

Dhaka Day by Day

Waiting Mothers

by Warda Nasser Ali

A motley crowd of women are seen lounging in and around the compound of any of the countless schools of this city. Anyone less familiar with their way may wonder what these 'idle' women might be doing at the odd hours and in the strange places. They sure were supposed to be minding their household chores at the time.

They keep sitting under the shade of a tree, on benches and chairs of a nearby shop, on the verandah of the school, in front of the gate, on the staircases of the school building or anything convenient for such purposes.

In some schools you will find them sitting on a piece of paper or cloth spreading on the field and on the pavement.

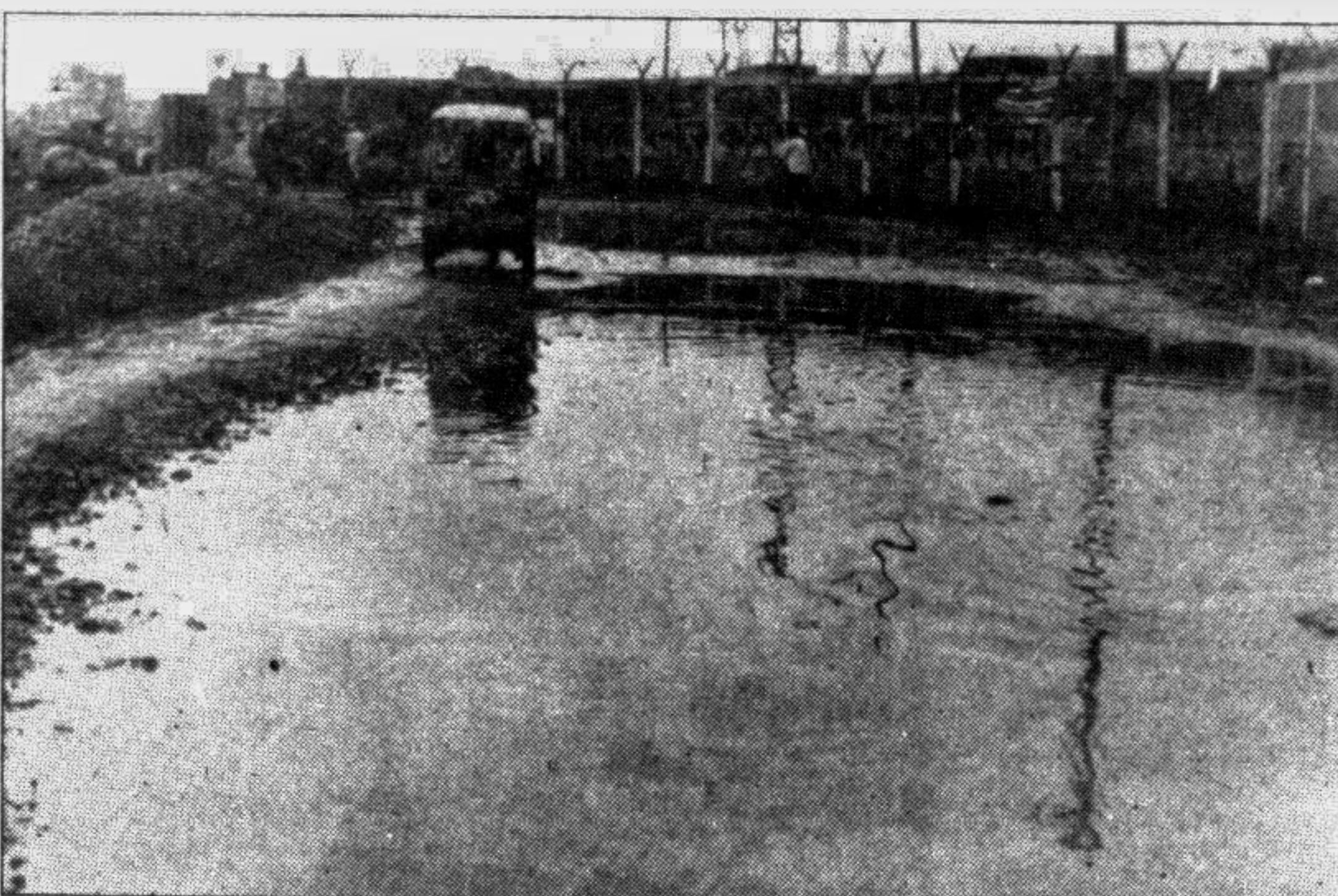
They are guardians, specially the mothers, of children studying in those schools. They are to spend nearly three to four hours sitting and

