

## Dhaka Day by Day

### Mixing Memories with Flowers

by Shamsad Mortuza

When Pakistani army demolished the Shahid Minar during the liberation war, one anonymous freedom fighter picked up two bricks from the debris, put a garland around it and re-erected the memorial of his own. The garland lost its fragrance but did not fail to crystallize the deepest respect and gratitude of a patriot.

Flowers represent the innermost thoughts and expressions of human beings. No doubt, every year the altar of the Shahid Minar gets bedecked with heaps of flowers of different kinds and shapes. Ranging from a flower stick to wreaths, the floral heaps on the altar on the Ekushey morning show the respect of ours to the martyrs and the trailblazers.

And the florists have already started doing their part in making the floral offerings on a grand scale, of course considering the order and the money their efforts will fetch.

them. "A single floral ring will cost you Tk 150 and the double Tk 300," said one flower-man at Kataban market, extending a catalogue of the work they have done.

"Instead of the *gada* and the *dalia* you can use roses, gladiolus and *rajanigandha* with *devdaru* leaves on the background," said the florist adding, "that will cost you Tk 700."

The costs of floral wreaths vary from Tk 150 to Tk 1000 as estimated in the floral shops at Baily Road, Shahbagh, Kataban and Science Laboratory.

A floral vendor on Kataban sidewalk said that so far he has received orders of seven 'rings', and wrinkled his brow to significantly add, "the best is yet to come."

True, occasion like the Ekushey February is a bonanza for the florists. They receive orders

both from institutions and individuals and supply them for cash.

"But there was a time when Ekushey meant stealing flowers and preparing wreaths by unskilled hands and joining a procession on bare foot," recalled one old timer.

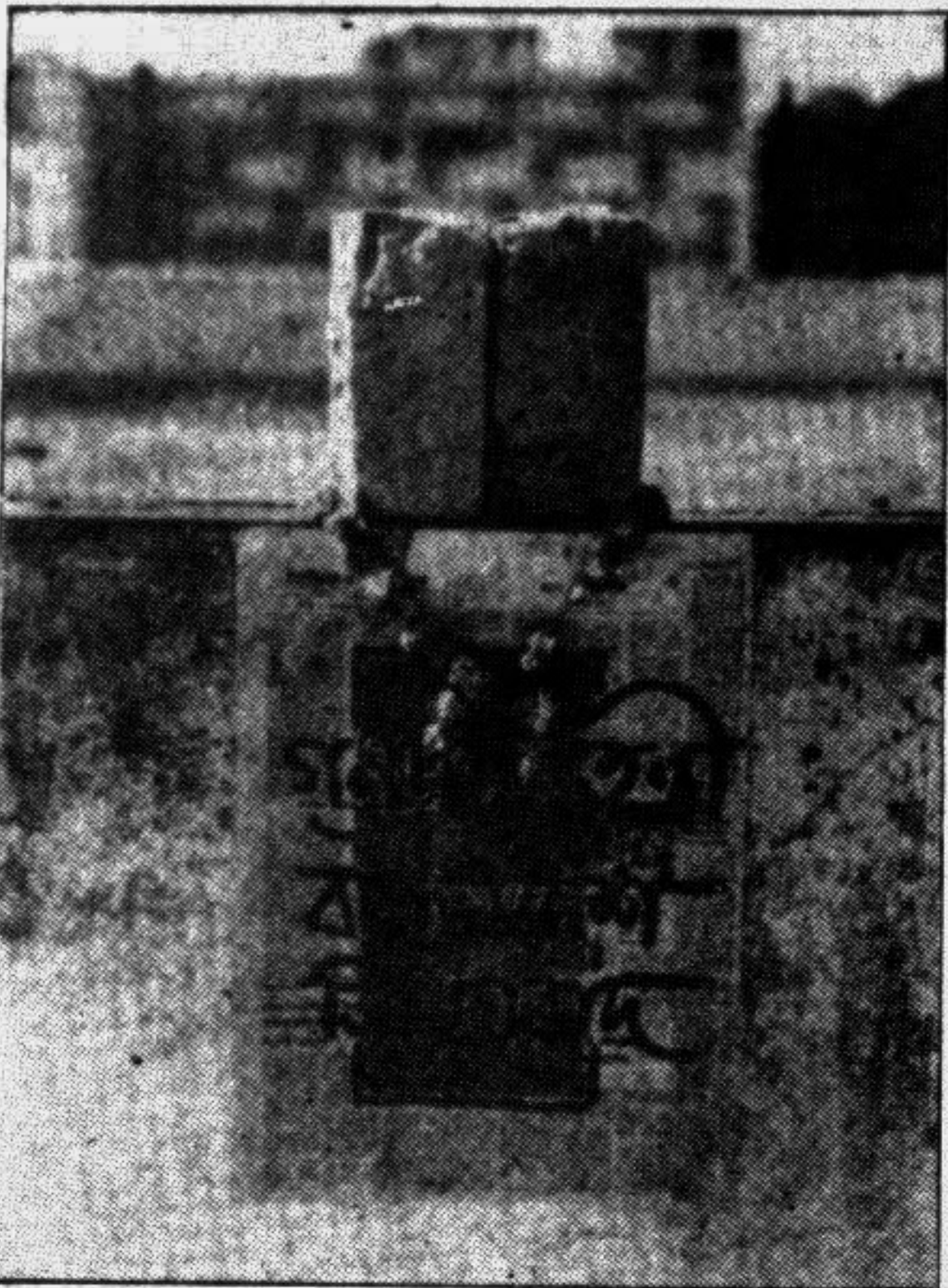
"It was thrilling to sneak into the gardens avoiding the watchful eyes of the most moody man of our locality on the night of February 20," the retired government officer elated into memories. "Well, the gardener knew that there was nothing on earth that can save his flowers on that night," the ageing man giggled.

