

Dhaka Day by Day

Shopping Mall with Tempting Offers

by Rashed Mahmud Titumir

Economically as well as politically, the world has undergone transformation more rapidly during the past few years than at any time since 1945. The emerging international economy is both competitive and inter-dependent and reflects changes occurring in the very nature of the private enterprise. And now, even the most domestic-oriented firm is extending its geographic reach as its suppliers and customers are being increasingly located in diverse places across the continents.

On the same token, if harmony is the heart of globalisation, Bangladesh's Hawkers' Market's philosophy is unity in diversity. People of different culture and climes, religion and race, caste and language flock together to make their purchase. Inside the market the atmosphere is enlivened by natives and foreigners bargaining over shirt prices, excited teenagers swarming at the jeans corner, young parents with trailing children on the way to the toy-shops. People feasting their eyes on the sumptuous collection of clothing, rubbing shoulders with each other in the narrow spaces between rows of shops on each side.

After a decade of its coming into existence, Hawkers' markets, like Bangabazar, have become major commercial attractions. But Bangabazar's speciality is all too obvious. Its transformation over the years too has been an economic necessity. Interestingly enough, it has maintained relationship with the name of the incumbent American presidents all through. Thus the inception of this market can be traced back to the presidency of Nixon. During his tenure old or second-hand garments from abroad poured into Bangladesh, mainly to meet the demand of the poorer sections of our society. Today the market contin-

ues to bear the name of the American president in power, reflecting and acknowledging the time factor.

During the early years, the principal buyers were poor people and a warm welcome awaited them at the market but today things have all changed.

Once a strictly unglamorous and low-keyed shopping mall, this market is now thriving with deals in all conceivable garment articles.

Taking supplies mainly from garment factories, who have somehow failed to meet the foreign buyers' deadlines or the specification, the market continues to bolster its diversified stocks and as a result the poor customers have been replaced by middle-class ones.

According to the buyers, this market maintains the rule of the game and, by extension, the demand law which states that a lower price generally increases the amount of a commodity that people in a market are willing to buy. Though, economics laws are not always obliged, here they are faithfully followed without any distortions.

The rapid expansion of Bangabazar has not just been a consequence of urban growth. It also signifies a change in the shopping habits of the consumers. This Hawkers' Market is competing directly with the traditional shopping centres, and in most cases it is winning.

The rich may not be particularly interested in this Hawkers' market, but foreigners don't mind frequenting the shopping mall. The salesmen are always ready to please these customers of foreign climes and hardly have equal endearing greetings to treat the local customers with. Bangabazar is a bit discriminatory but that is how things are. After all money does not only buy, it also speaks.



The motto is to please a foreign customer.

— Star photo.

Hectic lobbying for JU Senate polls

By Shamsad Mortuza

Shaking off the initial reluctance, the would-be senators of the Jahangirnagar University and their supporters have engaged themselves in hectic lobbying for the March 28 polls.

The decision of Prof Abul Hossain, the acting Vice-Chancellor of the university, to 'regularise' the Senate before holding the VC panel deciding session entailed the initial dilemma.

The JU Teachers' Association (JUTA) insisted that the Senate session should be summoned first as the university's electoral rules demand declaration of Senate date within 45 days of removal or death of a Vice-Chancellor.

Prof Hossain, who succeeded former VC Prof Kazi Saleh Ahmed on October 2, however, felt it necessary to regularise the Senate before convening the session.

The registered graduate members to the JU senate, who occupied the 25 of the total 91 posts, were last elected in November, 1988. But an unprecedented violence on the polling day made the authorities file a writ with the High Court. The HC later cancelled the polling and accordingly the then VC was supposed to hold fresh Senate election.

As per university rules, the senators can continue to perform their responsibility before re-election.

The JUTA argued that holding the registered graduate election before that of the VC panel deciding one as motivated.

The acting VC, on the other hand, fended off the charges saying, "holding a post for more than five years is a gross irregularity which ought to be streamlined."

However, some 57 registered graduates have already submitted their nomination papers for the forthcoming polls. These contestants include 15 of the incumbent senators.

A list of 582 voters have already been published by the university authorities who will franchise their rights to elect the new senators.

According to sources, the candidates are contesting from two panels.

