



SYLHET: Finance Minister M Saifur Rahman speaking at a function organised by the district sports association recently. He handed over a cheque for Taka 15 lakh for construction of Sylhet stadium to the Secretary, DSA. — Star photo

Miscreants kill one in Gaibandha

From Our Correspondent
GAIBANDHA, Feb 17: One person was killed by the unknown assailants at village Kalakata under Gobindaganj thana on the night of February 12 last.
Habibur Rahman, 55, on that day at deep night went out of his room at the call of nature. Meanwhile a group of miscreants launched attacked on him with deadly weapons, in which the victim sustained major injuries which caused his death on the spot.
According to family source, the attack was made on the issue of past feud with the assailants.
A case was filed accusing 12 persons with Gobindaganj thana.

Bio-gas technology: A lucrative and viable energy

by Bazlur Rahman Shaheen

A high level government decision for installation of Bio-gas plant will bring an amazing result. Undoubtedly the nation will be able to save disgusting situation of the environment from cutting of trees. All the district, thana, and union committees should be given directives and necessary guidelines for its implementation. It must be taken as 'Bio-gas revolution'. Mass-media, Radio, Television can broadcast and advertise feasibility and advantages of bio-gas.

The country possesses vast resources of bio-gas most of which is rural based. A number of NGOs are engaged in popularising the use of bio-gas in the rural areas. Foundation for the Oppressed Bangladesh (FOB), a NGO has received necessary ideas from Local Government Engineering Department (LGED) and on that basis available technological support has inspired many villagers to install bio-gas plants in Jamalpur, Kushtia, Faridpur Rajbari districts.

Another NGO Good Shake has installed several bio-gas plants in Gaibandha district. The future of using bio gas plant is bright provided we consider this endless source of energy for the rural people in wider scale.

Recently the State Minister for Science and Technology has said that the government may decide to extend loans for bio gas plant which is under consideration.

With the cycle of scientific development and technological innovations — it is easily assumed and imagined, the twentieth century's energy from giant oil refineries and coal-fired power plants would be treated as relics and scrap of the industrial revolution. Because newer energy techniques and technologies have started to occupy the non-vulnerable fuel cells for its efficient and sustainable energy system.

Efficient use of energy is a key to the revolution and in the early 21st century use of coal and oil would fall and dependency of natural gas will be nothing but a colossal job. Because natural gas has a limited volume of stock in a vertical rising current of warm air (Geo-thermal). Most versatile of fossil fuels also consumed in the development countries because it has got a minimum non-polluting hydrogen fuel.

In such a way, solar cells which converts sunlight directly into electricity which costs only 90 per cent lesser while wind turbine costs have fallen two-thirds. At least 20 lakh wind turbine operated during 1993, by which the world saved 30 times electric production.

It is quite natural that within the two decades, rapid advances in energy techniques will create large opportunities for developing countries.

In context to bio-gas, which is widely used in the whole of the world has proved as a most lucrative and viable energy. Hydrogen as main chemical factor of bio-gas whereas rest 60 per cent is methane which has no environmental pollution. And as it can make from the waste of kitchen room, excreta and night soil and cow-dung etc — a bright and easiest fuel source of the country. This technology has proved a very viable and also practicable throughout the world.

Almost inexpensive and enduring — the technology can bring revolution in the energy sector of Bangladesh. Necessary incentives should be conferred from the bodies concerned just to materialise and popularise this valuable gift of God.

This gas is used for the purpose of cooking, lighting of lamp, pump machine, generator and other multi-dimensional sectors.

Chinese government established a research institute in 1979. With the assistance of UNDP an international centre on bio-gas named Asia and Pacific Regional Bio-gas Research and Training Centre (BRTC) founded in China, 1982. The 'BRTC' is enriched with 252 experts and trainer for disseminating training facilities.

First Bio-gas plant in Bangladesh was installed by Professor M A Karim of Momen Shahi Agricultural University. BARD and BCSIR also tried in this line. BADC, BUET, BARC made research and work on Bio-gas. In 1980 a directorate named EPCD for the expansion of Bio-gas was founded. In these time, several hundred of bio-gas plants installed in various parts of the country. BSCIC also took initiative in the regard, their plant worked well in preliminary stage but because of dam and rust the plant became useless and henceforth abandoned.

