

Tk 10 cr poverty alleviation plan in Bhola

BHOLA, Mar 27: The Government has taken up a poverty alleviation programme at a cost of Tk 10 crore to generate self-employment for the poor and landless farmers, reports UNB.

State Minister for Land M Kabir Hossain inaugurated the programme on Thursday at Lalnahan thana through distributing Tk five lakh among the poor and landless. Major (Rtd) Hafizuddin Ahmed also addressed the function.

Under the programme the families who were deprived of institutional loans, will get credit facilities for production and service oriented self-employment work.

Landless poor families of 40 villages in 20 thanas of 20 district will be upgraded in the 1st phase of the programme, said an official handout.

Each landless family will get maximum Tk 5,000 as loan. The loan have to be repaid within nine months after its disbursement. No security will be needed for the credit facility.

Rival group open fire, two brothers killed

SAVAR, Mar 27: Two brothers were killed and 20 villagers injured this Friday morning when a rival group opened fire on them in front of Ashulia High School, 15 kilometres from here, reports UNB.

Enayet Hossain Babul, 25 of village Ashulia died on the spot while his younger brother Majibur Rahman, 23 succumbed to bullet wounds on way to hospital, police said.

Villagers said Babul, leader of a faction of the school managing committee, along with his associates was engaged in a quarrel with his rival Obaidul Islam at about 7:30 am over the forthcoming annual sports of the school.

They said at one stage of the altercation, an armed group opened fire on the crowd, killing Babul on the spot, and injuring his younger brother Majibur and 20 villagers.

Majibur died on way to hospital while the other injured were admitted to Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) and Combined Military Hospital (CMH) in Savar.

IRRI-boro crop output target may fail in Gaibandha

From Our Correspondent

GAIBANDHA, Mar 27: Prospect of IRRI-boro production in Gaibandha district is bleak following acute crisis of fertilizer during this crop season.

The situation went worst after a series of untoward incidents took place on the issue of fertilizer during the last week which left killing of three persons and over 150 injuries. During the period almost everyday thousands of villagers with the hope of getting a single bag of urea fertilizer from district administration throughed district headquarters. The district administration took over responsibility of centralising total supply position in the district introducing ticket system for a single bag of urea per man through TNO Gaibandha sadar which delivered from the BADC godowns.

According to the deprived farmers maximum of the tickets were captured by the touts, muclemen, activists of different political alliances. It was also alleged that the said tickets were issued earlier before the scheduled time among some influential known faces. Those tickets later sold twice and thrice at exorbitant price. With the introduction of said policy genuine farmers remain totally deprived from getting a bags of fertilizer.

On the other hand witnessing the drying up condition of crop field deprived farmers could not control their motion. Being furious they have launched looting fertilizer from different transport. Earlier, demanding adequate supply of fertilizer they launched processions, ghero and handing over memos to local administration but the situation remain unchanged. In fear of missing consignment during transportation the local dealers surrendered to administration expressing inability of transportation fertilizer and its distribution.

Facing almost uncertainty in the distribution of fertilizer at people turned violent and launched attack on stock of fertilizer at Mohimagarj Railway station and Gaibandha BADC godown on March 21 and 22. Police had to opened fire at the violent mob which resulted three person shot dead and over 15 bullet injuries.

Protesting the police firing on mob local political alliances launched demonstration and observed half-day hartal on March 23. Leftist alliances in a press conference demanded removal of Gaibandha Deputy Commissioner and magistrate involved in firing incident. They also demanded immediate restoration of smooth fertilizer supply.

This season total 67,500 hectare of land brought under IRRI-boro cultivation in the district. For which it needs 16,000 metric tons of fertilizer till harvesting. A requirement of 12,000 tons of urea fertilizer was placed for the month of March but till March 23 district administration received only 2,314 metric tons of Urea and on March 24 last stock position was 117.60 tons with Deputy Commissioner. According to the local fertilizer dealers indents of 461.00 tons of Urea on way of reaching Gaibandha. The quantity is almost negligible to the heavy requirement.

With the unrest situation over fertilizer a 50 kg. Urea bag is being sold at Tk 600 to 700 in the remote village markets which is beyond the purchasing capacity of poor farmers. According to the Extension department it needs to apply urea fertilizer four times during the crop season for getting high yielding but this time many of the farmers yet to touch Urea for the second time in their crop field.

So, a better prospect of IRRI-boro production could not be achieved in the district.

Special pisciculture project Jessore likely to produce surplus fish from 1996-97

From Our Correspondent

JESSORE, Mar 27: Jessore district is likely to produce surplus fish from 1996-97 following massive development in pisciculture recently.