Chinese scientist visits BARC

President of the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences (CAAS) Professor Wang Lianzheng now in Dhaka for a three day visit Monday visited Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council (BARC). He met Dr M Sujayet Ullah Chowdhury, Executive Vice-Chairman and other senior scientists of BARC, says a press release.

JS body on Foreign Ministry meet held

A meeting of the parliamentary standing committee on Ministry of Foreign Affairs was held at the Sangsaddhaban here yesterday. Foreign Minister A S Mostafizur Rahman presided, reports BSS.

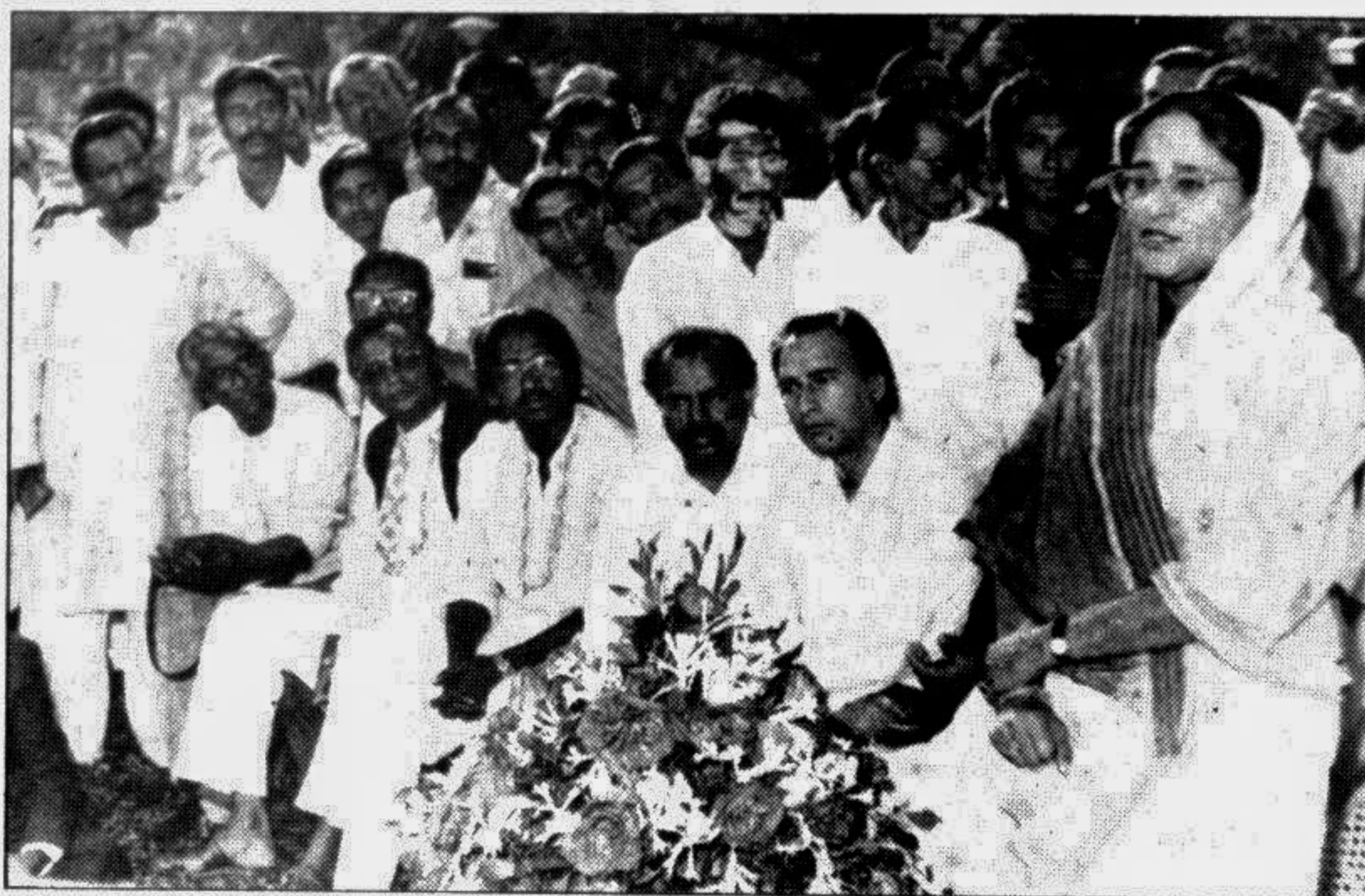
The meeting expressed satisfaction at the peaceful and successful return of the first batch of Chakma refugees. The prevailing situation on this perspective at Chittagong Hill Tracts also came up for discussion in the meeting.