Many of the ageing men had similar experiences about Ekushey and flowers. But the expanding metropolitan culture has severed that sweet past from the formal present.

"We are in the world of show business," said a university student in a contemptuous tone.

Just see how the Ekushey processionists cry for the 'media'... they literally beg before the cameramen to have a coverage holding their wreaths unnecessarily before laying," the student pointed out. "And what about the wrong spellings carried on the wreaths," said another standing by the former. "It's a real pity when you are showing your respect to the language martyrs with wrong spellings... after all they sacrificed their lives for the language," he added.

Well, as it appeared, everyone has his or her opinion about Ekushey, and flower has an integral role in reaching to all those opinions combined. Will it be too much to expect that the wreaths in their abundance at the Shahid Minar altar on the Ekushey morning — carry correct Bangla spellings?



Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia presiding over a high level meeting on the Ministry of Education at International Conference Centre in the city yesterday. Concerned members of the Cabinet were present. — PID photo

## Food deficit to be 15 lakh tons this fiscal, JS told

The country is expected to produce 1.75 crore metric tons of foodgrains during the current fiscal year (1993-94) against the target of 2.3 crore metric tons, Food Minister Mir Shawkat Ali said in Parliament yesterday, reports UNB.

The food deficit during the period will be around 10 to 15 lakh metric tons, but this will not necessitate import as the government will receive wheat from abroad as grant, he said.

Responding to a question from Tabibur Rahman Sardar (AL), the Food Minister said the budget for FY 1993-94 had earmarked Tk 128.42 crore for subsidy in the food sector.

The country's annual requirement of food is 196.01 lakh metric tons on the basis of the per head consumption of 16.4 ounce everyday, he said while replying to Mufti Abdus Sattar (Jamaat).

Some 145.05 metric tons of foodgrains were damaged in the government godowns during the first six months of the current fiscal year, he said in reply to a question from Abul Kalam Azad (AL).

BSS adds: The Food Mi-

nister said 11.71 lakh metric tons of foodgrains were imported during the same period which included 7.35 lakh metric tons received as grant, 3.43 lakh metric tons from the private sector and .93 lakh metric tons of import from own resources.

Answering to a question of Awami League member Professor Rafiqul Islam, the Food Minister said that foodgrains produced locally could not meet the demand of the country.

He said the quantum of import of foodgrains was being fixed every year on the basis of shortfall between production and demand.

### 82,000 Bangladeshis serve in Malaysia

Some 82,000 Bangladeshis, including 387 females, are now employed in Malaysia, Labour and Manpower Minister Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan told Parliament yesterday, reports UNB.

Replying to a question for Md Mizanur Rahman Manu (AL), he said that recruiting agencies sent 67,938 people

to Malaysia with jobs in 1993. Bangladeshis, employed there remitted over Tk 11.14 crore during first eight months of 1993, he added.