DANIDA founded ten plants in various sizes. But these were not quite intact. Since the inception of LGED, Mr Quamrul Islam Siddique, its Chief Engineer, engaged himself to promote this economically viable sector. Uptill now several hundred engineers received training from LGED. Bio-gas plant from excreta was installed by the LGED efforts for the first time in Bangladesh in 1992. Out of 145 plant 63 are running from the excreta nationwide. To achieve the national interest a wide and a diversified programme has been fostered. By 200 year requisite steps would be taken by LGED.

Another reason behind the spreading of bio-gas is that under the Rio de Zenerio treaty — quantity of carbon-dioxide should be stabilised with minimum quantity. So extensive deployment of decentralised technologies and reliance on Methane and hydrogen as gaseous energy carriers. The Rio-climate treaty should be considered as directives for the atmosphere and technological balance.

Demand for more gas can be minimised through extensive use of gas burner. A huge supply will obviously meet up total demand for its use. As effective burner design can reduce gas consumption to a great extent proportions. We should not be aloof from its benefit. Necessary measure and steps can be adopted and if it's sooner the better.

Size of Bio-gas plant varies from its extent of use. Domestic use (house-hold), unutilised use (community), industrial use (farm size) and large size (as bigger as possible) use — these depend on its demand.

By formation of a National committee for implementation of Bio-gas (NCIB), the entrepreneurship should be encouraged through counselling, pushing and persuasion and distributing propaganda materials and campaign. A high level government decision for installation of Bio-gas plant will bring an amazing result. Undoubtedly the nation will be able to save disgusting situation of the environment from cutting of trees. All the district, thana, and union committees should be given directives and necessary guidelines for its implementation. It must be taken as 'Bio-gas revolution'. Mass-media, Radio, Television can broadcast and advertise feasibility and advantages of bio-gas. A topic on its practical use can be included in the science text books as a practical technology in theory and practice. Moreover, booklets on Bio-gas and its approval in Islamic point of view should be published for free distribution.

Serviceable and applied training should be imparted to the unemployed youths in block-wise, so that the youth class will be engaged in the implementation of Bio-gas. Thus rural poverty will be possible to alleviate, because it will save huge quantity of fuels and help to bring balance in the technology. Non-governmental organization (NGO's) are to be aware on its wider and better propagation. Creating awareness among the masses seminars, workshops, and practical demonstration in the practical field should be conducted. An integrated and advanced course also can be opened in the educational institution after the examinations of students. Imperative directions and extension of loan facilities should be ascertained. From national to grass-root level members should be procured in the committees. It is hoped that total support of masses can only trigue for the target of the betterment with success.

It is learnt that bio-gas plants in the year 1996-2000 years, 20,000 small size measured 6m3 10m3 from cow-dung, kitchen trash away and night soil or excreta, 1000 community size measured 15m3 to 50m3 from night soil and solid waste, 1000 farm size measured 50m3 to 100m3 from cow-dung, poultry dropping, agricultural waste, city garbage and sewage would be installed if potentials institutional strength and source of funding is available.

It is emphasized from the view of our poor economic phenomenon that the bio-gas installation in the whole nook and corner of Bangladesh will bring an economic change and this end in view — we must come forward and mingle with the 'Chorus' in the World energy campaign.

From Dhaka Metropolitan garbage a huge quantity of Bio-gas fertilizer can be produced at minimum cost and labour. As it is a renewable and has its endless energy which is being research and implemented by Local Government Engineering Directorate. The role of BCSIR and BUET here extending their logistic support only. However a nation-wide programme for its overall success can bring out a giant steps for a developed Bangladesh. All government machineries irrespective of class and position should bring in the limelight of this lucrative and viable energy for a self-reliant nation.

A neglected pourashava — Brahmanbaria

From Our Correspondent

BRAHMANBARIA, Feb 17: Brahmanbaria, a pourashava which was once called the place of culture, civilization, education, and British revolution has lost her beauty for want of proper care and patronisation.

Though Brahmanbaria has an importance in agricultural production, pisciculture and natural resources, like titas gas, she is not being developed as modern town. She has a very good railway, road and riverine communication with the rest of the area of the country. Dhaka-Sylhet, Sylhet-Chittagong Rail, Road and riverine way have passed through the Brahmanbaria. So the people called Brahmanbaria the 'Lion Gate' of Eastern communication. Ancient culture like boat race, cock fight, wild animal hunting by blood hound dog, bullock race and fight, Grameen Jatra, Jarygan, Pathi Path competition, Lathi Khela, Hori loot etc. are rare nowadays in Brahmanbaria.