Besides, the Uruguay Round Pact signed in Geneva last year was discussed in the meeting. Bangladesh is one of the 118 countries in principal joined the pact after a long seven years' discussion on it.

DUTA condemns Hebron Mosque killing

The Dhaka University Teachers' Association (DUTA) in a statement Monday strongly condemned the Hebron Mosque killing and demanded immediate impartial investigation into the matter under the supervision of the United Nations, reports BSS.

DUTA in the statement, signed by its president Prof Md Shahadat Ali and general secretary Dr AAMS Arefin Siddiqui, also expressed total solidarity with the struggle of the Palestinians for their freedom.



More than three hundred activists of Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal (JSD-Rab), Sramik Jote and Communist Party of Bangladesh (CPB) from Senbagh of Noakhali district yesterday joined the Awami League. Awami League chief and Leader of the Opposition in Parliament addressed the new-comers in her party at her Minto Road official residence.

— Star photo

Sircar tells JS 67.6 pc over 7 years age group illiterate

Education Minister Barrister Jamiruddin Sircar yesterday told the Jatiya Sangsad that 67.6 per cent of the population over seven years age group was illiterate, reports BSS.

Replying to a question from Khan Tipu Sultan of Awami League, the Education Minister said according to the Population Census of 1991, 61.1 per cent of the total male population and 74.5 per cent of the total female population were illiterate.

The minister said in order to remove illiteracy from the country, the government had made primary education compulsory and taken a programme for informal education for the people of higher age groups.

Answering a supplementary question from Col (ret) Shawkat Ali (AL) Barrister Jamiruddin Sircar said the government expected to completely eradicate illiteracy from the country by the year 200 with the assistance of UNICEF and other partners in development.

Replying to another question from Awami League member Mohammad Khademul Islam, the Education Minister said the number of government primary schools across the country had been raised to over forty thousands. In addition, there were several thousands of non-government primary schools which had been given government assistance regularly, he added.

Barrister Jamiruddin Sircar said 7,569 primary teachers were appointed during 1991-92 and 1992-93 fiscal years.

To a supplementary question BNP member Begum Shamsun Nahar Khawja Ahsanullah, the Education Minister said under

a UN assisted programme, the government had made education free upto Class-Eight for girl students outside the municipal areas. "We have taken another plan to extend the free education facility for the girl students upto Class-Ten," he said.

Honours and Masters courses will be introduced in one leading college at the greater district headquarters in phases to make higher education available within the reach of the people in the country. Education Minister Barrister Sircar informed the Jatiya Sangsad.

Replying to a question from Awami League member Zainal Abedin Hazari, the minister said that some conditions were required to be fulfilled with respect to number of teachers and infrastructural facilities for introduction of Honours and Masters courses in a college.

Answering a supplementary question from Bir Bahadur of Awami League, the Education Minister assured the House that Honours and Masters courses would be introduced in one college in Chittagong hill districts area at the earliest convenience.

There are 695 degree colleges under the jurisdiction of the National University, the Education Minister informed the Parliament.

Replying to a question from Mohammad Mizanur Rahman Manu (AL), he said these colleges included Marine Academy, Chittagong, Bangladesh Naval Academy, Chittagong, Bangladesh Military Academy, Chittagong and Chittagong Government Arts College.

Condolence meet on Baten

Speakers at a condolence meeting in the city yesterday paid rich tributes to the late BNP standing committee member and former State Minister Abdul Baten for his outstanding contributions to socio-political arena of the country, reports BSS.

The condolence meeting was organised by Bangladesh Jatiyatabadi Dal (BNP) at its central office. On the occasion a milad mahfil was held and special prayer was offered for the eternal peace of the departed soul.

Presided over by party vice-chairman Iskander Ali, the meeting was addressed among others, by party Secretary General and LGRD and Cooperatives Minister Barrister Abdus Salam Talukder, standing committee member Dr R O Gani, Joint Secretary General and Labour and Manpower Minister Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan, Inland Water Transport and Shipping Minister M K Atwar.