Implementation of Baor or OLP (Oxbow Lake Projects) under second phase by Jessore office of Beel Baor Fisheries Development and Management Projects, will bring this return. Monitored by Donor agencies, and supervised by implementing authority, projects are scheduled to be completed in 1995-96.

Ten OLP were taken up in 1988-89. These included Koikata Bookvora and Hanidpur of sadar, Khatura, Khedapara, Jhapa, Hariharpur of Monirampur, Bakra of Jhikergacha, Bahadurpur and Kanadaha of Sharsha in the district, covering water area of 657 hectares in total.

The Donar Agencies are IFAD, DANIDA, WFP in addition to government fund for the projects.

According to source, IFAD shared Taka 22.33 crore, DANIDA Taka 7.02cr, GOB Taka 1.35cr, and WFP contributed wheat worth Taka 28.10 lakh. OLPs have been implemented as per latest technology of modern science and technology to achieve target of 700 kg. of fish per hectare.

According to this estimate, fish production will come to 4,59,900 kgs slightly less than 460 metric tons. Existing fish production capacity in the district, according to district fishers office hand-out is 16,762.20 metric tons. Total requirement to feed entire population of the district is 16,352 metric tons. This has been assessed as per requirement of fish per head a day. The rate is 16 grams per head per day and total population of the district is 28 lakh.

Therefore, total fish production will rise to 17,322 metric tons.

It appears that 970 tons of fish will remain surplus for supply to other districts.

It may be noted here that during first phase of the projects a good number of OLPs were developed giving highest output to cover deficit.

The supply of nutrition to general masses, promotion of economic condition, boosting fish production in selected OLPs for increasing bulk of supply in domestic markets were main objectives of the project.

Enhancing the social dignity of small and poor fishermen by providing help and financial benefits through development of fish culture and creating opportunities for more participation in fish culture were some of the highlights of the projects.

Target group development and target production achievement are main components of the projects.

Second phase was originally due to be completed in current fiscal. But failure to reach desired level of either target points has convinced Donor and Government to extend deadline until end of this year.

Lake management group and poor fishermen, involving unprivileged and destitute womenfolks are other highlights of the project to promote their socio-economic conditions. It is alleged that attempt to organise lake-fishing team, fish farming group and fisheries related other target groups as part of the project are being sabotaged by a group of people. It was learnt that in Jhapa Baor of Monirampur there was an attempt to affect the progress of the project recently.

In the backdrop of continued draught and due to adverse effects of Farakk many water bodies are being silted up, ultimately becoming unfit for aqua-culture. A comprehensive programme has been drawn up to get rid of the silted part of the water bodies.

Accordingly silted part of OLPs are being converted into ponds through re-excavation under food for works programme by distributing wheat either from IFAD or from WFP.

A source said that by re-excavating the ponds, another 200 hectares of water area will be available for pisciculture to produce 600 tones of additional fish. This has been arranged in the project to bring economic change, of poorest in rural Bangladesh.

Infrastructural development of OLP including control of water embankment construction, removal of aquatic weeds, electrification around OLP and financial aid enabling the target groups to buy necessary equipments such as net, boat fish fry, fish marketing materials, are high lights of the projects.

When contacted a source of the project office informed that once all the OLP go into productions from next year, production of 2321 tons of fish worth Taka 6.16 crore will increase every year. Implementation of the projects will provide job opportunity for 2,850 fishermen and people of landless community. This will bring about change in their socio-economic life and further, projects area will be connected with network of communication giving them new life.

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার  
নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলীর কার্যালয় (সওজ)  
ফেরি বিভাগ, তালতলা, বানানী  
বড়তলা-৫৮০০

**সড়ক ও জনপথ দপ্তরের দরপত্র আহবান বিজ্ঞপ্তি**

১। দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি নং : ৫২/৯৪-৯৫ইং ফেরি বিভাগ, বড়তলা।  
২। কাজের নাম : ১৯৯৪-৯৫ইং অর্থ বৎসরে বড়তলা (সওজ) ফেরি উপ-বিভাগের অধীন পাকশী ফেরি শাখার ১৫০ কিলোগ্রামট ম্যান ইঞ্জিন নং ১০৬৫১৯/১০৬৫-এর জন্য শুল্কা যন্ত্রাংশ সরবরাহ ও ওভারহোলিংকরবার কাজ।  
(স্প-ক) ১৯৯৪-৯৫ইং অর্থ বৎসরে বড়তলা (সওজ) ফেরি উপ-বিভাগের অধীনে পাকশী ফেরি ঘাটের ২০০ অবশিষ্ট ডাক ইঞ্জিন এবং ১৫০ কিলোগ্রামট ম্যান ইঞ্জিনের জন্য শুল্কা যন্ত্রাংশ সরবরাহের কাজ।