Many prominent figures who obtained much fame for Brahmanbaria and Bangladesh as well as India Sub-Continent in the world and were well-known to all not only in Bangladesh but also in the sub-continent as well as abroad, born in Brahmanbaria. Some of them were Sir Samrat Ostad Alauddin Khan, Sir Samrat Ali Akbar Khan, Ullash Kar Dutta, land lord Kamal Ranjan, land lord Syed Kutub Dewan, Barrister A Rasul etc.

Such historical name have plunged into dark as no step have yet been taken to collect and preserve them. A mini museum should have been established in the district town to preserve the brave and proud history of our past glori-

ous figures. Our next generation will not know such histories as they are not well preserved. But, at present, it is a dream to collect and preserve such glorious history except Government help. The glorious Brahmanbaria is not getting proper attention of the authority neither for rescuing old glory nor for solving current problems. The government declared Brahmanbaria a 1st class pourashava and expanded the area but the authority have failed to increase facilities for the resident. Due to lack of proper steps for developments the town has become an area of problems.

Most roads are narrow and have no footpath. Only T A Road has footpath. In many places, footpath have been damaged and traders have setup shops to sell fruits, old garments or set up make-shift shops. Some motor garages are also capturing the footpath for their professional work hampering the free movement of the passerby.

Most of the roads have been badly damaged and unsuitable for vehicular movement. Many potholes have developed at a number of places of roads especially on Gokarna Road, Bankpara Road, Kazipara Road, Sarkerpara Road, Habibur Rahman Road, Pirbari Road, Station Road, Cinema Hall Road, threatening the plying of rickshaw and smooth movement of pedestrians. Most of the rickshaws are run by unlicensed rickshawpullers who are in the age group of 13 to 15 years old.

Illegal parking of rickshaw on the road are creating traffic jam everyday and increasing problems to the town dwellers for long time. Some rickshaw-

pullers ignoring the traffic rules are plying rickshaw on the road and do not use lamps at night.

The absence of proper drainage system and sanitary latrines town dwellers and public suffer much. People respond to nature call behind the roadside office and building polluting the environment. The number of dustbins are far too little. These are not cleared properly. The drains are filled with dirt and garbage and the ponds and ditches in the town full of water hyacinths. These are real breeding centres of mosquitoes.

There are no slaughter house in the market. Most of the cattle are often slaughtered in the market premises. These are emitting bad odours posing serious threat to public health and environment.

Most of the street lights remain out of order as a result some areas of the town plunge into darkness giving scope to the criminals for doing anti-social activities. Frequent power failure is the regular feature of the town. And the production in the mills, factories, workshops are being hampered seriously.

The main fish and vegetable markets specially Faruki market and Ananda Bazar are comparatively small, to accommodate buyers and sellers. As a result the approach and link road of the market is now being occupied by the sellers hampering the movement of pedestrians.

The condition of the hotel and restaurants are unhygienic as adulterated foodstuffs are sold without any check up by the concerned authorities. Due to lack of proper maintenance, supply of drinking water has

been hampered adversely in Brahmanbaria Pourashava as a large number of water taps and tubewell went out of order here.

Witness said most of the water-supplying-spots remained closed for unknown causes. Kazipara, Mourail, Sarkerpara are more sufferers. According to public health and engineering office, 100 tubewells will be installed in pourashava to mitigate the crisis. On the other hand, to breath in fresh air, the dwellers of Brahmanbaria Pourashava always use town bypass road in the morning and evening time as the park of the town are not suitable for movement, gossiping and leisure. Most of the seats are unfit for use. The number of the seat are few and these are either broken or ugly looking. Besides floating men and women are using few places of pourashava.

A group of paid ladies and beggars are using Kachari Pukurpar, Bander spot, Tan-Bazar for varieties purpose including sleeping and anti-social activities. Meanwhile a Shishu Park was established here in 1984. Due to lack of care and patronisation it has turn into a grazing field. A large auditorium was built at Looknath Tank maidan in 1980. But it remains incomplete for unknown causes. But the visitors seeing the unfit and back dated condition of Brahmanbaria Pourashava feel unhappy and show reluctant to observe the historical place. The people have urged the authorities to take urgent step to developed the district town, Brahmanbaria Pourashava as like as 1st class Pourashava which was declared by the Government.