Wednesday

4.30	Opening announcement
	Al-Quran
4.45	Programme summary
	Sports programme:
	Gillette World Sports
5.10	News in Bangla
5.20	Children's programme:
	Amra Natun
5.45	Special programme on
	Ramadan : Mahe
	Ramjan
6.15	Musical programme :
	Hizal Tamal
6.55	Open University
7.25	Tagore song
8.00	News in Bangla
8.30	Special musical programme by Piroza Begum
8.55	Film show : The A-Team
10.00	News in English
10.30	Ujjiban
11.15	Khabar/The News
11.25	Closing announcement, tomorrow's programme summary
11.30	Closing

Weather

Dry weather likely

By Staff Correspondent

Dry weather with a fair sky is likely to prevail over the country during the next 24 hours commencing from 6 pm Tuesday. Met Office forecasts.

Day temperature may remain nearly unchanged during the period over the country, it adds.

The highest temperature of the country yesterday of 31.0 degrees Celsius was recorded at Jessore, Satkhira and Majdi Court and the lowest of 10.5 degrees Celsius was recorded at Sitakunda.

The maximum and the minimum temperatures and relative humidity recorded at some important cities and towns of the country yesterday were as follows:

Cities/Towns	Temperatures in degree Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	9 am	6 pm
Dhaka	30.0	18.7	67	41
Chittagong	29.1	18.0	75	82
Rajshahi	29.2	14.5	52	—
Khulna	30.6	18.8	93	60
Barisal	30.5	20.2	95	57
Cox's Bazar	30.4	18.0	76	76
Sylhet	28.4	17.4	78	56

Doctors condemn Barisal incident

By SSMCH Correspondent

Doctors of the country yesterday expressed their concern over assault on Dr Sajal Bannerjee, Assistant Professor of Cardiology Department of Sher-e-Bangla Medical College, Barisal and demanded exemplary punishment of those responsible for the incident.

Dr Md Taher and Prof Tofayel Ahmed, President and Secretary General of the Association of Physicians of Bangladesh, Teachers' Association of Sir Salimullah Medical College and Mitford Hospital, Doctors Club and Internee Doctor's Association of the college also condemned the incident.

Some culprits severely beat up Dr Sajal Bannerjee on February 23.

Annual report of PSC presented to President

The Chairman of the Public Service Commission (PSC) Professor S M A Faiz presented the annual report of the commission for 1993 to President Abdul Rahman Biswas at Bangabhaban yesterday, reports BSS.

Accepting the report, President Biswas thanked the Chairman and the members of the commission for submission of the report.

The members of the Public Service Commission Mohammad Amin Miah Chowdhury, Brig. (ret) A K M Shamsul Islam, Ghiasuddin Ahmed, A M Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan, Professor Dr A J M Mizanur Rahman and Professor Zerina Zaman were present.

SALE SALE SALE

GRAND SALE OF BEAUTIFUL AND QUALITY SHALWAR KAMEEZ AT A VERY REASONABLE PRICE. INTERESTED BUYERS ARE REQUESTED TO PLEASE VISIT:

VISAGE

HOUSE NO. 286 (OLD), ROAD NO. 27 (OLD)
DHANMONDI R.A. (ADJACENT TO SUNBEAM SCHOOL)
DHAKA.

DATE : 3RD & 4TH MARCH, 1994
TIME : 10:30 A.M. TO 4:30 P.M.

S-100

SAFEMATE PEST CONTROL

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Federal Tax Assistance For Americans

On March 9-10 a specialist from the Internal Revenue Service will visit Dhaka to assist those with United States Federal tax filing obligations. Call the US Embassy Consular section at 884700, ext 794 or 273 for more information.

BJMC Advertisement International Tender Notice

Sealed tenders are invited for spiral sewing machine parts and electrical goods under Deputy General Manager, Star Jute Mills Ltd, Chandanimahal, Khulna 16th JDRG/SEM/UK-Bangladesh products grant.

Tenders will be received up to 11.00 am on 31-03-94 and opened on the same day at 11-30 minutes in presence of the tenderers (if any). Earnest money at the rate 1% of total tender value in the form of Bank Draft/ Pay Order in favour of Star Jute Mills Ltd, Chandanimahal, Khulna should be submitted with the tender. Tender documents with full details of requirement, specification, terms and conditions will be available on payment of Tk 100.00 only per set (non-refundable) from Controller (Accounts & Finance), BJMC, Dhaka, General Manager (Accounts), BJMC, Chittagong, Deputy General Manager (Accounts & Finance), Star Jute Mills Ltd, Chandanimahal, Khulna.