The minister said 30,000 people who had been illegally staying in that country were legally employed at the initiative of the Bangladesh government.

He, however, told Abdul Khaleq Talukder (AL) that 1,517 Bangladeshis were staying at detention camps in Malaysia. Thirty illegal immigrants from Bangladesh were imprisoned, he said.

## Press report on Daudkandi incident not correct: Matin

Home Minister Abdul Matin Chowdhury yesterday described as 'not fully correct' the report published in a section of the press on an incident of violence in a village of Daudkandi Tuesday, reports BSS.

He was making a statement in the Jatiya Sangsad after Deputy Leader of the Opposition Abdus Samad Azad drew the attention of the chair to a press report alleging that a village was burnt to ashes by *Mastans* in Daudkandi where many were injured and women were raped.

The Home Minister said, rival groups had clashed in Nandanpur village over a tender on February 13. But the matter was settled the following day, he added.

Matin Chowdhury said 22 thatched houses of some Gypsies who had participated in the tender were burnt.

The home minister said the police had already arrested 14 persons in connection with the incident and peace was now prevailing in the area.

Earlier, drawing the attention of the chair to the incident Deputy Leader of the Opposition Abdus Samad Azad wanted an end of this kind of barbaric act.

He charged that the Chhatra Dal workers had gone a rampage in the area and asked what the Chhatra Dal activists are doing in Jahangirnagar University, Chittagong Medical College and other places.

### Indian HC meets Mannan

Indian High Commissioner to Bangladesh K Raghunath called on State Minister for Science and Technology Prof MA Mannan at his secretariat office yesterday, reports BSS.

The envoy stayed for some times and discussed matters of mutual interests with particular reference to the development of science and technology of both the countries.

## 65 held in city

Police rounded up 65 people from different parts of the city yesterday on various charges, reports UNB.



ব্র্যাক

## শিক্ষা, স্বাস্থ্য ও পল্লী উন্নয়নে মহিলা কর্মসূচী সংগঠক নিয়োগ

গ্রাম অঞ্চলে অবস্থিত ব্র্যাকের শিক্ষা, স্বাস্থ্য ও পল্লী উন্নয়ন কর্মসূচীর জন্য মহিলা কর্মসূচী সংগঠক পদে দরখাস্ত আহ্বান করা হচ্ছে।

(ক) কর্মসূচী সংগঠক। শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতা স্নাতকোত্তর। বয়স সর্বোচ্চ ৩০ বছর। বেতন ৩৫৫০ টাকা।

(খ) কর্মসূচী সংগঠক (হিসাব)। শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতা বি. কম পাশ। বয়স সর্বোচ্চ ৩০ বছর। বেতন ২৬০৫ টাকা।

চাকুরীতে নিয়মিত হওয়ার পর গ্রাউন্টি, প্রতিভেট ফাও ও ইন্সিওরেন্সের সুবিধা পাবেন। ব্র্যাকের সব এক্সপেন্স কর্মীদের জন্য নিশ্চয় বাকার ব্যবস্থা রয়েছে। নির্বাচিত প্রার্থীদের অবশ্যই সাইকেল, মটর সাইকেল ব্যবহার করতে হবে।

রংপুর, যশোর, কুমিল্লা, যশবনসিংহেটগুয়া, জামালপুর, বগুড়া, ঢাকাইল, দিনাজপুর, পাবনা, রাজশাহী, ফরিদপুর, কুষ্টিয়া ও বরিশাল এই চৌদ্দটি কেন্দ্রে ইন্টারভিউ অনুষ্ঠিত হবে। প্রার্থী যে কেন্দ্রে ইন্টারভিউ দিতে ইচ্ছুক, অবশ্যই আবেদনপত্রের উপর এবং নামের উপর সে কেন্দ্রের নাম উল্লেখ করতে হবে। উল্লেখ্য যে পূর্বে যারা ব্র্যাকে চাকুরী করেছেন তারা আর আবেদন করতে পারবেন না।

আগামী ২৫ মার্চ ১৯৯৪-এর মধ্যে পূর্ণাঙ্গ জীবনবৃত্তান্ত (শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতা এসএসসি হতে স্নাতকোত্তর পর্যন্ত প্রাপ্ত বিভাগ, সন এবং প্রতিষ্ঠানের নাম উল্লেখ করতে হবে) ও এক কপি ছবি এবং প্রার্থী সম্পর্কে তথ্য প্রদানে সক্ষম তিনজন নির্ভরযোগ্য অনাখ্যাত ব্যক্তির (রেফারী) নাম ও পূর্ণাঙ্গ ঠিকানাসহ কপি ব্যবস্থাপনা বিভাগ, ব্র্যাক ৬৬ মহালা, ঢাকা ১২১২ এই ঠিকানায় আবেদন করুন।

## Seminar on heart disease

A seminar on heart disease organised by National Heart Foundation (Faridpur branch) was held at Faridpur Thursday at local pourashava auditorium, reports BSS.