Excess use of pesticides posing health hazards

NATORE, Feb 17: Indiscriminate use of insecticides on crops, vegetables and use of chemicals in producing molasses (Gur) in six thanas has been posing a threat to public health, reports UNB.

According to sources, the farmers have been using pesticides in excessive dosages ignoring instructions of the experts which make agricultural products poisonous.

According to experts, pesticides including Furadan, Heptachlore, Nogos, Homal, Thaidine having strong poisonous components are being used in all seasons to combat pest attack in the croplands in Singra, Lalpur, Bagatipara, Sadar, Gurdaspur and Baraigram thanas.

As a result, various ailments including gastro-intestinal, acidity, jaundice, ulcer, diarrhoea and other stomach ailments have broken out due to intake of the crops, vegetables,

rice and harmful materials mixed in molasses, they said.

Paddy like IRRI, boro and vegetables like brinjal, peas, gourds, courgetts, bitter gourds, spinach, cabbage, tomatoes, cauliflower, other vegetables are produced with the application of poisonous pesticides.

The sources said, during the monsoon, the pesticides and chemical fertilizers get washed away with rain water to open water bodies.

5,450 mt of wheat sanctioned

MYMENSINGH, Feb 17: The government has sanctioned 5,450 metric tons of wheat for implementing 657 projects at 12 thanas and three municipalities of the district under Food for Work Programme during the current fiscal year, reports UNB.

Dispute over dowry 184 housewives murdered in Jamalpur, Sherpur dists

From Our Correspondent

JAMALPUR, Feb 17: One hundred and eighty-four housewives have been killed during the last five years in 12 police stations of Jamalpur and Sherpur districts. This has been disclosed by different marriage registrar offices, police stations, control room and judicial thanas of the districts.

The main causes of such killings have been identified as dispute over demand for dowry: in 184 reported cases, 65 wives were murdered by their husbands and 72 by in-laws. On the other hand, 23 husbands have been killed due to dowry dispute.

Police sources confirmed the cases against most of the killings. A good number of

convicts have so far been awarded either life or long term prison sentences. A number of incidents however, remained out of judicial action for non-filing of cases by the concerned parties.

Causes of people's indifference to move to the court were identified as huge monetary involvement and lengthy judiciary process, which some times make the victims bankrupt. It is learnt that many such cases are settled through village arbitration.

A statistics show that cases of divorce are on the increase. Out of 1500 cases of divorce over dowry disputes 565 took place within one year of marriage. Seven hundred and twelve in two years and the rest 298 in three years of marriage.

A survey on the incidents of divorce cases showed that because of dowry dispute 80 per cent of them occurred among the low income groups.

The survey also shows that female child is considered to be a burden in a poor family. So parents want to get rid of this burden any how by giving them away through early marriage with commitment of dowry beyond their capacity.

Although there exists anti-dowry law in the country and transaction of dowry is a pun-

Two more foreign ships caught fishing in Hiron Point

KHULNA, Feb 17: Bangladesh Navy ships Shaheed Mohibullah and Shaheed Akhter Uddin during routine patrol Thursday apprehended two more intruding boats from near the Hiron Point and arrested all the 26 crew members, reports BSS.

The Navy ships also recovered about 40 maunds of mixed fish from the boats, according to an ISFP press release.

24 women receive training in rural development

TANGAIL, Feb 17: Rural Development Project 14 (rop-14) conducted to a three day long training course for 24 woman workers belonging to Labour Contracting Society (LCS) recently at Sagardighi rest house at Ghatail thana, reports BSS.