The authority reserves the right to accept or reject any tender without assigning any reason.

BJMC: 113
DFP(BA) 1324-17/2

G-344

Government of Bangladesh

Office of the Executive Engineer, RHD
Pabna Road Division, Pabna

Notice Inviting Tenders

1.	Tender Notice No.	23 PRD of 1993-94.
2.	Name of work.	Repairing & premixed bituminous seal coat at different Road work and different KM under Road Division, Pabna during 1993-94 in 4 (Four) groups.
3.	Chargeable head.	As per group list.
4.	Estimated cost.	-do-
5.	Earnest money.	-do-
6.	Time allowed for completion of work.	-do-
7.	Eligibility of contractors to submit tenders.	-do-
8.	Last date for selling tender documents.	8-3-94 Eng/24-11-1400 Beng. during office hours.
9.	Date and time for receiving tender.	9-3-94 Eng/25-11-1400 Beng. up to 12:30 PM.
10.	Date and time for opening tender.	9-3-94 Eng/25-11-1400 Beng. at 12:45 PM.
11.	Name of offices where tender will be received.	i) Superintending Engineer, RHD, Pabna Road Circle, Pabna. ii) Executive Engineer, RHD, Road Division, Pabna/Natore/Sirajganj.
12.	Name of offices where tender documents will be sold.	i) Executive Engineer, RHD, Road Division, Pabna/Natore/Sirajganj. ii) Sub-Divisional Engineer, RHD, Road Sub-Division-VII, Pabna/Iskhuri/1st Line Workshop Sub-Division, Pabna.

Group No	Name of work with location	Estimated cost	Earnest money	Time allowed	Eligibility of contractor
1.	Repairing and seal coat & earth work in road flanks at 2nd (p), 3rd (p) & 7th (p) KM of Dashuna-Muladuli Road during 1993-94.	Tk.4,73,669/-	9,474/-	30 days.	'A' to 'E' General Category of RHD.
2.	Repairing pot holes & depression and providing semi-grouting with stone chips and premixed bituminous seal coat at Nagarbari Ferry approach road started from sign board Nirman towards lower ferry approach road during 1993-94.	Tk.4,32,376/-	8,648/-	30 days.	-do-
3.	Repairing & premixed bituminous seal coat at 3rd (p) & 4th (p) KM of Pabna-Nagarbari road during 1993-94.	Tk.2,88,746/-	5,775/-	20 days.	-do-
4.	Repairing & seal coat at 7th KM of Dashuna-Muladuli Road during 1993-94.	Tk.1,08,764/-	2,176/-	20 days.	-do-

Md. Shafiqul Islam
Executive Engineer, RHD,
Pabna Road Division, Pabna.

DFP(G)3658-23/2
G-341

বাংলাদেশ পেট্রোলিয়াম এক্সপ্লোরেশন কোম্পানী লিঃ

Bangladesh Petroleum Exploration Company Ltd.

(A Subsidiary Company of Petrobangla)

Material Control Division

HBFC Building (9th Floor), 22, Purana Paltan, Dhaka-1000

Notice For International Tender

BAPEX invite quotation from the reputed Manufacturers/Suppliers for procurement of consumables & spare parts of Magnatic Tape cleaner instruments against the following International Tender for Data-centre Division of the company under cash foreign exchange.

Sl No	Tender No	Description	Closing date & time	Opening date & time	Price of tender documents (Non-refundable)
1.	BAPEX/PD/INT/TEN-44/94	Consumables & spare parts of Magnatic Tape cleaner instruments.	25.4.94 11.00 hrs.	25.4.94 11.00 hrs.	Tk. 50.00 US\$ 1.50

Tender documents containing detailed specification and terms & conditions will be available with BAPEX, Accounts & Finance Division, Ibrahim Mansion (4th floor), 11, Purana Paltan, Dhaka from 10.30.94 on all working days between 09.00 hrs. to 12.30 hrs. on payment. The quotation will be received and opened as per date & time mentioned above in presence of the bidders representatives, if any. No tender documents will be sold on the tender opening day. BAPEX reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.

DFP (G) 3652-23/2

G-343