Speakers at the seminar discussed the various aspects of heart disease, its prevention and treatment in Bangladesh. They laid stress on the preventive measures of the disease because the facilities of its treatment are still inadequate in our country. They urged all to change their food habits particularly fatty food and also to give up smoking. Speaking at the seminar noted heart specialist Brig (rtd) Prof Abdul Malik stressed the need for extension of coronary treatment facilities in the peripheral hospitals of the country. Renowned cardiovascular surgeon Prof Nabi Alam Khan stressed the need for more modern facilities including the training of the heart surgeons in the Institute of Cardiovascular Disease Hospital at Dhaka.

The seminar was also addressed by Prof M Akhtiaruzzaman, Prof K M H S Sirajul Haque and some local doctors.

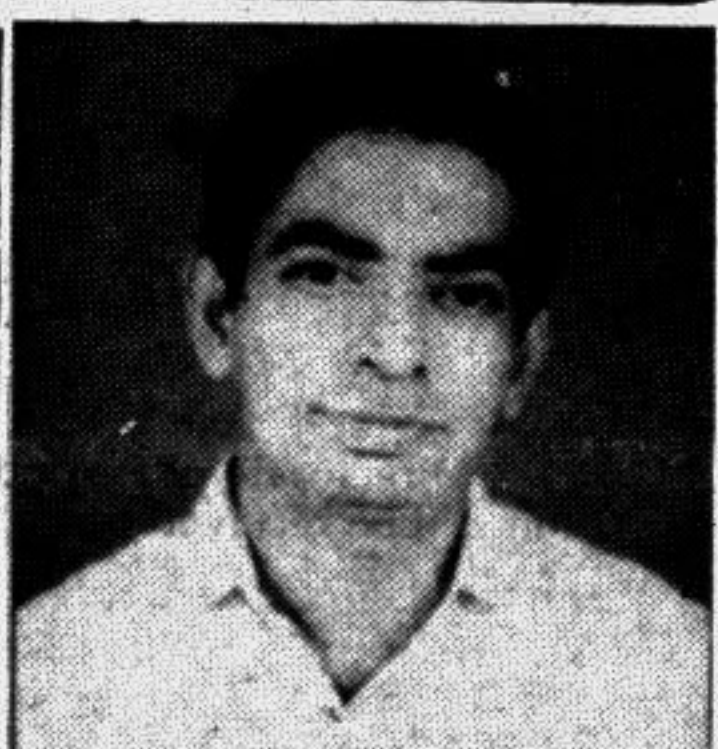
## JS body meet on Shipping

The 27th meeting of the Standing Committee on the Ministry of Shipping was held yesterday at Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban with the Deputy Minister for Shipping A B M Zahidul Haq in the chair, reports BSS.

The members of the committee Begum Selina Rahman (BNP), Mesbahuddin (AL), Abdul Khaleque Talukder (AL), Advocate Dharendra Debnath Shambhu (AL) and Khalilur Rahman Chowdhury (JP) were present at the meeting.

Shipping Secretary Waliul Islam, managing director of Bangladesh Shipping Corporation (BSC) and senior officials of the Ministry of Shipping were present on the occasion. The meeting discussed different issues relating to Bangladesh Shipping Corporation.

The meeting recommended strengthening of the tanker services of BSC to carry petroleum of Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation (BPC). The meeting decided not to allow private sector in obtaining mother tanker vessels for carrying oil or petroleum products of BPC.



## Dr Zoha's death anniversary today

From RU Correspondent

RAJSHAH, Feb 17: The 25th death anniversary of Shaheed Dr Shamsuzzoha, Reader of Chemistry Department and Proctor of the university will be observed tomorrow. Dr Shamsuzzoha was shot dead in 1969 by Pakistani army at the main gate of the university during a student agitation against the autocratic Ayub government.