mishaps. I don't take the trouble of coming to school and going home twice. In this way I can also save some rickshaw fares," said Anwara Azim, a housewife.

Why does she wait here till the end of the school hours? "This is very simple to me. To save money," said Munira Zaman in reply.

Another lady Hosne Ara Rashid said, "I feel bored at home. I have only one daughter. At that time (during school hours) I am almost alone in my house. I just come here to gossip and spend time." What does she do when the school is closed? On those days I find my daughter with me at home. Then I am never bored and the question simply does not arise at all," she exuded confidence.

"I live far away from here. It takes almost an hour to reach my house and the rickshaw fare is naturally very high and if I go to my resi-



The run-down condition of the Mugdapa-Kamalapur link road in the city has been causing suffering to the people for a long time. It is the only road connecting the area to the busy road. —Star photo

Singapore assures to help modernise telecom services

Singapore has assured help and assistance to Bangladesh efforts for modernising the country's telecommunication services, reports UNB.

The assurance was given when Post and Telecommunications Minister Tariqul Islam met with his Singaporean counterpart, Mah Bow Tan, in Singapore yesterday.

According to a message received here, Tariqul Islam apprised the Singaporean Minister of the present level of development in the telecommunication sector in Bangladesh.

He also briefed Mah Bow

Tan on the current programme for expansion and modernisation of the telecommunication services in the country.

The Minister said telecommunication sector in Bangladesh has already been opened up for private investment. As a first step toward this direction, private sector has been allowed to operate at the thana (sub-district) level.

He said Bangladesh would like to benefit from the experience of Singapore which had achieved tremendous success in providing a very efficient cost-effective service in telecommunication.

Mah Bow Tan said although the telecommunication service in Singapore is now monopolised by nationalised Singapore Telecommunications, some of the monopolies will be over by 1997.

He said the Singapore government is committed to the policy of liberalising the telecommunication industry in phases.

Bangladesh High Commissioner to Singapore M A Mahk was present during the meeting.

ADP projects under Health Ministry reviewed

A review meeting of the progress of development project under Annual Development Programme (ADP) of 1993-94 was held in the city yesterday, reports UNB.

Chaired by Health and Family Welfare Minister Chowdhury Kamal Ibne Yusuf, the meeting discussed the overall annual development programmes and development activities under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

The Health Minister expressed satisfaction while reviewing the development projects and hoped that further progress would be achieved during the fiscal 1994-95.

A total number of 63 projects in health sector have been reviewed in the meeting. Total fund allocation in the revised ADP of 1993-94 was Tk 305.70 crore of which 91 per cent had been utilised.

In family welfare sector, 38 projects had been implemented during the year 1993-94. Total allocation for these 38 projects was Tk 441.74 crore, of which 90 per cent was utilised.

Overall, project aid utilisation was about 103 million US dollar out of a target of 100 million US dollar during 1993-94.

Health and Family Welfare Secretary Syed Shamim Ahsan, high officials of the Ministry and project directors of the concerned projects were present.

Telephone cable stolen

Some 400 telephones in North Gulshan and Baridhara areas went out of order due to theft of 40 metres of telephone cable of 2000 pairs from Gulshan area, reports UNB.

T & T Board central office said yesterday concerned staffs had already started working round the clock to restore the telephones as early as possible.