৩। প্রাক্কলিত টাকা : ১। ১৯৯৪-৯৫ইং অর্থ বৎসরে বড়তলা (সওজ) ফেরি উপ-বিভাগের অধীনে পাকশী ফেরি ঘাটের ২০০ অবশিষ্ট ডাক ইঞ্জিন এবং ১৫০ কিলোগ্রামট ম্যান ইঞ্জিনের জন্য শুল্কা যন্ত্রাংশ সরবরাহের কাজ।  
৪। প্রাক্কলিত মূল্যের ২% (দুই) ভাগ।  
৫। সমন্বয় : ২০ (বিশ) দিন কার্যাদেশের তারিখ হইতে।  
৬। দরপত্র প্রদানের যোগ্যতা : (সওজ), দরপত্র "এ" হইতে "সি" সাধারণ শ্রেণীর (সওজ), কারখানা সার্কেল, বড়তলা "ডি" সাধারণ শ্রেণীর এবং (সওজ) "ফেরি বিভাগ, বড়তলা" "ই" সাধারণ শ্রেণীর তালিকাভুক্ত ঠিকাদার।

৭। যে সমস্ত অফিস হইতে দরপত্র সংগ্রহ করা হইবে : ১। নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলী (সওজ), ফেরি বিভাগ, বড়তলা/কারখানা বিভাগ, রাজশাহী/সান্তাহার, বড়তলা।  
২। উপ-বিভাগীয় প্রকৌশলী (সওজ), ফেরি উপ-বিভাগ, বড়তলা।  
৩। তত্ত্বাবধায়ক প্রকৌশলী (সওজ), কারখানা সার্কেল, বড়তলা।  
৪। নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলী (সওজ), ফেরি বিভাগ, বড়তলা/কারখানা বিভাগ, রাজশাহী/সান্তাহার, বড়তলা।

৮। যে সমস্ত অফিসে দরপত্র গ্রহণ করা হইবে : ১। ০-৪-৯৫ইং/২২-১২-১৪০১ বাং অফিস দিন চলাকালীন সময় পর্যন্ত।  
২। ৪-৮-৯৫ইং/২০-১২-১৪০১ বাং দুপুর ১২-০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত।  
৩। ৮-৯৫ইং/২০-১২-১৪০১ বাং বেলা ১২-০০ ঘটিকা।

৯। দরপত্র গ্রহণের তারিখ ও সময় : ১২-০০ ঘটিকা।

১০। দরপত্র প্রদানের তারিখ ও সময় : ১২-০০ ঘটিকা।

১১। দরপত্র প্রদানের তারিখ ও সময় : ১২-০০ ঘটিকা।

নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলী (সওজ),  
ফেরি বিভাগ, বড়তলা।

ডিওএফ-৬৮৩৭-২২/৩  
ডি-৪৫৮

Abnormal fall in water level in the major rivers

MANIKGANJ, Mar 27: Abnormal fall in water level of 10 rivers in the greater Dhaka district due to the adverse effect of Farakka barrage compounded the navigation and drinking water problems, reports UNB.

Official sources said, water level has fallen by about one metre on an average than that of last year's mark causing emergence of innumerable chas and shoals in the rivers Jamuna, Padma, Bongshi, Turag, Gazikhal, Isamati, Kali-ganga and Dhaleswari.

The sources said the staggering drop in water flow from the upper riparian and siltation clogged the inland waterways disrupting river communications in Manikganj, Gazipur, Narayanganj and Dhaka districts. Scarcity of drinking water is also prevailing in these districts due to the effect.

The BIWTA sources said the rivers which run through these districts have lost their depth due to accumulation of massive silts and these rivers cannot hold much water during the rainy season. As a result, water overflows their banks in the rainy season causing floods and destroying crops on vast areas of land.

Bangladesh Agriculture Development Corporation sources said the silted rivers dry up during the winter season making water scarce for irrigation. Over 25,600 acres of irri-boro fields are drying up as irrigation suffered a set back due to shortage of river water in the greater Dhaka district.

They said in the coming lean period the ground and surface water will fall further affecting the ecological balance and causing water crisis both for irrigation and drinking.

A huge number of water transports, including ferries, cargo vessels, launches and country boats at Aricha-Nagarbari, Aricha-Daulatdia and Aricha-Bagabari are to cover additional distance of three to four miles to reach the destinations due to siltation in these river beds.

Besides, movement of vessels in being hampered through the narrow passage near Daulatdia, Alakdia, Khanpur and Bachamara on the mighty rivers Jamuna and Padma. No water transport over eight feet draft is plying on this route.