The university authority will observe the day as "shikkhok dibas" (teachers day) with due respect.

The university authority and various political and professional organisations have taken elaborate programmes to mark the day including hoisting black flag to different buildings, placing wreaths at mazar of Dr Zoha.

Zoha Memorial Lecture will also be held at Kazi Nazrul Islam Hall at 10 am. Prof Khan Sarwar Murshed will present the key-note paper while another discussion meeting will be held at Zuberi Bhavan at 7:00 pm organised by Rajshahi University Teachers' Association (RUTA).

## 'Introduce Bangla in all spheres of nat'l life'

The Ekushey Parishad, an organisation of the active participants in the Language Movement of the forties and fifties, has called for introduction of Bangla in all spheres of national life, reports BSS.

They emphasised the need for spread of literacy among the masses to enable them to read and write in their mother tongue.

In a statement Wednesday on the occasion of Ekushey February of Bangla Year 1400, nine noted participants of the Language Movement said the nation is yet to reach the historical goal envisaged in the Ekushey spirit.

The statement said the principal goal of the Ekushey Parishad is achievement of literacy among most of the people, research on thousand-year old linguistic and cultural heritage, identification and preservation of Bengali folk songs, ballads, legends and proverbs and creation of distinct ethnic national identity among the people of Bangladesh.

## Tk 87 lakh dev programme in Rajshahi

RAJSHAH, Feb 17: Rajshahi Zila Parishad is implementing a programme at a cost of Tk 87.34 lakh in the district during the current fiscal year, reports BSS.

Under the programme about eight kilometre road in different parts of the district are being constructed and repaired at a cost of Tk 81.50 lakh and two union parishad offices are being repaired at a cost of Tk five lakh 84 thousand.

The work is expected to be completed by June next.



Friday

### Morning session

- 8.00 Opening announcement
- Al-Quran
- Programme summary
- 8.10 News in Bangla
- 8.15 Alor Dishari
- 8.40 Khaler Jagat
- 9.00 Cartoon show: The Amazing Spiderman
- 10.00 News in English
- 10.05 Moner Mukurey
- 11.30 Film show: Tarzan
- 11.55 Cartoon show: Meena
- 12.30 Closing of morning session

### Afternoon Session

- 3.00 Opening announcement
- Al-Quran
- Programme summary
- 3.15 Cartoon show: Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles
- 3.50 Movie of the week: The little Bird of Happiness
- 5.10 News in Bangla
- 5.45 Discussion on Ramadan: Mahe Ramadan
- 6.30 Open University
- 6.55 Malancha
- 7.20 programme on Amr Ekushey
- 8.00 News in Bangla
- 8.30 Comedy series: Perfect Strangers
- 9.05 Magazine: Uphar
- 10.00 News in English
- 10.30 Drama series: LA law
- 11.15 Khabar/The news
- 11.25 Tomorrow's programme summary
- 11.30 Closing of afternoon session

## Weather

### Temperature may fall

By Staff Correspondent

Dry weather with a fair sky is likely to prevail over the country during the next 12 hours till 6 pm today (Friday). The Met Office forecast, slight fall of night temperature is expected over the country during the period.

The country's highest temperature was recorded of 33.1 degrees Celsius at Teknaf and the lowest of 10.2 degrees at Srimongal.

The sun sets today at 5.55 pm and rises tomorrow (Saturday) at 6:29 am.

## Biswas, Khaleda greet Gambian president

President Abdur Rahman Biswas yesterday felicitated President Alhaji Sir Dawda Kairaba of Gambia on the auspicious occasion of the National Day of his country, reports BSS.

In a message he hoped that the fraternal relations that so happily exist between the two countries would be further developed and strengthened in the years to come to the mutual benefit of the two peoples.

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia in a similar message also greeted Gambian President Alhaji Sir Dawda Kairaba Jawara on the occasion of the national day of his country.

In her message, Begum Zia hoped that the existing fraternal relations between the two countries would grow further to the mutual benefit of the two peoples.

## Open competition in recruitment demanded

The Bangladesh Biggani Samity yesterday demanded open competition in recruitment of scientific personnel in different research and service organisations and industries instead of favouring certain categories of professionals only, reports BSS.

Addressing a press conference at the Dhaka University Botany Department convener of the newly-formed samity Prof M A Aziz Khan said open competition was necessary to ensure breeding of talents and to serve greater national interest.