T & T authorities lodged a case with Gulshan police.



waiting for their children to come out. In order to ignore monotony and boredom they keep themselves engaged in different sorts of works. Some of them do embroidery works, some of them knit woolen dresses, while some of them make different kinds of handicrafts. However, such long hours together cannot be whiled away without gossip sessions. For, have not wisemen (or is it male chauvinism!) said that more than two men make a hat (market)? Cooking, prices of essentials, study of their children, family affairs, figure in their discussion. Even the national and international, financial and political issues are not left out. Scandals would not be less appealing to them. As a matter of fact, they feel at home there and talk to their heart's content. Sometimes it becomes a place of sale and purchase. Some of them even bring kids with them and in that case they take care of the baby.

Some of the ladies spend the time by playing different sorts of indoor games like ludo, chess etc. Some of the guardians are found preparing home tasks for their children. Some of them go through newspapers, journals, magazines etc.

"In order to lessen the risk of accidents or

denance after dropping my daughter in school I get hardly an hour to spend at home. Again, I am to start for school. By staying here I can save energy, money and the trouble of going by rickshaw for several times," said a guardian, Aleya Begum, who stays in the Madartek area of the city.

In case of small children it is necessary that someone must accompany them on their way from residence to school and vice versa. But in case of girl students of mid-level and higher classes, the question of insecurity takes another form.

The number of guardians who spend the school hours with their children (of course outside of the classes) is not fabulously big. Their concern is not shared by many, but they cannot help doing what they are doing in this city of millions with mistrusts. These caring mothers however receive little attention from the schools their wards study in. Elemental hazards give them little respite during their long wait. The schools have the responsibility to take care of their little ones, not their mothers. But the kids are as much attached to their mothers as the mothers are to them. So, attend the mothers too if you can.

What's on today . . .

Zahir Raihan Film Society: A film session 'Healthy Bengal Movies: Heritage and continuity' begins. Today's film: Gangchil (The Sea Gull) directed by Ruhul Amin. Venue: Russian Cultural Centre. Time: 6 pm.

Live Chamber Music: Presented by Orpheus Music Club. Venue: German Cultural Centre. Time: 7 pm.

Seminar: On Ethnic Cleansing in Bosnia: Self-determination and Humanitarian Perspective organised by the Centre for Study of International Affairs. Chief guest: A S M Mostafizur Rahman, Minister for Foreign Affairs. Special guest: Nazmul Huda, Minister for Information. Venue: National Museum auditorium. Time: 4 pm.

DUTA: A meeting will be held in memory of Syed Mazharul Haq, former Chairman, Department of Geology, University of Dhaka. Venue: DU Club. Time: 5 pm.

Discussion on AIDS: Organised by the Women Wing of National AIDS Committee. Chief guest: Deputy Minister for Health Sirajul Haq. Venue: Lalbagh Community Centre. Time: 2:30 pm.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Executive Engineer
Khulna PWD Division-1
Khulna

Notice Inviting Tenders

T No 79/1993-94

- Sealed tenders in Bangladesh Form No 2911 are hereby invited from all Classes of approved Building Contractors of PWD, as per Entitlement from the undermentioned work and will be received by the undersigned and Executive Engineer, PWD Division No II, Khulna/Bagerhat/Satkhira in their respective offices up to 12:00 Noon of 25.7.94 and will be opened on the same day at 12:15 PM in presence of the intending tenderers who may like to remain present. Each tender shall be in a sealed cover with the name of work superscribed on it. Tender form will be sold up to 24.7.94.

Group No	Name of work	Estimated cost	Earnest money	Time allowed
1.	Hospital Building	Tk 1,06,108/-	Tk 2,123/-	30 (Thirty) days
2.	Class-IV type Qrs Bldg No 1	Tk 1,19,290/-	Tk 2,386/-	30 (Thirty) days

NB: Separate tender in separate earnest money shall have to be submitted in each group.

- The tender forms together with schedule of items, specifications and terms and conditions etc. can be seen and obtained from the office of the undersigned and the Executive Engineer, PWD Division No II, Khulna/Bagerhat/Satkhira during office hours on payment of usual charges (Non-refundable)

S M Mosaddequzzaman
Executive Engineer
PWD Division No II
Khulna

DPPG/12305-296
G-1114

Contraband seized

RAJSHAHI, July 2: BDR personnel of 20 rifle battalion seized Indian contraband worth Taka one crore in a series of anti-smuggling drive in the battalion area of the district during the last month, reports BSS.

