action plan projects.

The sources said after the draft final report is submitted to the BFPCO by the end of this month, a workshop would be held towards the end of the next month to finalise it.

They said the United States provided 780,000 dollars for the study.

Wanted

Dhaka University: Applications in prescribed form obtainable from the office of the Registrar are invited for a temporary (Leave Vacancy) post of System Analyst in the Computer Center on a salary in the scale of Tk. 4800-175-7250/= with other usual allowances as admissible under the rules. Candidates should possess at least M. Sc. with Honour's Degree in Physics/Applied Physics securing 1st class either in M. Sc or in Honours or 1st class B. Sc Engineering Degree in computer science. Preference may be given to a candidate having higher degree (M. Sc/M. Phil./ Ph. D) in Computer Science with specialization in Systems Analysis/Engineering. It is desirable that candidates should have enough experience and skill in running mainframe and P. C. Computing Systems. In case none of the candidates found suitable, for the post Programmer may be appointed.

Ten copies of application together with the attested copies of certificates and testimonials alongwith a Bank Draft/Pay Order of Tk. 30/= (Thirty) only payable to the Registrar should reach him on or before the 30-8-92. Candidates already in service must apply through proper channel.

D-457

(RHD) Short Notice Inviting Tender

Sealed Tender Invited in BD Form No 2911

- Tender Notice No : 5/DC-1 of 1992-93
 - Name of work : Palasiding & Earth work on Kadda Bridge approach (East south side) at 4th km of Joydebpur-Mirzapur Road during the year 1992-93 (Ch to 68-R.B.F)
 - Estimated Cost : Tk 1,27,076/-
 - Earnest Money : Tk 2,542/- in BD/TC/NDS certificate in fav. of EE (RHD), Constn. Road Divn I Dhaka from any schedule bank.
 - Time allowed : 15 (Fifteen) days from the dt of issue of Work Order.
 - Eligibility of Contractor : 'A' to 'E' class enlisted contractor of RHD of general category.
 - Name of Offices of availability of tender documents : Office of the Ex. Engr (RHD), Road Divn I/II/III/IV, Dhaka/Preliminary Engineering Divn Dhaka Zone, Sarak Bhaban, Dhaka/SDE (RHD), East/West/III at Joydebpur Road Sub-Division under Road Divn I, Dhaka.
 - Name of Officers to receive tender bids : SE DRC/SE Planning & Design Circle Sarak Bhaban, Dhaka/Ex. Engr (RHD), Road Divn I, Dhaka/SDE (RHD), East/West/III at Joydebpur Road Sub-Divn under Road Divn I, Dhaka. The concerning Officers after receiving tender bids will open the same at the schedule time and will send to this office under sealed cover.
 - Last date of receipt of tender upto 12-30 pm on 20-8-92.
 - Date and time of opening of bids at 12-45 pm on 20-8-92.
- (Gyas Uddin Ahmed)
Executive Engineer (RHD),
Constn Road Divn. I, Dhaka
- DFF(G) 15024-9/8
G-1000