He alleged that at the pressure of the professionals like doctors, engineers and agriculturists there were many discriminations in recruitment and promotion of the scientists though they were doing the same nature of job as the professionals.

He also alleged that in the recent months even the talented graduates from the universities were not allowed to sit in the examinations for recruitment in some agricultural research institutions which was against the existing rules and laws of the country.

## Standard Chartered SITUATION VACANT

Standard Chartered Bank is seeking qualified candidates to fill the following positions immediately in its Dhaka Office:

### Manager, Information Technology

To supervise the operations of IBM 36 and various LAN based applications operating in two sites.

Candidates should possess a sound knowledge of Novell-Ethernet LAN and WAN technology, preferably gained in a financial environment and through having independently managed an IT installation.

Strong inter-personal skills are required in order to motivate professionally qualified subordinate staff and to build positive relationships with system users.

Project management experience/is a prerequisite as is the ability to make lucid oral and written presentation in English. A post graduate degree in management is preferred.

### System Operator

To perform the daily operation of the system 36 and LAN server and to manage the Information Technology help desk. Candidates should possess a sound knowledge of DOS and be familiar with Lotus, Wordperfect, Database packages. A degree in a business discipline is preferred and fluency in written and spoken English essential.

The prospective candidate for the above position may apply with detail C.V. and one copy of recent photograph, and contact telephone number by March 3, 1994, to the Head of Human Resources, Standard Chartered Bank; Alico Building -1/floor; 18-20 Motijheel Commercial Area, Dhaka - 1000.

Application should be hand delivered to avoid postal delay.

## PWD Tender Notice

\* Sealed tenders in BD Form No. 2911 are hereby invited from the approved class-I, II & III E/M. contractors of PWD who have up to date ABC/BC/C & supervising licence for the undermentioned work & will be received by the undersigned up to 12:00 Noon of 24-2-94 and will be opened on the same day at 12:15 PM in presence of the contractors who may like to remain present. Each tender shall be in a sealed cover with the name of work superscribed on it.

| Gr. No. | Name of work                                                                                                                                                                            | Estimated cost | Earnest money | Time allowed   |
|---------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|
| 1.      | Partly repair and renovation of the existing EI work main control and sub-main control & distribution wiring of Hospital bldg. at Raipur THC Raipur Lakshmipur during the year 1993-94. | Tk. 56,872/-   | Tk.1,150/-    | 10 (Ten) days. |

Contract documents consisting of BD Form No. 2911, tender notice, schedule of items, additional terms and conditions, plans and drawings etc can be seen and purchased from the office of the undersigned and from all other Executive Engineer under PWD Circle, Comilla during the office hours on all working days up to 23-2-94 on payment of usual charges of Tk 400/- per set of schedule and Tk 25/- per set of tender Form No. 2911 (All are non-refundable). The tender form may be purchased by the contractor/ firm himself/themselves or his/their representative on production of registration book and authorised letter bearing the signature of the representative duly attested by the contractor/firm. No tender form will be sold on that date of opening of tender.

Tenderer have to submit attested copy of ABC/BC/C supervisory licence with tenders otherwise the tender will be summarily rejected

M A Rob  
Executive Engineer  
PWD Division, Lakshmipur.

DEP (G) 2915-132  
G-275

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The CCDB is an established non-governmental organization presently working with about 450,000 families all around Bangladesh. Facilitation of the process of rural development by the poor people themselves, construction of cyclone shelters, training of traditional birth attendants, advocacy within the field of HIV/AIDS, rehabilitation of people affected by new roads and highways and provision of credit to our reference people are a few of our activities.

At this moment, our Research section is looking for a person to strengthen their team. This section plays an important role in monitoring our activities. The required qualifications are stated below, but most important: the person should be motivated, energetic and willing to work with the rural poor.

Candidates, preferable females, should have a Masters degree with some experience in (participatory) research. Qualifications of the Research Assistant include the knowledge and ability to:

- write and speak in English and Bangla fluently,
- collect and analyze data, both programmatic and community based information;
- word processing,
- work independently and also in a team,
- travel and live in rural areas if needed;
- assist our research consultant in several working areas.

If you are interested, please send a letter and your curriculum vitae to: Personnel Section, CCDB, GPO Box 367, Dhaka-1216 by February 24, 1994.