The seized contraband were deposited with the Rajshahi Customs and Narcotics Department.

Seven persons were arrested in this connection.

74 arrested

Police rounded up 74 people from different parts of the city on various charges, a DMP press release said yesterday, reports UNB.

Of the arrested, 12 were wanted criminals, two were held under the Arms Law, two for stealing.



Information Minister Barrister Nazmul Huda inaugurated the Tree Plantation Campaign of Bangladesh Film Development Corporation (FDC) by planting a sapling at the FDC premises in the city yesterday. —PID photo

Weather

Rain with gusty wind likely

Heavy falls are likely at places over Khulna, Barisal divisions and the regions of Noakhali, Chittagong and Faridpur during the next 24 hours till 6 pm today, reports UNB.

Met office says occasional moderate or moderately heavy rain or thundershower accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely at many places over Dhaka, Khulna, Barisal, Chittagong and Rajshahi divisions.

Day temperature may fall by 2-3 degrees Celsius over Khulna, Barisal divisions and the regions of Noakhali, Chittagong and Faridpur. Slight fall in day temperature is however expected elsewhere across the country.

Meantime, Srimangal experienced the highest 36 mm rain yesterday.

Country's highest temperature 33 degrees Celsius was recorded at Khulna and Bogra while lowest 24.1 degrees at Srimangal yesterday.

The sun sets today (Sunday) at 6:50 pm and rises tomorrow (Monday) at 5:16 am.

The maximum and minimum temperatures and humidity of some major cities recorded yesterday were:

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	9 am	6 pm
Dhaka	32.2	26.3	86	82
Chittagong	32.0	25.0	76	92
Rajshahi	32.2	26.2	90	90
Khulna	33.0	27.2	86	95
Barisal	32.0	26.7	84	76
Sylhet	32.5	27.2	82	82
Cox's Bazar	31.0	25.0	97	86
Durgapur	32.2			98

Two die in road mishaps

By DMCH Correspondent

Two persons were killed in two separate road accidents in the city and at Savar yesterday.

Mohammad Jahangir, 15, was killed when a speeding bus hit an electric pole at Khikhet in the city yesterday morning. He died on the spot.

In another incident a pedestrian was killed when a minibus knocked him at Savar on the outskirts of the city at about 7:30 am yesterday. The victim, Jainal, died on the spot.

Protest day observed

The Anti-Communist Students' Unity, an alliance of pro-liberation students' organisations, observed protest-day yesterday in the capital, to realise their four-point demand, including trial of Jamaat-Islami chief Golam Azam, reports UNB.

As part of their country wide programme they brought out a procession from the Dhaka University campus.

The rally was addressed by JSD (Inu) backed Chhatra League general secretary Abdullahil Qaiyum.

বিজেএমসি বিজ্ঞাপন
দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

মহাব্যবস্থাপক, লতিফ বাগানী জুট মিলস লিঃ, ডেমরা, ঢাকা কর্তৃক মিল সাইটে সরবরাহদানের ভিত্তিতে (১) হার্ডওয়ার, (২) ম্যানুফ্যাকচারিং পেমেন্ট, (৩) হার্ড কোক, (৪) ওয়েইং স্কেল, (৫) বেস্ট ব্রকস, (৬) ফ্লানেল রপ্তা, (৭) বৈদ্যুতিক মোটর ও অন্যান্য বৈদ্যুতিক মালামালসমূহ সরবরাহের জন্য প্রকৃত প্রকৃতকারক/ সরবরাহকারীদের নিকট হইতে সীলমোহরকৃত দরপত্র আহবান করা যাইতেছে।