Meanwhile, engine driven country boats have become the main riverine transport for carrying passengers and merchandise and at present over 4,500 boats have been plying on different routes of Manikganj, Gazipur, Tangail, Munshiganj and Dhaka districts, officials said. The journey by these country boats is risky and accidents occur frequently, they added.

Independence Day in Picture



From Top: Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia placing wreath at the mazar of Shaheed President Ziaur Rahman; BNP leaders at National Mausoleum in Savar; Air display at Manik Mia Avenue in the city and Projanno '71 members placing wreath at the National Mausoleum on the Independence Day Sunday. — Star photo

**Fertilizer crisis DC office gheraoed**

NARSINGHDI, Mar 27: Several hundred farmers of sadar thana gheraoed the Deputy Commissioner's office Saturday morning demanding direct distribution of fertiliser and rice to the farmers at fair prices, reports UNB.

Agitating farmers demonstrated in several areas of the town backed by the district Awami League. Joint Secretary of the party Amirul Islam Bhuiyan led the procession.

However, the farmers withdrew the gherao plan after getting assurance from the DC, Mohammad Ayub.

**RHD Notice Inviting Tender No. 39/SRD/1994-95**

1. Tender Notice No	39/SRD/1994-95.
2. Name of work	Construction of 1.52 M. Span R.C.C Box Culvert at 33rd KM of Niamatpur-Tahirpur-Badghat-Takerghat Road under Sunamganj Road Division during the year 1994-95 (Ch. to Dev).
3. Estimated cost	Tk 2,77,406/=
4. Earnest money	Tk 5,550/= in favour of the undersigned in BD/TC/5 years BDSP/ BSP from any scheduled bank of Bangladesh.
5. Time allowed	45 (Forty-five) days.
6. Eligibility of contractor	Enlisted 'A' to 'D' class contractor of special category of RHD.
7. Name of the offices where availability of tenders	Office of the undersigned/ Executive Engineer(RHD), Road Division, Sylhet/M Bazar/ Hobiganj/Planning & Design Division, Comilla/Sub-Divisional Engineer (RHD), Sunamganj/ Chattak/Mechanical.
8. Name of officers who receive the tenders	Office of the undersigned/ Superintending Engineer (RHD), Road Circle, Sylhet.
9. Last date of selling tender	5.00 PM of 01-04-95.
10. Last date of receiving tender	Up to 12-30 PM of 02-04-95.
11. Date & time of opening tender	At 10-00 AM of 03-04-95.

DFP-6924-22/3  
G-456

Engr Md Abdul Motin Molla  
Executive Engineer (RHD)  
Sunamganj Road Division.

**Directorate General Defence Purchase Ministry of Defence**  
New Airport Road, Tejgaon, Dhaka-1215

**Tender Notice**

1. Sealed tender in foreign currency is invited from bonafide Manufacturers/Dealers/Indentors (Not necessarily enlisted with this Directorate General) for supply of the following item for Bangladesh Navy:

Sl. No.	Description of Stores	Tender Selling Date	Tender Opening Date
a.	Spare Parts for Tx/Rx Walkie-Talkie IC — H16 (I COM) (Qty — 10 L/L)	5-4-1995 to 15-5-1995	16-5-1995 (Foreign)

2. The tender schedule with detailed specification will be available at given rate (Not refundable) on any working day between 8:00 hours to 12:00 hours. The tender will be opened at 10:00 hours on the above-mentioned date in presence of the tenderers.

ISPR/Misc/95/475,  
DFP-6977-23/3  
G-457

Commander BN  
for Director General

**The only distillery in CHT remains abandoned for 15yrs**

From Our Correspondent

KHAGRACHHARI, Mar 27: The only distillery plant of Chittagong Hill Tracts region, established is Ramgarh thana of the district, remains inoperative for the last 15 years.

According to official sources the Hill Tracts Distillery Project was established in 1980 to extract juices from the locally produced different species of fruits with a view to earn foreign exchange by exporting the products.

The plant was set up as per commitment of the late President Ziaur Rahman at a meeting at Ramgarh to ensure employment of both tribals and non-tribals living in the hill tracts region.

Bangladesh Small and Cottage Industries Corporation, BSCIC duly approved the plant with 90 per cent subsidy and 10 per cent equity.

It was constructed under the joint ownership of government and private entrepreneurs, the Thana Nirbahi Officer of Ramgarh thana told The Daily Star.

Immediately after the construction and installation of machinery, it produced 32 gallons of refined liquor experimentally which, chemical test showed, was of high quality.

But in the absence of final clearance from the concerned authorities and due to red-tapism, the plant could not be commissioned and was left abandoned since then, the plant management sources said.