Government of Bangladesh
Office of the Executive Engineer, (RHD)
Cox's Bazar Road Division.
Notice Inviting Tender

- Tender Notice No. 54, of Executive Engineer (RHD), Cox's Bazar Road Division during year 1994-95.
- Name of work: Providing the pavement by water bound macadam road carpeting & seal coat at 150th (P), (Bazarghata portion of Cox's Bazar town) of Chittagong-Cox's Bazar Road under Cox's Bazar Road Division during the year 1994-95.
- Estimated cost: As per schedule.
- Largest money: -do-
- Time allowed from the date of issue of work order: 40 (forty) days.
- Category of enlistment: As per schedule.
- Name of offices from which/where tender will be available for purchase:
 - Executive Engineer (RHD), Cox's Bazar Road Division.
 - Executive Engineer (RHD), Dohazari Road Division.
 - Executive Engineer (RHD), Chittagong Road Division.
 - Executive Engineer (RHD), Planning (Roads & Bridges), Sarak Bhaban, Ramna, Dhaka.
- Name of offices where tender will be received:
 - Superintending Engineer (RHD), Ctg Road Circle, Ctg.
 - Superintending Engineer (RHD), Moni. & Eval. Circle, Dhaka.
 - Executive Engineer (RHD), Moni. & Eval. Division Ctg.
 - Executive Engineer (RHD), Cox's Bazar Road Division.
- Last date of selling of tender: 26.2.95 up to 05-00 P.M.
- Last date of receipt of tender: 27.2.95 at 12.30 P.M.
- Date and time of opening of tender: 27.2.95 at 12.45 P.M.
- Chargeable to: Maintenance.
- Date of lottery (if necessary): 1.3.95 at 11.00 A.M.

(Md Abdul Muqtedir)
Executive Engineer (RHD)
Cox's Bazar Road Division.

DFP-3575
G-272

Bakhrabad Gas Systems Limited
(A Subsidiary Company of Petrobangla)
Comilla, Bangladesh.

গ্যাসের অপচয় রোধ করুন এবং নিৰ্ধারিত সময়ে বিল পরিশোধ করুন

International Tender Notice

ICB Tender No. BGSL/FP/CFE-38/95

Description of Materials	Cost of Tender Document (Non-refundable)	Bid Bond Amount
MAGNESIUM ANODE	US\$ 25.00 or Tk 1000.00	2.5% of the total quoted amount

- The procurement will be financed under Cash Foreign Exchange Resource.
- Qualification of the contractor/supplier: Manufacturers/Suppliers having proven experience of similar works/supply.
- Where tender document will be available: BGSL Offices at:
 - Head Office, Chapapur, Comilla, Bangladesh.
 - Regional Distribution Office, 100 Momin Road, Chittagong, Bangladesh.
 - BGSL's Liaison Office, House No 3, Road No 2/A, Banani, Dhaka-1213, Bangladesh.
- Selling time of tender document: From 26-02-95 to 27-03-1995 during office hours.
- Place and time of receiving of bid: BGSL's Head Office, Chapapur, Comilla, Bangladesh on 28-03-1995 up to 11:00 hours.
- Date and time of opening of bid: At 11:15 hours on 28-03-1995.
- For further information and clarification please contact: Dy General Manager (Purchase), BGSL, Comilla, Bangladesh. Telex No 642768 GAS BJ, Fax No: 880-2-886317, Phone No: 5791-95, 8681.

BG-1434/94-95
DFP-3592-11/2
G-274

Notice Inviting Quotation

- Quotation Notice No: 26/94-95 (2nd call)
- Name of work: Supplying of spare parts for 200, 210, HP Daf Engine (Model-D.K.1160) under Ferry Maint.Sub-Divn, Dhaka.
- Earnest money: 2% quoted rate.
- Time allowed: 20 (twenty) days from the date of issue of work order.
- Form No: Bangladesh Form No 2908.
- Eligibility of contractors: Enlisted 'A to C' general category contractors of RHD, 'D' general category contractors of Mechl Ferry Circle, Dhaka, & 'E' general category contractors of RHD, Ferry Maint Divn, Dhaka.
- Name of offices of availability of quotation documents: EE, RHD, FMD, Dhaka/Proc. Civil Divn, Dhaka/ & EE, RHD, FMD Sylhet/SDE, RHD, Ferry Sub Divn, Dhaka. Quotation documents will be available on or before 26.2.95.
- Name of officers to receive quotation bids: SE, RHD, Dhaka Ferry Circle, Dhaka/EE; RHD, FMD; Postogola, Dhaka/EE, RHD, FMD, Sylhet.
- Date of receipt of quotation: Up to 12.00 noon of 27.2.95.

Md Golam Mowla
Executive Engineer, R & H,
Ferry Maint, Postogola, Dhaka.

DFP-3675-13/2
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