দরপত্রসমূহ আপামী ১৮-০৭-৯৪ইং তারিখে বেলা ১০-৪৫ মিনিট সময়ে আমাদের মিল অফিসে এবং বিজেএমসি আঞ্চলিক অফিস, ৯৯, মতিবিল বা/এ, ঢাকায় রকিত টেন্ডার বাসে পূহিত হইবে এবং ঐ দিনই বেলা ১১-০০ টার সময়ে দরদাতাদের উপস্থিতিতে যদি কেহ উপস্থিত থাকেন উভয় স্থানে একই সময়ে খোলা হইবে।

টেন্ডার দলিল মিলের মহাব্যবস্থাপক (হিসাব ও অর্থ) এর অফিস এবং মহাব্যবস্থাপক (হিসাব ও অর্থ), বিজেএমসি আঞ্চলিক অফিস, ৯৯, মতিবিল বা/এ, ঢাকা হইতে টেন্ডার খোলার দিন বাদে প্রতি সেট ৪০/- টাকা নগদ মূল্যে পাওয়া যাইবে। ব্যাক ডাকট/পে-অর্ডারের মাধ্যমে উদ্ধৃত মূল্যের ১% হারে তবে ন্যূনতম ১০০০/- টাকার ব্যয়না লতিফ বাগানী জুট মিলস লিঃ-এর অনুকূলে দরপত্রের সহিত অবশ্যই জমা দিতে হইবে। টেন্ডার লাইসেন্স ব্যতিরেকে কোন সিডিউল বিকি করা হইবে না। বামের উপর টেন্ডার নম্বর অবশ্যই উল্লেখ করিতে হইবে। কর্তৃপক্ষ কোন কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতিরেকে যে কোন দরপত্র গ্রহণ বা বাতিল করার ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করেন।

বিজেএমসি-৫১৫
ডিএকপি(বা) ৫৪৭৩-২৮/৬

মংলা বন্দর কর্তৃপক্ষ
মংলা, বাগেরহাট।

রিসিভার অব রেক-এর বিজ্ঞপ্তি

গত ২৮-০৪-৯৩ ইং তারিখে পশুর নদীর উত্তর নোংগার-২ এর নিকটে "প্রেসিডেন্ট-১" নামক বাজটি নিমজ্জিত হয়। উক্ত বাজ/রেক নৌ-চলাচলের জন্য বুকিপূর্ণ হইয়া পড়িয়াছে। রেক-এর মালিক/এজেন্ট উহাকে অপসারণ করিতে ব্যর্থ হইয়াছে বিধায় বিএমএসও ১৯৮৩-র ৪৪৮ ধারা মোতাবেক রিসিভার অব রেক হিসাবে নিম্নস্বাক্ষরকারী এতদ্বারা উক্ত রেক-এর দখল গ্রহণ করিতেছেন।

সংশ্লিষ্ট সকলের জ্ঞাতার্থে জানানো যাইতেছে যে, বাংলাদেশ মার্চেন্ট সিপিং অর্ডিন্যান্স ১৯৮৩-র বিধান অনুযায়ী "রিসিভার অব রেক" হিসাবে আমি বা আমার প্রতিনিধি কর্তৃক এতদসংশ্লিষ্ট সকল দায়িত্ব সম্পাদিত হইবে। এখন হইতে পূর্বানুমতি ব্যতিরেকে উক্ত রেক-এর ব্যাপারে কোন ব্যক্তি/সংস্থা কোন কার্যকরী ব্যবস্থা গ্রহণ করিতে পারিবে না। ইহাও জ্ঞাতব্য যে বিএমএসও ১৯৮৩-র ৪৫৯ নং ধারার বিধান অনুযায়ী প্রয়োজনীয় পদক্ষেপ পূহিত হইবে এবং এই রেক উদ্ধারের ব্যয় বহনসহ সকল পরিণতির জন্য মালিক/এজেন্ট দায়ী থাকিবেন।

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এবং
চেয়ারম্যান
মংলা বন্দর কর্তৃপক্ষ
মংলা, বাগেরহাট।

মবক/বোডজস/১৬৬
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(Authorised under the Private University Act 1992)

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24 JULY-1 SEPTEMBER

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